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TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

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"LOCAL ROOTS. CITY REACH. AWARD-WINNING RESULTS!"

Stonewall photographer captures gold at Skills Manitoba, heads to nationals

By E. Antonio

For Stonewall's Deaghan McLeod, pictures are worth far more than a thousand words— they are her future.

The 22-year-old is in the final month of the professional photography program at Red River College Polytechnic and recently earned a gold medal in photography at the Skills Manitoba Competition, held April 9 in Winnipeg.

Now, the aspiring photographer is preparing to represent Manitoba on the national stage at the Skills Canada Competition in Toronto next month.

Inspired by her grandfather, who used to take photos at the Morden race track, McLeod said she knew from a young age that photography was the path she wanted to follow.

"Anything that lets me be creative in a high-energy environment — that's where I want to be," she said. "Photography has been a way I can express myself, allowing me to make my own meaning out of the situation."

She got her first camera — an original Canon Rebel — at age 12. One of the first photos she remembers being proud of was a tree branch coated in glistening frost, taken by her lime green, iPhone 5C.

Since then, her passion has only grown.

Competing with her Canon EOS 6D at Skills Manitoba, McLeod went up against 19 other post-secondary students in a fast-paced three-hour challenge.

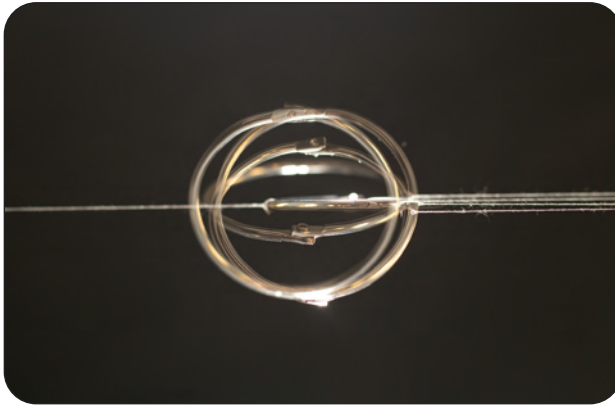
Contestants were assigned four photography tasks the morning of the competition and had to submit raw, unedited images before the deadline. The assignments included photographing lines, a single shower curtain ring, other skills competitors using numbers and skill competitors using digital technology.

McLeod described the day as "completely chaotic."

"It was a pure representation of your raw skills behind the camera," she said.

Each image was judged blindly on a 300-point scale based on vision, impact, creativity, composition, camera settings and other technical criteria.

One of McLeod's images placed her among the



McLeod's favourite submission at Skills Manitoba, a singular shower curtain ring taken using a multiple exposure technique.

top four finalists, initially putting her in silver-medal position.

While she is unsure which of her four submissions scored highest, she said she is most proud of her shower curtain ring image, created using a multiple-exposure technique that layered five separate photos to create a striking visual effect.

She noted no other competitor approached the challenge in the same way.

Once finalists were selected, judges reviewed each competitor's four images as a complete series. McLeod said the strength and consistency of her collection helped push her into first place.

She was stunned by the result.

"To be recognized at something like this is incredibly validating," she said. "This is something I wanted— I wanted to make my grandpa, teachers and family proud."

The competition marked McLeod's first major event.

She said it was her instructors — Jocelyne Hebert, Rodney Braun and Sherrienne Talon — who encouraged her to enter.

"They turned around my belief in what I can do," she said. "Having your skills be appreciated is encouraging and it opens a lot of doors. Turns out, this is exactly what I needed to do to gain a new level of confidence."

Her win has earned her a trip to Toronto, where she will compete at the Skills Canada Competition from May 26 to 30 against gold medalists



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Stonewall's Deaghan McLeod is a rising professional photographer completing her degree at Red River College this spring. She recently placed first at the Skills Manitoba competition in photography on April 9.

from across the country in a two-day photography challenge.

She said she is "beyond excited" to showcase her work at the national level.

McLeod was also a finalist in the Professional Photographers of Canada (PPOC) competition this April, with a photo of a can of Monster Energy drink for the Student Commercial Award and a portrait of her best friend's younger sister, Alex Snell for the Student General Award.

She credits her education at Red River with transforming both her technical abilities and confidence.

"The skills and confidence I have gained has changed the way I operate as a photographer and changed where I want to go in the future," she said. "I know I can do this for a living."

Her instructor, Jocelyne Hebert — an award-win-

Continued on page 4

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STONEWALL

Warren Tire marks 50 years of service, resilience and growth

By Jo-Anne Procter

Warren Tire is marking 50 years in business, a milestone that reflects a journey shaped by risk, resilience and strong ties to family and community.

The business began in 1976 when Charlie and Lynda de Laroque took over a small tire shop in Warren, started two years earlier by Jim and Al Findlay. The decision was driven more by necessity than long-term planning.

"I had quit my job in Winnipeg and we had bills and wanted to eat," Charlie said.

With no experience in the tire industry and limited resources, the early days were challenging. Charlie described them as "terrible," citing a steep learning curve, minimal tools and no steady paycheck.

Lynda said the transition came during a difficult time, as Charlie worked long hours as a parts salesman at International Harvester while managing an expensive commute from Argyle.

"It called for a change," she said.

With mentorship from Jim Anderson and the patience of early customers — including farmers, truckers and local families — the business gradually found its footing.

Over the decades, Warren Tire evolved alongside advances in agriculture and transportation. Tires became larger, more specialized and more costly, particularly for farm equipment.

"Now there can be six or seven different sizes for the same vehicle," Charlie said. "Customers want it yesterday."

The rise of large-scale farming also required investment in specialized service trucks and equipment to handle increasingly massive tires.



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Charlie and Lynda de Laroque have served the community through Warren Tire for 50 years.

The couple faced ongoing challenges, including finding reliable staff and deciding when to expand. Building their first Quonset shop during a period of high interest rates was a significant financial risk. They also endured profound personal loss. In

1977, their daughter Julie died in an accident.

"The tire shop had to keep operating, so it was one foot ahead of the other and one day at a time," Lynda said.

That determination carried the family through future hardships, including the loss of a granddaughter, Danica de Laroque, and later their son Eddie, who had taken over the business with his wife Kim.

Eddie and Kim purchased the business from Charlie and Lynda on April 1, 2006. While Eddie had grown up in the shop and brought years of experience, his wife entered the business with little knowledge of the industry after years as a stay-at-home mother.

"Ed was a natural-born leader and so competent and knowledgeable; therefore, it was a smooth transition," Kim said. "For myself, I knew very little about tires or the industry. I had substantial catching up to do."

Today, Kim continues to lead the business following Eddie's passing, carrying forward the values he upheld.

"Ed ran his business with honesty and integrity. It was very important to provide excellent service at fair prices," she said. "We continue to operate with Ed's values and his commitment to his customers and community."

She said stepping into a leadership role has brought its own challenges.

"I didn't want to step into the role of boss. It was important to me to support my employees," she said. "Navigating this role still poses many challenges."

Continued on page 5

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ISD students engage in experiential learning

By Jennifer McFee

A group of business-minded high school students had the chance to deepen their knowledge through an immersive learning opportunity.

On March 24 and 25, about 25 students from Teulon College Institute and Collège Stonewall Collegiate had the chance to attend a two-day experiential learning opportunity at Red River College Polytechnic.

Steve Proskurnik, Interlake School Division's career development and HSAP support teacher, said it's the first event of its kind for the school division — and he hopes they'll be able to offer it again.

Students learned about the Applied Commerce and Management Education (ACME) program offered at RRC Polytech through a "build your own food truck" activity. Students gleaned information from instructors from management, sales, financial services, accounting, logistics and supply chain management, human resources, tourism and hospitality. These experts also engaged with the students through activities that related to their food truck proposal.

For Proskurnik, the goal of the activ-

ity is to better inform students about the ACME programs at RRC Polytech and to provide a meaningful pathway to career exploration. The students from both schools were engaged and asked lots of questions, he added.

"Each group of students that presented their food truck example put a lot of effort and thought into their proposals. Everyone seemed to enjoy being on campus and spoke highly of the two-day experience," he said.

"A few of our students had previously expressed interest in attending RRC Polytech — and after attending this experience, it seemed to solidify their decision."

The experience offered plenty of benefits to all who participated.

"It gives our students who may have never been at RRC Polytech an opportunity to step on campus and become familiarized with the surroundings," Proskurnik said.

"There is lots of anxiety in taking that next step in post-secondary studies, and if we can provide an opportunity for them to experience it even for just two days, it will significantly reduce any trepidation they may have."

Reflecting on the experience, Pro-



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

A group of students from Teulon College Institute and Collège Stonewall Collegiate had the chance to spark their career interests during a two-day experiential learning opportunity at Red River College Polytechnic.

skurnik was pleased with the students' positive approach.

"When I plan activities or look for opportunities like this, I always worry if the students will find the experience valuable and will they be a good au-

dience. Having planned many activities like this in other school divisions, I can honestly say how impressed I was with our students," he said.

Continued on page 9

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> PHOTOGRAPHY, FROM PG. 2

ning photographer and a member of Team Canada with the World Photogenic Cup — is beyond thrilled at her progress since meeting her in September.

“She brings a true sense of charisma and creative talent to the classroom with her raw photographic style, dynamic bold colours, cinematic ideas and captures beauty in all forms of subjects from portraits, fine art and commercial photography,” she said. “She comes to class with a simple camera, nothing fancy— no ‘bells and whistles’ just a camera and an idea.”

Commending her strong work ethic, she added McLeod’s talents comes from effort, hard work and tenacity.

“She will work in the studio for hours to complete a vision and does her best to capture the proper exposure and composition in camera rather than relying on photoshop to enhance her imagery— this is the heart of a future master.”

Noting her ability to inspire others, she is proud of McLeod’s accomplishments this year and takes pride in watching her grow.

Currently, McLeod is focused on building her portfolio, photographing everything from people

and places to live events and concerts.

Her favourite environments, she said, are fast-moving and unpredictable.

“I like running around and the chaos,” she said. “Nothing is posed— it’s just you, your camera and the world.”

Recently, she was hired to photograph the Asper School of Business’ Future of Indigenous Business Banquet, an awards evening recognizing Indigenous business owners.

As a Métis photographer, McLeod said the event held special meaning.

“Being a part of this was really cool,” she said. “It brought along networking opportunities, but it also brought along this increased level of respect I have for culture and tradition. The whole evening was absolutely wonderful.”

Looking ahead, McLeod hopes to one day work as a photographer for touring artists, travelling as part of their media team.

Until then, she is open to photographing events of all kinds.

“As long as I am behind a camera, I am happy,” she said.

For aspiring photographers, her advice is simple:



McLeod also submitted two photos to the Professional Photographers of Canada competition. Her photos of a Monster energy drink can and a portrait of her best friend’s little sister, Alex Snell, were selected as finalists for the Student Commercial Award and the Student General Award.

keep going.

“Don’t let the rules stop you from being creative,” she said. “Use your creativity to define the moment— that’s what makes you unique.”

> 50 YEARS, FROM PG. 3

Today, Kim continues to lead the operation, demonstrating what Lynda calls “true grit and determination.”

Over the past two decades, the business has remained rooted in family, with children, grandchildren and extended relatives contributing in various ways. It has also provided opportunities to mentor young employees and build lasting relationships within the community.

“I have watched many young people go on to do some amazing things,” Kim said. “I’ve had the privilege of getting to know so many people from so many walks of life.”

Community support has been key to the company’s longevity, particularly during difficult times.

“When Ed passed, the support my family and I received was overwhelming,” she said. “Without ongoing community support, we wouldn’t even be here.”

Charlie echoed that sentiment.

“Community support has been excellent, from all different areas,” he said.

That connection has led to memorable moments over the years, from late-night highway service calls to lighthearted customer interactions. Charlie recalled one customer who asked him to remove air from a tire so it would be lighter to lift.

“I tried to explain the air did not add any weight, but I lost the argument and let the air out for her,” he said.

Despite the changes in the industry, including advances in agricultural and truck tires, the focus on service and relationships has remained constant.

“I continue to learn every day,” Kim said. “I enjoy the connections I make with customers. I enjoy helping any way I can.”

Looking back, Charlie said he is proud not only of the business’s growth but of the relationships built across generations.

“It’s a good feeling to serve generations,” he said. “But you know you’re getting old when it’s the third.”

The milestone is also a moment of reflection for Kim, who credits the founders for creating the opportunity.

“I am so proud to be a part of this business, and I am so proud and grateful to Charlie and Lynda,” Kim said. “If it weren’t for the vision they had 50 years ago, I wouldn’t have had this incredible experience.”

As the business looks ahead, she hopes it will continue to grow and remain a place of opportunity for future generations.

“This has been an incredibly rewarding business, and I hope one day, when I retire, someone else will have the opportunity to experience it,” she said. “I just want to make my kids proud.”

Charlie, meanwhile, offered a characteristically blunt piece of advice to aspiring entrepreneurs: “Get a government job with a pension.”

Even so, the values that built Warren Tire — hard work, fairness and community support — remain firmly in place as it enters its next chapter.

The de Laroque family will celebrate the 50-year milestone with a customer appreciation day on May 9 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the tire shop, 227 MacDonald Ave. in Warren.

Riding to school in style



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Warren Elementary School Grade 1 student Ryker Ottenbreit rode his bike to school on April 22, taking advantage of summer-like weather as temperatures reached 25 C. Help the Tribune record the weather of the week by sending in your photos of friends or family enjoying the outdoors. Email: news@stonewallteulontribune.ca. If you want it tighter for a cutline-only version (more typical), I’d trim to just this:

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2026 Census to shape decisions across Canadian communities



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Canadians will begin receiving 2026 Census invitation letters in early May, marking the country's 24th national count and helping gather key data that informs decisions for communities, governments and businesses.

By Dennis Young

Every five years, Canadians take part in the census. The upcoming 2026 Census will be Canada's 24th national count, gathering valuable information to inform decisions across communities, provinces and territories, and the entire country.

This process builds a statistical snapshot of Canada's diverse population and the places we call home, capturing demographic, social, economic and agricultural data.

Below are several ways this information is used:

Federal: Population totals ensure fair representation in electoral districts. Household details guide programs such as Old Age Security and child benefits.

Provincial: Data highlights regions that may require new daycares, schools, retirement homes or health facilities. Traffic patterns help plan

upgrades for roads and networks.

Municipal: Local councils rely on census figures to determine service needs such as schools, policing, fire protection, senior housing and resource allocation.

Agriculture: The census reveals farming trends and provides insights for marketing and production decisions.

Businesses: Companies use these numbers to select locations for new factories, stores or offices, and to evaluate customer potential in different areas.

Individuals: Families can review the data to ensure their neighbourhood meets their needs. Professionals may reference salary averages during negotiations, while students use job-demand statistics to make informed career decisions.

Completing your census helps de-

liver high-quality information to support key decisions affecting Canadian families, neighbourhoods and businesses.

The official website for the 2026 Census of Population in Canada, including Manitoba, is census.gc.ca.

For the 2026 cycle, households across Manitoba will receive invitation letters starting in early May 2026 with instructions on how to complete the questionnaire.

Here are Carman's census records from Library and Archives Canada:

1901 — 1,439 / 1911 — 1,271 / 1921 — 1,591 / 1931 — 1,418 / 1936 — 1,450 / 1941 — 1,455 / 1946 — 1,550 / 1951 — 1,867 / 1961 — 1,930 / 1971 — 2,030 / 1976 — 2,272 / 1981 — 2,408 / 1986 — 2,500 / 1991 — 2,567 / 1996 — 2,704 / 2001 — 2,831 / 2006 — 2,880 / 2011 — 3,027 / 2016 — 3,164 / 2021 — 3,114.

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letter to the editor

Letters to the Editor:
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Proposed quarry raises safety, infrastructure and environmental concerns near Stonewall

To date, limestone extraction has been contained within a near-contiguous block between PR 236 and PTH 7, creating an effective “no man’s land” where quarry operations and the public can go about their business with minimal interaction.

Rockwood’s approval of a new quarry west of PR 236 and northwest of the Town of Stonewall opens a new chapter in conflicts between limestone extraction and existing surface uses in the area. This represents a negative development for local infrastructure, including road usage and motorist safety, as well as for the Grassmere watershed and the source of potable water for a nearby population centre.

The stated intent is to transfer extracted rock from the new quarry to a pre-existing quarry to the east for further processing. Presumably, this haulage will involve mining-type rock trucks using portions of PR 323 and PR 236. This would repeated-

ly place 40-plus-tonne, unlicensed, oversized off-road vehicles in the path of passenger traffic along the Stonewall-Balmoral corridor. As a significant safety risk to the motorist, it is expected that Manitoba Public Insurance and Manitoba Transportation would not support such an arrangement on provincial roads in a populated area. Further, as evidenced by black soil surfacing annually from soft spots along PR 323, this road was never engineered for repetitive 40-plus-tonne loads. This raises the question of whether PR 236 is similarly under-engineered.

The Grassmere Drain crosses the proposed site diagonally, posing a risk of disruption. This could deprive areas of the watershed to the northwest of decades-old flood mitigation during wet years, or conversely result in the drain overflowing and flooding the quarry. With ongoing demand for limestone aggregate and the compli-

cation of the drain crossing the site, it is foreseeable that pressure could mount to remove or reroute the drain at considerable expense.

Limestone extraction to current depths creates a potential pathway for contaminants to enter the underlying aquifer. With groundwater flow generally moving from northwest to southeast, the Town of Stonewall could be directly impacted by contaminants entering from the proposed quarry. A significant diesel spill, for example, could seep through fissures in the quarry floor and into the aquifer, potentially causing irreversible damage to the town’s potable water supply. In such a scenario, Stonewall could be forced to seek an alternative water source.

When presented with an industrial project for approval, the expected role of the municipality is to safeguard existing infrastructure first and foremost. Approving this new quarry is a poor decision in an unsuitable location.

— Hilary and Luc Versavel

Land-use conflicts at heart of debate

This letter is addressed to residents of both the Town of Stonewall and the RM of Rockwood.

The past few months in our region have been marked by council decisions that many consider controversial. As is often the case with political decisions, this has created division among neighbours. The difference locally is that we expect greater transparency and collaboration from the elected representatives who live in our communities.

The proposed quarry expansion in recent weeks has raised concerns about this industry being too close to residents. Town representatives have argued that residents should be afforded a one-mile buffer to mitigate conflicting land uses. While I am not disputing that position, I would like to point out that the recently announced residential and commercial plan east

of Stonewall — the Whiteland development — creates the same conflict in reverse.

Ironically coined “The Quarry District,” the plan would bring homes and businesses closer to existing industrial uses, including the Town’s industrial park, an operating quarry less than half a mile away, and within 400 metres of our farmyard on Highway 67, which has been in operation for 103 years.

This parcel of land should remain zoned industrial and be developed accordingly, as identified as a “high priority” in the Town’s Strategic Development Plan updated in 2023. Expanding the existing industrial park on this land would provide a buffer for residents while also stimulating the local economy by bringing jobs to Stonewall, rather than creating a costly burden for taxpayers by extending commercial and residential development beyond current utility services. It may also have negative impacts on long-standing businesses along the existing Main Street if a second com-

mercial hub is established.

A concern for our family has been the negativity we have personally received as a result of this development plan. We have leased this field since 1978 and are aware of misinformation circulating among some residents, including members of council, regarding its ownership. We are grateful to the past owners for trusting us to maintain and improve the land over multiple generations. For those with concerns or complaints, we encourage them to direct those to the Town of Stonewall council.

In closing, I would like to remind readers that spring will soon arrive, bringing with it an increase in farm machinery on local roads. Please give large equipment plenty of space and exercise patience when passing. Farmers do not want to be on the roads any more than others want them there, but it is unavoidable, and everyone wants to return home safely to their families.

— Elliot Family
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worship

with us > FAITH

There are verses in the Bible that are my go-to when I need reassurance and comfort, and there are others I wrestle with. There are stories and parables that make sense and I understand (for the most part), but there are others that are harder to fully comprehend. In Jesus’ final hours with His disciples He said to them, “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” John 16:33. This is one of those verses that I find comfort in and also wrestle with. I know our peace is found in Jesus, however I don’t love the part where Jesus clearly states we will have trouble. Some translations say we will have trials, sorrows, tribulation, distress or suffering. Unfortunately I can attest to the fact that I have experienced, to varying degrees, trouble, trials, sorrows, distress, and suffering. And if I’m really honest, I don’t like it! But I don’t want us to miss the part that can bring comfort and hope to us. “But take heart! I (Jesus) have overcome the world.” Earlier this month many people celebrated Easter weekend, when Jesus took the sins of the world upon Himself, He died on the cross, and defeated death when He rose again. Our peace is found in Jesus, because He has overcome the world! So while we will experience difficulties, challenges, and sorrow; perfect peace, which is beyond our understanding, is found in no one or no where else but Jesus. The Old Testament prophet, Isaiah, prophesied about Jesus at different times and he’s quoted in Matthew 1:23. “They will call Him (Jesus) Immanuel, which means ‘God with us’”. Whatever we’re going through, whatever difficulties or heartaches we’re experiencing, whatever challenges are front of us, our peace is found in Jesus, and He is with us always – every moment of every day and every step along the way.

Pastor Jo-Ann Porterfield
Alive Family Church
Stonewall, MB

 alivefamilychurch.ca

Manitoba, Ottawa boost wages for child-care workers

By Annaliese Meier

Early childhood educators in Manitoba are seeing significant wage gains as part of a joint federal-provincial effort to strengthen the child-care system and expand access for families.

The governments of Canada and Manitoba announced that wage increases introduced through a new provincial wage grid have boosted pay for early childhood educators (ECEs) by as much as \$7 per hour over the past two years, depending on certification level and facility size. The updated wage grid took effect April 1.

Manitoba Education and Early Childhood Learning Minister Tracy Schmidt said the increases are part of a broader strategy aimed at growing the workforce and supporting the expansion of licensed child-care spaces.

"The Manitoba government is de-

livering more high-quality child care for families across the province for children up to age 12," Schmidt said in a release, noting that nearly 1,200 additional educators have joined the sector.

The wage enhancements apply to ECEs, child-care assistants and home-based providers working in licensed and funded facilities. They build on previous increases introduced to address long-standing wage gaps in the sector.

Federal Secretary of State for Children and Youth Anna Gainey said the investment reflects a continued commitment to strengthening early learning and child care across the country.

In addition to wage increases, the province will provide a two per cent funding boost — totalling \$14.3 million — to support wages at licensed facilities. Base operating grants will

also rise by one per cent, adding \$4.7 million to help centres manage day-to-day costs.

Sector leaders say the funding is critical to stabilizing the workforce.

Jodie Kehl, executive director of the Manitoba Child Care Association, said competitive wages are key to improving retention and maintaining quality care.

"Fair and competitive compensation is essential to stabilizing the workforce, strengthening retention and sustaining high-quality early learning and child care," she said.

The announcement also includes more than \$14 million over two years to extend training programs at five post-secondary institutions, supporting 327 expanded seats for ECE students. The funding builds on a previous \$24-million investment made in 2023 to grow training capacity.

Officials say expanding training opportunities is necessary to meet growing demand for child-care spaces across Manitoba.

The investments are part of the Canada-Manitoba Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement, first signed in 2021. Under the agreement, Ottawa committed approximately \$1.2 billion over five years to reduce parent fees to an average of \$10 per day and increase access to licensed care. A 2025 extension added \$1.9 billion in funding through 2031.

Government officials say the combined measures — higher wages, increased operating funding and expanded training — are intended to ensure child care remains accessible, affordable and sustainable for Manitoba families.

Walks unite communities in dementia support

By Haley Cvar

Communities across the province are preparing to step up in support of families affected by dementia as the Alzheimer Society of Manitoba hosts its annual IG Wealth Management Walk for Alzheimer's throughout May and June.

The walk, the Society's largest annual fundraiser, brings together participants of all ages to raise funds and awareness while supporting people

living with dementia, as well as their families, friends and care partners.

"It's one of my favourite days because of the strong sense of community — you really feel like you're a part of something," said CEO Erin Crawford. "It's also just a lot of fun. There's music, activities for the kids and so much laughter and love. You'll leave feeling uplifted."

Walks are scheduled in several Manitoba communities, including Selkirk on June 4, Steinbach on June 7, Gimli on June 12, Altona on June 17, Portage

la Prairie on June 18 and Darlingford on June 20. Brandon will host its walk earlier, on May 27.

Funds raised through the events help the Alzheimer Society continue offering critical services, including one-on-one support, education sessions, support groups and dementia-friendly programming aimed at helping individuals and families live well with the disease.

For participants like Gary Garbutt, the walk holds deep personal meaning. Garbutt, who walks with his team "Gary's Groupies," said the event has become one of the most im-

portant days of the year for him and his wife, Barb.

"It's inspiring," he said. "You see all those people, and you think, 'wow, there's a lot of support out there.'"

Organizers encourage participants to register as individuals or teams, begin fundraising and share their reasons for walking with their networks. The event also serves as an opportunity to connect with others who understand the challenges of dementia and to show support for those navigating the journey.

Visit alzheimer.mb.ca to learn more about the Walk and to register.

National Huntington Walk Manitoba
Lockport River's Edge Run

"Manitoba's Beautiful Run!"

30k MARATHON 7:30 am	1/2 MARATHON 7:30 am	10k RUN/WALK 8:00 am	5k RUN/WALK 8:00 am
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No suspect located in fire at Harbour Hutterite colony

By Patricia Barrett

A fire broke out at the Harbour Hutterite colony (formerly called the Crystal Spring colony) in the RM of Armstrong while many colony members were attending the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission's public hearing on April 22 with regard to the colony's proposed wastewater treatment lagoon.

Towards the end of the first hour of the evening hearing, several members of the colony suddenly left the Fraserwood Hall where the hearing was being held and where many residents were expressing opposition to the colony project.

The *Tribune* was told later that week a fire had been set at the colony.

The RCMP confirmed there was a fire and that the Armstrong Fire Department responded to it.

"On April 22, at 7:20 p.m., Gimli RCMP received a report of a grass fire near Road 107 N in the RM of Armstrong," said an RCMP spokesperson. "The Armstrong fire department attended and were able to extinguish the fire quickly. At this time RCMP have not located a suspect in the incident."

The *Tribune* reached out to the Armstrong Fire Department chief but he was unable to comment.

RM of Armstrong focuses on potential overland flooding concerns

By Jennifer McFee

The RM of Armstrong has begun addressing some overland flooding concerns and is working on mitigation practices.

“Some specific locations have been identified,” said chief administrative officer Colleen Mayer. “We work on a process of saving lives and structures as far as prioritizing.”

If any residents have concerns, Mayer suggests that they contact the RM office or their local councillor.

In other Armstrong news:

- The RM of Armstrong sold 30 parcels of vacant land in January to Buffalo Prairie Inc. The RM bought \$2.4 million worth of GICs for 12-month terms as of April 1.

“These parcels, located in the north-west area of the municipality, were RM-owned vacant property,” Mayer said. “Council passed a resolution on how to proceed with the land sales, and administration moved forward a per council’s instruction.”

The RM placed ads in the local papers and on its website to accept tenders. The tender closed on Jan. 7, and council held a special meeting to open the sealed envelopes on Jan. 13

to open the sealed envelopes. Buffalo Prairie Inc. was the successful bidder. The property has now been transferred, and council decided to buy GICs with the proceeds.

- Council approved a quote for \$8,900 from Loewen Drafting to create design drawings for the new Fraserwood firehall.

“We are in early stages of this and have just seen preliminary drawings. Once design is complete, we will work towards hiring a general contractor to oversee the project,” Mayer said.

“It is council’s hope to have this built in 2027. Some of the monies acquired through the sale of vacant RM land will be used to construct a new firehall. Council is also seeking a location for the new firehall to operate from, but it will be in Fraserwood. More information will be available as the project moves along.”

- Council conditionally approved a request for CKT Contracting to operate an automotive and recreational vehicle repair shop from their location on Road 4W in Inwood. The conditional use request was to allow for the existing shop to conduct pub-

lic vehicle repairs and government safeties.

- Council approved the payment of the 2026 levy amount of \$6,806.47 for the Interlake Veterinary Services District Board.

- Council agreed to purchase ads in the *Stonewall Teulon Tribune* and *Express Weekly News* for 2026 at a cost of \$1,626 plus tax. The ads will be for Mother’s Day, Father’s Day, Canada Day, grad congratulations, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, Remembrance Day and a Christmas season message.

- The RM is transferring \$275,000 to reserve accounts with \$5,000 to the election reserve fund, \$50,000 to the snow removal fund, \$115,000 to the fire equipment reserve fund, \$20,000 to the public works reserve fund, \$50,000 to the flood mitigation/capital reserve fund, \$15,000 to the waste management reserve fund and \$20,000 for the general reserve fund. In addition, council approved a transfer of \$742,000 to the land sale reserve fund due to an unaudited surplus in 2025 due to land sales.

- Council approved the place-

ment of a swing set at the Fraserwood Heritage Park.

- Council agreed to implement changes at the Meleb Waste Disposal Site and the Inwood and Chatfield transfer stations based on recommendations by administration. In December 2025, council approved recommendations on a study completed by ECS Environmental Engineering. They’ll begin working on those recommendations in the next month or two.

- The RM of Armstrong has two scholarships available to permanent residents of the community — one for university and one for post-secondary education. Council agreed to increase the amount to \$500 each from \$300 each for 2026 high school grad.

- The RM of Armstrong will upgrade its Windows Server 2016 licence to Windows Server 2022 at a cost \$1,796.06 plus tax.

- Council approved the selling of a property to the Chatfield Community Club for the price of \$1. The hall assumes all costs for legal and land transfer fees. The property is located between two Chatfield Community Centre parcels of land.

> ISD, FROM PG. 4

“They were both respectful and engaged throughout both days and that makes it easy for me to plan future events like this.”

RRC Polytech instructors not only talked about their programs but also challenged students with hands-on activities. That way, they were able to work through problems similar to those that they might experience as future students.

“This real-life experience is far superior to the traditional career fair where students may only get a glimpse of what a program really is all about,” Proskurnik said.

“For both of our high school teachers that participated, they are able to take back some of the knowledge they learned and incorporate into their respective teaching. Creating this connection not only benefits us at the high school level, but it also provides valuable feedback to RRC Polytech going forward.”

Rhonda Kachurowski, an RRC Polytech instructor in Applied Commerce and Management Education, shared some insights from the post-secondary perspective.

“Across all RRC Polytech Applied Commerce and Man-

agement Education programs, students gain real-world skills and knowledge that are transferable well beyond the classroom and into every aspect of their lives. These programs aren’t just about business—they’re about building confidence, developing new skills and setting students up for long-term success,” she said.

“It was fantastic to showcase what sets RRC Polytech apart as Manitoba’s polytechnic.”

She said that RRC Polytech students benefit from valuable hands-on learning experiences with industry partners, whether that’s through classroom-based projects or work-integrated learning opportunities.

“When young learners — particularly high school students — visit one of our campuses, they get a firsthand

glimpse of what it’s like to be a student at RRC Polytech,” she said.

“These experiences help put new opportunities and career pathways on their radar — options they may not have known existed.”

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Dust Control Program

Homeowners along gravel provincial roads and main market roads in unorganized territories may apply to have dust control applied in front of their homesites at a cost of \$200 for a single application.

The formal application is available from your local Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure office. The deadline for these applications will be **no later than May 22, 2026.**

For more information, please contact one of the following Transportation and Infrastructure offices:

Steinbach 204-346-6266 Brandon 204-726-6800
Dauphin 204-622-2061



Al-Anon and AA Meetings Information

Balmoral Al-Anon Family Group
Balmoral Community Hall basement
6003 E MB-236, Balmoral, MB
Contact: (204) 470-8972
Meets every Wednesday 7-8 PM
Everyone welcome

Selkirk Red River Al-Anon Family Group
Christ Church Anglican
227 McLean St., Selkirk, MB
Contact: (204) 482-6287
Meets every Monday 7-8 PM

Teulon AA
Christian Education Building
3rd Ave. SE, Teulon, MB
Contact: (204) 461-0155
Meets every Tuesday 8-9 PM

Stonewall AA
Parochial Hall
291 1st St. W., Stonewall, MB
Contact Denis: (204) 981-7747
Donna (204) 461-0892
Meets every Sunday 7:30-8:30 PM

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CEC hearing on colony sewage lagoon raises questions about Manitoba's regulations

By Patricia Barrett

Water bodies across the globe continue to decline from nutrient loading as a result of agricultural activities, wastewater, raw sewage, chemicals and other hazardous materials.

And the central question raised at the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission's public hearing on the evening of April 22 was why risk potentially polluting Lake Winnipeg - the 10th largest freshwater lake on the planet - even more with a new sewage lagoon?

Residents from the municipalities of Armstrong and Gimli, environmental organizations and municipal leaders shared their views of the lagoon that the Harbour Hutterite colony (formerly the Crystal Spring colony) wants to build in the RM of Armstrong on the border of the RM of Gimli.

If approved by the Manitoba government, lagoon effluent will be treated in cells, discharged to a ditch, flow into Willow Creek then flow into Lake Winnipeg at the residential subdivisions of Husavik and Siglavik in the RM of Gimli.

About 100 people attended the hearing at the Fraserwood Hall. Eighteen people registered to speak.

Armstrong resident Tanya Mishtak and her family live across the road from the proposed lagoon. In an impassioned speech, she said the lagoon would expose them to noisome waste and result in contaminants leaching into groundwater they rely on for drinking.

"My primary concern is the health and safety of my children and family. The proposed lagoon introduces ongoing risks related to odour, insects, potential groundwater contamination, flooding and exposure to effluent," she said. "These risks did not exist prior to approvals and land-use changes permitted or enabled by municipal or provincial authorities."

She provided the panel with numerous photos of overland flooding in the spot along Road 106N where the colony wants to build its lagoon.

"The proposed lagoon is located in an area prone to seasonal and heavy rainfall flooding. Clay-lined lagoons are known to leak over time," said Mishtak. "The risk of overflow or leaching during spring melt or extreme rainfall events presents a serious threat to nearby wells, drainage systems, Willow Creek and downstream waters leading to Lake Winnipeg."

It's the threat to water quality in Lake Winnipeg that 92-year-old commercial fisher Robert T. Krist-

janson addressed, and the stupidity of humans for continuing to pollute the very element they rely on for survival.

"When are we going to wake up and decide what is our fate in Manitoba?" said Kristjanson. "Is it clean water or do we build something else to pollute the water we've got? "People here, you have to stand up and ... decide on what you want ... it's time we took control of our water."

His son Chris Kristjanson told the CEC panel that fishers and residents can't control what's "coming into the lake" from rivers and creeks because "we don't have control of the land."

After the hearing, he said the health of Lake Winnipeg is on the line, and it felt as though the lake "was on trial" before the panel.

He questioned why no provincial and federal politicians bothered to show up to the hearings, and where the federal government was as it's responsible for Lake Winnipeg.

"It's getting a little tiring that they don't care about Lake Winnipeg," he said, referring to the local MLA and MP. "And I think it's high time the (federal) department of fisheries and oceans, which represents Canada, gets involved in making decisions."

In his presentation to the panel, Siglavik resident Chris Milne also questioned why "DFO is not involved since Willow Creek is a navigable waterway [and] there's a current problem with the [Manitoba] government's permitting and licensing process."

Milne pointed out that there were no estimates provided by the colony's engineer of what the effluent concentration levels could be in Willow Creek and in the Lake Winnipeg wetland at Miklavik and Siglavik, which combined, have 120 families, as well as no mention about possible impacts on aquatic species and wildlife.



RM of Gimli resident Jeff Smith



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Lake Winnipeg commercial fishers Robert T. Kristjanson and his son Chris Kristjanson.

may be small in comparison to what agricultural activities produce, but Smith said it will, nevertheless, compound the nutrient problem in Lake Winnipeg. It already has a 4,000-tonne surplus thanks to nutrients flowing in from U.S. states, Ontario, Manitoba and western Canada.

Furthermore, Smith said he thinks the lagoon's effluent will sit in the lake's marsh - where Willow Creek empties - as the water level is only two to three inches deep there and it's another 200 metres to the lake proper.

"They'll have a two-cell lagoon, and I'm thinking there's going to be a third cell created in or around Miklavik or Siglavik," said Smith, who helped put pressure on environment minister Mike Moyes to order a CEC hearing. "The effluent will create a pool. It will sit and accumulate until there's a big spring flood."

Gimli mayor Kevin Chudd presented to the CEC on behalf of council earlier that day, and also attended the evening session.

Chudd said he wants to be clear that Gimli council is "not about opposing development."

"Our concern ... is not whether development should happen. It is whether development of this scale is being asked to proceed before the foundation of trust, planning and collaboration is in place," said the mayor. "This hearing is not simply about technical compliance. It is about whether we are prepared to apply science and common sense together, before approval - not after downstream impacts occur."

Armstrong reeve Garry Wasylowski, a former chair of the Manitoba Association of Watershed and the East Interlake Watershed District and former member of the Lake Winnipeg Stewardship board, presented on behalf of his council.

He said council examined the colony project and stands behind the lagoon.

"Wastewater lagoons are the accepted standard in



Gimli mayor Kevin Chudd (left) spoke to the CEC panel earlier in the day and attended the hearing at night.

RM of Gimli resident Jeff Smith, who did not present at the hearing but spoke to the *Tribune*, said that in addition to the colony's lagoon effluent entering Lake Winnipeg, the manure of 140,000 chickens the colony proposes to raise will be spread on fields in the RM of Gimli. Heavy rain or overland flooding could wash that manure into the lake.

The lagoon itself will generate 27.05 kilograms per year of phosphorus alone, according to the colony's engineer. That



Gimli and Armstrong residents and members of Harbour Hutterite colony before the evening hearing on April 22.

> LAGOON, FROM PG. 10

the Province of Manitoba. I'm unaware of the province ... introducing any new standards for wastewater lagoons. Wastewater lagoons have been approved by the province ... without going through a CEC Hearing. In fact, I'm unaware of a CEC hearing ever being held on any other lagoon project in ... Manitoba," said Wasyłowski.

There are numerous lagoons much closer to Lake Winnipeg, he added, including three in the RM of Gimli.

"I will go on to say that more harm is being done to the lake by shoreline development," said Wasyłowski. "The destruction of coastal wetlands is reducing the lake's ability to clean itself. Do you know where the sewage from those developments are going? Into the lake."

Armstrong council is unaware of any "design flaws" in the lagoon project, he said, and the hearing is "more about stopping a colony from developing and stopping agriculture."

"These decisions have to be made on best practices and sound science, not rhetoric and innuendo," said Wasyłowski in closing.

Silver Harbour representative Fred Veldink was among a number of speakers - Tanya Mishtak, Vicki Burns from Save Lake Winnipeg Project, Alex MacKenzie from Siglavik and Rob Jantz from Prairie Sea Kayak Adventures - who said the colony should use the Gimli Wastewater Treatment Plant rather than build a lagoon.

"Lake Winnipeg is very sick.... We are way beyond the natural ability of the lake to heal and purify itself. The evidence is clear: blue-green [algal blooms] already are becoming worse," said Veldink. "Instead of a lagoon, we propose ... the effluent ... be trucked to the Gimli treatment plant [or] pumped [to the plant] via a pipeline ... or the construction of a small on-site treatment plant .. such as the [one] ... currently being used in East St. Paul."

Randy Webber, who worked in the environment industry, including 17 years with the Manitoba government as an environment officer, and taught environmental science at the University of Manitoba, said he lives about two miles from the proposed lagoon.

He pointed out that the presentation from the colony's engineer, Burns Maendel, had approvals for most other matters, but not for the lagoon licence.

"It struck me ... that the Environment Act proposal [for the lagoon] comes after all that other stuff and my conclusion is ... there's limited opportunity for public participation [and] the environment is being considered after the development. The environment seems to come last," said Webber.

He showed the panel photos from Google Earth of the colony having already constructed buildings "in advance" of the approval of the lagoon. And that puts the environment minister "in a really challenging position because millions of dollars have been spent ... and how would the minister say, 'No, you can't go forward.'"

He said the government's environmental process is flawed.

"It seems to me that it isn't the [lagoon] proposal that's the problem, but the process," said Webber. "The Environment Act is not working."

Commercial fisher Bill Buckels began his presentation by describing how he's been covered in feces swirling around in the waters of Lake Winnipeg during harvesting seasons. The lake is a "convenient disposal site" for high risk industrial activities such as large-scale farming operations and wastewater disposal.

"To continue permitting intensive agricultural operations, specifically industrial-scale poultry and livestock facilities, within the sensitive Interlake watershed is to ignore the fundamental physics of our landscape," said Buckels.

That landscape is one of flat topography and poor drainage. And during "high flow" events, water moves laterally across the landscape, carrying phosphorus and nitrogen off ag fields straight into Lake Winnipeg.

"The accumulation of phosphorus from intensive livestock operations fuels the growth of cyanobacteria (blue-green algae). These blooms deplete oxygen levels, leading to massive fish kills," he said. "They also facilitate the growth of algae that coat the rocky substrates required for spawning, effectively suffocating fish eggs and altering the benthic community."

Buckels asked the province for a 30-kilometre buffer zone for new ag operations: "Specifically, I am demanding that your office implement a total moratorium on all new and expanding intensive livestock operations ... specifically industrial poultry and livestock facilities located within 30 kilometres of the Lake Winnipeg watershed boundary.

The 'mitigation' strategies currently relied upon are failing."

He questioned why the province had not sought out Indigenous representation on the colony project.

Former Gimli councillor and RM of Gimli resident Andy Damm, who attended the hearing, said the issue of protecting our water resources comes down to the provincial government, which needs to set rigorous environmental standards and prevent causing friction between groups with different goals.

"It's quite evident that the issue does not in itself lie with Crystal Spring/Harbour colony: it lies with the inadequate environmental regulations within the province. It's a systemic government failure on all levels from lack of communication between the municipalities right up to not taking into account cumulative nutrient loading throughout the province," said Damm.

"It pits neighbour against neighbour, municipality against municipality. How do we, in the end, have the larger conversation about cleaning up our environment with the agricultural sector and our neighbours to the south of the border if we can't clean up our own back yard? Do we have to wait until our watershed is destroyed before we act? In the future, wars will be fought over water and we as a people can't take the steps forward to protect our precious water resources."

Willow Island resident Norma Bailey, who attended the hearing, said she was unhappy with one of the speakers who implied that residents are opposed to the Hutterites.

"I jumped up at the very end of the hearing to comment on one of the speakers who insinuated we were against Hutterites," said Bailey "I said I was offended by the suggestion that just because we wanted to save our lake, didn't mean that we didn't want Hutterites in our community."

She said she turned to the Hutterites sitting at the back of the room and told them they were "welcome in our community, but don't hurt our lake."

"I [didn't want] this very important issue to get framed as a fight by locals against newcomers," she said. "The issue is controlling what's going into the lake - and that's the government's responsibility. It's the fault of the government that the colony was given a green light, not the colony's."

The CEC will forward its recommendations to the provincial government, which will make the final decision on the proposed wastewater lagoon.

The *Tribune* asked the provincial department of environment and climate change about why there was no Indigenous consultation with regard to the lagoon and whether it will consider implementing a buffer zone.

"We always want to hear from Manitobans, which is why there are public comment periods for all environment act proposals and why, in this case, we requested a Clean Environment Commission hearing to better understand the concerns of those affected," said minister Moyes. "These processes are open to all affected Manitobans. I look forward to receiving the CEC's report that will include recommendations and other issues brought up at the hearing, with an eye to make a decision that ensures the long-term health of Lake Winnipeg."

The federal departments of fisheries and oceans and environment and climate change Canada were asked about why they haven't been a participant in the lagoon proposal to ensure Lake Winnipeg won't be further polluted.

Hackers breach Canada Life, steal Canadians' personal data

By Patricia Barrett

Canadians have once again become the victims of cybercriminals after insurance company Canada Life had its IT system breached this month and customer data stolen.

Canada Life provided few details about the cybersecurity incident.

It said in an April 20 news release that the "unfortunate" event involved "unauthorized access to certain applications through an employee account" and that the company launched an immediate investigation.

"Our primary focus is the protection and care of our customers, advisors, and employees," said the company. "While we are finalizing a thorough analysis to understand the exact nature and full scope of impact, we have begun communicating with our customers."

Individuals whose personal information was accessed will be contacted and offered credit-monitoring protection, it added.

Canada Life was founded in 1847 as the Canada Life Assurance Company. It provides personal health insurance for medical services such as physiotherapy and psychology, dental insurance, life insurance, retirement planning and insurance for businesses and their employees.

Other media reports said hackers known as ShinyHunters stole the data of about 70,000 Canadians from Canada Life.

Bill Buckels, a retired systems analyst, software engineer and wealth systems manager who lives in the Interlake, said the Canada Life cyber attack represents an ongoing failure

of companies to protect clients' data.

"Well, of course, Canada Life was hacked," said Buckels. "This is another good case for not storing customer information where it can be accessed through the Internet."

He said he's not surprised the company's IT system was breached as the ironclad security protocols he worked with back in his day are just not being implemented now because of convenience. That's why the news is full of stories about companies being hacked and client data stolen.

Strong protocols from 35 or 40 years ago still exist and can be built into today's IT systems, he said. Those security protocols include "data or information hiding" whereby individual clients are linked only to a "generic tag" such as a customer ID or a transaction number, with none of their personal data attached, as well as not allowing the transmission of sensitive data from a company's server over the Internet.

"Canada Life should have had information hiding. In the 1980s and 1990s, this was a tenet of computer privacy, and we didn't have this hacking problem back then," said Buckels, who worked in the financial sector for companies such as RBC Dominion Securities and for stock exchanges and international banking systems. "If you're going to leave the door open, the criminals are going to come in and steal everything."

According to his research, Buckels said the stolen Canada Life data included names, contact details, and possibly financial and health insur-

ance data.

Hackers accessed the system via a single employee's account. Buckels said it could have been a phishing email that the employee opened or the hackers could have obtained a previously hacked password that the employee was using for other applications, and the hackers tried it out and were able to access Canada Life client data stored on the Cloud. In this way, the hackers didn't have to "break in through a firewall; they just walked in the front door."

"If the employees have access to client information through the Internet, then you as the company have compromised your own system, and you're to blame," said Buckels. "Under what circumstances does an employee need to have access to more than one customer at a time? If they choose to, Canada Life can have a 'closed' system for employees that won't compromise the data of thousands and thousands of clients."

Cybercriminals not only sell personal data on the dark web to other criminals, but they'll also sit on it for years. For example, if they can't read encrypted data they've stolen, Buckels said they'll store it for years until new technology is developed to "crack" older encryption standards.

"The Canada Life data is obviously going to be set aside and could be frozen until thawed in five years' time or more," he said.

That's why a hacked company saying there's "no evidence client data is being shared on the dark web" or offering its clients free time-limited

credit-monitoring services is virtually meaningless. It does nothing to protect victims whose data was hacked.

"Canada Life is giving a credit check for a year or two as compensation to the victims. But it's clear that these are really stupid people when it comes to protecting data and they should be punished like criminals to teach them a lesson," said Buckels. "The company needs to pay when that data eventually gets used and the damage occurs, whether that's tomorrow or a decade or more from now. Canada Life is effectively an accessory to this breach and it should be liable to the same penalties given to hackers – who may never be caught."

He underscored that fact that when IT systems are not exposed to the Internet, data cannot be stolen. Thieves would have to physically steal a server containing data by dynamiting brick and mortar to get to it.

What Canada Life and other companies with weak IT protocols need to do now is "remove client data from the Internet altogether," he said.

The Canadian Investment Regulatory Organization (CIRO) experienced a major cybersecurity breach in 2025 that affected about 750,000 Canadian investors, including those in the Interlake. Hackers stole personal and financial data (including birthdates, SIN, bank account numbers and eye colour) after they accessed CIRO's IT system. Interlakers just found out in March their data was stolen. A class-action lawsuit has been launched (see Feb. 5 online edition of the *Express Weekly News*).

St. Laurent approves recreation rezoning as council tightens bylaw enforcement

By E. Antonio

The Rural Municipality of St. Laurent has approved a zoning change to allow seasonal recreational development while moving to strengthen bylaw enforcement timelines and address ongoing community concerns.

At its April 1 meeting, council gave second and third reading to a zoning bylaw amendment affecting a portion of land in the northeast quarter of

9-16-4W, rezoning it from agricultural restricted to seasonal recreation. The change follows a public hearing and includes plans for a proposed subdivision and new public road.

Chief administrative officer Billie Jean Oliver said the rezoning will allow for the development of four parcels of land and is not expected to significantly impact existing infrastructure.

"It aligns with municipal priorities, as we are looking at ways to help the municipality grow," she added.

The decision comes as the municipality continues broader planning work, including discussions around a potential lagoon expansion and development of its 2026 budget.

Oliver said the lagoon expansion project is currently in the pre-design phase, which is expected to be com-

pleted by the end of April, with the Environmental Act Proposal anticipated by the end of May. Once complete, the proposal will be submitted to the Province of Manitoba for review.

Council also moved to tighten enforcement under its unsightly property bylaw, authorizing action against a non-compliant property on Ducharme Road. The order allows the municipality to carry out cleanup work if necessary and add associated costs to the property's tax roll.

In a related move, the compliance period for property cleanups has been reduced to 15 days from 45, reflecting a push toward more timely enforcement.

Oliver said council felt the original timeframe was too long, adding that

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Balmoral 4-H member earns provincial title

By Annaliese Meier

A Balmoral 4-H Club member is bringing home top honours after a standout performance at this year's provincial communications event.

Peyton Marohn earned first place in the Junior One-Person Visual category at the 2026 4-H Manitoba Provincial Communications Extravaganza, held April 18 in Brandon.

Her presentation, Mexican Migrations, explored the remarkable journey of humpback whales, which travel thousands of kilometres each year from the cold waters of Alaska to the warm coastal regions of Mexico to give birth.

The idea for the project came from a firsthand experience.

"I was inspired by going to Mexico and seeing the amazing creatures in person," Marohn said.

She detailed how the massive marine mammals rely on baleen plates to filter-feed on small prey, demonstrated how whales communicate through song, and explained why warmer southern waters provide a safer environment for newborn calves.

Bringing the topic to life, she incorporated a series of hands-on visual elements, including a three-foot paper mâché whale, a softball-sized model eye, and baleen plates crafted from a broom to demonstrate how the whales' strainer-like teeth function.

The construction process proved to be one of the biggest challenges.

"I thought the paper mâché whale was the most challenging as it took a week to make. There were many layers to build the structure," she said. "The baleen plate model was easy as I glued fish to a broom to describe

what their teeth are like."

Her display was rounded out with poster boards featuring facts and photos that supported her presentation.

Having family support added to the experience at provincials.

"I was excited because I had my cousins Katie and Kenzie there to cheer me on. They were very encouraging," she said.

Marohn said winning the category was a proud moment for both herself and her club.

"I was proud to win and represent my 4-H club," she said.

She added the experience has helped build confidence that will extend beyond 4-H.

"I've learned to be a confident speaker and presenter. It will help me be ready to share my ideas in the future," she said.

Other Balmoral 4-H members also took part in the provincial event, including Reese Moore, Melodie Versavel and Katie Marohn, contributing to a strong showing for the club.

The annual Provincial Communications Extravaganza showcases top speakers from across Manitoba



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY SANDY MAROHN

Peyton Marohn of the Balmoral 4-H Club poses with her project Mexican Migrations and her first-place award after winning the Junior One-Person Visual category at the 2026 4-H Manitoba Provincial Communications Extravaganza in Brandon on April 18.

and highlights the confidence, creativity and communication skills developed through the 4-H program.



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Woodlands fire officials warn dry spring conditions could mirror major 2025 grass fire season

By E. Antonio

Fire officials in the RM of Woodlands are urging residents to take precautions as dry spring conditions begin to resemble those that led to one of the region's largest grass fires in recent memory.

Kristy Hill, public education officer with the Woodlands Fire Department, said weather reports from provincial and federal sources are showing conditions similar to last spring.

"Provincial and federal weather sources are reporting conditions similar to last spring, which means dry conditions," Hill said.

The warning comes roughly a year after a massive grass fire scorched more than 10,000 acres of farmland in the RM of Woodlands and neighbouring areas, drawing a major response from multiple fire departments.

The 2025 fire took more than 24 hours to bring under control, with crews continuing to monitor the area for nearly a week.

Hill said the fire served as a major learning experience for many firefighters.

"Last year was the first time a lot of our newer members had seen a large-scale grass fire, so there was lots of opportunity for those members to learn proper tactics and safety, and to get a true sense of how quickly something like that can get out of control," she said.

The event also reinforced the importance of regional co-operation.

"It was a good reminder of how important our relationship with our neighbours is. Without the help of Portage la Prairie, St. Laurent and Rosser, that fire might have been quite a bit larger and some residents might have experienced property damage," Hill said.

In the aftermath of last year's fire season, the department has expanded its focus on prevention and public awareness.

Hill said officials are producing more educational materials than ever before and working to address confusion around local bylaws, burning restrictions and resident responsibilities.

One of the most common causes



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Woodlands Fire Department is reminding residents to follow FireSmart practices this spring. With dry conditions expected, officials warn fire risk could mirror last year, when a blaze burned more than 10,000 acres in the municipality.

of grass fires, she said, is re-ignition from fires residents believe are already extinguished.

Hill explained that fires from weeks or even months earlier can continue smouldering below the surface, only to flare up again when wind conditions change.

Another frequent cause is unattended burning of garbage or debris.

Residents are being reminded to keep the area around any fire clear of long grass, debris and combustible materials, and to never leave flames unattended.

Hill said one of the biggest misconceptions is how easy people think grass fires are to control.

"A little bit of wind can make a fire move very rapidly," she said, noting that a fire can travel hundreds of feet in the time it takes someone to walk to a garage and return with tools.

For that reason, she recommends having water, a rake or other firefighting tools immediately on hand before lighting any outdoor fire.

The department is also encouraging residents to familiarize themselves with the RM of Woodlands' Fire Prevention and Control By-law 2720-19,

which outlines requirements for open burning and gives council the authority to issue burn bans.

Hill said decisions on burn bans are based on current and forecast weather conditions, with council working closely with the fire department to determine when restrictions are necessary.

When it comes to fire emergencies, Hill's message is clear: call early.

"Any time a resident feels they have a fire that may be beyond their ability to control, they should call 911," she said. "Calling early can make all the difference, and we're here to help residents whenever they need us."

Waiting too long, she added, can quickly lead to fire spreading onto neighbouring land and causing property damage.

Hill also pointed residents to FireSmart guidelines, recommending homeowners clear debris from around homes and outbuildings, especially in rural areas where longer grass and dry vegetation can fuel fast-moving fires.

For farmers, she said sparks from machinery striking rocks or metal can easily ignite dry fields, particularly during harvest.

She recommends keeping equipment clean and ensuring every machine carries a fire extinguisher.

Hill said the most important message for residents this spring is understanding both their legal responsibilities and when to ask for help.

"Know your responsibilities under the Fire Prevention and Control By-law," she said. "Call 911 early—don't be afraid to ask for help when you need it."

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BIG DOLLAR

Interlake Offroad Club hosts safety and etiquette orientation meetings

By Jennifer McFee

The Interlake Offroad Club is gearing up for another exciting season with much to look forward to in the year ahead.

The club recently hosted a community trail development meeting in Balmoral where attendees learned about multi-use trail planning, trail safety, upcoming projects and more.

The club's origins date back to 2010 when a small group of riders got together for a few trail rides before spurring on a bigger vision.

"Early on, the club built its reputation by organizing fun, grassroots events like group rides and mud bogs — bringing people together who shared a passion for off-roading and the outdoors," said Calvin Sedleski, president of Interlake Offroad Club.

"From those humble beginnings, a strong community was formed — built on camaraderie, adventure and a love for the trails."

Today, the Interlake Offroad Club has grown into an active and organized group that hosts at least eight rides each year across Manitoba and northwestern Ontario. The rides attract participation from everyone ranging from seasoned riders to families across the region's scenic terrain.

The current 95-kilometre trail system connects a growing number of communities across the Interlake, including Arborg, Silver, Meleb, Fraserwood, Malonton, Komarno, Teulon, Gunton and Balmoral.

"This network is more than just trails," Sedleski said. "It's a regional connection point that brings people, businesses and outdoor users together."

With that in mind, the club continues to give back to the communities it rides through. Throughout the year, they participate in events like Christmas parades, Canada Day celebrations, Icelandic Festival parades, Touch-A-Truck fundraisers and volunteer work at Agape Soup Kitchen.



"These events allow us to connect with the public, promote safe riding and show that off-roaders are a positive force in the community," Sedleski said.

One of the club's most exciting new additions is the Winter Festival Obstacle Course Challenge on Lake Winnipeg.

"This event has quickly become a highlight of the season — combining skill, fun and winter riding in a unique setting," Sedleski said. "It showcases both rider ability and the versatility of off-road machines, even in extreme conditions."

Another major milestone for the club's growth is its ability to maintain the 95-kilometre trail system.

"Last year presented challenges, including a fire ban that delayed our work until September. Despite this, our dedicated volunteers worked tirelessly through the fall — continuing right into November — to improve and maintain the trail system," he said.

"This marked our first year working on a multi-use trail system, focusing on trail maintenance, development and responsible land use."

Entering this multi-use development, Sedleski said they had concerns about how local residents might respond.

"Instead, we were met with overwhelming support and appreciation. Communities along our trail systems



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

The Interlake Offroad Club recently hosted a community trail development meeting in Balmoral where attendees learned about multi-use trail planning, trail safety, upcoming projects and more. Throughout the year, the club participates in events in the communities it rides through.

were impressed with the work being done, recognizing the value of responsible trail development and stewardship," he said.

"This positive feedback has strengthened our relationships and reinforced our direction moving forward."

Now the Interlake Offroad Club hosts four safety and etiquette orientation meetings across different communities.

"These sessions have received a very positive response, helping educate riders on trail safety, respect for other users and responsible riding practices," he said.

"A great example of our inclusive approach — one of our members doesn't even own an ATV but owns a horse and still participates. That

speaks volumes about our commitment to true multi-use trail cooperation."

Looking ahead, Sedleski said the Interlake Offroad Club wants to continue to grow — not just in numbers but also in impact.

"From organizing rides and events to maintaining trails and building community relationships, the club is evolving into a leader in trail stewardship, community engagement and multi-use cooperation," Sedleski said.

"What began as a few riders hitting the trails has become a thriving organization making a real difference. The trails are better. The communities are connected. And the ride is just getting started."





Nexgard, Simparica And Bravecto: Are They Safe For Dogs?

Like every dog owner, you want to avoid fleas on your dog and in your home. And you don't want your dog picking up ticks and risking tick-borne illnesses like Lyme disease, skin irritation, or rocky mountain spotted fever. Wouldn't it be convenient to just give your dog a tasty chew every month or 3 months to protect her from both fleas and ticks? Well, in recent years, some new preventives for dogs let you do just that.

Great! Problem solved... or is it? No, it's not! If you got excited about the idea of a longer term chewable flea and tick medicine ... stop right there!

What Are Chewable Flea And Tick Preventives?

There are three drugs in the category of chewable flea and tick preventives: Nexgard, Bravecto and Simparica. Nexgard (active ingredient afoxolaner) and Bravecto (fluralaner). The dosing schedules are once a month for Nexgard and Simparica and once every three months for Bravecto.

How Oral Flea And Tick Preventives Work

These flea treatments are oral medications. The drugs come in a soft chew that your dog can eat like a treat. After your dog takes the chew, the drugs circulate in the blood, and **only until the flea or tick bites your dog, it's exposed to the chemical. This will kill fleas and ticks.**

All three drugs are pesticides that work by attacking the nervous system of the fleas and ticks, causing death. So, these chewable drugs work by destroying the insects' nervous systems. If it's deadly for fleas and ticks, how might it affect a dog? Remember ... these drugs stay in your dog's bloodstream for extended periods of time. That means ... once your dog takes one of these drugs, if she has any side effects, you can't remove the drug from her body.

What is the best flea and tick preventative?

The best flea and tick preventative avoids harmful chemicals. Seek natural options such as Citrobug, EM collars or add garlic to your pet's food. More information and how to feed garlic can be found here: <https://www.dogsnaturallymagazine.com/garlic-for-dogs-poison-or-medicine/>

**Original blog found here: <https://www.dogsnaturallymagazine.com/bravecto-nexgard-simparica-oral-flea-tick-preventives-safe/>
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Join CPAWS for free group hike and wildlife photo walk at Narcisse Snake Dens

By Jennifer McFee

Spring has sprung, which means the birds are chirping, the grass is greening and the snakes are slithering.

On Saturday, May 2, all are welcome to join a free 3.2-kilometre hike at the Narcisse Snake Dens, hosted by the Manitoba chapter of Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS). The event runs from 11 a.m. to noon, and

CPAWS Manitoba is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to protecting Manitoba's lands and waters for future generations.

"Founded in 1991, we are proudly built in Manitoba and committed to making sure the voice of conservation is heard on issues that affect our parks, wild spaces and natural heritage," said Katie Borgfjord, digital marketing co-ordinator for the Manitoba chapter.

"Along with protecting nature, we help connect to nature through our Nature Club and Outdoor Education program."

The Narcisse Snake Dens are a spectacular site in Manitoba, she added.

"It is the largest snake den in the world. The snakes spend the winters hibernating in the limestone rocks and come out to mate in spring," she



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society is hosting a free group hike and wildlife photography walk at Narcisse Snake Dens on Saturday, May 2.

said.

"This is the best time to view the snakes. On the hike, you can expect a fun day out in nature. We will have volunteers to help guide your walk and chat a bit about the snakes."

Group hikes are a perfect outing for families and people new to the area.

"With a CPAWS hike, you can get out in nature with the safety of being in a group, and being near people trained in first aid, while connecting with nature and making some new friends," she said.

"You also have the opportunity to sign a postcard to help protect lands and waters, like the Interlake."

In addition to the hike, this year CPAWS is also offering a new event — a wildlife photo walk at the snake dens on Saturday, May 2 from noon to 1 p.m. Registration is separate from the regular group hike.

"This is in collaboration with photographer April Carandang," Borg-

fjord said.

"She will be taking us through a relaxed beginner guide for photographing wildlife and how to get the best shots."

Throughout the summer, CPAWS continues to offer events for all to enjoy.

"As a part of our Nature Club, we host many events all summer to help connect people to nature. On Tuesdays in the summer, we have nature workshops at Crescent Drive Park in Winnipeg. On Wednesdays, we have paddle nights on Churchill Drive," Borgfjord said.

"Every first Saturday of the month, we have a free group hike. In the Interlake, we have a group hike in Stony Mountain on Oct. 3. Remember that CPAWS Manitoba is your source to get outside."

To see all the events and to register, visit <https://cpawsmb.org/nature-club-events/>.

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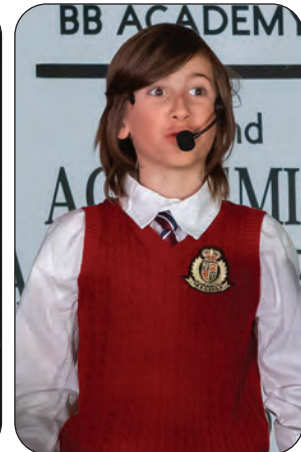
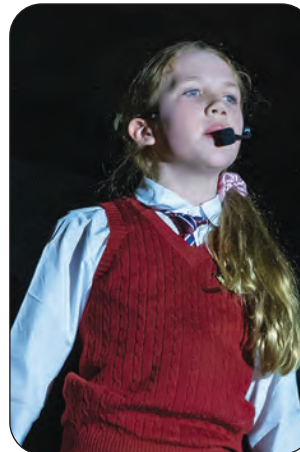
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RWBB Grade 4 musical



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

École R.W. Bobby Bend School's annual musical continues to be a highlight of the school year, bringing together all Grade 4 students in a wide range of roles. Preparation begins months in advance, with auditions for speaking parts starting in early January. Those cast in speaking and dance roles dedicate countless lunch hours to rehearsals, demonstrating strong commitment, teamwork and perseverance. This year's production, *We're All in This Together*, directed and choreographed by principal Patricia Crockatt, was inspired by the 20th anniversary of the film *High School Musical*. The movie helped reintroduce musicals to a younger generation, highlighting themes of individuality, belonging and the importance of diverse talents within a school community. The production featured songs students enjoy from a variety of musicals and films, woven into a script that reflects familiar elements of daily life at the school, making the story both personal and meaningful for performers and audiences alike.



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Clean up for Earth Day



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

École Stonewall Centennial School Grade 7 students took part in a community cleanup on April 21, collecting garbage throughout the Town of Stonewall in recognition of Earth Day. Students also participated in a series of in-school learning stations focused on environmental topics, including carbon footprints, the impacts of fast fashion and plastic pollution in the oceans. Observed annually on April 22, Earth Day promotes environmental protection and encourages people to take action in caring for the planet. The day is often framed for students as an opportunity to give back to the Earth by keeping air, water and land clean for all living things. Activities also reinforced the importance of the “three Rs” — reduce, reuse and recycle — as part of everyday efforts to support a healthier environment for future generations. Pictured left: Grade 7 students clean ditches in front of the collegiate. Right: Jace Meyers and Eric Porteous bring garbage they collected back to the school.

GAAC dancers shine at year-end recital

By E. Antonio

Dancers at the Green Acres Art Centre (GAAC) wrapped up their season on April 21 with a year-end recital.

Three classes, ranging in age from five to teens, took to the stage in costume, performing for an enthusiastic crowd.

GAAC dance instructor Jill Demianiw said the evening was “beautiful,” with an engaged audience and a calm, welcoming atmosphere.

The classes have been rehearsing since September and also performed earlier this season at the Rockwood Festival of Arts. Demianiw said programs like these give young dancers

a chance to express themselves creatively in a supportive, social environment close to home in Teulon.

“I began my dance career here, and my Nanny, Ann Killbery — who passed away earlier this year — brought me to the art centre to learn ceramics, calligraphy, pointillism, watercolour and more,” she said. “I treasure those memories at GAAC with her.”

While the regular dance season has ended, more opportunities are ahead, including an eight-week spring session and a summer camp. For more information, visit the Green Acres Art Centre (@gaacteulon) on Facebook.



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Green Acres Art Centre dancers celebrate the end of their season at the annual recital on April 21.

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Local Ukrainian dancer marks intergenerational impact with first Pryvit

By E. Antonio

This April's Manitoba Ukrainian Dance Festival marked an especially meaningful performance for one Stonewall family.

Ten-year-old Lucy Campbell performed her first Pryvit to the same song her mother, Alycia Campbell, danced her own first Pryvit to years earlier. Making the moment even more special, Lucy's Pryvit was choreographed by her aunt, Elena Modrzejewski, and longtime family friend Olivia Dubeski — two of Alycia's former students who were part of her very first Pryvit routine.

"It was pure joy to watch Lucy take the stage for her first Pryvit," her mom said. "You could see the pride on her face while she danced, and that was beautiful to watch."

The performance brought Alycia back to Lucy's very first dance class with the Selkirk & District Ukrainian School of Dance, and she said she is proud to see how much her daughter has grown over the years.

Lucy was invited to perform the Pryvit in recognition of her positive attitude and dedication during rehearsals.

"She loves dance and takes pride in knowing she's putting her best foot forward when she takes the stage," her mom said. "Dance has given my life so much joy and colour. It's taken me places I would not have visited. It's allowed me to make lifelong friends. It's blessed me with strength and health as I age. And most importantly, you don't have to be perfect or the best to reap all those benefits if you love it. I want all of that for Lucy — I hope dance gives back to her the way it has for me."



Lucy's mom, Alycia, stands with Lucy and her aunt Elena, who co-choreographed the Pryvit.

Alycia said she first choreographed her routine in 2010 and immediately knew the music was something special.

With Pryvit serving as a welcoming dance that symbolizes hospitality and the fertility of the land, she said that the moment she first heard the piece, she knew the audience was in for a treat.

Now, in 2026, hearing the music again and watching Lucy perform brought tears to her eyes.

"The fact that this piece stayed with them (Modrzejewski and Dubeski) as dancers, and then as instructors that they chose it to choreograph their first Pryvit, is an honour," she said. "It was a full-circle moment."

Dubeski said that, for her, one of the most meaningful aspects of Ukrainian dance is carrying on tradition between generations.

"Each step, rhythm and costume



Lucy Campbell performs her first Pryvit with the Selkirk & District Ukrainian School of Dance to the same song her mom, Alycia, danced her first Pryvit to. Lucy's routine was choreographed by two of Alycia's former students who also performed in her original Pryvit.

reflects a shared history, connecting dancers today with those who came before them," she said. "When those moments have a personal connection, it makes them even more meaningful."

For Modrzejewski, she said they approached the choreography knowing the importance and privilege the routine held, adding that it had lived with them for several years and they strived to recreate its impact on their students.

"Seeing Lucy and the rest of my students perform this piece onstage was the culmination of many hours of preparation and the dreams Olivia (one of two choreographers) and I had," she said. "Having the opportunity to watch Lucy from the wings, as my sister had watched me, and as our

aunts and uncles had watched her, is now a memory I will return to fondly for the rest of my life."

For Lucy, stepping onto the stage brought a mix of nerves and excitement, especially as she performed alongside dancers in levels above her own.

Her favourite part of the experience was the opportunity to learn from and perform with them.

"They inspired me with the fast turns, the challenging combinations and the fun choreography," she said. "Dancing in this Pryvit made me feel like I was following in the steps of my family — my great-aunts and great-uncles, my mom and dad, my aunts and uncles, my cousins, and then me. I'm the next generation, and that makes me proud."

> REZONING, FROM PG. 12

Prairie By-law Enforcement is contracted to handle these complaints based on reports.

Council also discussed the potential for a new speeding bylaw and expanding the role of by-law enforcement services.

In other business, council declined a request to provide \$3,084 in funding to STARS air ambulance service, representing a \$2-per-household levy. The motion was defeated.

"Council chose not to support STARS at this time, as it would have had a larger impact on our budget, which had already been discussed and was ready to be presented to the public," Oliver said. "It may be something that the next incoming council would like to add to the financial plan in the future."

A public hearing for the 2026 financial plan is scheduled for April 29 at 7 p.m.

Council did approve several smaller expenditures and community supports, including a \$1,000 contribution to the Oak Point Music

Festival and the purchase of a \$469 magnetic sweeper attachment to improve safety at the waste transfer site.

Additional concerns were raised regarding parking and beach use at Meindl Park, particularly related to boundary lines and road allowance congestion.

Efforts to install aquatic invasive species signage remain on hold pending regulatory designation requirements. The RM is obtaining signage through a provincial program and will remind visitors in public beach areas to ensure all watercraft and gear are thoroughly cleaned and inspected before and after entering the lake.

The municipality is also continuing to review fire department operations, with several members preparing for certification exams and updates pending on the status of a new fire truck.

Council is expected to continue discussions on development, infrastructure and enforcement priorities in the coming months.

Don't forget to send your special words of remembrance for loved ones passed.

Stonewall Teulon Tribune

Call 204-467-5836

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Lott duo rolling at worlds: Gimli pair unbeaten, eye playoff bye

By Haley Cvar

Husband-and-wife curling team Kadriana and Colton Lott are off to a commanding start at the 2026 World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship, using experience, precision and strong communication to position Canada atop its pool.

The Gimli duo opened the event with a 6-4 win over South Korea and have since built momentum through the round robin, improving to 4-0 with a statement victory over reigning world champions Italy.

After more than a year of preparation to earn the right to wear the Maple Leaf, Kadriana said settling into the ice early made a difference.

"Usually, a big event like this, you're nervous to start," she said. "It was good to have a strong start... now we feel more comfortable knowing what the ice is doing."

Canada's opening win set the tone, with Kadriana's draw weight and Colton's key hits helping the pair control play. They built a 5-1 lead at the break and held off a late push from South Korea.

The Lotts carried that form into Sunday, posting two more wins — including a 7-3 decision over the United States and a 10-4 victory against Fin-

land — to remain unbeaten.

Colton's experience at the highest level has been evident throughout the week. Fresh off a national title at the Montana's Brier and a silver medal at the world men's championship, he has helped guide the team's read of the ice.

"He reads the ice like no other," Kadriana said. "For us, we caught on a bit faster than they did, and that was a huge part in our win."

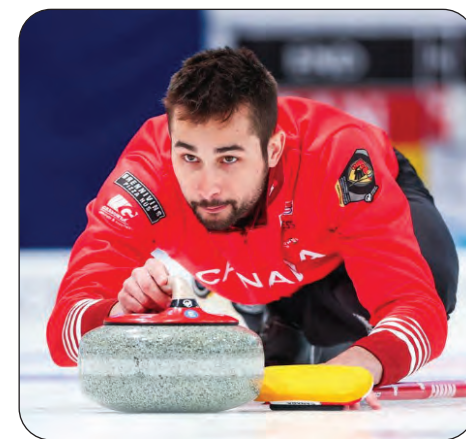
Their biggest test came Monday against Italy's Stefania Constantini and Amos Mosaner, widely considered one of the top mixed doubles teams in the world.

In a tightly played game, Canada capitalized on key Italian misses and forced an extra end, where they sealed a 6-5 victory with a steal.

"We knew this was probably gonna be our biggest game of the round robin," Kadriana said. "Coming out with that win just makes us more eager to keep doing better each game."

The win gave Canada sole possession of first place in Pool B and put the Lotts on track for a potential bye to the semifinals.

Through four games, the pair has demonstrated the balance required in mixed doubles — combining precise



TRIBUNE PHOTOS CANADA © WORLD CURLING / JAMES ROBERTS

Kadriana and Colton Lott of Gimli, compete for Canada at the 2026 World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship in Geneva, Switzerland, where they sit first in Pool B after Monday.

draw play with timely power shots and strong communication built over years of curling together.

"I think we're quite happy with how we've played," Colton said. "It's trying to get a handle on the ice as soon as we can and then really capitalize on the misses."

Canada opened the championship with a 6-4 win over South Korea on April 25, followed by a 10-4 victory over Finland and a 7-3 win against the United States on April 26. The Lotts improved to 4-0 with a 6-5 extra-end win over Italy on April 27.

The Canadian duo returns to the ice Tuesday for a pair of games, facing Hungary at 10 a.m. and Scotland at 7 p.m. They continue round-robin play Wednesday against Germany at 2 p.m., before wrapping up the schedule Thursday with games against Czechia at 10 a.m. and host Switzerland at 7 p.m. (Times listed are local to Geneva; seven hours ahead of Manitoba).

Fans can follow scores, standings and schedules throughout the week on the official World Curling website at www.worldcurling.org.

Balmoral judokas earn medals at Portage Open

By Jo-Anne Procter

The Balmoral Judo Club delivered a strong showing at the Portage Judo Club Open on April 18, with its athletes earning multiple podium finishes against a field of approximately 160 competitors from across Manitoba and northwestern Ontario.

In the under-10 participation division, Phoenix Wakeham and Ellie Cook represented Balmoral on the mat, gaining valuable competition experience.

Ryker Rutledge led the club's U12 boys results with a silver-medal performance. Teammates Austin Mac-

Donald, Leo Paton, Maverick Paton and Greyson Ritchie each secured bronze in the same division.

Balmoral continued its success in the U14 female division, where Josie Hoplock captured silver in the under-48-kilogram category. Raeghan Wakeham added a bronze medal in the same weight class.

Avery Wakeham rounded out the club's podium finishes with a silver medal in the U16 male under-55-kilogram division.

The club will wrap up its season at the Nakamura Open in Winnipeg on May 2.



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Members of the Balmoral Judo Club pose for a group photo after competing at the Portage Judo Club Open on April 18, where they earned multiple medals against a field of approximately 160 athletes from Manitoba and northwestern Ontario.

Interlake trio leads Nighthawks to first MJHL title

By Kieran Reimer

The Niverville Nighthawks captured the Turnbull Cup last Thursday, marking the first time the franchise has been crowned champions of the Manitoba Junior Hockey League and punching their ticket to the 2026 Centennial Cup in May.

For the three Interlake locals who anchor the roster — Adam Vigfusson (Gimli), Hayden Wheddon (Stonewall) and Dawson Zeller (St. Andrews) — it also marks the completion of their MJHL careers, as they will age out of Junior A eligibility following the Centennial Cup.

The trio of forwards played a significant role in Niverville's dominant regular season and playoff run, which concluded in Virde n last Thursday with a 4-0 series sweep over the Virde n Oil Capitals.

Last Tuesday, the Nighthawks took a 3-0 series lead with a 6-3 victory on home ice, seizing a firm grip on the series.

Six goals were scored in the first period, with Vigfusson, Evan Panzer and Merik Boles providing the offence for Niverville, while Virde n's Tyson Ulmer, Liam Goertzen and Austin Osio wy replied for the visitors.

Boles made it 4-3 Nighthawks in the second period with a shorthanded goal, with Zeller picking up the lone assist.

Niverville's John Scott and Kole Mears then put the game out of reach with a pair of third-period goals to seal the victory.

In net, Austin Dubinsky turned aside 39 shots for Niverville, compared to 15 saves from Virde n's Braxton Burdeny.

The series then shifted to Tundra Oil & Gas Place in Virde n for Game 4, where the Nighthawks once again delivered, earning a series-clinching 6-2 win.

Virde n's Dysen Drake and Niverville's Marlen Edwards each scored in the first period before a second-period surge from Niverville, with goals from Panzer, Edwards and Mears.

Virde n's Tyson Draper added one late in the period to make it 4-2 heading into the third.

Wheddon and Panzer added two more in the final frame, while Dubinsky remained solid in net, finishing with another 39-save performance. Virde n's Micky Gross made 25 saves.

The victory capped a dominant postseason for Niverville, which saw them sweep the Winkler Flyers, defeat the Waywayseecappo Wolverines in five games and ultimately sweep the Oil Capitals.



Niverville Nighthawks forwards Dawson Zeller (left) and Hayden Wheddon (right) with the Turnbull Cup.

Each finals game drew crowds of more than 1,000, with fans from both teams travelling well despite the more than 300 kilometres between the communities.

"I think this was the best crowd I've ever played in front of," said Wheddon, despite previous experience in larger Western Hockey League arenas during the playoffs.

"You kind of get chills after scoring a goal or winning a game in front of them. It gets pretty loud in there, so it's awesome."

After the final buzzer in Game 4, the Nighthawks swarmed Dubinsky in celebration. Wheddon and Vigfusson were among the first to break away, sharing a moment together at the glass.

The two have played together since the age of six through Interlake minor hockey, progressing to the AAA Interlake Lightning and eventually reuniting in Niverville.

"To win it with him is really special," said Vigfusson. "The fact that two Interlake boys were not just part of the team, but leaders as well, shows what the region produces. It's an awesome feeling to win with someone I've known since I was six."

Both players appeared in Niverville's inaugural 2022-23 season. Vigfusson spent his entire junior career with the team, while Wheddon began with the Selkirk Steelers in 2021-22 before splitting time between Niverville and the WHL, returning full-time for the past two seasons.

Zeller joined the club last season



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Hayden Wheddon (Stonewall), left, and Adam Vigfusson (Gimli) celebrate together after helping the Niverville Nighthawks capture the Turnbull Cup and the Manitoba Junior Hockey League championship.

after spending three years with the Winnipeg Blues.

"Definitely the best choice I made in my hockey career," said Zeller. "Going to a winning team and finishing my last couple of years like this, ending with a Turnbull Cup, is awesome."

All three players recorded point-per-game postseasons. Vigfusson finished tied for the league lead with 19 points, while his 10 goals topped all skaters.

Dubinsky was named playoff MVP after posting a 12-1 record, a 1.31 goals-against average, a .956 save percentage and three shutouts in 13 games.

He was also awarded the Ed Belfour Top Goaltender Award during the regular season.

"It all starts with Duby and our defence," said Vigfusson. "Everyone buys into their role and the offence follows. We knew we could score, and we trusted Duby and the defence to shut the door. Defence wins championships, and that was our focus."

Vigfusson recalled a conversation with Dubinsky following last year's first-round exit to Winkler, when the pair committed to returning with a renewed focus.

After a summer of preparation, Niverville finished first overall with a franchise-best 51-6-1 record for 103

points.

The performance made them favourites to win the MJHL and strong contenders for the 2026 Centennial Cup.

Niverville will make its first appearance at the national championship May 7-17 in Summerside, P.E.I.

The tournament will feature nine CJHL champions along with the host Summerside Western Capitals.

Following several days of celebration, the Nighthawks have already returned to the ice in preparation.

They enter the tournament ranked No. 2 in the CJHL, behind the Rockland Nationals of the Central Canada Hockey League.

"I think we've had that in our minds all year — not just the Turnbull, but the Centennial Cup too," said Wheddon. "If we keep playing the way we are, we've got a good shot. It would be pretty special to win that as well."

The full tournament field is still being finalized, but Niverville knows it will face Summerside, Rockland, and the champions of the SIJHL and AJHL in preliminary round play.

The top three teams from each pool advance to the playoffs, with first-place finishers earning direct semifinal berths.

The Nighthawks open the tournament May 7 against the host Western Capitals at 7:30 p.m. ADT (5:30 p.m. CDT) at Credit Union Place.

sports & recreation

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Stonewall pair to join defending MCAC champion Cougars

By Kieran Reimer

The Assiniboine Community College Cougars will have some familiar faces on the team next season.

Stonewall's Jordan Hudon and Rhea Myers have both made commitments over the past few weeks and will continue their volleyball careers in the Manitoba Colleges Athletic Conference (MCAC) with coach Kevin Neufeld's Brandon-based squad.

Both Hudon and Myers spent the 2025-26 high school season with the Stonewall Collegiate Rams and are currently playing for their respective club teams.

They visited Brandon a few weeks ago, where they got a feel for the program before officially committing.

"Me and my mom went out, just asked some basic questions like how many times they practise in a week, kind of their deal, their program, what their strength looks like and everything, just to get a vibe of their team," said Hudon, who committed in February.

She also took part in a team practice, where she knew for sure she wanted to join the Cougars.

"Everybody was super nice, super encouraging, coaching was great. They have an amazing coaching staff, had awesome drills, and everybody was right into it and so encouraging that I just really felt at home there," said Hudon.

Myers' campus visit was much the same. She met Neufeld, who recently won MCAC Women's Volleyball Coach of the Year, along with many of the players she will now call teammates.

She will be one of seven freshmen on the team next season, while eight players will return from the Cougars squad that won its first MCAC championship this season.

"I also met a few of the girls and they were super nice and telling me all about how fun their season is, how awesome it is to play for Kevin and winning the MCAC championship was probably one of their highlights, and then they got to experience nationals too. It just sounded like a super fun time to be there, and they did well as well, so that helps," said Myers.



Rhea Myers



Jordan Hudon

Currently with the Interlake Volleyball Club, Myers' spring and summer will consist of finishing the club season and taking part in the workout plan ACC has set out for her.

Hudon will follow a similar path while playing her club season for the Dynamo Volleyball Club in Winnipeg.

The two plan to live together in their first year, with Myers enrolling in the

Comprehensive Health Care Aide program and Hudon in Business Administration.

They will begin official practices with the Cougars in early September. The season typically includes exhibition games in the first few weeks, with the regular season beginning in late October.

U15 Lightning girls showcase skills at POE camp

By Kieran Reimer

Eight members of the U15 AAA Female Interlake Lightning got to showcase their talents at the Hockey Manitoba Girls U16 Program of Excellence Spring Selection Camp last Friday to Sunday at Hockey For All Centre.

Lightning skaters Brynn Williams, Kallie Sutherland, Paige Bernier, Claire Sugimoto, Piper Tataryn, Kahlie Minnie, and Allyson Keck, along with Lightning netminder Emma Cassils were among the 136 players taking the ice.

Hockey Manitoba's goal of the program is to teach up-and-coming female athletes the skills, concepts and tactics specific to the Women's U18 Program of Excellence, ensuring that these athletes are given the proper development time in order to move to the U18 level and beyond.

POE players have gone on to play at the U Sports, NCAA and International levels in the past.

Players were broken up into eight

different teams to play a series of scrimmages over the three-day camp.

Hockey Manitoba will later select 40 players from the camp to the Girls U16 POE Top-40 Camp in June, which is followed up by the Girls U16 POE Competition Phase in August.

LIGHTNING PLAYERS:

- Defence- Brynn Williams (Balmoral), 2025-26: 28GP 6G 1A 7PTS
- Forward - Kallie Sutherland (Pequis), 2025-26: 25GP 3G 0A 3PTS
- Forward - Paige Bernier (Stonewall), 2025-26: 26GP 5G 4A 9PTS
- Defence - Claire Sugimoto (Stonewall), 2025-26: 28GP 1G 0A 1PTS
- Defence - Piper Tataryn (Teulon), 2025-26: 28GP 1G 4A 5PTS
- Forward - Kahlie Minnie (Stonewall), 2025-26: 28GP 10G 7A 17PTS
- Forward - Allyson Keck (Komarno), 2025-26: 27GP 3G 3A 6PTS
- Goal - Emma Cassils (Grosse Isle), 2025-26: 16GP 3-12W/L 3.11GAA .922SV ISO



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Pictured from top left, clockwise left to right: Brynn Williams, Kallie Sutherland, Emma Cassils, Paige Bernier, Allyson Keck, Kahlie Minnie, Piper Tataryn and Claire Sugimoto.

sports & recreation

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U15 Lightning boys battle Manitoba's best at POE camp

By Kieran Reimer

Eight members of the U15 AAA Male Interlake Lightning competed in a series of scrimmages at the Hockey Manitoba Boys U15 Program of Excellence Spring Evaluation Camp last Friday through Sunday at the Hockey for All Centre.

Lightning representatives included Jake Nychuk, Titan Kirkness, Aiden Isfeld, Tripp Warburton, Crew Corbett, Zachary Schram, Henry Gemmill and Jagger Tesluck among a camp roster of 136 skaters and goaltenders.

Formerly known as the Director's Cup Prospects program, the Boys U15 POE is designed to provide



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Pictured left to right: Jake Nychuk, Titan Kirkness, Aiden Isfeld, Tripp Warburton, Crew Corbett, Zachary Schram, Henry Gimmill and Jagger Tesluck.

Junior Varsity Zone champs



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

The Teulon Saints captured the 2025–26 Manitoba High School Athletic Association Zone V junior varsity banner with 35 points, edging the Gimli Lakers who finished with 33. First- and second-place winners will advance to provincials, set for April 30 – May 2 in Winnipeg. TCI first place finishes went to Vander Lowe and Conner Reed (boys doubles), Blake Barylski and Brook Waldbauer (mixed doubles) and Gracey Wilkenson (girls singles). Members of the Manitoba High Schools Athletic Association Teulon JV badminton team display their Zone 5 banner after capturing the Junior B boys and girls championships for the 2025–26 season. Back row: coach Mr. Kasper, Scarlett Wasserman, Lilly Skinner, Vander Lowe, Conner Reed, Brook Waldbauer, Gracey Wilkenson, Troy Pelletier, Kate Rawlings and Olivia Price. Front row: Blake Barylski. Not all team members are pictured.



Pictured left to right: WCI's Emma Cassils and Yaseen Ball placed second in mixed doubles, while Adam Ball finished second in boys' singles and Ashlyn Hoas placed second in girls' singles.

high-performance players with the opportunity to develop advanced skills, as well as an introduction to the concepts needed to compete at an elite level.

Players were evaluated over the weekend by Hockey Manitoba scouting and coaching staff, who will ultimately determine the invite list for the Boys U15 POE Top 40 Camp in June, the second phase of the program.

Phase 3, the Boys U15 POE Competition Phase, follows the Top 40 Camp and is scheduled for August.

LIGHTNING PLAYERS:

- Defence - Jake Nychuk (Stone-

wall), 2025-26: 30 GP, 0 G, 1 A, 1 PTS

- Forward - Titan Kirkness (Fisher River), 2025-26: 31 GP, 2 G, 1 A, 3 PTS

- Forward - Aiden Isfeld (Gimli), 2025-26: 28 GP, 0 G, 2 A, 2 PTS

- Forward - Tripp Warburton (Stonewall), 2025-26: 32 GP, 5 G, 4 A, 9 PTS

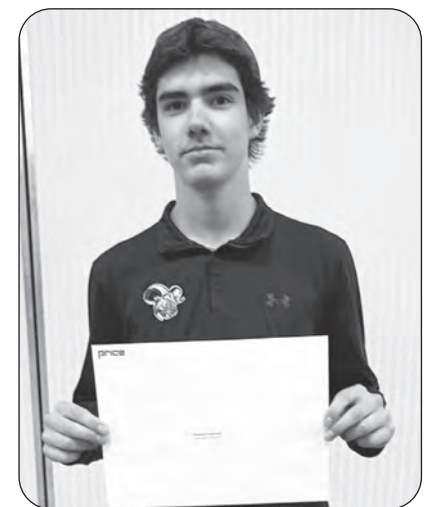
- Defence - Crew Corbett (Stonewall), 2025-26: 32 GP, 0 G, 0 A, 0 PTS

- Forward - Zachary Schram (Stony Mountain), 2025-26: 32 GP, 4 G, 3 A, 7 PTS

- Forward - Henry Gemmill (Stonewall), 2025-26: 30 GP, 1 G, 6 A, 7 PTS

- Forward - Jagger Tesluck (Stonewall), 2025-26: 28 GP, 1 G, 0 A, 1 PTS

Winnipeg High School Hockey Awards



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Warren Wildcats' Ty Olson (left) and Collège Stonewall Collegiate Rams player Matthew Hawryluk were honoured at the Winnipeg High School Hockey League awards in Winnipeg last Friday. Olson received the Marni Miles Sportsmanship Award, presented to the Price Division player who best demonstrates sportsmanship, skill development and a love of the game. The award includes a \$250 scholarship. Olson and Hawryluk also received the Travis Price Memorial Scholarship, valued at \$500 and awarded to one player from each team who demonstrates outstanding character.

Senior Zone V badminton champions



TIRBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Collège Stonewall Collegiate captured top spot at the 2025–26 Manitoba High School Athletic Association Zone V senior badminton championship, held in Stonewall last Thursday. CSC won the banner with 57 points. First- and second-place finishers advance to provincials, scheduled for April 30 to May 2 in Winnipeg. Zone V winners were: girls' singles — CSC's Reese Fidler; boys' singles — CSC's Josh Learmond; girls' doubles — WCI's Paige Seidel and Torie Galbraith (first) and CSC's Sierra Slatcher and Riley Swanson (second); boys' doubles — CSC's Nick Turner and Reese James (second); and mixed doubles — TCI's Kingston Lowe and Akira Abacan (first), and Tyson Valen and Kiera Spence (second). Left photo, CSC Zone champions; right photo: WCI's Paige Seidel and Torie Galbraith.

Stonewall-born Sugimoto wins Jimmies' DPOTY award



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Stonewall's Jane Sugimoto was named the Defensive Player of the Year for the Univ. of Jamestown Jimmies (ACHA II) in their inaugural season of 2025-26. The 2007-born netminder sported a 7-5 record with a 2.51 goals against average and a .918 save percentage in her freshman campaign.

By Kieran Reimer

It was a successful freshman campaign that ended in a defensive accolade for Stonewall's Jane Sugimoto.

A 2007-born netminder for the University of Jamestown Jimmies (ACHA II), Sugimoto was named a Defensive Player of the Year at the club's awards banquet last week, splitting the honours with Makenzie Gibson, the other half of Jamestown's goalie tandem.

Both played 10-plus games for the Jimmies in the club's recently completed inaugural season, with Sugimoto appearing in 12 regular season games, going 7-5 with a 2.51 goals against average and a .918 save percentage.

The former Interlake Lightning helped Jamestown to their first ACHA Women's Division 2 Nationals appearance where the Jimmies were unable to reach the playoff round.

Sugimoto got the crease in Jamestown's second game of the tournament, recording 26 saves in a 2-1 loss to University of Saint Thomas on March 16 at Centene Community Ice Center.

Dynamo Red headed to nationals



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Dynamo Red placed third among 34 teams at the Manitoba Volleyball Association 17U provincials held last weekend in Winnipeg. The team posted a 7-1 record, with its only loss coming in the semifinal to Bison Gold, who went on to capture the provincial title. In the bronze medal match, Dynamo defeated Winman Fire 25-23, 25-22. In semifinal action, Dynamo fell to Bisons Gold 15-25, 10-25. In the quarterfinal, Dynamo Red needed three sets to advance, defeating Dynamo White. Stonewall's Julia Oliver was named a provincial all-star. The podium finish marks the fifth time in as many years the team has medalled at provincials, a run that also includes a national gold medal. The team now turns its focus to the national championship, set for May 15–17 in Calgary, Alberta. Pictured back row, left to right: Ania Kolodziej (asst. coach), Mackenzie White, Ary Jones, Lilly Rempel, MacKenzie Boonstra, Jael Reimer, Kamila Galka and Cienna Coulter. Front row, Abi Minnie, Julia Oliver, Torie Galbraith, Paige Seidel, and Tyler Oliver (head coach).

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RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOODLANDS PUBLIC NOTICE

2026 Dust Control Program

The Rural Municipality of Woodlands will accept requests for the application of dust control, on a **PRE-PAYMENT BASIS**, on municipal roads in front of residences within the Municipality. The Municipality cannot guarantee the effectiveness of the dust control suppressant. Once a dust control suppressant has been applied no refunds will be made. The use of a dust control suppressant is meant to control dust on the roadway, not to eliminate it completely.

Application forms are available at the Municipal Office or our website www.rmwoodlands.ca. The application will consist of a 16' x 300' strip at a cost of \$330.00 plus GST (\$346.50).

It is the homeowners' responsibility to flag the site for application using marking stakes provided by the Municipality.

Deadline to submit application forms is **Friday, May 15, 2026.**

In the event of insufficient requests, payments will be refunded.

NOTE: Any property owners undertaking Dust Control privately **must** provide Public Works with 5 days notice prior to commencement of any works and road prepping will only be undertaken during the same time frame when the Municipality is undertaking its dust control.

COUNCIL
Rural Municipality of Woodlands

**The Tribune Classified booking deadline is Monday at 4 p.m. prior to Thursday's publication
Please Call 204-467-5836**

THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ARMSTRONG EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Youth Summer Employment

The Rural Municipality of Armstrong invites applications for the position of:

Seasonal Labourers

Qualifications

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- Available from May 1 - September 1, 2026
- Must be 16 to 29 years old
- This position will require physical effort and include outdoor work, in a variety of conditions

Further information may be obtained by contacting the office at (204) 278-3377.

Written applications to be submitted by 4:30 p.m., Monday, April 27, 2026 to:

RM of Armstrong Office
Box 69, Inwood, MB ROC 1PO
Fax: 204-278-3437
Email: clerk@rmofarmstrong.com

THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ARMSTRONG EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

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The Rural Municipality of Armstrong invites applications for the following positions:

Yard/Park Maintenance Office Assistant

Eligible Students

- Red River Metis students ages 14+ living in Manitoba
- Students must have attended school full-time in the current academic year and be returning to school on a full-time basis in the upcoming year.
- Part-time & Distance Education students are not eligible
- Proof of Red River Metis Citizenship (MMF Citizenship #) is required
- Students aged 15 and under must complete the Safe Work Manitoba Young Worker Readiness Certificate course prior to starting employment
- Available from June 29 to August 28, 2026

Further information may be obtained by contacting the office at (204) 278-3377.

Written applications to be submitted by 4:30 p.m., Friday May 29, 2026 to:

RM of Armstrong Office
Box 69, Inwood, MB ROC 1PO
Fax: 204-278-3437
Email: clerk@rmofarmstrong.com

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R.M. of ARMSTRONG UNDER THE PLANNING ACT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Council of the **R.M. of Armstrong** under the authority of the Planning Act will hold a PUBLIC HEARING at the date, time and location listed below:

Thursday, May 14, 2026
7:00 P.M.
FRASERWOOD HALL
10140 PR 231 Fraserwood, MB

Property owners are being notified in order to give them the opportunity to speak in support of or objection to the proposed conditional use.

People who wish to make a presentation in support of or objection to the proposed conditional use application must register with Planning at the R.M. of Armstrong Office no later than **Monday May 11, 2026 at 4:30pm.**

CONDITIONAL USE: # 2026-A-07

ROLL NO: 0044500

APPLICANT: 7317434 Manitoba Ltd/Harbour Colony Farms

OWNER: 7317434 Manitoba Ltd./Harbour Colony Farms

SUBJECT: Agricultural General Zoning district R.M. of Armstrong Zoning By-Law No. 6/04 Section 12.3-19 Livestock Production Operation producing more than 301 Animal unit

Conditional Use Requested: The applicant seeks to construct a new poultry operation. The applicant proposes that the operation will consist of 40,000 layers (332 A.U.), 40,000 pullets (132 A.U.), and 60,000 broilers (300 A.U.), representing 764 animal units (A.U.).

PREMISES: SW 28-18-3E

For further information, please contact:
Cori Audet - Permit & Planning Services Phone: 1 (204) 278-3377
Rural Municipality of Armstrong Fax: 1 (204) 278-3437
Box 69, Inwood, MB R0C 1P0 e-mail: planning@rmofarmstrong.com

Documents related to the matter to be considered at the hearing may be inspected or copied at the R.M. of Armstrong Office during normal office hours, 8:30am - 4:30pm, Monday to Friday.

THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ROCKWOOD PUBLIC HEARING

2026 FINANCIAL PLAN

In accordance with Section 162(2) of *The Municipal Act*, the Rural Municipality of Rockwood shall hold a **PUBLIC HEARING** to present the 2026 Financial Plan for the Municipality at:

6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, May 12, 2026
RM of Rockwood Administrative Office
285 Main Street
Stonewall, Manitoba

The Rural Municipality of Rockwood 2026 Financial Plan consists of:

1. The 2026 Operating Budget;
2. The 2026 Capital Budget;
3. An estimate of the operating revenue and expenditures for the following fiscal year; and
4. A five (5) year Capital Expenditure Program.

The purpose of the **PUBLIC HEARING** is to allow any interested person to make representation, ask questions, or register an objection in respect of the Rural Municipality of Rockwood 2026 Financial Plan.

Any person who wishes to make a Presentation, Ask a Question, or Send a Letter to Council must provide a copy of the presentation and/or documentation no later than 4:00 p.m. on May 7, 2026.

Copies of the 2026 Financial Plan are available for review at the Municipal Office, Monday to Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Chris Luellman, CMMA
Chief Administrative Officer
The Rural Municipality of Rockwood

THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ROCKWOOD PUBLIC NOTICE

2026 DUST CONTROL PROGRAM

When requesting application of dust control, the Applicant acknowledges and accepts the following:

1. The product to be used for dust control purposes is Magnesium Chloride. The Municipality does not guarantee any dust control product.
2. For safety purposes, the maintenance of roads by the Municipality takes priority over anyone's application of dust control.
3. The Municipality shall not be responsible to replace anyone's application of dust control.

The Rural Municipality of Rockwood will accept requests for the application of dust control, on a **PRE-PAYMENT BASIS ONLY**, on municipal roads in front of residences in the Rural Municipality of Rockwood. **This includes residences in the Rural Residential Zones.**

If receiving Private Dust Control, please notify the office prior to Dust Control being applied.

Ratepayers may obtain dust control based on **\$565.00** per application. **Orders and pre-payments** for same to be made to the Rural Municipality of Rockwood Administration Office by **Friday, May 22, 2026.** The application will consist of actual width of road x 100 metre strip. The area to be serviced **must** be staked out prior to application. Dust Control will be applied during the early part of June, **weather permitting.**

In the event of there not being sufficient requests for a truckload, payments will be refunded.

Application forms are available on our website at: www.rockwood.ca

The Rural Municipality of Rockwood

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returning to school in the fall. 30 hours per week for 9 weeks. June 30 - August 29, 2026.

In partner with MMF Métis Employment & Training
Deadline to apply May 22, 2026.
Please send resume to Teulon & District Museum, Box 44, Teulon MB R0C 3B0
Or email: teulonmuseum@gmail.com



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Assembly & Installation Technician BrookGlobal - Winnipeg, MB (Travel Required)

BrookGlobal is seeking a hands-on **Assembly & Installation Technician** to join our team. We design and build custom donor recognition systems and immersive environments for hospitals and nonprofits across North America. This role requires frequent travel across North America and work in active environments—reliability and professionalism are essential.

Key Responsibilities:

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Qualifications:

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ROCKWOOD REVISED WATER AND WASTEWATER RATES STONY MOUNTAIN WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITY

April 17, 2026

The Rural Municipality of Rockwood has applied to the Public Utilities Board (Board) for revised water and wastewater rates for the Stony Mountain Water and Wastewater (Utility) as set out in By-law No. 05-26, read the first time on January 14, 2026. Rates were last approved in 2025 in Board Order No. 80/25, with current rates coming into effect July 1, 2025.

The current and proposed rates are as follows:

	Current Rates	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Quarterly Service Charge	\$ 13.36	\$ 24.42	\$ 25.04	\$ 25.68
Water (per cubic meter)	\$ 2.60	\$ 2.70	\$ 2.66	\$ 2.64
Wastewater (per cubic meter)	\$ 2.65	\$ 3.56	\$ 3.61	\$ 3.65
Minimum Quarterly Charge*	\$ 92.11	\$ 118.32	\$ 119.09	\$ 120.03
Bulk Water (per cubic meter)**	\$ 3.03	\$ 3.38	\$ 3.37	\$ 3.36
Disposal, licensing and vehicle fees for septic haulers				
Lagoon - initial access fee***	n/a	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Lagoon - annual access fee***	n/a	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
Replacement of access code	n/a	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
Switch access code from one vehicle to another	n/a	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Disposal fee****	n/a	\$ 4.60	\$ 4.60	\$ 4.60
Reactivation of access code due to non-payment	n/a	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00

*Based on 15 cubic meters

**Bulk water rates will include an additional \$100 flat fee per fill.

***for each sewage truck

****based on 85% load capacity of sewage truck tank, per kilolitre

Details of the RM's application are available for review at the Municipal office or the Public Utilities Board's office. Any questions concerning the application for revised rates, or the operation of the Utility, should be sent directly to the Rural Municipality of Rockwood.

If you have concerns/comments regarding the Rural Municipality of Rockwood's application for water and wastewater rates, please go to www.pubmanitoba.ca and provide your comment. *Please note all comments will be forwarded to the Municipality.*

Questions or comments should be sent on or before June 1, 2026.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Beulah Anne (Bea) Mallon
August 16, 1929 – April 3, 2026

A Celebration of Life will be held for family and friends on Monday, May 4, 2026 from 1 p.m. – 2 p.m. at MacKenzie Funeral Home, Stonewall. A private family interment will follow at 2 p.m. at the Stonewall Cemetery.

OBITUARY



Jean McGee

Jean McGee passed away peacefully, surrounded by family, in Warkworth, Ont. on April 21st, 2026. Jean will be missed by her loving husband Bill Seguire and family.

She was predeceased by her husband Ron McGee, late of Stonewall. Loving mother of Randy (Cindy), Rick (Lori), Rod (the late April), Janna, Ryan (Erin) and Rob (Julie). Grandmother to Cary (Colleen), Cord (Emma), Alison (AJ), Brian (Erika), Cody (Colter), the late Francine, Zach, Zeke, Silas, Teaghan (Chris), Shealon, Grady (Megan), Dane, Olivia and Leah and 14 great-grandchildren. She will also be missed by many nieces and nephews.

Jean is predeceased by her parents Harold and Mary (nee Lamb) Devitt, of Bobcaygeon Ont., her brothers Ken (the late Shirley) and John (surviving wife Carol). Dear sister to Marion Amy (late husband Paul), and Juanita Day (late husband Harold).

Jean was in her 94th year. She grew up in Bobcaygeon, Ont. She married Ron McGee in 1954 and they moved their family to Manitoba in the early 60's to begin the McGee bridge building company. Both are well remembered in Winnipeg where they raised their six children, and especially in Stonewall, where they settled before Ron's death in 2002. Jean was a big part of the Stonewall community, involved with Home Care and many seniors activities. After Ron's passing, she moved back to Ontario, and remarried in 2011, but returned often to visit family and friends and enjoy Stonewall Quarry Days.

She will be loved and missed by all.



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OBITUARY



Arlene Frances Kaiser

September 26, 1949 – April 22, 2026

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Arlene Frances Kaiser on April 22, 2026, at the age of 76.

Arlene was predeceased by her lifelong partner, Ed Anderson (2025); her sister, Jacqui (2021); and her parents, John and Peggy Kaiser, (1985 and 2016, respectively).

She will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered by her children: Shannon, Paula (Chris), Wendy, Pam (Mitch), and Kyle (Louise); her only surviving niece, Andrea (Kevin); as well as her many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, all of whom brought her immense pride and joy.

Arlene was truly one of a kind—a free spirit and a “hippie at heart” who always marched to the beat of her own drum. She lived life boldly and authentically, never afraid to speak her mind or be

exactly who she was.

Her brash honesty was matched by a sharp wit and a wonderful sense of humor that left lasting impressions on everyone she met.

In her earlier years, Arlene worked both as a photographer and professional cake decorator. Together with Ed, Arlene co-founded the Hitch 'n Post Country Barbecues over 35 years ago, creating not just a business but a place of connection, laughter, and community.

She found happiness in life's simple pleasures: the beauty of pansies in bloom, a fresh Jeanne's cake, and the companionship of her beloved cats and dogs.

Arlene's spirit, strength, and individuality will be remembered always. She leaves behind a legacy of living life unapologetically and that is something we will all miss terribly. AK, Leenie, Gramma, Mommicita, Momma T-Bag....all the names you proudly wore, you are finally home.

Thank you for being you!

We will forever love you.

No formal service will be held.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to your favourite Animal Rescue.

OBITUARY

Abram Leonard Dyck

It is with deep sadness we announce the sudden passing of Abe Dyck age 87 years of Komarno, MB on Saturday, April 18, 2026.

Funeral Service announcement will be posted on
www.klfuneralservices.ca



204-886-0404

OBITUARY

**In Loving Memory of
Leonard "Len" Oscar Johnson**

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Leonard Oscar Johnson on April 21st, 2026 — a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfather. Len passed away surrounded by the love of his family, leaving behind a legacy of kindness, hard work, and quiet strength that will be cherished forever.

Born in 1936 in Winnipeg and raised in Lundar, Manitoba, Len grew up with prairie values that shaped the man he became: steady, humble, and always willing to lend a hand. In 1958, he married the love of his life, Joyce. Together they raised a family and shared 59 beautiful years of partnership, laughter, and unwavering devotion.

In the years following Joyce's passing, Len was fortunate to find companionship and joy again with his partner of eight years, Elaine. Their time together brought comfort, warmth, and renewed happiness to his life.

A skilled auto mechanic and natural entrepreneur, Len built his life through determination and craftsmanship. He owned and operated his own Gulf gas station before later opening an auto parts store, becoming a trusted figure in his community and a friendly face to anyone who walked through his doors.

Outside of work, Len embraced life with enthusiasm. He was an avid golfer, a passionate stick curler, and a sharp and strategic card player. Whether competing, socializing, or simply enjoying the moment, Len brought warmth and good humor wherever he went.

Len's greatest pride was always his family. His gentle presence, steady guidance, and quiet wisdom shaped generations who will carry his memory forward with love.

He is survived by his loving partner, Elaine; his children Donna (Bill), Wendy (Roman), and Doug (Tammy); his grandchildren Sara, Bryan (Rebecca), Ben (Dianna), Michelle (Bryceson), Jordan (Shannon), Jennifer (Ben), Jayden, and Corbin; and his great grandchildren Freya, Elliot, Clover, Amara, Amelia, Ava, Maeve, Vivian, Matthew, Taylor, and Indie. He is also survived by his siblings Leroy, Margaret, and Elaine (Denis).

Len was predeceased by his beloved wife Joyce, as well as his brothers Norman and Allen.

A funeral service will be held on May 2nd at 1:00 p.m. at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Teulon, MB (Hwy #7), with Reverend Rick Condo officiating. A private interment will take place at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Manitoba Heart and Stroke Foundation, in honour of Len's life and legacy.

Len will be deeply missed and forever remembered.



204-886-0404

IN MEMORIAM



Live to ride, ride to live.

Dean

May 26, 1967 – May 1, 2021

Thoughts of you bring a smile or a laugh,
Then an emptiness knowing you're not here.

Missing you.

Mom, Dad and Deanna

*Don't forget to send
your special words
of remembrance for
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South West District

Palliative Care

Everyone is invited to attend.

Tuesday, May 19th, 2026 at 7:00pm

Stonewall Legion, Club Room

459 Main Street Stonewall

Register at admin@swdpc.com or 204-513-1728

We welcome inquiries from those interested in joining our board!

We encourage you to attend!

*Don't forget
to send
your special
wishes to
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and family.*

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OBITUARY

Annie Williams (Lesko)

September 29, 1929 - January 30, 2026

Peacefully with family by her side, Mom, Grandma, Nammie, passed at the St. Boniface Hospital at the age of 96.

Left to survive are her sister Mary Emmerton; children: her daughters Diane (Dale) and Donna (Ken), and son Wayne (Mary) along with her eight grandchildren Tina Williams, Shelly Williams (Ryan Cabak), Sandy Deratch (Tom), Brad Williams (Jolene), Chad Hornung (Kim), Bryce Hornung (Mika), Cory Iverson (Annie) and Chelsea Felske (Michael); 15 great-grandchildren Josh Kitto (Viga), Jake Kitto, Tye Cabk, Will Cabak, Levi Derkatch, Daxton Williams, Theo Williams, Rylee Hornung, Jayce Hornung, Mason Hornung, Aidan Iverson, Lily Iverson, Violet Iverson, Joselynn Felske and Jasmine Felske; great-great-grandchild Julius Kitto; along with numerous nieces and nephews.

Predeceased by husband Henry Williams; mother and father Mary and Peter Lesko; brothers Nick (Maymie) and Peter Lesko (Marie) and sister Rose Brennan (Pat); Brothers-in-law Jack Williams and Austin Williams (Marg).

Grandma was born in The R.M. of Rockwood, where she attended school in Stony Mountain until grade 6 when the family moved to Stonewall. She met the love of her life, Henry, in 1947 and married on September 24, 1949. They started their family with Diane in 1950, where they lived on the farm just outside of Stonewall.

Grandma took great pride in her volunteer work at the Stonewall Royal Canadian Legion, where she catered weddings and funerals. She also volunteered at the Stonewall Food Bank for about 20 years before COVID hit. In the evenings, grandma loved to attend Bingo at the Legion, where many people knew her as a friendly face.

Grandma's favorite hobby was her baking and she was known around town for her cabbage buns.

Celebration of Life will be held May 10, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. at the Stonewall Royal Canadian Legion.

In lieu of flowers, if friends so desire, donations can be made in Grandma's name to Diabetes Canada, Heart Association, or Interlake Food Bank.

The family would like to thank the staff at the Stonewall Hospital, EMS staff and the staff at the St. Boniface Hospital for the great care of Grandma.



204-886-0404

OBITUARY



Phyllis Thompson
April 13, 1944 - April 20, 2026

Phyllis passed away peacefully at Health Sciences Centre on April 20, 2026.

Phyllis Thompson (nee Mankewich) is predeceased by her parents Olga and Stanley Mankewich, sister Julia and brother-in-law Bert Harder, brother-in-law Jack Thompson, and her in-laws Alice and Jack Thompson.

She is survived by husband William (Bill) Thomspson, brother Harold and sister-in-law Margaret Mankewich and their children, brother Eugene Mankewich and sister-in-law Barbara Mankewich and their children, the Thompson clan, and her special friends Linda Larsen, Rhonda Graham, Rhonda Hickes, and Wanda Pucci.

Phyllis was born and raised in Red Rose, Manitoba. She went to school in Sunny Valley and graduated from Fisher Branch

High School. She began her employment journey at Investors Syndicate and later had a long, illustrious career at Ford Motor Company.

Bill and Phyllis were married on May 13, 1967. They lived in Winnipeg for nine years, Stony Mountain for two years, and later the farm by Gunton from 1977 until present day.

Phyllis enjoyed curling and golf, and she was a part of the Manitoba Ladies Golf Association. Many evenings were spent watching sports as well, especially the Winipeg Jets. She made shopping a hobby and the odd trip to a casino to play the penny slots - a way to enjoy time with friends and family.

When the weather was nice, she spent much of her time planting flowers and tending to her garden.

Music was also a large part of Phyllis' life - Bill and Phyllis, along with their many friends, spent many summers at Country Fest. She spent 22 winters in Texas with Bill, enjoying all of their favourite activities in the warm weather and taking day trips into Mexico. She especially loved the music in Mexico, particularly the musicians (and margaritas) at El Disco's. She travelled extensively with Bill, her family, and her friends. She fostered a welcoming, warm community, dinners with family and friends, or all of the above.

Phyllis was great at living in the moment. She loved to host, where she spent time cooking and serving excellent meals - laughter and stories accompanied those dinners. She had an amazing sense of sarcastic humor and wit. She is remembered for kindness and generosity, her smile, and especially for the class and grace that she always carried herself with. She leaves behind a legacy of love, compassion, and quiet resilience that will not be forgotten.

Her greatest pride was the relationships she built with her husband, her nieces and nephews, her friendships, and her family. Phyllis was an excellent wife, a loving sister and aunt, and a wonderful friend.

A special thank you to Dr. Bella, the nurses and staff at the Health Sciences Centre.

Later in June there will be a celebration of life.



204-467-2525
mackenziefh.com

OBITUARY



Ronald Joseph Schenkers
June 18, 1943 - April 19, 2026

After a lengthy illness, Ronald (Ron) passed away peacefully on April 19th, 2026, at Lakeshore General Hospital in Ashern, Manitoba.

Ron is survived by his loving wife of 62 years, Jo-Anne (Joey); his son Mike (Sue) and grandchildren Kristen and Mathew; his daughter Tracy (Barry) and grandchildren Sophia and Emily; and great-grandchildren, Raelynn, JJ and Riley.

Ron is predeceased by his son John, parents Frank and Rose Schenkers, and his sisters, Olga, Ann, and Fran.

Ron grew up in St. James where he attended St. Anne's and St. Paul's Schools. Ron's first job was a paper route. It was here where he met his future wife, Joey, at the age of 14.

Ron worked for a Shell service station as a teenager. At age 21, he became owner of an Esso Service Station making Ron one of the youngest Esso Dealers in Canada for the Esso Franchise at that time.

Ron continued his entrepreneurial path, moving on to ownership of two Gondola Pizza restaurants in 1973.

In 1977, the family relocated to Stony Mountain where Ron started a rainbow trout hatchery, a first in Canada.

A few years later, Ron saw a new opportunity and purchased a water well drilling rig. Stonewall Drilling was born and alongside his longtime friend and business partner, Harry Frederick, they ran a successful water well drilling business for over 25 years.

In 2005 Ron retired and he and Jo-Anne moved to their cottage at Sandpiper Beach near St. Laurent, MB. The lake was a recreation area for Ron and Joey for over 50 years where they enjoyed golf, summers on the beach and lots of family time. They also fled the Manitoba winters and spent a number of seasons in Arizona, golfing and visiting with fellow snowbirds.

Ron was a real character, known for his sharp wit and quirky sense of humour. He loved Joey, his family, his dog Sally and life at the lake. He will be deeply missed.

Cremation has occurred, and a service is planned to take place in Stonewall, MB at a later date.

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OBITUARY



Dr. Vern Francis Campbell
July 6, 1957 - March 15, 2026

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Dr. Vern Francis Campbell, beloved father, brother, mentor, teacher, colleague, and friend, who passed peacefully on March 15, 2026, at Victoria Hospital after a brief and courageous battle with thymus cancer, surrounded by the love of his family.

Vern is lovingly remembered by his children, Emily (Nick) and Aidan (Yiyi), and their mother Patricia; his siblings Richard (Renee), Heather (Gary), Noreen, and Murray (Linda); many nieces and nephews; his lifelong best friend Wes (Tracy); and countless friends, colleagues, and students fortunate to know him.

He was predeceased by his parents, Ivan and Doris Campbell. Born in Teulon, Manitoba, Vern grew up the second oldest of five children on a family farm, which he frequently returned to reminisce.

He graduated from Teulon Collegiate having excelled both academically and athletically, playing hockey, golf, and baseball. As a Teulon Tiger through and through, he was a force to be reckoned with on the ice, and his love of sports never left him. He was an avid Boston Bruins and New England Patriots fan, and it was rare to ever see him miss a match of curling or golf on TV. He was a devoted golfer, spending many days and evening at Teulon Golf & Country Club and Niakwa Country Club, where no round was complete without a patio beer and friends.

Vern's eagerness to learn and grow was among his most impressive qualities. After earning his Diploma in Mechanical Engineering Technology from Sask Polytech, he completed a BSc in Mechanical Engineering at the U of Manitoba, and an MBA at the U of Western Ontario. In 2025, Vern graduated with a Doctorate in Business Administration from the Montpellier Business School in France, where Emily and Aidan watched him cross the stage as Dr. Campbell - a memory they will cherish forever.

His career spanned Manitoba Hydro, Northern Blower, consulting work, and academia. He established his own consulting practice and served as a professor at the University of Manitoba, teaching in the Engineering and MBA programs, where his mentorship helped countless students and professionals achieve their goals. His career and own curiosity took him across many countries, from Japan to Scotland to Guyana, with plans to work in Kenya cut short by his battle with cancer.

Above all, Vern's greatest pride was his children, Emily and Aidan, and his love for them was felt by everyone he met. His goal was to teach them as much as he could while making sure they had fun along the way. He will be remembered for his fierce love for those close to him, his intelligence, kindness, leadership, and his contagious smile and laugh. We are all truly grateful for having him in our lives.

A celebration of life will take place on June 3 at 2:00 p.m. at Niakwa Country Club.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Dr. Vern Campbell Memorial Scholarship, honouring his legacy of generosity, mentorship, and lifelong commitment to learning, and supporting the next generation of engineers and leaders he inspired.



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