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Altona Mayor Harv Schroeder and Borderland MLA Josh Guenter cut the ribbon Monday to officially mark completion of the Main St. resurfacing project. For the full story, see Pg. 12.

PHOTO BY LORI PENNER/VOICE

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# New wheels for Altona PD

By Lori Penner

The Altona Police Service (APS) has a new set of wheels, thanks to the Criminal Property Forfeiture Fund (CPFF), a provincial program that supports safer communities.

With the \$3,819 they recently received through the CPFF, the department was able to add an electric mountain bike to their fleet.

The CPFF allocates cash and proceeds from the sale of forfeited property from criminals under the Criminal Property Forfeiture Act towards operating expenses, updating equipment, victim compensation, or programs and initiatives that promote crime prevention across the province.

"It's spinning the negative effects of crime into something that benefits others," says Chief Dan Defer. "It's basically the stuff seized by the

province, and whatever they collect gets redistributed to various police departments. Through the years, it's paid for training, it's paid for equipment—it's assisted in a lot of areas. Budgets are getting tighter, so anytime we can access another source of revenue, it helps us."

According to the Province, the CPFF has distributed more than \$19 million back to the communities throughout the province since its inception in 2009.

Altona Police, which serves the communities of Altona and Plum Coulee, have benefited from the CPFF many times through the years. In total, over \$100,000 in police equipment has been purchased for the agency through the fund.

"The Criminal Property forfeiture fund continues to make much needed investments in local, community safety," says Borderland MLA Josh Guenter. "The funds going towards the Altona Police Service will improve safety within our parks and during

**"IT'S SPINNING THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF CRIME INTO SOMETHING THAT BENEFITS OTHERS."**



PHOTO BY LORI PENNER/VOICE

From left: Borderland MLA Josh Guenter, Altona Police Const. Brendan Funk, Chief Dan Defer, police board chair Audrey Schmidt, and Coun. Tammy Braun with the new bike the department purchased with funds from the Criminal Property Forfeiture Fund.

large events and festivals. This bike is yet another tool in their kit. We're very pleased with the work they do, and we're always happy to partner with them as a government."

Defer says the electric bike will be a positive thing for the department.

"It will make officers more accessible and allow them to engage more with the public. And in the event of an emergency, they can quickly get back to the office and switch over to the regular patrol vehicle in a timely fashion. Some more urban communities have actual bike fleets, but for now, this bike will serve its purpose just fine in Altona. The bike will be used for patrolling parks and large tournaments and festivals, and places that

can't be navigated with a vehicle."

The bike was purchased through Altona Farm Service, and retails at about \$3,300. It features a rechargeable battery, lights, and storage for equipment and a First Aid kit.

"It's a really great bike. It makes a person want to buy one just for themselves," said Cst. Brendan Funk. "It's going to be a fantastic tool for us. It just allows us to get around town in areas you can't go to in a regular vehicle. It's so good that this fund allows us to get equipment like this, and it's got all the right features. The big tires provide great stability on the road. It's quite an awesome machine."

Funk adds, "In terms of community engagement, we're often find-

ing that people think we're unapproachable. This bike will remedy some of that. The old foot patrol is awesome but it's very inefficient for getting around, especially with all the gear we wear.

"This gives us another way of getting into the community and being able to respond to lower priority calls quicker than just walking or showing up in trucks. It will make us more accessible to the community at large."

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# Two local families get their keys to Habitat duplex

By Lorne Stelmach

It was a special day for two local families Saturday as they were presented the keys to their new homes.

The ceremony marked the completion of construction on a Morden duplex that was the most recent project of the Winkler and Morden chapter of Habitat for Humanity.

The two families, who wished to only use their first names, both spoke of looking forward to making memories here.

"A lot of barbecues ... a lot of cooking ... just to have fun in the backyards, to actually be able to have a yard to play in," said Peter, who was there with wife Rosella and children Monique, Viola, Penelope, and Juniper. "Just making memories with family and friends, just a place to call our own."

"This is a beautiful neighbourhood. I like the houses, the people that I've talked to seem nice ... it will be awesome," said Zephyr, who was there with wife Dayna and children Mekai, Azalia, and Mila. "I don't doubt that we will be here longer than the 15 years ... I put my blood, sweat and

tears into this place ... we saw it come from nothing."

Both families said they found it rewarding to provide the 500 hours of "sweat equity" Habitat asks of its families.

"From going to an empty lot to what we're looking at now, it's a big change ... super excited; can't wait to get inside," said Peter. "It was a lot of work, but it's all worth it now. I did a lot of the painting inside, and it just feels good to actually have done a lot of the work. It's extra special ... this way, it's I actually built this house."

"I think it's very special to be able to raise a family in a home that is constant and not having to move around," said Rosella. "Also knowing that we are helping other people out in the future."

"It's just crazy to think where this started and where we're at now. It looks fantastic. I'm super excited to just get in here and have all our stuff in here ... start my first day living here. It's almost surreal actually," noted Zephyr. "I learned a lot. I was very out of my element in the building process except for maybe the painting ...



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Winkler/Morden Habitat for Humanity chapter building committee project managers James and Lois Hildebrand hand over the keys to Peter and Monique and their kids, who were one of two local families who are moving into a Habitat-built duplex in Morden.

it was quite the learning experience."

The two recent projects benefitted from a special contribution with the anonymous donation of the two lots. Habitat was also able to get going on the duplex sooner thanks to additional funding from the province and the City of Morden as part of an afford-

able housing strategy.

"We were really excited when we got this piece of land because of the possibility of doing a duplex here," said Christina Falk, who handles public relations and fundraising for

Continued on page 7

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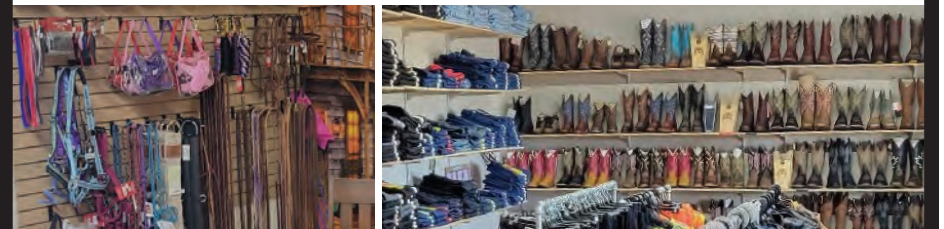


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# RRC Polytech Winkler celebrates its grads

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Red River College Polytech's Winkler campus celebrated the achievements of local graduates with a ceremony at the P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall last week.

The June 21 convocation saw students from the business administration, early childhood education, education assistant, health care aide, and mature student high school diploma and certificate programs walk across the stage.

"Graduation is truly a milestone achievement," reflected college president and CEO Fred Meier in his remarks. He commended the former students on their "drive and determination to achieve your academic goals.

"As a graduate of Manitoba's only polytechnic, you've also developed much more than just tangible, work-related skills in your time with us, giving you an important advantage in a very competitive world,"

he continued. "Your ability to adapt quickly and to embrace different approaches and procedures and changing technology, positions you as uniquely qualified and inherently valuable as you enter, or even as you reenter, the workforce."

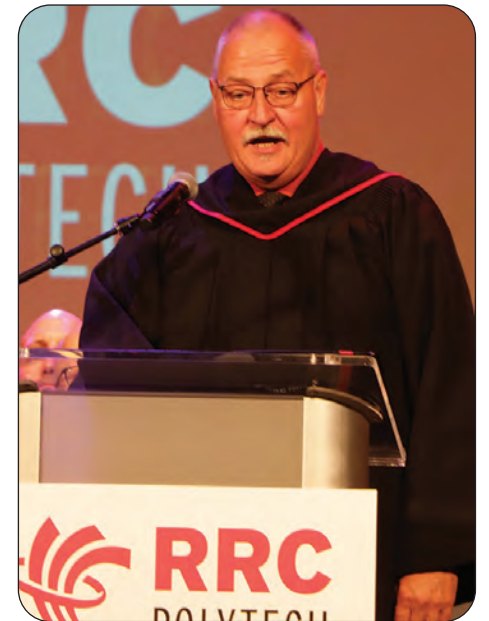
"Today you join a rich community of changemakers, as across every sector, every industry inside of our province, RRC Polytech alumni are helping shape Manitoba's bright future. You now join that group. And I'm confident it won't be very long before we hear about the great things that you're achieving."

Winkler Mayor Henry Siemens applauded the grads for making the decision to pursue further education.

"Today is a life moment. You made the decision that brought you here. This decision on education was yours to make," he said. "This decision here puts you in a select group of people who have decided to invest in your future. That decision changed the course of your life. That decision



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE  
RRC Polytech president and CEO Fred Meier presents Monika Saam with her business administration diploma at last week's Winkler campus graduation ceremony. Right: Alumnus and local instructor Fred Thiessen told the grads how proud the community is of them.



changes the course of a community.

"We're so proud of the fact that you've chosen to do that, that you've invested into yourself like that," Siemens said. "We are extremely proud as a city of Winkler to have people like that in our community. People who want more. People who reach for more. It's what all of Winkler is built on, which is the desire to reach for more."

Welcoming the students to the ranks of RRC Polytech alumni was Fred Thiessen, who studied business administration at the college and teaches there today.

"Everyone present is incredibly proud of you today—your parents, grandparents, siblings, spouses, children, friends, your instructors and your peers," he said. "When we see you, we see the future. And it looks like a bright one for all of us. We know that great things are in store for you."

Thiessen shared that his education opened up so many doors for him.

"Almost three decades after graduating from RRC, I've had a diverse and, most importantly, fun career that I've loved," he said. "I've been able to get out and travel and see this great country, meeting the most fascinating people in each of us corners, directly resulting from opportunities that came into my life after graduation."

RRC Polytech grads serve as am-

bassadors for the school all over the world, Thiessen said.

"They are leaders in their community and mentors in the workplace. Who knows, an alum may be the one to offer you your first job after graduation. And you yourself may be in a position one day to hire our next generation of RRC graduates.

"Our alumni maintain a tight-knit community, and our demanding, grueling, and rewarding programs ensure we recognize and respect a fellow graduate every time we meet one."

He left the grads with a few thoughts from the book *The Four Agreements: A Practical Guide to Personal Freedom* by Don Miguel Ruiz.

"Under any circumstance, always do your best—no more and no less. When you have balance in your life, your career becomes an entirely different and amazing experience.

Continued on page 5

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# Bernier plans to run again in Portage-Lisgar

By Ashleigh Viveiros

People's Party of Canada leader Maxime Bernier has promised he'll be back running for the Portage-Lisgar seat in two years.

Bernier lost his bid last week to be the riding's Member of Parliament, earning 17.2 per cent of the vote (5,352 votes)—a far cry from the 64.9 per cent (20,250 votes) Conservative Branden Leslie received to win the election.

It's also a drop in overall support for the PPC, who earned about 22 per cent of the vote in the 2021 federal election.

Nonetheless, Bernier said in a video posted to his social media pages on election night that he's not going anywhere.

"I will be your PPC candidate in

Portage-Lisgar at the next general election," he told supporters, who he thanked for their hard work over the past few months.

Bernier characterized the PPC campaign as a "common sense revolution" and noted it may take time for them to gain a foothold.

"I must admit the result is not the one we would have preferred," he said. "But don't forget: this riding has been a Conservative stronghold for many years.

"We reached out to thousands of people and built a larger support base in this riding," he continued.

"We gained hundreds of new members. We recruited and trained many new volunteers. Our ideas are better known and better understood.

"When the general election comes, we will be better prepared than ever

before, because I can tell you already we are not going anywhere, and I'm not going anywhere. I will be with you to do that fight in 2025.

"It takes time to convince Canadians that we need a drastic change of course to reverse years of bad Liberal policies and weak Conservative opposition," Bernier said. "But we are here for the long run and we believe we will win.

"We will keep promoting our principles and policies, and convincing more people, until we get PPC MPs in the House of Commons."

The party, which was founded by Bernier, a former Conservative MP, has not successfully had one of its candidates elected to office since its creation in 2018.



SCREENSHOT

PPC candidate Maxime Bernier plans to run again in Portage-Lisgar in the 2025 election.

## > RRC POLYTECH, FROM PG. 4

There's a passion that moves to a whole new level of fulfillment and gratitude. And that's when you can do your best for yourself and for others around you.

"So go ahead, make mistakes. Take chances, find massive success. Fall down and get right back up every

time. Take full advantage of every great opportunity put before you. Live life happily, freely, and boldly.

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## Morden Activity Centre had their 10th Annual Golf Tournament on Monday, June 12th. It was a scorching hot day, but the course was full.

Morden Activity Centre offers recreational activities for all ages, supports for seniors through the department of Services for Seniors, bus tours, monthly clinics, speakers, and workshops. The Centre provides approximately 18,000 meals to seniors in Morden at a low cost through their Meal Congregate Program, with three locations. Delivery is available for those who are unable to leave their homes.

Wendi Dyck, Centre Manager "We are very thankful for our amazing volunteers, who help keep these programs going. The more support we receive from our community, the more people we can help. Thank you to the generous businesses that helped us break last years record for our major fundraiser of the year. We hope to see you back next year. Thank you to the Golf Committee: Graham Corlett, Gloria Penner, Eric Thompson, Albert Janzen, Cheryl Fedorchuk, Darlene Letkeman, and Rhonda Plett.

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**OUR SISTER PUBLICATIONS**



• FAITH FOCUS  
**Amazing grace**

**E**very song has a story. Some songs are remembered for a generation. What would you say about a song that has been known and sung for 250 years? The hymn, *Amazing Grace*, was penned in 1772.

It has been estimated that this song has been performed over ten million times and included in many recordings worldwide. Country stars, clas-

sical music performers, and even a president of the United States have been known to sing this song in public events. It continues to be played and sung in churches, in military tattoos with bagpipes and drums, and in a great variety of settings.



**By Randy Smart**

The author, John Newton, did not seem to be a likely prospect to write the song. His father was a sailor and away from home often. His mother died just before his seventh birthday. At age

eleven he went to sea with his father. When his father retired, John signed on with a merchant ship. A year later he was taken against his will to work in the British Navy. The crew of one ship disliked him so much he was left to be a slave in West Africa at age twenty.

In time he was rescued by a sea captain sent by his father. He became a sailor on slaving ships involved in the unsavoury "business" of transporting people in chains against their will to be slaves in plantations far away from their homes and treated as property and not as people of worth created by

Continued on page 7

# Letters

**LET'S ALL HELP**

Our city has developed some great park and recreation spaces for our enjoyment. The Winkler Whips have invested in a beautiful upgraded diamond. The recreation department faithfully maintains our parks, fields and diamonds. The horticultural committee and their many volunteers provide beautiful floral spaces. My plea is that we truly appreciate their work and these spaces by doing our part. How? There is one simple way we all can help: stop littering!

I've always believed actions speak louder than words and so I made a commitment to act before writing this letter. For the past six weeks, on each of my daily walks with our

dog around the ball diamonds, I've picked up bits of garbage and placed them in one of the many bins provided. Each day for six weeks I've picked up at least 25 pieces of trash, often many more. I know I'm not the only one who does this; personally I was inspired by witnessing others do the same.

What is disappointing is that even though I take a similar route most days, there is always more to pick up. It seems that far too many people don't see a problem with littering. I'm especially surprised with the amount of garbage within five feet of a garbage can. Is it that hard to take two steps and place it where it belongs? Or are we as a society so

self-entitled that we don't care?

I'd like to offer the following encouragements. First and most importantly, stop littering. Second, when you are walking, take a moment to bend down and pick up a few pieces of litter; if we all do a little, it will make a difference. Third, if you are a fellow dog owner, please, please clean up after your dog.

We are fortunate to have the beautiful parks, flower displays, and recreation facilities we have. Let's all help to keep them clean and enjoyable for everyone.

**John P. Klassen,  
Winkler**

*All columns and letters published on our Get Heard pages are the personal opinions of the submitting writers. They are not objective news articles, nor are they necessarily the viewpoint of the Voice.*

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View the Voice online at [www.winklermordenvoice.ca](http://www.winklermordenvoice.ca) or [altonavoice.ca](http://altonavoice.ca)

# Cutting the ribbon on Dead Horse Sales & Rentals

By Lorne Stelmach

Dead Horse Sales and Rentals is ready to cater to the diverse needs of the construction, do-it-yourself, and lawn and garden sectors in the area.

A ribbon cutting last Thursday marked their official opening on Jefferson Street in the Morden industrial park. Company representatives said

they want to offer the perfect equipment to support all your projects, no matter your need.

"Everybody's going to Winkler to rent, so why not start a place here where we can provide for the community and just add to all of the different things that Morden has going on," said manager Joe Hildebrandt.

"We've got a little bit of everything,"

he said. "We even expanded then into automotive repair ... any type of automotive work ... we even do custom engine building.

"We've also got two guys designated for doing the equipment side of repairs," Hildebrandt shared. "We can take on any of that kind of stuff right here in our shop."

For the construction industry, Dead Horse Sales and Rentals offers an impressive range of equipment including scissor lifts, boom lifts, forklifts, skid steers and utility trailers.

If you're tackling a DIY project, it also has you covered from hand tools and cutting equipment to trenchers, air compressors, and portable generators.

They also recognize the importance of maintaining beautiful outdoor spaces, so there is a selection of lawn care equipment including tillers, yard sprayers, lawn sweepers and mowers.

There is a wide range of equipment rentals and equipment repairs and maintenance, including hydraulic repairs, trailer repairs, repairing of scissor lifts, boom lifts and telehandlers as well as small engine repair.

"We're very optimistic about it," Hildebrandt said of the business. "We're getting more and more contractors coming through ... it's surprising how many local people are coming in; they're hearing about us. Things are booming."

## > HABITAT, FROM PG. 3

the local chapter. "We got some extra grant funding last year that was unexpected, and because of that, we were able to do this duplex and a house in Morden all in one year, which was just a huge, crazy miracle."

She added it is also a nice bonus to be setting two families up in a home at the same time.

"It's kind of nice when you can have that camaraderie starting right off. You have the support system kind of built in ... that's a really neat thing."

"These guys worked so hard on their houses and the families and friends they got to help them out. You guys did just an amazing job. You really epitomize what Habitat is supposed to be ... you guys really came together," said Duane Falk, chapter chairperson.

"This is such a special day ... it truly takes a village in order to build a Habitat home," added Steve Krahn of Habitat Manitoba. "There's so many people who are just really

wanting to make a difference and make this world a more positive place."

The Morden-Winkler chapter has now completed five homes in five years. Next up will be another build in Winkler.

"We do have a family chosen already for our next build," noted Christina Falk. "We have almost all the funds to build the house, but we still need to raise the funds for buying the lot. We would really like to build that house in 2024, get started on it as soon as we can."

Three main criteria are used in selecting families: their ability to repay an interest-free mortgage with no down payment, their need for better housing, and their willingness to participate in the build.

Habitat uses the mortgage payments to fund future house builds.

For more information, you can find the Winkler Morden Habitat for Humanity Facebook page or head to [www.habitat.m.ca](http://www.habitat.m.ca).

## > SMART, FROM PG. 6

God. He also became a captain of a slaving ship.

When the seas are rough and the end is in sight we ask questions we may have previously ignored. Several factors contributed to Newton's conversion. He nearly drowned in 1748. He had a friend, Mary Catlett, who was a genuine Christian. They married in 1750. He was also challenged by reading the book *Imitation of Christ* by Thomas à Kempis.

His conversion did not immediately impact his work on slaving ships but God was at work challenging his conscience and his responsibility. In 1754, health required him to stay home and he met men who helped guide him to a greater understanding of faith in Jesus Christ. The former atheist prepared to become a pastor of a church, sharing the Bible message of salvation and transformation for all who believe.

John grew in amazement at the graciousness (undeserved kindness) of God and he wrote these words: "Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me. I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see." In total, John wrote six stanzas. He promoted the singing of plain songs which expressed Bible truth in simple and memorable ways.

We have considered briefly a small part of John Newton's story. What is your story? Have you experienced God's amazing grace? God's grace is needed in each one of our lives, and the persons we may become through him can be a humble lighthouse to others around us who have not yet heard of or seen God's amazing grace.

Randy Smart has been a pastor in Southern Manitoba since 1979.

Dead Horse Sales and Rentals cut the ribbon on their facility on Jefferson St. in Morden last week.



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

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# Morden Senior Centre looks to better days ahead

By Lorne Stelmach

There was cautious optimism at the annual meeting of the Morden Activity Centre last Friday while also acknowledging some of the major challenges faced by the organization.

The centre has faced significant turnover with both staffing and the board of directors, but chairperson Graham Corlett remained hopeful

better days are ahead.

"I'm optimistic ... though it certainly was a challenging year," he said. "As of now, we have a few more board members, which is going to take a lot of load off everybody. It's going to help make the centre more congenial, and I think it will all run a lot smoother with less workload on everybody.

"Stabilizing the staff was key to the operation

of the centre ... and over the last six to eight months, we've seen great improvement, so it's onward and upward from here," Corlett continued. "We've got some great staff here and some great programs coming, so we're looking forward to the next year. We're working with a largely new board, but I think it will be good."

He noted that stabilizing these things is vital for the Morden Activity Centre financially as well.

"The RHA funds the board of directors, and we need a board of directors to keep this place operating the way it is ... if there's no board, there's no funding,

so that's the bottom line. I'm glad people have realized that and stepped up so we can move forward from here.

"It's important to have the funding in place and the numbers in place so that we can plan properly," he added. "Membership is very important."

The past year was a good one financially for the centre, with revenues increasing to \$536,738. While expenses also rose, the total of \$524,465 left them with a surplus of \$12,273.

The largest area of revenue is grants totalling \$158,700, including a significant contribution of about \$129,000 through the regional health authority.

Food sales also provided revenue of just over \$150,000. The centre as well benefited from a generous donation from the Sandercock estate and from an endowment fund set up under the umbrella of the Morden Area Foundation by the Bill and Colleen Lyne family.

Wages and benefits are the largest expense at just over \$243,000, while cost of food for the meal programs came in at about \$113,000.

The annual meeting also highlighted some of the valuable programs and services offered through the centre.

For example, the meal program averaged 782 meals per month and 9,381 meals overall in the past fiscal year, including meal services at the centre as well as Legion House and Oakwest.

And the Services for Seniors program saw the services provided increase from 3,800 to 4,004 while the volunteer hours dropped from 758.95 to 638.5, so they were somehow doing more with less.

Manager Wendi Dyck also reflected on some of the positives and negatives from the past year.

"Unfortunately, with our limited board, we risk staff and board members burning out. We need a group of individuals who can help with fundraisers, and we desperately need a vice chair, treasurer, and secretary ... this is crucial



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

At the Morden Activity Centre AGM last week, chair Graham Corlett reflected on what was a challenging year for the agency.

## Winkler Pharmacy

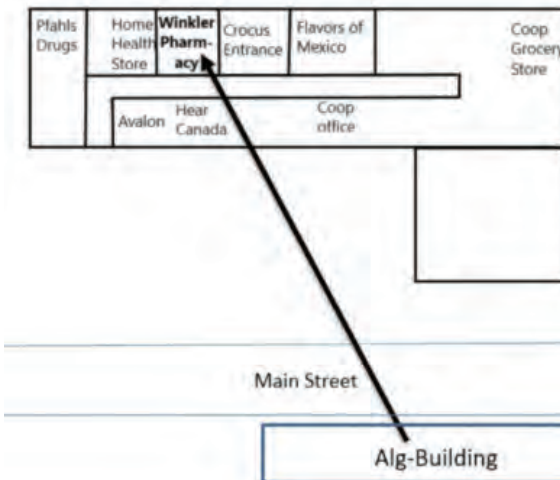


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**"IT'S IMPORTANT TO HAVE THE FUNDING IN PLACE AND THE NUMBERS IN PLACE SO WE CAN PLAN PROPERLY."**



# Winkler Arts and Culture wants you to “Chalk the City”

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler Arts and Culture is inviting the community to get creative with chalk this summer.

From July 3 to Aug. 11, WA+C is asking residents to transform Winkler’s walking spaces into colourful masterpieces for a campaign dubbed “Chalk the City.”

“It’s a way of engaging community into creating artistic expression on our walkways, on our driveways, all over the community,” explains executive director Alesha Hildebrand. “Hopefully you’ll be able to see diverse artwork from all sorts of people.”

The campaign is open to all ages and skill levels.

“Maybe your kids want to draw something they feel people should see,” Hildebrand says. “Drawings, positive messages—it’s wide open.”

There will be a weekly prize draw for goodies from Country Cycle, Smitty’s Family Restaurant, and Charley B’s Classic Grill & Ice Cream Parlour.

To enter, simply snap a shot of your chalk art and submit it (the link is available on Winkler Arts and Culture’s social media pages, or type this in to your URL: <https://form.jotform.com/231705585911054>). You can enter up to five times through the summer.



WINKLER ARTS AND CULTURE PHOTO

Chalk the City runs July 3 to Aug. 11 with weekly prize draws and slushie coupons for participants.

## > MORDEN ACTIVITY CENTRE, FROM PG. 8

for the centre’s survival,” she said. “Due to the management transitions, we missed out on some grant opportunities this year. We plan to be better prepared for the coming year.”

She reflected on some of the successes as well.

“Memberships doubled in 2022-23, which will likely be attributed to everything opening back up from COVID and many people having missed community involvement,” Dyck said. “We have been able to create a team environment where the staff are focused on our members and how we can best support the centre and those in the community.”

“I am very proud to work with such caring people. We care about the mental well-being of the seniors in

our community, and we are focused on finding out what obstacles seniors experience ... we advocate and offer support to help those in need.”

Corlett added they are excited to move ahead, and they still have a future project in mind to have a patio area and raised garden beds developed on the east side of the building.

“We’re still talking about wanting to do a patio project here. It’s been on the books for a couple of years, but unfortunately we haven’t secured the funding for that yet. It’s still on the horizon, and I certainly hope it happens at some point.”

The meeting saw Shirley Mullin and Fred Mayor join the board as new members along with Marina Brown, Larry Gluck, and Carole Schofield,

while continuing on are Corlett, Karon Pentland, and Jerry Dykman.

Departing board members included Evelyn Currie, who was celebrated for having received a volunteer award from Access Credit Union and who had a decade under her belt with

the centre.

“Great thanks to Evelyn; she’s a real trooper, and we appreciate everything she’s done,” said Corlett. “I’m glad she’s still here, and I look forward to working with her behind the scenes.”

The Voice

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# Winkler Community Fdn. gives back \$120K in grants

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Community Foundation (WCF) gave local charitable organizations a helping hand last week.

The foundation distributed a total of \$120,592 in grants to nearly two dozen non-profit agencies and community projects.

Executive director Myra Peters explained they opted to spread the wealth around this year, providing a multitude of smaller grants instead of several larger ones.

"This year's grant requests were more than three times the amount available to grant out from the community and field of interest funds," she noted.

"The WCF board has chosen to impact more charities with partial funding in an effort to show support to the great work that is being done by many in our community," Peters said. "Although the projects are not fully funded by the foundation, we anticipate these projects will be completed within a year thanks to the efforts and collaboration of staff, volunteers, and community."

The grant money comes from the interest generated annually by WCF's various endowment funds.

"We are a long-term strategy," noted Peters. "The gifts made to the foundation are endowed, they are never spent. Each year these gifts grow thanks to the investment strategy of the foundation."

"By growing our endowment funds, we can increase the support to local charitable organizations, today and forever."

A total of \$50,680 in grants was distributed from the community and field of interest funds, with recipients selected from the applications received.

"The WCF selects recipients based on evidence of need in the community and range of impact," Peters explained. "We also look at the community connection to vulnerable populations and specific service areas. We value volunteerism, partnerships, and collaboration."

The remaining \$69,912 came from the various agency, designated, and donor-advised funds, which are directed towards select causes, such as sports, medicine, or specific local charities.

Sara Martens, community support coordinator with Child and Family Services' Chance 2 Grow and Chance 2 Camp programs, says the \$3,000 they received will help a lot of kids in our area.

"This money is going to go a long



**PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE**  
Dozens of community groups and projects received grants from the Winkler Community Foundation last week. Right: Executive director Myra Peters noted they opted for numerous smaller grants this year instead of fewer larger ones, which allowed them to have a much wider reach.

way," she said. "It helps less fortunate kids participate in camp and recreational programs that they otherwise would not be able to do."

Also receiving \$3,000 was Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Pembina Valley, who will use the funds to update the signage on their building and get some new office furniture. The agency recently added a second staff member to its team.

"We're really excited because this means we can expand our office a little bit more," said executive director Jenelle Neufeld, express-



ing her appreciation for the foundation's work. "It's a really great way to support the community as a whole, because when you support the organizations that support the community, everyone wins."

Leora Hamm, administrative resource coordinator with South Central Cancer Resource, says the \$1,182 grant they received will go to their transportation program.

Continued on page 15

## Winkler Community Fdn. 2023 grant recipients

### Community Fund Grants

- Reinfeld Park: Outdoor rink project, \$5,000.
- Central Station: acoustic panels in dining/class area, \$5,000.
- Garden Valley Collegiate: Community greenspace project, \$5,000.
- Segue Career Options: Professional counselling for clients, \$2,000.
- Child & Family Services: For children to attend camps and programs, \$3,000.
- Winkler Day Care: Outdoor equipment, \$1,000.
- The Bunker: Industrial Eats project renovations, \$5,000.
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Pembina Valley: Signage and office furniture, \$3,000.
- Pembina Valley Humane Society: IT hardware and volunteer management software, \$1,000.
- Winkler Arts & Culture: Program supplies, \$1,000.

- Winkler Festival of the Arts: Annual festival, \$500.

### Field of Interest Fund Grants

- Darlene Peters Health Fund: \$4,000 to Eden residential care services for two AED units and \$1,455 for a water dispenser at the mental health centre.
- 2014 Manitoba Winter Games Sports Legacy Fund: \$4,200 to Winkler Minor Ball for indoor batting cages.
- Dr. CW Wiebe Medical Fund: \$9,525 for barrier-free exam chairs and beds.

### Designated Fund Grants

- Katie Cares Fund: \$5,124 for Katie Cares operations.
- Winkler Cheerboard Fund: \$2,088 for the annual hamper drive.
- Winkler Minor Ball Fund: \$423 to support teams going to provincials

and/or westerns.

### Agency Fund Grants

- Fire Rescue Fund: \$964 for fire training and education.
- Heritage Museum Fund: \$1,412 for museum operations.
- Gateway Resources Fund: \$55,272 for a used truck for the recycling program and a cooling unit for the wood room.

### Donor Advised Fund Grants

- Kalansky Family Fund: \$1,000 towards the BTHC Foundation expansion project.
- MAP Family Fund, \$1,182 to South Central Cancer Resource for its transportation program.
- Mend the Gap Fund: \$1,747 to Central Station for a play structure near a newly renovated housing complex.

# Lots in store for Altona this Canada Day

By Lori Penner

It's time to celebrate our great country, and the Altona Recreation Department has a full day of fun in store to make this Canada Day extra special.

Recreation programmer and events coordinator Brittany Winkler says there's something for everybody at this year's celebration, which take place at the Altona Centennial Park on Saturday.

"We've got quite a line up this year," she says. "First of all, we have free swimming all day at the Aquatic Centre, so there's a place to cool off if it's a hot day."

Starting at 4 p.m. there will be free inflatables and cotton candy, sponsored by Access Credit Union.

"Those are always a huge draw for the kids, and of course, people of all ages love cotton candy. We had a long line up for that last year."

They're also bringing back the popular chalk drawing contest.

"That is a hot item on the schedule," Winkler says. "Kids just love it. We get so many interesting entries every year, decorating the trail for everybody to enjoy."

Drawings can be created on the usual spot beside the park playground.

"This is for kids of all ages. Chalk will be provided, and there are prizes for first, second and third place. The

sky's the limit, so bring your creativity and your ideas, and get drawing."

There will be free Canada Day glitter tattoos provided throughout the day to add some extra sparkle to the festivities.

"And back by popular demand, we have the Prancing Pony Petting Zoo," Winkler said. "It was a huge draw last year."

The little ones will also be delighted to hear that the free Kiddie Carnival is returning, from 5-7 p.m. "

This is run, once again, by the Sunflower Queen Quest contestants, and there will be all kinds of fun games and challenges, competing for candy and other prizes."

At 6:30 p.m. bring your appetite for an annual Canada Day favourite: free watermelon and rollkuchen.

"Last year we ordered 55 dozen rollkuchen and 750 pounds of watermelon, and there were only six watermelons left," Winkler said. "We're planning for the same amount this year. We were telling people to line up fast and get some before they're gone."

Another much-anticipated treat is the free Canada Day cupcakes sponsored by Sun Valley Co-op and Altona IGA.

Opening ceremonies will take place at 8 p.m. at the Altona Park stage and will include greetings from local dig-



nitaries. This will be followed by the music stylings of a local band called Alterlimitz.

"They are a seven member Filipino band, featuring some great rock music," said Winkler. "They are eager to perform, and I think they'll be forming a pretty big fan club in Altona."

Following that, there will be introductions of this year's Manitoba Sunflower Festival Queen Quest participants and then a performance from Morden-based band BK and the Bad Habits.

The day ends with fireworks.

"It isn't Canada Day without those," Winkler said, noting they will launch at dusk behind the Millennium Exhibition Centre.

"We've put a lot of planning into this day, to make sure there is something for everybody to enjoy. We're hoping for great weather. Everything is free and the park is a great place to be. It's a day for people to pack up the kids, pull up a lawn chair, and just enjoy being together and celebrating our beautiful country."

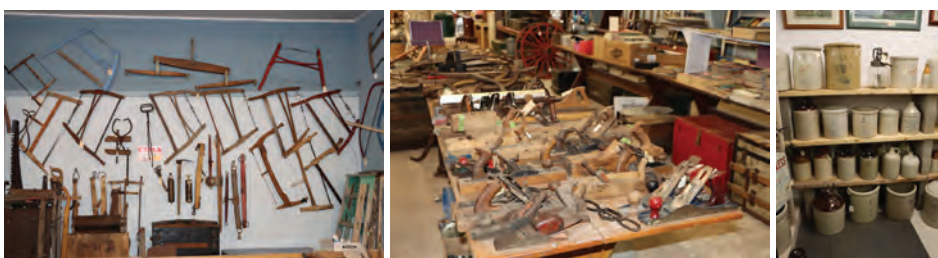


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# Downtown Summer Kick-off is back next week

By Lori Penner

The Altona & District Chamber of Commerce are once again hosting their annual Downtown Summer Kick-Off.

"Wonder Shows will be back in town on July 7 and 8 to provide family fun for everyone," says Altona EDO Stephanie Harris. "There will be rides, games, and treats for two whole days. The Altona Mall parking lot and surrounding streets will become a carnival overnight."

Harris notes that while the rides will offer a bunch of ways to defy gravity, the event is also an opportunity for the local business community to showcase what they have to offer.

"We're literally bringing hundreds of visitors to our front doors, so this is your chance to really highlight your business."

Restaurants can play an active role in the kick-off, she adds.

"We welcome any of our local restaurants to host a tent at the event ... get out there and promote your business."

The Summer Kick-Off began several years ago when Wonder Shows approached the community, wanting to come to Altona because they had an open summer weekend in their schedule.

"That was such a huge success,

## Cutting the ribbon on a brand new Main St.

By Lori Penner

Drivers and cyclists are marveling at the smooth ride down Altona's newly resurfaced Main Street.

Crews completed the long-awaited resurfacing project from Centre Ave. to 6th Ave. NE. earlier this month. All that remains are a few areas of landscaping.

"We're all so happy about getting this job done," says Mayor Harv Schroeder. "It's been many years in the works and many councilors and mayors have advocated for this.

"We were very impressed with the company we hired ... they were pretty much on schedule for the whole proj-

ect, and I think the whole community really appreciates the smooth surface we have now."

so we just kept it up," says Harris "We've got families and children asking about the event all the time, so we are very happy to see the event returning.

"The Chamber has been doing some social media giveaways on how you

can win some free wristbands," she notes. "You can also buy individual tickets or wristbands at the event, which will give you unlimited rides for the day."

ed. The Manitoba Government footed the entire \$350,000 bill, as promised last fall. Borderland MLA Josh Guenter was in Altona last week to officially cut the ribbon and express appreciation for the community's persistence in getting the street resurfaced.

"It's exciting for Altona. It's no secret it's taken us some time to get here. But we are very pleased for the community and very happy our government came to the table with a \$350,000 commitment to get this road done."

Next up, Schroeder and Guenter both note, is lobbying for Centre Ave. improvements.

"We were able to stay very close to the original budget, as well," he not-

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# Employee-owners celebrate another successful year at Friesens

By Lori Penner

The front lawn at Friesens Corporation's head office in Altona was filled with picnic tables, lawn chairs, and hundreds of smiling faces on June 21 as employee-owners received their second distribution cheque of the year and were treated to a catered pulled pork and brisket barbecue lunch to celebrate.

"Good food, good music, and great company," said corporate marketing manager Odia Reimer, who joined other management staff in handing out the cheques. "Plus, you can go home with some extra spending money. It's a good day at Friesens."

Friesens CEO Chad Friesen addressed the crowd, saying, "Today we are celebrating something that is very unique to companies in Canada and something that's very unique to employees across Canada. Very few employees celebrate the success of the business like we do, and that's something that we should be very proud of, and we should embrace."

A total of \$2,100,000 was distributed at the event. Friesens has issued \$4,350,000 in cheques to employee-owners this year for an average of over \$10,000 per employee.

"That is nearly 20 per cent of base wages for an average employee," said Friesen. "So that's an incredible finan-

cial benefit."

Last week's celebration also highlighted a record-breaking year at Friesens.

During 2022, the company saw record sales, profits, and numbers of units produced, which resulted in record payments to employee-owners.

"We blew almost all records out of the books," noted Friesen. "So, it was an absolutely crazy year and we've got a lot to celebrate."

Friesens Book Division marketing coordinator Cindy Voth said sharing their success with employer-owners is a great opportunity to also give back to the community.

"We're going to be buying things from the community. I think it's also a great team builder as well. You take pride in your work, knowing if you do well, the company does well."

Night shift manager Gerald Schellenberg agreed.

"It's nice to see the health of the company being shared among the employee-owners who help make the company successful," he said. "It boosts morale. They know they're working for something. They know their hard work ends up directly in their pockets."

Part-time and seasonal staff also share in the company's success.

"I wasn't expecting this, it's just great," said student Azhriell Santa



PHOTOS BY LORI PENNER/VOICE

Friesens Corporation management handed out \$2.1 million in employee ownership cheques last week.

Maria. "This will come in handy, to pay for gas and groceries. It helps a lot."

"This is a new one for us," added seasonal employee Andrei Alhandra. "This will help cover a lot of things."

Former president, CEO, and chairman of the board David Friesen was delighted to attend last week's celebration.

"This is a great day for all of you, a great day for the company, a great day

for Altona," he said. "To come back and see how well this company is doing, I know, would be something my father and his brothers, who set up the original employee-ownership plan, would be very proud of what has happened."



Left: Friesens employee-owners were treated to a catered pulled pork and brisket lunch last week to celebrate a successful year for the company. Right: CEO Chad Friesen and former company head David Friesen address employees.



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# Local acts to take centre stage

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Manitoba Sunflower Festival organizers have rounded out the musical line-up for the July 28-30 festival.

Entertainment coordinator Nadean Mullenix last week unveiled the myriad of acts who will take to the stage alongside previously announced headliners *Revenge of the 80s* (Friday night) and country crooner Emma Peterson (Saturday).

Friday late evening at the main stage in the park will have a hip-hop focus with performances from Tirell Thomas and Yung Balboa from 10-11 p.m.

Thomas comes from the Roseau River First Nation, though he today calls Winnipeg home. He began writing music as a teenager to express his feelings and share stories from his life. He's performed in hundreds of shows across Canada and parts of the U.S.



### SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Performing at the Manitoba Sunflower Festival next month is Yung Balboa (above), the Silas Presley Band (above, right), and Snackie (right).

Yung Balboa (a.k.a Noah Letkeman) hails from Altona and has been performing since he was a child. He began releasing original music in 2020.

On Saturday, the fun moves to Gallery in the Park for the festival's first silent disco in the outdoor sculpture garden from 9:30-11 p.m.

Each attendee will receive a pair of light-up bluetooth headphones they can use to tune into one of three different channels of music to jam to. Or take the headphones off to chat with a friend while every-

one dances to their own tune around you.

"Co-entertainment coordinator Laura Smith has attended a silent disco before and thought it would be a nice addition to our festival," noted Mullenix. "We aren't sure just yet on the genres, but it will be popular and upbeat dance music spanning multiple decades."

Meanwhile, the main stage Saturday afternoon will feature a performance from Sprkl Studios Rock Band Camp students from 4-5 p.m.

This inaugural youth band showcase will feature performers ranging in age from 7-16 years. They will perform a mix of classic favourites and contemporary hits.

Finally, Sunday from 1-5 p.m. will feature performances from Noah Gitzel, Bowen, Snackie, and the Silas Presley Band.

"We always try to have local talent for our Sunday afternoon entertainment," Mullenix said. "We are so pleased to have all of this year's performers currently from Altona or coming back home to visit and entertain the community."

Gitzel is a songwriter/guitarist who recently released his debut pop single 405. His second single drops later this summer.

Bowen is a young pop music art-



ist known for his moody and vibey tracks, his music a reflection of his innermost thoughts and feelings in a bid to create songs that speak to the soul.

Snackie, formerly known as Kenzie Jane, has taken the stage at the Winnipeg Folk Festival, Harvest Moon, and Winnipeg Pride. Their debut album *Dark Daze* is due out soon.

The Silas Presley Band features 19-year-old singer-songwriter Silas Presley on lead guitar and vocals, his father Big Robbie G on bass guitar, Jack Penner on the drums, and Simon Delmont on keyboards. The group merges an eclectic mix of musical influences to create a psychedelic rock and roll sound, with elements of blues, jazz, and funk.

For more on the Manitoba Sunflower Festival schedule, head to [manitobasunflowerfestival.ca](http://manitobasunflowerfestival.ca).



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# "It shapes every part of how we live our lives"

## Historian talks myths and facts about Canada's colonialism

By Lorne Stelmach

The return of the Diversitas speaker series last week featured a talk by Dr. Shelisa Klassen, who hoped to give people a better understanding of the history and reality of settlement in Manitoba.

The June 20 presentation entitled *Violence, Race and Settler Colonialism in Late 19th Century Manitoba* touched on the impact of settlement on Indigenous populations and how it connects to issues that are still very much in the public consciousness.

She challenged the myth that the land was empty and that settlement in Canada was a peaceful process.

"I think it shapes every part of how we live our lives every day," Klassen noted while addressing the audience at the 500 Stephen Community Centre.

"Whether we are aware of it or not, I think a lot of us have sort of been brought up with this myth of peaceful Canadian settlement, of land that was just here. We just took it and we improved it," she said. "That I think shapes everything about how we go about our lives with the assumption the land I have is mine."

"I think that's a huge privilege that I think most of us just get to walk around with because we don't recognize the history. Knowing that history, I think, hopefully should give us a little more gratitude and hopefully a little more understanding."

Klassen's presentation revolved around settler colonialism, which she explained as the process by which people from one society intended to permanently occupy Indigenous lands and create the systems and institutions that would uphold their own claim to that land while eliminating all challenges to it.

It is a level of domination that did not happen accidentally or by coincidence.

"It involved creating systems of race

and race-based violence to ensure that land and power ended up in our hands," Klassen said. "It is a violent process, and it often, but not always, results in the elimination of people from power, if not altogether."

Klassen highlighted a number of newspaper accounts from the time that reflect what she termed as a reign of terror that included Métis women being assaulted and the perpetrators avoiding any real punishment.

There were numerous examples throughout the period of Indigenous people and their interests being put aside and ignored, she continued.

"First Nations and Metis people wanted to be part of the new agricultural economy of Manitoba, but they did not fit into the vision of Manitoba as a white, English-speaking settler state," Klassen said. "So despite the promises of the Manitoba Act and treaties, their access to agriculture was denied."

"The racial power dynamics were not yet set in stone ... colonialism doesn't just fall from the sky fully formed; it has to be developed and enforced," she continued. "Control of the settler state was still being developed, but the state could exert control in some areas, like Winnipeg, but not in all areas."

Eventually, Louis Riel and the Métis were violently deposed, an act that was further cemented when the military showed up and occupied Fort Garry.

"It's essentially a coup. But when settlers do it it's just called government," Klassen said.

Klassen went on to talk about the desire to remove the Métis before settlers—including the Mennonites—arrived in Manitoba, and she observed how there was this colonial violence "which the Mennonites entered into. Perhaps not as direct actors but certainly as strategic tools in establishing colonialism in Manitoba."

"Mennonites are always seen as peo-

ple who are allies in the fight to hold land in the face of challenges to sovereignty," she continued. "Mennonites were not repressed in the same way because the government was never concerned that Mennonites were going to hand over their land to the Métis and First Nations."

"There certainly was the idea that Mennonites should be assimilating faster than they are ... but that is always quickly followed up by, 'But they're good farmers,'" Klassen said. "The arrival of the Mennonites, which

began in 1874, transformed rural Manitoba. They quickly became a significant demographic and economic power, especially of course in this region."

Mennonites also quickly became more prosperous, and Klassen suggested other settlers then basically became jealous and it came to be a source of conflict with other settlers.

"There's a lot of law breaking happening here," said Klassen, who suggested the pacifism of the Mennonites however was held up as the reason to increase law enforcement and the militia forces, and that of course was largely targeted at the Métis and In-

digenous people.

Klassen also did offer a more hopeful message as part of her presentation.

"I would hope we would walk through society more like that ... how I think it functionally works is that most people, because they are so removed from the violence, get to just walk around believing everything is just fine," she said. "It doesn't have to be this way. There's a lot of intentional choices that were made by early settlers, by early governments, to make things this way, which means they can be unmade."



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE  
Dr. Shelisa Klassen spoke on colonialism in Manitoba at last week's Diversitas presentation.

### > WINKLER COMMUNITY FOUNDATION, FROM PG. 10

"It supports local cancer patients by giving them fuel money, helping them with accommodations, and basically just all around supporting them if there's emergency help that's needed," she said.

Hamm noted the foundation's reach with these grants each year is impressive.

"I think we would all be shocked

at the sheer number of local charities that have benefited from their support over the years," she said. "And the interesting part is, yes, the charities are benefitting, but at the end of the day, it's the people in your communities that are ultimately the beneficiaries. They're really getting the dollars out to the people that need it within their communities."

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## What does Canada Day commemorate?

Canada is celebrated every year on July 1. The day commemorates the coming together of the nation's original three provinces in 1867: Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Canada (the province that is now Ontario and Quebec). Canada Day was once known as Dominion Day because Canada was known as the Dominion of Canada when it was part of the British empire. That designation ended for good in 1982, when Queen Elizabeth II gave royal assent to the Canada Act, thus establishing Canada as a fully sovereign state.



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- 8 pm Dignitaries Greetings
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# sports & recreation



Left: Team Pembina Valley at the opening ceremonies June 20, led by banner carriers Kathy Forness (cribbage) and Andre Dacquay (golf). Right, from left: Bob Wilson, Laurie Wiebe, Randy McFarlane, Jacquie Russell, and David Dyck won gold in five-pin bowling.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

## Team Pembina Valley brings home 20 medals from 55+ Games

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Team Pembina Valley did our region proud at the 2023 Manitoba Liquor & Lotteries 55+ Games in Portage la Prairie last week.

The 40th annual Games drew nearly 1,000 athletes from across the province for three days of competition.

Fifty-four athletes from our area competed in everything from cribbage to pickleball to golf, and they came home with 20 medals in tow:

seven gold, eight silver, and five bronze.

Medal winners include:

- Andre Dacquay, Notre Dame, bronze in 18-hole golf.
- Lois Dudgeon and Len Victor, Morden, silver in pickleball.
- David Dyck, Morden, silver in singles bowling.
- David Dyck, Randy McFarlane, Jacquie Russel, Laurie Wiebe, and Bob Wilson, Carman/Morden/Sper-

ling, gold in five-pin bowling.

- Lawrence Dyck, Roland, bronze in 18-hole golf.
- Kathleen Friesen and Peter Hildebrand, Morden, bronze in pickleball.
- Dave Goertzen, Winkler, silver in pickleball.
- Peter Hildebrand and Len Victor, Morden, gold in pickleball.
- Albert Janzen and Jerry Kelner, Morden, silver in cribbage.
- Mel Johnson, Manitou, two gold

medals in track.

- Randy McFarlane, Carman, gold in bowling singles.
- Mary Anne Plett, Winkler, gold in horseshoes.
- Agnes Thiessen, Winkler, bronze in horseshoes.
- Lorne Warkentin and Tim Wiebe, Stanley, silver in pickleball.

It was announced at the Games that the 2024 competition will be held in Brandon.

## Winkler Storm 1 fall 2-1 to visiting Lucania FC

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler Storm 1 lost their Sunday game 2-1 to Lucania FC in front of a hometown crowd.

Tobias Morasch scored the Storm's lone goal on a penalty kick.

With that, the team's record for the summer thus far is 1-5, with a few games in hand over some of the other teams in the league. They're currently in second-last place in the Manitoba Junior Soccer League's Premier Division.

Storm 2 was slated to play a 3rd Division home game Sunday afternoon as well, but a shortage of referees

forced a cancellation.

YFC Saints were already in town, though, so the two teams played a scrimmage, which the visitors won

4-0.

Storm 2 are currently in fifth place in their division with a record of 2-2.

This week, Storm 1 play the World

Soccer Academy in Winnipeg Wednesday night while Storm 2 take on Bandits FC Thursday, also in Winnipeg.

## Border Baseball League report

By Ashleigh Viveiros

In Border Baseball League action this past week, the Morden Mud Hens decimated the Cardinals 17-0 Tuesday night in Carman.

That same night, the Winkler Whips beat the Bisons in Altona 5-1.

The Bisons shook off the loss to blank the Pilot Mound Pilot 6-0 Friday night on the road.

Winkler, meanwhile, went on to fall to Clearwater 5-4 on Sunday.

The Whips are in first place in the league's East Division at 5-1-2, ahead of Morden (5-2-1), Altona (4-2), and

Carman (2-6-1).

This week, on Tuesday Altona plays in Carman and Morden hosts Winkler. Next week's Tuesday night games sees Morden in Altona and Winkler in Carman.

News or sports tip? E-mail [news@winklermordenvoice.ca](mailto:news@winklermordenvoice.ca) or call 204-325-6888

# Bisons post wins, Orioles continue to struggle

By Lorne Stelmach

It was a better weekend for the Altona Bisons than the Pembina Valley Orioles in MJBL action.

Pembina Valley lost 11-1 and 3-0 to the St. James A's in their Sunday doubleheader and have now lost seven straight.

Altona, meanwhile, had dropped four straight and nine of their last ten but earned a sweep of their Sunday doubleheader by defeating St. Boniface 14-0 and 5-4.

Isaiah Letkeman had as big game in the second half of the doubleheader with three hits and three RBIs.

Seven errors proved costly for the Orioles as they gave up five unearned runs in game one, while St. James pitchers threw a three hitter in game two.



PHOTOS BY EDWARD VINCENT ARCENAL/VOICE

The Altona Bisons fell 6-1 to the visiting Interlake Blue Jays last Wednesday, but then bounced back with a pair of wins against St. Boniface Sunday afternoon.

Last Wednesday, Altona lost 6-1 to Interlake as the Blue Jays held the Bisons to just five hits. Then, on Friday, Letkeman had two hits and two RBIs for the Bisons, but they fell short in a 4-2 loss to St. James.

That same evening saw Pembina Valley hampered by six errors as they lost 9-5 to the Winnipeg South

Wolves, who connected for a six-run fifth inning.

The results now have Altona in seventh place with an 8-13 record while Pembina Valley is in the cellar in eighth place at 6-14.

Altona is set to close out their regular season against the Orioles at home on Monday followed by games



against Elmwood Wednesday and Interlake Friday.

Pembina Valley was also playing St. Boniface this past Wednesday and then face Carillon Friday before wrapping things up with St. Boniface Sunday.

# Deadhorse speedway to host Watermelon Cup

By Lorne Stelmach

Car racing returns to Morden-Winkler next weekend with the first event at the newly christened Deadhorse Creek Speedway.

Organizers with the Valley Motorsports Association believe interest has been building since they formed earlier this year and took over the former ALH Motor Speedway just west of Morden.

The 2023 racing season kicks off with the Watermelon Cup July 7-8 followed by the King of the Corn race Aug. 25-26.

"People seem to be really looking forward to it. There's a lot of excitement and the racers are excited," suggested president Chris Unrau. "We've made some changes to the track that they are looking forward to as well, and we've put together a fabulous payout structure for the drivers for winning."

"We're expecting a pretty big car count ... my target would be 80 to 100 cars, and I think it's quite achievable."

The former ALH track offered weekly races during the summer from 2009-2019 but never reopened after pandemic restrictions eased, and the loss has been keenly felt by racing fans and drivers.

"It had been built up well ... and we have heard from a number of people who were disappointed it didn't reopen after COVID," said Unrau. "A lot of people still have their cars and are getting them tuned up and getting ready to come back out to the speedway."

The Watermelon Cup and King of the Corn will have races starting nightly at 7 p.m. Practice dates for drivers are on July 6 and Aug. 24.

Classes will include Deadhorse stocks (pure stocks, street stocks, super trucks, IMCA hobby stocks), Wisconsin midwest mods, Wisconsin A mods, late model demonstration for the Watermelon Cup and Late models for the King of Corn.

Racing will of course be the focus of the day, but both weekends will also include other activities for the whole

family: food truck concessions, live entertainment, beer gardens, a candy toss and bouncy castle for the kids, fireworks, pit-party cookouts, and more.

Both events will serve as fundraisers in support of the Boundary Trails Health Centre expansion project, so Unrau is hopeful they will attract a large crowd, with the facility having capacity for about 1,500 people.

"We really want to engage the public

... and we want to engage the volunteers; we're still looking for help," he noted.

"The business community has really been supporting us with sponsorships," Unrau added. "Now we just need to get some of the finishing touches done to the facility ... we're set up for a couple really good events this summer."

You can find more information online at [deadhorsecreekspeedway.ca](http://deadhorsecreekspeedway.ca).



DEADHORSECREEKSPPEEDWAY.CA

The Watermelon Cup takes place at the Deadhorse Creek Speedway July 7-8.

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## French Immersion Teachers Needed for Sept. 2023



École Morden Middle school, located in the thriving city of Morden has several openings for **French Immersion teaching staff for next school year.** Western School Division has recently announced that **Discovery Trails School** (currently under construction) will be home to Western School Division's early and middle years French Immersion Program. For additional information please check out the school and divisional web pages at [www.westernsd.mb.ca](http://www.westernsd.mb.ca)

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8. The Vendor will be responsible for the taxes on the property up to the date of closing.
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## OBITUARY

### Jacob H Dyck 1930 - 2023

Peacefully with family by his side, Jake passed away on Saturday, June 17, 2023 at Boundary Trails Health Centre.

He will be deeply missed by his loving wife of 70 years, Grace (nee Schultz). He is also survived by his children and grandchildren: daughter Linne, son Glenn (Karen), children Jason (Rebecca), Colby, Tyson, son Kerry (Erika), children Laura (Dean), Ryan (Heather), Jenessa, son Keith (Marny) children Nathan, Konrad, and three great-grandchildren. Also survived by sisters-in-law, Alfreda (Frank, his twin brother) and Loreena (Henry).

Dad was passionate about the Lord, hunting, golfing, reading westerns and always his family. There was nothing like Dad's glinting eyes and big broad smile to win anyone over. We will so miss his stories, his incredible positive attitude, his support, sharp humour and mischief!

We celebrated Dad's life with a small family funeral at Wiebe Funeral Chapel in Morden on Sunday, June 25 at 3:00 p.m.

We would like to thank the BTHC staff and especially Dr. K. Martin. Thanks for your care and in making Dad comfortable in his last days. We would also like to thank Wiebe Funeral Home for their compassion and care.

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Tim Klassen Timed on-line Auction for Tim Klassen, Closing June 28 6pm, 8 miles south of Winkler on Hwy 32, the 500 ft east on mile 4 Guest consignors Art Schroeder Portage, check photos on website billklassen.nextlot.com For phone number of Arts equipment . items with no number are Tims. Viewing from 8 am to 3 pm, daily. 2015 Dual fuel fork lift, One owner, 20,000 hrs, cab control fork positioning. Ford 3000 GAS 8 speed, 3 pth, pto. Item located at Portage, MB. Owner Art Schroeder 2015 John Deere 1023 E compact tractor 3 pth, pto, hydrostatic drive, only 37 actual hrs, 1955 Dodge M152 POWER WAGON 6 Cylinder standard shift, spare tire, We have much more than this please check website www.billklassen.nextlot.com

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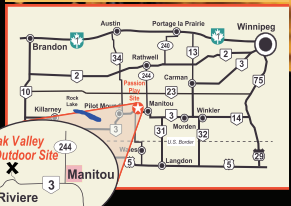
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Lana Meier  
Email: news@stonewallteulontribune.ca

The Carman-Dufferin STANDARD

# Winkler Panthers win gold

By Voice staff

The U11 Winkler Panthers were undefeated at the Softball Manitoba U11 Provincial Championships last weekend.

The ladies dominated in the round

robin, posting wins of 14-0, 17-1, 16-1, and 13-0.

They then blanked Sanford 9-0, Balmoral 10-5, and Brandon 4-3 in extra innings to earn a seat in the gold medal match against Virden, which they won 8-5.

The U11 Winkler Panthers softball team includes coaches Dan Giesbrecht, Brian Driedger and players Addison Driedger, Abigail Nelson, Khloe Wieler, Jadah Wolfe, Brady Wiebe, Alexis Giesbrecht, Taylin Friesen, Claire Thiessen, Chloe McMahon, Tabitha Rempel, and Brielle Friesen.

SUBMITTED PHOTO



# Mordenite to be inducted into hall of fame

## Tiffany Redekop honoured by Minot State

By Lorne Stelmach

A Mordenite is earning special recognition for her stellar university softball career.

Tiffany Redekop (who was Tiffany Friesen in her player days) is being inducted into the Minot State Athletic Hall of Fame this fall.

A four-year starter for the Beavers, she contributed in the circle as a star pitcher, defensively at first and third base, and as a slugger offensively for Minot State University.

"I'm very honoured. I'm very excited," said Redekop. "I really enjoyed my years at Minot, and I worked hard to get to where I was ... but I definitely didn't expect anything like this."

Named to the 2010 All-DAC team as a designated player as a freshman, Redekop helped the Beavers twice get to the NAIA world series, where Minot State went 1-2 in pool play in 2010 and 0-3 in pool play in 2011.

Transitioning to NCAA Division II play, she again helped the Beavers qualify for nationals in the team's first

full-fledged season of NCAA action as Minot State advanced to the central region tournament in the spring of 2013, going 1-2 in the NCAA Tournament.

She was named a Daktronics 3rd team all-American and to the Daktronics all-central region first team and to the All-NSIC second team for her efforts as a senior in 2013, as she set Minot State single-season records with 16 home runs, 62 RBIs and 5 saves in the circle.

In the circle, she compiled a 36-12 overall record with seven saves in her four-year career, striking out 301 opposing batters in 345 2/3 innings and compiling a 2.23 career ERA.

Offensively, she hit .334 for her career with 22 doubles, 24 home runs, 143 RBIs and had a stellar .521 slugging percentage.

"We had some fantastic teams when I was there. We were quite strong the four years that I played ball there, and we were quite successful," Redekop said. "I had fun playing ball there.

I've played ball most of my life ... but to receive this kind of recognition is amazing."

Playing ball had simply always been a part of her life from a young age.

"Both of my sisters played ball, and I always looked up to them when they were playing ball. I always said I wanted to play ball at the university level," she said.

"I've always liked the family atmosphere that you have with your team ... it's not about one player, it's the whole team, and I've always enjoyed being part of the team."

Redekop has now coached for a couple years now and still wants to be involved with the game, though it is harder now while raising young children.

"I still try to go watch them and cheer them on," she said. "In Winkler, I've done pitching clinics as well. Ball will always have a big part of my heart.

"This is a way I can give back to baseball and to the community. I can give back by coaching and helping with the pitchers as well."

The Class of 2023 of Minot State Uni-



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Tiffany Redekop will be inducted into the Minot State Athletic Hall of Fame this fall.

versity will be inducted into the Minot State Athletic Hall of Fame during homecoming weekend Sept. 15-16.



# Musical ministry

The 32nd annual Thousand Oaks Gospel Camp took over the Winkler Parkland last weekend for three days of musical ministry and fellowship. Performers from across North America took to the stage Friday through Sunday, including the Martin Elias Family (left) Sunday afternoon. The weekend also included performances from The Schmidts, Dan and Amanda Esh, Back 40, the David and Laurie Peters Family, Shield of Faith, and many others, as well as nightly youth activities and a special children's ministry tent featuring Uncle Harold Fields and his puppet Willy.

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

# get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS



## Peanut Butter and Jelly Popcorn

In large bowl, stir popcorn and jam until evenly coated. Transfer to parchment paper-lined baking sheet.

In small heatproof bowl over small saucepan of barely simmering water, add white chocolate chips and peanut butter. Cook, stirring occasionally, 3-5 minutes, or until smooth and melted.

Drizzle peanut butter mixture over popcorn mixture. Sprinkle with strawberries and cranberries.

Refrigerate 10 minutes, or until peanut butter mixture is set; break into pieces to serve. Store in airtight container in refrigerator up to 1 week.

- Servings: 4-6  
 8 cups popcorn  
 2 tablespoons raspberry jam  
 1/2 cup white chocolate chips  
 3 tablespoons smooth natural peanut butter  
 1/4 cup freeze-dried strawberries  
 1/4 cup dried cranberries



## Graham Cracker Picnic Mix

- Yield: About 12 cups  
 1/4 cup vegetable oil  
 1/4 cup sugar  
 5-6 drops pink neon liquid food color or

desired color

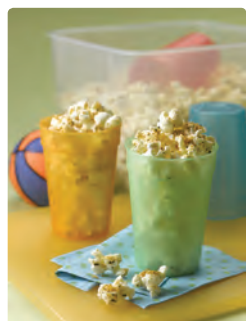
- 1/2 cup unpopped popcorn kernels  
 1 package mini pastel marshmallows  
 1 cup bear-shaped graham crackers  
 1 package white fudge-covered pretzels  
 1 cup mini cookies

In large pot over medium heat, stir oil, sugar and food coloring.

Stir in popcorn kernels; cover. Cook until popcorn begins to pop. Shake pot over heat until popping slows.

Remove pan from heat and pour popcorn into large bowl.

Add marshmallows, graham crackers, pretzels and cookies then toss lightly.



## Grab and Go Pizza Popcorn

- Yield: 6 quarts  
 6 quarts popped popcorn  
 olive oil cooking spray

- 1 cup grated Parmesan cheese  
 2 teaspoons garlic salt  
 2 teaspoons paprika  
 1 tablespoon Italian seasoning

Place popcorn in large, sealable plastic container or 2 1/2-gallon plastic sealable bag.

Spray popcorn lightly with cooking spray.

Sprinkle cheese, garlic salt, paprika and Italian seasoning over popcorn and shake to distribute evenly.

To serve, scoop popcorn into reusable plastic cups.



## Minty Green Popcorn Clusters

candies

Place popcorn in large mixing bowl.

In saucepan over medium heat, melt marshmallows, butter and salt, stirring occasionally, until smooth. Remove from heat; stir in food coloring and peppermint extract.

Toss marshmallow mixture with popcorn; cool 2-3 minutes, or until cool enough to handle. Toss with chocolate candies.

Shape 3 tablespoons of popcorn mixture into small cluster; repeat with remaining popcorn mixture. Place on wax paper-lined baking sheet; cool completely.

- Yield: 32 clusters  
 12 cups unsalted, unbuttered, popped popcorn  
 4 cups mini marshmallows  
 2 tablespoons butter or light olive oil  
 1/2 teaspoon salt  
 1 tablespoon green food coloring  
 1/4 teaspoon peppermint extract  
 1 cup green candy-coated chocolate

## Ask the Money Lady



Christine Ibbotson

*Dear Money Lady, my concern is with my financial advisor and the volatility he has had me in for years. I am now 79 and wonder if this should be changed. My investments are mainly in equities: TFSA 83%, RRIF 72%, and US RRIF 99%. I have questioned him before and have done well over the years. I feel I need another opinion. Thanks, Sue*

Dear Sue – you are right, it is too high for someone in their 70's, it may even be too high for someone in their 50's.

I agree with your advisor, to take advantage of market growth you must be invested in securities and equities, however I don't agree that your advisor should have the above percentages in equities at your age. This is far too risky, especially now. The problems arise when we have downturn market swings, and you are still withdrawing funds from your portfolio. The cyclical trends that helped build your portfolio, now can cause severe damage when assets are cashed-in for retirement income. In fact, if the down turns are deep enough, it can cut your retirement portfolio in half. A retiree should expect to endure between 3 to 5 downward swings to the equity markets during a typical 25-year retirement. This is why most retirees trim down their exposure to the equity market as they age. If you are heavily invested in securities, you will need to have enough time to wait for the recovery without taking out funds when the market goes down. The question is: can you reframe from routine withdrawals when you have a depressed portfolio? Remember, you need all securities to stay in the portfolio to take advantage of the recovery. This is why it is better to use fewer volatile investments as you age and to lessen the exposure to securities. Here are 5 tips to consider when investing in retirement.

1. Set up withdrawals from money market funds only. Do not choose fluctuating investments such as equity funds, income trust funds, balanced funds or even bond funds.

2. Distributions from mutual funds, income trusts, dividends and interest payments from bonds should accumulate in a money market fund instead of being reinvested.

3. Avoid rebalancing your portfolio too often. Frequent rebalancing causes significant damage to your portfolio. TIP: If your withdrawal rate is 5% or less, it is better to rebalance once every four years (preferably at the end of the US presidential election year).

4. Discuss withdrawal rates with your advisor and what you will need to do if your portfolio suffers a 10%, 20%, or even 40% loss. Make sure you understand the products you are in to determine not just their potential, but also their risk. Consider RRB-Real Return Bonds (fixed assets with inflation protection), or high interest ETF saving accounts, (Exchange Traded Funds), check out: [evolveetfs.com](http://evolveetfs.com).

5. Indexation and management costs will increase over time and will put pressure on the portfolio to have increased gains to break even. Determine how the advisor/firm are paid and make sure it's worth it.

When it comes to securing your finances, try not to spend too much during the early years of retirement. You want to preserve capital and live more modestly. Do not take on any large renovations, big ticket purchases, or unnecessary expenditures that eat away at your base capital. And – make sure you do not retire with debt.

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*Good Luck & Best Wishes,  
 ATML - Christine Ibbotson*

*Written by Christine Ibbotson, Author, Finance Writer, National Radio Host, and now on CTV Morning Live, and CTV News @6. Send your money questions (answered FREE) through her website at [askthemoneylady.ca](http://askthemoneylady.ca)*

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