



# Find Your Happy Place



# The *Altona Rhineland* **Voice**

VOLUME 1 EDITION 24

THURSDAY,  
AUGUST 11, 2022

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Jake Goertzen of the Buffalo Creek Artists with one of his works now on display at Gallery in the Park. For the full story, see Pg. 2.

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE



## New art at Gallery in the Park

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# Gallery in the Park kicks off second season exhibits

By Lorne Stelmach

Gallery in the Park debuted its second season of exhibits for 2022 last Thursday in Altona.

The special evening held for Friends of the Gallery gave them a chance to see the work that makes up *The Poetry of Painting* by Genevieve Henderson as well as another display of work by members of the Buffalo Creek Artists.

A Canadian artist and designer, Henderson offers pieces that are distinguished by passionate colour that in combination transforms her paintings into works with dazzling hues, images, and motifs.

Henderson noted she has a prefer-

ence to display with other artists, but she does do solo shows, though never with as many paintings as are on display now at Gallery in the Park.

"This is an artist's dream. I just love this place ... we love this gallery," said Henderson, whose profession is social work, but art is clearly her passion.

"I've always had a huge interest in art," she said. "I started fairly vigorously because I've always thought you have nothing to lose when you put paint to canvas or paper.

"I've had a huge interest in abstracts and different images," said Henderson. "For me, it needs to have the symbols and the motifs. Those are the things that mean something to me, that speak to me.

"I do a variety of work, though I'm not really what you would call a realist," she continued. "I'm predominantly a colourist because I love putting colours together so they sizzle, so that each one of them has a role and it holds the eye.

She observed that in living on the prairies, it may seem natural that art

**"THIS IS AN ARTIST'S DREAM.  
I JUST LOVE THIS PLACE ...  
WE LOVE THIS GALLERY."**

## Plum Coulee Plum Fest Aug 19/20/21/20 2022

### Friday

5:30pm-7:00pm Supper

7:00pm Six String Nation at the Arena

7:00pm - 10:00pm - Street Dance

### Saturday

7:30am - Waffles and Crackles Breakfast

10:00am - Parade

11:00am - Duck Race

11:00am - 4:30pm - Street Market

11:00am - Six String Nation/ Silas Presley

11:00am - 5:00pm - Bouncy Houses/Yard Game

12:00pm - 2:00pm - Face Painting

1:00pm - 5:00pm - Reptile Show

1:00pm - Dale Maksymic (Main Stage)

1:00pm - Fireman's Rodeo (Firehall)

3:00pm - Matt Zimmerman (Main Stage)

3:00pm-4:30pm - Line Dancing (Arena)

5:00pm - Winona Avenue (Main Stage)

5:00pm-7:00pm - Supper @ Centre on Main

6:00pm-10:00pm - Old Tyme Dance (Arena)

7:00pm - Cracked Egg Shell (Main Stage)

9:00pm - Cracked Egg Shell (Main Stage)

Dusk - Fireworks

### Sunday

10:00am - Church Service (main Stage)

11:30am - Lunch

12:00pm - Winona Avenue (Main Stage)

1:00pm - Graham Doell (Main Stage)



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Artist Genevieve Henderson with one of her pieces that is on display in her show *The Poetry of Painting* as part of Gallery in the Park's second season. Right: Another of Henderson's pieces.



is dominated by colours like blue and grey, but that is not the case for her.

"I've always wondered why we as prairie people go quite conservative and ... are a little afraid of colour? I think we need colour because there's a psychological response to colour," she suggested.

"I use red or shades of red in just about everyone of my paintings because for me, psychologically and physically, I actually can feel that colour. It gives me kind of a buzz."

Henderson also spoke of the idea of letting the painting speak to you.

"People will ask me do you actually have a plan, and I'll say not at this time, we'll see what evolves ... and then I try to work with the painting, and it really does speak to you, and I think it's in terms of composition, design, what holds the eye," she said.

"In all my works, I have preferences for certain images ... I'm doing florals. I very much enjoy doing florals but not in every detail."

For this exhibit, Henderson combines pieces of poetry with each of her artworks.

"I believe in writing narratives, I enjoy storytelling ... poetry though, I feel, is another challenge for me," said Henderson.

"I actually sought out the poems and put excerpts of the poems with the paintings, but I did that very carefully to express how I feel," she concluded. "It's been my dream for quite some time to actually have a book of paintings and poetry accompanying the paintings."

Meanwhile, the Buffalo Creek Artists also have another collection of work on display after having also been part of season one at the gallery this summer.

The group goes back to the early 1980s when a strong community of artists in the region came together as the Buffalo Creek Arts Council. It ended for a period of time before being revived in large part due to Margrute Krahn, and the group of up to 14 artists were then known as Through the Artists Eye before becoming Buffalo Creek Artists.

"Every two years or so, I kind of gather them all together," said Lois Braun, who acts as a convenor for the group, which was part of the first exhibit at Gallery in the Park in 2008.

"We still have 11 good strong artists ... and we're always hoping as time goes on that more people will come along," said Braun.



# Winkler Harvest Festival returns this weekend

By Ashleigh Viveiros

It's been three years since the community of Winkler gathered to celebrate en masse at the Parkland fairgrounds, and organizers of the 2022 Harvest Festival intend to make up for it.

The festival lineup this weekend, Aug. 12-14, features all the old favourites you've missed the past few years, plus a couple new items to keep things fresh.

"We weren't trying to go for a whole new festival ... it's been done so well for so many years there wasn't any reason to revamp the whole thing," noted festival director Kathy Bueckert. "But a couple of new things presented themselves to us."

Many of the new offerings will take place in the Kid's Zone, which this year moves into the Winkler Centennial Arena.

In addition to the usual petting zoo, face painting, balloon animals, and gaming competitions, the Zone will also, new this year, host pony rides, Equine Assisted Learning demonstrations, and a towering climbing wall for kids to safely burn off some energy on.

Also new to the festival is the Fawn and Cub market, which will fill the Meridian Exhibition Centre with vendors.

Bueckert noted the fact this is not only her first time organizing this event but also the first festival since the pandemic began does generate a great deal of pressure.

"I think I've put that pressure on myself, definitely, but what I hear from other people is that everyone's just looking forward to the festival—they're just thrilled that something is happening at all this year," she said.

"But that's not how I operate. Just doing 'something' is not good enough for me. It has to be really good."

Which is why the organizing committee has spent months pulling together all the pieces that make up this annual community celebration.

As always, the Main Stage lineup shines with headliners and opening acts alike.

This year there's actually four headliners rather than the usual three. Anchoring the schedule Friday night is Canadian country music stars Petric, fellow country up and comers Jade Eagleson and Tenille Arts, perform Saturday evening, and capping off Sunday is Christian music star Ellie Holcomb.

"Ellie Holcomb is a big favourite of mine," noted Bueckert. "I've been a big fan for a long time, so to be able to bring her in as our final windup performer is what I'm most looking forward to."

Other Main Stage acts throughout the weekend include Link and the Moustaches, the RCAF Band, Joe Wilson, Johnson's Creek, Matt Falk, and Jordan St. Cyr.

The Secondary Stage will also be a hopping place, offering performances from Eric the Juggler, line dancing lessons, a dog trick show followed by a pet fashion show, and music from the likes of Josiah & Cheyenne and the Classic Country Show.

And, of course, there's no shortage of activities away from the stages—back this year is the Saturday morning parade, CrossFit and Strong Man competitions, a classic car show, food court vendors to suit any taste, fireworks, CultureFest (see story on Pg. 7 for more on that), a community worship service, midway rides and games, and the always popular wa-



VOICE FILE PHOTO

The Winkler Harvest Festival fills the Parkland fairgrounds with music, games, and activities this weekend, Friday to Sunday.

termelon and roll kuchen giveaway. Bueckert said she can't stress enough just how "excited I am to be able to hold a festival that is open to everyone, locals and visitors alike. Especially after the restrictions and division that was caused in the past two years.

"It's the chance to come together again as a community," she said. "We haven't had that in a couple of years and I think for so many people you

realize just how valuable that is. "You walk through the festival grounds and you come across people who live in your community but who you haven't seen or talked to in years. So you stop and have a chat with them. It's so great to catch up. We just haven't had that for awhile."

You can find the full festival schedule online at [winklerharvestfestival.com](http://winklerharvestfestival.com).

# Morden man killed in plane crash near Portage

By Voice staff

A Morden man was killed after his crop dusting plane crashed in a field near Portage la Prairie last week.

Portage la Prairie RCMP were called to the scene 18 kilometres southwest of Southport on Tuesday, Aug. 2 just before 8:30 p.m.

The 54-year-old pilot was pronounced deceased at the scene.

The Transportation Safety Board of Canada is investigating the crash.

The pilot has been identified in the community as Jim Peters, owner of Mountain City Aviation and a fixture at the Morden Airport.

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# Cutting the ribbon on Morden's new basketball court

By Lorne Stelmach

The large crowd on hand last Wednesday for the opening of the Valley Fiber basketball court in Morden was heartily welcomed by dignitaries.

It offered further confirmation that this was a much-needed addition to the city's recreational amenities.

"The turnout today just speaks volumes to just how desperately

this was needed and just how popular the game of basketball truly is in Morden," suggested Bijan Salimi, the youth council member credited for bringing the idea forward to city council.

Salimi, though, credited both the city and Valley Fiber for wanting to invest in the community's youth.

"I'm very excited. This has been in the works for a long time now ... it's a concern that's been voiced to me by

Morden's youth," he said, adding this highlighted the importance of sharing your views. "Your voice was crucial in the establishment of this court and will always mean much more than you know."

The basketball court is located in the BSI Insurance Skate Park on Wardrop Street. It features a full-length court and will have the addition of two half courts next year.

It is a project that came about with over \$125,000 provided by Valley Fiber. Senior vice president Conley Kehler said they were pleased to support something like this given that they understand the importance of overall health and well-being.

"There's been a lot of work ... a lot of people are here to see it in its completion, so we're excited," he said. "It speaks to the community, the excitement around the court, the work from the city obviously ... Bijan in particular who kind of spearheaded the project as far as an idea, and so to see this many people out, you can tell that people are excited to use the facility."

"It's going to be an incredible place, a venue for so many people," said Morden Mayor Brandon Burley

"There's been a lot of energy and a lot of excitement around this," he continued. "It's a fun new amenity that will be heavily used."

"We hope that this day is a springboard and an indication of the energy and excitement it's going to see

moving forward," added Burley, who noted the city is looking to further expand the amenities in the area of the court and skate park.

"It's a great corner for our youth, and we want to continue to develop it as a place where the community comes together," he said.

"We're very eager to retain our youth in our community, and we're also very eager to retain our community members and those who are new community members," Burley concluded. "Amenities like this go a long way to showing that we're listening and we're willing to address and supply solutions to the things that people care about for quality of life and physical fitness and for well being."



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

From left: Morden youth councillor Bijan Salimi, Valley Fiber's Hank Wall, Mayor Brandon Burley, and Valley Fiber's Conley Kehler on the community's new basketball court. Right: A competitor takes a shot in the three-point contest.

"IT'S GOING TO BE AN INCREDIBLE PLACE, A VENUE FOR SO MANY PEOPLE."



### Devotion

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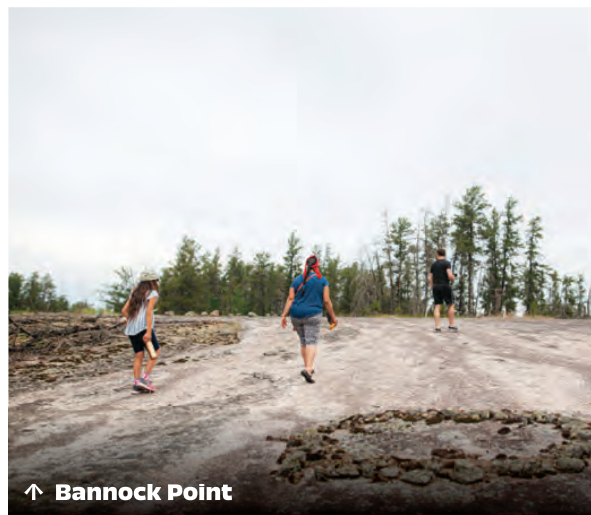
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# Manitoba Road Trip Ideas

## Whispers of the Whiteshell

Breathe in the outdoors in Whiteshell Provincial Park. This slice of the Canadian Shield is rich in sunsets, Indigenous roots, boreal forest and year-round adventure. This summer, hit the road and remember *home is where the heart is*.



↑ Bannock Point

### 1 WHERE THE SPIRIT SITS

There are three entry points to **Whiteshell Provincial Park**, Highway 1 east to access the South Whiteshell and Provincial Trunk Highway 44 or Provincial Road 307 to access the North Whiteshell. Start off in the northern end of the park at **Nutimik Lake**, where a favourite trail is an easy and convenient 4.2-kilometre hike located right off the campground. Take a walk to the stunning Whiteshell River Suspension Bridge. The trail also leads to **Sturgeon Falls**, where large, lake-wide rapids await.

The **Bannock Point Petroforms** (known to the Anishinaabe as Manitouabee or where the spirit sits) is a sacred site with stones laid out on the bedrock in the shapes of snakes, turtles and a Thunderbird. The rock formations are believed to have been made centuries ago for teaching and healing ceremonies. Set up a tour with Whiteshell Indigenous Knowledge and Wisdom to get the most out of your visit to the site. Discover more at [travelmanitoba.com/Indigenous-Experiences](http://travelmanitoba.com/Indigenous-Experiences).

**Pine Point Rapids** is one of Manitoba's most popular hikes, with several routes to choose from depending on your desired level of difficulty. If you have kids in tow, take the easier trail that goes directly to the rapids. A second section offers a more challenging trek over rocky landscapes. Another favourite spot is **Rainbow Falls**, where swimmers often gather.

Next, take a short detour to the **Alfred Hole Goose Sanctuary and Interpretive Centre**. The sanctuary offers free admission and a visitor centre that shares the story of the sanctuary, explains the biology of Canadian geese and offers opportunities to view the birds up close, especially during the fall migration.

There are nine different lodge and resort options in the North Whiteshell, with many offering amenities on site such as restaurants and convenience stores. This is in addition to ten campgrounds in the north and central parts of the park, including everything from full service to walk-in sites.

### 2 TUNNELS AND METEORS

Whiteshell Provincial Park is home to many amazing canoe routes, but one of the most popular runs through the picturesque **Caddy Lake Tunnels** in the southern end of the park. Caddy Lake connects to North Cross Lake and South Cross Lake through granite tunnels and offers both short and weekend paddling options. Canoe rentals are available at **Caddy Lake Resort**.

Relish the beauty of **McGillivray Falls** on this moderate hike, which provides rewarding views of McGillivray Lake. The falls themselves are located near the beginning of the trail and are best viewed in the spring.

Next, welcome to **West Hawk Lake**, the not-so-sleepy summer town known for its amazing trails, deep lake (formed by a meteor!) and its high energy, lake-life vibes. Restaurants here serve up the classics, like burgers and ice cream, enjoyed in dining rooms or patios. Whether you set your home base at the campground or in one of the town's motels and resorts, there's plenty to keep you

occupied at West Hawk Lake.

**Hunt Lake Trail**, one of Manitoba's most popular wilderness trails, launches off from West Hawk Lake—the average hiker needs at least five hours to complete this challenging trail. For an easier trek, take the **Dragon Fire Trail** that's located in the campground. This trail starts low in the trees and continues to the top of the rock face, where you will be treated to sweeping views of the lake.

West Hawk is also known for its spectacular beaches and crystal clear water. There are several beaches to choose from, the main Crescent Beach (featuring a long stretch of sand and interpretive signs explaining the lake's meteor history) and Miller Beach, a smaller beach located in the campground that offers a bit more solitude.

For even more ways to get out into the water, West Hawk Marina rents out paddleboards, kayaks, standup paddleboards and canoes. The marina also provides lifejackets, which are absolutely essential for staying safe while on the water.



↑ West Hawk Lake



↑ Hunt Lake



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↑ Falcon Trails Resort

PHOTO: MAX MUEENCH



↑ Falcon Lake

PHOTO: MAY CONTAIN STUDIOS

### 3 BEACH DAYS, BIG SWINGS AND TAKING THE REINS

It's time for the next leg of the trip, which ventures into another popular summer town, **Falcon Lake**. Spend a day with your toes in the sand or walk the boardwalk. Stop into local shops for clothing, souvenirs and tasty treats. Grab a bite to eat at one of the restaurants, drive-ins and bakeries.

Nearby, you can get one of the best views in the Whiteshell from the **Top of the World** hike. The four-kilometre trail brings you to the highest elevation in the area. The trailhead is accessible from the parking lot at **Falcon Trails Resort**. In addition to the resort here, there are four other lodges and resorts in this part of the park. There are five campgrounds as well at Falcon, West Hawk and Caddy Lakes.

Another way to explore the area is on a horseback riding excursion with **Falcon Beach**

**Ranch**. This ranch offers beautiful accommodations and horseback rides ranging from pony rides to 40- to 60-minute trail rides, with options that include adding on a cookout or even doing an overnight ride and pitching a lakeside tent.

To finish off an adventurous road trip to the Whiteshell, head to **Falcon Lake Golf Course** for a challenging 18-hole course, with forest-lined fairways. Or choose mini-golf, where your chances for a hole-in-one are a whole lot better.



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**OUR SISTER PUBLICATIONS**



# Happy birthday, George Jetson

**T**ime is moving by so fast. I mean, time actually doesn't move so maybe I should say I am moving through time sooooo fast.

It's ridiculous really. We're already well into August. Before you know it, winter will be here and then boom—I'll be 97.

I exaggerate. But I bet there are a lot of you who can understand this.

I specifically remember being 12 years old and hoping I would make it to 16. I thought, "Man, 16 years old seems so far away. I can hardly wait. I will be able to get a license and EVERYTHING will be better when I am 16,"

Well, that threshold came and went with little fanfare and now, in the blink of an eye, here I am at 54 years old wondering where it all went.

I know it seems cliché to talk like this. Older people would always tell me when I was young, "Oh it goes by before you know and, suddenly, you're dead." They would cheerfully say this as I sat either in shock or dismissed them outright.

They genuinely thought they were motivating me and those like me to pay more attention to the meaningful things around us because we might fail to value them fully.

They were not wrong but they failed to take into account that when you are

moving through time you don't pay a lot of attention to the speed.

I should learn to slow down a little. Life is definitely not a race. I should learn to pace myself. Stop and enjoy certain things while I can.

Of course, this whole perception of time is very relative. For instance, it feels like I am barely moving as I wait for *She-Hulk: Attorney at Law* to arrive on Disney+ as if it were taking forever. But I am absolutely breaking speed records as I fly toward certain work-related deadlines that are actually further away.

Time is such a weird thing.

A certain depressing meme making the rounds lately pointed out that 2022 is as far from 1970 as 1970 is from 1918.

I literally had to take out my calculator for this because I refused to believe it. It turns out to be true and that's just ridiculous.

Here's another frightening fact: the fictional cartoon character George Jetson (to which a million Gen Z people just said, "Who?") was born on July 31, 2022. That's right, folks, we have now passed the birth of George Jetson.

Recently I read a quantum physics theory that suggested that all time happens at once and that it is simply our perception of time that forces us to see it linearly in terms of past, present, and future. The whole thing is mind-bendingly challenging and interesting at the same time.

Part of me likes this idea but I am not sure why. That I might simultaneously be born, live and die all at once. In fact, Einstein used the idea to console the widow of a friend who had just died in 1955. He wrote to his widow saying:

"Now Besso has departed from this strange world a little ahead of me. That means nothing. People like us, who believe in physics, know that the distinction between past, present and future is only a stubbornly persistent illusion."

To me (but perhaps not you) there is something both compelling and comforting about this idea.

Imagine ... you are reading this while I am writing this, and you have already finished before I have already started. Fun stuff, eh?



**By Peter Cantelon**

## Letter policy

The *Voice* welcomes letters from readers on local and regional issues and concerns.

Please keep your letters short (excessively long letters are less likely to be published), on-topic, and respectful.

The *Voice* reserves the right to edit, condense, or reject any submission.

Please include your full name, address, and phone number for verification purposes. Your name and city will be published with your letter. We do not print anonymous letters.

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# Around the world in two days

CultureFest offers a diverse schedule Aug. 13-14

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Tucked in amongst all the other Harvest Festival happenings in Winkler this weekend is the return of a second festival: CultureFest.

Organized by Regional Connections Immigration Services, the celebration of the Pembina Valley's growing diversity returns to the Parkland fairgrounds this year with stage performances and educational displays.

"It's a chance to see the world," said organizer Shepherd Chiwandire. "Our communities are growing and there's so much diversity here now."

CultureFest aims to give people a glimpse into some of the cultures who make up the mosaic of the region, Chiwandire said, but it's not the only goal.

"It's also about relationships. I think people getting to meet other people from different countries and finding out what they bring to the table,

what they're all about, I think that's so great because it shifts curiosity to conversation."

The CultureFest tent (located just east of the Main Stage) will be open from 1-5 p.m. this Saturday and Sunday.

Stage performances Saturday include Métis fiddler Jason Lepine at 2 p.m., Ukrainian dance from Yevgeniya Tatarenko and her students at 3 p.m., Indian dance performed by Gurkirpal Singh/Ubhi at 3:30 p.m., African music from local musician Busisi Godfrey Mbabazi at 3:50 p.m., and Polynesian dance troupe Island Breeze at 4:15 p.m.

Sunday's lineup starts off with Lepine at 2 p.m., Mbabazi at 3 p.m., Indian dance at 3:30 p.m., and Island Breeze wrapping things up at 4 p.m.

While the music and dance will bring the tent alive inside, outside will be lined with booths representing over a dozen different countries.



VOICE FILE PHOTO

Polynesian dance troupe Island Breeze returns to perform at CultureFest this weekend, alongside a host of other multicultural acts.

Each will be manned by a representative of that country and will include a variety of display items designed to give people to get a sense for the culture. Some booths will be offering Henna tattoos, face painting, and trivia games.

"People are going to be showcasing their traditions or sharing a bit of history about where they're coming from," Chiwandire said, noting last

week they had 14 such tables signed up but he was hoping to have a few more confirmed before festival weekend.

If you've never checked out CultureFest before, Chiwandire urges you to remedy that this year.

"It's a chance to see what the community's all made of," he said. "Come and let's just enjoy a time together of fun and activity."

# Local heritage buildings receive provincial funding

By Voice staff

Several heritage buildings in our area are receiving a welcome dose of funding for improvement projects.

The Manitoba government Monday announced \$627,070 in Heritage Resources Conservation Grant funding to support 51 projects across the province.

"Our government is committed to preserving Manitoba's rich historical legacy for future generations," said Sport, Culture, and Heritage Minister Andrew Smith. "This investment supports the conservation of heritage buildings, which are powerful, tangible connections to our province's past with significant educational and cultural value that must be maintained."

The Heritage Resources Conservation Grant provides funding to support projects that demonstrate a commitment to the conservation and

long-term sustainability of legally protected heritage sites.

The local projects receiving support this year include:

- Bergthaler Waisenamt, Altona - \$9,455 for roofing replacement.
- Dominion Post Office (Boyne Regional Library), Carman - \$17,340 for masonry work.
- Kingsley School, La Riviere - \$21,085 for masonry repairs, window restoration and painting.
- La Riviere Manitou Station, Manitou - \$25,000 for new foundation, structural repairs and new station platform; \$5,000 for conservation planning.
- Oke House, Morden - \$19,120 for roof, siding and structural floor repairs.
- St. John the Baptist Anglican Church, Manitou - \$22,500 for tower structural repairs and masonry re-pointing.

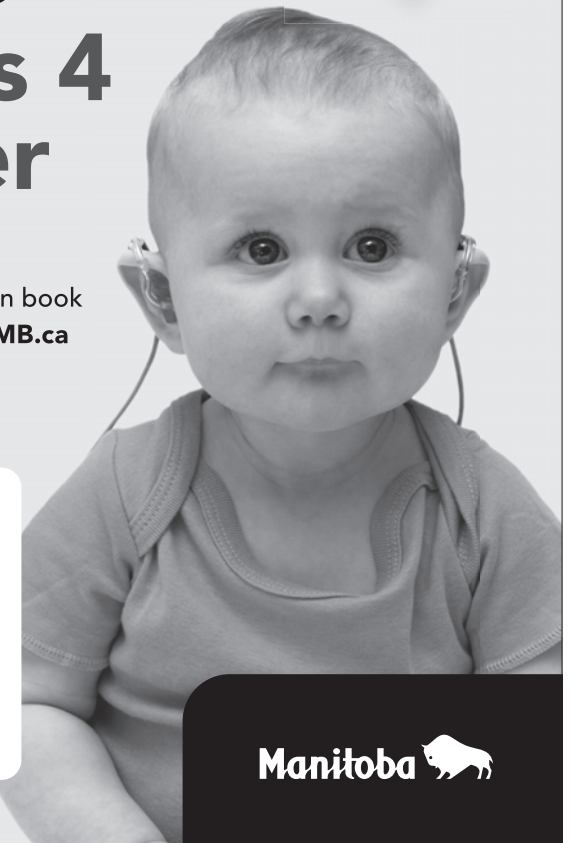
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# Morden, Carman legions make donations to help blind children

By Lorne Stelmach

The legions in Morden and Carman made donations last week in support of the Military Police Fund for Blind Children.

The fund is overseen by military police volunteers and is unique as the only military charity in the country. Volunteers were participating in the Military Police National Motorcycle Relay, with two participants passing through the region last week.

The two local legions each donated \$500 to what Morden Legion president Tammy Petkau said was a very worthy cause.

"We wanted to help out ... and we thought it is a great cause, and it was great to have them come out here," she said.

The history of the charity goes back to Colonel James Riley Stone and the fund's formation in 1957.

Stone was the Canadian Army Provost Marshal (military police) when his daughter Moira was afflicted with cancer of the eye, resulting in sudden blindness and subsequent death.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

The Morden Legion's Tammy Petkau presented a \$500 donation to Gord and Ginger Gustafson last week in support of the Military Police Fund for Blind Children. The Gustafsons were in the area participating in the Military Police National Motorcycle Relay.

During his daughter's illness, Stone came into contact with organizations that were struggling to help blind children. He began canvassing mem-

bers of the military police, asking them to voluntarily contribute one or two dollars per year so he could use those donations to establish a fund to help blind kids.

Today the fund's serves to aid blind children and young adults up to the age of twenty-one and support charitable organizations and individuals involved in education and recreation programs for them.

"There's lots of people involved and lots behind the scenes," said Gord Gustafson, who rode out to the region along with his wife Ginger.

They noted the Military Police National Motorcycle Relay has happened for 14 years with regional rides all across the country. Riders this year started out July 16 in Victoria, B.C., and will finish the relay in Newfoundland Aug. 19.

The relay is made up of regional rides Canada-wide, and the Gustafsons estimate it has raised over \$800,000 for the fund in 14 years.

"We appreciate the support very much," said Gord.

# Winkler Bible Camp hosting Global Leadership Summit

By Voice staff

The Winkler Bible Camp is once again hosting the Global Leadership Summit simulcast this fall.

The summit is a two-day conference featuring presentations from a host of experts speaking on the topic of leadership. It takes place Oct. 20-21 at the camp on Hwy. 3.

"We are excited to bring the Leadership Summit to our community and surrounding areas," said camp director Dale Wiebe. "We invite all curious, impact-minded leaders to a two-day experience that will fill you with encouragement and give you confidence to lead."

The conference is geared towards

the small business owner, church committee member, or anyone leading a team.

One of the featured faculty at the event is president and CEO of the Society for Human Resource Management, Johnny C. Taylor Jr., who brings vast career experience to addressing issues of stress, burnout, and mental health in the workplace today.

Other leaders on the speaker lineup are Bob Igor (former CEO and chairman, The Walt Disney Company), Andy Stanley (founder and pastor, North Point Ministries), Lynsi Snyder (owner and president of In-N-Out Burger) Deb Liu (president and CEO of Ancestry), Jon Acuff (leadership expert and author) and Craig

Groeschel (founder and senior pastor, Life Church), to name a few.

Registration is open now at <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/the-global-leadership-summit-2022-winkler-october-tickets-273234139667>.

Early bird registration is until Sept. 13.

For additional information about the Global Leadership Summit, visit [www.GLS2022.ca](http://www.GLS2022.ca).

# All kids age six months to four now eligible for COVID-19 vaccination

By Voice staff

All children between the ages of six months and four years are now eligible for COVID-19 vaccination, though vaccine supply remains limited.

Public health had announced the eligibility for this age group a few weeks ago, but was initially limiting it to children in certain high-risk categories due to low vaccine availability.

As of last Friday, the province opened up eligibility to any child of this age. There are approximately 76,700 such kids in Manitoba.

Last Thursday, the province noted it had thus far received 14,900 doses of the Moderna vaccine for this age group from the federal government.

Health officials have shipped more than 3,700 doses to regional vaccine sites and medical clinics and provid-

ed another 2,100 doses to First Nations medical leadership for distribution in their communities.

Information on exactly how many doses have been administered thus far was not available.

A second and final shipment of 28,800 Moderna doses was delayed but is expected to arrive soon, the province has said.

As a result, vaccine supply remains limited. Because the vaccine is a two-dose series, the province is reserving about half of its supply to ensure adequate supplies for full immunization.

Health Canada is also reviewing a Pfizer vaccine for children in this age group. If approved, additional vaccines would be available in the fall, officials said.

Continued on page 9

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# Dry bean day brings producers up to speed on latest research

By Lorne Stelmach

Farmers and other industry stakeholders came together in Morden last week to learn some of the latest in dry bean research.

Manitoba Pulse and Soybean Growers hosted its Dry Bean Day with a morning tour through Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Morden Research and Development Centre.

Speakers touched on such topics as bean disease pathology and dry bean regional trials, and it was a welcome opportunity for everyone to connect again for the first time in a few years.

"We want to bring them up to speed, since it's been a couple years since we've connected, on some of our latest dry bean resources in the field and some of the trials we've been doing on farm at the field scale as well and some of the results to date," said Laura Schmidt, western production specialist.

"It's so nice to be able to connect again. We haven't seen some of these guys in a couple years just because of COVID, so it's great to connect and find out what they've been seeing for the last couple years in their fields," she said. "We've been in some of them because we're scouting regularly, but you can't hit every field every year."

Speakers included Dr. Ahmed Abdelmagid and Dr. Anfu Hou from the research centre as well as Dennis Lange from Manitoba Agriculture and Kristen McMillan from the University of Manitoba.

The site tour was also important because the association has been funding important research in Morden.

"They've got some valuable research here on site that we've been

funding, and we really want to connect that with our industry stakeholders as well as our farmers," said Schmidt. "It's just to show the value that is really contained in all the dry bean research that is conducted here in Morden.

It is an opportunity to connect and learn from each other, and it may be even more important right now given the recent conditions that growers have faced.

"We've gone from one extreme to the next, very dry and then very wet start to this year ... so how can we grow the best crop possible with the uncertainties of what's ahead and



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Manitoba Pulse and Soybean Growers hosted a dry bean information day at the Morden Research Station last week, bringing together experts and farmers from across Southern Manitoba.

these fluctuating conditions year to year?" Schmidt said.

"This is one of our core sites for variety testing, and as well they have quite a large breeding program and a large pathology program, so for dry beans, that breeding component is quite important as well as the variety testing. We do this across Manitoba, but Morden here is one of our longer season zones.

"The pathology is also really quite important. How can we integrate pathology with these breeding objectives to produce just stronger varieties that really can adapt to our Manitoba conditions," said Schmidt. "And there are some varieties that are now commercially available that came from here ... it's nice to see it coming to maturation and some



of those varieties coming available." William Pallister, who farms in the Portage area, welcomed the opportunity to be part of the tour again.

"I'm hoping to learn some different things from the extension specialists who are here and also the fellow farmers ... sometimes, the best knowledge you get is just from other people's experiences," he said.

"Because we haven't had a tour for a few years because of COVID, it is

interesting to hear about some of the research that has come out over the last few years," Pallister noted. "Local research is important because local conditions are always different."

"I'm hoping they see the value in some of the research we're funding on their behalf," concluded Schmidt. "I want them to learn from what we are doing research wise here at the site, and we also just want to connect with them."

**"HOW CAN WE GROW THE BEST CROP POSSIBLE WITH THE UNCERTAINTIES OF WHAT'S AHEAD AND THESE FLUCTUATING CONDITIONS YEAR TO YEAR?"**

## > VACCINATION, FROM PG. 8

The National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) recommends children in this age group receive a COVID-19 vaccine at least two weeks before or after any other vaccines to better monitor for any side effects. However, Manitoba

public health officials have said they will not be turning away kids who have received a different vaccine within 14 days.

Appointments are currently available at regional vaccine sites, public health offices, and medical clinics.

Caregivers of eligible children can book appointments directly with medical clinics, through the online vaccine finder (protectmb.ca), or through the vaccine call centre at (toll-free) 1-844-626-8222 (1-844-MAN-VACC).



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# Lots of small-town festival fun at Plum Fest Aug. 19-21

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The community of Plum Coulee celebrates 20 years of Plum Fest next weekend.

"We're very excited to be back at it," said festival chair Erica Dyck, noting they're marking two decades of festival fun alongside the Plum Coulee Community Foundation, who is celebrating its own 20th anniversary this year by bringing Six String Nation to the festival (see story on Pg. 12.)

The presentation features a guitar made up of 64 pieces of Canadian history and a presentation sharing some of those stories, Dyck explained.

"He's doing two presentations here and he wants everybody to come touch the guitar, that's his goal," she said.

Six String Nation has presentations Friday night and Saturday morning, tucked in amongst a busy lineup of activities and performances stretching from Friday, Aug. 19 to Sunday, Aug. 21.

There are community suppers, lunches, and breakfasts, a Saturday morning parade, two different evening dances alongside line dancing Saturday afternoon, the ever-popular duck race at the lake, street market vendors, food trucks, inflatables and yard games for the kids, a reptile display by Fraser Reptiles, the fireman's rodeo at the fire hall, fireworks Saturday night, and a community worship service Sunday



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Plum Fest's main stage features a varied schedule of performers next weekend, including Winona Avenue (right) and Silas Presley (above).



morning.

And, of course, plenty of main stage performers to suit just about any taste.

"There's lots of entertainment," Dyck said, noting the performers run the gamut from indie and classic rock to folk and country.

Silas Presley kicks things off Saturday on the main stage at 11 a.m., followed by performances from Dale Maksymic (1 p.m.), Matt Zimmerman (3 p.m.), Winona Avenue (5 p.m.), and the Cracked Egg Shell at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Winona Avenue takes the stage again

Sunday at noon followed by Graham Doell at 1 p.m. to close out the day.

It's a tried and true festival schedule that offers all the old favourites and something for everyone.

"Why break something that isn't broken?" Dyck said, urging anyone looking for a small-town festival experience to come enjoy. "It's great family fun. We're a small, local community with lots to offer and you get to see so much of that during Plum Fest."

A detailed schedule is available online at [plumfest.com](http://plumfest.com).

## 2022 EDUCATION

## FALL/WINTER

### BU revs up welcome for Fall

The Brandon University campus is buzzing — literally — as the entire community gets ready for a Fall Term like no other.

Long-awaited new projects and re-booted past favourites are all being put together at top speed ahead of BU's biggest-ever Orientation and Welcome Week this September.

"We call it Welcome Week, but we're planning a whole month of celebration to welcome everyone back to campus with fun and friendship, and to make sure everyone is supported in those critical first weeks," said Leanne Barcellona, BU's new Director of Recruitment and Retention. "Both learning and social activities have felt a bit limited the past couple of years, and we are rolling out the BU-blue carpet with tons of fun for Fall."

With pent-up demand for on-campus opportunities, BU is expanding popular programs like BU Student Leaders and BU Co-op — an 'earn-while-you-learn' program where students get real jobs and real experience in their fields during their degree.

But the buzziest of all might be BU's new honey hives, located on top of the cafeteria building, Harvest Hall. Partnered with a local beekeeper, the BU hives are a proof of concept for urban beekeeping in Brandon that will provide research and learning opportunities for students interested in saving the bees. Binoculars in the library provide a safe close-up look at the hives, and when the honey is harvested, some of it will be used in fresh cafeteria food and donated to the student food bank.

"The energy on campus is incredible and we're so eager for the new year. There are great activities for students, every day, especially if you're living in our convenient residences," Barcellona said. "Your university years are a time of discovery when you're making life-long friends and essential career choices. We're here to support you and make sure that this year will be one to remember."

Applications are still open for Fall 2022. Visit us at [BrandonU.ca/Future-Students](http://BrandonU.ca/Future-Students) to learn more.



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# Six String Nation coming to Plum Coulee Plum Fest

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Plum Coulee Community Foundation is celebrating its 20th anniversary by once again giving back to the community.

The foundation and its Youth in Philanthropy group are bringing Six String Nation to Plum Fest next weekend.

The Six String Nation project was spearheaded by radio personality Jowi Taylor, who two decades ago set out to do something to celebrate what it means to be Canadian.

With the help of guitar maker George Rizsanyi, Taylor built an acoustic guitar made up of pieces of significant objects from across the country.

Each piece tells a story, and Taylor's presentation shares some of them while also encouraging everyone to pose with the guitar, to touch a small piece of history.

Among the 64 different pieces of material that make up the guitar are Manitoba-sourced ones such as wood from the St. Michael's Orthodox Ukrainian Church in Gardenton, an Icelandic "lucky stone" from Lake Winnipeg at Gimli, and a piece of a beam from the St. Boniface Museum, which was the former schoolhouse for Louis Riel.

Foundation board chair Heather Unger first encountered the guitar, dubbed Voyageur, and Taylor at a conference in 2013.

"He had this amazing story of this guitar that he built out of pieces of Canadian history and I remember coming home from the event thinking, 'How am I going to get that thing



Jowi Taylor and Voyageur are at the Plum Coulee Plum Fest next weekend.

SUPPLIED PHOTO

home for my fellow Coulee-ites to see?"

The 20th anniversary celebration of both the foundation and the Plum Coulee Plum Fest seemed the perfect occasion.

"It took awhile, but now it's here," Unger said, noting it's perhaps fitting to welcome a symbol of Canadian unity to the area now after the past few years of division. "I think Southern Manitoba could use a good old team-spirited rallying of the troops these days."

Taylor will be presenting the story of the guitar and the pieces it's made up of at the Plum Coulee arena at 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 19. He'll also be doing a youth-focused presentation on Saturday, Aug. 20 at 11 a.m.

At the end of both presentations, as has become the tradition, a local mu-

sician will be invited to play a tune on the guitar. Friday night that honour will go to JP Lepage. Saturday's performer has not yet been announced.

Taylor will also be bringing along a professional photographer to shoot free portraits of people with Voyageur after each presentation.

## INCLUDING ALL CANADIANS

The roots of this project came from another time of great division in Canada, shares Taylor.

"The inciting incident was the Quebec referendum of 1995," he explained on the phone from Toronto last week.

Residents in the predominantly French-speaking province were asked to vote on whether to leave Canada and create their own sovereign nation.

The vote, which was only narrowly struck down, generated a lot of debate over what it meant to be Canadian.

"I was concerned at the time that the

way the debate was framed for Canadians didn't include all Canadians," Taylor said. "It was kind of a pitched as a horse race between red and blue, Quebec City and Ottawa, French and English."

Taylor wanted to start a deeper conversation about Canadian identity that included all peoples across the nation.

That led to the Six String Project, which has been touring across Canada since the debut of the guitar on Parliament Hill on Canada Day in 2006.

Every community Six String Nation arrives in, Taylor makes sure Voyageur isn't treated as some untouchable artifact but rather an accessible representation of the many different places, historical events, and stories that make up our national identity.

"I set out to create a project that would give people an alternative to constantly referring to going to Tim Hortons—as if that was somehow a patriotic act—and hockey," he said. "I really wanted to say, come on, there's more to us than that, and I wanted to go beyond the stereotypes."

That said, the guitar does include a few iconic slices of hockey history—pieces of hockey sticks used by Wayne Gretzky and Paul Henderson and, on its case, a piece of trouser material from broadcaster Don Cherry.

For some people, materials like that are a highlight, Taylor said, while others find meaning in a myriad of other parts of the guitar.

"What's really amazingly profound for me is when people say, 'I didn't think I would see myself in this guitar, and I do. You showed me my people, my culture, my family, my place in the country and I feel included, I feel seen.' That's amazing."

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## Dino Day Camp at CFDC



A dozen kids were on hand Friday for Dino Day Camp at the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre. The summer program for youth aged six to 12 ran for two weeks in July and is wrapping up for the summer this week. Participants have had the opportunity to learn about fossils and Manitoba's prehistoric past through museum tours, crafts, games, scavenger hunts, and more.

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/  
VOICE





SUBMITTED PHOTOS BY LOIS BRAUN

Hundreds of former students of Altona Collegiate were in town Sunflower Festival weekend for a reunion. At the peak of the event, 190 registrants who attended classes at the former Altona high school between 1956-1965 were on hand, coming home from as far away as British Columbia, Ontario, and Minnesota. Committee organizers say they're very pleased with the large turnout and the positive responses from attendees. The weekend included meet and greets, displays of school memorabilia, panel discussions, a yearbook quiz, and other fun activities. Left, top: A few of the organizing committee members and attendees share a laugh—from left, David Wiebe (Class of '66), Raymond Friesen (Class of '66); Bruce Friesen (Class of '67), and Joe Braun (Class of '64).

## A weekend of reminiscing



### > GALLERY IN THE PARK, FROM PG. 2

They welcome every opportunity to display at Gallery in the Park.

"It's just a fabulous venue ... we're really excited to have this facility here. It's made a big difference."

Their shows usually do not follow a particular theme, she noted.

"We really encourage them to show work that is brand new or at least previously not exhibited. There sometimes are retrospectives," she said.

She hopes people will share what she appreciates about this exhibit, as she cited the example of the pieces by well-known sculptor Jake Goertzen.

"This is so different; there's more colour and it's shiny ... anything new and different from the artists is exciting," said Braun.

"What I see and thrills me is how they change and grow ... a lot of what I see here today is something I've never seen that artist do before, and I just love that ... that says it all."



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Gallery in the Park board member Curwin Friesen with artist Genevieve Henderson at the launch of the gallery's second season of exhibits last week.

"WHAT I SEE AND THRILLS ME IS HOW THEY CHANGE AND GROW ... A LOT OF WHAT I SEE HERE TODAY IS SOMETHING I'VE NEVER SEEN THAT ARTIST DO BEFORE, AND I JUST LOVE THAT."



# Local leaders share thoughts on Manitoba's immigration system

## Meetings in Altona, Winkler give communities the chance to bend the ear of gov't reps

By Lorne Stelmach

Regional leaders shared some common concerns last week as the province held public meetings on immigration in Manitoba.

Manitoba's Immigration Advisory Council held forums in Winkler and Altona Thursday as part of a series of public meetings to get input on improvements to Manitoba's current immigration policies and programs.

Local speakers touched on such areas as a need for more general labourers as well as the whole range of community resources and services that are vital to support them.

"While there's lots to celebrate ... there's a few things that with that success come challenges .. hearing a common voice recognizing those challenges I think is really helpful," said Jason Dyck, economic development officer for the City of Morden.

"I think throughout southern Manitoba we see a significant labour market shortage, so it was really reiterated that our businesses are needing employees now; not only just now but yesterday," said Stephanie Har-

ris, economic development officer for Rhineland, Plum Coulee, Gretna and Altona. "I think that message was well received and understood by the minister."

The immigration advisory council was created earlier this year. It is made up of 20 members with expertise related to immigration services, governance, economic development, analysis, project management and community integration.

The work of the council focuses on:

- building on promotion to attract and recruit more immigrants and business investors to the province;

- streamlining the Manitoba Provincial Nominee Program, especially with regard to setting the right balance between the province's regional labour market, economic development and community needs; and

- fostering Manitoba's settlement and integration programs and services, as well as foreign credential recognition programs, to encourage labour market attachment, improve foreign credential recognition and bolster immigrant retention.

"The council brings a great deal of expertise to the table, but we also want to hear from others who can share their ideas with us," said Lloyd Axworthy, who co-chairs with Advanced Education, Skills and Immigration Minister Jon Reyes. "The feedback from Manitobans and newcomers to Canada will help our team make informed recommendations to government."

**"OUR BUSINESSES ARE NEEDING EMPLOYEES ... NOT ONLY JUST NOW BUT YESTERDAY."**



SUPPLIED PHOTO



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

It was a full house at the public forum held in Winkler last week Thursday by the Manitoba Immigration Advisory Council, which also hosted a session in Altona (left, Immigration Minister Jon Reyes with area leaders) later that day.

Steve Reynolds, executive director of Regional Connections Immigrant Services, kicked off the presentations in Winkler by noting how it is challenging to adopt strategies that work equally for all.

"The communities are very different, and immigration in the local communities is very different," he stressed.

"I would echo a lot of what was said about key or core issues," Reynolds said afterwards. "We hear a lot too from working with local employers that production manufacturing and agricultural jobs have high demand. There's lots of jobs available, but immigration programs tend to have a bias towards educated professionals ... so there's a need for that immigration stream as well, but it doesn't meet all the local labour market needs."

If anything, there is also the risk of having newcomers who are overqualified and underemployed and as a result become dissatisfied and end up looking for other opportunities.

Reynolds also identified concerns around the lack of community resources like transportation, day care and affordable housing.

"If those resources aren't here, people may end up looking for opportunities elsewhere," he reiterated, adding as well a concern about local access to post secondary education.

"Manitoba is a production and ag-based economy, and we need those workers," said Mark Sawatzky, business development and immigration officer for Winkler and Stanley.

"We need to begin a dialogue to find out what are those other avenues to start to bring in that base level of worker that industry needs, that the service industry needs. We need to look at ways of how to evolve the program to add those other streams that will get people the workers that they need," he said.

"That's a real key element to the foundation of our economy," said

**"WE NEED TO LOOK AT WAYS ... TO EVOLVE THE PROGRAM TO ADD THOSE OTHER STREAMS THAT WILL GET PEOPLE THE WORKERS THAT THEY NEED."**

Sawatzky. "We have had a lot of success ... there are dynamics and challenges in terms of housing and English skill set and day care and these things ... these go beyond the area of immigration and bringing people here. There's a number of areas we have to look at as communities.

"I think today was just a good opportunity to start to have these dialogues," he added.

Winkler Mayor Martin Harder appreciated the fact that the minister was even out here for the first time to have this kind of discussion, and he agreed there are a range of challenges around such areas as public transportation, post secondary education and the availability of more health care services here.

"I think the most important thing is to be able to integrate newcomers into our community and make them feel welcome ... and we need to have the supports in place," said Harder.

He added rural Manitoba should not be discriminated against in terms of the level of services that are provided here compared to in Winnipeg.

"We need to treat rural Manitoba in general on the same level as they do in the city of Winnipeg."

He also noted how so many sectors here are so short of workers, referring to a survey that identified 27





PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

The Manitoba World War 1 Museum near La Riviere was a bustling place Sunday afternoon as costumed volunteers worked to bring the Great War to life for the crowds of history buffs who stopped by for A Day in the Trenches. The annual living history event included numerous education stations on various aspects of daily life on the frontlines. Clockwise from above: Medical staff in the aid station; a soldier demonstrates the proper use of a bayonet in close-quarters combat; some of the museum's artifacts on display; a volunteer playing the part of a German soldier; one of the demonstrations included a mock gas attack on the Canadian lines by the Germans, necessitating the use of gas masks as soldiers fired back across No Man's Land; an example of the mortar shells fired at the enemy; a volunteer discusses how trench raids often included bringing back data that headquarters could use to plan future attacks—including patches showing which enemy contingents were present in the enemy trenches.





# getinformed

## Drainage improvement project on schedule

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Work on 2nd St. NE in Altona is moving ahead on schedule and should, barring any unexpected weather delays, be complete in September.

Public works manager Clint Derksen explains the road closure, which extends from 4th Ave. NE to 6th Ave. NE, is the second and final phase of the town's downtown drainage improvement project.

Phase one saw a new lift station, force main, and a land drainage system go in on the downtown street in a bid to avoid the area turning into an unwanted lake whenever it rains too heavily.

Phase two re-engineers the design of the road to further avoid pooling water.

"The previous design had water cascading over from west to east, over the road surface," Derksen said. "Also, it was kind of in the design to store water on the road."

It was a design that works okay for a smaller community but created problems as Altona and its drainage needs continued to grow.

"In theory it worked, in the early stages," Derksen noted. "But in the later stages that [drainage] system



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Work is moving full speed ahead on the second and final phase of Altona's downtown drainage improvement project. Second St. NE is expected to reopen early next month.

got added to several times and then just having more parking lots, more hard surfaces downtown that drain off more water than a front yard or grass field would."

The newly paved road will have more of a peak in the middle so the water better drains to the side gutters. From there it travels via the buried culverts under the road to the new

pumping station installed last year.

The project also includes laying a thicker base at the foundation of the road to bring it more in line with modern standards. It includes eight inches of C-base followed by six-inches of A-base topped with reinforced concrete.

"It's a little more expensive but it just last so much longer," Derksen said of the concrete compared to as-

phalt, noting the amount of traffic in the area means they don't want to have to be redoing the road again anytime soon.

Work on this part of the project began a couple weeks ago and had a 35-day schedule (weekdays). They're on track to be done in early September.

All these improvements should stave off flooding downtown during normal rain events.

"It's going to help," Derksen said. "In a one-in-five-year storm ... there shouldn't be any puddles. Or in a one-in-ten. But in a one-in-25-year storm, we are fully expecting water to be sitting on that road again.

"One of our major limiting factors was how much water Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure would allow us to put into their ditch at a time."

The town is also still putting a few small finishing touches on phase one of the project, Derksen said,

"Our 4th Avenue still have a few areas that need some restoration and attention to get it back to what it was prior to construction," he said, noting crews are in town now tackling that work, which is also expected to be done by summer's end.

### > IMMIGRATION CONSULTATION, FROM PG. 14

businesses which were asked if they could produce what they knew they could sell in the next two years, how many people would they need, and it was estimated they would require a thousand people in order to do so.

"So this is a critical time ... immigration is a way to deal with it ... it is important, and it brings a sense of diversity to your community."

Dyck reiterated that it was good to have different voices offering similar messages.

"Supports in terms of transportation, in terms of child care, in terms of access to language skills ... those are things that our whole region has in common," he said.

"It's something that Morden, Winkler, Altona and the whole region faces ... we need workers at every level. There's not one sector that is not impacted by a labour shortage

right now.

"So for the government to be working towards this and engaging in a dialogue to find those needs and address them I think is absolutely essential."

"It was great to have the minister here to hear our concerns and to consult our community," Harris agreed.

"It goes across the board for every community here. There is difficulty finding general labourers as well as skilled workers," she said.

"Affordable housing as well as even transitional housing supports as well are needed for the newcomers who are arriving," she agreed. "Some of the challenges we are seeing are transitional housing supports ... also something that was brought up was processing offices for our newcomers to be able to have a hub or one location where they can go locally."

Knowing the growth that is happening in this region, Reyes was particularly looking forward to the feedback and recommendations from this area.

"I know Winkler and Morden as well have been successful in terms of attracting and retaining immigrants ... I wanted to hear some feedback on how we can improve and enhance the Manitoba Provincial Nominee Program.

"Because we do have a labour shortage across the province, immigration is obviously a crucial enabler when it comes to economic growth, and it's very important for me, as the minister, to hear face to face the feedback and recommendations I'm hearing today from the people here of southern Manitoba," he said.

"What I've been hearing is obviously there is a great need for labour

workers in the rural areas of Manitoba ... I want to ensure that as the minister for the province that we address those issues," he concluded. "It's important for me to better understand the needs of this part of the province ... Winkler has been very successful in attracting and retaining people here and being part of the community.

"As we review the entire continuum of immigration, from promotion to retention of newcomers, we want to hear from others who have experiences and advice they would like to share," said Reyes.

For more information on the Immigration Advisory Council's mandate and membership, visit [immigrate-manitoba.com/iac/](http://immigrate-manitoba.com/iac/).



# Homestead South celebrates 10 years

By Lorne Stelmach

A celebration Friday marked 10 years of operation for the Homestead South assisted living facility in Morden.

Betty Froese has been there as the building manager right from day one, so it marked a milestone for herself as well as the facility.

"It's very exciting. It's nice to celebrate," said Froese. "There were struggles. It took us a long time to get filled up. From 2012, I believe it was just about six years before we had every room filled. From there on we've had a bit of a waiting list.

"We have different people moving in all the time," Froese said. "We've had so many residents come through, and we actually have three of the original residents, and we also have two staff members who have been here since day one, so that's exciting as well."

The first tenants back in July 2012 were Ruth and Ben Wiebe. Ben has since passed away but Ruth still calls

the facility home.

"My husband wanted me looked after because his health was failing," Wiebe said after being presented with a special certificate at the celebrations.

"It's been wonderful here. The care is all wonderful, and the people here are all great," she said. "And I've seen and met a lot of different people here."

Froese observed that she has seen some changes at the facility, which has 82 apartments, one guest suite, and 35 staff members.

In 2012, they did not have a single resident move in with a walker or wheelchair—a far cry from today.

"As you can see today, at least 50 per cent or more of our residents have walkers or wheelchairs, so the level of care has definitely doubled," Froese observed.

What hasn't changed of course is their full commitment to meeting all of their residents' needs.

"Our number one priority is to always make sure that the residents are



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Homestead South held a celebration last week to mark 10 years of operation. Above: Building manager Betty Froese chats with guests and residents. Right: Dianne Wiebe presented a certificate to Ruth Wiebe, who was the facility's very first tenant a decade ago.



happy," Froese said.

"They all have different needs; they all have different interests, so we get to know the residents as far as things like food, entertainment and personal interests," she said. "We try to meet every resident's needs at the level they are at ... we are always trying to improve what we do here."



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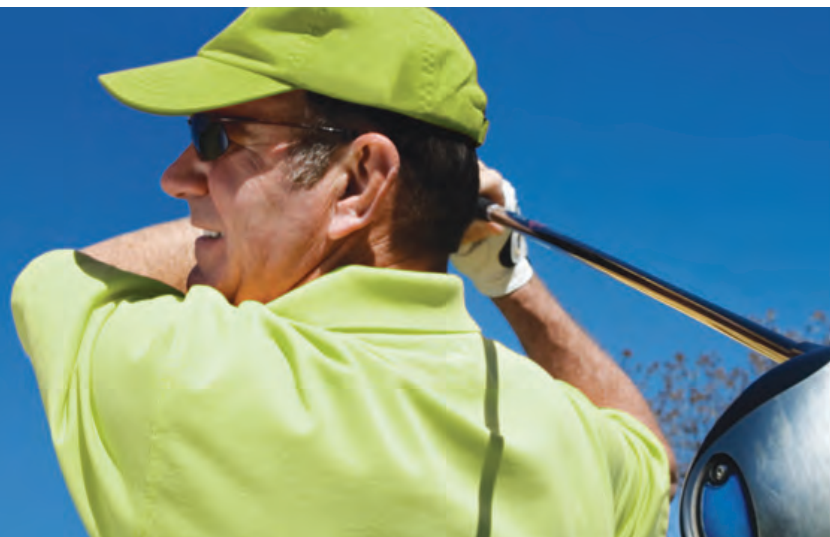
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# Local poet's first published book hits the bestselling charts

By Lorne Stelmach

A Morden writer may have not had high expectations for his first published collection of poetry, but it has quickly earned some attention and success for Peter Cantelon.

*Psalms of Bone & Sinew* recently reached number one on Amazon's hot new releases list and last week had still been in the top three hot new releases in Canada for poetry.

Cantelon said it was gratifying to watch this unfold, as his vision for this book was simply to see it published. The idea of hitting the bestseller lists never occurred to him.

"I just honestly wanted to get it into a tangible format for people ... the fact that other people may be interested in reading it was second ... it just wasn't something that I was really thinking about," said Cantelon.

He has a life-long passion for writing and poetry and has been scribbling continuously for more than 36 years now, including his role as an award-winning columnist for more than 12 years with the *Winkler Morden Voice*.

For almost eight years, he was executive director of the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre, and he now is the executive director of the Winnipeg-based non-profit The Jubilee Fund.

If there is a single, uninterrupted thread in his life, it is his writing, which evolved as he moved over the years to Ottawa, Orlando, Toronto and ultimately Morden, where he lives with his wife in a 130-year-old fieldstone house.

Cantelon started writing poetry when he was 17 in his hometown of Guelph, where he first heard the great Canadian author Timothy Findley read and got his first author's signed copy of a book.

He has continued to actively write ever since, including for his own blog for almost 20 years now.

"I never really thought much about publishing. It's always just been about writing, I just like creating content," said Cantelon. "Only recently, I started thinking it would be nice if I could have some sort of a tangible thing, especially thinking about my kids and being able to give them something."

"It's one thing to have your stuff scattered across 20 years of blogging, but it's not very convenient for people ... so I guess it just felt more meaningful, so I started to pursue it."

Cantelon said this collection of poetry is meant to evoke the messy reality that is life, developing the idea of psalms as words lifted in praise and grief, horror and wonder.

Cantelon's poetry reflects his attention to meter, rhythm and structure, and most of his poems are free verse with a mix of rhyming and what he calls free-rhyme (a mix of free verse and rhyme in a single poem).

While his work has been published in various magazine and journals over the years, Cantelon said it was completely unexpected for him to have this level of response and success with this first book.

"I think the title is compelling for some people," he suggested.

"It's a bit of a visceral kind of title that draws people in ... and the image on the cover again is kind of visceral," he added in referencing the artificially aged portrait.

"I've got a lot of followers across different platforms of social media," Cantelon added. "I kind of assumed that they were all the same group of people, but as I dug into it, each platform kind of has its own separate group."

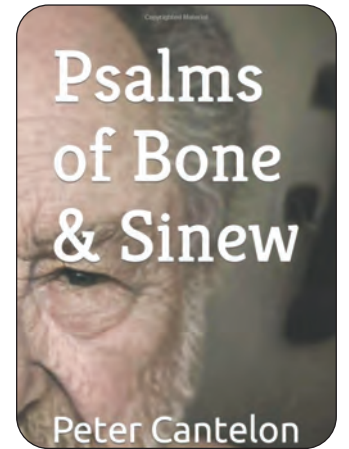
"I think some of the social media and web-based promotion has been giving it some steam ... and I think as it pops up on the hot new releases list, people just see it."

Cantelon added it is also gratifying to have had success with poetry, as he sees it as a difficult market to crack.

"It's not an enormous market for poetry. Publishing in the poetry industry is always a challenge," he observed. "It really limits poets' opportunities to get out there and get exposed other than going to pubs and bars and doing public readings and creating their own content."

Cantelon is hoping to hold a book reading event locally. In the meantime, the 121-page volume can be purchased on Amazon.

For more information, visit [www.cantelon.org/books](http://www.cantelon.org/books).





# sports & recreation

## U15 Central Energy wins Western Canadian Championship

By Ty Dilello

The U15 Central Energy girls' squad brought home gold medals from the U15 Western Canadian Softball Championship in Stonewall this past weekend.

"I'm extremely proud of the girls for how they performed this weekend," said coach Hailey Yuskin. "We had a rough go in provincials, which I know was hard on the girls, so for them to come out and play how they did is so rewarding."

"As a coach, I always want the girls to medal because I know how hard they've worked, but getting gold was definitely the goal going into Westerns."

Central Energy finished the round robin with a record of 5-1, which secured them second place going into playoffs.

"In the round robin, we had one really close game with AB2 Beaumont Blitz," Yuskin said. "We were down by four runs going into the bottom of the 7th and then managed to tie the game 7-7, which made us go into extra innings. In the end, the bases were loaded, and we ended up getting walked, which brought in the winning run."

The playoffs started off with a pretty intense game against Calgary Adrenaline, in which Central Energy lost in the bottom of the seventh. They went on to beat Winnipeg Lightning in the semi-final to earn a spot in the final against Calgary Adrenaline.

The championship game was slow-paced to start.

"Within the first two innings, I wasn't totally sure how the game was going to go," noted Yuskin. "We were down 1-0, and then in the third inning, we started getting hits and walks and scored five runs which really got the girls excited."

"In the bottom of the fifth, Calgary Adrenaline started getting some hits, and even though we were up 9-1, at that point, it was still nerve-wracking to watch because the game could change at any moment just like it had that morning. We ended up holding them at three runs, which gave us the 9-3 win. It was very intense for both teams going through each inning of the game but extremely happy with the way it turned out."

The team is a regional one made



PHOTOS BY LANA MEIER/VOICE

The U15 Central Energy girls' softball team celebrate after winning the gold medal at the U15 Western Canadian Softball Championship last weekend. Below, left: First baseman Christina Van De Velde stretches to get the out to win the championship. Below, right: Catcher Brooklyn Friesen gets the out at home plate to shut down the Calgary Adrenaline.



up of players from Winkler, LaSalle, Manitou, Swan Lake, Morden, Altona, Somerset, and Mariapolis.

The Westerns were the end of the season for the ladies. Five out of the 11 on the squad will move up to U17 team next year. The majority have their sights on playing college softball in the future.

Pictured back row, left to right; Kass Cunningham (asst. coach), Gabbi Hildebrand, Molly Cowan, Mark Friesen (asst. coach), Isabel Long, Kara Buhler, Kelly Yuskin (asst. coach), Christina Van De Velde, Tori Mangin and Hailey Yuskin (coach). Front, Hailey-Jo Guffei, Nelia Fehr, Molly Conrad, Brooklyn Friesen and Maddy Friesen.





# Whips take game one

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Whips took a 1-0 series lead after besting the Morden Mud Hens last Tuesday night.

Playing before a hometown crowd, the Whips edged out victory by a score of 3-2.

The Whips finished the regular season in first place with one extra win under their belts over the Mud Hens. Morden was in third behind Carman, who they dispatched in the first round of playoffs.

Game two was scheduled for this Tuesday, Aug. 9, in Morden. Results were not available at press time.

If game three is necessary it will take place back in Winkler Thursday night at 6:30 p.m.

Meanwhile, the West Division final between the Cartwright Twins and Pilot Mound Pilots is tied at 1-1.

The Twins took game one 8-5 while the Pilots evened things out with a 5-3 win a few nights later.

Game three of that series was also to take place Tuesday night.

## TWINS WIN PROVINCIALS

The Whips followed up on their se-

After catching a high throw, Morden's Riley Sager tries to tag Winkler's Liam Giesbrecht to keep him from stealing second base in game one of the Whips-Mud Hens East Division final. Winkler won it 3-2.

PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE



ries-opening win last week by competing at the Senior AA Provincials in Rivers over the weekend.

There they stumbled out of the gate with a 16-6 loss to Boissevain Friday afternoon before righting the ship Saturday with wins of 7-2 and 7-0 over

Neepawa and Brandon, respectively.

The weekend came to an end for the Whips, though, when they narrowly fell to Rivers 6-5 in extra innings.

Meanwhile, also representing Border Baseball at the provincials was Cartwright, who went the distance to

win the title.

The Twins made short work of Boissevain 2-0 in the semi-final and then won it all 1-0 against Rivers in the championship match.

# South Central athletes make Manitoba girls baseball roster

By Ty Dilello

A pair of local athletes have made the Team Manitoba 14U Girls Baseball development team roster.

Kirsten Giesbrecht of Altona and Faith Teichroeb of Darlingford will be playing in the Western Canadian Championships next weekend.

"I am both humbled and honoured to be joining this team," said Giesbrecht. "Baseball is a sport I love, and being a member of the 14U team gives me the opportunity to play with a great group of girls. I am also able to represent my community as well as my province at the Western Canadian Championships.

"To this point, I have played the game of baseball with a group of boys, so I am looking forward to play with and against a group of girls," she said. "My goal at the championships would be to help Team Manitoba win a gold medal."

As she moves forward in baseball, Giesbrecht would like to further develop her skills in hopes of having the

opportunity to represent her province at future events.

"I hope that girls' participation in baseball will continue to grow and encourage more young women to play the game of baseball."

The 14U Western Canada Girls' Baseball Championship will be hosted at Optimist Park in Winnipeg from Aug. 19-21.

The four western Canada teams will be starting tournament play on the Friday at 10 a.m. with British Columbia and Alberta taking the field followed by the opening ceremonies at 1:30 p.m.

Manitoba and Saskatchewan will be throwing their first pitch at 2:30 p.m. The Skills and Parent Home Run events will commence at 6 p.m.

Beginning at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Manitoba takes on British Columbia while Alberta plays against Saskatchewan. In the 2 p.m. games Manitoba will be facing Alberta while Saskatchewan meets British Columbia.

A barbecue and meet and greet will be held in the evening.



Faith Teichroeb



Kirsten Giesbrecht

The gold and bronze-medal games will start at 10 a.m. Sunday. The closing ceremonies and awards will be presented at 5 p.m.

"We are excited to host the 14U Western Canada Girls' Championship and

provide young girls an opportunity to compete and showcase their skills," said Roger Langlais, 14U Western Canada Girls' Baseball Championship host committee chair.







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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
IN THE MATTER of the ESTATE of EDITH MARTENS late of Winkler, Manitoba, deceased.

All claims against the above estate, supported by Statutory Declaration must be sent to attention of the Executor, **Edith Samuels, 203-280 Waterfront Drive, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3B 0C2** on or before September 15, 2022.

Dated at Winnipeg, Manitoba, this August 1, 2022.

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
IN THE MATTER of the Estate of **Abram Paul Froese**, late of Winkler, Manitoba, Deceased. ALL CLAIMS against the above Estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be sent to the undersigned at 504 Stanley Avenue, Winkler, Manitoba, R6W 0M3, within four (4) weeks of the date of this publication.

**GILMOUR BRAUL HIEBERT**  
LAW OFFICE  
Solicitor for the Estate

### FARMLAND TENDER

### FARMLAND FOR SALE BY TENDER

Sealed written tenders for the property in the Municipality of Rhineland described below must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 31, 2022 at:

Franz Hoepfner Wiens Law Office  
Box 99, 1 880 J 15th Street  
Winkler, Manitoba R6W 4A4  
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Property located ½ mile north of Hwy 14 between Reinfeld and Plum Coulee.

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1. The property described will be sold "as is".
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#### Terms of Sale:

1. The successful bidder(s) shall enter a formal agreement for purchase of the property within ten (10) business days of acceptance of the tender.
2. Possession is not authorized until acceptable arrangements for full payment are made following acceptance of tender.
3. GST and land transfer taxes will be the responsibility of the purchaser.
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For further information contact Franz Hoepfner Wiens Law Office at 204-325-4615.

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Email julie@gatewayresourcesinc.com

Resumes will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. August 19, 2022. We wish to thank all those that apply for this position. We will, however, only be in contact with applicants we wish to arrange an interview with.



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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

## UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE PLANNING ACT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On the date and at the time and location shown below, a PUBLIC HEARING will be held to receive representations from any person(s) who wish to make them in respect to the following matter: THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF STANLEY BY-LAW 14-22

Being an AMENDMENT to the R.M. OF STANLEY ZONING BY-LAW 8-18, AS AMENDED.

**HEARING:** R.M. of Stanley  
Council Chambers  
1-23111 PTH 14, SW 7-3-4W

**LOCATION:** August 18, 2022 at 9:05 a.m.

**DATE & TIME:** To re-zone a parcel of land in the RM of Stanley to allow  
for residential development

**GENERAL INTENT:** "AG" Agricultural General

**FROM:** "RR" Rural Residential

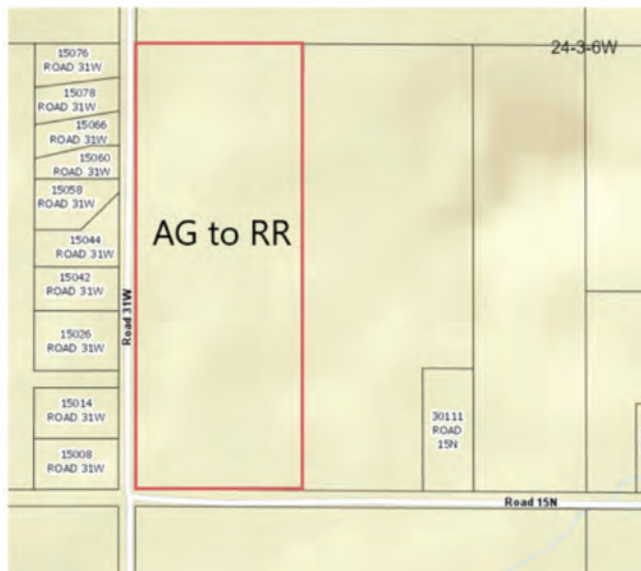
**TO:** PART OF SW 24-3-6W

**AREA:**

**FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
Melissa Groening,  
Planning and Development Officer  
Rural Municipality of Stanley  
1-23111 PTH 14, Stanley MB R6P 0B1  
Phone: (204) 325-4101  
Email: [mgroening@rmofstanley.ca](mailto:mgroening@rmofstanley.ca)



A copy of the above proposal and supporting material may be inspected at the location noted above during normal office hours, Monday to Friday. Copies may be made and extracts taken there from, upon request.



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Start date is as soon as possible. Please forward a resume by email to [sherallee@mmjslaw.com](mailto:sherallee@mmjslaw.com) prior to August 19, 2022 if interested in the position.

We thank all applicants - however, only those to be considered for an interview will be contacted.

Sheralee Forsyth  
Firm Manager  
(204) 822-6588  
[sherallee@mmjslaw.com](mailto:sherallee@mmjslaw.com)

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING UNDER THE PLANNING ACT

The City of Winkler, under the authority of The Planning Act, will hold a hearing at which time and place the council of the City of Winkler will receive representation from the applicants and any other persons who wish to make representations in respect of the Rezoning Application No. RZ2022-014 and By-law No. 2288-22, being an amendment to Winkler Zoning By-law 2271-21 of the City of Winkler.

The general intent of the above By-Law No. 2288-22, is to zone the land described below, Namely:

**701 and 631 PTH 14, legally described as Lots 1-3,  
Plan No. (Dep.995-2022) MLTO**

as shown outlined in a heavy solid line on the map attached hereto as Schedule "A" and forming part of this by-law, be rezoned

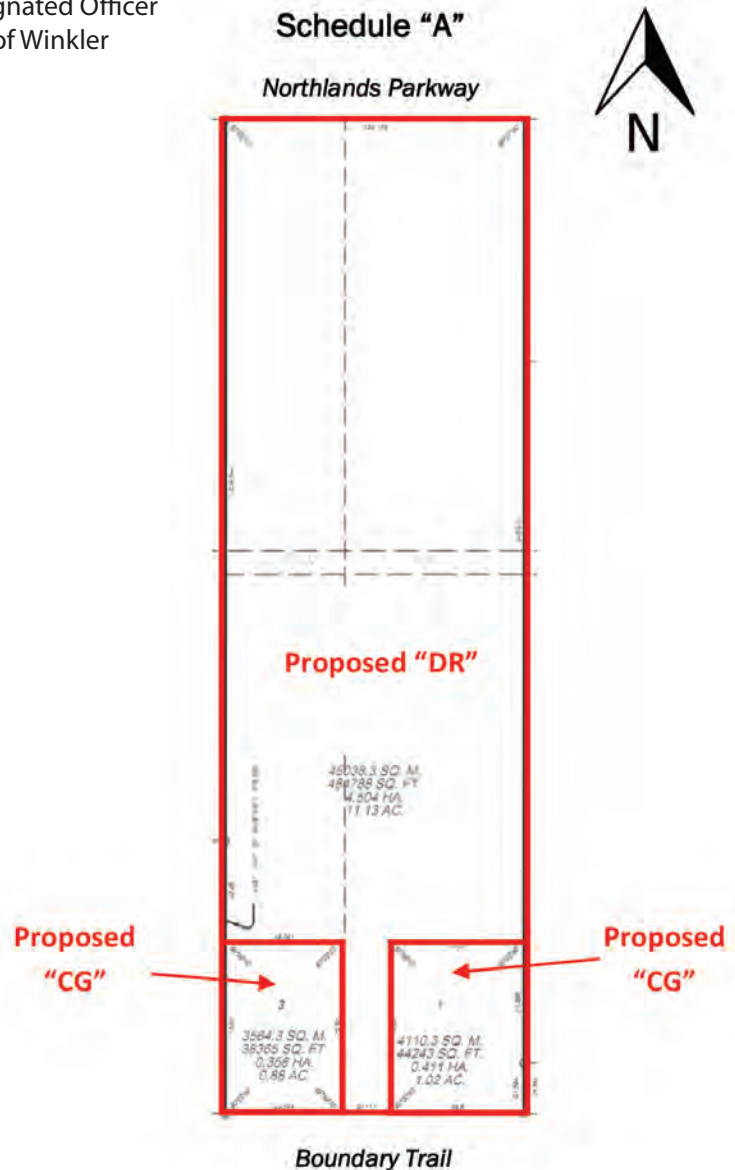
FROM: "DR" DEVELOPMENT RESERVE ZONE  
"CG" COMMERCIAL GENERAL ZONE

TO: "CG" COMMERCIAL GENERAL ZONE  
"DR" DEVELOPMENT RESERVE ZONE

A copy of the above By-Law No. 2288-22 and supporting material may be inspected by any persons between the hours of 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday to Thursday and 9:00 AM and 4:30 PM, Friday, in the City Office.

**Date of Hearing:** August 23, 2022  
**Time of Hearing:** 6:45 p.m.  
**Location:** Winkler Council Chambers,  
185 Main Street, Winkler, Manitoba

DATED at Winkler, in Manitoba, this 22nd day of July 2022.  
Designated Officer  
City of Winkler





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## IN MEMORIAM



**Don Janzen**  
July 18, 1949 - August 8, 2020

One year has passed since that sad day,  
When one we loved was called away;  
God took him home, it was His will;  
Within our hearts, he liveth still.  
We miss you every day and can't wait until we  
see you again.

-Love Dianne, Kim, Jon and Cindy,  
Camryn, Avery

## CELEBRATION OF LIFE



**In Loving Memory of  
Gordon Klassen**  
1955 - 1921

Join us for a memorial service to  
celebrate Gordon's life  
371 Wesley Drive, East Selkirk,  
August 27 at 11 a.m.  
RSVP: 204-232-9313  
Please bring lawn chairs and  
your favorite Gord story.

## OBITUARY



### Joan Doreen Helps (nee Allen) 1937 - 2022

On the morning of Sunday July 31, 2022, Joan Helps passed away peacefully in her sleep at the age of 85.

Joan was predeceased by her husband, Elgin, sons Richard and Randy, granddaughter Stacey as well her brother and sister. She is survived by her daughter Patricia (Andrew), daughter-in-law Lorraine, daughter-in-law Shauna (Allan), grandchildren Derek, Monika (Jeff), Adam (Stephanie), Alyssa and great-grandchildren Sadie and Parker.

Joan thoroughly enjoyed time with her grandchildren, watching them grow up. She took pride in her flower gardens at her home. Joan will be remembered for her many years of working at the Morden Dairy Queen where she made some lifelong friendships.

She enjoyed the regular coffee group with the girls.

Our family would like to thank the staff at Tabor Home for their love and patience during Joan's stay with them as she fought her battle with Dementia.

A private family service will take place at a later date.

Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Morden  
In care of arrangements  
[wiebefuneralhomes.com](http://wiebefuneralhomes.com)



## OBITUARY



### Tiina Anne Kristine Hildebrand (nee Haikonen) 1964 - 2022

Tiina Hildebrand passed on to be with the Lord Sunday July 31, 2022.

She was born the third of three girls to Veijo and Maria Haikonen on November 26th, 1964 in Toronto, Ontario. She spent her growing-up years between Toronto and the family cottage near Norland, ON. It was at the cottage that she learned to love nature and also where she loved swimming in the river so much that her mother would often have a hard time getting her to come out. She attended Ryerson University in Toronto and graduated with a business degree. As a summer job she followed her love of nature

to work at Quetico Provincial Park. Soon after graduating she moved to Thunder Bay where she spent the next 14 years working at two different law firms. She started as a legal assistant and then took courses to become a paralegal. It was her last year in Thunder Bay where she accepted Jesus into her life and that would direct her steps the rest of her days. She then accepted an office management position at the Christian conservation organization, A Rocha, in Surrey, British Columbia and on January 1, 2004 she set out driving across the prairies to start that new job. As she was passing through Manitoba, she said a prayer to thank God that he was letting her live in BC (her dream place) and not Manitoba or Saskatchewan. She often commented later at what a sense of humour God has. In 2006 she met Dean at a conference in Winnipeg. They were married a year to the day later on September 29, 2007 and she moved to Manitoba. It was some time later she found out that her mother had been praying that she would meet a beef farmer. Many people were amazed at how well this Toronto raised city girl adapted to farm life. Tiina didn't want to get a job off the farm, so she came up with the farm name Thousand Hills Ranch and started to sell their beef direct to consumers. Tiina and Dean spent many years going to local Farmers Markets to sell and promote their grass-fed beef. Tiina would often say that was their "date time" together. She picked up and learned many new skills on the farm such as cheesemaking and everything else dairy from their own milk; soap, balm and salve making from their own beef tallow and needle felting and wet felting with the wool from their own sheep. Tiina also took up pottery and made several vessels that she used in her kitchen. She rarely served a meal that wasn't made from scratch and mostly produce from their own farm. Tiina had to wait quite a while, but she was very happy and excited when Dean finally finished building her a traditional Finnish sauna in 2018. She spent many relaxing hours soaking up the heat over the next few years and she also enjoyed sharing the sauna with family and friends. In 2019 she entered a new part of her life with a cancer diagnosis. There were many highs and lows over the next three years, but God kept her spirit strong and resilient right to the end.

Tiina is survived by her husband Dean Hildebrand; sisters Auli Sammons (Bruce) and Sirpa Haikonen (Ebbe), brother-in-law Wes Hildebrand (Carol), sister-in-law Jan Mutcherson (Jack), mother-in-law Sigrid Hildebrand, 10 nieces and nephews and their families.

She was predeceased by her parents, Veijo and Maria Haikonen, father-in-law Charles Hildebrand and brother-in-law Don Lazarow.

Graveside service was held on Sunday, August 7, 2022 at the Norwegian Cemetery in the 1-5 district.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in Tiina's memory to Boundary Trails Health Centre Foundation designated to the palliative care program or to Katie's Cottage.

Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Morden  
In care of arrangements  
[wiebefuneralhomes.com](http://wiebefuneralhomes.com)



## OBITUARY



### Lorna Laverne Kuhlmann

With sadness, we announce the death of Lorna Laverne Kuhlmann (nee Harder) at the age of 84 on July 4, 2022. Her presence will be missed by many in the Lower Mainland, Hornby Island, Southern Manitoba and beyond.

She is survived by husband Axel, son Thor (Mayna), brother Wilfred "Butch" Harder (Joyce), numerous nieces and nephews, and even more relatives and friends scattered around the world.

She was born on a farm in Lowe Farm, Manitoba. As a young adult she made a bold decision to undertake post-secondary education and become an elementary school teacher. She had a long career in the Surrey School District where she inspired many students (some of whom kept in touch with her for years after) and made lifelong friends with colleagues. She was especially close to her cousin Jacqueline, also a teacher and close confidant.

She was happiest connecting with people, baking pies and swimming in Sandpiper Bay on Hornby Island. Many will remember her as a "birthday savant" due to her remarkable ability to remember the birthday of nearly everyone she met.

Lorna had a brief battle with cancer and resulting strokes. Her final weeks were spent in the excellent care of Eagle Ridge Hospital.

Donations in lieu of flowers can be made to the Eagle Ridge Hospital Foundation (<https://erhf.ca/ways-to-donate/donate-now/>).

A memorial will be held 1:00 p.m. on September 9th, 2022 at the Como Lake United Church, 535 Marmont Street, Coquitlam, B.C.

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# Miami is hosting Pembina Valley's only flower, fruit, and vegetable show

By Becca Myskiw

The Miami Horticultural Society is hosting their annual flower, fruit, and vegetable show this week Thursday, Aug. 11.

Club president Lynn Sprott said it's the only flower show she knows of happening in the valley this year. Hence, she encourages everyone from everywhere to come out for it.

The show will go from 3-8 p.m. at the Miami hall, with the judges making their rounds that morning.

"We have many classes of cut flowers, household plants, planters, vegetables, arrangements of vegetables, classes of vegetables, fruits, flower arrangements, specific flowers, a photography section," said Sprott. "Our whole hall in Miami is filled up. It's just incredible to see it."

Anyone is allowed to enter any class of the show, with each entry being

\$0.25. There are classes for children, youth, and adults. Show books with each class can be picked up at the Miami library, Miami Variety, and Garg's Groceries.

"The more entries we get, the more the hall is filled and it's just a lovely, lovely time," said Sprott.

To enter the show, people need an exhibitor number, which they can get by calling 204-435-2457. Plants can be dropped off the day before the show (Aug. 10) from 7:30-9 p.m. or on the morning of the show (Aug. 11) from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m.

Admission to check out the show is by donation, with all funds generated going back into the century-old Miami Horticultural Society.

"Everybody loves flowers, and fruit, and vegetables and...everybody takes pride in their flowers, fruit, and vegetables," said Sprott.

At 7 p.m., Jolene Callum will give



SUPPLIED PHOTO

The Miami Flower, Fruit, and Vegetable Show is on Aug. 11. Anyone can enter plants in it and come see the show.

a 20-minute presentation on flower arranging for anyone there. Then, at 7:30 p.m., the trophy will be given out to the person with the most points in the show.

Sprott is hoping they get lots of en-

tries and a big crowd for this year's show, as it's the first one in two years. There will also be a rainbow auction with a large variety of garden-related items up for grabs.

# Miami is hosting harness racing while a new track in Winnipeg is made

By Becca Myskiw

While Manitoba harness racers wait for the new track at the Red River Exhibition to open, they're racing each weekend at the Miami track.

The Miami Agricultural Society was initially planning to host just two races this season before the new "The Loop" was set to open in Winnipeg. Delayed construction on the project means more races in Miami this summer.

Jan Moody of the Miami Agricultural Society said though they want The Loop to open, having the harness racing season be prolonged in town is nothing but good for them.

They'll be able to accommodate the races until Sept. 5, when they start preparing for hosting the Manitoba High School Rodeo.

Three riders have been stabling in

Miami this summer, with their horses in the stables and their personal belongings in their campers on the grounds.

"There's an advantage to live here and train on the track they race on," said Moody.

Those people are constantly adding to the Miami economy, supporting local grocery purchases, hay purchases, and more. Then, on race days, people from all over the province come to town, adding to its tourism and its economy.

Harness racing happens in Miami every Saturday at 2 p.m. Moody said so far this year, they've been running a dozen races each weekend, drawing anywhere from 60 to 100 racers.

The Manitoba Standardbred Harness Racing Industry Inc. received a government grant this year to help

them grow the sport. With the grant, they're able to give out a more significant sum of money to the riders on race day, which helps breeders increase the quality and quantity of their horses.

Moody said they've been working with the government to grow the sport of harness racing, and after years of COVID-19 rules and regulations, the wheels are finally turning.

"It's a great industry," she said. "It

involves a lot of families, and a lot of money goes into it. We want to continue the trade. [Harness racing has] been a part of Manitoba for quite a number of years."

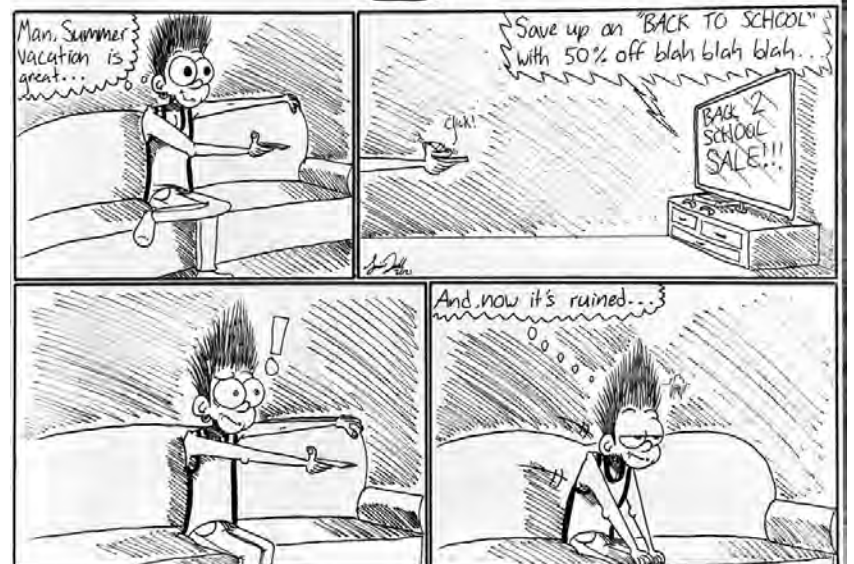
The Loop is set to open later this fall, and the association plans to extend the harness racing season. Moody said their goal is to be racing at the Red River Exhibition's fall fair to introduce more people to the sport.



Harness racing is back in Miami again this year. PHOTO BY BECCA MYSKIW/VOICE

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