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# Feats of magic

*Think of  
a playing  
card*

Magician and mind reader Sean Gregoire performed at Blue Sky Opportunities' fall fundraiser Nov. 6. For the full story, see Pg. 12.  
**PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE**

**news > sports > opinion > community > people > entertainment > events > classifieds > careers > everything you need to know**



## Pembina Valley Hospice House and Transitional Care House

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# Leaving a legacy

Morden Area Foundation gets a welcome boost for Giving Challenge Week

By Lorne Stelmach

Harold Bollenbach has left a lasting legacy for Morden with donations from his estate in support of the Morden Area Foundation.

A \$10,000 gift last year was followed up by another \$10,000 presented recently as the Giving Challenge Week (Nov. 10-16) approached for the foundation.

Bollenbach's niece Lois Dudgeon was thrilled to make the second donation to help kickstart the annual fundraising challenge.

"Uncle Harold would be very proud of this timely donation to a community he was so proud to call home. He was all about giving back to the community, as is the Morden Area Foundation," she said, going on to make an appeal for others to follow his example. "It's never too late to consider including the Morden Area Foundation in your estate planning in support of

all they do for the community we live in and knowing it will continue forever."

Bollenbach's donation was deeply appreciated by the foundation.

"I know Harold was a very strong community supporter, and his niece Lois is also a strong community supporter," said board vice-chair Sue Nelson.

And the bonus with donations made in conjunction with the Giving Challenge is that there will be \$2,000 in matching gifts coming in as well from the Winnipeg Foundation and from the Province of Manitoba.

"Lois thought it would be great if it could be used to get the matching money for our Giving Challenge to help encourage people to give for that week," said Nelson.

She noted it is great that these gifts have a ripple effect with the matching dollars. The Bollenbach donation comes following a \$10,000 contribu-



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

From left: Lois Dudgeon (niece of Harold Bollenbach) with Morden Area Foundation reps Sue Nelson and Lenore Laverty and the \$10,000 her uncle left to the community.

tion from Decor Cabinets, so the foundation is already a good way towards meeting their target for the week.

"We're hoping for \$50,000," Nelson said. "This is an incredible way to leave a great legacy. It also highlights that for people who are community-minded, they can give donations and gifts to the Morden Area Founda-

tion in their will and it will continue their legacy of giving and being community-minded.

"We constantly need to get the word out there about who we are and what we do and how we are different," she concluded. "The donations continue forever to give back to the community."

# Tree Lighting Celebration

November 14, 2025  
Morden Civic Centre

Join us from  
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- Visit from Santa
- Bonfires
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- Tree Lighting & Fireworks (6:30pm)

Morden Christmas Cheer will be accepting donations of toys, books, canned goods, and financial gifts!

Morden

CO-OP MORDEN MAVERICK GIANT TIGER

NOV 19, 2025 | 6:00 PM

# Christmas Tree Lighting

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SANTA  
CHRISTMAS CAROLS  
LIGHTS

RHINELAND Municipality



# Koats for Kids helps 165 families prepare for winter

By Lorne Stelmach

There are 165 local families now set for winter thanks to the Koats for Kids initiative of the United Way Pembina Valley.

A variety of winter clothing that was collected this fall at the Morden and Winkler fire halls as well as Central Station Community Centre in Winkler and 500 Stephen Community Centre in Morden were distributed over two days last week at the community centres.

Organizer Cathy Sandercock noted the United Way has seen the demand continue to grow in recent years, but it's great to see that the communities are really supporting the initiative.

"Between the two cities, we collected 166 adult jackets, over 480 for chil-

dren," she noted. "There were about 63 pairs of boots collected and around 270 hats, 75 scarves, 270 pairs of mitts or gloves, and 45 pairs of socks that were well accepted."

"And that didn't even include the off-season jackets that people also donated, so we had enough of those that a lot of families were able to pick something to prepare their kids for spring even."

Sandercock noted it was great to see that the Youth in Philanthropy group at Morden Collegiate also collected some clothing for the campaign.

"In Morden, I definitely think our donations were up," she shared. "I think Winkler was about the same."

Sandercock said the program also got plenty of help from volunteers.

Continued on page 5



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Koats for Kids volunteers with some of the hundreds of winter jackets the United Way program distributed to 165 families last week.

2025 edition

## Russell Take-a-year-off Lottery

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# getinformed

## Winkler Archives finds a new home at art gallery

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Heritage Archives cut the ribbon on its new home in the Winkler Arts and Culture Centre last week.

The Winkler Heritage Society's treasure trove of historical documents relocated to a room in the rear of the Park St. gallery this fall.

The documents—thousands of items charting the community's history going back over a century—had been in storage since the archives moved out of its longtime home in Winkler Centennial Library in 2023.

Earlier this year, it was announced the society would be moving both the archives and, eventually, the Winkler Heritage Museum (currently located in the Southland Mall) into undeveloped space at the arts centre.

Fundraising for that project is ongoing, but reopening the archives is a big first step in transforming the space into the community's historical hub, says archivist Ed Falk.

"This archive has temperature, humidity, and light controls, which are needed for long-time material preservation," he shared. "At present, the space is tight, but the development of the museum space next door ... will enable us to move the administrative part into that space so that the archive itself will be basically a storage place."

They envision the entire complex as being the go-to place for people to come to learn about Winkler's history and explore the wealth of artifacts the society has in its possession.

Joining Falk in the archivist role is John Epp, who is putting his computer skills to use in a project that will see many of the archival documents digitized so people can more easily access them while researching family and community history.

"People will eventually be able to research materials online rather than actually having to visit our space, although the space and the materials will still be available," Falk said.



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

From left: Archivist Ed Falk, Councillor Marvin Plett, Morden-Winkler MLA Carrie Hiebert, and the Winkler Heritage Society's Dora Hildebrand cut the ribbon on the new Winkler Archives, now located in the art gallery on Park St.

"Once the museum gets finished, the services will be much more integrated," noted Epp. "I'm hoping that they'll set up a computer station in the museum that they can search our records from there."

It's a lot of work, but very much a labour of love for volunteers like Falk and Epp.

"I feel that it's important that we understand those people that came here, no matter what their background was," Epp said. "How they were able to develop their educational system and change from an agricultural group into a commercial business community that is flourishing."

The pair welcome other history buffs willing to get involved.

"We can always use more volunteers," Epp said, noting that includes not just the archives but the heritage society as a whole.

And if you've never explored the archives before, Falk hopes you'll stop by.

"We want them to know, one, that we're accessible, that we have information for them, that we're willing to work with them to find the information that they want or that they would like to have," he said of all the amateur genealogists out there.

The Winkler Archives is open Wednesday afternoons or by appointment by calling 204-325-8929.



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Visitors explore some of the thousands of historical documents the Winkler Archives has in its new space at the Winkler Arts and Culture Centre.

### MEN'S SHEDS Manitoba

**Are you a man, possibly retired, seeking regular connection, support, and purpose with others? A Men's Shed group, meeting weekly or twice weekly, could be the answer.**

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- Community projects
- Diamond willow and wood carving
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Robert A Steen Men's Shed - 980 Palmerston  
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Riverview Men's Shed - 90 Ashland Ave  
Woodhaven Men's Shed - 401 Westwood Drive  
Lord Roberts Men's Shed - 725 Kylemore Ave  
Garden City Men's Shed - Seven Oaks Arena 2nd fl.

#### Men's Sheds throughout Manitoba:

EastMan Men's Shed - Beausejour  
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# "Our work isn't nearly complete"

By Ashleigh Viveiros

It was a year of major accomplishments for Central Community Homes (CCH), but their work is far from done, shared agency leaders at their annual meeting last week.

The non-profit organization oversees all of Winkler's social housing complexes, 118 units in all, including the 28-unit apartment building known as Central Commons that opened its doors downtown this fall.

"This past year has felt like a consolidation of some of our key objectives being realized," observed CCH board chair James Friesen in his report. "The main themes have been adding capacity through new construction, ongoing renovations of existing housing stock, and investments in existing partnerships and the building of new relationships."

"Much of this was realized through the construction of Central Commons apartment community, completed on budget and slightly ahead of schedule," he said. "This completed an almost five-year process of planning, fundraising, and negotiations."

Though it was the culmination of years of work, Central Commons only makes a small dent in the wait list for housing.

"Our work isn't nearly complete," stressed Brad Adrian, project manager with Central Station Community Centre, which manages CCH's properties. "Central Community Homes still has over 85 applications on our waiting list for affordable housing. About half of those people are single people requiring housing, which there isn't a whole lot available for single-dwelling units."

Friesen said they're exploring pos-

sibilities for new build projects but have nothing firm to announce just yet.

"We are acutely aware that the need for housing is increasing," he said. "With the completion of Central Commons, we are surveying options in terms of possible new projects."

They'll need funding to make the next big housing project happen, and land as well. In the meantime, they're looking at whether some of their existing properties could be better utilized.

"There are some of our lots that are really under-housed, so we're looking at what's possible to do with infill building," Friesen said. "So maybe a little higher density, which is more cost efficient and more affordable all around. We're looking at that carefully right now."

The agency remains hard at work as well on upgrades and repairs to its existing units, formerly owned and operated by Manitoba Housing. Many of them hadn't received significant renovations in decades.

"We only have three houses left, 12 apartment units, and 23 duplexes left to renovate," Adrian said. "A lot of them we've gutted down to the studs. They were in really bad shape."

"A big part of it is we're trying to give tenants the opportunity to be proud of where they live," he added.

Another goal of these renovations is to ensure the units better blend into the surrounding community, reducing the stigma of social housing.

"We really appreciate all the trades that have helped us with this," Adrian said, noting as well the work of Triple E Developments and their Christmas House campaign which has helped CCH completely overhaul seven of



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Central Community Homes board chair James Friesen shared the organization's hopes for future growth at its annual meeting last week.

their homes, with an eighth planned for this Christmas. In addition to providing much-needed renovations, the project also ensures the family in the home has food in the fridge and presents under the tree for the holidays.

Lori Penner, community housing coordinator, shared the story of this year's Christmas House family, highlighting the impact access to stable housing and the other supports provided by Central Station have had on them.

"The family's journey has not been easy," she said. "Childhood trauma was a reality for both parents."

But they've worked to overcome that and the other traumas in their past, including addiction, to provide a healthy home for their kids.

"Together, they are breaking generational cycles, demonstrating commitment, and modelling healthy relationships for their children," Penner said. "Over the past year, there have been no police interventions and no CFS calls involving this family. While life still brings challenges, their progress is a powerful example of what can happen when individuals accept support, take responsibility, and work toward healing."

Those personal stories illustrate the importance of the work of CCH and Central Station, Friesen observed.

"Our Central Community Homes

board can get caught up in building infrastructure and funding and all that stuff, but when Lori attends and shares those stories ... that always reminds us of why we're doing this."

"The Housing First model says it's a human right to be properly sheltered," Friesen said, explaining once that need is taken care of then you can focus on helping people and families overcome the other obstacles in their lives.

It truly takes the entire community to make this approach to social housing work, he stressed.

"We're truly a community-based organization—we're part of the community, and the community is part of us," Friesen said.

"The housing situation here in Winkler isn't much different than it is anywhere across Canada," he pointed out. "The difference is the way this community has been able to build relationships that provide everything from the capital asset side to the tenant support piece to employers having jobs—all of it."

## > KOATS FOR KIDS, FROM PG. 3

"We had a lot of volunteers come forward, which was really appreciated, at 500 Stephen and at Central Station as well as Regional Connections staff helping us out," she said. "For some of the new volunteers, maybe they're a little shaken to see what the level of need is in the community."

"It's a really great program, and I'm happy to see that it's growing here year after year," she said in reflecting on the value of the initiative. "For the newcomers, a lot of them just aren't prepared for winter, and we're happy we have enough volunteers to take them around and help them prepare, so that part's good. It's a very rewarding experience."

The **Voice**  
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**OUR SISTER PUBLICATIONS**

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getheard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

# In my estimation

I am constantly overestimating my abilities. This is something I have done my entire life. I'm sure others can relate to this, but we tend, as a group, not to talk about how we came to realize this about ourselves.

I'd like to think this character attribute rises from extreme self-confidence, but this would be laughably wrong.

Most recently this showed up in the form of a bike ride. My wife and I decided to take advantage of the sunny day this past weekend and try out the new active transportation path between Morden and Winkler.

We've been very excited for it to open considering my wife bikes between Morden and Winkler regularly for work.

Wife: "Let's take it easy. We don't have to go the entire distance. We can stop whenever we want and head back."

Me: "I'm sure we'll be fine. Let's go to the hospital and assess at that point."

Wife: "Well, okay. But it is a bit windy today so just know we can turn around anytime."

(ASIDE: The translation of "a bit windy" is 90 km per hour wind gusts out of the west. This qualifies as a medium strength tropical storm.)



By Peter Cantelon

Me: "Uh huh."  
So off we tore at break-neck speeds. I believe I may have hit 321 km per hour and made it to Winkler in 2.4 seconds. Time may have gone backwards a little bit as well.

As we pulled into Starbucks and locked our bikes up, we noted with some trepidation the 20-meter tall, robust, metal Wendy's sign casually bending in the wind.

"Maybe the wind will stop or change direction while we're taking a break," I said.

It did not.  
At this point as we were preparing to head home the wind felt perhaps slightly stronger than before. Still, I was confident. Heck, it's only air. How hard could it be for a genuinely solid human being like me to move through it?

Apparently very hard.  
It felt like it took 7.4 hours for me to bike the distance between Starbucks and Burger King, at which point my wife graciously offered a suggestion. She would continue with her e-bike and, when at home, pick up the truck and come get me.

I, completely emptied of all sense of ability, simply gasped a "Yeah, that

would be great, thank you..." and struggled over to a picnic table to collapse in shame.

I do this all the time. I overestimate my abilities and learn the hard way.  
Like the time I decided at 40 to start running 10 km a day because I did it once when I was 14 so I could obviously still do it. I think I made it three blocks, gave up, and slunk home.

Typically this happens with physical feats like the absolute confidence I would crush the 20-meter-tall climbing wall on the cruise ship and maybe get one third of the way.

I still enjoy cliff jumping into water while on vacation, but thankfully this requires the skill of being able to fall and remain straight.

Hitting the slopes at La Riviere at 50 years old and managing to hit 73 km per hour is another example. Exhilarating? Yes. Stupid? Also, yes.

The truth is it can be difficult to realize you have physical limitations. Particularly on things you used to be able to do quite well. I'm not fond of it. I'm sure nobody is.

Thankfully I have a hero of a wife with an e-bike willing to rescue me when I fail to accept my limitations (despite her gentle warnings).

## Letter policy

The *Voice* welcomes letters from readers on local matters.

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.

Send your letters to us by e-mail at [news@winklermordenvoice.ca](mailto:news@winklermordenvoice.ca).

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# Appelt's Diamonds named retailer of the year

By Lorne Stelmach

A third-generation owned and operated business has received special national recognition from its industry.

Appelt's Diamonds was recently named Multi-Store Retailer of the Year at the Canadian Jewellers Association awards in Toronto.

Appelt's now has four Manitoba locations, including three in Winnipeg and the original in Morden. Owner and CEO Jeff Appelt said it is a testament to the fact they have built their reputation on craftsmanship, trust, and community.

"This award is such an incredible honour," said Appelt, who took the reins of the business from his father Bert. "Our family has always believed that jewellery is about more than sparkle, it's about trust, care and connection. We're grateful to our customers who have supported us for generations, and to our amazing team who bring that same passion to their work every day."

Appelt called the honour humbling, and noted it made him think about his grandfather Benjamin, who started it all in 1938.

"I think he would be so proud," he said. "What we've become now since he started as a watchmaker ... and my dad has been very proud of us all

too."

The award announcement cited Appelt's Diamonds for having grown into one of Manitoba's most trusted names in jewellery and how the company is known for its dedication to craftsmanship, customer care, and community involvement as well.

Each location features skilled goldsmiths on site and employs one of the only horologists in Manitoba, allowing customers to receive expert watch and jewellery repairs in-store rather than having them shipped away.

Known for carrying some of the top bridal and fashion lines in the industry, Appelt's Diamonds also stands behind every diamond purchase with its diamond warranty, recognized as one of the most comprehensive jewellery warranties in Canada.

Beyond the showroom, Appelt's Diamonds has a long history of giving back to the community, supporting local organizations including Manitoba Possible, Siloam Mission, CancerCare Manitoba (through their Gemstone Program for Kids), Special Olympics, and the Rainbow Resource Centre.

Appelt credited their staff with the company's ongoing success.

"There's no way I could do everything myself. So it's not just me. It's everyone collectively that this award is shared with," he said, recalling



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Three generations of Appelt's head up Appelt's Diamonds—from left, Bert, Josh, Jeff, and Brooke—which was just named the Multi-Store Retailer of the Year by the Canadian Jewellers Association.

e-mailing the news to his staff and sharing one response that said, "Congratulations Jeff. We did it' rather than in the singular sense.

"That was one of my oldest staff members, and that was kind of the theme, how everyone did it together," he said. "That showed how inclusive we are ... we are still very much a family company. That's how we try to treat everyone. We're like family here. It was a great feeling."

"The culture is so important to us. Our culture and what we do with the

organization is really important," he added. "We do an Appelt's summit every year ... we play games. We do a little bit of training, but we make it fun, and they all look forward to it.

"I think that's one of the things that has made us different," Appelt concluded. "We want people to love coming to work, to love their job, to love the people that you're working with because you're spending most of your day with those people. It feels so good when I see people coming to work early just because they love it."

# Men's Sheds MB talks 'The Shed Effect'

By Ashleigh Viveiros

In honour of International Men's Day Nov. 19, Men's Sheds Manitoba is working to get the word out about the profound impact their groups can have in reducing social isolation, improving mental health, and strengthening community.

A Men's Shed is a group of men who get together on a regular basis to connect, be it through shared activities (woodworking, gardening, or card games, say), educational guest speakers, or simply a cup of coffee.

There are 14 Sheds currently operating across the province, half in Winnipeg and half in rural Manitoba communities such as Beausejour, Selkirk, and Minnedosa.

They're hoping to grow that number significantly across the province, says Vic Thiessen, Men's Sheds Manitoba secretary.

"I've been with it since 2019, and I've just found it personally to be so beneficial," he shares. "It's such a good way for men to connect and support one another."

Provincial organizers are aiming to raise more awareness about what they're calling The Shed Effect.

"It's about making people aware of how Men's Sheds are impacting society, how it's impacting individual men's lives," explains Thiessen. "They're places where you can find community, where you can find men of like mind and do things together."

Camaraderie is a big part of Men's

Sheds, but so too is getting involved in the community at large.

"One of the big things that we like to do is get involved in giving back to the community. Meaningful projects either put forth by a community centre or another organization that would benefit the community," Thiessen says, explaining each Shed decides for itself how its members will pour back into the place they call home.

There are Men's Sheds across Canada, and on Nov. 19 they'll be coming together to host a national webinar that is open to all.

The day will feature guest speaker presentations on the importance of volunteerism and new research on the social value of Men's Sheds.

There will also be panel discussions on the topic and the debut of a video highlighting volunteer projects from Sheds across the country.

You can register to take part in the webinar at [mensshedsmanitoba.ca/the-shed-effect-2025/](https://mensshedsmanitoba.ca/the-shed-effect-2025/).

Next week will also see open houses at a few of the Manitoba Sheds, including the Woodhaven Shed Nov. 18 and the Park City Shed the following week.

If you'd like to learn more, head to [mensshedsmanitoba.ca](https://mensshedsmanitoba.ca) or connect with Thiessen via email to [mensshedmanitoba@gmail.com](mailto:mensshedmanitoba@gmail.com) or by calling 204-396-2123.

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# getinformed

## Virtual tour of Confederation Park donated to Morden Legion

By Lorne Stelmach

A local company put its new technology to good use recently and has gifted its creation to the Morden Legion.

Nathan Knight and Steve Hiebert, who work for Simmons Multimedia, have been working with a new 360-degree camera. With it, they have produced a virtual tour of Morden's Confederation Park.

The downtown green space features a number of plaques highlighting stories of some of the area's war veterans along a couple other displays and the community cenotaph.

"The camera was purchased for a particular project, but we thought what else could we do with this camera?" said Knight, noting the inspiration soon came with their office being right across from the park. "I wondered if we could offer a tour of Confederation Park where people could walk through the park and they could learn about some of the history of the wars and local people who fought in the wars.

"Once we had it, we thought what are we going to do with it, and it made sense that the Legion would be interested."

"It's a great gift for the Legion," said Larry Davidson, who serves as the Legion's honours and awards chairperson. "I think it means a lot to us in the sense that even students can use this now as a stepping stone to learn-



**ABOVE PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE**  
Videographers Nathan Knight (second from left) and Steve Hiebert (third from left) with Legion members (from left) Bob Frost, Tammy Petkau, and Larry Davidson at the viewing of their 360-degree tour of Confederation Park (below).



ing more.

"It's a great learning tool," he added. "Our population now doesn't understand. We've never had to do this. We have never fought in a war like this."

The virtual tour will be available online at [mordenlegion11.ca](http://mordenlegion11.ca), and it was suggested it could possibly even be incorporated into the community Remembrance Day service program next year.

Morden has something special with Confederation Park and all of its displays, so Knight and Hiebert were keen to feature it.

"The project became a little bigger than what we expected," noted Hiebert. "It was a lot of work, but it was worth it. It was great."

"It's a great space," said Knight. "I think everybody in Morden has been in Confederation Park, but I would venture to say a majority of people haven't read the plaques ... so this gives people a way to do that from the comfort of their homes too."

"You might get a taste of it online with the virtual tour, but then you might want to go get a look at it first hand and get the real experience," noted Hiebert, who added it was interesting for him personally "to go through the park and study every plaque ... it was a lot of fun to do."

"It does showcase our abilities now as well," said Knight. "There was also that thought behind it, but we thought the Legion could make use of it."

## Measles exposure at Emerado Centennial, Outpost

By Voice staff

A restaurant and a middle school are the latest measles exposure sites in the area, health officials have announced.

Public health officials are asking anyone who was at Emerado Centennial School (675 Prairie View Dr.) in Winkler on Wednesday, Oct. 29 from 8:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. to monitor for symptoms until Nov. 20.

They're also asking anyone who was at the Outpost Grill near the PTH 3 and PTH 14 junction on Oct. 25 and Oct. 26 from 3:30 to 9 p.m. to monitor for symptoms until Nov. 16 and Nov. 17, respectively.

Public health is also asking anyone

who were at these location during the specified times to check their immunization records and ensure they are up to date with measles vaccine (MMR or MMRV).

Symptoms of measles generally appear seven to 21 days after exposure. Initial symptoms may include fever, runny nose, drowsiness, irritability, and red eyes. Small white spots may also develop on the inside of the mouth or throat. Several days after the initial symptoms, a red blotchy rash appears on the face and progresses down the body.

Measles can lead to complications including ear infections, diarrhea,

pneumonia (lung infection) and encephalitis (brain inflammation).

If symptoms develop, individuals who may have been exposed are advised to isolate at home and contact their health-care provider and advise them of the potential exposure to measles. Anyone else in the household who is unimmunized should limit exposure to others until the symptomatic person has received advice from their health-care provider.

It is best to call ahead so health-care staff can take steps to reduce the exposure of other people to the virus, as measles is a highly infectious communicable disease that is spread through

droplets in the air formed when coughing or sneezing. An infected person can spread the virus from four days before the rash appears until four days after. The disease tends to be more severe in infants and young children and can be life-threatening.

Immunization is the only means of protecting people from contracting measles, health officials stress.

Further information on measles, exposures and immunization is available at [www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/diseases/measles.html](http://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/diseases/measles.html) or by calling Health Links-Info Santé toll-free at 1-888-315-9257.



# Unique metal artwork on display in Stanley Park

By Lorne Stelmach

A former RM of Stanley councillor who now does artistic metal sculptural work recently gifted a piece to the municipality.

Les Titchkosky created the piece using a variety of parts and pieces from agricultural equipment, so it seems appropriate for it to be on display now at Stanley Park.

"We really appreciate it, and it's very suitable I feel that a former councillor is giving something back to Stanley,

and it's nice that we can put it up in Stanley Park and show it off," said Reeve Ike Friesen. "It's a great artwork, and I feel it's kind of appropriate that it's made from agricultural parts, and Stanley Park is out in farm country."

"It's an agricultural community, and I've got an ag. background," said Titchkosky of the piece.

"I've got stuff laying around, and I can turn it into something," he noted. "I never go out and buy new steel, so if I have something I think will fit in

and work well, I work with it."

He also thought Stanley Park is a good location for it.

"I know it's a

Les Titchkosky created this piece of art from a variety of parts and pieces of agricultural equipment. It's now on display in Stanley Park.

SUPPLIED PHOTO



place where people like to get together, and this will be something different, something to talk about and maybe get a smile," he suggested.

"It just feels good when it's something you've done yourself," Titchkosky said. "It's a little way to give back to Stanley."

Friesen noted council each year hopes to be able to keep further improving and enhancing the park.

"Stanley Park has been kind of a

gem in the municipality for many years. I think back to my childhood, and we went there often and we had our school picnics there," he said.

"We're always planting new trees, and we're trying to plant two for every one that has to be taken down," Friesen added, noting other recent improvements have included improved signage, another parking area, and a new bridge. "The park does get very well used."

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# Member's Show on now at Winkler Arts & Culture



By Ashleigh Viveiros

Longtime and new members alike gathered at Winkler Arts and Culture (WAC) last week to celebrate the launch of the 2025 Member's Show.

It's the Park St. gallery's opportunity to shine a spotlight on the talent of the members who have helped WAC build up a real community of artists in Winkler, said executive director Jared Hildebrand.

"The arts in Winkler hasn't always been a very public thing," he observed. The gallery has been open for less than a decade. "But we know we have a lot of artists here and they love to display their work in their homes, which is unfortunate for those that really appreciate it.

"So this show is really about, number one, connecting artists with other like-minded people, other creatives—there's a lot of people here tonight talking about what they like about each other's work and sharing feedback," Hildebrand said. "The other part is about inspiring others. Getting artists to come out, show their work ... we hope it's like a snowball effect, encouraging others to do the same."

**PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE**

Katie Bueckert with some of the pieces she has on display in Winkler Arts and Culture's Member's Show, on through to the end of the year. It's her first time being part of an exhibition like this.

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The annual Member's Show is especially good for those artists who aren't quite ready to shoulder an entire gallery exhibition on their own.

"It's an easier, accessible show for those that maybe don't necessarily want the attention of a solo or even a partnered show," Hildebrand said, noting most participating artists have two or three pieces up on the gallery's walls.

One of the newbies to public art exhibition in the show is Katie Bueckert. Her entries include a trio of paintings and a mixed media piece that turned an old CRT television set into a mini greenhouse.

"I've been a member here for close to six years, but this is my first show," she shared. "I've been a little too nervous to be in a show before."

Bueckert recently started work at the gallery as a program assistant, so she was inspired to finally take the next step and share her art.

"I've talked to so many artists and they've told me their beginnings, and so I figured it's about time that I start mine," she said, agreeing that it's much less overwhelming to be a small part of a larger show. "If I had to fill the gallery, I would be terrified. But this—just being able to put a few pieces in and say, okay, this is me, let's see how it goes."

She encourages other artists to take the plunge.

"If you're able to get into a member's show, just do it. Just put your foot out there. You don't know what's going to happen, and that's the beauty of it."

Another newer face is that of Jeff Zacharias, who submitted several large wildlife paintings. He joined the gallery as a member about a year ago, inspired by a desire to "trade information with other artists and see what other people are doing."

Zacharias shared that he's always dabbled in art, but began painting in earnest about a decade ago.

"It keeps me sane," he said with a chuckle. "It's very relaxing and I can lose track of time when I'm painting."

He had a few pieces in the centre's upstairs gallery last spring, but otherwise hasn't shown much of his work publicly before.

"This is fairly new to me," he said, noting he doesn't have enough show-ready pieces for an exhibition of his own, so he appreciates the opportunity to dip his toe in the water in this way.

He hopes his love of nature comes through in his work.

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## > MEMBER'S SHOW, FROM PG. 10

"Ever since I was a kid, I was always attracted to nature, to wildlife," he said. "So maybe that's what God put in me to use my gifts."

Down the wall from Zacharias' art are a few pieces from fellow painter Sylke van Niekerk.

Showing her work is nothing new for van Niekerk, who has had exhibitions across southern Manitoba in the past and has one coming up in Winkler next spring, but the Member's Show is still something she was excited to be a part of.

"I've chosen these pieces because they are kind of timeless to me, and there's not a theme [for this show]" she shared of the abstract acrylic paintings *Cosmic Dance* and *Connecting Different Worlds*.

van Niekerk worked in the creative world as a graphic designer for many years before stretching her wings as an artist specializing in layered acryl-



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Artists Sylke van Niekerk (left) and Jeff Zacharias (right) with their work, on display in Winkler gallery's Member's Show.

ic paintings.

Showing her art is an important part of the process, she observed.

"For me, every time I create something, some part of my soul goes into it. In a way, it's a way of becoming who you are, to say, 'This is who I

am,'" she said. "And you want to show that to the world."

While the title of her paintings give viewers a hint of what was on her mind as she created them, she hopes people will bring their own meaning to her pieces.

"In a way, you can imagine what you want to imagine, or go deeper into it, as you like."

The Member's Show will remain up at the gallery until January.

# Access CU golf tourney to support The Dream Factory

By Voice staff

Access Credit Union's annual charity golf tournaments will benefit The Dream Factory in 2026 and 2027, the financial institution announced last week.

The 2026 fundraisers will be held on Sept. 9 at the both the Minnewasta Golf & Country Club in Morden and the Bridges Golf Course in Starbuck.

"We're incredibly proud to celebrate the twelfth year of the Access Charity Golf Tournament—a tradition that reflects the heart of our organization and the generosity of our sponsors and community," said Access CU CEO and president Myrna Wiebe. "Since 2013, this event has raised \$887,563 for local charities, helping to

make a meaningful difference across Manitoba. It's more than a day on the course—it's a powerful reminder of what we can accomplish when we come together for a cause."

The Dream Factory is a Manitoba-based children's charity that is dedicated to creating unforgettable experiences for kids battling life-threatening illnesses and supporting families throughout their medical journeys. All money raised for the organization stays in the province to support local families.

To date, The Dream Factory has granted more than 900 dreams, and nearly half of the kids came from rural Manitoba.

"We're absolutely thrilled to be supported by Access Credit Union's

Charity Golf Tournament in 2026 and 2027," said Andrew Kussy, executive director of The Dream Factory. "This partnership will make a lasting impact for the Dream Kids and families we support, and we're deeply proud to be building on a relationship that's

rooted in shared values and a commitment to community."

All sponsorship opportunities and golfer registrations for the 2026 event will be filled on a first-come, first-serve basis. Head to [accesscu.ca/charitygolf](https://accesscu.ca/charitygolf) to learn more.



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# getinformed

## Blue Sky Opportunities hosts fall dinner

By Lorne Stelmach

A fun evening out was also supporting a worthy cause as Blue Sky Opportunities held its annual fall fundraiser last Thursday.

The non-profit organization that is committed to the integration and independence of adults with intellectual disabilities filled the hall at the Rhineland Pioneer Centre in Altona for an evening that included entertainment by magician and mind reader Sean Gregoire.

Executive director Ryan Potter noted Blue Sky this year was aiming to raise \$20,000.

"It really depends on what we are fundraising for," he said. "I do feel \$20,000 will be an easy target for us."

Their plan this year is to raise funds for things like new computers.

"It's for technology to help support our clients better," Potter said, noting he's so thankful for the ongoing support of the community. "It's a sold-out event, so that's great to see. It is a major thing for us. We do it once a year, and every year we are sold out. There's lots of support from the community."

The funding goes a long way to support the organization, and he added it is always nice to see everyone come together.

"We do a bit of a slide show and presentation to show where the company is at," Potter noted. "It's a quick update on what's happening with us."

"I thank the public for always giving us the support that we need."

Blue Sky Opportunities supports adults with intellectual disabilities by maximizing employment and residential opportunities in the community. The support it offers an individual is unique to that person's abilities and needs.

Through its commercial division, the organization provides curbside recycling pick-up service for Altona and Rosenfeld as well as regular pickups at recycling depots in some surrounding communities. It also provides weekly cardboard pick-up service from local businesses.

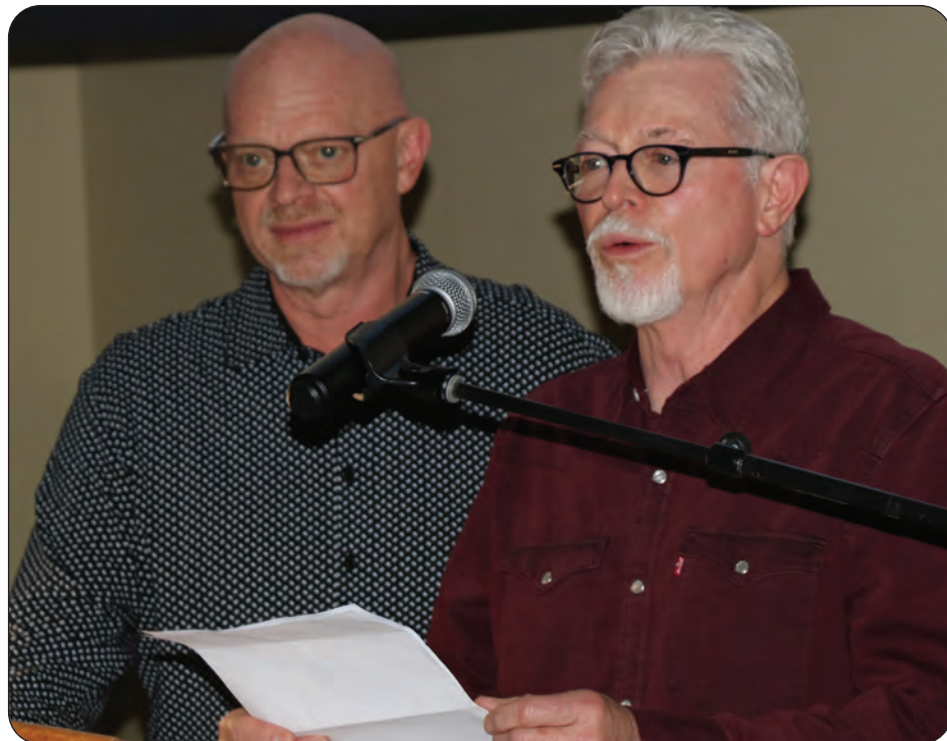
The agency also operates eight residential homes, with 23 individuals who need the 24-hour support

Each home is tailored to the client needs and serves as a safe space where each household member is encouraged to play an active role to help generate a sense of self worth and belonging.

Ron and Dave Epp briefly touched on how Blue Sky's varied programming has made a difference for their brother Mark, who lives in one of the agency's residences.

"These were huge benefits to our parents, and it gave Mark some independence ... Blue Sky Opportunities has been a big part of Mark's life. He's lived in a variety of residences ... developed lifelong friendships."

"I just want to say thank you to the staff for all the opportunities afforded Mark to make his life better."



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Above: At Blue Sky Opportunities' annual fundraising dinner, Ron and Dave Epp shared how the agency benefits their brother Mark, who lives in one of their residences. Right: Executive director Ryan Potter shared how they plan to use this year's funds to upgrade their computer equipment. Below: Magician and mind reader Sean Gregoire provided the evening's entertainment.



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# arts&culture



PHOTOS BY HOLLY THORN-WIEBE/VOICE

Terry Klippenstein (above) and daughter Olivia (left) in front of a few of their pieces now on display at The Gardens on Tenth in Altona.

## New exhibit blends whimsy and nostalgia

By Holly Thorne-Wiebe

An artistic collaboration between father and daughter has transformed the gallery space at The Gardens on Tenth in Altona into a celebration of colour, creativity, and connection.

The joint exhibit by Terry and Olivia Klippenstein, on display until the end of December, showcases two distinct yet complementary artistic visions—his grounded in texture and nostalgia, hers in imagination and play.

For Terry, a photographer with a love of the overlooked and time-worn, inspiration often comes from the everyday. His close up shots of fruits and vegetables—including a tomato stem that first caught his eye—have evolved into a series of abstract images that challenge the viewer to look twice.

"You may not know exactly what it is when you first look at it," he said. "I like that bit of mystery. Once people take a closer look and realize it's a melon or a tomato, they often say 'I've seen that!' It helps them appreciate the colours and textures they might otherwise miss."

His other works, including studies of weathered farm machinery from the Pembina Thresherman's Museum, tap into his appreciation for craftsmanship and the beauty of age.

"Those implements stood out in the weather for decades," Terry said. "That's what gives them their patina. I'm drawn to the contrast of metal and wood, the way time changes both."

Olivia's paintings, by contrast, invite viewers into miniature worlds of whimsy. Her piece Pleasantville, for example, imagines a community of colourful, character-filled homes, but without people.

"I like to focus on the houses themselves," she explained. "It's about creating a sense of community and warmth. I'd like to live there, to jump right in."

Her ink and watercolour works often begin with spontaneity.

"I start with the colour first," she said. "Watercolour doesn't allow much control, and I'm a perfectionist. So it helps me let go, to be playful. I just follow what the paint does on the page."

The resulting pieces are dreamlike

and open to interpretation, each one inviting the viewer to imagine their own story.

"Sometimes people see something completely different than I do," Olivia said with a smile. "That's part of the fun."

Though their styles differ—Terry is bold and tactile, Olivia is delicate and whimsical—the contrast is what makes the exhibit work.

"We thought the difference would keep people's interest as they walk down the hall," Terry said. "You might see one of Olivia's miniature worlds and then turn to find an exploding melon. We like how they played off each other."

The two share a deep creative bond that has developed over years of artistic exploration together.

"We'll go to the Thresherman's Museum ... he'll wander around taking photos, and I'll sit and sketch," Olivia said. "It's deliberate creative time that we both value."

Their collaboration extends beyond shared inspiration. The pair hopes to eventually merge their mediums into a single piece, Terry's photography printed on watercolour paper with Olivia sketching or painting directly overtop of it.

"We'd have to find the right materials," Terry said. "But it's something we'd love to try."

The exhibit also carries a personal dedication. Olivia's grandfather, who lived at The Gardens for a decade before his passing in July, was an avid photographer and enthusiastic supporter of their work.

"He loved taking pictures," she said. "The piece I'm most proud of was the last one I got to show him. His encouragement and joy really inspire me."

Terry added that his late father shared his own fascination with tomatoes, a fitting connection given his photographic series.

"He even had an Instagram account," he said, laughing. "His nickname was Tomato Man. He loved growing them, eating them, everything about them. One of my tomato photos feels like a little tribute to him."

For both artists, the exhibit is about connection, between generations, between mediums, and between artist and audience.

"I hope people feel a sense of nostalgia," Terry said. "Whether it's the old machinery or the produce, they might recognize something from their own lives."

Olivia hopes visitors will experience "a little escapism. It's about stepping outside your day and imagining another world for a moment."

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



# Quilting for a good cause

By Lorne Stelmach

A group of volunteers are gathering twice a month to apply their creative talents to support a worthy cause.

They come together on the first and third Monday mornings at the Morden Mennonite Church to work on making blankets to be donated to the Mennonite Central Committee with the aim of providing some comfort to people in need across the globe.

"It is all about comfort. How can

you respond to war? This is one way where I feel like we can say, 'Hey, we're thinking about you,'" said Yvonne Stoesz, who is part of the group that calls themselves 'Comfort and Joy.'

The Morden Mennonite Church has been involved in making comforters for some time, and Stoesz said there was a home church group that was making blankets from home but then started organizing these formal gatherings about three years ago.

"We joined forces, and they have the space, and it's been working really great," she said, noting MCC sends comforters to a wide variety of countries around the world.

"The response is wherever the need is," she said, noting their creations are brought to the MCC warehouse in Plum Coulee.

They aim to make blankets of a certain size—60 by 80 inches—and it is important they be lightweight.

She has a core group of volunteers, but they would



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

A group of volunteers gets together twice a month to make blankets for people in need around the world. They welcome more people—of any skill level—to join them.

love to add more to the group.

"I have about 20 on the volunteer e-mail list," she said. "We just got another two people, so that's great. Anyone is welcome. No skills are necessary.

"It's a way to maybe do something worthwhile with a friend, or maybe there's a newcomer," she added. "We have had some newcomers here, which is awesome, and some of them may have even received blankets ... so it could be a way to give back. There's stories of people who have their comforter from years ago.

"And it's a creative process for people," Stoesz noted.

The group gathers together on the first and third Monday mornings from October to April, and Stoesz again stressed they are open to absolutely anyone getting involved even if they have no experience.

"We also welcome fabric. If you have good quality material like cotton fabric. We take donations of that," she said.

Anyone who wants more information or would like to get involved can contact Stoesz at 204-823-0071 or e-mail to [ystoesz@xplornet.com](mailto:ystoesz@xplornet.com).



## National Addictions Awareness Week (NAAW) is November 16–22, 2025.

NAAW highlights solutions that help address the harms related to the use of alcohol and other drugs.

### ~ Anchoring Hope ~

Every year, Manitoba Substance Use and Addictions Awareness Week provides an opportunity for Manitobans from all walks of life to engage in meaningful discussions and explore solutions for addressing the harms caused by substance use and addictions.

In 2025 the Manitoba Substance Use and Addictions Awareness Week runs from Nov. 16-22 and the theme is Anchoring Hope. Working in the substance use health field and addressing

its challenges can result in different experiences, ideas and opinions for individuals, families and communities. At times, it can be challenging to agree on the best ways to address these issues in Canada. Hope is an optimistic state of mind that holds expectations for positive outcomes.

Exploring and discussing substance use health can lead to positive outcomes such as connections and growth. Yet the challenges and grief in the field cannot be unstated. In re-

cent years, tens of thousands of people from across Canada have died because of the unpredictable drug supply. We need effective, holistic, whole-of-government and community action that is rooted in evidence and compassion. We need to work together to identify and reach common goals. And more than anything else, we need hope — hope for a brighter future with improved health and wellness of all people living in Canada.



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# Holiday craft sale supports PHAC



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

There was a wide array of arts and crafts available Saturday at the Access Event Centre in Morden. The Pembina Hills Arts Council hosted its annual Christmas holiday craft sale, and there were around 50 vendors offering a variety of homemade arts, crafts, baking, and other creations.

## Wrapping up a Morden Christmas is on Nov. 20

By Lorne Stelmach

An annual tradition that ushers in the holiday season in Morden returns next week.

The Morden Chamber of Commerce's Wrapping Up A Morden Christmas promotion takes place the evening of Nov. 20 from 3-9 p.m. There are 26 businesses participating this year.

It can be one of the biggest days of the year for some Morden retailers, so it is accomplishing its aim to encourage people to shop locally, suggested chamber executive director Clare Agnew.

"I continue to be optimistic about it," she said. "It's really about supporting our retailers."

"It's certainly become a Christmas shopping tradition in Morden that

has been successful for many years, and businesses look forward to it, and certainly I think the public looks forward to it as well."

As you shop that night, you can grab a passport from any participating location. Hand it in at the end of the evening for a chance to win a variety of prizes.

"The passports are going to be a little different this year," noted Agnew. "They will be shaped like a Monopoly game board."

"So there's three ways for people to win. They can collect all of the properties from one colour, like in Monopoly. Or you collect one property or stamp from each colour or complete the whole game board."

"There's \$1,300 worth of gift cards that people could win," Agnew said, noting there will be three prizes of \$100, three prizes of \$200, and two prizes of \$300, so there will be an extra little bit of incentive to hit as many businesses as possible.

In addition, Santa Claus will be out

and about that evening, and there will be a youth choir from École Morden Middle School as well as a Gardenland Co-op kiosk on Stephen Street to serve up hot chocolate.

"Hopefully we have a beautiful evening," Agnew said. "The retail community and the public as well plan for this, so it's a fun evening."



VOICE FILE PHOTO

The Morden Chamber's shop local promotion, Wrapping Up a Morden Christmas, has 26 businesses participating the evening of Nov. 20.

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For over 41 years, Genesis House has been providing emergency housing and support for women and children in the Pembina Valley. Genesis House is adding to services by building a **25 UNIT FULLY FURNISHED TRANSITIONAL HOUSING BUILDING** with wrap around support. Housing remains one of the leading barriers for women escaping violence.

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25 women and their children experience peace in a safe home where they can learn and grow.





# PVHS trap-neuter-return cat program seeing success

By Lorne Stelmach

Initial efforts to help control the feral and stray cat population in Morden have been successful, and there is hope to be able to continue the program and even perhaps expand it.

The Pembina Valley Humane Society has now run its trap-neuter-release program a couple times over the past two years, and they feel it has shown its potential to be very beneficial.

With trap-neuter-return, they maintain they can help stabilize the population humanely, improve the cats' lives, save taxpayer dollars, address neighbours' concerns, and help the entire community reach a solution that benefits everyone.

After a successful 2024, where they trapped and spayed/neutered over 40 community cats, it's estimated this year they've trapped another 23 cats and were able to sterilize 20 of them (three were too ill).

"We ended up bringing in 16 kittens," added Jennifer Young, shelter manager for the Pembina Valley Humane Society. "All of those kittens because they were young enough, we were actually able to intake them into the shelter and then adopt them out."

"Doing it all like that, we prevented about maybe 120 kittens from being born and put into the population just this year ... that is a lot, but it could definitely be more."

Young suggested their first go-round with the initiative was a learning experience.

"This past spring was a little bit better organized just because we had all that we needed to learn from the first year."

They have only been able to do it in Morden so far with limited funding of about \$3,000, which covers the costs for about months. They've focused their efforts at the beginning of what is seen as "kitten season" from May to July.

"Although it happens all year round, it does seem to be a lot more in the beginning of spring," said Young, explaining they had three traps which "we put in specific areas where we know they have a colony of cats."

"When we put a trap out, it is checked regularly by our volunteers, like every day ... and then we get them to the vet as soon as we can so they can get spayed or neutered. They are given a rabies vaccine and an ear notch so if they are captured again, we will know they had already been taken care of."

After a couple days to make sure there's no infection, they are released back where they were trapped because familiar territory is best for the cat and there are limited other feasible options, Young noted.

The humane society emphasizes that there are many reasons to embrace and promote the trap-neuter-return system, noting it:

- Stabilizes feral cat colonies: colonies that are involved diminish in size over time.
- Improves the lives of community cats: relieves cats of the constant

stress of mating and pregnancy and their physical health improves.

- Answers the needs of the community: once it stops production, and therefore mating behaviours, the cats' relationships with residents improve; colonies become quieter as behaviours like yowling or fighting stop, calls to authorities about the cats decrease significantly and community morale improves.

- Protects cats' lives: the number one documented cause of death for cats in North America is being euthanized in pounds and shelters. For decades, animal control policy has wasted millions of dollars catching and killing outdoor cats, but populations of cats are still there, just as they always have been, so these programs reduce the spending of taxpayer dollars and is a humane solution to needless euthanasia.

Overall, it is seen as a solution that works, as attempts to permanently remove cats from an area always fail because of a natural and scientifically-documented phenomenon known as the vacuum effect. In basic terms, whenever cats are removed, new cats move in or the surviving cats left behind breed to capacity.

Young hopes the humane society is able to get funding to continue with the initiative.

"It takes some time to see, but over the years we'll notice the decrease in the kitten and cat population," she said. "If we could get other communities to help fund a little bit, we could maybe reach out to these other com-

munities and help prevent another 120 kittens or so.

"We definitely want to continue with it," she said. "If we could go into Winkler, that would be another great thing. If we could go into more rural areas, that would be amazing if we could do that as well."

"Our plan is to continue doing this as long as we have the funding for it," she said. "So if we could even have it more often, even twice a year, that would be amazing as well."



PVHS PHOTO

The PVHS trapped, fixed, and released dozens of cats this summer, and also took in 16 kittens for adoption. This little guy is Brahms, who will be looking for his forever home soon.

# MB Stampede wins MCMA award three years running

By Siobhan Maas

The Manitoba Stampede & Exhibition has been honoured with the Manitoba Country Music Association's Dauphin's Countryfest Festival or Event of the Year Award for the third consecutive year.

Presented at the MCMA ceremony Saturday evening in Winnipeg, the award recognizes a "Manitoba festival or event that exemplifies the development and promotion of Manitoba country music talent."

The Morris-based event organized by the Valley Agricultural Society (VAS) and held annually on the third weekend of July stood out among nominees that included the Niverville Fair, the Morden Corn and Apple Festival, Steinbach's Summer in the City, Grunthal's Hanover Ag Fair, and the Manitoba Threshermen's Reunion & Stampede in Austin.

"On behalf of the Manitoba Stampede and Exhibition, we are truly honored to accept this award," said Taylor Braun, Town of Morris representative for the VAS, in her acceptance speech later shared on social media. "A heartfelt thank you to our ded-

icated staff, our board members, our volunteers, our generous sponsors, and of course, our amazing patrons who continue to support us year after year."

The award criteria focuses on community involvement, promotions, leadership, and recognition of Manitoba country music talent.

For the Stampede, this means bringing established and emerging artists to the stage each summer, creating opportunities for both performers and music fans across southern Manitoba.

"We're especially proud to be among so many talented Manitoba country music artists tonight, including some who've taken the stage at the Manitoba Stampede in past years," Braun said at the ceremony.

"It was a great experience to be involved in an event with such amazing Manitoban artists and talent," she later said.

Looking ahead, the Stampede has already announced its 2026 lineup, welcoming Mitchell Makoons, the Sean Taylor Band, and Nelson Little to perform in July.



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Kaylyn Edel and Taylor Braun with the Festival or Event of the Year trophy the Manitoba Stampede and Exhibition won at the Manitoba Country Music Association's awards gala over the weekend.



# sports & recreation

## Bombers down Royals 5-4 in shootout win

By Ashleigh Viveiros

In South Eastern Manitoba Hockey League action last week, rivals Winkler and Morden went all the way to a shootout for a decision.

The Nov. 6 game in Morden saw Winkler rally in the third period to fight their way back from a 3-1 deficit to tie things up and force overtime.

Tanner Wiebe opened scoring for Morden midway through the first, which was answered by Winkler's Aaron Lewadniuk eight minutes later.

Period two was all Morden, with Jay Fehr and Jory Mullin putting their team in the lead.

Morden's Tyler Campbell got the Bombers' fourth goal in the third while Winkler's Carter Unger scored twice and Lewadniuk got his second of the night to tie it up.

After a fruitless overtime solved nothing, the resulting lengthy shootout saw Morden win it thanks to two successful goals from Collin Shirley in the second and sixth rounds. Only Nico Labossiere's goal in the first round found the mark for Winkler.

The two teams were evenly matched in shots on goal at 36 each. Matthew Thiessen was between the posts for Winkler while Reed Peters was in net for Morden.



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

The snow flies off the stick of Morden's Tyler Campbell as he tips a point shot wide of Winkler goaltender Matthew Thiessen in Thursday's game. The Bombers won it 5-4 in a shootout.

Morden went on to crush Carman 10-5 a few nights later while Winkler blanked Notre Dame 7-0.

Also last week, the Red River Wild ran roughshod over Portage Nov. 5. The 10-5 rout including two goals from Tory Lehmann and singles from

a laundry list of other Wild players, including Teagan Fillion, Brendan Harms, Justin Baudry, Jared Magne, Jonah Wasylak, Colin Baudry, Clint Lucier, and Tyler Anderson.

The Winkler Royals are at the top of the pack with a 3-0-0-1 record and

seven points. Morden is nipping at their heels in second at 3-2 and six points. Springfield rounds out the top three with 2-1-1 and five points.

This week, on Saturday Winkler is in Ile des Chenes and Morden plays in Warren.

## Winkler Flyers fall to Niverville Nighthawks 2-1

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Flyers dropped their lone game of the week to Niverville.

The Friday night match-up on the Nighthawks' home turf saw the two MJHL teams pretty evenly matched—

Winkler fired 23 shots on goal to Niverville's 21.

Only one Flyers shot found its mark, though, courtesy of Trevor Dalton midway through the second period. Niverville, meanwhile, got one past Winkler netminder Leif Ekblad late in

the first and early in the third to win it 2-1.

The Flyers are currently in sixth place out of the seven teams in the MGEU East Division with a record of 6-9-1 and 13 points. Topping the standings at press time was Niver-

ville (32 points), Steinbach (27), and Portage (25).

This week the Flyers hosted Portage Tuesday (results were not available at press time) and then welcome Waywayseecappo to town Friday night and Swan Valley on Saturday.

*The* **Voice**

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What's *Your* story?



# Male Hawks put the skids on losing streak

By Lorne Stelmach

The male U18 Pembina Valley Hawks were able to halt a two-game losing streak this past weekend thanks to a weekend doubleheader in Kenora.

The last-place Thistles fell 5-3 to the Hawks Saturday and then 7-2 Sunday, and it gave the Hawks a boost after Pembina Valley had fallen 7-0 Friday in Morden to the Winnipeg Bruins.

The Hawks were under fire against the Bruins, who jumped out to a 5-0 first period lead and chased Koen Bleznuk from the Pembina Valley net after having stopped 16 of 21 shots. Brody Peters came on in relief late in the first period and went on to stop 29 of 31 shots as the Hawks were outshot 52-28 overall.

Pembina Valley spotted Kenora two goals in the first period of game one before coming to life, including firing

home four goals in the third.

Logan Delichte, Tyson Pethybridge, Ocean Fehr, Cole Secord, and Caden McMahon scored for the Hawks, while Peters made 25 saves as Pembina Valley held a 47-28 edge in shots on goal.

In game two, the Hawks took period leads of 2-0 and 4-1 while outshooting the Thistles 41-37, with Bleznuk making 35 saves.

McMahon had a pair of goals and a three-point night while Fehr, Casey Magarrell, Carson Hiebert, Ragnar Gillis and Mason Leite contributed singles.

It leaves the Hawks sitting in sixth place on a record of 9-5-0-1 for 19 points, which has them even in points with the Bruins and the Parkland Rangers while also just one up on Eastman and two behind Southwest.

The Hawks were scheduled for a rematch with the Bruins in Winni-



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Hawks Brody Peters makes a pad save on the shot by Bruins James Nicholls in Friday's 7-0 Pembina Valley loss.

peg Wednesday before visiting Interlake Friday and then the Winnipeg

Thrashers Sunday.

## Twisters edge Raiders for second win, fall in road test to Railer Express

By Annaliese Meier

The Pembina Valley Twisters split their weekend slate in Manitoba Major Junior Hockey League action, picking up a hard-earned 3-2 victory over the Raiders Jr. Hockey Club on Friday in Morris before falling 7-0 to the Transcona Railer Express on Sunday afternoon.

The win on Friday was just the second of the season for the Twisters (1-10-1), who have been searching for traction in the early going. Pembina Valley leaned on a composed defensive effort and timely scoring to edge the visiting Raiders.

After a scoreless opening period, the Twisters struck twice early in the second. Josh Guilford opened the scoring on the power play at 4:21, finishing a setup from Darby Olson and defenceman Sawyer Leite. Just over a minute later, Ethan Wilde and Olson worked the puck to Owen Vanrobaeys, who buried his third of the season to make it 2-0.

The Raiders answered quickly with goals from Mason Laarveld and Cole Kennedy to pull even before the intermission.

The game stayed tied deep into the third until Vanrobaeys delivered again, snapping home the game-winner with 1:41 remaining to secure the 3-2 decision. The 18-year-old forward

finished the night with two goals and was named the game's first star.

Goaltender Riley Brown, meanwhile, turned in his sharpest outing of the season. Brown faced 41 shots and steered aside 39 for the win while maintaining control through a heavy third-period push by the Raiders. He was named the second star.

Olson, who assisted on all three Pembina Valley goals, earned third-star honours.

The momentum didn't carry into Sunday as the Twisters ran into a high-powered Transcona squad that sits near the top of the league table. The Railer Express scored twice in the first, four times in the second, and once more in the third to hand Pembina Valley a 7-0 loss.

Brown made 23 saves on 29 shots before Rowan Cherkas entered for the third period. Transcona's Thomas Wyatt stopped all 25 shots he faced.

With the weekend results, Pembina Valley remains in 10th place in the MMJHL standings with three points through 12 games. The league continues to be paced by the St. Boniface Riels (12-0-0), with Transcona and Charleswood close behind.

This week the team plays in Stonewall against the Jets Wednesday and then at home in Morris against the St. Boniface Riels Thursday.

## Red River Mudbugs split weekend set

By Lana Meier

The Red River Mudbugs earned a 5-4 win over the Mitchell Mustangs on Friday night, before coming up short in Grunthal on Saturday in Hannover Tache Junior Hockey League action.

In front of the home crowd at St. Jean Arena on Friday, the Mudbugs controlled much of the opening 40 minutes, scoring four straight to build a 4-0 lead. Tyson Froese opened the scoring late in the first, while Griffin Hilderbrand struck twice and Ethan Clace added another on the power play early in the second. Mitchell finally answered with a late power-play goal to cut the score to 4-1

heading into the third.

The Mustangs made it interesting, scoring three times in the third period — including a pair of power-play goals from Archer Ives — but Reece Fehr's tally at 11:39 stood up as the winner. Red River goaltender Connor Parago was busy throughout the night, turning away 37 shots for the victory.

On Saturday, the Mudbugs ran into a quick-striking Grunthal team, falling behind 5-1 in the opening period. The Red Wings scored five goals in a span of 14 minutes, including two from Carter Ritchot and singles from Michael Martens, Dylan Sutorp, and Brayden Dyck.

Red River clawed back with goals

from Traeton Peters, Caleb Boulanger, and Gavin Hildebrandt, the latter on the power play midway through the third, but the early deficit proved too much to overcome. Parago stopped every shot he faced before giving way to Tyler Blanchette, who finished the game in relief.

The Mudbugs return home Friday, Nov. 14, when they host Grunthal for a rematch at St. Jean Arena. Red River then travels to Ste. Anne on Saturday, Nov. 15 for a 6 p.m. puck drop.

Red River remains positioned in the middle of the HTJHL standings as the early-season schedule continues to tighten.



# Darlingford's Darrell McElroy named to MB Hall of Fame

## 12 leaders in baseball to be inducted in June

By Lorne Stelmach

Baseball has always been a special part of his life, so it is fitting that Darrell McElroy will be among the 2026 inductees into the Manitoba Baseball Hall of Fame.

The Darlingford area native will be among those being honoured next year when the Manitoba Baseball Hall of Fame hosts its 28th annual induction banquet at the Access Event Centre in Morden June 13.

"I'm very, very honoured, very, very humbled ... pleasantly surprised," said McElroy. "Back in the day, playing ball, you don't have something like this in mind. You're just out there competing and having fun and playing ball with friends and just loving the sport."

McElroy was a pitcher, catcher, infielder, and dangerous power hitter. He was born in Darlingford, and when he started playing intermediate AAA ball, now senior AA, at age 17, it

was with the Kaleida Ks of the Border League.

He was part of the Kaleida teams of 1977-79 and again in 1983. He joined Morden Bombers in 1980 and played for them until 1996, except for 1983 when they did not field a team.

He was a Border League all star in 17 of the 20 years he played, earning MVP honours at the Border League all-star game twice. He was also part of seven teams that won the Manitoba intermediate AAA championship.

In 1990, he was part of the Manitoba Border East team that won the provincial championship and went on to win the Western Canadian tournament.

McElroy coached minor ball for 12 years in Morden and Winkler. He was also a high level senior hockey player, and in 1994 was chosen male athlete of the year by the Manitoba Central Region Sports Association.

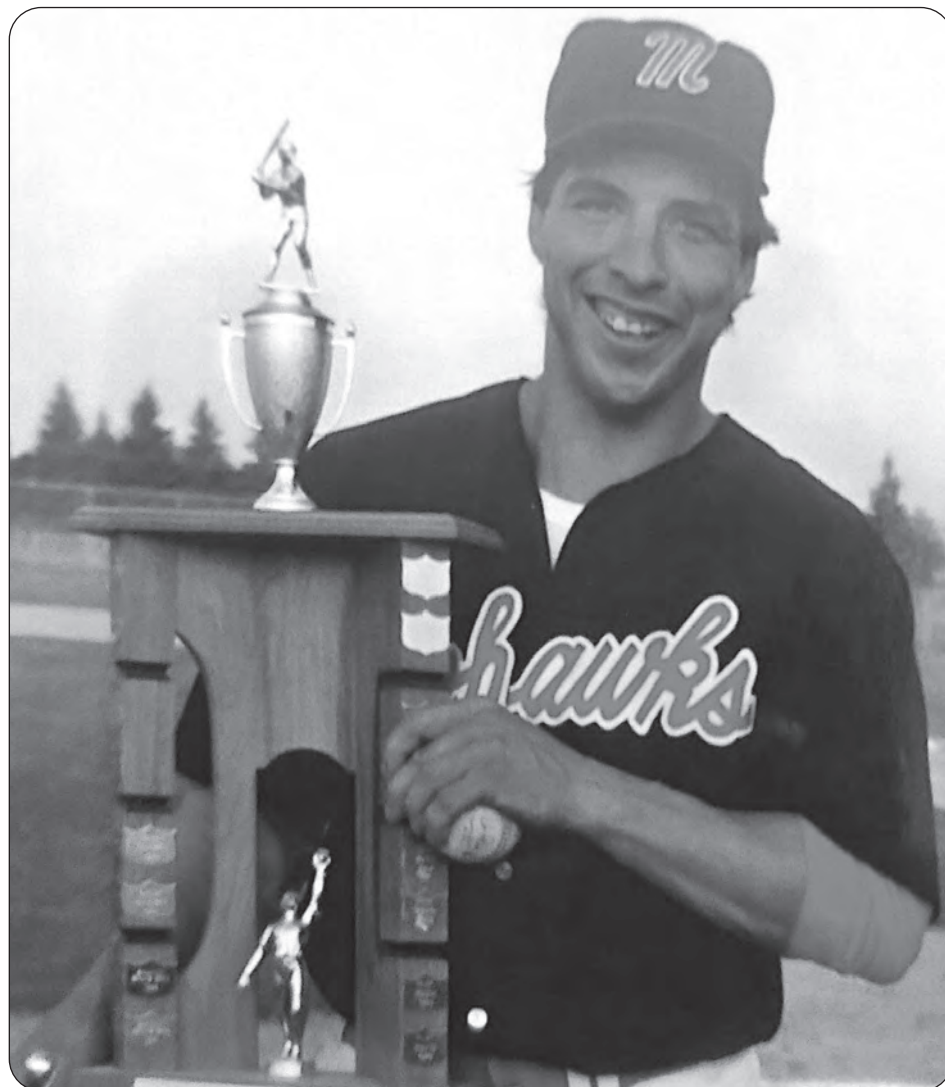
McElroy gave a lot of credit to his father, Bob McElroy.

"It was in our blood for sure," he said, recalling how they lived in a district south of Darlingford called Shadeland, and at one time there was even a ball diamond built on their farm property, and he recalled there at times being even as many as 400 people out to enjoy it.

"So at least twice a week there was a game to go watch."

His father also regularly made time each day for them to practice some ball.

"He would take at least a half an hour out of his day, no matter whether it was seeding time or harvest time. He hit us grounders and flyballs,



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Darrell McElroy's storied career in baseball is being honoured. The Darlingford native will be inducted into the Manitoba Baseball Hall of Fame next year.

**"BACK IN THE DAY, PLAYING BALL, YOU DON'T HAVE SOMETHING LIKE THIS IN MIND. YOU'RE JUST OUT THERE COMPETING AND HAVING FUN AND PLAYING BALL WITH FRIENDS AND JUST LOVING THE SPORT."**

at least for half an hour. During the summer time, when it was a little bit slower, we would go out after supper and play a bit."

McElroy very much appreciates the recognition.

"And to be inducted into the hall alongside a lot of super really good ball players is just a super honour."

The other inductees in the class of 2026 include Nate Andrews (Brandon), Ed Kulyk (Winnipeg) Larry Nicholson (Neepawa), Lorna Robertson (Hamiota), Garth White (Neepa-

wa), Guy Yerama (Gilbert Plains/Toronto), the 2008-2010 Winnipeg South Chiefs pee wee and bantam team, the 2003 Neepawa AA midget team, the 1987 Oil Dome bantam all-stars, the 1973 Canada Summer Games Western Manitoba junior all-stars, Al Kinley (Winnipeg), and Morris Mott (Brandon).

You can learn more about all the nominees and secure your tickets for the banquet online at [www.mbhof.ca](http://www.mbhof.ca).

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# Dead Horse Creek Speedway celebrates top drivers and community support

By E. Antonio

The Dead Horse Creek Speedway welcomed 100 guests to the Miami Event Centre for their Awards & Appreciation Banquet.

Every year the speedway honours their top drivers and individuals who go above and beyond on and off the track.

"It was an exceptional evening and it was nice to see our numbers grow compared to last year," said Jason Fraser, Dead Horse Creek Speedway manager. "It's an opportunity for us to recognize those guys who have put in piles and piles of hours, effort and money into performing. Their support for us throughout the year is strong and it's awesome to be able to give something back to them to show that their efforts are worth it."

Guests also had the opportunity to try and win one of their 20 raffle prizes, graciously donated from business across southern Manitoba. Fraser noted it was really neat seeing all the prizes together in one space and described the room to be like a "small world."

Eight awards were handed out to deserving drivers, sponsors and volunteers while enjoying a deliciously catered meal arranged by Brian and Ardelle Unger.

## THIS YEAR'S WINNERS WERE:

- Friesens Corporation Deadhorse Stocks - Tyler Fehr
- Super Trucks - Gerry Poirier
- Wissota Sunvalley Tire Midwest Modifieds - Brenden Luschinski
- Wissota Rosenort Credit Union Modifieds- Ward Imrie
- Wissota Wiebes Steel Structures Late Models - Scott Greer
- Community Support Champion - Centennial Supply Ltd.
- Sportsmanship Champion - Nick Audette
- Volunteer Champion - Alex Wiebe

It's important to Fraser to recognize people's efforts beyond the wheel, which is why they present three community support awards. "They go the extra mile to give us the support we



Chris Unrau, Dead Horse Creek Speedway manager

need and their efforts truly make a difference in the lives of drivers," he added.



PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Friesens Corporation Deadhorse Stocks champion Tyler Fehr accepts his award during the Dead Horse Creek Speedway Awards & Appreciation Banquet at the Miami Event Centre. The event recognized top drivers, sponsors and volunteers from the 2025 racing season.



Super Trucks - Gerry Poirier, second from left.



Wissota Sunvalley Tire Midwest Modifieds - Brenden Luschinski, second from left.



Volunteer Champion - Alex Wiebe



Sportsmanship Champion - Nick Audette



Wissota Rosenort Credit Union Modifieds- Ward Imrie



Wissota Wiebes Steel Structures Late Models - Scott Greer



Community Support Champion - Centennial Supply Ltd.



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**ACCEPTING OFFERS.**  
 Closing Nov. 7, 2025. Call for details

Call  
 Chris Nicholson  
 (204) 791-4616



## MISCELLANEOUS

For sale - 10 yrd. Miskin Field Scraper, \$12,500; 2 pressure vessel semi trailer tanks, \$7500 each; 2 - 2500 new tanks, fiberglass, comes with mounts, \$25,000 ea.; 1 Berming hammer, 8000 lb., \$15,000; 1 tree shear, \$17,500, as new; 1 - 9000 lb. grapple, hyd., \$12,000; used culverts, 18" to 66"; 2 service decks, 1 ton - \$1700 & 5 ton - \$3500; Howard hover craft, 14" x 28", body only, \$4500. Wanted - groups of 16" x 245 or 265 tires; '94 Chev 4x4, ¾ ton pick up; Case 1845 skidsteer; musical - bagpipes, guitars, amps, bangos. Call 431-737-6441.

## WANTED

Firearms wanted. Looking for all unwanted firearms. Fully licensed for both non-restricted and restricted. Anywhere from individual items to estates. Cash buyer, paying top dollar. Please call or text Adam at 204-795-2850.

**News Tips?  
Story Ideas?**  
 call the Voice

## NOTICES

**URGENT PRESS RELEASES** - Have a newsworthy item to announce? An exciting change in operations? Though we cannot guarantee publication, MCNA will get the information into the right hands for ONLY \$35 + GST/HST. Call MCNA 204-947-1691 for more information. See [www.mcna.com](http://www.mcna.com) under the "Types of Advertising" tab for more details.

Have an on-line business and want to promote it ASAP? NEED CLASS 1 DRIVERS OR SEASONAL STAFF? SELLING LAND? HAVING AN EVENT? Let us help you book a blanket classified ad! Advertise! You will be seen in the MCNA Member Newspapers, in over 368,000+ homes in Manitoba. Please call 204-467-5836 or MCNA at 204-947-1691 for more details or to book ads. Take advantage of our great pricing! MCNA - Manitoba Community Newspapers Association. [www.mcna.com](http://www.mcna.com)

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### Online McSherry Auctions

**Estate & Moving**  
 Nov 19th @ 7pm  
**Firearms, Ammo & Accessories**  
 Nov 25th @ 7pm  
**Estate & Moving**  
 Nov 26th @ 7pm  
**Collectible Coin & Paper Money**  
 Nov 27th @ 7pm  
[McSherryAuction.com](http://McSherryAuction.com)  
 204-467-1858  
 or 204-886-7027  
[mcsherrytld@gmail.com](mailto:mcsherrytld@gmail.com)

## FINANCIAL SERVICES

Private mortgage lender. All real estate types considered. No credit checks done. Deal direct with lender and get quick approval. 403-543-0927 [www.firstandsecondmortgages.ca](http://www.firstandsecondmortgages.ca)

## HEALTH

Are you suffering from joint or arthritic pain? If so, you owe it to yourself to try elk velvet antler capsules. Hundreds have found relief. Benefits humans and pets. EVA is composed of proteins, amino acids, minerals, lipids and water. Key compounds that work to stimulate red blood cell production & cartilage cell regeneration & development. Stonewood Elk Ranch Ltd., 204-467-8884 or e-mail [stonewoodelkranch@gmail.com](mailto:stonewoodelkranch@gmail.com)



**On-line Patient and Family Conference**  
 November 21 - 22, 2025

Topics include:  
 disease monitoring,  
 pain management,  
 self-compassion,  
 life after treatment,  
 advanced cancer,  
 patient panel, and more.

Learn - Connect - Share

**Register Now!**

[www.cancercare.mb.ca/patient-family/patient-family-conference](http://www.cancercare.mb.ca/patient-family/patient-family-conference)

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COIN COLLECTIONS  
Big & Small.**

Also Numismatics,  
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 CANADIAN MINT,  
 FRANKLIN MINT, US  
 MINT, Silver Dollars,  
 World sets etc.

**CALL TODD NOW!**  
 Ph: 204 - 904 - 9705  
**I COME TO YOU!**

## EMPLOYMENT



Border Land School Division invites applicants for a  
**TERM EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT**  
 FOR ÉCOLE WEST PARK SCHOOL  
 IN ALTONA, MB  
 FOR DETAILS VISIT [WWW.BLSD.CA](http://WWW.BLSD.CA)

## EMPLOYMENT



Border Land School Division invites applicants for a  
**TERM GRADE 6 CLASSROOM TEACHER**  
 FOR GREINA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
 IN GREINA, MB  
 FOR DETAILS VISIT [WWW.BLSD.CA](http://WWW.BLSD.CA)



# Classifieds Announcements The Winkler Morden Voice

**News Tips?  
Story Ideas?**  
call the Voice



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## CAREERS



**Assiniboine College**  
1430 Victoria Ave E.  
Brandon, MB R7A 2A9

### Facility Manager

**Full-Time, Regular  
Brandon**

**Comp #22-25/26**

**Salary:** \$63,648 to \$88,442 annually  
(\$30.60 to \$42.52 hourly)

**Classification:** Facility Manager 4

Reporting to the Director of Facilities, the Facility Manager is responsible for managing the operations and maintenance of a highly visible and sensitive portfolio, which encompasses several program facilities often operating under extended hours. This is the highest and most substantial level within the Facility Manager Series, having significant responsibility for staff, budget and facilities with technical and non-technical complexities arising from College needs.

#### How to Apply:

*If you are interested in this career opportunity, please email your resume and cover letter with reference to this competition to [careers@assiniboine.net](mailto:careers@assiniboine.net). We thank all applicants for their interest; only those selected for further consideration will be contacted.*

For accommodations or alternative formats, contact [careers@assiniboine.net](mailto:careers@assiniboine.net) or 204 725 8729.

Assiniboine College is privileged to provide learning opportunities on the lands of the Dakota Oyate, Nakoda Oyate, Ininiwak, Nehethowak, Nehiyawak, Anishininewuk, Denesuline, Anishinaabeg, and the National Homeland of the Red River Métis.

## EMPLOYMENT

### WALINGA INC.

#### Job Posting

#### Job Title:

Painter

#### Division / Team:

Carman, MB

#### Department:

Aftermarket Parts & Service



**Job Brief:** The Painter is responsible for producing a high-quality, durable paint finish on various industrial surfaces and equipment.

#### Role Responsibilities:

- Prepare surfaces for painting by cleaning, sanding and scraping to remove dirt, rust, old paint, or contaminants. Ensure surfaces are smooth, dry, and free of defects before applying coatings.
- Select and mix appropriate paints, primers, and coatings based on surface type, substrate material, environmental conditions, and project requirements. Consult technical data sheets and specifications for compatibility and application instructions.
- Apply coatings using various methods, including spray guns and brushes to achieve desired thickness, coverage, and finish. Employ proper painting techniques to ensure even application and adherence to safety and quality standards.
- Operate and maintain painting equipment, including spray guns, in accordance with manufacturer guidelines and safety regulations. Cleaning to ensure optimal performance and longevity of equipment.
- Adhere to safety protocols and procedures to prevent accidents, injuries, and exposure to hazardous materials. Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), such as respirators, gloves, goggles, and protective clothing, when handling paints, solvents, or abrasive materials.
- Inspect painted surfaces for defects, runs, or inconsistencies and make necessary adjustments or touch-ups to ensure a uniform finish and meet quality standards.
- Maintain accurate records of work performed, including surface preparation, coating application, material usage, and equipment maintenance.
- Collaborate with supervisors, and fellow tradespeople to coordinate workflow, prioritize tasks, and meet project deadlines. Communicate effectively with team members to ensure smooth operation and successful completion of projects.

#### Requirements:

- 2+ proven work experience as an industrial painter
- Good knowledge of the methods and standard practices of automotive painting
- Experience using tools and equipment common to industrial paint facility
- Knowledge of relative safety standards and ability to report unsafe conditions.
- Willingness to use protective gear
- Ability to give attention to detail
- Safe handling of chemicals, GHS program
- Decision making capability - problem solving
- Attain precise standards, follow work instruction
- Read and Interpret product information
- Ability to work in fast-paced work environment
- Ability to work independently and in a group
- Physical requirements:
- Work in various positions (flat and vertical planes, overhead)
- Lift from floor to waist, waist to shoulder and above shoulder height; a minimum of 20 lbs
- Work in various temperatures, cold and heat
- Ability to work with or around chemicals

#### Academic and Trades Qualifications:

- High school diploma or one year of equivalent work experience.

If interested in this position, please email [hr@walinga.com](mailto:hr@walinga.com)

## PUBLIC NOTICE



## GARDEN VALLEY SCHOOL DIVISION

### Public Consultation Forum

### 2026 – 2027 Pre-Budget Discussion

The Trustees of Garden Valley School Division invite you to a public discussion as they set the priorities for the 2026 – 2027 GVSD budget.

### Northlands Parkway Collegiate

### Room 113

**November 18, 2025 • 7:00 p.m.**

The Board of Trustees welcomes all suggestions and feedback on our operating budget for the upcoming year.

**FIND THE RIGHT PERSON FOR  
THE POSITION with an  
EMPLOYMENT/CAREERS AD in**

The Winkler Morden  
**Voice**

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## ALL 2025 F-150



Stk# ET187

\$6,000 Rebate or 0% Financing

## ALL 2025 ESCAPES



Stk# ET121

\$3,750 Rebate or 0% Financing

## ALL 2025 BRONCO SPORT



Stk# ET102

\$3,250 Rebate or 0% Financing

## ALL 2025 BRONCO



Stk# ET041

\$3,750 Rebate or 2.49% Financing

## 2021 F-150 LIMITED



**PRICE \$58,900**

3.5L PowerBoost, Loaded with features. One Owner, Local Trade. Kms - 76,215 - Price \$58,900.

## 2023 ESCAPE PLATINUM



**PRICE \$32,900**

2.0L EcoBoost, AWD, Loaded with Features. Previous Daily Rental. 89,978 km - Stk# EP006

2 TO CHOOSE FROM

## 2023 F-150 RAPTOR



**PRICE \$95,900**

3.5L HO EcoBoost, Fox Live Valve Shocks, Loaded with Features. Kms: 19,301 - Stk#DT017

## 2025 HONDA CR-V SPORT



**PRICE \$43,900**

1.5L, AWD, Heated Seats & Steering Wheel, One Owner, Local Trade. Kms - 15,695 - Stk# ET163A

All advertised prices are subject to PST and GST.

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Stk: 073280

**\$31,989**

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**+\$1000 Black Friday Bonus**



2025 Chevrolet Equinox LT  
Stk: 156714

**\$39,947**

Get 0% financing for 60 months  
**+\$1000 Black Friday Bonus**



2025 Enclave Sport Touring AWD  
Stk: 136966

**\$68,679**

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**+\$1000 Black Friday Bonus**



2025 GMC Sierra 2500 Denali Ultimate  
Stk: 231767

**\$130,106**

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**+\$1000 Black Friday Bonus**



2026 GMC Sierra 1500 SLE  
Stk: 107534

**\$71,854**

\$5000 Non-Stackable Cash or  
**0% financing for 60 months**



2026 GMC Sierra 1500 Denali  
Stk: 110738

**\$96,344**

\$5000 Non-Stackable Cash or  
**0% financing for 60 months**



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