



Jerney Desjarlais modeling overseas at Paris Indigenous Fashion Week

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HAROLD & THE PURPLE CRAYON

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The new 5,000 foot runway at Moosomin Airport. Saskatchewan Highways Minister Lori Carr visited Moosomin Tuesday to see the expanded airport. This view from the south end of the runway shows the scale of the project.

New runway completed at Moosomin Airport

BY KARA KINNA

On Tuesday, the Government of Saskatchewan and people from across the region came together to celebrate the completion of a brand-new runway located at the Mossomin Airport.

With the project complete, the runway now allows the regional airport to land fixed-wing air ambulances and

corporate jets.

The provincial government invested more than \$2.4 million toward the estimated \$10.6 million Moosomin

Airport expansion project, which includes a 5,000 foot by 75 foot paved runway, along with a new taxiway and apron completed this summer.

apron completed this summer.

New navigation and weather systems will be completed soon.

"Aviation is an essential part of Saskatchewan's transportation network," Highways Minister Lori Carr said when she visited the airport fuesday. "This project illustrates the significance of maintaining and improving the infrastructure necessary to ensure the continuation of vi-

tal services like air ambulance, business and agriculture operations, and private usage. Congratulations to the communities, businesses and partners in the region for working so hard together toward a common goal to land this milestone."

The airport is operated by the RM of Moosomin. The remainder of the project is funded by 18 municipalities across the region, area community members and various

Continued on page 12 13



Rocanville Lucky Lottery draw this Saturday

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI

BY KYAN KIEDROWSKI
LOCAL JOURNALISM MITHATIVE REPORTER
This is the last week to get tickets for
the Rocanville Lucky Lottery as the grand
prize draw happens this Saturday, Sept.
28 at the Nutrien Rocanville Community
Hall

According to Lucky Lottery board chair Kirby Fowler, ticket sales are going well, leading up to the draw night where one lucky winner will go home with \$100,000 in their pocket.
"We're ahead of where we were last year

and the year before time-wise coming into and the year before time-wise colling into the final push, but we've still got tickets for sale," he said. "If you're waiting for your last chance, you're pretty much there." One trend Fowler has noticed is where

people will buy multiple tickets before the early bird draw (which happened on Aug. 28), then purchase more closer to the grand prize draw. Regardless, organizers are hopeful for above-average sales this

year. "I am holding out hope, I'm very confident this year," Fowler said. "We looked at the numbers this year compared to the last the numbers this year compared to the last two years, and where we're at, we're fur-ther ahead, but there's still a pile of tickets. There's enough tickets to sell that there's still that nervousness there as well."

still that nervousness there as well."
In an effort to illicit some buzz about
Rocanville's largest fundraiser, a series
of videos featuring the volunteers involved with the Lucky Lottery have hit
the group's Facebook page, which seem to
have been successful in drawing viewers.
"We've shot a whole bunch of videos on
the Eschbell page, wide see a let of tree."

"We've shot a whole bunch of videos on our Facebook page, we do see a lot of traction and action after we post them," Fowler confirmed. "We've got a great bunch of volunteers that are willing to put the effort into making everybody giggle and laugh!"

The Rocanville Lucky Lottery distributes money to local recreation groups, keeping teams and clubs in Rocanville alive for fitting egerations. I ast year saw

alive for future generations. Last year saw the group contribute \$35,500 back to the community, and in 2022, \$86,000 went to

local recreation projects.

"It's not going in somebody's pocket, it's going to help a group of kids do something—whether that's baseball, or hockey. or swimming, or golf, or dance—it's all going right back into the community and creating a memory for a kid, really, in the long run," Fowler explained. "It just keeps our community the way everybody remembers it. When I was a kid—and you think what was in town and what you did as a kid—those memories are priceless, and we just want to give that same mem-ory to every one of the kids that's around or that would end up using these facilities.



"It's not just the Rocanville people either or the Rocanville kids: there's kids ther or the Rocanville kids; there's kids that come from out of town to play hockey in Rocanville, whether it's Moosomin playing Rocanville, or Wapella playing Rocanville, Langenberg, whatever—those memories are all still built in that town," Fowler continued. "Without those facilities and without the infector is interesting it in the continued of the continued ties and without that infrastructure, it just doesn't happen."

There's been a concerted effort this year to entice support from areas that the lottery may not have reached previously. Over the last few months, an advertising campaign was aimed at people in south-

west Saskatchewan.

"We are actually doing a fair bit of data tracking this year of where tickets are com-ing from and that southwest corner of the Fowler said. "We've got some sales down there, but really, we could definitely use more promotion down in that corner. That's what we're trying to figure out,

how to reach those people, just so they know that there's an opportunity here."

In general, Fowler says there seems to be a line from the southeast region to Lloydminster where everything north is saturated with ticket sales, while everything south of the line could use some more

Big prizes to be won

On Saturday night the grand prize draw takes place at 9 pm at the hall. There's the

big \$100,000 prize, plus a \$5,000 travel voucher, four \$1,000 cash prizes, five \$500 cash prizes, and a 50/50 draw that is climbing steadily by the minute.

Last year saw the take home portion of the 50/50 draw reach \$40,000, and Fowler

is sure "we'll eclipse that this year."

"I can't imagine meeting somebody that couldn't use \$40,000," he said. Tickets can be found online at rocanvil-

lelotto.ca, from any board member, and participating local businesses.

Carr says work being done on design for reconstruction of Highway 8

BY KARA KINNA

Saskatchewan Highways Minister Lori Carr said Tuesday that the province is working on a design for the reconstruction of Highway 8 between Moosomin and Ro-

"This year Saskatchewan Ministry of Highways' budget invests \$741 million towards key transportation corridors to continue to meet Saskatchewan's growing needs for families and communities," she said at the Conexus MCC Centre in Moo-

said at the Conexus MCC Centre in Moosomin Tuesday.

"Our government has invested more than \$13 billion in transportation since 2008 improving more than 2,700 kilometers of roadway. In meeting Saskatchewan's growth plan goals, this year we will improve more than 1,100 kilometers of highways in the fifth year of a ten year growth plan goal to build and upgrade

10,000 kilometers.

"So far we have upgraded more than 9,500 kilometers over the first five years of our ten year plan—that's well ahead of the pace needed to meet our target.

"Within those many kilometers is High-way 8. This spring, on-road construction began for a Highway 8 improvement proje-etc. The project is northeast of Rocanville to the Nutrien Potash Mine known as the to the Nutrien Potash Mine known as the mine road. I'm happy to report that work was completed in late August on this 14 kilometer section of Highway 8—and that's not all for Highway 8. "The Ministry of Highways continues working on a design for the construction of Highway 8 between Moosomin and Rocanville. No firm costs are available yet but design ontions are being evaluated.

but design options are being evaluated and I'm pleased to say that it is a priority for the ministry."





Moosomin Visual Arts Centre holding open house this Saturday

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

This Saturday, Sept. 28, the Moosomin Visual Arts Centre is holding an open house from 10 am to 3 pm to officially invite the community in to see what the new arts centre is all about.

Since opening its doors in February, the Moosomin Visual Arts Centre has become a part of the community in the way organizers hoped it would be. Within a year, the MVAC went from an idea MVAC Went from an loca to a physical location in St. Alban's Anglican Church at 701 Ellice Street—a gath-ering place for artists and people interested in learn-ing more about the arts in

the Mossomin region.

The open house on Saturday will allow the general public to come check out the arts centre, learn more about it, and get involved with the arts centre.

"It's really our grand opening event, so we're wanting to show off every-thing that we have available for people to use, all the equipment and how it works," said Krista Crellin, Chair of the MVAC board. "We're going to have some artists doing demonstra-tions all day, and then we'll have some mini-classes throughout the day as

The open house is being funded with the help of a \$1,915 grant from Sask Arts.

Since the group opened their doors at 701 Ellice Street earlier this year, re-sponse from the public has been encouraging in terms of attendance and dona-

"We have a lot of equip-ment that we wanted al-ready purchased," Crellin said. "We're still needing a few more things, but it's come together real quick for

Support from the community has been overwhelming with private individual and business donations, plus help from the Town of Moosomin.

"The Town is supporting us hugely with their contribution of \$50,000 a year for three years," Crellin ex-plained. "That has made a really big difference. And then we've had some grants come through that have helped us, especially with

our kids programming."
So what kind of classes does the MVAC offer?

does the MVAC offer?
"We're doing everything," says Crellin.
"We've had drawing
classes, painting classes,
we're doing craft classes,
we're just had a fall wreath



class. We have pottery start-ed. Pottery on the wheel classes—that sold out right away. We have a stained glass studio, and those classes have been going really well too. There has been

a little bit of everything." Crellin says if there's something people want that the MVAC doesn't currently offer, they'll seek out the people to offer the classes.

"Some of the sugges-tions we've gotten from the community have really prompted us to go and find those instructors for those classes," Crellin explained. "We just did a canning class; that was a suggestion from somebody, and it went re-ally well!"

Potential teachers are always welcome as well, which allows for MVAC to offer more diverse classes

"Always, even if it's something off the wall, we love to hear from people who have these skills who

Some future plans include more pottery classes— which have already proven very popular—digital art classes, and an introduction to acrylic painting (a four-week workshop coming in November).

"We're really hoping to be able to use all of the equip-ment we have and have classes on all those different mediums," Crellin said. Crellin says MVAC is still

taking donations for supplies that would allow them to host larger class sizes.

"We still would like some more things to round out our pottery studio," Crellin noted. "We only have three wheels there right now, and it would be great to have some more—just so that our classes can be bigger and we can fit more people in there. And our kitchen, we can use some more kitchen of those, because we only have a few. We're hoping to fundraise or find grants for

Busy winter ahead The group is expecting more traffic as the colder

months set in. "For me, the winter is definitely easier to get in those extra little crafts and stuff like that, so we should be busier through the winter,' Crellin said.

Crellin said.

Another big event the MVAC has planned is their Christmas Market on Nov. 2, which Crellin says already has 23 vendors signed up. The event will take place at the Conexus Convention Centre.

While things are roll.

While things are roll-ing along at the arts centre, Crellin says there's still lots of work to be done, and the group is still actively fund-

bership model that Crellin explained would also mean a stable financial source.

"We are hoping to roll that out at our grand openthat out at our grand open-ing—having memberships. So there will be a club fee that people pay, and then they join the MVAC Club, and that will get them ac-cess to all of the equipment that we have available during open house hours," she said. "They can come and use the pottery wheel, or they can use the sewing machines, or they can use the brushes-anything really."

Currently, the MVAC has one part-time employee, and having a club fee sys-tem might allow an increase to those hours, which in turn eases duties volunteers have been shouldering. When asked what she'd

like to see by the end of 2024, Crellin said, "I hope that we have the MVAC club up and running, and a lot of people signed up and using the space in the open studio time to create on their own, that would be amazing. And it would be really nice to see the pottery studio full with all the equipment that we need. That's what I'd like to see by the end of the year."

nesses sponsoring us right now. We have sent out letters to most of businesses in town, if not all. So sponsorship would be great to have so that we have that sup-

port every year."

Another idea is a mem-











The World-Spectator - Moosomin, Sask.

The new, completed runway at Moosomin airport. The runway had the lines painted on it on September 14 and 15. The airport expansion includes a 5,000-foot by 75-foot paved runway, along with a new taxiway and apron, which were completed this summer.





Lights, electrical next step for Moosomin Airport

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The new runway is paved, and planes and jets can land at the Moosomin Airport, but only during the day. The next big step for the airport expansion project is lighting and a place to house the electrical equipment associated with the project

"That's the next step for us—we need to put the electrical in." said Dr. Schalk Van der Merwe with the airport expansion committee. "And we need the electrical for the runway lights and the automatic weather observation system that we're planning for."

observation system that we're planning for."

Tenders for the work—including installation of runway, apron, and taxiway edge lighting—were posted to the Sask Tenders website on Sept. 12, with a closing date of Oct. 7.

"It's a very involved process, and there are fairly strict standards that are set by Transport Canada in terms of where the lights should be, how far away, all those things, because it's such a safety issue," Van Der Merwe said. "We're going to put a lighting system in where the pilot can actually switch the lights on, off his radio from the aircraft. So if you would be coming in to land, then there's a specific frequency that you



Members of the Saskatchewan Air Ambulance crew, Dr. Schalk van der Merwe with the airport expansion committee, and Kevin Weedmark with the Moosomin Chamber of Commerce standing in front of the Saskatchewan Air Ambulance jet. Currently jets can only land and take off during the day until lights are put up at the new runway.

dial in on your radio, and you can actually switch the

lights on from the aircraft."
The ARCAL (Aircraft Radio Control of Aerodrome Lighting) system is used by many airports that do not

have control towers, which would be the case for Moosomin

The project timeline all depends on the results of the lighting tender, after which a clearer picture of costs will be known and materials can be ordered.

"It all depends if those components are readily available, and then, of course, we are running into winter so that makes the construction more difficult," Van Der Merwe said. "We actually don't know any of that stuff until the tender has been awarded, and we can talk to the company that's successful for that to see how quickly can things be sourced, how quickly can it be done."

Even future fundraising goals can't be determined without first knowing the tender results and the impact it will have on the project.

ect.
"It all depends on what
the tender comes in at," Van
Der Merwe said.
The \$10.6 million Moo-

The \$10.6 million Moosomin airport expansion is the result of provincial, municipal, corporate, and private funding. The project includes a 5,000-foot by 75-foot paved runway, along with a new taxiway and apron that were completed this summer.

The funding is sliced four ways between the provincial government, local municipalities, Nutrien, and local businesses and individuals each tasked with contributing their share—roughly \$2.65 million.

Van der Merwe called the amount of support to the Moosomin Airport project "mind boggling."

"mind boggling."
"We counted over 50 different entities—whether it be municipalities, towns, individuals, businesses that's contributed to the project," he said, admitting it's difficult to accurately describe the immense level of support the airport project has inspired. "It's a humbling experience, honestly."

Animals in Need



is in search of volunteers for Moosomin's feral and stray cat community! We're looking for individuals to take on certain tasks such as temporary housing after sterilization, feeding, and record keeping.

Any questions? Feel free to reach out at 306-461-8730 or 306-690-2675

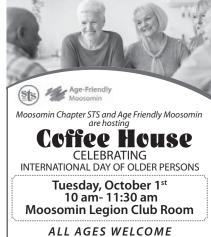


Moosomin Thrift Store and Food Share Annual General Meeting

Thursday, September 26 at 7 PM at the Moosomin Thrift Store

Everyone is Welcome!

1 |



The World Spectator's deadline is noon Thursdays



SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCILS

PUBLIC CALL FOR NOMINATIONS AND NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

South East Cornerstone Public School Division schools will be holding their School Community Council Annual General Meetings and Elections. For information regarding meeting dates and times for the school in your area please visit our website at www.secpsd.ca or contact your school administration.

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Local group submitting proposal for addiction recovery services in Moosomin

LOCAL IOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

A local group based in Moosomin is submitting a proposal to the provincial government for addiction recovery services in Moosomin.

Currently, the closest addiction treatment facility is St.

Joseph's Addiction Recovery Centre in Estevan, and a lo-cal group would like to see more services offered closer

"We want to start with having an outpatient counsellor somewhere in Moosomin where people can go to talk, and then they can refer them to other treatment centres in Saskatchewan," explained Casey McCormac, who is on the Southeast Recovery Centre Inc. board.

Initially, the group was trying to establish a recovery facility in Moosomin, and submitted a pair of proposals in recent years only to have both denied. The last attempt was in the summer of 2022 when the province announced the goal of increasing 150 to 200 new treatment spaces. The current proposal of an outpatient counsellor with

a local office would be an initial step, allowing for the group to gather metrics for future developments.

"The government wants to see successful projects in or-

"The government wants to see successful projects in order to grant this money, obviously, and we don't have any experience yet," McCormac said. "I think we want to go ahead whether we receive funding from the government or not. I think it's something that we want to see in Moosomin, at least the option to have an outpatient counsellor to be able to refer people, or for people just to go talk to them if they need."

The deadline for proposals is the end of September, but given that this is an election year, it may be early 2025 before the SRC learns if the proposal was successful or not.

"Once we submit this proposal, our next step would be to start fundraising for it." McCormac said. "We would definitely be looking for donations."

Even in these early stages, the group has received some

generous donations, including an offer to donate office rent for the first year of operation. "It's something that's definitely needed in the commu-

know that a lot of our board has either experience with addiction themselves or family or friends. Many people

addiction themselves or family or friends. Many people need help, and there's nowhere to get it in Moosomin right now."

So far this year, the provincial coroner's service has recorded a total of 229 deaths with 104 of those deemed accidental due to drug toxicity. Of the remainder, 119 are still under investigation, there have been five deaths by suicide and one undetermined.

The meight of going deaths are due to feature (60)

The majority of opioid deaths are due to fentanyl (69) followed by methadone (seven), morphine (two), and oxycodone (one).

In April, the provincial government announced plans to add 500 addictions treatment spaces across Saskatchewan, with 183 of those spots announced in Lloydminster (15 spaces at Thorpe Recovery Centre), Estevan (26 spaces at St. Joseph's Recovery Centre), Saskatoon (32 spaces at Possibilities Recovery Centre), and 36 virtual spaces through EHN Canada.

Detox centre opening at Kahkewistahaw First Nation this week

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Friday, September 27 will mark an important event on the Kahkewistahaw First Nation as the Eagle Sky Lodge officially opens its doors. Eagle Sky Lodge is a 10-bed detox facility housed in the former Health Centre building at Kahkewistahaw with nine staff that will be open to

ing at Kankewistanaw with films start find will be open to people 18 years of age and over in the community.

"There is no other detox centre in the southeast part of Saskatchewan, so it is very needed," said Eagle Sky Lodge manager Denita Benjoe. "The other detox centre that is currently running on a First Nation is located in Cote First Nation, that one is called Walking Buffalo."

The grand opening at Eagle Sky Lodge on Sept. 27 will begin at 10 am featuring dignitaries from the FSIN, Chief Evan Taypotat, the Yorkton Tribal Council and Indig-

enous Services Canada as speakers. A ribbon cutting will follow, then those in attendance can participate in a facility tour as part of the ceremonies

The care provided at Eagle Sky Lodge will be unique to

the First Nation.

"We will be providing culturally sensitive addiction and detox services here," Benjoe explained. "We're going to be offering holistic, culturally-informed care to our relatives that are seeking support in their substance misuse

atives that are seeking support in their substance misuse challenges."

One general gap Benjoe noted is that of options available to people after they exit detox, where sometimes people are sent home without support after their stay. She plans to work closely with treatment centres across Saskatchewan—especially Saulteaux Healing & Wellness Centre on the Cote First Nation—to ensure people leav-

ing Eagle Sky Lodge continue to receive the help they need after detox.

"They have an excellent treatment centre program cur-rently running, so I'm going to provide that continuum of care should my relatives here want to go on their healing journey," Benjoe said.

Benjoe brings a wealth of experience, previously working at Leading Thunderbird Lodge, a youth treatment centre in Fort Qu'Appelle that offers a 12-week program for First Nations and Inuit male youth between the ages of 12 and 18 years.

"We're finally happy to open our doors," Benjoe said.
"My phone hasn't stopped ringing once we put out the poster! We are doing a wait list at the moment. We're excited, we're ready for our relatives to come in and we're ready to take care of them here.



NOTICE OF CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Municipal Elections

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that nominations of candidates for the office(s) of:

MAYOR

will be received by the undersigned on the 9th day of October, 2024 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Moosomin Town Office, 701 Main Street, Moosomin, SK, and during regular business hours on Monday, September 23rd, 2024 to Wednesday, October 9th, 2024 at the Moosomin Town Office, 701 Main Street, Moosomin, SK.

Nomination forms may be obtained at the following location(s):

Moosomin Town Office, 701 Main Street, Moosomin, SK.

Dated this 23rd day of September, 2024.

Paul Listrom Returning Officer



NOTICE OF CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Municipal Elections

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that nominations of candidates for the office(s) of:

COUNCILLOR

Number to be elected: 6

will be received by the undersigned on the 9th day of October, 2024 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Moosomin Town Office, 701 Main Street, Moosomin, SK, and during regular business hours on Monday, September 23rd, 2024 to Wednesday, October 9th, 2024 at the Moosomin Town Office, 701 Main Street, Moosomin, SK.

Nomination forms may be obtained at the following location(s):

Moosomin Town Office, 701 Main Street, Moosomin, SK. Dated this 23rd day of September, 2024.

> Paul Listrom Returning Officer

Borderland Co-op Fuel Good Day

On Tuesday, it was Fuel Good Day at Borderland Co-op, with the co-op donating 10 cents for every litre of gas sold to local charities. There were also barbecues held in each location.

This year the money from Fuel Good Day will go toward the Moosomin Food Share, Rocanville Dream Big Child Care, the Maryfield Agricultural Society, the Whitewood Skating Club, the Broadview Happy Hours Club, the Kipling Friendship Centre, and in Grenfell, STARS Air Ambulance.





Above and left: Members of the Moosomin Food Share hosting the barbecue at the Moosomin C-Store during Fuel Good Day on Tuesday.





50/50 DRAW DATE

SEPTEMBER 28, 2024 @ 9PM

NUTRIEN ROCANVILLE COMMUNITY HALL

Proceeds to enhance recreational facilities and support recreational groups within our community.





7,198 tickets printed • Maximum prize amount \$60,000





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In our opinion:

Smarter spending can solve Canada's fiscal woes

Canada can achieve a balance between government spending and services by focusing on efficiency, effectiveness and evaluation

A common point of contention among political parties in Canada centres on government spending. How much should it be? Should it increase or de-

Those on the right clamour for fiscal prudence: governments are too wasteful and should be spending less both now and in the future because what the government spends has to be paid for, and there are only two ways to do it.

One is from tax revenue, and most of us feel that we are already giving

up more than enough of our hard-earned income in taxes. Finding anyone else to pay the tax is difficult. There's a common belief that taxing something leads to less of it, while subsidies encourage more of whatever is being sup-

The second way is by borrowing. It is easy for governments to go into debt. Savers and investors are eager to buy bonds from stable countries like Canada. Of course, the interest that must be paid on those bonds is the first charge on any future tax revenue, burdening citizens into the future.

On the other hand, say those on the left, a civilized society like Canada needs and depends upon a certain level of government services. In the 21st century, we want more than the basics of peace, order and good government, which we already take for granted.

We also expect enough well-maintained infrastructure to keep us all safe, a public education system sufficient to allow us all to become the knowledge workers that today's economy needs, and, it goes without saying, adequate available healthcare.

Do we have to choose between deteriorating public services or a future

burdened with ever higher taxes and government debt?

There is a solution. We can maintain a degree of fiscal prudence and make

available the government services we want and need by applying the three E's to how our government operates: efficiency, effectiveness and evaluation. Efficiency and its close cousin, productivity, mean getting the maximum output from the minimum input. In the private sector, controlling costs and remaining competitive ensures efficiency.

In the public sector, no such constraint exists. Incentives don't always encourage cost-saving or productivity. Often, if a department doesn't use its entire budget, it risks receiving less funding the following year. Also, having more employees can sometimes lead to higher pay grades for managers. Changing these practices could make government operations more efficient,

Changing these practices could make government operations more efficient, allowing them to deliver more services at a lower cost.

Effectiveness answers the question: Are you achieving your intended goals? Activities are undertaken with specific objectives in mind, such as completing a bridge on time and within budget or reducing the number of patients on medical wait lists. While government projects are designed to produce these results, systems to measure the outcomes of such actions are rarely implemented. Very seldom, however, are systems put into place to determine the results of any actions.

This brings us to the third "E": evaluation. When initiating any activity, it's crucial to clearly define the desired outcome in measurable terms. An evaluation structure should then be established to assess whether and to what

extent the goal was achieved. Effective evaluations not only measure the success of a project but also gauge its efficiency, ensuring that resources are used wisely and objectives are met. This process helps improve both the effective-

ness and efficiency of government projects and initiatives.

Evaluations are often avoided because people fear the negative consequences of a poor outcome. Some consequences should follow. Otherwise, why, do the evaluation? However, rather than being punitive, any subsequent action should be considered an opportunity to learn what went wrong, how we can fix it, and how to be more efficient and effective in future projects.

Much of the political dysfunction we see today comes from divergent views on key issues. Those on the left and the right both make valid points about government spending. As shown here, a middle ground exists where both sides can come closer to their desired objectives.

Societies thrive when politicians and others move away from extreme positions and seek common ground that provides the greatest benefits. By focus-ing on shared goals and finding compromises, they can create policies that better serve the collective interests of the population.

This approach fosters co-operation, reduces polarization, and leads to more

effective and inclusive solutions that address the needs of a diverse society.

This editorial was written by Dr. Roslyn Kunin, a respected Canadian economist known for her extensive work in economic forecasting, public policy, and labour mar-ket analysis. She has held various prominent roles, including serving as the regional director for the federal government's Department of Employment and Immigration in British Columbia and Yukon and as an adjunct professor at the University of British Columbia. Dr. Kunin is also recognized for her contributions to economic development, particularly in Western Canada.



Our region's extreme can-do attitude has always set us apart

I am a pretty lucky person in that I tend to see the best in things no matter where I am. From big cities to small towns, I've always been able to see what makes a place unique, and what strengths that area has that sets it apart.

But no matter where I've travelled or lived, I

have yet to come across the can-do attitude of the Moosomin area. And it's a can-do attitude in a

big way.

I came to Moosomin as a reporter in 2002 and got a taste of that attitude right away. The region was at that time raising money for a new hospital. In order for the new hospital to go ahead,

pital. In order for the new hospital to go ahead, Moosomin had to raise its share of the cost, and that cost was considerable.

Back then I watched as person after person stepped up to the plate with donations—sometimes pretty big donations. We published all of these in the World-Spectator, with the result being that it inspired even more people to donate when they saw that others were donating.

Sometimes the fundraising went to the extreme. The Moosomin Moose Fraternity strapped on hockey skates and decided to try to play the

on hockey skates and decided to try to play the world's longest hockey game in a bid for a Guin-ness World Record, and as a way to raise money ness World Record, and as a way to raise money for the new hospital. The event garnered lots of media attention, and the health minister and premier made the trip to Moosomin to show their support. It also gained bloodied and bruised feet for a lot of the Moose players, who were exhausted by the end, but it's that kind of determination that makes this area unique.

Fast forward 20 years later, and the Moosomin region hasn't changed a bit. Last Tuesday, it was the Minister of Highways this time on hand to celebrate the opening of Moosomin's new runway at the Moosomin airport.

What started as simply wanting some lights on the runway became, not surprisingly, a \$10.6 million expansion project as it was quickly realized that not only was our airport needing lights,

ized that not only was our airport needing lights, but Moosomin had one of the only unpaved runways for a community of its size in the province

ways for a community of its size in the province, leading to some major issues in health care, such as being unable to land the Sask Air Ambulance.

Two key people—Jeff St. Onge and Dr. Schalk van der Merwe—decided that the project needed to be bigger than just lights—much bigger.

And so they got started. They went to every town and RM council in the area, and pitched their case for the need for a payed runway they.

their case for the need for a paved runway, they their case for the need for a paved runway, they spoke at Chamber of Commerce meetings, and they organized meetings with the Ministry of Highways to do whatever they could to get Moosomin's runway paved. They were able to secure the maximum funding under the provincial CAP (Community Airport Partnership Program) grant for a number of years, and then, something even higger hampered—the provincial governgrant for a full miler of years, and their, sometiming even bigger happened—the provincial government and Nutrien announced in 2023 that they would each cover a quarter of the funding for the airport expansion, if municipalities and corporate and private donors could cover the rest.



Kara Kinna

It was a major milestone for the project, and was just what was needed to spur the project on toward completion. The donations rolled in, and last Tuesday, Moosomin celebrated a beautiful paved runway, complete with painted lines, that had already seen multiple landings of the Sask Air Ambulance.

Air Ambulance.

That said, the airport still doesn't have lights—an irony that is not lost on Jeff and Dr. Van—who are now fastidiously working on fundraising for that portion of the project. But the point is that, in this area, there is a unique can-do attitude where we don't just decide to kind of do something, we tend to do it in a big way, even if it seems like initially we are biting off more than we can chew. This bodes true for lots of other projects. Take the Rocanville Aquatic Centre uperade for ex-

the Rocanville Aquatic Centre upgrade for example. When the town of Rocanville found that costs for an upgraded indoor pool were far higher than expected, they were faced with a pretty tough choice of whether to go ahead or not. For a town of 1,000 people, the challenge seemed

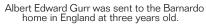
Fast forward a few years later, and fundraising is in full force for the pool upgrade. The town has restarted its Lucky Lottery as an annual way to raise funds for rec facilities in Rocanville, and construction on the pool is underway at this mo-ment with plans to be open for the 2025 pool sea-

I believe it is this attitude—this ability to punch Ibelieve it is this attitude—this ability to punch above our weight again and again—that sets our area apart, making it unique. Currently we have our sights set on a CT Scanner in Moosomin. I can't say for sure how this project will pan out, but if history is any indication, I know for a fact that we will be sinking our teeth into getting this project moved forward in some capacity.

An unprecendented number of national awards!

The World-Spectator has a long history of being a paper that sets itself apart, and we did that again last week when it was announced that we had won 10 national awards in the Canadian nad won 10 hational awards in the Canadian Community Newspaper Awards. This means that we were competing with every other com-munity paper in the country. This is an unprecen-dented number of national awards for our paper. But we couldn't do this without our amazing, but we couldn't do this without our amazing, hard working staff, who put their heart and soul into this paper every week. And of course our readers who are willing to share amazing stories with us every week! Check out our full list of awards on Page 17 of this week's paper!









Above at left, brothers Albert and Amos Gurr in England. Above at right, Albert and Amos Gurr after moving to Canada and reconnecting in the Hamiota and Miniota area

September 28, a day in honour of the British Home Children

Over 100 years more than 100,000 children were sent to Canada to serve as farm labour. One woman wants more people to know their story.

BY ASHLEY BOCHEK
Over the course of a century, more than 100,000
British Home Children
crossed the Atlantic Ocean
from London, England to Canada.

The children were sent to Bernardo homes in England to help relieve finan-cial stresses off young Brit-ish families in the 1800s.

The children were sent

to Canada through the Bernardo organization. Parents were unaware until returning to the homes to find their children, that the children had been sent to Canada.

Debbie Bochek, a de-scendant of a British Home Child explains her fami-lies connection to this little known part of Canadian history.
"In the 1800s in England

after the Industrial Revolution, a lot of farm families tion, a for or farm families were moving into the cities for jobs, and as they moved into the cities it resulted into overcrowding and overpopulation. A lot of families then were have ing troubles supporting all of their children and it beor their children and it became a time of poverty. So, children ended up living on the streets and it was a problem in the cities—in London, in particular.

"Then, England came up with the idea where they would ship over young children to Canada because Canada was a young country at the time, and Canada could use young children to learn how to farm and be adopted out to families.



Debbie Bochek with her British Home Children flags.

"So, it helped both countries. This movement lasted for around 100 years of these children coming to Canada and about 100,000 children were sent to Canada over the 100 years from the mid-1800s to mid-

Bochek says each child had a trunk to travel from

England to Canada.
"It was Dr. Thomas Ber-

nardo that came up with this idea to house these children over there, and then came up with this plan to send them to Can-ada. When each Bernardo child came to Canada they had a trunk with specific items in there—not a lot. They weren't allowed to bring any personal items I think just to try and sever the ties and not be missing their families at home so there were no dolls, or toys, or photographs in their trunks."

She says the children didn't find out about their parents until later in life. "A lot of the children were told to believe they were orphans, but many found out later that they did have at least one parent still liv-ing over in England."

Family

Connection
Bochek says her great
grandpa was sent to live
in a Bernardo home at a

in a Bernardo home at a young age.
"My great-great grand-mother was a parent—he husband had passed away when my great grandpa was two months old. She had four boys then and she couldn't look after

them all. Then, she started sending them out to the Bernardo homes not all at once, but I know my great grandpa ended up in what was called, Baby's Castle, in Hawkhurst, a part of London which is still un-der Bernardo homes. All der Bernardo homes. All four of her boys she ended up sending to Bernardo homes and in the end all four boys ended up coming to Canada."

She says the children were sent on ships to Canada and sent to Bernardo homes across the country.

homes across the country.

"My great grandpa came over with a brother of his My great grandpa was Albert Edward Gurr and he came over in 1897 with his brother, Amos Abel Gurr. My great grandpa was nine at the time and his brother was 11. They came over on a ship called the SS Lab-rador that left from Liverpool. There were over 100 children that came over at that time and they arrived in Quebec City. In time, my great grandpa and his brother came by train to Manitoba. They were sent to live at the Bernardo farm at Russell. In Russell, these boys would learn to farm. They had all aspects of farming there, they had chickens, pigs, dairy, and horses, they learned inevitably how to farm. Then, from Russell, once they turned 18, they were placed on farms. My great grand-pa was placed near Beulah, Manitoba and his brother was placed near Miniota.

Continued on page 10 13

September 28, a day in honour of the British Home Children

Over 100 years more than 100,000 children were sent to Canada to serve as farm labour. One woman wants more people to know their story.

**Continued from Page 9

"I remember growing up, my mom would talk about her grandpa and I was always interested in my family history."
Bochek said. "Inever met my great grandpa Curr so whenever asking my mom questions she always said she felt bad because he never really talked about it."

She says some BFIC children were treated poorly in Canada. "A lot of those children when they came over Canada they were meant to tell shame, and a lot of them

weren't treated very well, some were, but more and more in different non-fictional books that I read most of them weren't treated overally well."

Can find out online

Anyone can look up their last name on an online website to see if they have a connection to a BHC descendent. "There is a website online called the BHC registry." Bochek said. "I just type in British Home Children and the website that comes up—anyone can go on there and type in a last name and it will give you a list of anyone with that last name or a similar spelling because sometimes the ship manifest—the spelling gets misconstrued so you can look and see. I can type in Gurr, and then find my great grandpa and his brothers when they came and what ship they were

"The other two brothers that came over didn't end up coming to Manitoba, they ended up in Ontario and from any research that has been done, they never married and so the family tree on their side ended with them coming, but then at Miniota and Hamiota, my great grandpa and his brother, I have done quite a bit of research and they had families of their own. My mom is often in contact with rela-

Home Children's story not part of Sask curriculum

Bochek, a teacher at McNaughton High School says she is surprised it is not in any social studies textbooks for stu-

"I think for 100 years of Canadian history, not a lot of "I timk for 100 years of Canadian mistory, not a for of people are maybe aware about it unless it is a part of your family. I am proud to be a descendant of a British Home Child and all they survived, when through, their strong work ethic, and to perseven through all those hard times. One of the control of the property of the proper

how they lasted around 100 years and these British Home Children were coming over for about 100 years as well and I feel that it needs to be recognized too.

Treet that it needs to be recognized too."

Bochek says the British Home Children are more known in Eastern Canada.

"It is bigger in Ontario because that were a lot of the children are more known in Eastern Canada.

dren came. I find in Saskatchewan it doesn't seem to be as well known. I have talked to some teachers in Manitoba and have heard it is touched on a little bit in their curricu-

The Bernardo homes in Canada

"It housed about 100 children, the Bernardo house ir Russell. As more came in the older ones maybe left, but I know I have researched, and at 5:30 am they woke up to a bugle and religion was a big part too. They had a service every day. Then, they did chores for a lot of the day. This every day. Then, they did chores for a lot of the day. This house had so many rooms. I have been to Russell and gone to the site. There are no buildings, but a sign with a picture to the site. Inere are no buildings, but a sign with a picture of the home, and information about the farm. Then, not far from there is a cemetery because some children passed over all those years and buried there, but it is not big. I have gone back and paid tribute to great grandpa.

She says she has read a lot of books pertaining to the history of British Home Children.

"I have read a lot of books and most based on information. The stories that I have heard from the Bernardo chil-dren being here at the homes are mainly the negative ones. "Somewhere it could be a boy who comes to Canada and

lives in a barn, eats out of a pig trough, eats dog scraps out of a dog dish, but then they're not all like that. My mon even said her grandpa never really talked about it and I think it maybe was because it wasn't a positive experience."

und his brothers when they came and what ship they were war because it wasn't a posture experience. "In this way to the wasn't a posture experience." when the many the wasn't a posture experience was because it wasn't a posture experience was not in the maryle was because it wasn't a posture experience. The wasn't a posture experience was not in the maryle was because it wasn't a posture experience. The maryle was because it wasn't a posture experience was not in the maryle was because it wasn't a posture experience. The maryle was because it wasn't a posture experience was not in the maryle was because it wasn't a posture experience. The maryle was because it wasn't a posture experience was not in the maryle was because it wasn't a posture experience. The maryle was because it wasn't a posture experience was not in the maryle was because it wasn't a posture experience. Bonnes says are family a sum and the pread grands brother.

The other two brothers that came over didn't end up

The other two brothers that came over didn't end up

The other two brothers that canded on in Ordanio and from

Hamilota area and his brother in the Minioda area.

Bochek says the brothers didn't know how close they set tled to one another until eventually meeting up at a com-

at one point after leaving the Bernardo home and settling on farms. I believe the story goes that they met up one time on tarms. I beneve me story goes that they met up one time at the Birtle Fair, and got talking and realized how close they were. Then, on every Sunday after they were done chores, they would walk and meet half-way, have a picnic, and then they would go back in time to do chores. It is special when you think about it."

Little known Canadian history

dren aren't more known.

"I am not sure why more people don't know about it I think if there is something more that I could try to do, I would love to.

"I think in Manitoba it is almost a bit more known maybe

because of the Russell Bernardo home for boys," Bochek said. "I am on a couple groups on Facebook, I just try to learn more and I teach it to my students so they learn about it because it is important and part of our Canadian history.

Embracing British Home Children

Bochek takes pride in wearing the colours to represent the British Home Children on their respected day. "On September 28, when it is British Home Child day I do make a point of wearing my red, white, and blue to school, and then telling my students about it.

'It encompasses red and white for Canada and our flag.



Debbie Bochek on September 28 last year recognizing the British Home Children by wearing red,

Child, and they absolutely love it. I have been reading it now to them for a few years. The story in the book makes ne think of my great grandpa coming to a farm and work-ng hard on the farm."

Bocheks says she has had students in the past know about their family's history and connection with British Home Children.

"I have had two students in the past that knew they were I have not two students in the past that knew they were British Home Children descendants, one was Isabelle and Bodie Tilley, and Sully McGonigal. They have brought in some of their memorabilia and then we can look up on the website and find their ancestors. It is neat and exciting and then if they go home and they're excited, and it gets their parents excited or ask grandparents more, it is a start.

She says there were other organizations sending children sne says increwere other organizations senaing critician to Canada at the time. "A lot of the children are referred to as Bernardo children even though they might have been under another organization because there were so many Bernardo children. They kind of are synonymous even though they might not have been directly a Bernardo child. there were other organizations too."

Bochek believes the Bernardo organization had good intentions sending the children to Canada and housing them

think they had the best intentions. The Canadian families did pay for them so it was very much part of the gov-ernment and it did help both Britain and Canada."

Gurr family reconnects

Bochek says her grad grandpa's mom ended up coming to Canada later in life to reconnect with her sons. For my story cla ansay there was a bit of a happy ending because my great-great grandma in England, she did eventually come to Canada and meet up with all of her boys, and I think a lot of stories wouldn't of ended that way. "In England, she eventually enemarried, she was a house-meeting that the contraction of the contraction

keeper that's really all she probably could do, she wouldn't have been educated. After her second marriage passed away she came to Canada and met up in Ontario with one son there, Alfred. There is documentation that she came out

and the red, white, and blue of the Union Jack for Britain."

Bochek reads a book on Home Children to her students.
"I read a novel to my students every year called, Home
"I read a novel to my students every year called, Home was living with Amos on the farm at Miniota. So she would have probably caught up with all of them. She stayed in Canada after that and is buried in Orangeville, Ontario."

Sunflowers represent British Home Children

Children.

The sunflower represents British Home Children, When

"Sunflowers are bright and inspire hope, British Home "Sunflowers are bright and inspire hope, british Home Children came to Canada hoping for a brighter future. As the sunflower grows the flowers face the sun beginning each day in the East and ends each day in the West. Brit-ish Home Children got off their ships in the East and most travelled West into all parts of Canada. Sunflowers are Array of the Children had to be strong mentally, physically, and Home Children had to be strong mentally, physically, and most onally and ondured various lying situations. Sunemotionally and endured various living situations. Sunflower seeds are encased in shells, most British Home Chil-dren kept their life stories to themselves encased in their

oren kept their nie stories to hemselves encased in their hearts," British Home Children "I think that is very true. It absolutely encompasses what a home child is and what a sunflower is. I find it neat too because now my mom uses sunflowers as her centrepiece on her table in the kitchen now that she knows."

Farming in Manitoba

Bochek says her great grandpa learned to farm at the Bernardo home in Russell before settling and farming his own nardo nome in Kusseil before settling and tarming his own land near Hamiota.
"My great grandpa did eventually farm on his own. He married my great grandma and they had a lot of children. They farmed in the Hamiota area and when they retired

they moved to Brandon, and they're buried there."

Bochek says they have never seen her great grandpa'

Bochek says they have never seen her great grandpa's trunk from when he came to Canada.

"I am wishing I knew where his trunk ended up, but I am wondering if it was maybe something he didn't care to keep if it wasn't a positive experience for him. I never met him, but I did meet my great grandma. They had a good

"It is who you are. It is important to know your roots and be proud of what your ancestors have accomplished and gone through. It makes you, you."

—Debbie Bochek

Extended family connections

Bochek says the Gurr family at Hamiota is still in contact with the relatives in Miniota.

"It makes me wish that we knew more of great grandpa" it makes me wish that we knew more of great grandpa is story and when my grandpa Gurr was alive, I wish I had asked him more questions because I think as a son, he may have known more as well, but of course at that time in my life it was not something that I was as interested in as I am now. That is what I wish, that I could have learned more back then or even ask my great grandma when she was alive. I am sure she would have known some stories."

anve. I am sure see would have known some stories.

Bochek says a family friend had done a lot of research into the Gurr family tree.

"The Gurr family at Miniota, a good mutual friend of all of ours from Hamiota, Donna Sararas, she has done a lot of esearch on the Gurr's for her friend at Miniota, and so she lescatt of the charles so he in relied at winning, and so size has gone back as far as the parents of my great grandpa, so my great-great grandpa and grandma who sent them over. The great-great grandpa passed in 1888 of July after my great grandpa was born in April of that year. So we have back as far as that. She came up with a book and a binder and she had all this information in there and at one time had it, but of course my mom wanted it, and as she should She says the Gurr family has no recollection of where the

She says the Gurr family has no recollection of where the one brother ended up.

"The one brother, Edgar, we have lost track of. We don't know where he is buried, and being the oldest we think he was very transient and couldn't settle anywhere for very

ong."
The Gurr family has pictures of the brothers.

"I was able to get some pictures too so that was spe-cial, but there are only pictures of the three boys, Alfred Gurr, there was no picture of him," Bochek said. "We also wondered how we would even find pictures because they wondered now we would even in a pictures because they weren't allowed to bring their own personal belongings, so we think when their mom came over from England she brought them with her. I think it is too bad—probably a lot of moms who sent their children to these Bernardo homes in England and they were told and promised that they would see their children some day and a lot of them never did and those children just ended up thinking that their parent passed away."

parent passed away."

Bochek says her great-great grandma sent the boys to Child descendent, the QR code for the website is below: Parando homes thinking she would one day pick them up. "I believe that it is just the fact that when she had these our boys and my great grandna was born and those to the property of the four boys and my great grandpa was born and then two months later her husband pass. There was no way she could work and look after four young boys and so she turned to Bernardo homes. My great grandpa was the last one she sent to a Bernardo home seems to see that the sent to a bernardo homes were for destitute children. The parents would send them there to be looked after and they were be-

lieved to think once they could get on their feet they could

September 28

known in Eastern Canada Bochek says different monuments across Eastern Canada portray the colours of British Home Children in honour of

go there and pick their children up, but they were already sent to Canada."

eir journey and life in Canada. "On the British Home Children day there are different on the british frome Children day inere are different monuments all over Canada that use red, white, and blue lights on that day to commemorate the British Home Children. The Calgary Tower, Niagara Falls, and the CN Tower all radiate red, white, and blue. There was a stamp at one time for the British Home Children in 2010. There is also a monument at Pier 21 in Halifax, but my ancestors came to Quebec City."

Proud to be a British Home Child descendent

Bochek says she is proud to be a descendent of a British Home Child and wants to continue to learn more about the

historical movement.
"I find it very special. I think that is part of me and how I feel that I am hardworking and I want to learn more about my family and what they went through. I think of it as a

big part of me."

Bochek says it is important to know your family's his-

"It is who you are. It is important to know your roots and be proud of what your ancestors have accomplished and

gone through. It makes you, you."

Bochek is sharing her story and connection to British
Home Children to let people learn and look into this Ca-

Home Children to 1et people tearn and 100k into this canadian history.

"I want people to know that it lasted a long time and maybe if you re a British descendant, you might want to do a little bit of digging and find out if you're a descendant of a British Home Child as well. I think that is special and it means a lot. It is a pretty unique story





The Bernardo home in Russell, where the British Home Children were sent to learn how to farm



The four Gurr boys' mom, Emily Grace Brown at her home in England



From left are Sask Air Ambulance Chief Pilot Jeff Egeland, Sask Air Ambulance Aircraft Maintenance Manager Tanya Scheelhaase, Flight Nurse Brian Topp, Manager of Saskatchewan Air Ambulance David Mandzuk, Director of Flight Operations Dan Knisley, Jeff St. Onge with the Moosomin airport expansion committee, Sask Highways Minister Lori Carr, Dr. Schalk van der Merwe with the Moosomin airport expansion committee, RM of Moosomin Reeve David Moffatt, Moosomin Mayor Larry Tomlinson, and Tyler Thorn with the Community Builders Alliance.

New runway completed at Moosomin Airport

"Although our municipality owns this airport, this aviation infrastructure serves the Moosomin region's residents, families, local businesses and industries," RM of Moosomin No. 121 Reeve David Moffatt said. "Thanks to neighbours coming together and the provincial govern-ment's investment, this project moved from vision to real-

ment's investment, this project moved from vision to rearity."

Fixed wing air ambulances serving Saskatchewan began landing at the Moosomin Airport in July.

"With this expansion, our Saskatchewan Air Ambulance team will be able to improve the critical care and lifesaving transportation services in the southeast corner of the province," SaskBuilds and Procurement Minister Terry Jenson said. "We appreciate the collaborative partnerships that made this a reality and look forward to the social and economic improvements this will bring to southeastern Saskatchewan."

Kevin Weedmark of the Moosomin Chamber of Com-merce, the Community Builders Alliance and the Eco-

nerte, the Committee said he was happy to see the project come together.
"I was proud to chair the event in 2023 where the provincial government and Nutrien announced their support for the airport expansion, I was proud to be there this summer when the Air Ambulance landed for the first

time in Moosomin, and I'm happy to see Minister Carr out today and see this project come to fruition.

"This was a massive project that is already having an impact. The airport is already much busier than before the expansion, the Air Ambulance is now able to serve the region, and with corporate jets now able to reach the region, there will be benefits for regional investment and region, there will be benefits for regional investment and for our resource industries. It was great to see the province come on board with this project, it was great to see Nutrien come on board with the project, it was great to see the local business community step up and it was great to see local municipalities each take a share. Collaboration builds our communities, and having everyone work

tion builds our communities, and having everyone work together on this project made it a success."

"This airport epitomizes the spirit of how this province and the prairies remain committed to working together," said Jeff St. Onge, one of the organizers of the airport expansion. "It showcases strength and perseverance, dedication and relentless hard work, and is a testimony of what can happen if you have 100 businesses and personal donors, 18 towns, RMs and villages, two provinces and one provincial government working together. If you can have them working together in mutual trust, open communication and respect, you can get anything done."

"It gives us options for those who are sick or unwell and it gives us the ortion to serve all of our communities."

and it gives us the option to serve all of our communities

that have contributed or that have in any way, shape or form been involved in this project," says Dr. Schalk van der Merwe, who helped organize the airport expansion along with St. Onge.
"On behalf of the local private sector and the business community, we would like to say thank you very much to the provincial government for their contribution, and to Nutrien as well for their contribution. Both of those were very significant and we're very appreciative of your genrosity," said Tyler Thorn with the Community Builders Alliance. "I believe this project is a great example of what can be accomplished when you bring together the provincial government, local municipal governments, local corporate partners, the local private sector, and some very determined people who like to get stuff done."
"Between the government and Nutrien and everyone

"Between the government and Nutrien and everyone else that has been involved in this project, it's unbelievable what can be done when everybody works together,"

able what can be done when everybood works together, said Moosomin Mayor Larry Tomlinson.

"I have to thank Dr. Van and Jeff for all of the work that they've done and I want to thank the government and Nutrien especially. We're very proud to be a part of this airport and what it's come to be and I think going into the future, it will be part of the growth in our commutation." nity here. This will do nothing but expand that and bring more to our town and the surrounding communities."



Jeff St. Onge with the Moosomin airport expansion committee and Sask Highways Minister Lori Carr inside the Sask Air Ambulance on Tuesday.



Jeff St. Onge and Dr. Schalk van der Merwe with the Moosomin airport expansion committee on the steps of the Sask Air Ambulance plane on Tuesday. St. Onge and van der Merwe initiated the expansion project.

Monday, September 23, 2024 World-Spectator - Moosomin, Sask 13



People at the airport celebration viewing aerial photos of what the new runway looked like at each stage.



Sask Minister of Highways Lori Carr speaking on Tuesday at the celebration of the completion of the new runway at Moosomin airport.

What was said at the Moosomin Airport opening

A few quotes from the speakers at an event Tuesday to mark the opening of Moosomin's airport.

Jeff St. OngeI find it just absolutely so exciting. This morning at 9:36 am I heard from a company in Calgary, they have a client that would want to fly in here regularly. We're just co-ordinating that. So it's just mind boggling—build it and they will come—it is such a growth opportunity for this part of the province. I'm also delighted that we have Minister Carr here. When we started the project we contacted the Ministry of Highways and got ahold of Minister Carr and had a meeting at 8:30 on November 5, 2018 with Dr. Van and I. So I think it's so fitting that you're here on both ends—you were here at the start and you're here at the tail end. I am so thrilled that you're here.

David Moffatt

It is with much pride and responsibility that I stand before you, representing the RM of Moosomin. As owner and operator of the airport, I truly feel that the airport belongs to all of us and ev-eryone who has committed time, money and passion to help see our region grow. It's important to us to make this area grow. The airport is a lifeline for medical emergencies, a hub for economic growth, and a gateway for connecting our region to the world. By successfully land-ing the Air Ambulance on our runway, we acknowledge today a great milestone with the Government of Saskatchewan and the Ministry of Highways. We know that we have more to accomplish and we need the community to work together to add another dimension to the airport by the way of lighting and navigation sys-tems. The RM of Moosomin is dedicated to ensuring that our new airport remains a valuable asset to our region. We are committed to the success and wellbeing of the people we serve.

Lori Carr

I know it's a super excit-ing day for everybody that has finally come to fruition. Today we're here to mark a very special milestone. We gather to celebrate the recent completion of the new and longer runway at the Moosomin Airport. Thanks to that accomplishment, the airport can now land fixed wing Air Ambulances to serve the citizens

of the region. This also better positions the southeast for growth from the mining sector and various other businesses. Our provincial government is proud to have played a role in your achievement. We did this by investing more than \$2.4 million towards Moosomin Airport's ongoing infra-structure project. It simply made sense based on the drive of the community and the positives that could be achieved by that outcome but the real hard work was done by everyone in this region. Our provincial gov-ernment applauds the community spirit and tenacity of the Moosomin area. Your determination helped your local airport infrastructure project get off the ground and take flight. It's an example of rural and urban communities, industries and businesses of all sizes, service groups and neighbors setting a clear objective then reaching for the sky and get-ting it done. I truly believe that there's

no other place like Saskatch-ewan where we can bring community, industry, indi-viduals and governments together and really, truly make a project that means so much to, not just the community, but a region—and this truly is a regional investment and will serve you guys for years and years to come. So thank you for demonstrating what makes this province great and for helping to keep what makes Saskatchewan strong.

Dr. Van

This is unbelievable. I've thought about this so much—what does this mean for us? What does this mean for every one of us? You think about it—all of the communities, all of the private investors, two provinces—everybody coming together for one project that benefits everyone. For me, it's just been an unbelievable experience. We barely had talked to people and they were like, 'We're here. Here's my tractor.' Whatevrer we didn't have, Jeff was like, 'Here, you guys can help us right?' People like Jeff, and everybody sitting here, contributed in whatever manner they could. Such an unbelievable experience. What does this mean for

our patients, in my other profession that I do in my spare time? It gives us options. About two days after the airport was landable, I was on the phone because we had someone who was really sick and had to go out

of our community to where they need care. Within 53 minutes the Air Ambulance was here and the person in critical need got care. For me, that's what this is about. For everybody that has been involved in any way, shape or form, thank you.

Tyler Thorn
When this project first started, and I still get a little emotional when I talk about this, I didn't know anything about airports but a friend of mine said to me one day, What is it worth to you! What is it worth to you if your kid needs to get on the Air Ambulance someday?' That was what it took for me to open my eyes and see how important this airport is because if my kid, or port is because if my kid, or any kid, needs to be on that airplane then I want that service to be there. Thanks to Dr. Van and Jeff because that's where this whole thing first started. I want to congratulate the RM of Moosomin, the Reeve Da-vid Moffatt, the CAO Kendra Lawrence, Jeff St. Onge and Dr. Van from the Flying Club for the job that they've done on this project to get it where it is today. Raising the capital for a project of this size is obviously important but without the passion and determination of that group of people, we would not be here today

I would also like to recog-nize the 18 towns and RMs nize the 18 towns and RMs for their commitment to the project as well and to say thank you to all of those lo-cal governments. Last but not least, thank you to all of the local businesses that made contributions as well. There have been numerous businesses that have extended their support—a couple of notables are Dan and Olga McCarthy from



From left, Jeff St. Onge and Dr. Schalk van der Merwe with the airport expansion committee, and Kevin Weedmark with the Moosomin Chamber of Commerce. St. Onge and van der Merwe initiated the airport expansion project.

Hack, Scott and Brock Andrew and their family from Air Andrew, Parrish and Heimbecker and Conexus Credit Union. All of those contributed sizeable six fig-

ure donations. Saskatchewan's of the Year Dr. Van has explained the importance of the airport from the healthcare perspective and I'd just like to share a couple of thoughts on the importance of the airport from a business perspective. Having the airport opens up that range of businesses looking to expand and it makes the region accessible to the rest of the country and the rest of

the world.

The airport allows the existing businesses and corporations in the region to get here much easier and more often. Typically when you have executives from those businesses and corporations here more frequently, they're more likely to bring some new investment and expansion.

Also, I think that airport allows us to keep some re-ally good entrepreneurs here. Private air travel may be a foreign concept to a lot of us, but we have some young entrepreneurs who re growing business across the province, the country and internationally and those young people want to be able to grow their busi-ness and be home in time to have dinner with the family or catch their kid's hockey game and the airport makes that possible. Without the airport here I think we risk losing some of those young entrepreneurs to larger centres where they have access to aircraft. We now have a new tool in our tool belt with the completion of the airport and as a good friend of mine likes to say, 'The only way to buy time in this world is with planes and people,' and the airport gives us access to both. Thank you all for your time and contribu-tions to this wonderful proj-

Larry **Tomlinson**

It's a great day to see something like this happen in our community. To go back to the start, our local MLA wanted to

our local MLA wanted to have a look when he heard that a bunch of farmers were bringing equipment in, when he couldn't get out there with his car and I had to take him in my truck.

So I tack him out them

So I took him out there and he couldn't believe what was going on—local farmers and everyone out there just churning up dirt and getting it ready.

Well that's what this com-

munity is all about and I want to thank everybody for coming out.



From left, Jeff St. Onge with the airport expansion committee, Tyler Thorn with the Community Builders Alliance, Saskatchewan Highways Minister Lori Carr, RM of Moosomin Reeve David Moffatt, Moosomin Mayor Larry Tomlinson, and Dr. Schalk van der Merwe with the airport expansion committee at the celebration of the completion of the new runway.



In memory of RCAF pilot father Heathcotes donate \$20,000 to **Moosomin Airport Expansion**

Mike and Tim Heathcote believe their father, an RCAF pilot in the Second World War, would have wanted to see the airport expansion in Moosomin go forward, so they decided to donate toward the airport

Mike and Tim Heathcote donated \$20,000 to the Moosomin Airport project in memory of their father First Lieutenant

Healthcote who was an RCAF Pilot in WWII. They know that he would have been very much in favour of

the airport expansion in Moosomin.

James

expansion.

"We were thinking it would be nice to do something in memory of him, but we hadn't thought about how much to do-

"When we saw in the newspaper that the Glassers gave \$20,000, we thought we could do that, too.

"I think it's really important for the area to have the new airport, I think it will make a difference for a lot of people. We're happy to be able to help."

happy to be able to help."

The Mosomin Airport Expansion Project has been cost-shared between the provincial government, Nutrien, local governments, and donations from local businesses and individuals.

At a public event in 2023, the provincial government and Nutrien both agreed to cover a quarter of the cost of the airport expansion, and those contributions helped complete the project.

complete the project.

The runway was paved over the sum-

The runway was paved over the summer, lines were painted on the September 14-15 weekend, and the airport is complete other than lighting and electrical, which is currently being tendered.

Jeff St. Onge of the airport expansion committee said donations like the Heath-cotes add up to make the \$10.6 million airport a reality.

"All donations like that add up to so we can purchase things we need," he said. "The paint for the runway was \$10,000. The dotted line in the middle of the run-The dotted line in the middle of the runway, each of those is four and a half feet wide by 100 feet long, and there are 24 of them. Each takes five gallons of paint. The threshhold markings, there are six on each end. Each of them is five and a half feet by 100 feet and take six gallons of paint. The runway designations, the numbers on the end, are 27 feet tall and 10 feet wide. It took five gallons of paint for each end. This do. five gallons of paint for each end. This do-nation pays for all of the paint with some left over. The rest might put 20 lights along

the runway.

"These donations add up, and they also keep the project in the public eye. People see others donate and they decide that they can donate as well, which is what



James Heathcote, a pilot in the RCAF

happened here, they saw someone else do-nated \$20,000 when they saw the picture in the newspaper and they donated as well. "When the Mulletts put in that they would match donations up to the \$20,000, they had 39 people come in and make do-nations, they raised over \$20,000, so they matched it with \$20,000.

"People see someone else is being gener-ous and they want to be generous as well. Every donation that comes in is important. Every donation that comes in will buy something that we need."

St. Onge said it has been difficult to keep track of all the donations and contributrack of all the donations and contribu-tions. More were coming in as the list of donors was being prepared for the event celebrating the completion of the run-way last Tuesday. "I talked to Kendra in the morning and she said, 'Oh, I've got another one. Oh, I've got another one.' I said, 'I'm printing it at 3 pm.' So the donor board was an incomplete picture because there have been so many contributions, so many volunteer hours, so much support." many volunteer hours, so much support.



Village of Gerald

NOTICE OF CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Municipal Elections

FORM H [Section 45 of the Act]

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that nominations of candidates for the offices of:

MAYOR: VILLAGE OF GERALD

Number to be Elected: 1

COUNCILLOR: VILLAGE OF GERALD

Number to be Elected: 2

will be received by the undersigned on the 9th day of October, 2024 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Village Office and during regular business hours on September 24th, October 1st and 8th, 2024 at the Village Office.

Nomination forms may be obtained at the Village Office.

Dated this 17th day of September, 2024.

Susan Gawryluk Returning Officer

52:1c

The Village of Fairlight

NOTICE OF CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Municipal Elections

FORM H [Section 66 of the Act]

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that nominations of candidates for the offices of:

MAYOR: VILLAGE OF FAIRLIGHT

Number to be Elected: 1

COUNCILLOR: VILLAGE OF FAIRLIGHT

Number to be Elected: 2

will be received by the undersigned on the 9th day of October, 2024 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Fairlight Village Office and during regular business hours from September 17th to October 8th, 2024.

Nomination forms may be obtained at the Fairlight Village Office.

Dated this 16th day of September, 2024.

Nadia Metz Returning Officer

52:1c

NOTICE OF CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION

TOWN OF WAWOTA

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that nominations of candidates for the office(s) of:

MAYOR: TOWN OF WAWOTA NUMBER TO BE ELECTED - 1

COUNCILLORS: TOWN OF WAWOTA

NUMBER TO BE ELECTED - 6

will be received by the undersigned on the **9th day of October**, **2024**, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Wawota Municipal Building, 308 Railway Avenue and during regular business hours on September 16th, 2024 to October 8th, 2024, at the Wawota Municipal Building, 308 Railway Avenue.

Nomination forms may be obtained at the following location: Wawota Municipal Building, 308 Railway Avenue, Wawota, Saskatchewan.

Dated this 16TH day of September, 2024.

Sherry Wight Returning Officer

RM OF WAWKEN NO 93

NOTICE OF CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
MUNICIPAL ELECTION

(Section 66 of the Act FORM H)

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that nominations of candidates for the office(s) of:

Reeve

Councillor for Division No. 1 Councillor for Division No. 3 Councillor for Division No. 5

will be received by the undersigned on October 9, 2024 at the municipal office in Wawota, SK during the office hours Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm & 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm from September 16, 2024 to October 8, 2024 at 4:00 pm local time.

Nomination forms may be obtained from the RM of Wawken municipal office at 308 Railway Ave, Wawota, SK. Nomination forms must be properly executed and accompanied by a Public Disclosure Statement.

Dated this September 16, 2024.

Katelyn Ethier Returning Officer

51

51:3c

Rocanville Rec Report

Rocanville Lucky Lottery

The Rocanville Lucky Lottery committee is entering the final stretch of ticket sales, with the last big push scheduled for September 25, 26, and 27.

The grand prize draws will take place on September 28, so time is running out to get your tickets! To purchase, visit www.rocanvillelotto.ca or call 1-855-762-5686.

The committee is also seeking volunteers to assist with the final blitz. If you're available and willing to help, please reach out to the Rocanville Rec Office at 306-645-2164. Additionally, food donations for volunteers are greatly appreciated to keep everyone energized throughout the event. Your support, whether through time or donations, will make a big difference!

Rocanville Minor Hockey Hat Auction/ Lucky Lottery Draw
Get ready for a night of fun, food, and excitement! Join us on Saturday, September 28 for the NHL Hat Auction/Steak Night in support of Rocanville Minor Hockey!
We'll be auctioning off 32 NHL hats, with 40 per cent of

the funds going to support Minor Hockey! Prizes include:
25 per cent to the Stanley Cup-winning hat
10 per cent to the President's Trophy hat
10 per cent to the 12th and 24th overall picks

- 5 per cent to the last place hat!

Event Schedule:

Happy Hour: 5-6 pm Steak Supper: 6 pm Hat Auction: 8 pm Lottery Draw: 9 pm Tickets are only \$25 and minors are welcome! You can

grab yours from any Rocanville Minor Hockey player's family or Board Members. Come enjoy a great night for a great cause! See you there!

Rocanville Youth Group

Hey, if you're 12 or older, Friday nights just got a whole lot more exciting! Join us at the Rec Centre for an awesome evening packed with games, activities, and tons of fun with friends! Best part? It's totally **free!** Don't miss out—come hang with us this Friday!

Rocanville Aquatic Centre Fundraising Committee hosts

October 19, 2024 - The excitement is building for our biggest fall event yet! Join us for the 3rd Annual Pumpkin restival—filled with fun, food, and community spirit! To make it all happen, we're calling on the generosity of our amazing community once again.

We're looking for chili and dessert donations (and no, it

doesn't have to be piel). Some of the desserts will be fea-tured in our Dessert Auction! If you'd like to donate, sim-ply text Hayley Duncan at 306-434-6022 with your name. We kindly ask that you:

- Bring your chili hot in a crock pot with your name labeled on it.
- Label desserts with your name and the type—especially for those up for auction.

NOTICE OF CALL FOR NOMINATIONS



SOUTH EAST CORNERSTONE

Public School Division #209

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that nominations of candidates for the office of:

> **Board Member: South East Cornerstone** School Division No. 209 Subdivision Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6

will be received by the undersigned on the 9th day of October, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Board Office, 80A-18th Street N.E., Weyburn AND during regular business hours from September 16, 2024 to October 8, 2024, at the Board Office. 80A-18th Street N.E., Weyburn.

Nomination forms may be obtained at the following locations:

The Board Website: www.secpsd.ca

The Board Office at 80A-18th Street N.E., Weyburn

Dated this 16th day of September, 2024.

Shelley Toth Returning Officer

Thank you for making this event possible!

Final September Market on Main

September has been an incredible month for Markets on Main, and this Thursday marks your last chance to experience it this year! If you haven't stopped by yet, don't miss out on this week's market.

Join us for a fun-filled evening this Thursday, from 3 to 7 pm in the heart of Rocanville. Explore local vendors, enjoy great company, and soak up the vibrant community atmo-sphere. We can't wait to see you there!

Walking Club

As the weather cools down, the Walking Club is back! Join us for a warm, indoor walk at the Rec Centre, running Monday through Thursday, from 10 am to 12 pm and 1 to 3 pm. It's a great way to stay active and socialize, with no fee to attend. Bring a friend and enjoy some exercise, no matter the weather outside.

Puzzle Swap
Calling all puzzle enthusiasts! The Rec Centre will be open from Monday to Thursday, 8 am - 3 pm, for a Puzzle Swap. Swap an old puzzle for a new one and dive into a fresh challenge. Please ensure all puzzle pieces are included in the sets you bring, and remember to only leave a handful of puzzles at a time to keep our shelves organized.

Kids Club

Need a fun activity for your little ones? The Kids Club is perfect for both kids and parents looking to socialize and play. Join us every Tuesday and Thursday, from 9 to 10 am,

at the Rec Centre for access to Plazma cars, foam blocks, bouncy toys, and plenty of space to run around. Best of all—Kids Club is free!

Rocanville Library

Programming Highlights: Advanced LEGO Kit: Ghostbusters Car for the month

Tipi Take 'n' Make: Month of September

Kids Crafternoon: Bring your kids out for an afternoon of crafting at the library on September 25 from 2 to 4 pm.

Rocanville Community Centre

All events held here are open to the public (except rentals). All ages welcome!

Coffee – Rise and shine. Start your day right with a cup

of coffee and friendly conversations at the Rise and Shine coffee mornings, held Monday to Friday from 8-9:30 am.

Cards

Join in for card games every Thursday afternoon from 1-3 pm. It's a great way to socialize and enjoy some friendly competition.

Potluck Supper - Everyone Welcome
September 30, 2024
Rocanville Community Centre from 6 to 7 pm
If unable to attend supper, please join us from 7:15-8:15
pm for music entertainment provided by Lance and Erica
Strong. 50/50 tickets will be sold. Watch for upcoming
events through the years in the Community Calendar and
on posters.



Notice of Call for Nominations

GOOD SPIRIT SCHOOL DIVISION ELECTIONS

Public notice is hereby given for nomination of candidates for the offices of:

BOARD MEMBERS

Good Spirit School Division No. 204 of Saskatchewan (One member to be elected to each of the following sub-divisions): Representing the incorporated area of the Villages of Arran, Pelly and Togo, the Towns of Sub-Division No. 1 Kamsack and Norquay, and associated rural areas

Representing the incorporated area of the Villages of Endeavour, Hyas and Stenen, the Sub-Division No. 2 Towns of Preeceville and Sturgis, and associated rural areas

Representing the incorporated area of the Villages of Buchanan, Invermay and Rama, the Sub-Division No. 3

Representing the incorporated area of the Villages of Calder, Ebenezer, MacNutt, Rhein Sub-Division No. 4 and Theodore, the Town of Springside and associated rural areas Representing the incorporated area of the Villages of Atwater, Bangor and Waldron, the Towns of Bredenbury, Churchbridge, Langenburg and Saltcoats and associated rural areas

Representing the incorporated area of the Villages of Duff, Goodeve, Grayson and Killaly, Sub-Division No. 6

Representing the incorporated area of the Villages of Bird's Point, Gerald, Stockholm, Tantallon, Westend and Yarbo, the Town of Esterhazy and associated rural areas Sub-Division No. 7

Representing Key First Nation Reserve No. 65 Sub-Division No. 8

Nomination forms will be received by Jennifer Lizuck - Returning Officer, or Keith Gervais - Associate Returning Officer, or other Nomination Officers appointed for the Good Spirit School Division, on Nomination Day the 09th day of October 2024, from 9:00am to 4:00pm at the Good Spirit Education Complex at 5B Schrader Drive, Yorkton, Sk. Nomination papers may also be submitted during regular business hours (9:00am to 12:00pm and 1:00pm to 4:00pm Monday through Friday), commencing the 24th day of September 2024 to the 09th day of October 2024.

Forms may be submitted personally by the candidate or by an agent (must provide an 'Appointment of Candidate's Agent' form); by registered or ordinary mail to Box 5060, Yorkton, Sk. S3N 3Z4; by fax at 306-783-0355; or by email to elections@gssd.ca.

Representing the incorporated area of the

City of Yorkton at Large

Three (3) Board Members to be elected

Nomination forms will be received by Jessica Matsalla - Returning Officer, or Amanda Dietz - Associate Returning Officer, or other Nomination Officers appointed for the City of Yorkton, on Nomination Day, the 9th day of October, 2024 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm and during regular business hours (8:00am to 12:00pm and 1:00pm to 4:00pm, Monday through Friday), commencing on Septembe 24th at 9 am until October 9th, 2024 at 4 pm. Forms may be submitted:

- a) personally by the candidate or by an agent (must provide an 'Appointment of Candidate's Agent' form), to the Returning Officer's
- Office, City Hall, 2nd Floor, 37 Third Avenue North, Yorkton, Saskatchewan, by registered or ordinary mail to P.O. Box 400, Yorkton, Saskatchewan, S3N 2W3; by fax at (306) 786-6880;
- d) by e-mail to elections@yorkton.ca

Sub-Division No. 5

- Nomination forms may be obtained at:
 Good Spirit Education Complex 5B Schrader Drive, Yorkton, SK, S3N 3Z4
 - On the Website www.gssd.ca

Local Government Election Act. I -30.11 Reg 1 Form H Section 66 of the Act Notice of Call for Nominations

Dated at Yorkton this 30th day of August, 2024



We are proud to announce that the World-Spectator has won an unprecedented 10 awards in the 2024 Canadian Community Newspaper Awards:

FIRST PLACE in all of Canada for BEST AGRICULTURE EDITION for the September issue of Ag News
All of our staff contributed to this issue.

The judge commented: Very interesting content. Lots of scientific topics. Great photo coverage. Large variety of advertising.

FIRST PLACE in all of Canada for BEST CIVIC JOURNALISM

for **Kevin Weedmark's** investigation into the 2021 census that led Statistics Canada to fix its numbers for rural communities. **The judge commented:** Journalism that identifies a problem and leads to change. That is what civic journalism is all about. The paper served its community well with its investigation of census numbers, and got real results.

SECOND PLACE in all of Canada for **BEST CIVIC JOURNALISM**

for **Kevin Weedmark's** article on New Canadians from Ukraine having to pay international student fees, which led the provincial government to introduce a policy ensuring that the tuition for New Canadians from Ukraine going to university are the same as other Saskatchewan residents **The judge commented:** This identified a problem few knew about and got immediate action. Another example of civic journalism at its best, uncovering matters of public interest and spurring change.

FIRST PLACE in all of Canada for EXCELLENCE IN RURAL REPORTING

for Kevin Weedmark's investigation into the 2021 census

THIRD PLACE in all of Canada for EXCELLENCE IN RURAL REPORTING

for Kevin Weedmark's article on New Canadians from Ukraine having to pay international student fees,

SECOND PLACE in all of Canada for **BEST SPORTS PHOTO**

for Sunnette Kamffer's photo of rodeo action at Spy Hill Sports Days

The judge commented: The ropes against the sky were well composed and created nice contrast. The judges would've liked to see the ensuing moments.

SECOND PLACE in all of Canada for BEST FEATURE PHOTO

for Kevin Weedmark's rodeo sunset photo from the Moosomin Bulls and Broncs event

The judge commented: Might have scored higher, but the composition was hurt by the street lights. Nice use of backlighting, and seeing the visual at sunset. Would make a great calendar front page in the community.



SECOND PLACE in all of Canada for **BEST NEWS FEATURE PHOTO**

for **Kevin Weedmark's** harvest aerial photo

The judge commented: Excellent composition and use of lines, makes for a great cover shot.

THIRD PLACE in all of Canada for BEST COVERAGE OF THE ARTS

for Ashley Bochek, Sierra D'Souza Butts, Kara Kinna and Kevin Weedmark's articles on local arts and artists.

The judge commented: Excellent commitment from journalists finding and writing important local community arts stories that go deeper than a notice of upcoming performance, promote emerging youth artists, recognize the impact of a career and legacy, and sharing the excellence and local talent.

THIRD PLACE in all of Canada for OUTSTANDING REPORTER INITIATIVE

for **Kevin Weedmark's** investigation into the 2021 census.

The judge commented: A worthy example of paying attention to the data, and then chasing down every response (or glaring lack thereof) when the data doesn't match observed reality.

We are proud to be Easkatchewan's most award winning community newspaper



Visit the Canadian Community Newspaper website to view all winners for 2024





Kyle Stanhope of Rocanville captured this image of the tornado that touched down near Langbank, seen here from Väderstad Industries just Langbank tornado.



Storm chaser Kurtis Fafard from Broadview captured this photo of the

Environment Canada confirms there was tornado near Langbank Wednesday

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter
Environment and Climate Change Canada has confirmed that a tornado touched down near Langbank last Wednesday afternoon.

Last week saw the kind of weather nobody wants in the throes of harvest. Wet, wild, and windy—a combination that strikes unease at the very least for many. How-

ever, when those clouds begin to rotate and create a fun-nel, then things get frightening.

For Rocanville resident Kyle Stanhope, it was a mo-ment of shock with this being the first tornado he's wit-

nessed. He was at work when the storm passed by, safe in the Väderstad Industries shop near Langbank. "I looked out the window and noticed it, I zoomed in and took a picture through the shop window," he said. "When I saw it, it looked like it was on the ground, and then I watched it for a little bit, maybe like 15 seconds, and it went back up. I don't know what it was doing before that time, but, it kept trying to come back down again about halfway what you see in the picture, just

When he took the photo, Stanhope said it wasn't raining in the area.

ing in the area.

"It was a bit of a nervous drive, I've got about an hour drive home," he said of his commute that night.

According to Natalie Hasell, a meteorologist with Environment and Climate Change Canada, conditions were

vironment and Climate Change Canada, conditions were favourable last Wednesday for tornados to develop.

"We had a frontal system going through southeastern Saskatchewan, so that acted as the trigger," she explained. "We had enough moisture, we had an atmosphere that became unstable, and we had the wind shear profile in the vertical such that the conditions were conducive to the formation of supercells, and therefore rotation."

rotation."

The small super-cells did produce one tornado, which was confirmed to be near Langbank at around 4:52 CST.

"This was based on a photo on social media from a trusted source," Hasell said. "Also, we received a number of phone calls, and we determined that they were about the same tornado. So we've confirmed one tornado at this time."

That photo Hasell referenced came courteey of Broads.

That photo Hasell referenced came courtesy of Broadview photographer Kurtis Fafard, who was hot on the storm's path that afternoon, describing the scenes as "intense yet surreal."

Environment Canada was very interested in the image," he said. "I sent the photo to Braydon Morisseau, who posted it to the Prairie Storm Chasers Facebook page, and he was the one who called in the warning to Environment Canada so that I could continue chasing. With the homeowner's permission I provided their contact information and location to the Northern Tornadoes Project, and they sent a crew out today (Sept. 19) to assess the damage. It's great to see them taking this seriously

and working to understand the full impact of the storm."
Fafard also provided his account of travelling directly towards the storm.

"The sky had darkened significantly, and there was this eerie calm just before the tornado touched down," he said. "I had been tracking the storm, and everything lined up for the potential of tornado development. As I approached Langbank, I saw the funnel forming, and my

instincts told me it was going to touch down."

The moment the funnel cloud touched down was espe cially powerful for Fafard to witness.

"The contrast between the storm clouds and the flat landscape was striking, and once I saw debris being kicked up from the ground, I knew the funnel had made contact," he said. "The tornado seemed to form directly over a farmhouse, which ended up being the home of some friends of mine. Thankfully, everyone inside was safe, but the damage to their property was significant."
From what Fafard saw, he estimates the tornado being

on the ground between three and seven minutes, noting "It felt longer in the moment, but that's about how long it stayed in contact with the ground before lifting." Anyone who experienced any damage during the storm can contact the ECCC as these reports assist in

If someone does have information about damage, or anything else from that storm or other storms, the way to get that information to us is to call at 1-800-239-0484 to email us at storm@ec.gc.ca, or if you're on X, then #SKStorm," Hasell said. "People are more than welcome to send us information about these storms, either as they are happening or after the fact."

It is currently not known what the resulting wind speeds of last week's tornado were, but Hasell said the ECCC are collaborating with the Northern Tornado Project to conduct a storm damage survey in order to figure that out.

"When we have results from that, then we'll have a reading of the storm based on the damage," she said. "So at this time, we don't have enough information to suggest anything for wind speeds."

Hasell says the wind intensity during a tornado can be

extreme, but very focused around the storm itself, part of the updraft system of the storm.

"As the precipitation reaches the ground, so does a lot of air and it has to go somewhere," Hasell noted. "You can't pile up air, so it goes out."

This was something Fafard can attest to during his

time with the storm

"As for rain and hail, I didn't experience much at the time of the tornado," he said. "The winds were strong but relatively focused within the tornado itself. It wasn't a widespread wind event outside of the funnel. I did notice some strong inflow winds as the tornado formed, which is typical in these situations."

Rainfall from the tornado was not as significant in the southeast region as experienced across the other side of the province

"Areas much father west got much larger amounts of precipitation," Hasell said. "Areas around the Cypress Hills, for instance, were in the 80 to 90 mm of precipita-

Another system affected the Meadow Lake, Prince Albert, and North Battleford regions, bringing 40 to 60 mm of rain along with it.

Late-season tornadoes rare

While tornados this time of year are rare, they're not completely unheard of.

We do have some records of tornadoes in Saskatchewan in the first two weeks of the month, and there's one report that I've found from 1969 that has it around the 20th of September," Hasell said. Another historic tornado hit near Plunkett on Sept. 26, 1977. Even stretching into October, Hasell noted one occurring in Manitoba on Oct. 8, 1997; and an Alberta event on Oct. 17, 2017.

Hasell agrees with some prognosticators pointing to an extended warm fall season.

"Our seasonal forecast does suggest that temperatures will remain above normal in the September, October, November period, but it doesn't tell us how that average is reached," she said. "Is it really hot in September and then kind of normal the rest of the time? Is it just a lot of variability? Is there a marked difference, September, October, November? We don't have that data, but yes, I wouldn't be surprised if we see a few repeated events of warmer than normal and maybe remarkably warm still as these systems go through the area and change everything as they go."

Regardless, last Wednesday's tornado will remain

with those who witnessed it for some time. While not the wildest storm Fafard has experienced, the after effects

whitest sofiin raint in as experienced, the ariet effects have given it high ranking.

"This one was pretty intense, mainly due to its proximity to property and the damage it caused," he said.

"I've seen larger tornadoes, and I've been in situations where the storm was more widespread, but this one felt more personal. Knowing that it touched down over my

more personal. Knowing that it touched down over my friends' farmhouse and seeing the damage firsthand definitely made it stand out. I wouldn't rank it as the strongest tornado I've seen, but in terms of its impact and how close it hit to home, it's definitely up there."

An avid storm chaser, Fafard has travelled across North America for several years.

"Storm chasing is something I'm incredibly passionate about," he said. "Along with a few fellow Canadian chasers, we've formed a group called 'The Eh Team.' We have chasers from all walks of life, and we use our group not only to share forecasts and chase reports but also to support each other." port each other.

Joining that thrill of storm chasing with his expertise in photography seemed an easy connection.

"My background in photography naturally feeds into storm chasing," Fafard said. "Capturing these powerful moments is about being in the right place at the right time, and over the years, I've learned to balance the art of photography with the science of weather tracking, and had some really good luck."

The tornado last week marks 18 across the province so far in 2024, above the yearly average of 14 and quite a bit higher than last year's single digit occurrences.

Sask announces \$25 million for 13 industry driven emissions reduction projects

Results released through Sask. Tech. Fund's first intake

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Local Journalism Institute Reporter
The provincial government recently announced milestone results through the Saskatchewan Technology
Fund, which injected over \$25 million to support 13 industry-driven projects across the province. In total, the
projects not only leverage more than \$2.77 million in
both private sector and government dollars, but also reduce approximately 4.6 million tonnes of carbon dioxide
equivalent

"It just speaks to the sustainability of the sector," said Aaron Wirth, Executive Director with the Climate Resiliency Branch of the provincial Environment Ministry. iency Branch of the provincial Environment Ministry. "I think our companies—very much including the oil and gas companies—including the southeast part of the province, are doing their part. They're all looking for energy improvements, efficiencies and emissions reductions. And I think the projects being selected and the expected emissions reduction is testament of that."

The large reduction in emissions during such a short projection of time is even more improving the projection.

period of time is even more impressive than projections for what the carbon tax was set to achieve in Saskatchewan. Back in 2019, the tax was lauded to reduce emissions by 12 million tonnes over 11 years. If the benchmark set by the Tech Fund would continue at the same rate. that 12-million-tonne goal would be met in two-and-ahalf years.

"By focusing on technology and innovation, we are ensuring that Saskatchewan takes a leadership role in environmental responsibility while remaining at the forefront of innovation," Environment Minister Christine Tell said. "These projects demonstrate that Saskatchewan industries can thrive while reducing their carbon footprints, all

without imposing the burdensome costs of a carbon tax." In particular, methane was a major target throughout all the projects, looking for ways to deal with one of the otent greenhouse gases aside from traditional

"Right now, the options are to vent and flare," Wirth said. "Obviously flaring, converting the methane to CO2, is better than just venting it, but even better than that is spending some money and using some innovative techspending some money and using some innovative technologies to capture that and transport that, and in many cases, use it for useful energy. A lot of it is being captured and used as part of gas power operations, so we're able to collect and use it for useful energy as opposed to just allowing it to vent into the atmosphere."

Wirth says what the success of the Saskatchewan Technology Fund boils down to is simply good ideas put to practice.

'Again, it just speaks to technology and innovation as

being very much part of the solution," Wirth said. "We have a lot of really good projects—especially in the southeast part of the province. The reduction of venting and flaring of methane is a really important one, and it is a potent greenhouse gas. But also, capturing methane provides additional opportunities. You can sell it, you can generate new revenue that can be reinvested in the business and it takes in some cases greater was proposed. ness, and it also, in some cases, creates new employment as well."

The fund drew interest from a total of 16 companies, which was narrowed down to the final 13 after a year of

which was narrowed down to the final 13 after a year of evaluations, proposals, and reviews.

"We ran the intake for a year, we took a little longer than usual just because it was our first kick at the can with the Tech Fund," Wirth explained. "In the future, we're probably looking at more like six months, we just wanted to make sure that we gave lots of runway for the first intake and gave people lots of time to get their projects in."

A second intake for the Saskatchewan Technology Fund is ready to launch, but with the upcoming fall election, Wirth noted it would likely be pushed to the winter of 2025.

"We're looking forward to doing a second intake."

"We're looking forward to doing a second intake," he said. "We think the whole process will be about six months the second time around. We've learned a lot of lessons, but are very much looking forward to making more funding available for these types of projects going forward."

Wirth says listening to ideas from companies who have

Wirth says listening to ideas from companies who have a desire to improve is crucial.

"Industry are the ones that are driving the emissions reductions, and they're the ones that are applying to the fund," Wirth explained. "So we knew we had to make it work for industry. It's also leveraging other investments. We're leveraging private sector investments from those companies, so that \$25 million is actually going a really long way."

Four projects in SoutheastApproximately \$3.9 million of the total project funding has been devoted to four projects in southeast Saskatch-

"They're all related to the reduction of venting and flaring of methane, again, upholding greenhouse gas from oil production," Wirth said.

Pemoco Ltd. requested \$71,250 from the fund, and is using compressors to inject methane into water disposal wells, then sequestering it underground. This significantly reduces the volume of flared or vented gas at one of

their oil batteries near Parkman.

Both Trilled Energy and Tundra Oil & Gas are installing

pipeline infrastructure to capture the gas, which would otherwise be flared.

"In this case, they're able to actually transport it to mar-

ket and use that gas to generate revenue and useful electricity," said Wirth. "So that's a great builder, two great projects, in terms of just conserving the gas from their oil production.

production."

Triland's ask was an even \$1 million to conserve natural gas currently flared at a site near Manor, while Tundra requested \$1,075,000 to end flaring and venting at six battery locations throughout the Southeast.

Vermillon Energy sought \$1.75 million for their pipeline infrastructure installation, but also has a Moosomin tie to their project.

"We thought that was a really great project, just in terms of local economic development," Wirth said. "The Vermillion energy project uses the IJACK's XFER pump, which is designed and manufactured in Moosomin, so it's also supporting economic development in Moosomin and innovation in Saskatchewan."

A blueprint worth copying

Given the success of the Saskatchewan Technology Fund, Wirth is hoping other places across the country are be watching what is happening in this province. With most energy companies on the list also having ties to oil and gas deposits throughout the world, this grassroots concept through the Tech Fund could spawn more innovation further afield.

"We'd love to see now technologies now innovation."

vation further afield.

"We'd love to see new technologies, new innovations, new improvement projects be scalable and replicable," Wirth said. "In a lot of cases, I think we will see that, and that will be positive for other companies—whether it's within a portfolio of companies, or other companies in other sectors looking to emulate some of the successes that our companies are having here. that our companies are having here.

"I think we have the best Emissions Reduction Fund in the country, if I can be so bold to say that, and I think this first intake was a was a big success," Wirth continued. "We'll learn some lessons from it as well and make it even better. But we would be flattered if other jurisdictions fol-lowed our lead in that regard."

The results of the initial intake in the Tech Fund further

pands on innovative thinking commonly found in Sas katchewan.

"We already have some of the most sustainable industries in the world. Oil and gas is no exception," Wirth said.
"And our industries are very innovative, so giving them an opportunity—and in some cases, some funding—can really support and drive those emissions reductions right across the province."









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Saturday, September 28,

10^{am} - 3^{pm} • Ribbon cutting at 12 noon

701 ELLICE STREET, MOOSOMIN, SK

Mini Classes

Procreate Basics -10:30am

Removing Objects in Photoshop - 11am

What is Domestika? - 11:15am

Adobe Suite Demonstration - 11:30am

Stained Glass Demo - 1pm

Pottery Wheel Demo - 1:30pm

Easy Quilt Blocks - 2pm

Making a Linocut print - 2:30pm

Demonstrations - throughout the day

Knitting

Rope Basket Making Long Arm Quilting

Pottery

Alcohol Ink

Stained Glass & Mosaic

Linocut printmaking

Procreate

Acrylic Painting

Photoshop



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