



Michael's
COFFEE SHOP & BAKERY

Talk to us about providing fresh roasted coffee for your office!

FRESH ROASTED | FRESH BAKED | FRESH BREWED | CARLYLE • ESTEVAN • WEYBURN | michaelscoffeeshop.com | 306-453-2425



Kennedy hosting 93rd Annual Pro Rodeo July 18-19

Community of 200 hosts provincial pro rodeo for competitors all over North America

BY ASHLEY BOCHER
The Moose Mountain Pro Rodeo in Kennedy hosts competitors from all over each year in July. It has become the only fully sanctioned rodeo in Saskatchewan after 93 years, and the community plans to continue hosting the world-stage event.

President of the Moose Mountain Pro Rodeo Association, Jill Lowe, says the rodeo offers a variety of events allowing competitors to perform in rough stock and timed categories.

"This year is our 93rd year of the Moose Mountain Pro Rodeo. We are the weekend after the Calgary Stampede, so a lot of our contestants come from there on the circuit," says Lowe. "They go from rodeo to rodeo and earn money, points, and then at the end of the season, the ones that have the most earned points and money go onto the Canadian Rodeo Finals in Edmonton in October. We're part of the Maple Leaf circuit, so that is select rodeos, and Maple Leaf Rodeo Finals are in Regina at Agribition in November."

Lowe explains the community welcomes rodeo fans and competitors from all over the area.

"There are competitors worldwide. Not only Canada, but from the States, New Mexico, and Australia. We get crowds from all over Saskatchewan and the people who follow the circuit. We see people from Alberta and Manitoba, all over Canada. It is a big event. We are the only fully sanctioned rodeo in Saskatchewan left. So that means we have all of the events. There is a rodeo in



A saddle bronc rider at a past Moose Mountain Pro Rodeo.

Weyburn, but it is just saddle bronc. We have bareback, saddle bronc, bull riding—those are the rough stock events. Then there is tie-down roping, team roping, steer wrestling, ladies breakaway, ladies barrel racing, and then we have the junior events which is junior steer riding and novice saddle bronc and novice bareback."

Lowe says her connection to rodeo is through her great-grandfather, one of the founders of the Moose Mountain Pro Rodeo.

"I am the president. Our committee looks after the planning of the rodeo. I have been on the committee for 25 years. I wouldn't do it if I didn't love it. I just love the community, I love

volunteering, I am a strong believer that communities don't run with one or two people, it takes a whole village to run a community and everyone needs to take their part in volunteering, and this is what I chose to do as my volunteer work. My great-grandfather was also one of the very first founding members of the Moose Mountain Pro Rodeo, 93 years ago."

deco, 93 years ago."

History of rodeo

Lowe explains the rodeo originated outside of Kennedy 93 years ago by a community leader.

"It started way back in 1932. It was a reverend in town that got the people together and brought forward an old-fashioned pic-

nic where you have horse events and people together, and that is how it all started. We've been hosting it every summer since with of course changes and on a greater scale than back then. It was actually started on Shackleton Flats which is just south of Kennedy, then during the war years it moved into Kennedy."

Continued on page 3

WINTER CLEARANCE CONTINUES | WINTER CLEARANCE CONTINUES

BUY 2 OR MORE AND GET

75% OFF

NOW THROUGH MARCH 16TH

KARI'S KLOSET

FASHIONS FOR ALL WOMEN

FINAL WEEK DEALS

MARCH 17 - 21

LIMITED PIECES. NO RESTOCKS.

karisklosetonline.com | Main St., Moosomin, SK | 306.435.2738 | Monday - Saturday: 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Blaze King
 Most models of wood stoves



Blaze King wood stoves & Duravent chimneys

Already have a wood stove?

Who professionally cleans your chimney?

We have Professional WETT Certified Chimney Sweeps, Installer and Inspector.

Call for an appointment today!

*Many insurance companies require WETT Inspections before you can get insurance




DuraVent Chimneys for wood and gas appliances
 Contact Glasser's TV Service for pricing

WE DO SECURITY INSTALLS FOR

- 
HOME
- 
FARM
- 
COMMERCIAL



PLEASE CALL FOR A CONSULTATION
306-435-3040



Glasser's TV Service

2025 MARKED 80 YEARS AS A TUBMAN FAMILY BUSINESS



www.summit-memorials.com 306-698-2557 | 800-667-8962



Kennedy hosting 93rd Annual Pro Rodeo July 18-19

Community of 200 hosts provincial pro rodeo for competitors all over North America

Continued from front

Event details

Lowe explains this year's Pro Rodeo with some details the committee is still planning.

"It is similar to last year. The slack will be Friday morning or Saturday morning. That is still in the works. That is when there are too many contestants and they compete in slack because we only take 10 performers per event. Usually there are more people who enter, so they compete in that first."

"The rodeo's first performance will be Saturday night at 6 pm, the parade will be at 3 pm, and Sunday the performance will be at 2 pm. Sunday is the pancake breakfast at the Friendship Centre and the cowboy church service at the rodeo grounds and then the rodeo itself. There will be beer gardens and a DJ on the Saturday night. There will be food trucks and the food booth will be open. There is still lots of planning to be finalized."

Rodeo Queen this year

Lowe says the pro rodeo hasn't had a rodeo queen for many years and decided this year to offer the title to a young girl in the rodeo world.

"This year we have a Moose Mountain Rodeo Queen. Her name is Grace Pain from Langham near Saskatoon area.



A steer rider at a past Moose Mountain Pro Rodeo.

She is 19 years old. She was one of the competitors at the Agribition Queen contest. I reached out to her after that to see if she wanted to be our queen and she

accepted. She'll be competing for Miss Rodeo Canada at the Canadian Finals in Edmonton. We haven't had a queen for years, so I reached out to Grace, and we

are so happy she accepted."

She adds, "They are real good ambassadors for the sport of rodeo. It is a different avenue for getting the heritage out there of what the rodeo means, what it entails, their horsemanship, public speaking. It is the whole package."

Gathering hub

Lowe says the committee plans to continue hosting the event as the community enjoys seeing family and friends come together every July weekend for the rodeo.

"It is really something to say that we as a village of 200 people can pull off such a professional event," she says. "Kennedy has about 200 people and there are about 1,500 people on rodeo weekend out at the rodeo grounds. It is pretty impressive, I think. If we can keep doing it, we are going to. It is important for and to this area."

"I enjoy having everyone here. It's a chance to visit, make friendships with people along the way, it is a chance for reunions and people to gather. It is a chance for people originally from Kennedy to come back home through the summer and visit family and friends. Plus, it is a fun event for everyone."

See Page 5 for a story on Grace Pain, the Moose Mountain Rodeo Queen.

Working for You

Your Saskatchewan Party MLAs are focused on growing our economy, supporting strong communities, and delivering real results for a brighter future for Saskatchewan families.

If you have questions, ideas or need help navigating a provincial program or service, please reach out. We're always glad to connect and hear from you.



Daryl Harrison
MLA for Cannington
canningtonconstituency@sasktel.net
(306) 443-4400



Kevin Weedmark
MLA for Moosomin-Montmartre
office@kevinweedmark.ca
(306) 435-4005



Hon. Warren Kaeding
MLA for Melville-Saltcoats
warrenkaedingmla@sasktel.net
(306) 728-3881



To see our live schedule & rates please go to

 www.rocanville.ca

 Recreation > Rocanville Aquatic Centre

Thank you to our Pool Fundraising Group, PharmaChoice Rocanville and Rocanville Remedial Massage for their donations of new pool toys, floaties, and deck fans!



We're Hiring!

Pool Manager and
Daytime Lifeguards

Positions will remain open until
suitable candidate is found!

Email resumes to [rocanville.
rec@sasktel.net](mailto:rocanville.rec@sasktel.net)

**Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to stay
up to date with special events and changes!**



UNIVERSE SATELLITE AQUATIC CENTRE



UNIVERSE_SATELLITE_AQUATIC

818 FRANCIS AVE. | ROCANVILLE, SK. | 1-369-477-9736



Grace Pain of Langham, Saskatchewan will represent the Moose Mountain Pro rodeo for the next 18 months at local events and rodeos all over the province.

Grace Pain is Moose Mountain Pro Rodeo Queen

BY ASHLEY BOCHER

This year the Moose Mountain Pro Rodeo in Kennedy has named their Rodeo Queen. Grace Pain of Langham, Saskatchewan will represent the rodeo for the next 18 months at local events and rodeos all over the province.

"I am 19 years old from Langham, Saskatchewan. I am currently in my second year of Equine Sport Therapy, and I am graduating in June," says Pain.

"I got into horses at a very young age. I come from a big farming family. I ran for the title of Miss Rodeo Agribition in November and then when that didn't go through, Jill reached out to me and offered the title of Miss Rodeo Moose Mountain."

Pain has competed in rodeos as a barrel racer. "I started barrel racing in 2020 so I have competed in multiple rodeos. Rodeo queens are the ambassadors for the sport. They go out to the public and showcase their rodeos. I am very lucky to represent the Moose Mountain Pro Rodeo which is one of two pro rodeos in Saskatchewan."

Duties of Rodeo Queen

Pain explains her role as Moose Mountain Rodeo Queen and qualities they embody as mentors and ambassadors

of the sport.

"We travel to other rodeos as well as community events. I will be in Kennedy Sunday morning for their pancake breakfast. I do any kind of local community events such as hockey games and visiting care homes and being part of the community and representing rodeo in rodeos and also in non-rodeo atmospheres. I will have the title for about 18 months. I started January 1, and I will have it until the Moose Mountain Rodeo 2027, and then we will crown another queen. It is very cool."

"I haven't done anything like this before other than competing for Miss Rodeo Agribition, and that was very out of my comfort zone, and it led to this which is really cool. It was never really a dream of mine until I started competing for Miss Rodeo Agribition and then it just became a dream, and it is something that I am so proud to be able to live out."

Pain competed for Miss Rodeo Agribition last November. Miss Rodeo Agribition represents Canadian Western Agribition at rodeos and agriculture events across Western Canada.

"Competing at Miss Rodeo Agribition, they have different elements to it, and you get judged throughout the whole thing," she says. "I competed in public speaking,

personal interviews, we had a written exam about facts about the rodeo, facts about our Canadian Pro Rodeos, we did horsemanship on horses we had never rode on before, and then some rodeo queen programs also do a fashion show. Agribition did not do that, but it is another big one that we compete in. We are judged by different people in each event. We are also judged on how we interact with people. Whether it is in the rodeo setting or going to a trade show, we had secret judges watching how we interact with the public which was really fun. Although, I didn't win, it was a great experience."

Excited for rodeo in Kennedy

Moose Mountain Rodeo Queen Pain will be at the Moose Mountain Pro Rodeo all weekend. She says she is very excited to meet new people and enjoy the events.

"I will be in Kennedy all weekend for the rodeo, and I am super excited. Getting to represent a rodeo in Saskatchewan means a lot for me. I am a very Saskatchewan girl through-and-through, so to be able to represent the Moose Mountain Pro Rodeo is very exciting. I will be there carrying flags and meeting a bunch of new people which will be really fun as well. I am very excited for the weekend."

Hi
HANDPICKED
 INTERIORS
 TILE | FLOORING | DESIGN



Beginning-to-end interior design to transform your house into your dream home.

Now with a full tile and flooring retail showroom!

sarah.feltz@handpickedinteriors.ca
 306-740-9869

1 Kennedy Drive, Esterhazy, SK
 www.handpickedinteriors.ca
 handpickedinteriorsltd
 handpickedinteriors

Rocanville Fire Department Comedy Night Fundraiser

KELLY TAYLOR
STAND-UP
COMEDY SHOW

April 4th

TICKETS: Advance Tickets (meal & show) **\$50⁰⁰** At The Door (show only) **\$30⁰⁰**

Advance Tickets can be purchased from any Rocanville Fire Department member or text Owen Wilson at 306-435-9596

Rocanville Community Hall

Doors Open 5:30 pm for supper
Meal Served 6:30 pm
Walkups for the show are welcome to come for 8:00 pm

Silent Auction is taking place during the show

PLATINUM SPONSORS

Nutrien Feeding the Future
SECON GROUP OF COMPANIES SASKATCHEWAN - MANITOBA
CORE **S&C**
Borderland **CO-OP**

Gov't announces tuition relief w continue until 2030 for Ukrainian post-secondary students

BY NICOLE TAYLOR
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Saskatchewan government announced last week that Ukrainian post-secondary students in Saskatchewan will continue to receive tuition relief from the Government of Saskatchewan until March 31, 2030.

The extension allows those who arrived under the Canada-Ukraine Authorization for Emergency Travel (CUAET) program to continue paying domestic tuition rates instead of international rates at post-secondary institutions in the province. The government said that Saskatchewan is the only province in Canada that offers this level of support.

"Since launching this program in 2023, we have seen firsthand how tuition relief can transform the futures of Ukrainian students who came here seeking refuge from war," Advanced Education Minister Ken Cheveldayoff said during the announcement on Tuesday. "Extending this support to 2030 ensures learners have the stability, opportunity and encouragement they need to complete their education and potentially contribute to Saskatchewan's future."

Ukrainians who came to Canada under the federally regulated CUAET program are typically considered international students and face higher tuition rates when applying to post-secondary programs.

"The Ukrainian Canadian Congress of Saskatchewan is pleased to learn of the provincial government's decision to extend its tuition relief program for Ukrainian students who came to Saskatchewan under the CUAET program," Ukrainian Canadian Congress of Saskatchewan President Elena Krueger said. "Allowing displaced Ukrainians to pay domestic rather than international tuition fees will have a lasting impact on the lives of young people navigating extraordinary challenges as a result of Russia's war on Ukraine. Investing in educational support ensures that displaced Ukrainian students can meet their potential and contribute meaningfully to society, both here in Saskatchewan and, one day, in Ukraine's recovery. We look forward to a continued partnership and dialogue between the provincial government and Saskatchewan's Ukrainian



University students Olha, Diana and Valeriia at the announcement on Tuesday.

community."

Individuals registered with CUAET will be eligible for tuition relief immediately. Eligible students will pay domestic tuition rates until March 31, 2030. The government says it will conduct a program review in 2029 to determine whether the need for tuition relief remains.

"When I arrived in Saskatchewan as a high school student, I hoped to continue my education here, but

paying international tuition would have made that impossible for my family," University of Regina student Anton Merzliakov said. "The tuition relief program made university possible for me, and extending this support gives me confidence that I can complete my degree and continue building my future here."

Over 35 students have benefited from the Ukrainian Tuition Relief Program since its launch.

SAVE THE DATE

Living Skies Come Alive

FIREWORKS COMPETITION

AUGUST 1 & 2, 2026

(AUGUST LONG WEEKEND)

MOOSOMIN REGIONAL PARK
EASTERN CANADA VS WESTERN CANADA

MUSIC BOTH NIGHTS - FOOD TRUCKS - MARKET AND MORE!



Saturday, August 1st - DJ Dumo

Sunday, August 2nd - Live Band
"North of Dewdney"

- Skout Brewing on site
- The Hideout kids activity trailer
- Kids games & activities at the beach both days

Campground bookings for the 2026 season are now open!



For more information contact Kyle Jeannot at 306-434-9112

Cameco to supply nearly \$3 billion in uranium to India

On March 2, Premier Scott Moe joined Prime Minister Mark Carney and Prime Minister Modi to witness the signing of an agreement for Saskatchewan uranium to be sold to India. The agreement between Cameco and India's Department of Atomic Energy commits the nuclear energy giant to supply fuel for use in the country's growing nuclear fleet.

"We understand Saskatchewan's potential to supply the world with the fuel it needs to power the economies of tomorrow and it's great to see India value the energy security we can provide," Moe said. "This agreement is thanks in no small part to Cameco for their dedication to our uranium industry, and the governments of Saskatchewan, Canada and India for their priority on a productive and mutually beneficial relationship. Today marks a great day for this longstand-

ing partnership and holds a lot of promise for a bright future together."

With this agreement, Cameco expects to ship \$2.6 billion worth of uranium to India over a nine-year term. Today's agreement replaces a five-year agreement from 2015 and is nearly 10 times the value at the time of announcement in 2015.

Cameco has over 35 years of experience in Saskatchewan's uranium industry and continues to be a reliable supplier of the critical mineral to countries all over the globe.

"The global demand for secure, carbon-free nuclear power is rising rapidly, and India is at the forefront with ambitious expansion plans for its civil nuclear energy program," CEO of Cameco Tim Gitzel said. "Cameco will play a pivotal role by providing Saskatche-

wan-mined uranium to help fuel the energy needs of India's growing population and industries, as well as further solidify the vital trade relationship between our two countries. We are thankful for the continued advocacy of the Saskatchewan and Canadian governments to foster international trade opportunities that allow us to meet the needs of global customers and bring the benefits home."

In Saskatchewan, in 2024, the uranium mining sector employed more than 2,300 people and contributed more than \$2.5 billion to the provincial GDP. With the ongoing global shift to nuclear power, jurisdictions around the world are continuing to source more uranium from responsible, reliable and geopolitically stable regions like Saskatchewan.

Sask expanding patient access to primary care through additional Nurse Practitioner contracts

The Government of Saskatchewan announced on Monday that its primary care Nurse Practitioner (NP) contract initiative is opening another round of intakes as a result of the overwhelming support received from both patients and providers in 2025.

NPs who want to deliver publicly funded primary care services are invited to apply.

Successful applicants will enter a contract with the Ministry of Health to provide primary health care to patients.

"Nurse Practitioners will play a vital role in ensuring every Saskatchewan family has access to a primary care provider by the end of 2028," Minister of Health Jeremy Cockrill said. "We look forward to seeing more

Nurse Practitioners providing primary care in Saskatchewan communities as we work together to put patients first."

This initiative allows NPs to work to their full scope of training, promotes collective, team-based care, and creates more opportunities for Saskatchewan families to access publicly funded primary care delivered by NPs and is an alternative to private-pay NP services.

Through the first intake, the Government of Saskatchewan has signed contracts with 23 NPs as of February 2026 who will deliver primary care services to a minimum of 18,000 patients across the province.

"We are excited by the continued investment in Nurse Practitioners in Primary Care in our province

and the expansion of the Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Contract Program," Saskatchewan Association of Nurse Practitioners (SANP) President Toni Giraudier said. "I look forward to seeing more Nurse Practitioners providing consistent, high quality primary care to Saskatchewan residents."

The Ministry of Health says it will continue to work with the SANP to implement this initiative. There is no limit to the number of contracts the ministry may enter through the March 2026 intake, which will close on March 30. Information on future intakes will be shared in the coming months to ensure that upcoming NP graduates have opportunities to apply.

New high school course introduced to explore careers in energy production

Saskatchewan students will have a new opportunity to explore careers in one of the province's most important and evolving sectors.

Energy and Mines - Energy Production 20 is a new high school credit course available to grade 10-12 students across the province. Student registration for Energy and Mines - Energy Production 20, and all other high school courses offered by Saskatchewan Distance Learning Centre (Sask DLC), opens today.

"Sask DLC is uniquely positioned to be able to deliver specialized courses - like Energy Production 20 - that support the Kindergarten-to-Career education experience," Minister Responsible for Sask DLC Everett Hindley said. "The development of this course will help prepare students to make informed decisions about the post-secondary education, training and employment they may need to pursue a career in the en-

ergy production sector."

Energy Production 20 is designed for students interested in learning how energy is generated, distributed and managed in today's economy. The course provides a broad overview of current energy production in Saskatchewan, including coal-fired electricity, oil and gas exploration and renewable energy production. Students will also learn about emerging energy production sources, including nuclear power.

Students will learn about the science, technology, safety and environmental considerations associated with each energy source, while exploring the range of career pathways. The new course is a result of the government's Saskatchewan First Energy Security Strategy and Supply Plan released in Fall 2025.

"Saskatchewan's energy future is bright," Crown Investments Corporation Minister Jeremy Harrison

said. "This new course offers students a pathway into good paying jobs in rural and urban communities right across our province that help support the reliability and integrity of our power grid."

Energy Production 20 is available to all Saskatchewan high school students beginning in September of the 2026-27 school year. This new course builds upon the success of a number of Sask DLC's other unique course offerings including 4th and 5th Class Power Engineering and Energy and Mines Oil & Gas 20 and 30 that provides students the opportunity to explore real career opportunities in Saskatchewan.

See Plain & Valley online at www.plainandvalley.com



Lobstick Travel & Tours

Call 306-763-7417 or
1-800-665-0171 Toll Free
2025/26 TOURS
Email us at: dbayda@lobsticktravel.com or
info@lobsticktravel.com

2026 Tours

<p>Churchill August 2026</p> <p>Maritimes and Newfoundland Coach & Fly September 5th to 26th, 2026</p> <p>Japan Cruise with 14 Day Circle September 23rd to October 11th, 2026</p>	<p>Victoria & Wine Country Motorcoach October 2026 (Exact dates TBA)</p> <p>Timeless Rivers of Europe River Cruise October 11th - 27th, 2026</p>
--	--

All tours are professionally Hosted & include most gratuities for the Hosts, Driver and Local Expert Guides.
<https://lobsticktravel.squarespace.com>
Come live your dreams with us!



1-306-739-2500
Emergency 1-306-434-7125



RETAIL SALES
CUSTOM SLAUGHTER & PROCESSING
WILD GAME PROCESSING

1/4 Mile South of Wawota on Grid #603

Take advantage of the disability tax credit.

Created to assist Canadians with disabilities, this special tax credit helps cover medical equipment and everyday living costs.



For more info, contact:
306-745-6450
400 Main Street Esterhazy
hrblock.ca

Moosomin preparing now for 2026 census

Mayor Murray Gray says it's crucial the count is accurate and everyone is included

BY KARA KINNA

Statistics Canada will be conducting the next census in May of this year, but the town of Moosomin is preparing now in order to ensure the count for Moosomin is more accurate than it was during the last census in 2021.

After the 2021 census, the town of Moosomin asked Statistics Canada to review its census numbers for Moosomin, and Statistics Canada responded by adjusting Moosomin's census numbers. Statistics Canada initially reported that Moosomin had a population of 2,675 in the 2021 census. The World-Spectator investigated and found that the number of households reported in the census were lower than the number of utility bills going out to households. The town asked Statistics Canada to review those numbers and Statistics Canada responded with a revised census number that is 4.3 per cent higher for Moosomin than the initial 2021 number.

"Statistics Canada has undertaken a detailed investigation and has confirmed that the population and private dwelling counts were incorrect," Lise Rivais of Statistics Canada wrote at the time.

The count of total private dwellings was increased from 1,207 to 1,281 and the official census population was increased from 2,657 to 2,774. The new numbers resulted in approximately \$100,000 in revenue sharing for Moosomin before the 2026 census.

Moosomin Mayor Murray Gray says this time, the town wants to ensure that Statistics Canada get it right, and that the town and its residents do whatever is required in order to make that happen.

"The value of getting a proper count, not only does it affect our funding on several different levels, but it also shows the growth that we've been talking about, which then affects our ability for grants and gives us more recognition with both levels of government," says Gray.

"So we want to make sure that we have an accurate count that shows the growth that we know we've had over the past 10 years.

"We appealed the last census because we found it to be very, very inaccurate, and we want to get ahead of things and not have to do that. After this census, we're hoping that we get the right number to start with, just because we know there were places that weren't counted last time. We know the town was under counted by a large amount, and in the appeal process, they didn't recount, they just did a nominal correction. So we want to have the number right to start with this time."

Gray says he's not sure why that happened in 2021.

"I don't think that the gravity of it was fully felt,

whether it was the people who were in charge of making sure everybody was counted, or even our local people making sure that they stand up and say, 'I need to be counted. I want to be counted.' So I think we need to make sure that message is out there to everybody, and everybody knows the importance of it."

He says census numbers are used not only by governments to determine funding, by they are crucial for things like economic development as well.

"It's important for so many things. It affects our funding from the municipal revenue sharing. It also comes into play when you're talking to businesses about coming here. When you're in economic development, if you can show the growth that we've had in census numbers, I think it makes it more attractive to do business, no matter what business you talk to.

"So I think it's far greater reaching than just how it affects grants with the provincial and federal government. Whether you're attracting doctors or whether you're attracting a new business to come to town, you want to show the growth that we know we've had."

He says the improper count last time had a negative effect on the town.

"It probably cost us a couple hundred thousand in funding that we could have used to put into our infrastructure to continue to grow. Ironically, if you think about being shorted on the census, and then you have all of this infrastructure pressure because of growth, and then they under count you, you're actually getting slammed from both sides. You're growing but they're not acknowledging that in the census.

"It certainly hurts you in some respects, because then the numbers don't back the messaging. Because the messaging has been that we're growing, that we're a progressive, growing community. We've got all these things going, and then the number comes out with a decrease in population and our hard work is discredited in some ways because of that."

So what can the town do to help the process go smoother this year?

"Once we find out who's hired, who's in charge of it for this area, we'll get some contact numbers at that point in time to make sure that we will have that ahead of time, to make sure that we know who they can reach out to," says Gray. "The residents need to contact the people who are doing the work, so we will stay on that and find out who's in charge of it, and we'll get their contact information."

He says education is also key.

"Some people will have the long census. Some will have the short census, and you're able to do it either in paper form or online. So maybe we need to do some education on that side of it, if people have some trouble with it. We'll just need to make sure that we're diligent about learning those processes in order to be able to help people as much as we can. I'm sure any member of council would help somebody who needs help with that, because it's important to all of us that we make sure everybody's counted.

"For governments to function properly, we need to know the exact number of people, and in order to be able to look after the residents, it's important in order to have the census filled out, because it's directly correlated to the funding model. There's lots of positives that come out of you filling this census in, far greater than negatives. Truthfully, it just helps. It helps you and it helps your neighbor, and it helps your community by filling it out."

Gray says it's not just an accurate count of how many people reside in Moosomin that's important, but also numbers that show the town's demographics.

"Those demographics are used in economic development lots when we are doing things like talking to a housing developer or talking to minor hockey in order to plan for the future, when we talk about things like a second rink. Age statistics, especially, are important to do things like plan for maybe a second Cobblestone House. It is important not only know how many people live here, but what age of people are living here, to plan for things like schools.

"Just about anything and anybody who's going to come and invest in our community wants to know the age of the people that are here. So it's not just about population counts. They want to know what age of people there are. And that's part of the planning process for a lot of different aspects."

Gray says people need to insist on being counted this year.

"If you haven't been contacted, or you haven't got the forms in order to do the census, please let us all know so we can help, because it's important to lots of people in the community. So speak up, we'll help you get counted.

"I think they're starting to look at hiring staff now for the census. If there's somebody in town who realizes the importance of this that would like to apply for that job, that would be awesome if we had somebody local that could take on that role. That would be fantastic, because that would also help ensure it goes smoothly."

Saskatchewan helium is on the rise.



Southern Saskatchewan supplies roughly three per cent of the world's helium, a critical gas used in medical imaging, space exploration, military applications, nuclear reactors and microchip manufacturing.

Since the Government of Saskatchewan launched the **Helium Action Plan** in 2021, industry has invested over \$500 million in the province. As demand for helium grows, the plan aims for Saskatchewan to supply 10 per cent of global helium by 2030.



William Frondall and Luke Bruce



Luke Bruce and William Frondall



Leo Bruce, William Frondall and Luke Bruce

Heather Graham photos

Rocanville Cross Country Ski Club still going strong after 32 years

BY ASHLEY BOCKE

The Rocanville Cross Country Ski Club has offered trails and ski equipment for surrounding communities to explore for the past 32 years.

The club continues to see a variety of skiers from all over Saskatchewan and from communities in the area. The club has grown over the years, expanding trails in the 1990s and shortly after adding a fully functioning club house full of rental equipment.

Member of Rocanville Cross Country Ski Club Jaret Lynnes enjoys the company while exploring the trails. He says the group meets Saturday and Sundays and is competing against Esterhazy Cross Country Ski Club on kilometers skied throughout the season.

The interview with the World-Spectator follows:

Tell me about the Rocanville Cross Country Ski Club. What is it about?

It's a trail that has about 10 km of double-track classic cross country ski trails. There are a number of programs they offer. On Saturdays they have a drop-in program for kids and helpers. At 12:30 pm they go for a short ski for

the younger ones and then at 1:30 pm they go for a longer ski. That is always in January and February. Because it's a drop-in, they get a half-dozen to a dozen kids depending on the weather and other activities going on.

I've lived in Rocanville for about 30 years and up until three years ago I didn't know Esterhazy had a ski club. I thought Rocanville was just a rare occurrence. So we've heard lots of people say around the area they haven't heard of it, so it is great to get it out to the public through the paper. Sometimes people are looking for things to do, especially over Christmas and breaks.

When does skiing start and when does it end?

For the Jack Rabbit program, which is the kids, it runs January and February. The adult ski is roughly all winter long. It is weather dependent, so some years it starts in November if we get an early snow. As soon as they get enough snow on the ground, they will start setting a track. Depending on how the spring goes, you can ski up to April usually, but sometimes it is mid-March. It was looking a little thin a few weeks ago, but with the snow-storm that came, we hope we can keep going. They do

allow Nordic walking in the summertime on the trails. They keep the grass mowed so it can be used year around, but just for the skiing part, it is weather dependent on whether there is enough snow on the ground.

The Jack Rabbit program goes for about an hour on the trails. They go a short distance, and it really depends on the kids that show up that day. We had a kid come a few weekends ago who was two years old. My daughter comes out once in a while to help out and she is in Grade 12 so they get kids from all ages. Some of the parents come and some don't have to. Heather Graham is the one who runs the Jack Rabbit program and goes out on the trails with them.

How often do the adults and kids go?

The Jack Rabbits go every Saturday and the younger ones go first and the older ones later. Then Sundays at 2 pm we have a drop-in as well for anyone who wants to ski with the group, which is also especially good for anyone who is a first timer because then there is someone around to help them get set up.

Continued on page 10

**Proudly Supporting
Waskada & Area Recreation Centre**

Tarin Nahachewsky (Tundra), Donna Stewart, Kandise Bertholet, Carson Spence, Don Wickham, Maurice Sattel, Blake Nestibo (Waskada Arena), Kourtlin Reddick, Meraco Clayton, Dena Bachorcik (Kingston Midstream)



**RESTON LAKE
and CAMPGROUND**

STAY & PLAY

Full Service Campground • 9-hole Golf Course • Spray Park & Waterslide
Lake & Beach Area • Volleyball Court • Walking Trails • Paddle Board Rentals

Reston, Manitoba 204-877-3327 www.rmofpipestone.com



Arya Bachman and Karolina Graham



The Bloomquist family

Heather Graham photos



Luke Bruce, Karolina Graham and Leo Bruce.



Tammy Flaman and Emma Flaman.

Rocanville Cross Country Ski Club still going strong after 32 years

Continued from page 9

How big is your group? How many people come out to ski?

Once we found out Esterhazy had their ski club as well, we started a contest last year to see which club could get the most number of people out and ski the most kilometers and ski the same most number of days, so we made a trophy and Rocanville won last year. We did 4,909 km as a club which is amazing. That was only 30 km more than the Esterhazy club. To do that, we had 524 different individuals come out and ski different times. It is not small for this area. Some people come out every week and others may only come once with their family. There is equipment there that you can rent, so you just show up and there is usually a fire on in the warm-up building with instructions on how to set up the skis and there is nice trail signs so people can go out for as long as they like.

This year we are running the contest with Esterhazy again. Rocanville is at 2,424 km so far. We just accumulate the kilometers based on how many people ski, and then see how many we can amass at the end of the year.

Where do you see people come from to ski?

There are people from all over that come. There is a couple I met around Christmas time that was travelling from Saskatoon to Winnipeg, so they drove off the number one came and skied for a little while and then contin-

ued on their way to Winnipeg. The last two weeks there has been a family from Virden that has come just because the equipment is here and ready for people to use.

It is \$10 a day to ski and then \$10 for equipment. They have family passes and day passes. It is \$40 a family for day pass and equipment rental.

How long has it been going on?

It has been going for the last 27 years. The trails are on three different quarter sections of land and the warm-up shack and trail is on the Hack land, and Heather Graham's maiden name is Hack, so Dennis Hack and Lane McFarlane started this club sometime back in the 90s.

How did you get involved and what is your role?

I am a member of the club. I really enjoy seeing it advertised in different places since we've moved to town. I really enjoy skiing on the trails and getting to know new people and getting a little bit of exercise.

It has been actively used quite a bit. The weather is a big factor in how much the trails get used. On the minus 30-degree weeks there are not too many people, but there is still the odd person that goes out.

Why do you continue to do it?

It is just a lot of fun. It is very quiet out on the trails because you are skiing through the bush, not on an open field. You're protected from the wind. You see a lot of

wildlife out there and it is just a chance to meet more people from the area as well.

Everyone is welcome. It is open to everyone. It is very simple to do. It maybe is hard to be good at it, but it is easy to be okay at it.

Since the season is coming to an end—is there any events the group has planned before spring?

Coming up still and throughout the year we had moonlight skis on days there was a full moon. So at 7 pm people would bring a potluck dessert and then go skiing under the moon. So, March 1 at 7 pm, we are still going to have our last moonlight ski. We also host loppets. They aren't races, but fun participation events. They had a loppet on January 31 and there is a bunch of pictures on Facebook with prizes for participation from youngest to oldest, for most colorful outfits, different categories. Our last event is going to be March 7. It is going to be a marathon relay. People can ski one loop and then get team members to ski the other loops until a team completes 42 km or some people are going to try to do the whole 42 km.

If anyone has questions about the marathon relay, they can give me a call. That is also a non-timed event, just a fun event for anyone interested.

More information on the ski club can be found on Facebook at Rocanville Cross Country Ski Club, or by calling Jaret Lynnes at 306-434-8774.

Continued on page 35

SoakZone
auto spa
SPORTS LOUNGE

Check out the newly furnished SoakZone Sports Lounge at the Gallagher Centre!

Whether you're here for a local bonspiel or grabbing a drink before a hockey game, the newly furnished lounge is your go to spot to catch the action or connect with friends.

Find out more at
www.gallaghercentre.com

Gallagher CENTRE
Yorkton happens here.
455 Broadway St W | Yorkton, SK
306-786-1740



From left to right, Ashley Weber, Jennie Weber (mom), and Cassidy Weber are all very involved in barrel racing. Jennie Weber photo



Lisa Huynh is riding CP Docs Lil Gun known as Sik Em. He has only been running barrels for the past month. Stephanie Zoer photo

Barrel racing competitors beat winter blues at Ponderosa Barrel Series



Sarah Anderson rode Guy at the Barrel Series. She has attended many of the events with her kids who also run barrels. Stephanie Zoer photo

theme and a prize for the best custom is given in four categories for the day.

The barrel racing series usually runs every Saturday, and one was held on February 14. It is open to all ages ranging from three years old to 70 years old. One does not need to be seasoned in the profession; they can come out and learn how to run the barrels. Some of the barrel racers bring young horses as it is a great tool for them to learn.

Barrel racers love the atmosphere and any given weekend 40 rides come out to enjoy the day. Each barrel racer is given the chance to run the clover leaf pattern, and if they knock down the barrel, they have a chance to do a buy in and do another round.

Weber said that this event would not be possible without the volunteers that come out and help. She has had many locals do sponsorships which include buckles at the final event on April 25.

Weber said that the atmosphere, the social and the magical feeling is exactly what she was looking for when she started this series last year, and she feels that this is what she has accomplished and at the same time made the dark winters a little less blue.



Jennie Weber, left, presents Johanna Logan, right, with her prize for the best dressed in the youth division at the Ponderosa Barrel Series. Jennie Weber photo

BY STEPHANIE ZOER
Jennie Weber, owner and operator of Ponderosa Ranch, needed something to do during the dark months of winter. Her two daughters Ashley Weber and Cassidy Weber, received rodeo scholarships and went off to college leaving Weber alone at home.

Weber and her daughters are dedicated horse people. Ashley and Cassidy are competitive barrel racers and break away ropers. Their scholarships took Ashley to Hobbs, New Mexico and Cassidy to Weatherford, Texas. With her daughters having such a passion for barrel racing, Weber wanted others to be able to experience what her girls have.

Last year Weber decided to start the Ponderosa Barrel Series with her daughters' encouragement. Weber loves people, horses, and the barrel world. This was also going to be something that would fill her lonely days without her kids home. The event went so well that Weber is hosting her second event this year.

"I want people to enjoy the magic of the arena," said Weber. "I am very blessed to have my parents,

Sandra and Andy Robertson, help when needed, and the sponsorship that we have."

The Ponderosa Ranch is located east of Carlyle on Highway 13. It has a large indoor riding arena that is heated and very enjoyable for all competitors to ride out of the cold weather. The event begins in the fall and runs until the end of April with a final competition for

awards.

Weber cooks a warm meal for everyone to enjoy up in the viewing lodge. Prizes are awarded to the best runs of the day, but she also has theme days. One is Christmas wearing an ugly sweater, and New Years is Gala Dress day. She has Easter and Valentines. It is not only the competitors that dress up, but the horses are also put into the



Mike McKelvie (Municipality of Grasland), Avery Brigden (Tundra)



Find the perfect gift at The Gallery!
Sherbrooke St. Downtown Wolseley, SK
306-698-2026 or 306-698-2652
Open: Tuesday - Friday
11 am - 4 pm or by appointment

64-Team Bonselpiel falling into place for the Arcola 125th anniversary celebration

BY STEPHANIE ZOER

The 64-team bonselpiel scheduled for March 25-29 in celebration of the 125th anniversary of the Arcola Curling Club is falling into place. After a year and a half of preparation, it is nearly here.

Warren Neuman is the chairman of the committee of 20 volunteers. He said there is plenty for people to see and enjoy over the five-day event. Wednesday and Thursday night games will begin, but no games will go after midnight. The event is open to all curlers with the youngest being 13 years old and older players up to 80 years old. Players are coming from across the province and neighboring provinces.

The week before the event takes place, professional ice maker Jason Reddekopp from Spiritwood will be in the arena, making the hockey rink into curling ice instead. There are many steps in preparing the ice for stones instead of a hockey puck.

The bonselpiel is in memory of Cody Grimes who passed away a few years ago due to some health issues. Cody and his brother Micky Grimes were in partnership with Eagle Oilfield Services. Micky has become the main sponsor of the bonselpiel in memory of his brother.



The Arcola 64-team bonselpiel in celebration of the club's 125th anniversary will have five sets of stones coming from the Carlyle Curling Club.

Stephanie Zoer photo

Friday, March 27 will be the opening ceremony. At the celebration, Sheena Grimes, Cody's wife, will speak to the crowd. The banquet is open to everyone, which will include a live auction, supper with the meat being prepared by the Southeast Butcher

Block, and the rest by the club. There will be live entertainment by the Left-overs.

There will be breakfast on Saturday and Sunday mornings, with supper being provided each night. There will be two kitchens on the go at all times, to ensure everyone has the opportunity to get something to eat.

Games will be scheduled throughout the days on March 28-29. The final games will be played on Sunday at 6 p.m. Saturday night another band from Moosomin named Old Habits will be at the Arcola Prairie Place Hall to entertain.

They have an online merchandise store with several of the items available at the bonselpiel. Raffle tables are slowly filling up as well. The Pro Shop from Estevan will be on hand with their products. Many volunteers are still needed to ensure that the event runs smoothly.

They are still looking for one last team to join in on the fun. One team had to back out. The team will be accepted until the time of the bonselpiel and can contact Warren.

LAKE LIFE IS CALLING
SPRING BOAT SALE

SALE DATE: MAR 16 - MAR 27, 2026

- * HARRIS PONTOON
- * BAYLINER BOWRIDER
- * HEYDAY WAKE AND SURF
- * LUND ALUMINUM

FINANCING AVAILABLE
TERMS UP TO 180 MONTHS OAC

SPECIAL PRICING ON ALL IN STOCK BOATS



LUND ALUMINUM
\$2,000 OFF
7 BOATS IN STOCK



SHOREMASTER DOCKS
BOAT LIFTS
10% DISCOUNT ON ALL IN-STOCK



BAYLINER BOWRIDERS
UP TO \$5,000.00 OFF!
3 BOATS IN STOCK



HARRIS PONTOON
SPECIAL PRICING
PONTOON AND TROTTER BOATS
9 BOATS IN STOCK



HEYDAY WAKE & SURF
UP TO \$13,000.00 OFF!
3 BOATS IN STOCK

Contact Info:
garry@virdenrec.com
dave@virdenrec.com

CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT TO VIEW ANY IN STOCK BOAT

CALL OR TEXT: 204-748-2060



MENZA[®]



Fine-Tuned for Precision, Built for the Long Shot.






MENZA

WOLVERINE[™]

SUPPLIES

Virden, MB
#1 River Valley Road North
sales@wolverinesupplies.com // 204-748-2454 // www.wolverinesupplies.com

Love to Shop LOCAL

VIRDEN FORD  **SHARE OUR PASSION**

204-748-1775
 VISIT US ONLINE: www.virdenford.ca
 Facebook: Virden Ford Sales Ltd. | Instagram: Virdenford
 173 KING STREET EAST, VIRDEN, MANITOBA, R0M 2C0

WOLVERINE SUPPLIES

EVERYTHING FIREARMS & OUTDOORS

OPEN MONDAY - SATURDAY
 VIRDEN, MB

SHOP ONLINE 24/7
WOLVERINESUPPLIES.COM



Fouillard Carpets Ltd.

One of the **LARGEST** flooring warehouses on the prairies!

ST. LAZARE, MB (204) 683-2293 • FOUILLARDCARPETS.COM
 Hours of Operation: Monday - Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Closed Noon - 1 for lunch)
 Saturday: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. • (MANITOBA TIME)



Glasser's TV SERVICE

Moosomin, SK
 (306) 435-3040
www.glasserstv.com
www.facebook.com/glasserstv
 Monday - Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.



READY IN 30 MINUTES OR LESS!

LUNCH MAIN • SIDE • DRINK

BP

Boston Pizza FOR ONLY **\$15**

290 Frontage Road West
 Virden, MB
 204-748-6500

LUNCH MAIN • SIDE • DRINK

FOR ONLY **\$15**



UNIVERSE SATELLITE SALES



306.645.2669

520 Railway Ave, Rocanville, SK | www.universesatellite.com



Today's **FURNITURE & ELECTRONICS**

Searching for the **BEST** prices for furniture?

Today's Enterprises carries Ashley, Palliser, Minhas & El Ran Furniture, Beautyrest & Serta Mattresses .
 Check out our huge selection of toys!

27 Railway Ave. | Redvers, SK | 306-452-6309
 VISIT US ON FACEBOOK



3C TECH

Western Manitoba's **Leading IT Solutions Provider!**

INFO@3CTECH.CA

302 King Street East • Virden, MB • 204-851-6800



"We Want To Satisfy You"

Bradley & Son Ltd. est. 1946

1102 PARK AVE. | MOOSOMIN, SK
306-435-3367
BRADLEYGM.COM



NAPA AUTO PARTS

When you're in need of replacement auto parts, tools, or accessories for your vehicle, NAPA Auto Parts is the place to go!

- Steering & Suspension
- Motor Oil & Fluids
- Chemicals
- Brakes
- Filters
- Batteries
- Car Care
- Tools & Equipment
- Windshield Wipers
- Lighting

Mon-Fri: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
 Sat: 8:00am - 12:00pm Sun: CLOSED

210 NORTH SERVICE RD (Inside MazerGroup), MOOSOMIN, SK S0G 3N0 Phone: (306) 435-3753



Do you love shopping local?
 Tell us why and have a chance to **WIN \$50** from EACH of these participating retailers!



Love to Shop **LOCAL**



THE WORLD-Spectator

Saskatchewan's most award winning weekly newspaper

714 Main Street, Moosomin, SK
306-435-2445 • world-spectator.com



Balfour Drugs
KIPLING, SK
306-736-2242

BUSINESS HOURS:
MONDAY - FRIDAY: 6 A.M. - 6 P.M.
SATURDAY: 8 A.M. - 4 P.M.

PHARMACY HOURS:
MONDAY-FRIDAY (CLOSED SATURDAY)
9 A.M. - 6 P.M.

ENTIRE STORE CLOSED ON SUNDAY

IMZ SERVICE GARAGE

306-435-1717 OR 306-435-1716 moosomin, SK

CARS TRUCKS ENGINES TRANSMISSIONS HORSE TRAILERS
AGRICULTURE & CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT AIR CONDITIONING SCANS
WHEEL ALIGNMENTS BOATS TIRE REPAIRS & SALES SAFETY INSPECTIONS

KARI'S KLOSET
FASHIONS FOR ALL WOMEN

karisklosetonline.com

Main St. • Moosomin, SK • 306.435.2738
Monday - Saturday 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Shop with Kari on the FBDA/LIVE every week at 9:30 AM FRIDAYS on the FACBOOK page

DENRAY TIRE
Let us family take your family

24 Hour Service

Before You Hit The Road...
COME AND SEE US FOR ALL YOUR TIRE NEEDS!

1004 North Front St. Moosomin, SK 306-435-2949

KARI'S PHARMACY

306-435-1820
709 Main Street, Moosomin, SK
Monday - Friday 8:30am - 5:30pm

PharmaChoice

Elkhorn Home Centre 204-845-2145 103 Richhill Ave E
Elkhorn Food 204-845-2428 203 Richhill Ave E

CO-OP Twin Valley

Love to Shop LOCAL

Do you love shopping local?
Tell us why and have a chance to
WIN \$50
from EACH of these participating retailers!

Enter with every purchase
OR SEND YOUR ENTRIES TO
lovelocal@world-spectator.com
OR VISIT
<https://www.world-spectator.com/lovetoshoplocal/>

Do you love shopping local?
Tell us why and have a chance to
WIN \$50
from EACH of these participating retailers!

ENTRY FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

WHY DO YOU LOVE TO SHOP LOCAL

Return form to The World-Spectator office or mail to Box 250, Moosomin, SK, S0G 3N0
or e-mail to lovelocal@world-spectator.com

BRANDSOURCE LOVE IT. LIVE IT.

Kullberg's
HOME FURNISHINGS

346 King Street Virden, MB 204-748-3331 In-Store Sales & Best Pricing all the time! Gift Cards Available www.kullbergs.ca Find us on Facebook

STORE HOURS: MONDAY - SATURDAY: 9 A.M. - 5 P.M. • CLOSED SUNDAYS
FREE DELIVERY WITHIN 200 KMS (MANITOBA ONLY) • SK DELIVERY OPTIONS AVAILABLE

Home hardware ESTERHAZY, SK 306-745-2272

604 MAIN ST, ESTERHAZY, SK
OPEN 8:30 AM - 9 PM

SEW CREATIVE & INTERIORS
Moosomin, SK 306-435-2518

See us for all of your sewing and decorating needs, custom draperies and a complete line of Hunter Douglas Window Fashions!

CO-OP Borderland
Moosomin | Rocanilla | Whitewood | Maryfield | Broadview | Greenfield | Kipleg

FEEDING, FUELING, FUNDING, BUILDING
YOUR COMMUNITY

FUEL | FOOD | LIQUOR | HOME CENTER | AGRO

BORDERLANDCO-OP.CRS

Michael's
COFFEE SHOP & BAKERY

FRESH ROASTED | FRESH BAKED
FRESH BREWED

CARLYLE • ESTEVAN • WEYBURN
michaelscoffeeeshop.com

I.D.A. ERIN'S I.D.A. PHARMACY

BUSINESS HOURS
Monday - Friday: 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

422 MAIN STREET • ESTERHAZY, SK • 306-745-2525

Love to Shop LOCAL

Lee's Carpet Warehouse

Moosomin, SK • 306-435-3906
 Hardwood • Laminate • Tile • Carpet • Linoleum • Vinyl
 We do Kitchen Craft Cabinets



ZAYLIE

FURNITURE • BEDDING • APPLIANCES • CABINETS

815 Broadway Ave.
 Moosomin, SK
306-435-2154



Moosomin PHARMASAVE
 Moosomin, SK • 306-435-3345

Redvers PHARMASAVE
 Redvers, SK • 306-452-3313

Kipling PHARMASAVE
 Kipling, SK • 306-736-2810

Wellness & Mobility Centre PHARMASAVE
 Moosomin, SK • 306-435-4330

Rocanville Pharmacy & PharmaChoice
 Rocanville, SK • 306-645-2633

LIFETIME CASH BENEFITS

CO-OP MEMBERSHIP



If you are a member, then you are an owner. Valleyview Co-op offers high-quality products and services, along with equity cash back during profitable years. Sign up for a \$5 membership and start building equity today.

Virden • Melita • Kenton • Pierson • Oak Lake



Fouillard DISCOUNT CENTRE

St. Lazare, MB | fdsales@mymts.net
204-683-2416
 For all your building needs!
 Windows & Doors
 Soffit & Fascia
 Flooring & So Much More

SAPARA'S DRUG MART

306-745-6662 | ESTERHAZY, SK
 MONDAY-SATURDAY: 9:00AM - 5:30PM



Tristar Foods

306-745-3905
 Open 5 a.m. - 11 p.m.
 HWY #22 & East Drive Esterhazy, Sk







306-739-2551
 Monday-Saturday
 11am - 9pm
 Closed Sundays
 417 Railway Ave, Wawota

306-453-0223
 106 Main St. | Carlyle, SK
 Call or message us on Facebook



McAuley COUNTRY Grocery & Cafe

McAuley, MB | 204-722-2199 | Find us on Facebook!



WORKWEAR FOOTWEAR SAFETY ACCESSORIES

for men and women

Built on exceptional customer service.

208 Main Street | Carlyle, SK
 moosemountainww@gmail.com
 306-435-5000




WHITEWOOD DAIRY QUEEN

1206 HWY #1 • 306-735-2365



Fireside FURNITURE & APPLIANCES

locally owned and operated since 2019

MARCH IS INVENTORY CLEARANCE

HUGE DISCOUNTS on select home furnishing

202 Main St., Carlyle, SK | 306-453-2025
 Follow us @thefiresideshop | Delivery available

PRESENTED BY:



REGAL
AUTO BODY

JUNO AND MULTI-CCMA AWARD-WINNING BAND

DOC WALKER



Doors Open
at 9pm
performance
to follow

After-party
by DJ Dale
Orsted until
1 am!

April 18, 2026
Carlyle Sports Arena
324 4th St West - Carlyle



Carlyle District Lions Annual
Supper and Auction Fundraiser
Entertainment Tickets \$30





Above: On stage at the Conexus Arts Centre with Chief Evan Taypotat and the jingle dress dancers at the Northern Plains Jingle Dress Dance Championships at the Think Indigenous conference. **Below:** Dancers at the opening of the Think Indigenous conference.



With Charlene Eger, an Inclusion Saskatchewan board member with some Moosomin ties.



Social Services Minister Terry Jenson with some of the leaders of Inclusion Saskatchewan.



Left: Minister Terry Jensen, Minister Ken Cheveldayoff, Minister Lori Carr, Premier Scott Moe, Minister Jeremy Cockrill, and myself at the announcement of the Patients First Health Care Plan at the Urgent Care Centre in Saskatoon.

One of the immediate benefits for our area is the change to the community contribution to health care capital costs, which means the community of Grenfell will be paying 10 per cent, not 20 per cent, of the cost of the new Grenfell long-term care centre.



Above and below: At the Round Lake vs. Redvers provincial game on Feb. 28 at Ochapowace with the Round Lake mascots and Ochapowace Chief Shelley Bear.



Announcing tuition relief for Ukrainian post-secondary students until 2030.



Major announcement on health care: Great news for Grenfell and our constituency

I was in Saskatoon on March 9 along with the premier, minister of Health Jeremy Cockrill and Minister of Rural and Remote Health Lori Carr for an announcement of wide ranging improvements to health care in Saskatchewan. These changes are all aimed at making health care more accessible to Saskatchewan residents. From making virtual care on your cell phone an option, to taking a whole new approach to health care recruitment, to modernizing the funding structure for new facilities to put them in reach of more rural communities.

We are reducing the community portion of capital costs for new facilities from 20 per cent to 10 per cent. This includes facilities in planning and under construction, so the cost the community of Grenfell for the new long-term care facility under construction will now be significantly less. This government listened, this government heard, this government acted.

Since I was elected, construction has resumed on the Grenfell long-term care project which will provide care for people at the most vulnerable time in their lives closer to the people and the communities that they love.

But the 20 per cent cost was a large hurdle for the community. I met with the community multiple times, I brought Rural and Remote Health Minister Lori Carr to meet with them and I brought Premier Scott Moe to meet with them. We listened, we heard, we acted. And now health care facilities of all types will be more affordable not only for the community of Grenfell but for all communities moving forward.

Broadview Healthcare Foundation

It was great to meet with members of the Broadview Healthcare Foundation and tour Broadview's health care facility.

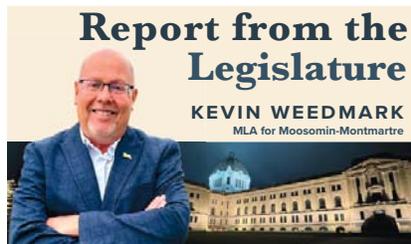
I'm always impressed by the commitment and drive of people who work in our health facilities in every corner of the province, and I'm always impressed by the volunteers who serve on health care foundations, which are often at the leading edge of improving health care in their communities.

Broadview is an important medical centre and the foundation wants to attract one more physician and I will be working with them and with the Saskatchewan Healthcare Recruitment Agency on that!

The recruitment agency does great work in recruiting for our health system across Saskatchewan.

RM of Moosomin council meeting

I had a great meeting with the RM of Moosomin council and administrator on February 27 on a wide range of is-



Report from the Legislature

KEVIN WEEDMARK
MLA for Moosomin-Montmartre

sues, from health care to highways to cell coverage along the Manitoba border. I will be following up and setting up a couple of meetings to address concerns.

The Nest Health Centre

It was great to visit to The Nest Health Centre in Regina with Deputy Premier Jim Reiter, Health Minister Jeremy Cockrill, Rural and Remote Health Minister Lori Carr, Minister of Government Relations Eric Schmalz, and White City-Qu'Appelle MLA Brad Crassweller.

It was great to see the amazing work The Nest is doing, to see the difference The Innovation Fund has made in helping them achieve their vision!

The Nest Health Centre has successfully developed a team-based care facility for Regina, with a large team of healthcare providers, with physicians, nurses, and pharmacists at its core. Great to see the use the Nest is making of AI in the medical system.

The Nest's vision is to integrate a multi-faceted well-being approach including hydrotherapy pools, sports medicine, physiotherapy, medical imaging, lab collection, and a great gym facility in the former YMCA in downtown Regina.

Saskatchewan uranium deal with India

Premier Scott Moe's leadership has helped deliver a massive new agreement for the export of Saskatchewan uranium to India. On Monday, Premier Scott Moe, Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney and Indian Prime Minister Modi witnessed the signing of a \$2.6 billion agreement for Saskatchewan uranium to be sold to India.

The agreement between Saskatchewan-based Cameco and India's Department of Atomic Energy commits Cameco to supply fuel for use in India's growing nuclear power generating industry.

"We understand Saskatchewan's potential to supply the world with the fuel it needs to power the economies of tomorrow and it's great to see India value the energy security we can provide," Premier Moe said. "This agreement is thanks in no small part to Cameco for their dedication to our uranium industry, and the governments of Saskatchewan, Canada and India for their priority on a productive and mutually beneficial relationship. Today marks a great day for this longstanding partnership and holds a lot of promise for a bright future together."

With this agreement, Cameco expects to ship \$2.6 billion worth of uranium to India over a nine-year term. The agreement replaces a five-year agreement from 2015 and is nearly 10 times the value at the time of the announcement in 2015.

"The global demand for secure, carbon-free nuclear power is rising rapidly, and India is at the forefront with ambitious expansion plans for its civil nuclear energy program," CEO of Cameco Tim Gitzel said.

In Saskatchewan, in 2024, the uranium mining sector employed more than 2,300 people and contributed more than \$2.5 billion to the provincial GDP. With the ongoing global shift to nuclear power, jurisdictions around the world are continuing to source more uranium from responsible, reliable and geopolitically stable regions like Saskatchewan.

India currently has 24 operating reactors along with plans to deploy dozens more to reach 100 GW of generating capacity by 2047. Deliveries under the contract are expected to begin in 2027 and run through 2035.

Inclusion Saskatchewan

I learned a lot at the Inclusion Saskatchewan reception at the Legislature Wednesday afternoon. Thanks to the board members, self-advocates and staff of Inclusion Saskatchewan for sharing their stories with us!

Think Indigenous Conference

It was such an honor to be invited to the Think Indigenous conference in Regina this week. The organizers did an amazing job, bringing 1,200 people from across North America to the Conexus Arts Centre in Regina for three days focusing on Indigenous education. Thanks to Chief Evan Taypotat of Kahkewistahaw First Nation and Dr. Christopher Scribe of Carry the Kettle Nakoda Nation for their leadership on this amazing conference.

Reach out

Feel free to call me at 306-435-4002 or email office@kevinweedmark.ca



The Kenosee Superslides, once a popular place to spend sunny summer days, is being demolished.

Kenosee Superslides water park being demolished

BY NICOLE TAYLOR
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Kenosee Superslides water park—which served as a popular spot for decades for people in Southeast Saskatchewan during their summers—is being demolished.

Demolition work on the water park started in February, and is expected to be wrapped up this spring.

The land that the water park sits on is located in Moose Mountain Provincial Park, on the east side of Highway 9 across from Kenosee Lake.

Demolition work for the site was tendered by Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport with Demolition Operations Inc. from Saskatoon awarded the tender on February 16 in the amount of \$130,910.

The Kenosee Superslides closed due to

the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020.

After the pandemic, the facility no longer met health and safety standards and closed when they were unable to obtain a license from the Saskatchewan Health Authority.

After operations ceased, the facility deteriorated and was deemed a public safety risk by the Ministry of Parks, leading the ministry to seek demolition of the site.

The ministry is removing the abandoned building and other assets. Once demolition is complete and the area is cleared, the ministry says it will “assess future opportunities for the site to ensure the land is used in a way that benefits park visitors.

“When the lease was not renewed, the site was abandoned. As such, the government will take measures to clear the land.”



www.circlemfurniture.com

We Carry Most Major Brands Of Upholstery
Appliances: Kitchenaid - Whirlpool - Maytag -Amana



ABSOLUTELY FREE
When you purchase Whirlpool or Maytag Appliances. See store for details.



Open - Monday to Friday, 9 am to 5 pm
Saturday 9 am to 1 pm
Located at 100 Main Street, Melita, MB
204-522-8254



Plain & Valley REGIONAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

CONSTRUCTION

FSK
Construction Services
Arcola, SK
306.471.4167
Just call Frank!
constructionfsk@gmail.com

FUNERAL HOME

Redpath
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORIUM
Celebrating Life's Relationships
Serving Carlyle and area
Neil Redpath | Kurt Ardon | Sandy Dalziel | Kara Schiestel
306-453-2400
redpathfuneralhome@gmail.com | redpathfuneralhome.com
Arrangements can be made at our Oxbow office or in the comfort of your own home!

REAL ESTATE

Moving to Manitoba?
ROYAL LEPAGE
Martin-Liberty Realty
Carla McLean
PARTNER//SALES REPRESENTATIVE
204-851-5049
carlamclean@royallepage.ca

DENTURIST

Spreading Smiles throughout Manitoba
FULL SERVICE DENTURE CLINIC
Kyle Ryan Denture Clinic
WESTMAN'S PREMIER DENTURE CLINIC
Celebrating 15 years in Brandon
204-728-4435
Unit D - 5418th Street, Brandon, MB | www.brandondentures.com
Kyle Ryan
L.D. DD Denturist

PLACE YOUR AD IN THE PLAIN & VALLEY BUSINESS DIRECTORY TODAY!

Call 306-435-2445 or email world_spectator@sasktel.net

CUSTOM PRINTING

Spectator
Call today for a quote on your commercial print items!
POSTERS • TICKETS
BUSINESS CARDS & SO MUCH MORE!
306-435-2445
world_spectator@sasktel.net
www.world-spectator.com

Plain & Valley

Covering Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba

To advertise or for more information call 306-435-2445 or e-mail world_spectator@sasktel.net

REACH 30,000 HOUSEHOLDS WITH ONE AD!

NEXT ISSUE: APRIL 17th

Visit www.plainandvalley.com for more information and to see current and past issues.



WE'RE YOUR LOCAL PRINT SHOP!



CUSTOM PRINTING

- Posters
- Invitations
- Gift Cards
- Business Cards
- Brochures
- Raffle Tickets
- Booklets
- Envelopes
- NCR Forms
- Calendars
- Programs
- Invoice Books



LOGO & SIGN DESIGN STAMPS & CHEQUES

- Coroplast Signs | Metal Signs | Vinyl Banners
 - Rubber & Self Inking Stamps
 - Personal & Business Cheques
 - Custom Logo Design
- By our team of talented graphic designers



Give us a call for a quote:
306.435.2445

world_spectator@sasktel.net | www.world-spectator.com



Built in 1957, the Bienfait Arena has seen many people come and go over the years.

Dennis Gonas photo



The roof and ceiling in the Bienfait Arena have seen better days and need much repair.

Dennis Gonas photo

Bienfait Rink looking at \$2.2 million in repairs to keep rink user friendly

BY STEPHANIE ZOER

Bienfait is a community of 820 people, located in the southeast corner of Saskatchewan. It is viable community that wants to keep its hockey arena in good condition so that it will have years of use for the next generations.

Dennis Gonas, a long-time resident of Bienfait, brought up the idea of having repairs done to the rink instead of building a new one. The cost of these repairs would come with a big price tag.

The arena was built in 1957 and has a round quonset-like roof. According to Gonas there was an upgrade done to the lobby in 2002, and a little insulation and metal replacement, but other than that, the rink has not seen any repairs.

Today the building has holes in the

wall, there are some beams rotting, the shell over the rink needs replacing and there is no room for spectators to stand to watch the activities on the ice.

"The ice is in good shape and the cement under the ice is as well," said Gonas. They have artificial ice and that part is doing its job. Around the perimeter of the ice surface there are cracks in the cement which need repairing.

Gonas said they would like to add two dressing rooms, place new boards around the ice and glass to protect fans. "We do not wait to do netting, but rather have an old hockey look," said Gonas.

In making room for spectators, they will have to extend the building on the east side, offering five to seven rows

of bleachers and adding two tiers of bleachers on the west side. "We do not have a lot of room to expand as we do not have much land around the rink," said Gonas.

They want the rink to have a user-friendly appeal and keep the look bright and open. They also want to attract others to use the rink. Having heat for the fans is also important.

At one time they had a team in the Big Six League, and they are hoping that in the near future they will have the opportunity to have another team.

There Zamboni is a 1984 model. If it gets a flat tire, it is done as there are no parts to fix a model that old. Gonas said they will hold a separate fundraiser for this and hope to find a good used one.

The Town of Bienfait had proposed to build a new skate park, but at this time the project has been put on hold and will be looked at in the future, but for now they will focus on the rink and swimming pool.

The committee of 12 people have received quotes on the cost of the repairs for the rink, and the estimated cost is around \$2.2 million. Another meeting will be held to discuss the action plan on how to go about raising the funds. Anyone wishing to find out more information or wanting to join the planning committee can contact Sarah Yoner who is the treasurer and Recreation Director, Katie Turnbull who is the secretary, Celine Hegland who is vice president, and Dennis Gonas, the chairperson.



Dennis Gonas photo



A full service lumber and hardware outlet serving residential, agricultural, commercial, and industrial needs. 204-556-2672

We Carry:

- Calf Shelters
- Shop Material Packages
- Certainteed & Rockwool Insulation

Plain & Valley REGIONAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

• CONCRETE WORK •

CONCRETE RESTORATION "Protecting your concrete"

Repairs | Resurfacing | Floor Coatings
Preventitive Maintenance

marty@concreterestore.ca • 306-435-0900 (cell)

www.concreterestore.ca

• OPTOMETRY •

Virден Eyecare Centre

Dr. David Cochrane | Dr. Julie Paradine
170 NELSON STREET WEST VIRDEN, MB
204-748-1094

• ACCOUNTING •

PRAIRIE STRONG
CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

ESTERHAZY OFFICE
420 Main Street
306-745-6611
prairiestrong.ca

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE!

306-435-2445

Rocanville's new aquatic centre seeing high usage

Family swims, rentals attracting people from surrounding communities



The pool during a public swim.

BY ASHLEY BOCHER

The Universe Satellite Aquatic Centre in Rocanville opened its doors in November and since then the facility has been popular around the region.

Pool Manager Kelsey Selby said she was happy with the support they have received from communities in the area and is eager to hear feedback from visitors on swim programming.

"It has been going very well. Our most popular times right now are the family swims. There is anywhere between 10 to 60 people that come to those, so that is really good," says Selby.

Selby says rentals have been very popular and are filling the pool schedule.

"We recently had Yorkton's Synchro Team that is going to the Winter Games rent the pool a couple of weeks ago and they were really shocked at how busy our lane swim was, because when they came they warmed up with the lane swim before their rental. The synchro coach told me how surprised she was by how many people were there during that.

"I think they couldn't get the rental time in Yorkton, and they shared on their own Facebook that they appreciated that our rental booking was so easy to do, and they were very impressed with how professional our guards were. We have a junior Olympic sized pool, so we have the shallow end and the deep water."

Rentals have been popular

Selby says they have hosted lots of different rentals since opening.

"Our rentals have been crazy. We have birthday party rentals and then private rentals. Our birthday parties are probably our most popular. It is an hour in the pool and a half an hour in the mezzanine. We provide cake and juice, which is all selected in their rental agreements. Some of the ladies in town make the cakes and they are super

delicious. We also do private rentals, and they were really popular around Christmas time. We had a couple of families do private rentals so that they could come for a swim. That was really nice. We've also had a couple of businesses do it for a retreat type of thing.

"We also have a rental this coming Friday evening. It is an invite-only event and there is going to be yoga as well as a meditation float. If it goes well, I will hopefully be doing more of those. I would like to try it first with just closer friends and see how it goes.

"The private rentals don't include the use of the mezzanine unless you talk to us prior. We can make that happen we just need to know what is going on ahead of time. Anyone can email rocanvillepool@gmail.com for rentals or you can give us a call here at the pool. We are working on getting a permanent number which we should have in the next coming weeks. People can message us on Facebook as well."

The Universe Satellite Aquatic Centre hosted many rentals during the holiday season. Selby explains even during cold winter days people, still enjoy coming to swim.

"It was very, very busy in December and the end of January sped up as well, but it has also been so cold and there have been days we thought nobody was going to come out, and then it's crazy. The water is 30 degrees Celsius and it is nice and warm in the facility. It has been really good. There are lots of winter sports to do in the area, but it is relatively inexpensive to come swimming compared to skiing. You only need a bathing suit. Our passes, and even the single day passes are decently priced."

Visitors from across the area

Selby explains there have been many visitors from the surrounding area come swim at the Aquatic Centre.

Continued on page 26

We are

Hiring

CARPENTER

- 5+ years of experience required
- Must be independent & efficient
- Top wages & benefits

To apply call 306-434-9001
Or email info@copperridgeinc.com

CopperRidge

CONSTRUCTION INC.

Consolidate the pieces of your

FINANCIAL PUZZLE

Let's work together to simplify your monthly payments into one and take charge of your budget.

Connect with one of our lending experts today to consolidate your loan.

Sunrise can help you make the pieces fit!

SUNRISE
CREDIT UNION

Contact your local branch for more information:

204-534-2421 Boissevain branch, 204-747-2336 Deloraine branch,
204-858-2171 Hartney branch, 204-522-3272 Melita branch,
204-748-2907 Virden branch, 204-673-2774 Waskada branch

sunrisecu.mb.ca

WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED!

Plain & Valley



Every issue of Plain & Valley is mailed direct to readers in Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba. Also free to read online!



www.plainandvalley.com

2026 DISTRIBUTION DATES

January 19, 2026

Deadline: January 9, 2026

April 17, 2026

Deadline: April 8, 2026

July 17, 2026

Deadline: July 8, 2026

October 16, 2026

Deadline: October 7, 2026

February 13, 2026

Deadline: February 4, 2026

May 15, 2026

Deadline: May 6, 2026

August 14, 2026

Deadline: August 5, 2026

November 13, 2026

Deadline: November 4, 2026

March 13, 2026

Deadline: March 4, 2026

June 12, 2026

Deadline: June 3, 2026

September 18, 2026

Deadline: September 9, 2026

December 11, 2026

Deadline: December 2, 2026

TOTAL DISTRIBUTION: 30,000

For Advertising information contact Kara at

306.435.2445

or email us at world_spectator@sasktel.net





**FULL-TIME
POST-SECONDARY PROGRAMS
2026-2027**



BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Weyburn

CONTINUING CARE ASSISTANT

Weyburn | Whitewood

ELECTRICIAN

Estevan | Whitewood

HAIRSTYLIST

Weyburn

**HEAVY EQUIPMENT AND TRUCK AND
TRANSPORT TECHNICIAN**

Estevan

POWER ENGINEERING

Estevan

WELDING

Estevan

PLUMBING AND PIPEFITTING

Estevan

HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

Estevan

INDUSTRIAL MECHANIC

Estevan

**View programs and apply
online today!**



www.southeastcollege.org **1.866.999.7372**

PROGRAMS AND LOCATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE



1515 - 22nd Ave SW
Minot, ND | 58701

[www.motel6.com/en/home/
motels.nd.minot.3615.html](http://www.motel6.com/en/home/motels.nd.minot.3615.html)



701-852-2201

motel + studio



- ▶ Indoor Pool/Hot Tub
- ▶ 100% Non-Smoking
- ▶ Standard & Studio Rooms Available
- ▶ Fitness Centre
- ▶ Located next to Applebee's and Dakota Square Mall

Welcome Canadians!

We invite you to stay at the perfect location for all your shopping needs!

**SPRING HAS
SPRUNG**
Sale

- **ALL MATTRESSES on Sale!**
- **All Living Room Furniture SAVE THE TAX!**
- **All Dining Room Furniture SAVE THE TAX!**



shop from home @
zaylie.ca



306-435-2154

815 BROADWAY AVE. MOOSOMIN, SK

STORE HOURS:

10 AM - 5 PM MONDAY - FRIDAY

10 AM - 3 PM - SATURDAY

CLOSED - SUNDAY



Laurel Richter with her daughter-in-law Kayley Blaine and granddaughter Blake Lamb enjoying the pool.



Lifeguards Helaina Anderson and Gabriel Fingas.

Rocanville's new aquatic centre seeing high usage Family swims, rentals attracting people from surrounding communities

Continued from page 24

"One night a couple from Redvers came who just really enjoyed swimming. We have seen lots from St. Lazare and other parts of Manitoba. I've got some people who come to my aquafit classes from Esterhazy, Spy Hill, Langenburg, we've had a couple from Moosomin.

"We had a public swim one afternoon and it was all Moosomin grandparents that brought their grandkids from Rocanville, so it was all Moosomin people except for the kids.

"With the mine, the one day a guy from Germany came to swim, but he is in the area for work.

"They come from all over the place. The farthest so far is Yorkton."

Positive comments

Selby says she has received lots of positive remarks from community members and visitors since opening the new facility.

"We've had lots say how it doesn't even feel like you're in Rocanville and how relaxing the space is. We've also had lots of comments on how our water temperature has been steady and the water is nice and clear. We've heard comments on how beautiful the facility is. Our slide was donated to us from the RM of Rocanville and it is not huge, but the kids love it and it's great because the three- and four-year-olds aren't afraid to go on it, and so the parents don't have to keep getting out with them, and we've heard lots of good comments about that.

"People were really happy about keeping our old diving boards. They are always a huge hit. The high diving board sees a lot of people in a day. We've kept a lot of similar programming and have heard lots of good feedback about that."

Looking for adult lifeguards

Selby says the pool committee looking for adult lifeguards as well to offer more hours of swim time to the public.

"A lot of work went into it. Our refurbishment committee put in a lot of work over the years, the pool fundraising committee, myself, and the Rec Director as well. When things started back up again we had to recreate all of our policies just because the facility is entirely different. It has been a lot of work, but it has been a huge learning curve.

"We are still figuring things out as we go and learning what works best for people and our staff. Most of our lifeguards are students so we need to get more courses going. Hopefully we can get some adults interested in guarding and make the hours work for them.

"It is nice to get the pat on the back for the hard work that has gone into this project."

Open to programming suggestions

The Universe Satellite Aquatic Centre team is open to suggestions on different types of swim classes the public would like to see.

"I would like to add that the most accurate representation of what our schedule looks like for the day is on the Town of Rocanville website because it does change time to time as rentals come in, but we are opening up some rental spots that are specifically going to stay open for rentals as they get booked and our schedule is constantly changing," says Selby.

"We are opening to feedback as well. If people want to

see different types of classes—I just recently added Aqua Zumba and an evening lane swim because we had a lot of requests for that—we are open to it. Just reach out, and as long as people are attending, we will keep those things going, and if those enrollments drop off, then we will change and see what else may work. We are open to seeing what works best for the community and area and their schedules and what they want to see here. We are open to feedback.

"We also have our Swimathon going on and people can find out more information about that just by giving us a quick message on Facebook at Universe Satellite Aquatic Centre if they are interested."



More sharing.
More savings.

Switch or upgrade to SaskTel Wireless and get **75 GB for \$85 a month.**

Licensed Plumbers & Gas Fitters
Heating & Air Conditioning
171-7th Ave. N. – Virden, MB
204-748-1788
info@pphmb.com

Furniture & Electronics
27 RAILWAY AVE. REDVERS, SK
306.452.6309



Ready for tomorrow.

Your Story is Ours to Protect.



Insurance advisors you can count on year round!

Spring is right around the corner; let's make sure you're prepared.

We designed our farm policies to meet the unique needs of each farm – making sure farmers, their families, and their operations can stay safe and protected. All our farm policies also include coverage for the home, property, and personal liability.

What's covered?

FarmLite™ Policy

This policy is designed to protect customers who have minimal farming activity, or where farming is a secondary or hobby aspect to their rural lifestyle.

FarmGen™ Policy

This policy is designed to protect smaller, family-farm style operations of less than 1,500 acres and where at least half of the farmer's income is generated from farming.



We offer farmers the opportunity to customize their insurance to fit their individual needs.

Talk to a HUB insurance broker to find out if FarmLite™ or FarmGen™ are best for you.

615 Main Street
Moosomin, SK
306 - 435 - 2714

Visit us online!
www.quotewithhub.com



HOP INTO A NEW HOME THIS SPRING

<p>MLS# SK025647</p>  <p>Hwy 1 Farm Martin RM No.122, SK 4 Bedrooms 1 Bathroom 397.55 acres</p> <p>NOW \$900,000</p>	<p>MLS# SK014548</p>  <p>Envy Dog House Acreage Silverwood RM No. 123, SK 4 Bedrooms 2 Bathrooms 2100 sqft</p> <p>NOW \$410,000</p>	<p>MLS# SK017859</p>  <p>Atwater 40 Acreage Fertile Belt RM No.183, SK 4 Bedrooms 1 Bathroom 40 acres WAS \$245,000</p> <p>NOW \$230,000</p>	<p>MLS# SK026043</p>  <p>217 Ellice Street Rocanville, SK 2 Bedrooms 2 Bathrooms 1034 sqft</p> <p>NOW \$75,000</p>	<p>MLS# SK018727</p>  <p>Dubuc 100 acres farm Grayson RM No.184, SK 4 Bedrooms 2 Bathrooms 1300 sqft</p> <p>NOW \$399,000</p>	<p>MLS# SK028755</p>  <p>Horse Lover's Hideout, Garry RM No. 245, SK 3 Bedrooms 1 Bathroom 13.3 acres</p> <p>NOW \$375,000</p>
<p>MLS# SK015766</p> <p>DOWN \$10,000</p>  <p>FULL RENO DONE 215 Carlton STREET, Rocanville, SK 4 Bedrooms 1 Bathroom 720 sqft WAS \$185,000</p> <p>NOW \$160,000</p>	<p>MLS# SK015710</p>  <p>219 4th Avenue Whitewood, SK 5 Bedrooms 3 Bathrooms 1092 sqft</p> <p>NOW \$184,999</p>	<p>MLS# SK002876</p>  <p>4 Whispering Valley Estates Round Lake, SK 3 Bedrooms 3 Bathrooms 1940 sqft</p> <p>NOW \$950,000</p>	<p>MLS# SK008779</p> <p>DOWN \$10,000</p>  <p>540 Stanley Street, Esterhazy, SK 2 Bedrooms 1 Bathroom 1067 sqft</p> <p>NOW \$315,000</p>	<p>MLS# SK026401</p>  <p>317 Ivy Heights Crooked Lake, SK 4 Bedrooms 3 Bathrooms 1448 sqft</p> <p>NOW \$365,000</p>	<p>MLS# SK028737</p>  <p>809 Lalonde St, Whitewood, SK 2 Bedrooms 1 Bathroom 6250 sqft</p> <p>NOW \$140,000</p>
<p>MLS# SK021215</p> <p>CONDITIONALLY SOLD</p>  <p>106 Carlton Street, Rocanville, SK 2 Bedrooms 1 Bathroom 953 sqft</p> <p>NOW \$115,000</p>	<p>MLS# SK013200</p>  <p>Lazy Dollar Ranch, Brock RM No. 64, SK 5 Bedrooms 4 Bathrooms 2188 sqft</p> <p>NOW \$1,475,000</p>	<p>MLS# SK016644</p>  <p>121 Allan Avenue Churchbridge, SK 2 Bedrooms 1 Bathroom 580 sqft</p> <p>NOW \$89,000</p>	<p>MLS# SK012055</p>  <p>Holars Haven Acreage, Spy Hill RM No. 152, SK 5 Bedrooms 4 Bathrooms 15.09 acres</p> <p>NOW \$758,888</p>	<p>MLS# SK009523</p>  <p>Jaques Farm, Preeceville RM No. 334, SK 4 Bedrooms 1 Bathroom 944.71 acres</p> <p>NOW \$2,100,000</p>	<p>MLS# SK027938</p>  <p>Moose Bay Rd Acreage, Grayson RM No. 184, SK 3 Bedrooms 2 Bathrooms 9.93 acres</p> <p>NOW \$415,000</p>
<p>MLS# SK027192</p>  <p>Prairie View Acreage, Brock RM No. 64, SK 4 Bedrooms 4 Bathrooms 10 acres</p> <p>NOW \$1,595,000</p>	<p>MLS# SK026599</p>  <p>Grenfell Acres, Elcabo RM No. 154, SK 2 Bedrooms 1 Bathroom 50.53 acres</p> <p>NOW \$345,000</p>	<p>MLS# SK026404</p>  <p>Marla's Place, Fertile Belt RM No. 183 4 Bedrooms 2 Bathrooms 159.99 acres</p> <p>NOW \$615,000</p>	<p>MLS# SK024715</p>  <p>112 Carlton St, Rocanville, SK 3 Bedrooms 4 Bathrooms 1272 sqft</p> <p>NOW \$349,988</p>	<p>MLS# SK022472</p>  <p>509 5th Avenue, Whitewood, SK 4 Bedrooms 2 Bathrooms 864 sqft</p> <p>NOW \$159,000</p>	<p>MLS# SK010345</p>  <p>Eatons Acres, Fertile Belt RM No. 183, SK 4 Bedrooms 1 Bathroom 17.56 acres</p> <p>NOW \$250,000</p>
<p>MLS# SK010178</p>  <p>312 Main St, Gerald, SK 3 Bedrooms 1 Bathroom 1372 sqft</p> <p>NOW \$75,000</p>	<p>MLS# SK008796</p>  <p>221 Turbantia St, Esterhazy, SK 3 Bedrooms 2 Bathrooms 1216 sqft</p> <p>NOW \$225,000</p>	<p>MLS# SK008723</p>  <p>Elizabeth St South Acreage, Fertile Belt RM No. 183 4 Bedrooms 2 Bathrooms 10 acres</p> <p>NOW \$499,900</p>	<p>MLS# SK012801</p>  <p>Lomenda Acreage, Langenburg RM No. 181, SK 3 Bedrooms 1 Bathroom 40.1 acres</p> <p>NOW \$428,000</p>	<p>MLS# SK014661</p>  <p>300 Isobel Ave, Tantallon, SK 3 Bedrooms 2 Bathrooms 1280 sqft</p> <p>NOW \$249,500</p>	<p>MLS# SK013089</p>  <p>204 Allan Avenue, Saltcoats, SK 4 Bedrooms 2 Bathrooms 1520 sqft</p> <p>NOW \$145,000</p>



Amy K. Hudacek REALTOR®

- WHERE POTASH, WHEAT AND OIL MEET

CONSIDERING SELLING?
Call/Text for your
FREE MARKET ASSESSMENT!

Call/Text 306-740-6100

amyk.inrealestate amykhudy@icloud.com



SCAN ME FOR A FULL LIST OF OPPORTUNITIES TO OWN.



Plain & Valley

Covering Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba

March 2026 • Page 29



The cover and inside of Vagabond magazine featuring Stockholm, Sask.



Ola and Lena



Ola and Lena in Stockholm, Sask., left, and at the cemetery in Stockholm, above.

Swedish travel magazine names Saskatchewan—and Stockholm—one of 15 places to visit in 2026

BY DONNA BEUTLER
Saskatchewan folk don't need to be told how beautiful their province is, and the residents of Stockholm, Sask. and area certainly know their little spot on earth is pretty special, but when writers of a renowned Swedish travel magazine list Saskatchewan as #6 in the 15 best places to travel to in 2026 (January edition) with special mention of Stockholm, it takes on a whole new meaning! Writers of the article, Ola Liljedahl and Lena Nyblad of Vagabond magazine (Sweden), flew to Canada and traveled from Montreal to Vancouver several months ago and reported

on many places across the country for an article on Canada.

Vagabond, founded in 1987, was initially geared toward young backpackers and independent travelers but has become the go-to magazine for travel inspiration and information for all kinds of travelers because of its in-depth travel articles and stunning photography. It was Vagabond who gave them the 'Canada' assignment.

"We got an assignment to do a long road trip story, going by car from Montreal to Vancouver," Liljedahl and Nyblad said in a recent interview with the World-Spec-

tator. "When we started planning at our kitchen table in our house in Gävle, Sweden, in front of a Canadian map we noticed that Saskatchewan looked, eh, empty. We even talked about skipping driving through the province and instead flying over it. But during the research we found the small town of Stockholm and decided to make a visit there. We contacted the Stockholm Arbor bed and breakfast that we found on the internet and booked some nights. That was actually the only nights of 42 nights we booked in advance."

Continued on page 34 ^{ESP}



Steven Bonk M.P.

Souris-Moose Mountain

Tel: 1-866-249-4697
Email: steven.bonk@parl.gc.ca




VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR ALL 2026 SALES ONLINE BIDDING

Check our website often for updates and more sales!!!



23 MARCH Annual Killarney & District Consignment Killarney, MB

7 APRIL JR Granger Ltd. Brandon, MB

8 APRIL Hildebrand Family Crystal City, MB

9 APRIL HWS Farms Ltd. Russell, MB

10 APRIL John and Lynda Green Cromer, MB

11 APRIL B&P Knight Farms Ltd. MacDonald, MB

13 APRIL Bob and Lee Fortune Cardale, MB

14 APRIL Allan and Garth Meadows Forrest, MB

15 APRIL Campbell Land and Cattle Minto, MB

16 APRIL Calvern Farms Ltd. Argyle, MB

17 APRIL Anjoy Farms Ltd. Lowe Farm, MB

21 APRIL Roels Dairy Farm Holland, MB

27 APRIL Keith and Helena Kennedy Moosomin, SK

fraserauction.com For complete details and to sign up for online bidding.

FRASER AUCTION SERVICE P: 204-727-2001 | TF: 1-800-483-5856 | Email: office@fraserauction.com | Brandon, MB
Like us Fraser Auction Service Ltd. | Follow us @fraserauction
O/O Scott Campbell / Lori Campbell / Jesse Campbell | Licensed and bonded. P.L. License #918093. Member of M.A.A., S.A.A., A.A.A., A.A.C.





FCC convenes a \$5 billion coalition to accelerate investment in Canadian agriculture and food

Farm Credit Canada (FCC) today announced it has convened a coalition of more than 20 investment organizations collectively prepared to deploy up to \$5 billion into Canadian agriculture and food innovation by 2030. This milestone reflects a generational investment opportunity in Canada’s agriculture and food sector.

This new coalition pledge builds on the momentum of the May 2025 commitment by FCC’s investment arm, FCC Capital, which pledged \$2 billion by 2030 to drive innovation across the agriculture and food industry. As part of this commitment, FCC Capital is already on track to deploy \$325 million in new capital during its fiscal year ending March 31, 2026. With the pledge announced today, combined with FCC’s commitment in May 2025, this represents \$7 billion of new investment into Canadian agriculture and food by 2030.

These commitments will bring new innovation to Canadian farmers through investments in innovative Canadian businesses, construction and project finance opportunities, and early-stage ag-tech companies.

This announcement marks a major step in expanding

Canada’s capacity to scale world-leading agriculture and food innovation. In 2021, total estimated investment in agricultural innovation stood at \$270 million annually according to RBC Thought Leadership. Today’s coalition helps position Canada to dramatically increase this figure and accelerate commercialization of breakthrough technologies and productivity across the entire value chain.

Together, FCC Capital’s pledge and the commitments made by this coalition of investors represent a clear and meaningful statement to the strength and long-term potential of the Canadian ag and food industry at a pivotal moment for the sector.

“Canada’s farmers, producers, and processors are already among the most innovative and entrepreneurial in the world,” said Darren Baccus, executive vice-president, Agri-Food, Alliances and FCC Capital. By bringing this coalition together, we’re crowding in the capital needed to scale breakthrough solutions and deliver the next generation of innovation directly to Canadian producers. This work strengthens our food security at home while accelerating Canada’s rise as an ag and food superpower.

FCC remains rigorously focused on supporting Canadian farmers and ensuring our work delivers tangible, measurable impact for them.”

“Agriculture is one of the most important and investable sectors of our economy,” said Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, Heath MacDonald. “This landmark investment will strengthen Canada’s leadership in agriculture and agri-food innovation, while charting a course for long-term growth, competitiveness, and resiliency for generations to come.”

Investment organizations that are part of the coalition include:

Area One Farms, Arterra Growth, Bonnefield Financial, District Ventures Capital, Emmertech, Glengarry Farm Finance Corporation, InvestEco Capital Corp., Maverix Private Equity, Nadarra Ventures, Northleaf Capital Partners, NYA Ventures, Power Sustainable Lios, Radicle Growth Food and Agriculture Venture Capital, Royal Bank of Canada (RBC), S2G Investments, Seminal Capital Holdings LLC, SVG Ventures, Tall Grass Ventures, Tikehau Capital, Yaletown Partners.



Commercial & Residential

FORMFOAM BASEMENTS

SEE IT. BELIEVE IT. GET A QUOTE!

www.mandoconstruction.ca

306-757-9433

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF
Emerald Park & Indian Head

**NOW EXPANDING TO
MOOSOMIN & AREA**

306-434-9458

CALL TODAY FOR YOUR **FREE** BASEMENT PACKAGE QUOTE!

3 GREAT PLAINS INDUSTRIAL DR.
EMERALD PARK, SK

www.mandoconstruction.ca



EST. 1979 WITH THE SAME OWNERS AT YOUR SIDE.



**CONCRETE
FLATWORK**

Our expert crew pours thousands of yards of concrete each year in all of SE Saskatchewan

Our Service:

✓ Shop floors	✓ Sidewalks
✓ Slabs on grade	✓ Grade beams
✓ Bin pads	✓ Insulated Concrete Forms

Contact Us

306-434-9001

www.copperridgeinc.com





UPCOMING TIMED ONLINE AUCTIONS

TIMED ONLINE FARM EQUIPMENT AUCTION

Blaine & Chelsea Molstad
Midale, SK
Opens: March 27, 2026 @8:00am
Closes: March 31, 2026 @10:00am
Bid Online: mackauctioncompany.com

TIMED ONLINE FARM EQUIPMENT AUCTION

HEYKO FARMS & JOHAN & ANNETTE KOEKEMOER
Balcarres, SK
Opens: April 3, 2026 @8:00am
Closes: April 7, 2026 @10:00am
Bid Online: mackauctioncompany.com

Timed Online Land Auction
Glen Ewen, Saskatchewan

2 Quarter Sections
\$9,400.00 Oil Surface Revenue

Karen & Brenden Shauf
Opens April 5, 2026
Closes April 9, 2026
Bid Online: mackauctioncompany.com

Timed Online Land Auction
Kisbey, Sk

2 Quarter Sections

Brian & Betty Werstuik
Opens April 6, 2026 @8am
Closes April 10, 2026 @10am
Bid Online: mackauctioncompany.com

TIMED ONLINE FARM EQUIPMENT AUCTION

Prairie Wind Farms Ltd.
Estevan, SK
Opens: April 10, 2026 @8:00am
Closes: April 14, 2026 @10:00am
Bid Online: mackauctioncompany.com

TIMED ONLINE FARM EQUIPMENT REDUCTION AUCTION

El-Nell Farms Ltd. (Hauptstein Family)
WEYBURN, SK
Opens: April 16, 2026 @ 8:00 AM
Closes: April 20, 2026 @ 10:00 AM
Bid Online: mackauctioncompany.com

TIMED ONLINE LIVESTOCK EQUIPMENT AUCTION

Shur Livestock
Bienfait, SK
Opens: May 15, 2026 @8:00am
Closes: May 19, 2026 @10:00am
Bid Online: mackauctioncompany.com

TIMED ONLINE FARM EQUIPMENT AUCTION

BG STOCK FARM (Barry and Glenda Toms)
Redvers, SK
Opens: June 5, 2026 @8:00am
Closes: June 9, 2026 @10:00am
Bid Online: mackauctioncompany.com

TIMED ONLINE FARM EQUIPMENT AUCTION

Clinton & Rhonda Schwindt
LEWVAN, SK
Opens: June 11, 2026 @ 8:00 AM
Closes: June 15, 2026 @ 10:00 AM
Bid Online: mackauctioncompany.com

TIMED ONLINE FARM EQUIPMENT RETIREMENT AUCTION

Edgeley SK
Howden Farms Ltd. (Tim & Donna Howden)
Opens: June 21, 2026 @8:00am
Closes: June 25, 2026 @10:00am
Bid Online: mackauctioncompany.com

MACK AUCTION CO.

TO VIEW, REGISTER & BID
visit www.mackauctioncompany.com
or phone 306-421-2097

PL. 311962

MACK Realty **MACK Live! INTERNET AUCTIONS** Follow Us on Facebook

USask's Dr. Curtis Pozniak receives international agricultural award

One of the top agricultural researchers and wheat breeding experts at the University of Saskatchewan (USask) has been recognized with one of the most prestigious agricultural awards in the world



Dr. Curtis Pozniak (PhD) receiving the Bertebos Prize from King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden at a ceremony in Stockholm, Sweden.

By MATT OLSON,
RESEARCH PROFILE AND IMPACT

Dr. Curtis Pozniak (PhD) is this year's recipient of the Bertebos Prize, a biennial award granted for research and innovation with "significant contributions to the interface between ecology and food production with focus on research of high scientific quality, high innovation and relevance for the value chain, and of importance for achieving improved sustainability."

A professor in USask's College of Agriculture and Bioresources and the director of the Crop Development Centre (CDC), Pozniak said he was both "excited" and "humbled" to receive the Bertebos Prize.

"There is nothing more rewarding as a scientist than to be recognized for your achievements. We don't do this for awards or prizes—we do it because we believe in its impact," he said. "To be recognized by your nominees and to be selected by your peers is truly humbling."

Pozniak has received international acclaim for his work in crop and plant breeding. He was one of the leaders of an international research team responsible for cracking the highly complex wheat genome and led the development of a wheat "atlas" through sequencing the genomes for 15 wheat varieties to support plant breeders and producers around the world.

Pozniak is also the Ministry of Agriculture Strategic Research Program Chair in Durum and High-Yield Wheat Breeding and Genetics in Saskatchewan where he has released more than 20 wheat varieties. He was awarded a fellowship in the Canadian Society of Agronomy in 2025

and received the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal for his work in agriculture in 2022.

This achievement will mark only the second time in history that a Canadian has won the Bertebos Prize.

"Agricultural research is one of the cornerstones of

USask, and Dr. Pozniak is most deserving for this award celebrating research and innovation in this field," said USask Vice-President Research Baljit Singh. "The entire university is proud to celebrate the achievement of Dr. Pozniak and all his colleagues in receiving this highly prestigious international prize."

The Bertebos Prize was presented to Pozniak at a special ceremony in Stockholm, Sweden by the Swedish Royal Academy of Agriculture and Forestry at its annual commemorative meeting on Jan. 28. The prize was awarded by His Majesty King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden.

Dr. Curtis Pozniak (PhD) receiving the Bertebos Prize from King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden at a ceremony in Stockholm, Sweden. (Photo: Erik Cronberg) Dr. Curtis Pozniak (PhD) receiving the Bertebos Prize from King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden at a ceremony in Stockholm, Sweden. (Photo: Erik Cronberg)

Pozniak said receiving the award was a signifier to him that the research he conducts at USask with the CDC and with international partners around the world is important and would continue to make a mark in agriculture going into the future.

Exploring crop genomics, deciphering the functions of genes, charting out new wheat varieties—Pozniak called it a "mammoth task," one made possible by the collective efforts of scientists and partners around the world, a challenge he said he was proud to be a part of.

"It's about impact. Plant breeding translates knowledge from a research lab into a new wheat variety that has an impact in a farmer's field, and that goes all the way to the food we eat," he said. "This requires a dedicated, collaborative team. The CDC is a driver of innovation, and our people do remarkable work. My own success would not be possible without those around me."

Scrap Metal Wanted

Put money in your wallet with a Spring clean-up of scrap!!

- Farm Scrap
- Junk Cars
- Copper • Brass
- Aluminum • Lead • Batteries
- Catalytic Convertors

Onsite pick up available

Call today to book!

204-855-2669 • Oak Lake, MB,
kreutzermetalsltd@gmail.com

See
Plain & Valley
online at
www.plainandvalley.com

CS20 SERIES **22-25 HP**
SUB-COMPACT TRACTORS

0% UP TO 72 MONTHS OR \$2850 UP TO CASH BACK* (T-L-B)

0% Financing on all Kioti Tractors, Compact Loaders, UTVs and ZTRs.*

UNIVERSE SATELLITE SALES

520 Railway Ave | Rocanville, SK
306.645.2669
www.universesatellite.com

KIOTI.com

*Offer available January 1, 2026 – March 31, 2026. Rebates and/or financing based on the purchase of eligible equipment defined in promotional program. Pricing and rebates in CAD dollars. Additional fees including, but not limited to, taxes, freight, setup and delivery charges may apply. Financing must be through DLL or Sheffield using one of the available financing options. Financing is subject to credit approval. Customers must take delivery prior to the end of the program period. Some customers will not qualify. Some restrictions apply. Offer available on new equipment only. Prior purchases are not eligible. Offer subject to change without notice. Offer valid only at participating Dealers. See your dealer for details. © 2026 Kioti Tractor Company a Division of Daewoo-CANADA, Inc.



Ola and Lena with people in Stockholm. Front seat: Samantha and Jamie Smart-Sondergaard. Middle seat: Ola and Lena. Back seat: Bev Szumutku and Barb Persson.



Pictured here are Vagabond reporter Ola Liljedahl, left, and Delvin Szumutku of Stockholm who became fast friends during Ola's visit to the area in 2025.



When Swedish travel writers Ola Liljedahl and Lena Nyblad visited Canada several months ago, they stopped in to see the New Stockholm Lutheran Church with their Stockholm, Sask. hosts. From left to right are Bev Szumutku, Samantha Smart-Sondergaard, Lena Nyblad, Ola Liljedahl and Jamie Smart-Sondergaard.

Swedish travel magazine names Saskatchewan—and Stockholm—one of 15 places to visit in 2026

Continued from page 29

Fortunately, Saskatchewan ended up being included in the couple's travel itinerary and Stockholm, Sask. became part of their "Canadian" story. The pair drove to Stockholm and recognized immediately that the community was something special.

"When we do a road trip story we prefer to take the day as it comes and see what happens," Liljedahl and Nyblad said. "Immediately we felt that Stockholm was something special. Samantha and Jamie Smart-Sondergaard at the Stockholm Arbor B&B came up with ideas who we should meet and made a schedule for our days—and invited us to have dinner with their family. They even took a day off to drive us around. We met so many nice and interesting people who gave us both their time and freshly baked Swedish thin bread from an old recipe (Barb Persson, Bev Szumutku, Angie Herperger, Wayne Selin, the brothers Vincent and Alden Fredlund, Delvin and Louise Szumutku and many more).

"Many of the people we met in Stockholm had of course Swedish ancestors and we got tears in our eyes when we saw all the Swedish names on the gravestones in the cemetery. How brave were the people who left the—at the time—poor Sweden to start a new life in another part of the world! Liljedahl and Nyblad enjoyed visiting the locals in the Stockholm area and hearing their stories. One of those locals was Delvin Szumutku who, in a telephone interview with the World-Spectator, said he and his wife Louise got to know them.

"They came to our farm," Szumutku said of the couple, "where we immediately became fast friends. Ola and I had our picture taken with our horses and since that day we keep in touch by e-mail. I love hockey," Szumutku said, "namely the Toronto Maple Leafs and Ola helped with hockey player Börje Salming's (who once played with the Leafs) autobiography, so we instantly had a hockey connection."

The New Stockholm Lutheran Church, one of the places the Swedish writers visited southeast of Stockholm, was built in 1919. Swedish settlers had built the original church and cemetery in 1891 but in a few years, it had become too small. The church is the only Lutheran Church of the Augustana Synod left in Canada and features a central bell tower with an eight-sided broach spire and louvered belfry and pinnacles. Its windows are absolutely beautiful. Services are still held in the church buildings today.

The Arbor Bed & Breakfast in Stockholm holds its own share of history as well. The place where the two Swedish writers stayed, hosted by the Smart-Sondergaards, is located on the outskirts of town in an old brick convent building. The transformation by the Sondergaards began after the couple, Samantha and Jamie, moved to Stockholm in 2020.

"The building was formerly a convent and home base for the 'Sisters of Social Services' from the 1920s until they sold it in the 1980s," Samantha Smart-Sondergaard explained. The historical building "served not only as a home for the sisters, but also as a hub for the community," she added, con-

cluding that it "was built in three stages over a period of 40 years with the original structure being built in 1904." Today the transformed "nunnery" is one-third private home and two-thirds bed and breakfast with nine B&B rooms, a yoga studio, two sunrooms, a guest kitchen and a living room/breakfast area. Smart-Sondergaard says the B&B floors of the building have been completely renovated but their priority has been to preserve the building's historical features.

Some of the photos of Stockholm that appeared in the cross-Canada article included the 'Village of Stockholm Library and Fire Hall,' an abandoned farmstead in the middle of a wheat field, the New Stockholm Lutheran Church and cemetery located in the RM of Fertile Belt approximately six kilometers southwest of the village of Stockholm, and two descendants of Swedish immigrants, Alden Fredlund and Vincent Fredlund. The more recent publication which includes the top 15 places to visit across the world includes a picture of a prairie grain elevator.

One of the things these reporters considered when including Stockholm, Sask. in their magazine's list of places to visit was the name. Despite its size in comparison to Sweden's capital city (Stockholm), there was a distinct connection with the writers to the people who call Stockholm, Sask. home.

"The first thing of course was the name—'Stockholm,'" Liljedahl and Nyblad explained. "That's our 1.5 million people capital, and in Saskatchewan it's a small town with only a few hundred people." They went on to say that they didn't know what to expect when they arrived and that it could have stopped "with two days and 10 sentences in the article—but the people we met with the old stories about the Swedes who founded the town so many years ago made it a major part of our story."

The top 15 places to visit in 2026 include: Mumbai (Bombay), India (1st); Basel, Switzerland; Busan, South Korea; Pemba, Tanzania; Northumberland, England; Saskatchewan, Canada (6th); Sifnos, Greece; Halsingland, Sweden; Galway, Ireland; South Greenland; Kanazawa, Japan; Aland, Finland; Naples, Italy; Basque country, France; and Kosovo.

The freelance duo saw much more of Saskatchewan than just Stockholm that endeared the province to them and, in their words, "We really fell in love with Saskatchewan: the people, the open landscape, the skies..."

"While Stockholm became an important part of our story, we also found out that there is much more to see in Saskatchewan," the writers added. "We stayed in Yorkton and visited a Pow Wow in Fort Qu'Appelle which was a new experience for us. The First Nation people welcomed us and explained and shared everything. A true memory for life—and interesting for our travel story of course."

Their Saskatchewan travels took them to a few other communities as well. They drove to Saskatoon where they found out that both Joni Mitchell and Gordie Howe grew up there. From there, a chance meeting with a lady took them to Swift Current.

"In a travel story, when you haven't planned a lot in advance, spontaneous meetings always take you in new directions," Liljedahl and Nyblad said. "A next day's plan changed when we met a young woman in a restaurant. She talked about her hometown of Swift Current and called her dad to ask if he could help us. The next day we were sitting in an ice hockey arena to watch the Swift Current Broncos in a game. And, the next morning, we went to a Farmer's market in Swift Current and started talking to some, from our point of view, strangely dressed people. They were Hutterites and invited us to visit their colony the next day. We spent a day with them which was, of course, also a day to remember and an interesting part of our story."

The duo never sits still for long and obviously, as travel writers, they are on the road or in the air, as the case may be, many times throughout the year. To do the Canada story and some other stories for other magazines, they were on the road in Canada for six weeks and will be spending six weeks in Australia soon. They spend about 100 nights a year in hotels.

According to Ola, "Lena is 61 years young and I am 61 years old" and their home city of Gavle, located in the middle of Sweden, is comprised of 100,000 citizens. Lena's background was radio, working for the Swedish National Radio, whereas Ola at one time worked for 'Expressen,' one of the largest newspapers in the country.

Liljedahl and Nyblad who live in Gavle, Sweden, have been together for 40 years and have three grown children all of whom love to travel. The couple have been freelance writers for the past 20 years and were assigned to do the cross-Canada road trip for Vagabond magazine. They of course love to travel and to write and have various other accomplishments and interests as well.

"Lena was the motor behind a food book that was awarded Best Food Book of the Year in Sweden some years ago—and, yes, her passion is cooking," says Ola, while Ola helped with the ice hockey player Börje Salming's autobiography which has been a bestseller in Sweden—and will be released in Canada next winter (publisher Simon & Schuster).

Every day can be a little different for the duo but often it involves writing and planning the next adventure at the same time.

"In Canada, for example, we were writing our book, 'Picasso in the Swedish Public Home,' which was released in November and has been a huge success," says Liljedahl and Nyblad who don't necessarily work together on every story they are writing. They do, however, always do their travel stories together. They also write for many magazines in Sweden as well as produce some magazines and papers for companies and organizations.

The editorial staff for Vagabond is based in Stockholm, Sweden and consists of five people as well as freelance photographers and writers in Sweden and other parts of the world. According to Liljedahl and Nyblad, the editorial team includes recipients of awards like 'Journalist of the Year' and 'Columnist of the Year.'

Rocanville Cross Country Ski Club still going strong after 32 years

Continued from page 10

Rocanville Cross Country Ski Club history

- 1991: After several years of trying to break trails on road allowances and find good places to ski, a small group of skiers headed off into the pasture where the club now skis. They found a beautiful place to ski, but the underbrush made it difficult to enjoy skiing, so plans were started to clear some bush.
- November 1992: the small group started to clear a trail through the bush.
- 1992-1994: The group continued to expand the trail network through the wooded pasture and more people joined in the fun.
- December 1995: The Rocanville Cross Country Ski Club was formed and registered with Sask Ski. They were now skiing on land that was owned by four different land owners. The number of people skiing continued to grow. The land owners, who were also skiers, and the rest of the group started asking who was liable if something went wrong. Becoming a member of Sask Ski addressed the concerns they had.
- 1996: The clubhouse was purchased and moved to the trail head. A wood stove was donated and as well as other furnishings. The club could now offer the members hot chocolate and a place to relax after their ski.
- 1996-present: Donated ski equipment was left in the clubhouse and was available for use
- 1997: The club started purchasing used equipment and offering the equipment for rent. The club decided to let the club run on the honour system and found this was very successful.
- 1999: Water and power were put into the ski shelter. This allowed the club to set up a waxing station in the club house.
- 1996-present: The club uses the resources of Cross Country Saskatchewan (funding through Saskatchewan Lotteries) for grants with the grant monies based on the number of members. The grants are used to assist with trail maintenance and expansion, trail setting equipment, club house, ski clinics, coaching clinics, and support of the programs they offer.
- 2005: A trail conditioner was purchased with the assistance of a grant from CCS.
- The club purchased their own snowmobile to use for trail grooming.
- 2005-2008: The club offered ski programs for the



John Graham, Karolina Graham, Elijah Hack, and Jesse Hack.

youth. The coach and volunteers were Rocanville Cross Country ski club members. The coach was also the Youth Programs Director on the Cross Country Sask Provincial Board.

- Additional new ski equipment was purchased every year with funds coming from the club monies and grants.
- Work continues to improve the trail network.
- 2010: Snowcat with trail groomer purchased with funds coming from club monies, PotashCorp and a personal donation.
- 2012: The ski club was insulated and updated with grant funding.
- 2012: The old three-pin equipment was retired and club now has for rent a full selection of new equipment.
- 2023: The club name was changed to Rocanville Cross Country Trails Inc.
- In 2021 there was a multi year support commitment

from the RM of Rocanville.

- Agreement with landowners to rent the land for the ski trails, allowing for more stability for year-round use of the trails and continued trail development.
- Trails mowed and maintained throughout the summer months
- 2020: Planting of spruce and pine seedlings started. To date 1,300 trees have been planted in the native poplar bush. Planting ongoing each year.
- Complete exterior of clubhouse redone, windows, doors and siding.
- 2023-24: Major rebuild and refurbishment of the snowcat: Maintenance, tracks and final drive with support from Mosaic and Nutrien potash mines
- 2024: Trail network expanded, maintenance and improvement ongoing.
- The complete ski and walking experience is yours to enjoy—the beautiful outdoors, warm fire in the stove,

Annual

32nd

SOUTHWEST BULL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

Sale

Saturday, April 11, 2026

Complimentary Beef on a Bun @ 12pm
Video Sale starting @ 1pm

@ Batho Farms Ltd.

3 3/4 miles south of Oak Lake, MB
on Lansdowne Road



View the sale catalogue online
@ www.buyagro.com

Watch the videos
@ www.southwestbullddevelopmentcentre.com

Featuring
Red and Black Angus

Stop in for a visit anytime to view the bulls!

Albert: 204-748-7640 Dylan: 204-245-0185
Levi: 204-851-4515 Gerry: 204-741-0070
Jay: 204-851-6134 Ben: 204-741-0783
Justin: 204-264-0212 Johnny: 204-741-1177

DILMIS
Show Special Event
Broadcasting

FOR SALE BY TENDER

Sealed, written tenders for the property located in the Municipality of Deloraine-Winchester and described below will be received by:

MEIGHEN HADDAD LLP
P.O. Box 485, 102 N. Railway Ave., Deloraine, MB R0M 0M0
Attention: Warren G. Barber, K.C.

E 1/2 26-2-22 WPM comprising 320 acres more or less*

* all acreages taken from the most recent Manitoba Property Assessment Reports.

CONDITIONS OF TENDER

1. Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the property and not on the above or any other particulars or representations made by or on behalf of the seller.
2. Tenders must be received at or before 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 26, 2026 at the offices of Meighen Haddad LLP, at the address set out above, Attn: Warren G. Barber.
3. Tenders must be accompanied by a \$5,000.00 deposit cheque payable to Meighen Haddad LLP. Deposits accompanying unacceptable bids will be refunded.
4. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

1. The bidder whose tender is accepted will be required to complete an agreement covering the terms and conditions of sale.
2. In addition to the deposit, the balance of the accepted tender must be paid within thirty (30) days from the date of notification of acceptance or evidence provided that the purchase funds will be available under conditions acceptable to the vendor. If the balance of the accepted tender is not paid in the set time limit, the deposit paid may be forfeited as liquidated damages and not as penalty.
3. Possession is not authorized until acceptable arrangements for full payment are made following acceptance of tender.
4. All mines and minerals will be reserved from any transfer.
5. Successful bidders will be responsible for real property taxes commencing January 1, 2026.
6. Successful bidders will be responsible to pay G.S.T. or to provide a Declaration and Undertaking to self-assess if registered for G.S.T.
7. Each of the vendor and purchaser will be responsible for their own legal fees and disbursements relating to the sale.

Meighen Haddad LLP
LAW FIRM



Heartland
Livestock Services
The Cattle Market

Virden:
204-748-2809

VIRDEN 2026 SALE SCHEDULE

CLIP & SAVE!

- MARCH 2026 -

13	Friday	Malchuk, Gardham & Guests Bull Sale.....	1 p.m.
		Select Bred Cow & Heifer Sale to follow	
14	Saturday	Sheep/Goat.....	1 p.m.
		Tack, Small Animals, Cattle, Pigs, Horses.....	5 p.m.
18	Wednesday	Presort Feeder Sale	10 a.m.
25	Wednesday	Presort Feeder Sale	10 a.m.
27	Friday	Bred Cow & Heifer Sale.....	1 p.m.

- APRIL 2026 -

1	Wednesday	Regular Sale (Feeder Cattle, Cows/Bulls)	9 a.m.
4	Saturday	Transcon Virden Bull Sale	
8	Wednesday	Presort Feeder Sale	10 a.m.
15	Wednesday	Regular Sale (Feeder Cattle, Cows/Bulls)	9 a.m.
17	Friday	Cow/Calf pair & Bred Cow & Heifer Sale	1 p.m.
18	Saturday	Sheep/Goat.....	1 p.m.
		Tack, Small Animals, Cattle, Pigs, Horses.....	5 p.m.
22	Wednesday	Presort Feeder Sale	10 a.m.
29	Wednesday	Regular Sale (Feeder Cattle, Cows/Bulls)	9 a.m.
		Cow/Calf pair & Bred Cow & Heifer Sale	2 p.m.



BRENNIN JACK
General Manager | Virden
CELL: 306-641-9285

Calvin Workman 204-764-0260
Ken Day 204-748-7713
Sage Currin 204-908-0131
Ken Nolan 431-353-2077
Brett Green 306-339-7304
Brody Slykhuis 306-577-8414
Curtis Brown 204-793-3095

Randy Smith 204-381-8234
Richard Bramley 204-867-7511
Office Manager: Pam Gould
Clerk: Donna Swanston
Order Buy Clerk: Karen Van Buuren
Head Auctioneer: Ward Cutler 204-851-2614
Yard Supervisor: Trevor Jessome 431-541-8737



HLS.CA

What responsibilities should my child start with on the farm?

By **AUDRÉE MORIN**
BUSINESS ADVISOR, FCC
 Start by asking: Where does my child feel confident, and where do they still need to grow?

I sometimes see situations where the next generation feels stuck. This isn't because they lack ability, but because they're not yet trusted with decisions. Meanwhile, parents might hesitate to let go.

Bridging that gap starts with an open conversation around readiness. Are both generations willing, ready and able to take on (or give up) responsibility?

From there, decide what responsibilities can realistically be handed off. On a dairy farm, it might be breeding decisions or calf care. On a cash crop operation, your child could take over spraying, for example. Financially, you might agree that purchases under a certain amount can be decided independently, but those above require either a text or a call to approve, or a family meeting.

Also consider: Can my farm absorb a poor decision? It's about creating a safety net: a framework where decisions are real, but risk is managed.

One helpful approach is to think of farm succession in stages, by transferring labour first, then management decisions, then ownership.

Set intentional timelines for each hand-off. Build in opportunities for planning meetings. And remember: mistakes may happen, but that's how confidence is built.

Age and stage matter too, and every farm is different. If the kids are pre-teens, there may be aspects of the operation they can reasonably handle, such



as labour. If they've just returned from university, their new skillsets may be tapped into. If the kids are in their thirties/forties or older, the conversation and responsibilities can evolve significantly.

A great place to start is with FCC's assessment tools: Knowledge Gaps and Training Needs and Roles and Responsibilities. These can help clarify who's ready for what and build a thoughtful plan to move forward, together.

Succession is a journey. The success of the next generation is also often directly tied to the parents' ability to retire securely. It pays to start the conversation early and revisit it often.

When your child joins the farm, it's not just about additional chores. It's about helping them grow into the business. My brother and I joined the farm with our parents 20 years ago. Since then, we've grown steadily from a farm run by my brother, father and me to having six full-time and two part-time

staff members—and Dad has fully retired. From my experience, there are a few things that really helped make the transition work.

First, treat your child like a valued member of the team, not just an employee. If they may take over one day, they need to be in essential roles early. Let their

voice be heard but also encourage them to listen and learn.

Second, encourage them to bring something new.

It could be mechanical expertise, a new skillset from school or a course, or experience gained from a previous job. It should be something that's theirs and adds

to the overall value and development of the business while creating a genuine sense of contribution.

I also think it's important they own a specific area of responsibility. It doesn't have to be everything, but it should be more than just showing up. Give them a

task they can be fully accountable for. This might add pressure and feel stressful at times, but can foster a sense of pride and fulfilment.

Another thing that's worked for us is having some financial buy-in. My brother and I bought into a new swine barn early on. With that move, 'Dad's farm' became 'our farm.' Even buying a few animals or a piece of equipment can provide a sense of ownership, with relatively low risk. If it doesn't work out, perhaps the business could absorb the loss and compensate them for their efforts.

And finally, just talk. Communication really is key. One generation may want to maintain the status quo, while the next may seek growth. That gap only grows bigger if no one's talking. You've got to be clear about how the farm runs, where it's headed and how everyone fits in—now and into the future.

RME

OIL & FILTER SALE

ON NOW UNTIL MARCH 31, 2026

SAVE 15%* OFF

MIN. \$500 PURCHASE

CASE CONSTRUCTION

PREMIUM LUBRICANTS AND COOLANTS.

Fleetguard AND CNH GENUINE PARTS ALL-MAKES FILTERS.

SAVE 45% WITH FLEETGUARD FILTER FLEET PROGRAM.**

- Extends oil change intervals up to 600 hours
- Reduces hydraulic foaming • Highest water tolerance rating

RME's ON-FARM BULK OIL... Delivered!!!



SAVE 30%* UP TO**

Compared to regular pail price of CNH lubricants.

5% ADDITIONAL** ON PURCHASES OF ALL CNH LUBRICANTS AND COOLANTS WHEN CHARGED TO A CNH CAPITAL PRODUCTIVITY PLUS™ ACCOUNT.**

GBT Angus

Offering

30 100% Forage Developed 2-Year-Old Bulls

10 bred females

ONLINE SALE:
March 19 - 20, 2026
 Wawota, SK
306-577-9141
www.gbtangus.com



RME RIGHTBYYOU **CASE CONSTRUCTION** **CNH GENUINE PARTS**

@RMEHQ RMEHQ /RockyMountainEquipment ROCKYMTN.COM

1604 Park Ave. | Moosomin, SK
306-435-3866 | ROCKYMTN.COM

© 2026 Rocky Mountain Equipment LP. All logos and designs are trademarks of their respective companies. *Offer valid until March 31, 2026. **Minimum annual order of \$2,000 to qualify. ***Minimum purchase order of 500 litres of one lubricant or 200 litres of two different lubricants. Shipping & minimum 600 litres. Offer expires March 31, 2026. ****Daily minimum purchase of \$1,000 or more required. Offer expires April 30, 2026. See dealer for further details.

Pest Management Regulatory Agency decision denies emergency use of strychnine in Saskatchewan for 2026

The Government of Saskatchewan is disappointed in the decision by Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) to deny Saskatchewan and Alberta's joint emergency use registration request for two per cent liquid strychnine to support Richardson's ground squirrel management for the 2026 growing season.

"Saskatchewan producers have been clear about the challenges they face in managing Richardson's ground squirrels with the limited tools available," Agriculture Minister David Marit said. "We are extremely disappointed by PMRA's decision and ask them to reconsider this decision. We need a federal regulatory system that considers economic impacts felt by producers and the realities on the ground."

Saskatchewan joined Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation to submit an emergency use request on October 1, 2025, following continued concerns from producers and industry stakeholders regarding the on-farm efficacy of currently-registered alternatives. Throughout PMRA's scientific review process,



Saskatchewan and Alberta officials met with PMRA to clarify the urgent need for access to strychnine and to respond to PMRA's technical and science-based questions.

PMRA's decision means producers will not have access to strychnine for the 2026 growing season.

Saskatchewan maintains that the emergency use request included ro-

bust, science-based and strengthened mitigation measures—such as narrower application windows, mandatory training, enhanced reporting requirements and improved steward-

ship—to reduce risks to nontarget species while preserving the product's practical value for producers.

While PMRA determined these measures were not

sufficient to mitigate risk to an acceptable level, Saskatchewan remains adamant that all PMRA's requests were responded to. Saskatchewan will need to pivot efforts in supporting producers with the management of this important pest through the implementation of a Richardson's ground squirrel management strategy. Efforts will focus on

- Continued advocacy at Federal-Provincial-Territorial tables for a science-based system that considers economic impacts;
- Delivery of support programs through the Gopher Control Program, administered by the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities;
- Targeted extension efforts to improve the on-farm performance of registered alternatives; and
- Investments in research focused on best management practices, environmental risk mitigation, population monitoring and predictive modelling.

More information on Saskatchewan's Richardson's ground squirrel management programming is available at Saskatchewan.ca.

DURABILITY

REDEFINED.

The Vermeer N-series balers bring heavy-duty components for strength and durability in the field when you need it most. Smart features like the available automatic pickup clutch and Auto Lube system help extend machine life. Plus, they're backed by the best distribution network in the industry.

0% FINANCING FOR UP TO 36 MONTHS
OR UP TO \$5,000 CASH BACK

560 Commonwealth Drive, Virden
Tel: (204) 748-4469
virdenag.ca

Offers end 2026/04/30. Conditions apply, see dealer for details.

EA

Eastondale Angus
ON THE FARM BULL SALE
April 6th 2026, Wawota, SK

2026 Bull Sale offering by:
 B Bar Black Mass 8973
 Valley Blossom Droptine 767K
 HF Prostar 21L
 HF Reverence 23K
 Musgrave Gronk 483

78 YEARS BREEDING ANGUS CATTLE

EASTONDALE BLACK MASS 27'25
B BAR BLACK MASS 8973 X ENDURANCE

EASTONDALE SNIPER 54'25
HF PROSTAR 21L X ENDURANCE

EASTONDALE PATRIOT 80'25
MUSGRAVE GRONK 483 X RITO 7175

Eastondale

Angus

Dale, Shelly and Erika Easton / Wawota, Saskatchewan / Cell 306.577.7456
 Herdsman, Nolan Glover 306.575.6935 / www.eastondaleangus.com

Scientists map full oat genome, revealing new insights into sustainable agriculture

Genetic diversity holds the key to climate resilience



Dr. Harmeet Chawla

Oats are an essential part of a balanced diet thanks to their high fibre content and ability to help lower bad cholesterol and improve cardiac health. Now, UM researchers have contributed to a scientific breakthrough that could change how the crop is bred for the future.

An international team, including UM's Dr. Harmeet Chawla from the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences, have recently succeeded in creating an oat pangenome that maps the plant's entire genome, as published in Nature.

"Understanding this blueprint could have direct implications for breeding oats that are healthier and oat crops that remain high yielding, even in the face of climate change," says Chawla.

Mapping the oat pangenome

The study marks the first time the oat genome has been successfully mapped. This process is particularly complex because the plant has six sets of chromosomes, known as

a hexaploid. The team used state-of-the-art gene sequencing technologies to examine the genomes from 33 oat plant lines from both wild and cultivated varieties.

"I led the genome assembly of two Western Canadian cultivars—AC Morgan and Leggett—that were key to this study," says Chawla. "These varieties were strategically selected due to their genetic resistance to fungal diseases like rust and covered smut, along with their desirable milling qualities."

By incorporating these Manitoba-grown cultivars into the international pangenome analysis, the research ensures that genome-driven breeding can now directly target traits vital to Canadian farmers: disease resistance, stable yields and quality characteristics important to processors and consumers.

Encouraging prospects for agricultural genomic research

Although oats occupy a smaller market share than

global staples like rice and wheat, their nutritional profile and role in diversified crop systems make them an important crop for sustainable food systems.

"This new approach to mapping plant genomes is a promising start that could also help decode other grains with complex genomes," says Chawla.

Oats are widely produced in Manitoba. In 2024, provincial oat production increased 43%, with record setting yields. As producers continue to adapt to climate change, this research could play a key role in future oat production and helping keep Manitoba a leader in high-

HAY LINER

HAY TRAILERS

MODELS AVAILABLE:

- 32' Bumper Pull • 32' Gooseneck
- 37' Gooseneck • 42' Gooseneck

ALL TRAILERS COME STANDARD WITH:

- 7000lb Brake Axles
- Break Away Kit
- 235/85/R16 14 Ply Radials
- LED Lights
- Enclosed Wiring Harness
- 12,000 lb Spring Loaded Jack
- Primed with Rust Inhibitive Primer and Top Coat of Acrylic Enamel for Long Paint Life

A. PETHICK

FARM & CUSTOM AG

306.434.9998

MCAULEY, MB

Lee's SERVICE CENTRE

Pierson, MB
204.634-2293
sales@leesservice.ca
www.leesservicecentre.com
MONDAY - FRIDAY: 9 A.M. - 5 P.M.
SATURDAY: 9 A.M. - NOON

LEE'S SERVICE CENTRE IS HIRING!

Looking for a place where you can enjoy what you do—without the politics of big business? Join a family-run company that puts customers and community first.

Now Hiring:

AGRICULTURE EQUIPMENT TECHNICIAN

We're open to candidates with a wide range of experience. Whether you're starting out as an apprentice or bring years of hands-on expertise, we want to hear from you.

Location: Pierson, Manitoba
For more information, please call Kurtis Lee at (204) 634-2293

Send resume to:
Box 187, Pierson, MB, R0M 1S0
or email: sales@leesservice.ca

New-hire incentive and benefit packages available

MY PRECISION AG LTD.

Expert Advice,
Extraordinary Service

Matthew Yanick • Rocanville, SK/Virden, MB • 306-434-6909

March Sale 2026

- Ditch Assist Kits with Outback A631 RTK Combo - **save \$2,500** and receive a free Samsung tablet with purchase, \$25,000 for full kit
- **Save \$1,400** off Outback MaveriX Autosteer systems, 7" and 10" MaveriX display options
- **Save \$500** off Agrimatics Libra Cart wireless grain cart scale kit, only \$3,300
- **Save 5%** on all Agtron Legend/Onyx, Precision Planting Recon, Precision Planting Clarity air seeder blockage systems and receive an additional 10% on installations on pre-ordered blockage systems
- **Save 10%** on all Raven products (excluding GNSS subscriptions)
- **Save up to 30%** on all sprayer tips and bodies

Jeff Brown • Carlyle, SK • 306-575-9050

- ➔ Precision Farming Displays
- ➔ Autosteer Systems
- ➔ Application Control Systems
- ➔ And more!

CONTACT MATT OR JEFF AT

matt@myprecisionag.ca • jeff@myprecisionag.ca

www.myprecisionag.ca

www.facebook.com/MyPrecisionAg

See Plain & Valley online at

www.plainandvalley.com

Why written farm agreements are important



The process of sitting down, sharing mutual concerns, exchanging facts and setting expectations can do a lot to set a farming relationship off on the right foot,

- What payments will be
- Whether payment amounts change if it's a good production year or if there are good sales results
- Whether payment amounts change if it's a poor production year or poor sales results

"When people get into tough times and get desperate for money, that's when conflicts start to happen," Van Boekel says.

Agreements during transition

Many of us choose to avoid dwelling on what would happen in the event of an untimely death, divorce or disability, but the possibility of such misfortunes makes planning vital, for sole proprietors and corporations alike.

What if Mom dies, Dad remarries, and suddenly there's a blended family? Or what if someone in a farm partnership ends up with a debt problem? What if you or your partner becomes ill or disabled? What if a family law issue resulted in a claim against the farm? What if one of the farm business partners decides to farm on their own, leaving other partners to carry out the workload of the shared operation?

Consider these scenarios and others, and know that planning can go a long way, Van Boekel suggests. Think of the eventualities of how various plans and agreements can benefit your farm, what conversations you need to have and with which partners. As the eventualities are discussed, bring in your team of experts, including a lawyer, a financial advisor, and an accountant, Van Boekel says.

BY RICHARD KAMCHEN

The financial costs can be high if farm enterprises aren't properly structured with written agreements or if important business decisions are neglected. This can be especially true when a farm is planning to transition.

Lawyers often see the impact of poor farm enterprise planning. The lack of proper agreements can make addressing or resolving conflicts challenging and, in some cases, costly.

as well as providing for solid legal protection if things go wrong," says Jacob Van Boekel, a farmer and lawyer with Nesbitt Coulter LLP in Oxford County, Ont.

The process of sitting down, sharing mutual concerns, exchanging facts and setting expectations can set a farm-

ing relationship off on the right foot.

Get it in writing, even with family

In situations where the next generation has taken ownership of farmland, siblings may find themselves farming together, one or more as landowners and the others as land renters.

"This is a good example of when agreements among family members are important for communicating expectations and setting out the rules for their ongoing relationship," Van Boekel says.

Even if it's a simple lease, he recommends siblings have a written agreement covering:

- How the land is to be taken care of

Continued on page 47 

The Right Gear for Your Growth



Our wide selection of farm equipment can help you prepare for #spring26.

Inspect and bid on a huge selection of farm equipment, trucks, real estate and more at upcoming unreserved auctions.

 **RITCHIE BROS.**[®]

For complete listings, scan the QR code to see our Spring Auction Guide, or view inventory at rbauction.com/agriculture



Better berries: USask research lays groundwork for saskatoon berry breeding

Originally from Slovenia, Dr. Anže Švara (PhD) had never even heard of Saskatoon before seeing a job opening at the University of Saskatchewan (USask), let alone the tiny purplish berries that the city's name comes from

But now, Švara is helping lead an innovative new research project that will give plant scientists and breeders new insights into understanding and breeding new types of saskatoon berries in the future.

"We have two key questions: can certain saskatoon berry plants breed with other saskatoon berry plants? And is there diversity that can be utilized to develop new varieties with improved traits?" said Švara, an associate professor with the Department of Plant Sciences at the College of Agriculture and Bioresources and the lead of the USask Fruit Program.

USask houses a tremendous number of saskatoon berry genetic varieties collected over the decades — around 2,000, per Švara — and this fruit crop is the leading fruit in terms of production and acreage in Saskatchewan.

However, Švara said there are some unique challenges when it comes to breeding saskatoon berries. Specifically, a number of historically successful saskatoon berry cultivars have four sets of chromosomes instead of two. This characteristic is associated with plants that produce seedlings that are nearly identical to the parent plants but makes it extremely difficult to breed those plants with others for specific genetic or physical traits.

Švara's project will categorize saskatoon berry varieties at USask to better understand and identify traits that can potentially be bred and selected for future, new varieties. He is working with Dr. Tim Sharbel (PhD) in the College of Agriculture and Bioresources, and Dr. Pankaj Bhowmik (PhD) with the National Research Council of Canada on this saskatoon berry research, with the project also receiving sup-



Dave Stobbe photo

Dr. Anže Švara (PhD) among some cherries.

port from the Saskatchewan Fruit Growers Association.

As breeding new saskatoon berry cultivars is very rare, the hope for this project is that it can contribute to future innovative berry breeding projects and help bolster growers working with saskatoon berries

in the agricultural industry.

"For over 50 years, there has been almost no genetic improvement of saskatoons, no systematic streamlined breeding that has been successfully done because saskatoon berry cultivars ... won't successfully cross," Švara said. "This is a huge

obstacle for breeders because you cannot bring in new genetics, new combinations, and we're trying to overcome that."

The saskatoon berry breeding research project is supported by the Agriculture Development Fund (ADF). This program is funded through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a five-year (April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2028), \$3.5-billion investment by federal, provincial and territorial governments to strengthen competitiveness, innovation, and resiliency of Canada's agriculture, agri-food, and agri-based products sector. This includes \$1 billion in federal programs and activities, and a \$2.5-billion commitment that is cost-shared 60 per cent federally and 40 per cent provincially/territorially for programs that are designed and delivered by provinces and territories.

Švara has significant experience as an apple researcher from his previous work as a student and researcher. But according to Švara, there are a number of similarities between saskatoon berries and apples, which has helped him dive into his new role leading the USask Fruit Research and Breeding Program focusing on the locally grown berry.

Švara said he's come to understand the significance of saskatoon berries to the city and the province he now lives in and hopes to continue strengthening saskatoon berry production now and into the future.

"The support from the ADF is vital for us to succeed, to build a team and to advance the research that hopefully will be impactful for the university and the community. And by community, I mean the people here and globally as well," he said.

Power on.

Regina Canola Crush Plant
OPENING SOON.
SIGN UP TODAY at cargill.ca/regina

Cargill

Wilson Lees
VALUE ADDED BULL SALE

April **3** 2026
RIGHT CROSS RANCH SALE BARN
KISBEY, SASKATCHEWAN
1:00 PM

2025 HIGH-SELLING BULLS

 HAROLDSON'S PAVATI 486 71M Sire: Haroldson's S-Cat Pavati 44C Sold to Moorehaven Farms, SK	 GLENLEES 3036 BRAVO 56M Sire: SNF-Lesbon F188 3030 Sold to Brooks Farms, SK	 BLAIR-ATHOL 124E HOGAN 175L Sire: McCoy 53A, Patriot 124E Sold to Jaenen Farms, SK
---	--	---

3% VOLUME DISCOUNT ON 2 BULLS, 5% VOLUME DISCOUNT ON 3 OR MORE BULLS

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY

- Blair Athol Farms**
Duncan & Val Lees 306-577-9703
Jeff & Grace Lees 306-577-1375
blairatholfarms.com
- Haroldson's Polled Herefords**
Chad Wilson
306-577-7056
haroldsons.com
- Glenlees Farm**
Corey & Tasha Lees 306-577-9971
George & Annette Lees 306-577-5578
glenlees.com

SALE MANAGED BY T BAR C CATTLE CO. LTD.
Chris Polley 306-220-5005 Ben Wright 519-374-3335
Shane Michelson 403-363-9973 Levi Rimek 204-851-4515
For more information or catalogue contact:
306-931-4200 or info@tbarc.com



View the catalogue online:
WWW.BUYAGRO.COM

Tax rules and their impact on intergenerational farm business transfers

By MÉLANIE LAGACÉ

There are tax advantages that make transferring a farm, fishing or small business corporation to a family member the same tax as selling to a third party.

Marc St-Roch, FCPA, MTax, and tax specialist at SCF Conseils, a Quebec-based professional services network, says the tax rules also specify eligibility criteria, particularly with respect to capital gains.

Greater recognition of family transitions

If you sell your business's shares to a company controlled by a family member, such as a child, spouse (including their children), grandchild, niece, nephew, great-niece or great-nephew, you may qualify for a substantial tax exemption on the capital gain realized.

St-Roch says that prior to 2021, amounts paid by a child-owned corporation were considered taxable dividends, which significantly increased the buyer's tax liability and cash flow pressure. In some cases, it meant the buyer had to have up to 70% more cash than the amount paid to the seller.

Now, with the creation of a purchasing corporation by a descendant, it's possible to transfer funds tax-free from the operating company to the new entity, substantially lightening the financial burden. These funds then go to the seller, who can use their Lifetime Capital Gains Exemption (LCGE).

Legislative developments

The tax rules recognize sales to corporations controlled by children or other eligible relatives as capital gains. This allows the older generation (seller) to use their LCGE, meaning the gain is not taxed as dividends. The tax rules apply only to genuine intergenerational transfers.

Two transfer options

- Immediate transfer: The successor takes control of the company within three years (36 months).
- Gradual transfer: The transition takes place over a period of five to ten years (60 – 120 months).

Conditions at the time of sale

- Each share class transferred must be verified for eligibility at the time of transfer.
- Control of the acquiring corporation must be exercised by one or more adult family members, including children, grandchildren, stepchildren, sons- and daughters-in-law, nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Conditions to be met after the sale

- You must own less than 50% of any class of shares of the transferring or acquiring corporation, and you cannot own any shares after 36 months, except for non-voting preferred shares.
- You must transfer management and supervision of the business to your children or eligible successors within 36 or 60 months, in the case of a gradual transfer.
- For a gradual transfer of a family farm or fishing operation, you have 10 years to reduce your interest (debt or preferred shares) to 50% or less of its original value.
- You must ensure that your children or eligible successors retain control of the purchasing corporation and that at least one of them is actively involved in the business for 36 to 60 months after the sale, depending on the type of transfer.

In 2024, Bill C-59 tightened the rules to ensure that they only apply to genuine intergenerational transfers.

Capital gains deduction amount

The Lifetime Capital Gains Exemption limit of \$1,250,000 adjusts for inflation starting in 2026. This is a lifetime limit, meaning any amount from previous years will reduce the remaining balance available to the taxpayer.

Rules applicable in Quebec

Your transaction must satisfy both federal and provincial criteria. Before 2024, Quebec had different and more restrictive conditions than the federal government, which made it difficult to plan intergenerational transfers. However, as of January 1, 2024, there is full alignment with the federal rules, making it easier for Quebec owners to structure their transfers. Some technical requirements must still be met. It's important to consult a tax specialist to ensure your situation complies with all requirements of both levels of government.

The importance of planning your transfer

It's possible to transfer your business to your children



or other eligible family members and retain the same tax benefits and financing opportunities as you would selling to a third party.

"Careful planning under the guidance of taxation, ac-

counting and business law specialists is key to a successful transfer and ensuring the long-term future of your business," St-Roch says.

CK20 25-40 HP
SERIES COMPACT TRACTORS





0% UP TO **72** MONTHS **OR** **\$3750** UP TO **CASH BACK* (T-L-B)**

0% Financing on all KIOTI Tractors, Compact Loaders, UTVs and ZTRs.*

UNIVERSE
SATELLITE SALES



Universe Satellite Sales

520 Railway Ave | Rocanville, SK
306.645.2669
www.universesatellite.com

KIOTI.com

*Offer available January 1, 2026 – March 31, 2026. Rebates and/or financing based on the purchase of eligible equipment defined in promotional program. Pricing and rebates in CAD dollars. Additional fees including, but not limited to, taxes, freight, setup and delivery charges may apply. Financing must be through D.L. or Sheffield using one of the available financing options. Financing is subject to credit approval. Customers must take delivery prior to the end of the program period. Some customers will not qualify. Some restrictions apply. Offer available on new equipment only. Prior purchases are not eligible. Offer subject to change without notice. Offer valid only at participating Dealers. See your dealer for details. © 2026 Kioti Tractor Company a Division of Daewoo-CANADA, Inc.

2026 Hog outlook: Second consecutive year of strong margins



JUSTIN SHEPHERD, SENIOR ECONOMIST

After an unexpectedly strong 2025, things continue to look positive for the Canadian hog sector starting off 2026. Hog futures prices are near 5-year highs and are well supported. After several years of weaker demand and oversupply globally, the hog market has become more balanced. With lower feed costs relative to a few years ago, margins look to remain well supported for producers.

Disease continues to be a concern for producers all over the world, with many pork producing regions dealing with outbreaks of African swine fever (ASF), porcine epidemic diarrhea (PED), and porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS). If Canada can continue to keep PED and PRRS under control, and keep ASF out of the country, producers can feel optimistic given strong hog prices and manageable feed costs. In this outlook we examine what margins are expected to look like for the year ahead and what domestic and international demand looks like for Canadian pork.

Strong hog prices are being supported by cattle markets

For 2026, our forecasts for cash hog prices across the country are slightly above 2025 and well above their 5-year averages (Table 1). With cattle futures near record levels, this provides support for the hog market as a substitute protein. Demand for hogs is being fueled in part by domestic hog slaughter that increased in 2025 after multiple years of consolidation and is expected to be up slightly again this year. While live hog exports look to remain steady to the U.S. this year there is risk on the horizon as the Canada-U.S.-Mexico agreement (CUSMA) is up for review and voluntary country of origin labelling (VCOOL) came into effect on January 1. For now, these risks are being outweighed by the demand for Canadian hogs.

Table 1: Hog prices are expected to be above 5-year averages heading into 2026

Livestock prices	2025 (actual)	2026 (forecast)	5-Year Average
Ontario market hog \$/kg	2.65	2.80	2.45
Ontario feeder hog \$/head	110	115	100
Manitoba market hog \$/kg	2.55	2.70	2.35
Manitoba feeder hog \$/head	105	110	95
Isoweane \$/head	70	65	60

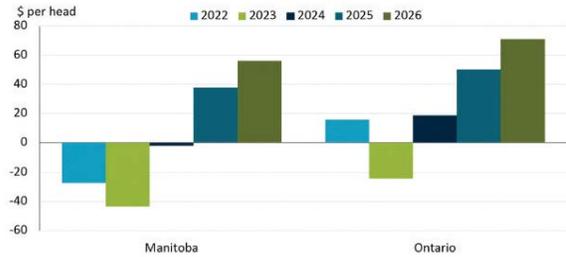
Sources: Statistics Canada, AAFC, USDA, CME Futures, and FCC calculations

Hog margins are benefiting from lower feed costs

Record Canadian crop production last fall is pushing grains and oilseeds down. Feed grain prices, including wheat, barley, and corn, are expected to be steady or slightly lower, while oilseed prices are projected to decline due to high global stocks. Large domestic supplies and market access restrictions on Canadian pulses to India are likely to result in additional peas diverted to the feed market and utilized in hog rations. This drop means cheaper peas, soybean and canola meals for feed, with ample supplies expected to hold feed prices below the 5-year average throughout 2026. When we add in strong hog prices it suggests Manitoba and Ontario farrow to finish hog margins could reach their highest levels in five years (Figure 1).

Continued on page 49

Figure 1. Manitoba and Ontario farrow to finish returns look strong for the year ahead



Because of its far reaching coverage area, Plain and Valley is a great place to advertise!

Give us a call at 306-435-2445 or email world_spectator@sasktel.net

RFNOW INC.
RELIABLE, FAST INTERNET WITH RURAL ROOTS

Fiber Built to Weather It All

Stay online through wind, rain, and snow – with reliability that runs deep.

Call **888-852-5513**

RFNOW.com

McMillan MOTOR PRODUCTS
...experience the difference!

www.mcmillanmotorproducts.net

HWY #48 | KIPLING SK | 306-736-2518
SATURDAY SALES HOURS: BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED BENEFITS:

- 150+ POINT INSPECTION
- 10YR WARRANTY ASSISTANCE
- MANUFACTURER'S WARRANTY
- EXCHANGE PRIVILEGE

CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED

Tim Dew
timdew.mmp@gmail.com
306.736.8624

Craig Pister
pister.mmp@gmail.com
306.736.7305

Mai Mangalus
mmp.bdc@gmail.com
833-845-0465





Saskatchewan to Support Exploration of New Pulse Protein Centre of Excellence in India

The Proposed Centre will Highlight the Province's Expertise in Global Pulse Production

As part of the ongoing mission to India, Premier Scott Moe along with officials from Canada, India, and the University of Saskatchewan have agreed to explore the creation of the Canada-India Pulse Protein Centre of Excellence at the National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM) in Kundli, India.

"Our province is essential for global food security," Moe said. "This announcement represents an opportunity to bring Saskatchewan's expertise and ingenuity in pulse production to the people of India. By working together, we will accelerate innovation, expand processing capabilities, and help meet growing demand for affordable, high quality, sustainably grown foods."

Pulses, which include lentils, chickpeas, peas, and beans, are central to both Saskatchewan and India's agri-food sectors. They are also incredibly healthy and are high in protein. Over 80 per cent of all pulses exported from Canada to India are grown in Saskatchewan, providing food for hundreds of millions of people every day.

The governments of Canada and India have named the University of Saskatchewan and NIFTEM in Kundli the co-chairs that will lead the creation of the centre.

"The University of Saskatchewan has a strong history of developing agricultural innovations that have real world impact," University of Saskatchewan Research Vice President Baljit Singh said. "With groundbreaking discoveries in crop development, phenotyping, disease resistance, and excellence in food processing, USask researchers have greatly shaped modern farming advancements that have benefited both consumers and producers. We are committed to addressing the global demand for plant-based proteins and applying our world-class researchers, labs and infrastructure to address these needs. We look forward to working alongside our partners in India and the Government of Saskatchewan to create sustainable solutions through the new India-Canada Joint Pulse Protein Centre of Excellence."

The proposed centre will be a hub for food innovation in India with a focus on advancing pulse protein processing and fortified foods development. The centre will also help strengthen the longstanding relationship between partners.

"The Centre of Excellence underscores the long-term partnership between Saskatchewan and India in pulses," Sask Pulse Growers Chair Stuart Lawrence said. "This collaboration between academia and government can help ensure more pulses are included in large-scale food applications and enhance the role pulses play in delivering nutritional security for the benefit of Indian consumers and Saskatchewan farmers."

Through innovation and expanding value added opportunities, the centre will support economic growth in both countries. It will also contribute to global efforts to improve nutrition, reduce environmental impacts, and advance sustainable agriculture.

Saskatchewan and India have a strong trade relationship with over \$18 billion in exports since 2007. The province is proud to be the consistent ally and reliable supplier India needs to ensure food and energy security.

Saskatchewan has had a trade and investment office in New Delhi since 2021. The province has built a network of nine international trade and investment offices to prioritize strengthening existing trade relationships while exploring new markets.



STOP BY YOUR LOCAL RME FOR:

PARTS & SERVICE SPECIALS

DEMO OPPORTUNITIES

BRANCH TOURS

FREE LUNCH



ROCKYMTN.COM/BRANCH-LOCATIONS



1604 Park Ave. | Moosomin, SK

306-435-3866 | ROCKYMTN.COM

Reach 30,000 households in Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba!

world_spectator@sasktel.net • 306-435-2445
www.plainandvalley.com

Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan announce continued support through the 2026 Crop Insurance Program

Federal Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Heath MacDonald and Saskatchewan Agriculture Minister David Marit have announced continued funding for the 2026 Crop Insurance Program, administered by the Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC).

"As governments, we are committed to providing responsive business risk management programs that meet the needs of our producers," MacDonald said. "These programs continue to evolve to ensure coverage accurately reflects local conditions and give producers the tools they need to make on-going business decisions."

"Every season brings both opportunity and uncertainty," Marit said. "SCIC's programs are built to support producers in managing risk and making confident, forward-looking decisions. Reliable coverage not only strengthens individual operations but also contributes to the long-term economic growth of Saskatchewan's agriculture sector. Now is the time to review your options and select coverage that best supports your operation."

In 2025, over 85 per cent of seeded acres were insured through the Crop Insurance Program. Despite variable growing conditions across the province, many producers experienced improved production compared to recent years, supported by strong, on-farm management decisions. These results have helped renew

strength in the Crop Insurance Program, ensuring it remains reliable in supporting farmers and ranchers year after year.

This year marks 65 years of SCIC supporting Saskatchewan farmers and ranchers with relevant and dependable business risk management programs.

SCIC continues to innovate the design and delivery of their programs. Leveraging technologies allows SCIC to enhance program accuracy and responsiveness for Saskatchewan producers. Earlier this year, the Corporation introduced Satellite Forage Insurance as a localized, responsive and accurate approach to managing forage risk. SCIC works closely with producers and industry to ensure

programs remain relevant and responsive. Through ongoing collaboration, SCIC remains committed to developing programs to meet the evolving needs of Saskatchewan agriculture while advancing customer service provided to producers.

"Saskatchewan's farmers and ranchers understand the importance of managing risk when it comes to variable weather and markets," Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM) President Bill Huber said. "Crop Insurance is one of the tools available to help operations manage production risk and plan for the future. We appreciate the work that has gone into these programs so far, and we encourage all levels of

government to continue working together so producers have reliable, effective options to help them navigate these challenging conditions and keep their businesses strong."

"For 65 years, Crop Insurance has been the cornerstone of risk management for Saskatchewan farms, offering the stability needed to invest in future growing seasons," Agricultural Producer Association of Saskatchewan (APAS) President Bill Prybylski said. "APAS is pleased to see SCIC adapting to industry needs with initiatives like Satellite Forage Insurance. Embracing technology that better captures real-world conditions is a meaningful step toward addressing the accuracy concerns

of livestock producers. We strongly encourage all farmers and ranchers to review their coverage ahead of the March 31 deadline to ensure their operations are protected against the challenges of weather and market volatility."

The deadline for Saskatchewan producers to apply, reinstate, cancel or make changes to their Crop Insurance contract is March 31, 2026. Producers must select their insured crops and coverage levels by this date. For more information or to make changes to their coverage, producers can speak with their local SCIC office. If no action is taken, last year's coverage continues for 2026.

Planning ahead is key for effective risk management.

Producers are encouraged to review and update their coverage annually to ensure it reflects their operation's needs. In addition to Crop Insurance, SCIC provides a suite of programs to support producers, including AgriStability, Livestock Price Insurance and the Wildlife Damage Compensation and Prevention programs. For more information, call 1-888-935-0000 or visit scic.ca.

Crop Insurance is a federal-provincial-producer cost-shared program that helps producers manage production quantity and quality losses. Support for the program is provided by the governments of Canada and Saskatchewan under the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP).

See Plain & Valley online at
www.plainandvalley.com

100 YEARS

CORN

YOUR GRAIN CART MIGHT NEED A HEAVIER AXLE.

Pioneer® brand corn delivers unmatched yield and performance, along with better standability. It's powered by advanced genetics, rigorous local testing, and support from local experts who know your field like it's their own. Proof that 100 years of innovation is just the beginning—and a big reason we're the #1 brand in Canada.

We set the bar. Pioneer.com/BestInCorn

CORTEVA
agriscience

†† Trademarks of Corteva Agriscience and its affiliated companies.
© 2025 Corteva.

PIONEER
HUNDRED YEARS

PLANT THE 100TH SEASON OF PIONEER



ALUMINUM

Great for long-term use outdoors

COROPLAST

Perfect for indoor use
Dry-erase finish available

STYRENE PLASTIC

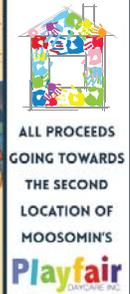
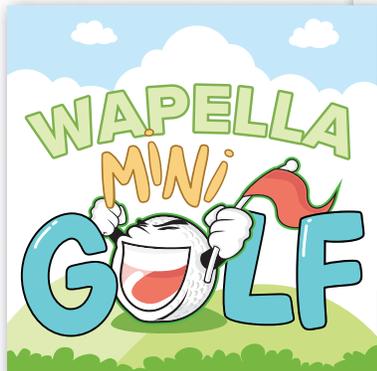
Dent resistant yet flexible - Ideal for hockey rink signage and other applications where you need a strong, and versatile sign

PLUS MANY OTHER MATERIAL OPTIONS

Canvas | Hard Plastic | Decals & Stickers | Magnets



For appointment call:
Garnet 306-435-9251 or
Dennis 306-435-7604



306.435.2445
 world_spectator@sasktel.net
 www.world-spectator.com

Saskatchewan Animal Enforcement Agency to take over animal welfare services

Agriculture Minister David Marit has announced that the Saskatchewan Animal Enforcement Agency (SAEA) will become the new animal welfare enforcement agency in Saskatchewan as of April 1, 2026. This decision is part of the government's continued commitment to the safety and welfare of all animals in the province.

"Our government's new partnership with the Saskatchewan Animal Enforcement Agency continues to ensure animal welfare enforcement in our province," Marit said. "Together, we are looking to the future of animal protection that continues to deliver effective and compassionate enforcement for Saskatchewan residents and their animals."

Following the decision of Animal Protection Services of Saskatchewan to discontinue its operations effective March 31, 2026, the Ministry of Agriculture opened a public competition for a new service provider. The SAEA was the successful organization with long-term operational plans that meet the ministry's expectations for enforcement of The Animal Protection Act. The SAEA will provide animal enforcement services for Saskatchewan, excluding the City of Regina where the Regina Humane Society provides services.

"The Saskatchewan Animal Enforcement Agency looks forward to working with the Ministry of Agriculture as well as other external stakeholders in the province,"

Board Chair Chief Russ Austin said. "The SAEA was created with the focus of delivering education and enforcement services with integrity, professionalism and transparency in all that we do."

The Government of Saskatchewan is committed to the safety and welfare of all animals in the province. This is why the Ministry of Agriculture held public consultations in 2025 which led to the recent amendments introduced in The Animal Protection Amendment Act, 2025. These amendments will strengthen the protection of animals by creating a new animal welfare inspector position and establishing a code of conduct for animal protection officers, as well as other enforcement enhancements.

Amendments modernize pesticide application and enhance compliance

The Ministry of Agriculture amended The Pest Control Products Regulations, 2015, to modernize pesticide application practices and enhance compliance measures for commercial operators in Saskatchewan.

The new amendments include the following changes: A new licence category for remotely-piloted aircraft systems (RPAS, commonly known as drones) which allows licensed commercial applicators to apply pest control products using RPAS if the product is federally registered for this use.

One-year licence terms for all commercial pesticide licence types, supporting consistency and improved compliance.

Insurance requirements to ensure those offering RPAS application carry adequate coverage for pesticide drift liability.

Compliance and record-keeping to ensure global positioning system (GPS) records for pesticide application flights are maintained.

"Our government is committed to supporting innovation in agriculture," Agriculture Minister David Marit said. "By introducing a licence category for drone spraying and enhancing compliance measures, we are helping commercial applicators adopt new technologies."

These amendments follow stakeholder consultations held in early 2025.

In Saskatchewan, commercial pesticide applicators require a pesticide applicator licence. Agricultural producers are exempt from this requirement when applying pesticides on their own land. Producers must follow federal pesticide regulatory requirements, including product label restrictions.

Training for pesticide applicator licences remains mandatory. Saskatchewan Polytechnic is offering an RPAS Pesticide Applicator course in early 2026.

Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency is responsible for pesticide product registration in Canada. Currently, the agency has approved and registered seven pest control products for RPAS application. There is no specific timeline for when new pest control products will be registered.

Currently, only one fungicide is approved for RPAS application to control powdery mildew on fruits, vegetables and cannabis/hemp. All other RPAS-registered products are restricted from use on cropland.

Technical questions about the regulation amendments can be directed to Brett Rumpel, Forensic Agrologist at 306-787-8711 or by email at brett.rumpel@gov.sk.ca.

Why written farm agreements are important

Continued from page 40

Structure and procedures

Partnership agreements should cover the structure of the farm, such as the ownership split, procedures for disability, death, disagreement or the exit of a partner, especially when partners aren't spouses.

For farm corporations, experts say a unanimous shareholder agreement (USA) is important, especially when the corporation extends beyond a spouse to include children. This is helpful if discrepancies arise after the death of a partner, such as contradictions between the will and the partnership agreement.

In addition, a valuation process for assets is needed, where an agreed-upon way to determine what the

assets, and therefore the shares, are worth. This valuation process is essential for shareholders, whether buying into the corporation or exiting. It also helps address equalization issues with non-farming children.

In a sole proprietorship, experts state there's often an assumption that registering land in joint names is enough to qualify the farmer's spouse for the lifetime capital gains exemption. However, that's not the case. To qualify,

the person whose name appears on the title must have had two years in which gross farm income exceeded all other income. A written agreement is insufficient for CRA.

Since many operations lack a formal partnership agreement, the capital gains exemption may be affected. Check with your accountant on managing this as a sole proprietorship.

Start now

Van Boekel says that ide-

ally, farm agreements begin at the start of the business venture or reorganization, but it's natural to focus on the excitement of moving ahead.

Even if your agreements are already in place, a handshake or understanding, it's best to start now to get the arrangement down on paper. Begin the conversation with your agreement partner and bring in the experts.

While it may be tempt-

ing to look at a written agreement as a DIY venture to save money on legal and accounting fees, professional fees are for their expertise in forming the agreement, and can pale in comparison to lost tax exemptions or the legal fees to wind down an operation or the costs—both economic and personal—of fighting legal battles between unhappy partners or shareholders.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

OK Tire in Whitewood is currently looking for a reliable and motivated individual to join our team as a **Full Time Tire Technician & Tow Truck Operator (Combo Position)**

Position Details:

- Full time position
- After hours shifts
- On call availability required
- Full training provided
- Competitive pay

Responsibilities:

- Perform tire changes, repairs & installations
- Respond to roadside service calls
- Operate tow truck safely and professionally
- Provide excellent customer service

Requirements:

- Valid driver's license
- Clean driving record preferred
- Ability to work independently
- Physically capable of lifting heavy tires and equipment

If you are a dependable, hardworking and ready to build a career in the automotive and towing industry, please apply to OK Tire & Auto in Whitewood SK as soon as possible.

Please provide your resume with references in person at 915 Service Road, Whitewood, SK or email to whitewood@oktire.com



UPCOMING AUCTION

St. Pat's Online Timed Antique & Collectible Auction

Bidding starts: Mon. Apr. 6 @ 9 am
Bidding ends: Sun. Apr. 12 @ 6pm - soft close

Featuring: Early Sweet Caporal Majorette Sign; Lg. Esso double-sided porcelain sign w/ hanger; Original Esso Extra globe; Red Indian pint oil bottle; Wayne Model 70 gas pump; Mobil Oil Gargoyle oil rack side; Firestone sign; Black Cat sign; Autoboggan oil qt.; McLagen single-curved glass oak china cabinet; v. nice barber's chair; Northern Electric Wall phone; 4 & 2 - Section oak stacking bookcases; Hall Seat; China/bookcase; stained glass windows; crockery; implement seats & much more.

Sale handled by
Wright's Auction Service Ltd.
Boissevain & Melita, MB.

Please call: 204-534-7997 or 204-305-0284 if any questions or email w.wright@mymts.net

Visit our website www.wrightauction.ca and click on "Bid Online" to register and follow the instructions.

Valid credit card required for new registry

See Plain & Valley online at

www.plainandvalley.com

BELOW FACTORY DIRECT PRICING!!

STRUCTURAL STEEL DEALER

- #1 Grade Colored**
\$1.15/sq. ft.
- B+ Grade Colored**
\$1.09/sq. ft.
- B Grade Colored**
\$1.05/sq. ft.
- B Grade Galvalume**
99c/sq. ft.
- 7/8" Corrugated**
24 ga
\$1/sq. ft.
- Multi Colored Mill Ends**
69c/sq. ft.
- Polycarbonate**
\$1.65/sq. ft.

Call us now for best selection of lengths & colors!

PVC White/interlocking interior liner
\$1.55/sq. ft.

ALSO SELLING SCREW PILES & BIN ANCHORS

Ask us about Fuel Allowance

FOUILLARD STEEL SUPPLIES LTD.

www.fouillardsteel.com
ST. LAZARE, MB
1-800-510-3303



BRIMNERS NOTEWORTHY 4N

HVA HARCO 11H X BECK'S SOURCE 815F
 FEB 3/25 ~ HOMO POLLED ~ BW 100 LBS ~ WW 1,000 LBS
 CE 3.7 // BW 1.3 // WW 70 // YW 125 // M 29



BRIMNERS NEXUS 26N

SPARROWS HENDRICKS 278K X HVA HARCO 11H
 FEB 11/25 ~ POLLED ~ BW 88 LBS ~ 730 LBS
 CE 11.2 // BW -2.5 // WW 58 // YW 118 // M 16



BRIMNERS NACHO 94N

SPARROWS HENDRICKS 278K X SOS GAME OF THRONES 98D
 FEB 24/25 ~ POLLED ~ BW 92 LBS ~ WW 365 LBS
 CE 11.8 // BW -2.9 // WW 53 // YW 109 // M 19



BRIMNERS NORTHLAND 100N

CEADALEA HILTON 204H X MCTAVISH EXCEL 20B
 FEB 25/25 ~ POLLED ~ BW 105 LBS ~ WW 870 LBS
 CE 2.4 // BW 1.3 // WW 51 // YW 101 // M 28



—Annual—

BULL & FEMALE SALE

SATURDAY, APRIL 11TH, 2026

2:00 P.M. SALE TIME
AT THE FARM, MANOR, SK

On Offer:

- 41 Yearling Charolais Bulls
- 7 Open Charolais Heifers
- 3 Open Commercial Heifers

THIS SALE IS WORTH THE WAIT!
 Come tour the Pens and see for yourself.



Kelly, Tracy, William & Wyatt Brimner
 Manor, SK

Kelly: (306)577-7698

William: (306)575-7697

Brimner Cattle Co. Ltd.

SALE MANAGEMENT:
WRIGHT
 LIVESTOCK MARKETING
 JON WRIGHT: (306)807-8424
 WWW.WRIGHTLIVESTOCKMARKETING.COM

Internet Bidding Available

DLMS
 www.dlms.ca
 Direct Livestock Marketing Systems

For more information call:
 Mark Sholagan 780-699-5082 or Purebred Team 780-991-3025

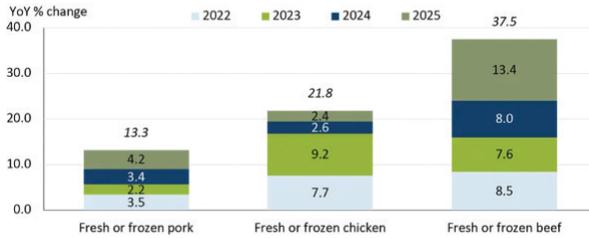
2026 Hog outlook

Continued from page 43

Canadian pork prices are helping consumers choose it more often than a year ago

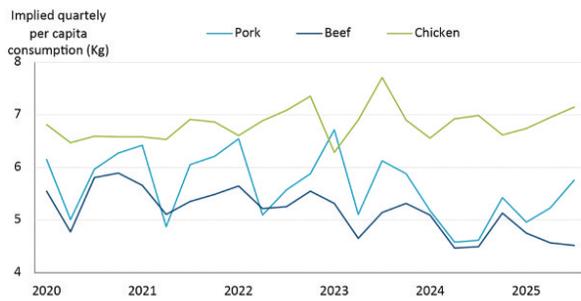
The price of pork at grocery stores is just one aspect to consider; it's important to compare how it performs against alternative meats like beef and chicken. Since 2022, pork prices in grocery stores have increased by over 13%, but this rise pales in comparison to chicken and beef, whose prices went up nearly 22% and 38% respectively (see Figure 2). Because pork prices have risen more moderately, that meat has become a more affordable protein choice for Canadian shoppers.

Figure 2. Pork prices at Canadian grocers give consumers a reason to think twice



That at least partially explains the uptick in pork consumption last year, an encouraging development for producers (Figure 3). Provided pork prices continue increasing less than other proteins, it is reasonable to assume continued consumption.

Figure 3. Canadian started to increase their quarterly pork consumption in 2025



Source: FCC Economics

Canadian pork exports were down through first 10 months of 2025

The Canadian pork industry is heavily reliant on exports as over 60% of our pork production is exported. Through October of last year, Canadian pork processors exported 6% less than the 5-year average of 928 thousand metric tonnes (Table 2). This is highlighted by the large drop in shipments to China, part of which can be attributed to that country's decision to impose a 25% tariff on Canadian pork. Despite recent announcements of tariff relief for other Canadian agricultural products, pork has not yet been granted a reprieve.

Continued success is being found however in Japan, Mexico, South Korea where Canada's pork exports continue to grow at a solid pace. Trade to the U.S. continues to be strong and stable year to year, but as mentioned earlier, it remains a watch item for the second half of this year as CUSMA discussions start in earnest.

Table 2. Canadian pork exports are down slightly in 2025 relative to 5-year average

tonnes	5-Year Average (2020-24)	2025 relative to 5-Year Average
U.S.	232	-4%
Japan	171	43%
Mexico	103	44%
China	209	-80%
Philippines	77	-29%
South Korea	42	39%
Rest of world	94	9%
Total	928	-6%

Source: Statistics Canada, FCC Calculations

Bottom line

Unlike last year where trade concerns were an immediate issue that could potentially impact margins, this year we are expecting relatively smooth sailing through the first half of the year. Canadian hog production remains closely tied to exports to the U.S. and with disease impacts slowing herd growth stateside as well as restrained feed costs, it is creating strong margin opportunities. Canada's pork producers continue to make strides in growing export markets in places like Japan, Mexico, and South Korea while remaining hopefully for changes in the 25% tariff rate from China. In other words, after weathering the storm of the past several years, hog producers are now in a good position to achieve solid profitability.

THE WORLD Spectator

LOCAL SERVICE. BIG RESULTS. QUALITY YOU CAN SEE.

From bold banners to sleek storefront signage, we deliver high-quality printing that gets you noticed. Durable materials, vivid colors, and fast turnaround—because your brand deserves nothing less.

Contact us:
306-435-2445 | world_spectator@sasktel.net
www.world-spectator.com

Taylor Auctions

TIMED ONLINE APRIL SPRING CONSIGNMENT

Melita, MB
Saturday, April 18, 2026 at 12 noon
This sale includes C-cans, farm & livestock equipment, recreation and much more. We are still taking consignments for this sale.
Call 204-522-6396 to consign

FARM & LIVESTOCK EQUIPMENT AUCTION FOR GORD NYKOLIATION

Virden, MB
Saturday, April 25, 2026 at 11 DST
This sale includes:

Mustang 2700V	Kubota M125X	JD 6200 FWA	Vermeer 605 XL
2012 Keystone Cougar camper	Macdon 5020 mower conditioner	2004 Glastron	

Contact Gord at 204-851-2658 for more info

Follow us on Facebook
Go to taylor.canbid.com for listings



A BRAND THATS BUILT WITH A *Generation* IN MIND.

RIGHT CROSS RANCH
BULL SALE on offer RED AND BLACK ANGUS yearlings and two year old bulls
 at Right Cross Ranch ✦ Kisbey, SK ✦ 1:00 PM
Tuesday, April 7, 2026




RIGHT * CROSS RANCH
 JIM AND SARAH ANDERSON
 Kisbey, SK S0C 1L0
 306-575-7608

View the catalogue online at
www.rightcrossranch.com

Because, you're not just buying the BULL; you're buying the PROGRAM!

Mobile Mammography unit in Carlyle and Moosomin in March and April

BY NICOLE TAYLOR
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Saskatchewan's Mobile Mammography Unit will be in Carlyle from March 9–March 27 and in Moosomin from March 30–April 24.

It will be located at the Carlyle Curling Club in Carlyle, and at the Canalta Motel in Moosomin.

The mobile mammography unit travels throughout rural and northern Saskatchewan and runs on a two-year cycle.

Appointments for the unit can be made approximately six weeks in advance of mobile visits.

You do not need a doctor's referral to make an appointment for a screening mammogram. Women can call 1-855-584-8228 to book a screening mammogram appointment or email ed.coordinators@saskcancer.ca for more information. Phones are answered between 8 am and 4:30 pm.

Saskatchewan women aged 43-plus are now eligible for screening mammograms without a doctor's referral, as the Saskatchewan government continues to lower the age limit for screening mammograms.

As of January 1, women aged 43 and older in Saskatchewan are eligible for screening mammograms. The change is meant to support early detection of breast cancer, and is part of a broader plan to gradually lower the screening age to 40 within the next six months.

The eligibility change will increase the number of Saskatchewan women who can access early detection breast screening services, further supporting the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency's BreastCheck screening program.

According to the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency, approximately 75 per cent of breast cancers diagnosed in the province are detected in the early stages.

"We're proud to again expand BreastCheck screening eligibility," said Karen Efthimiou, Vice President of Population Health, Quality and Research at the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency.

"This initiative emphasizes our commitment to early detection, which leads to more treatment options and improves outcomes. We're excited to invite women aged 43 and up to schedule their first screening mammogram."

"Expanding breast screening eligibility to include women 43 years and older will empower even more women to make proactive, informed decisions about the best ways to protect their health," said Bryan Witt, Vice President of Provincial Clinical and Support Services, Saskatchewan Health Authority.

"The best protection is early detection."

Women can book an appointment without a referral from a health-care provider, as long as they are of the appropriate age at the time of booking and meet eligibility criteria:

- Have no breast symptoms, such as lumps, bloody nipple discharge or skin changes;
- Do not have breast implants;
- Are not in active followup for breast cancer; and
- Have been breast cancer-free for the last five years.

Most women are encouraged to undergo a screening mammogram every two years.

Eligible women can schedule their mammogram at one of the eight designated screening locations throughout Saskatchewan, or through the Mobile Mammography Unit, which will be at four communities in southeast Saskatchewan over the next four months.

Screening mammograms are routine examinations intended for women with no breast symptoms, while diagnostic mammograms are meant for those experiencing breast symptoms.

Women who have concerns about Breast Cancer or experience symptoms, regardless of their age, should seek medical advice.

For more information on scheduling appointments, locations and operating hours of the Mobile Mammography Unit, individuals can visit saskcancer.ca/BreastCheck.



The mobile mammography unit which will be in Carlyle from March 9-27 and Moosomin from March 30-April 24.



www.mctavishfarms.ca

Jared & Heather McTavish
306-435-4925 Home | 306-435-9842 Cell
Moosomin, Saskatchewan
mctavishfarmsltd@gmail.com

15th ANNUAL BULL SALE

1:30 PM FRIDAY
March 27, 2026

HELD AT THE FARM - MOOSOMIN, SK



SVY CONFIDENCE 209K SON
BW: 92 ADJ WW: 895



PLEASANTDAWN CONNECTION 195G SON
BW: 91 ADJ WW: 880



MCTAVISH ONE EYED JACK 813L SON
BW: 83 ADJ WW: 725



WE INVITE YOU TO THE FARM TO VIEW THE BULLS ANYTIME
OFFERING 40 CHAROLAIS BULLS
30 YEARLINGS, 5 LONG YEARLINGS, 5 TWO YEAR OLDS

DILMS
www.dilms.ca



Plain and Valley is published by McKay Publications Ltd., Box 250, 714 Main Street, Moosomin SK S0G 3N0.

Plain and Valley is delivered to post office boxes across Southeast Saskatchewan and southwest Manitoba.

Canada Post Customer Number 2116693.

Canada Post Contract Number 40011909.

Canada Post employees: As a community newspaper, Plain and Valley can be delivered into all post office boxes, not just those that have opted to receive flyers in the Consumers' Choice program.

Kevin Weedmark Publisher • Kara Kinna Editor
Nicole Taylor Reporter • Margaret Iturralde Administrative and Editorial Assistant
Jacqui Harrison • Olha Volokh • Neethu Thomas • Design and Layout
Stephanie Zoer • Shayna Zubko • Ed James • Donna Beutler • Ashley Bocek • Kelsey Selby • Angela Ulrich Reporters
Donnie Matichuk • Peyton Glass • Brett Bocek Student Employees

Contact us

At Plain and Valley, we want to hear from you! Email wold_spectator@sasktel.net, call (306) 435-2445, fax (306) 435-3969, or write to us at Box 250, Moosomin, Sask, S0G 3N0.

Advertising options

Plain and Valley reaches households across southeast Saskatchewan and southwest Manitoba. We also offer classified and display advertising in the weekly World-Spectator, career and classified advertising across Saskatchewan, and blanket classified advertising across Canada.

Printing services

From business cards and brochures to hockey programs and event programs, to vinyl banners, coroplast signs and ACM signs, we can print it all!

Deadlines

Deadline for the Plain and Valley is 5 p.m. Wednesday for the following week's issue.

Online access

All issues of Plain and Valley are available online at www.plainandvalley.com

Funded by the Government of Canada
Financé par le gouvernement du Canada



 <p>STOCK# 57083C 2018 Jeep Grand Cherokee Trailhawk \$29,900 \$145/wk OAC 96,500 KMS HARD TO FIND 3.6L V6</p>	 <p>STOCK# 55195A 2020 Ford Explorer XLT \$31,900 \$138/wk OAC 124,000 KMS PREMIUM COLOR READY FOR FAMILY FUN!</p>	 <p>STOCK# 55105A 2019 Jeep Grand Cherokee LTD X \$31,900 \$138/wk OAC 134,000 KMS ROAD TRIP READY! LEATHER INTERIOR</p>	 <p>STOCK# 55216A 2023 Ford Bronco Sport Outer Banks \$34,900 \$138/wk OAC 75,000 KMS WIRELESS CHG PAD HTD SEATS</p>	 <p>STOCK# 6S020A 2017 Ford Escape SE \$19,900 \$ 112/wk OAC 130,000 KMS NEW DRIVER FRIENDLY HTD SEATS</p>	 <p>STOCK# 5T173A 2023 Chevrolet Equinox LT \$29,900 \$119/wk OAC 44,000 KMS HTD SEATS GREAT FIRST VEHICLE!</p>	 <p>STOCK# 5S026A 2022 Ford EcoSport SE \$25,900 \$104/wk OAC 74,000 KMS SUNROOF SWING GATE REAR DOOR</p>
 <p>STOCK# 6S007A 2020 Ford Edge SEL \$30,900 \$134/wk OAC 71,500 KMS UNIQUE COLOR STYLISH INTERIOR</p>	<h1>WE HAVE THE SUV YOU WANT!!</h1>					 <p>STOCK# 5S191A 2021 Ford Bronco Sport Big Bend \$27,900 \$122/wk OAC 82,000 KMS REMOTE START SIRIUS XM</p>
 <p>STOCK# 5P251 2015 Ford Explorer Limited \$29,900 \$198/wk OAC 70,000 KMS RARE FIND! MOONROOF</p>	 <p>STOCK# 5S226A 2022 Ford Explorer XLT \$38,900 \$153/wk OAC 111,000 KMS HTD STEERING WHL SPORT PKG</p>	 <p>STOCK# 5T248A 2021 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited \$39,900 \$171/wk OAC 87,000 KMS 4 DOOR WORK OR PLAY</p>	 <p>STOCK# 5S255A 2019 Ford Explorer Limited \$27,900 \$122/wk OAC 175,000 KMS MOONROOF LEATHER INT.</p>	 <p>STOCK# 5T261A 2024 Ford Bronco Badlands \$69,900 \$269/wk OAC 28,500 KMS PRACTICAL & FUN! AUXILIARY SWITCHES</p>	 <p>STOCK# 6T027A 2018 Ford Escape SE \$19,900 \$99/wk OAC 141,000 KMS HTD SEATS GREAT ON FUEL!</p>	 <p>STOCK# 5S095B 2019 Ford EcoSport SE \$19,900 \$89/wk OAC 91,000 KMS 2.0L NAVIGATION</p>



Scan for more! 


Guy Wall
 (306) 435-0215


Eli Tremblay
 (306) 434-9101


Michael Vantomme
 (306) 608-6808

www.celebrationford.com • 1-800-880-4533 • 306-435-3313 • MOOSOMIN, SK

NOW OFFERING:



CUSTOMIZABLE FURNITURE,
LEATHER AND FABRIC

Exclusive line

Field & Stream

ESTD HOME 1871



THE BEAST



30

Today's

FURNITURE ELECTRONICS

FURNITURE & ELECTRONICS

27 Railway Ave. | Redvers, SK | 306-452-6309

