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ENERGY

Era of total reliance on US market for oil export is over...

see page 12

ARTS

HRH Dessert Theatre tickets go on sale...

see page 10

COMMENT

Carney's leadership win mirrors past Liberal failures...

see page 6

Alberta forest industry asks for support amid tariffs

by Niki Luymes

During the Edson Town Council meeting on March 18, Nicole Galambos, Director,

Forest Ecology, with the Alberta Forest Products Association presented to council.

The forestry industry is

looking for support from communities to enhance competitiveness, improve supply chains, and promote the use of Alberta forest products at

home. This new initiative comes in the wake of growing trade barriers. The presentation included some of the many

continued page 2

Students from Mr. Edel's class at Yellowhead Koinonia Christian School (YKCS) recently had the opportunity to take a field trip to McPhee Construction. The students had fun learning about all the different equipment on site. photo submitted Deanna Mitchener

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# Alberta forest industry asks for support amid tariffs

continued from front

actors affecting the sector and the potential avenues of support.

"Alberta Forest Products Association (AFPA) is an industry association that represents primary and secondary forestry manufacturers across Alberta. We produce everything from lumber and pulp paper to bio energy and other specialized wood products. We have a range of large multinational corporations, to small mom and pop shops," explained Galambos. The forestry industry employs an estimated 30,000 Albertans. Representatives from Edson area forestry businesses also came to the meeting.

"These rising trade barriers are really threatening our industry's ability to compete and grow," said Galambos. According to the stats presented in the meeting, about 50% of Alberta's forest products are exported to the USA. Currently, softwood lumber faces duties of 14%. This number is expected to increase to 30% this summer, regardless of tariffs. "If you add the threatened 25% tariff on top of that, we're looking at a significant, over 50%, trade imbalance on some of our goods," said Galambos, "Clearly that is impactful and that has our members concerned."

Galambos presented several ways that the government of Alberta can support the forestry industry at this time. The first was to simply advocate for Alberta forestry products in the US. "Really strong advocacy at the national and federal level within Canada, as well as down into the US, can be very impactful," said Galambos.

The second on the list was to keep Alberta's regulatory costs low. This is something that the industry is already working on. "Keeping our domestic policies, and our Albertan policies, friendly to industry is something that we really

need at this time. When we look west to B.C. we can see some of the impacts of higher regulatory costs. What that's ties into is mill closures and job losses," said Galambos.

Another way to support the industry is to simply build with Alberta wood. This would mean advocating for the Alberta government to create policies to encourage using domestic wood. A 'Build with Alberta Wood' charter would be able to drive demand. "This is one way to reduce that trade uncertainty, by using our product at home," said Galambos.

The association would also like to petition the province to advocate for federal financial assistance. "We have had duties on our lumber for at least the last decade. Because we are challenging whether or not the duties are legal, they are being held in a US trust and have amassed to about \$10 billion dollars. So we, along with other industry associations, have asked the federal government to leverage those duties held as a financial backstop," explained Galambos.

"I think the last few weeks have really stressed for us the need to be looking outside of the US for other places to send our products. To diversify our markets and keep us competitive and viable in the long term," said Galambos. AFPA has identified potential growth in India, China, the Philippines, Japan, and Korea.

Also part of the plan would be to implement a forestry manufacturing tax credit. "It is an incentive to encourage investment in innovation, new products, and new technology," said Galambos. Such a tax credit has already been in the works for a while. This would simply encourage the actual profession of the policy.

"The Alberta forestry industry is strong," said

Galambos. "But we are certainly facing some real challenges in the immediate future. We do believe that with strong advocacy, smart policy decisions, and support from municipalities such as Edson, we can get our members through this rough patch."

At this time the AFPA is asking Edson for a letter of support for these points. This letter, combined with others from similar towns, would be presented to Premier Danielle Smith.

Councillor Ed Moore asked, "How do our products compare with American products? Are there any differences?" asked. Alan Baxter from West Fraser answered that Alberta is able to produce more spruce/fir/pine wood that is preferred for structural building.

Councillor Krystal Cacka said, "You said we ship about 50% of our lumber to the US and that you want to do a buy Alberta wood initiative. I assumed we were already doing that. Do you know how much we import from other countries or do you just mean other provinces?"

Galambos explained that is was 50% of all our wood products are exported [not just lumber]. As an example, Alberta sends about 90% of its wood pulp to the US. "The 'build with wood charter' is trying to get more Alberta wood into things like mass timber, laminates, veneer lumber, and building larger buildings with wood instead of steel and concrete."

Council will decided at a later date regarding a letter of support.

CORRECTION

The photos provided to the Weekly Anchor regarding the Community Care Foundation's Spring Fling Fashion Show in our March 17 issue were taken by Portraits by Rachelle. Our apologies for the confusion.

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March 18, 2025 meeting

# Town Council Highlights

**Aerial Fire Truck Debenture Bylaw Approved.** Second (2nd) and third (3rd) readings were given to Bylaw No. 2321, authorizing a debenture for the purchase of a new aerial fire truck. This investment ensures continued safety and firefighting capability for the community.

**2024 Assessment Accepted.** The 2024 assessment for the 2025 taxation year was accepted as information.

**Year-End Surplus Allocation.** Council approved the allocation of the 2024 year-end surplus, directing an operating surplus of \$3,896,015 and a capital surplus of \$1,287,973 as outlined in the approved schedules. Additionally, funds were allocated for capital projects, a new special reserve for Student Council Bursaries was created, and the CAO was authorized to amend amounts pending audit adjustments.

**Extension Request for Financial Reporting.** Administration will request an extension from Municipal Affairs to June 30, 2025, for the submission of the 2024 Financial Statement and Financial Information Return.

**Support for Community Engagement Action Team (CEAT) Grant Application.** A letter of support will be provided for CEAT's application to the Community Facilities Enhancement Program grant. If successful, this funding will support capital upgrades to the Westhaven Community Rink.

**Support for New Recreational Trails in Willmore Park.** A letter of support was approved for the Edson Cycling Association to establish new recreational trails within the firebreaks in Willmore Park's Recreation Lease area.

**Spring Clean-Up Program 2025 and Beyond.** Council approved the Spring Clean-Up Program, which includes opening the landfill for two free drop-off days for Town residents and scheduling a Community Clean-Up Day before the program begins.

**Recycling Fee Reduction Approved.** A reduction in residential recycling service fees was approved, lowering the monthly rate from \$11.23 to \$7.25 to offset costs under the Extended Producer Responsibility program.

**Motions Out of Closed Session.** The CAO was directed to proceed with negotiations with the Edson Medical Centre Corporation as discussed in the closed session.



HRH's Senior Boys and Girls basketball teams ended their seasons in style as both took home the bronze medal at their respective Zone Championships on March 15th. The Boys team battled hard all weekend and showed great sportsmanship to win their final game. Meanwhile, the Girls rebounded extremely well after a tough loss in the semi-final with a huge win in the bronze medal game. "Those games marked the end of 5 players basketball careers at HRH with their final match in a Rebels uniform," says Athletics Director Sean Murray. "We wish all of them the very best in the future." photos submitted



## PASSPORT PHOTOS & MORE

The Weekly Anchor

5010 3rd Avenue, Edson  
780-723-5787

# Acclaimed songwriter on tour will perform in Evansburg

Orit Shimoni, a former teacher and academic, became a full-time travelling singer-songwriter. For over a decade she has lived an extraordinarily unique life.

With just a guitar and suitcase, and using public transit only, she took a leap of faith in 2009 and became an independent, full-time touring singer and songwriter, travelling solo across Canada and Europe, staying in people's homes as she passed from town to town.

"I am in love with words. They can contain love and they can change people. They can shape our understanding, and they can be our weapon, or our guard. They grant us with humour, and self-reflection," states Orit.

She recorded highly acclaimed albums along the way, and by the time she hit her eleventh year straight of touring and her tenth album, she knew she was past the point of no return as an artist, and she knew she had to keep going.

But the world had other plans for her, of course. In March 2020 she arrived in Winnipeg to play two shows, and the entire world decided to close down.

Orit was stranded, homeless, and unable to work, and lost everything she knew about herself overnight.

Luckily, there are always what she calls Road Angels. Her concert hosts took her in for the first stretch while she figured something out. Part of her figuring it out was writing and recording an entire

album, appropriate called WINNIPEG, which has been nominated for this year's solo artist of the year category at the Canadian Folk Music Awards.

Another part of her figuring things out was finally learning how to drive, get a license and, eventually, a vehicle.


Though touring is nothing new to this veteran songstress, this spring, Orit will be doing her first ever solo tour BY CAR and she is bringing her incredible stories and songs to small Northern Alberta communities as part of a HOME ROUTES tour which focuses on house concerts and intimate listening venues.

Orit Shimoni was named "one of this nation's most intriguing and alluring vocalists," by the Calgary Herald, and Beatroute Magazine wrote that she is "One of Canada's most brilliant and lyrically impactful vocalists...Candid, full of fascination and humour... An exceptional bout of worldly experience pours from her captivating vocal sound."

Orit will perform a house concert in Evansburg on March 29. She will be doing another house concert in Hinton on April 17.

Don't miss the opportunity to see the magic this woman can weave out of a guitar and a room full of people. To reserve a ticket for any of the shows, send an email to [songstress@oritshimoni](mailto:songstress@oritshimoni)

- compiled by Dana McArthur



## West Fraser

West Fraser is a leading diversified forest products company, recognized for the eleventh time as one of Canada's Top 100 Employers and one of Canada's Best Employers for Recent Graduates. Are you interested in working for a company that offers both a challenging work environment and a rewarding career path? Edson Forest Products is currently accepting applications for:

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- Must be currently enrolled in a program at a recognized post-secondary institution, leading to a degree or diploma
- Must plan to enroll in the 2025 Fall semester
- Must have strong interpersonal and communication skills
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We offer a competitive wage and full-time hours during the summer term.

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# Edson Housing Strategy

## Let's Talk Housing!

The Town of Edson is preparing a Housing Strategy to better understand the current housing situation and develop an action plan to create and maintain affordable, safe, and suitable housing options.

This past fall, we heard from residents and interested parties about current housing challenges and ideas for improving housing in Edson. Now, we are seeking feedback to confirm what we heard in the fall and gather further input on the draft goals that will guide housing action in Edson.

### Community Open House (Drop-In)

Thursday,  
March 27, 2025  
3:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Edson Public Library  
4726 - 8 Avenue,  
Edson, AB T7E 1E3

#### Let's Talk Housing!

Provide your feedback on the draft goals and actions by attending the open house or completing the online survey from **March 10 to 31, 2025.**

#### Complete the Survey



#### Scan the QR code

Or visit:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.ca/r/EdsonHousing>



For more information about the project visit [www.edson.ca/housing](http://www.edson.ca/housing) or contact:



Morgan Roberts | Economic Development Officer



(780) 723-4401



[ecdev@edson.ca](mailto:ecdev@edson.ca)





# TOWN OF EDSON

## Public Information & Notices 2025

**Town of Edson  
Office Hours:  
Monday to Friday  
8am to 4pm  
(Closed Stat Holidays)**

"I have a child with special needs."

"I help my elderly parents."

"I care for my ill spouse."

"I assist my loved one who has a mental illness."

"Someone who assists a family member or friend with challenges resulting from disabilities, illness, or aging"

Is this you?  
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Discussions may include:  
Managing stress,  
Preventing burnout,  
Family dynamics  
Navigating supports and services

Drop-in : NO registration required

Price: **FREE!**  
Dates: **Jan 29 - Feb 26 - Mar 26 - April 24\***  
**May 28 - June 25**  
Time: **Wednesday's @ 5:30pm to 7:00pm**  
*\*Please Note April's meeting is on a Thursday*  
Location: **Griffiths Park Centre (5414 6 AVE)**

Coffee and snacks included

Questions?  
Contact Sarah @ 780-725-0582 or sarahm@edson.ca

**\*This is an support style group with open communication or listening\***

Edson Family and Community Support Services

## Grief Support Group

Drop-in for support and mentorship through the stages of grief.

Grief is a normal emotion to emerge after the loss of a loved one, pet, job or something else. It affects everyone differently and requires time and compassion in order to process it.

Join us in a safe and confidential space for discussions, and to connect with others going through the process. Connection and conversation can assist the grief process.

Saturday's on;  
February 1      April 26  
March 1          May 31  
March 29        June 25  
9:30 am to 11:30 am  
@ Griffiths Park Centre  
(5414 6 Ave)  
Questions?  
Contact Sarah @  
780-725-0582 or sarahm@edson.ca

Edson Family and Community Support Services

### Town of Edson FCSS - Community Volunteer Income Tax Program

## FREE TAX CLINIC

March 3rd - April 30th  
Located at the Griffiths Park Centre  
(5414 6 Ave)

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday.....9AM to 3PM  
Wednesday .....11AM to 7PM  
Friday, Saturday, Sunday.....CLOSED

To book an appointment, please email [edsoncvitp@gmail.com](mailto:edsoncvitp@gmail.com) or call **780-725-0582**

**Drop-in & drop-off taxes are welcome, but appointments will have priority.**

**Eligibility Requirements:**

- Simple tax returns only (no business income, no capital gains, no depreciation and no death returns)
- Edson and area residents welcome
- Low income, seniors, students

**Income Thresholds are as follows:**

- 1 person income \$35,000 or less
- 2 person income \$45,000 or less
- 3 person income is \$47,500 or less
- 4 person income is \$50,000 or less
- 5 person income is \$52,500 or less and increases by \$2,500 per individual per family thereafter

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## REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

### Ice Resurfacers Advertising Opportunity (RFP No.: 2025-EDLC-001)

Interested parties should view the bid documents at [www.edson.ca/tenders](http://www.edson.ca/tenders)

RFP ISSUE DATE: Friday, February 7, 2025

RFP CLOSING DATE: Monday, March 31, 2025

RFP CLOSING TIME: 14:00:59 (2:00 P.M) MST

Submissions attention to: Vicky Bird, Recreation Manager  
Email: [vickyb@edson.ca](mailto:vickyb@edson.ca)

## NOTICE OF DEVELOPMENT

Recent Development Permits approved by the Development Authority, under the Town of Edson Land Use Bylaw 2296 as amended, can be found at <https://www.edson.ca/business/planning/development-permit-applications>. Additional information can be requested from the Planning Department at 780-723-4402 or [planning@edson.ca](mailto:planning@edson.ca).

Any person who is deemed to be affected by the issuance of any one of these permits may appeal to the Subdivision and Development Authority **by 4:00 p.m., on the 21<sup>st</sup> day after the date of issue as published on the Town's website.** On Permitted Uses, grounds for appeal must relate only to interpretation, variance, or relaxation of Land Use Bylaw 2296. On Discretionary Uses, all aspects of the proposed development may be challenged upon appeal. Written notice of appeal, accompanied by the appeal fee as established by Town Council, must be filed through the Office of the Secretary of the Intermunicipal Subdivision and Development Appeal Board (ISDAB) at Box 6300, Edson, AB T7E 1T7. **Direct Control District Approvals cannot be appealed.**

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Guest Editorial/Column

# Carney's leadership win mirrors past Liberal failures

by Lee Harding

The Liberal Party of Canada has selected a non-MP to become prime minister, but precedent suggests he won't last long. Mark Carney represents the worst aspects of both John Turner's and Michael Ignatieff's political rises and appears destined for the same electoral futility.

When Pierre Trudeau stepped down as Liberal leader in 1984 after more than 15 years as prime minister, he left behind a parting gift: over 200 Liberal patronage appointments. His successor, John Turner, agreed to another 70. These appointments became a burden, weighing down Turner's leadership before it had even begun. Like Carney, Turner was not a sitting MP when he became leader. Forced to call a snap election, he watched the Progressive Conservatives secure the first of two successive majorities.

Now, history is repeating itself. Justin Trudeau's cabinet made 70 appointments in its final days, including 12 judges. That number doesn't include the 10 senators he appointed while Parliament was prorogued—nearly 10 per cent of the 105-seat chamber. Like Turner, Carney must navigate a leadership legacy tainted by patronage and an unpopular outgoing prime minister.

But does Carney's experience, reputation, and distance from Trudeau offer him a fresh start? It seems unlikely. Unlike Turner, Carney has never held elected office.

Turner at least had a political track record. As a cabinet minister under two prime ministers, he handled high-profile Justice and Finance portfolios. He also benefited from a nine-year break from politics, distancing himself from the unpopular Trudeau. None of it mattered. Turner still lost.

Liberals hope Carney can ride a wave of popularity after a dominant leadership victory, securing 85 per cent support. But what did he really win? A former central banker, he climbed atop a heap of ruins.

His victory over Chrystia Freeland, Karina Gould, and former MP Frank Baylis was less a competitive race and more a coronation. Freeland carried the baggage of Trudeau's policies, while the other two lacked national recognition. Carney, the only contender without direct ties to Trudeau's government, was the default choice. The Liberal Party is adrift, and he simply took the helm.

But winning an uncontested leadership race is no guarantee of electoral success. Turner's rise in 1984 was far more hard-fought—he overcame political heavyweights, including Jean Chrétien and four other cabinet ministers, in a real contest for the party's future. Yet despite his credentials and broad support within the party, Canadians still rejected him.

And unlike Turner, Carney's leadership victory raises serious legitimacy concerns. Liberal leadership races allow votes from permanent residents (non-citizens) and minors aged

14 to 17—groups that have no say in a general election. Even more troubling, of the 400,000 votes cast, only 147,000 were verified. Carney received 126,000 of those votes, but nearly two-thirds of ballots were rejected. Had those votes gone to any of his opponents, Carney's win would have been far from certain.

A Rebel News petition calling for Elections Canada, CSIS, and the RCMP to audit the leadership vote is already circulating. While skepticism over the process is reasonable, it's doubtful that meaningful answers will emerge.

Beyond legitimacy issues, Carney shares another unfortunate trait with a failed Liberal leader: Michael Ignatieff.

Ignatieff followed Stéphane Dion, whose push for a carbon tax proved deeply unpopular. The Conservatives quickly branded Ignatieff, a long-time Harvard professor, as an elitist disconnected from ordinary Canadians. Their “He didn't come back for you” attack ads stuck, and Ignatieff led the Liberals to a historic defeat, falling to third-party status.

Carney faces the same vulnerability. After years in England, he will struggle to shake the image of an out-of-touch globalist. His French, weaker than Ignatieff's, will also hurt him in Quebec, a province that abandoned the Liberals in 2011 in favour of the NDP.

History suggests Carney's leadership will pave the way for another Conservative majority government—just as Turner and Ignatieff's failures did.

Carney's leadership campaign combines the worst aspects of 1984 and 2011. As an unelected, elitist ex-pat with weak French, he carries a Liberal banner weighed down by both Trudeau's baggage and the deeply unpopular carbon tax.

A Conservative government with a mandate for reform is increasingly likely. A slimmed-down civil service, reduced regulations, the abolition of the carbon tax, and renewed pipeline construction could all be on the horizon. After nearly a decade of Liberal rule, Canada's political pendulum seems set to swing back once again. © Troy MediaLee

*Harding is Research Fellow for the Frontier Centre for Public Policy.*

**Editor's note:** Canada's visible carbon tax was introduced to discourage the public's fossil fuel consumption in order to reduce emissions. It was a bad idea that served only to raise the cost of everything. Mark Carney's plan will be to hide the carbon tax at the industry level beginning with a 20% increase on April 1. This 'shadow' carbon tax will still accumulate throughout the food and supply chain, but without the same consumer rebates to alleviate at least some of its impact. Hidden taxes are an underhanded approach that lacks public transparency and accountability—and Canadians should not accept it. DM

*Note: The views, opinions, and positions expressed in the column are the author's alone. They do not inherently or expressly reflect the views, opinions and/or positions of The Weekly Anchor, its staff, or Troy Media.*

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## Edson RCMP Occurrences

For the week of March 10– March 16, 2025

Traffic Violations 28, Traffic Collisions 24 and Traffic Complaints 13 topped the list of Edson RCMP occurrences. Other investigations included: Abandoned Vehicles 0 ; Alarms/False Alarms 4; Animal Calls 2; Assault 4; Assistance Calls 7; Cause Disturbance 5; Child Welfare 0; Drive While Unauthorized 0; Drugs 0; Extortion 0; Fail to Comply with Conditions 1; Fail to Stop or Remain at Collision 2; False/Abandoned 911 Call 2; Family Orders and Agreements 1; Family relations 0; Fire Prevention Act 1; Fraud 3; Harassment/Criminal Harassment 2; Impaired Operation of Motor Vehicle 0; Information File 2; Liquor act 0; Lost or Found property 5; Mental Health Act 1; Mischief or Damage 7; Missing Person/Request to Locate 1; Municipal Bylaws 1; Noise Complaints 1; Obstruct/Resist Peace Officer 0; Possess Stolen Property 1; Recovered Stolen Property 0; Sudden Death 1; Suspicious Persons/vehicles 12; Traffic Complaints 13; Trespassing 3; Uninsured/Unregistered Vehicle 1; Unlawfully in Dwelling 0; Unwanted Person 0; Uttering Threats Against Person 1; Wellbeing Checks 7.

## KID'S CORNER



Meet Hudson age 7 in grade 2 at Mary Bergeron Elementary School.

**Q:** What is your favorite movie?

**A:** Godzilla vs Kong, because at the end they fight Mechagodzilla and that's cool.



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**Evansview Elementary**  
English Programs  
Junior Kindergarten to Grade 6  
evansviewschool.gypsd.ca  
780-727-3623





# Yellowhead County

Phone: 780-723-4800 Toll Free 1-800-665-6030 Fax: 780-723-5066  
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

## Yellowhead County FAMILY TIME

Join us on Wednesdays for some indoor fun!  
10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

New weekly activities and unstructured free play.

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APRIL 9, 23  
MAY 7, 21

**PEERS**  
APRIL 16, 30  
MAY 14, 28

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Registration required:  
[www.yhcounty.ca/registration](http://www.yhcounty.ca/registration)

fcss

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AGES 12+  
TIME: 9 AM - 6 PM

SATURDAY  
April 5  
PEERS  
Peers Multiplex

INSTRUCTOR:  
Dan Johnston

COST: \$140.00 per class

Register at  
[yhcounty.ca/registration](http://yhcounty.ca/registration)

Please Bring:  
- Two Pieces of ID  
- Address Verification  
- Lunch / Snacks

Yellowhead County

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

### Engineering Services for Reconstruction of Twp Rd 544 from Rge Rd 165 to Rge Rd 162

Yellowhead County is accepting proposals from qualified consultants to provide engineering services for the reconstruction of Twp Rd 544 from Rge Rd 165 to Rge Rd 162. Submissions shall be submitted based on the Request for Proposal documents.

Electronic submissions titled: **RFP 2025-881: Engineering Services for Reconstruction of Twp Rd 544 from Rge Rd 165 to Rge Rd 162**

Will be received until: **2:00 P.M., March 31, 2025**

Submitted via email to: [amalik@yhcounty.ca](mailto:amalik@yhcounty.ca)

This is a "Request for Proposal". Potential consultants are therefore advised that Yellowhead County reserves the right to:

1. Accept a Proposal without negotiation.
2. Reject a Proposal without negotiation.
3. Reject a Proposal from a bidder that has had a previous contract terminated by the County.
4. Negotiate changes in the financial or operational content of the successful Proposal.

Consultants are also advised that their hourly rates, company name and final rating will be made public when presented to Council.

Electronic (PDF) copies of the Request for Proposal documents are available for free download from the Alberta Purchasing Connection website at the following link: [www.purchasingconnection.ca](http://www.purchasingconnection.ca) and will be available on or after 1:00 p.m., March 6, 2025.

For further information, please contact **Abid Malik, Manager of Engineering** for Yellowhead County at [amalik@yhcounty.ca](mailto:amalik@yhcounty.ca)

## Approved Development Permits have been issued authorizing the following:

Permit No.	Location	Proposal	Date	Appeal Deadline
D25-011	NW-7-53-10-W5 South of Chip Lake	Single Detached Dwelling & Change of Use from Existing Single Detached Dwelling to Accessory Building (Shop)	Mar 10/25	Permitted Use
D25-008	NW-10-53-15-W5 Sang Lake Area	Accessory Building (Pole Shed), Home Business Large (Trucking/Logging Equipment & Outdoor Storage) - Discretionary Use	Mar 11/25	Apr 1/25
D25-022	Plan 1623175 Blk 2 Lot 2 NW-18-53-16-W5 River Ridge Area	Single Detached Dwelling with Attached Garage & Covered Deck	Mar 18/25	Permitted Use
D25-023	Plan 0021462 Blk 2 Lot 1 NW-19-53-17-W5 Edson Area	Existing Accessory Buildings (Pole Sheds)	Mar 18/25	Permitted Use
D25-025	NW-31-54-15-W5 Bear Lake Area	Single Detached Dwelling (Additional) with Attached Garage & Covered Veranda	Mar 18/25	Permitted Use
D25-017	Plan 0722553 Blk 1 Lot 4 NW-28-53-15-W5 Pinedale Area	Secondary Suite External/ Short Term Accommodations - Discretionary Use	Mar 18/25	Apr 8/25
D25-019	SE-34-53-16-W5 South of Wolf Creek	Accessory Building (Ground Mounted Solar Panels)	Mar 18/25	Apr 8/25
D25-026	Plan 2520471 Blk 1 Lot 9 NW-26-53-9-W5 Wildwood	Size Increase of Two (2) Existing Accessory Buildings (Greenhouse & Shed)	Mar 18/25	Permitted Use
D25-018	SW-19-52-8-W5 South of Lobstick	Single Detached Dwelling (Additional) & Accessory Building (Storage Shed)	Mar 19/25	Permitted Use

Yellowhead County Development Permits are also posted online at [www.yhcounty.ca](http://www.yhcounty.ca). The public is considered officially notified of approved development permits once posted online, in accordance with the Public Notification Bylaw. The Yellowhead County Land Use Bylaw NO 02-24 provides that any person claiming to be affected by a decision of the Development Authority may appeal to the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board or Alberta's Land and Property Rights Tribunal dependent on jurisdiction of the appeal authority. Appeals under the jurisdiction of Yellowhead County's Subdivision and Development Appeal Board require a written notice of appeal and a payment of \$500.00 payable to Yellowhead County within 21 day of the publishing of the Notice of Decision. Requirements for appealing the development to the Alberta's Land and Property Rights Tribunal can be found here: <https://www.alberta.ca/subdivision-appeals.aspx> or by calling 780-427-2444.

## Yoga in Marlboro

Yoga Flow & Yoga Sleep Class!

MARCH 16, 23 & 30  
7:00 - 8:00 PM  
MARLBORO COMMUNITY HALL

Register at [yhcounty.ca/registration](http://yhcounty.ca/registration) or by phoning Jina at 780-723-4800

PLEASE BRING A BLANKET & WATER. PILLOW IS OPTIONAL FOR THE YOGA SLEEP.

COST:  
\$30 FOR ALL 3 SESSIONS  
OR \$12/CLASS TO DROP IN.  
Space is limited. Advance registration recommended.

Yellowhead County

## Yellowhead County AGRICULTURAL ROAD CLOSURE

Yellowhead County has received a road closure application to temporarily close and fence an undeveloped road allowance for agricultural purposes.

The affected undeveloped road allowance is RGE RD 113 starting where the developed road ends between SE-16 and SW-15-54-11-W5M and extending southward between NE-09 and NW-10-54-11-W5M.

Any comments or concerns must be submitted by **March 31, 2025** to Yellowhead County by emailing [planninginfo@yhcounty.ca](mailto:planninginfo@yhcounty.ca)

For more information contact Yellowhead County at 780-723-4800 or 1-800-665-6030, or email [planninginfo@yhcounty.ca](mailto:planninginfo@yhcounty.ca)



# Yellowhead County

Phone: 780-723-4800 Toll Free 1-800-665-6030 Fax: 780-723-5066  
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

## Yellowhead County EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

### Community Peace Officer Edson, AB COMPETITION NO. 25-019

Reporting to the Peace Officer Sergeant, the Community Peace Officer is part of the overall Protective Services Department team working to promote public safety and community standards through education and enforcement of Yellowhead County bylaws and appointed provincial acts.

The salary range is \$89,313-\$110,748 per year. Yellowhead County offers a competitive salary and benefit plan.

To apply please submit resumes online at [www.yhcounty.ca/jobs/](http://www.yhcounty.ca/jobs/)

A detailed position description can be found in the job posting online.

The competition will remain open until a suitable candidate is found.

We thank all interested applicants in advance, however only those applicants to be interviewed will be contacted.

Human Resources  
Yellowhead County  
Email: [jobs@yhcounty.ca](mailto:jobs@yhcounty.ca)

The personal information obtained as a result of this advertisement will be utilized for these employment opportunities only and is subject to compliance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Yellowhead County

## Need a job this summer? VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR A FULL POSITION DESCRIPTION AND TO APPLY.

# We are HIRING!

### Agricultural Labourer (Competition No. 25-005)

Responsible for assisting in the application of pesticides on private and public lands in accordance with legislation and County policies.

### Weed Inspector (Competition No. 25-006)

Responsible for performing weed and pest inspections on private and public lands in accordance with the Weed Control Act, Agricultural Pest Act and County policies.

- These are seasonal positions from approximately May 5 to August 29, 2025.
- The hourly wage is \$23.62 to \$25.71.
- Positions will be based in Wildwood.
- IMPORTANT: Applicants must include a cover letter, resume, 2 written references and a driver's abstract to be considered for an interview.

[www.yhcounty.ca/jobs](http://www.yhcounty.ca/jobs)

Yellowhead County

## WILDFIRE SEASON

### Fire Permit Season 2025

### Wildfire Season Starts MARCH 1

# BEFORE YOU BURN IT, GET YOUR PERMIT!

From March 1 to October 31, all burning activities, excluding campfires, require a fire permit.

The Yellowhead County Fire Area covers Evansburg and area: North of Highway 16 from Highway 22 east to the Pembina River.

Contact Yellowhead County at 1-800-665-6030 to acquire fire permits for this area.

Burn permits for the AB Forest Protection Area in Yellowhead County can be obtained from [alberta.ca/get-a-fire-permit](http://alberta.ca/get-a-fire-permit)

## FAMILY WELLNESS DAY

### BUILD YOUR OWN SUB FOR LUNCH!

PLUS: •BAKING •CRAFTS •EXERCISING

**PEERS**  
WED. APRIL 2  
11:00a.m. - 1:30p.m.

**EVANSBURG**  
THURS. APRIL 3  
11:00a.m. - 1:30p.m.

\$10 per family  
Registration required!

fcss

REGISTER AT [YHCOUNTY.CA/REGISTRATION](http://YHCOUNTY.CA/REGISTRATION) OR 780-723-4800

## Yellowhead County REQUEST FOR QUOTE

### RFQ-AG-25-001

### 2025 HERBICIDE SUPPLY

Yellowhead County invites suppliers of herbicide products to provide a quote for products listed on "APPENDIX A". The list of specific herbicide products and the approximate volumes that Yellowhead County will purchase in 2025 is a guideline only.

A detailed information package will be available from March 24th, 2025, on the Alberta Purchasing Connection website (<http://www.purchasingconnection.ca>)

Yellowhead County (the "County") will receive E-MAILED quotes, identifying RFQ-AG-25-001 2025 Herbicide Supply in the subject line and addressed and delivered to:

Jennifer Benson  
Agricultural Services Supervisor  
Yellowhead County  
EMAIL: [jbenson@yhcounty.ca](mailto:jbenson@yhcounty.ca)

Prior to 4:00:00 P.M. local time on April 10, 2025 (the "Closing Time").

For further information regarding this request, please contact:  
Jennifer Benson, Agricultural Services Supervisor, at 1-800-814-3935.



## Tickets on Sale for Holy Redeemer's Dessert Theatre

With the weather getting (slightly) warmer, it is time for the tickets for Holy Redeemer's Dessert Theatre to go on sale.

“This is an annual tradition dating back to 2004,” says Drama Teacher Peter Taylor. “Since 2004, our Drama Program has produced dozens of high calibre shows thanks to immense talent that we have at HRH. And this year will be no different.”

Three one-act plays are set to perform at this year's Dessert Theatre, which is scheduled for April 11th and 12th at HRH. The first show is one of the senior high plays entitled *Afterwards*. It tells the story of a boy and girl who awake in a field, and although they recognize one another, they struggle to know who they are and how they go there. It is a tradition at HRH that the senior high plays are directed by grade 12 students, however this year marks the first time where a show will be directed by a grade 11 student, Christina B. “I'm really excited,” says Christina. “The cast and crew have been working really hard and I can't wait to see what the audience thinks.”

The second senior high play is a comedy entitled *Cuffed*, which is directed by grade 12 student Camryn L. In *Cuffed*, a civil servant in Washington is intentionally handcuffed to a post where he meets a crazy cast of characters who do the craziest things. “We have been having so much,” says Camryn. “The cast has been working so hard to find creative ways to be funny.”

The final play is the junior high play, entitled *Caution: Politricks*. In this story, what starts off as an innocent disagreement between girls turns into an “us versus them” mentality of two groups of people who are bent on being right. “We believe this show is so relevant in today's world,” says Taylor. “We always strive to try different things, and this show certainly fits the bill.”

Tickets for the Dessert Theatre are \$10 each and are available at the Holy Redeemer Office.

Of course, the Dessert Theatre would not be the same without some delicious desserts that will be made available at the door and will be \$2 each.

A few weeks after the Dessert Theatre, all three plays will compete in the Zone Drama Festival. Both the junior and senior high festivals are to be in Barrhead.

As the 42 grade 7 to 12 students who are taking part in the shows continue to rehearse, you can bet they are looking forward to seeing two fantastic audiences in April.

If you would like more information on this article please feel free to contact the school at 780-723-7437, visit our website at [holyredeemerhigh.ca](http://holyredeemerhigh.ca) or join our social media pages.



Tickets for Holy Redeemer's Dessert Theatre are now on sale. The two night event on April 11th and 12th will feature three one-act plays. Here, Emily S and Delaney S prepare the junior high one-act play, *Caution: Politricks*.

## Fortis Alberta's wildfire season Public Safety Power Shutoff measures

FortisAlberta Inc. will have the capability to enact Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) measures for designated communities during Alberta's 2025 wildfire season.

FortisAlberta already employs a fully integrated approach to manage and mitigate wildfire hazards, leveraging a comprehensive strategy and a dedicated wildfire team. The company's crews patrol power lines, manage vegetation, use fire-resistant materials, and deploy advanced operational technologies to closely monitor infrastructure located in higher-risk areas.

This wildfire season, FortisAlberta is expanding its wildfire mitigation practices to include PSPS protocols in certain communities. PSPS allows FortisAlberta to proactively de-energize power lines, as a last resort measure, when environmental conditions, including high temperatures, low humidity and strong winds create extreme wildfire risks in localized areas. The company will initially implement PSPS in regions of its service area where it has determined that there is a higher risk that extreme

wildfire conditions may develop.

FortisAlberta's President and CEO, Janine Sullivan, explains that the addition of PSPS to the company's suite of wildfire mitigation techniques is a natural step. “Wildfires are a fact of life in Alberta with its varied geography and challenging weather. Recent increases in the frequency and severity of wildfires confirm that we need to continue to evaluate and deploy new operational procedures, like Public Safety Power Shutoffs, to reduce risk and help protect our customers and communities.”

To receive information on power outages, customers are encouraged to ensure their contact information is up to date with their retail service provider (utility billing company).

Customers may also sign up for outage alerts on the FortisAlberta website at [fortisalberta.com/signup](http://fortisalberta.com/signup). Visit [fortisalberta.com/wildfire-safety](http://fortisalberta.com/wildfire-safety) for more information about FortisAlberta's wildfire mitigation measures or Public Safety Power Shutoffs and how to be best prepared if one is enacted in your community.



If there's an extreme wildfire risk, a Public Safety Power Shutoff can help keep your community safe. We're prepared if it's ever needed—and you can be too.  
**See how at [FortisAlberta.com/WildfireSafety](http://FortisAlberta.com/WildfireSafety).**

These images are for illustrative purpose only. Remember to keep a safe distance away from power lines.  
For more information visit [FortisAlberta.com/Safety](http://FortisAlberta.com/Safety).

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The line that connects us all



# RCMP marks Fraud Prevention Month

This month the Alberta RCMP is sharing information and resources in support of the Alberta Community Crime Prevention Association’s (ACCPA) Fraud Prevention Month campaign. The campaign aims to educate and inform consumers and communities on the impacts of fraud. Frauds to be aware of this month include:

- Relationship scams, such as romance scams, grandparent scams, and extortion scams. Remember, never send money to people you meet while online.
- Investment scams. This includes investment fraud via social media, Ponzi or pyramid schemes, cryptocurrency schemes, real estate scams, and offshore investing schemes. To avoid these, be wary of high-pressure sales tactics and pitches made over social media. Always seek advice from an independent professional, or even a lawyer if considering an investment. The Alberta Securities Commission’s Checkfirst.ca is also a great resource for learning about best practices for investments and avoiding investment scams.
- Online scams and fraud. This includes phishing emails, job scams, buy and sell fraud, lottery/prize scams, tech repair scams, and impersonation scams. To stay safe from these scams, be cautious when

sharing personal or financial information online. If something sounds too good to be true, trust your gut and report it to your local police.

- Mass marketing and phone scams. This includes spoofed phone numbers, fraudulent telemarketers, work from home scams, Canadian Revenue Agency impersonation scams, foreign lottery/prize schemes, mass mailouts and/or subscriptions, overpayment schemes, inheritance schemes, and credit card interest rate reduction schemes. To avoid becoming a victim of these scams, do not give your personal information to any unknown caller, and directly contact a business/organization to speak to a designated representative.

If you believe you may be a victim of fraud, or are currently being targeted by fraud, please report it to your local law enforcement and the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at <https://antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca/> or call 1-888-495-8501. Instances of compromised personal and/or financial information should be reported to your bank and credit card company. To learn more about the various types of frauds and scams, please visit the CAFC’s scam webpage at: <https://antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca/scams-fraudes/index-eng.htm>



Parkland Lodge residents celebrated St. Patricks Day with Jim Chumbly and his friends with fun music and karioke on March 17. photo submitted by Deanna Mitchener



Mr. Leis' Kindergarten students at Mary Bergeron School had lots of fun making some cute Minion paper crafts on February 20. They used their creativity and fine motor skills to cut, glue, and decorate their Minions and turning simple materials into fun, colorful characters. photo submitted by Deanna Mitchener

## ~ Obituary ~

### Catherine Anne Tracey

It is with deep sadness that the family of Catherine Anne Tracey announces her passing on March 16, 2025, at the age of 71 years, at the Whitecourt Community Healthcare Centre.

Catherine was born in Brantford, Ontario, where at a young age she joined the Canadian Armed Forces and was medically released after serving 12 years, with her last posting in central New Brunswick. Catherine enjoyed photography, gardening, nature and spending time with grandchildren, family and friends.

Catherine is survived by her husband Stephen Tracey, daughter Samantha, son Thomas, and six grandchildren. Cathy is also survived by siblings Ricky, Susan and Carol.

The family would like to thank Dr. Ojedokun, the nurses and staff of the Whitecourt Community Healthcare Centre for the exceptional care, compassion and commitment during Catherine’s final days.

A Celebration of Life will be held in the future where family and friends will be invited for a time of fellowship.



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[www.foothillsmemorialchapel.com](http://www.foothillsmemorialchapel.com)

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## NOTICE



### Ledcor Alberta Limited

will be performing Chemical Vegetation Control where required, in the following areas for

#### Alberta Transportation Entwistle

Hwy 16: West of Jct.753 to West of Wabamum  
Hwy 16A: Hwy 22 to Entwistle  
Hwy 22: Hwy 16 to Lac St.Anne Cty. Bdry  
Hwy 753: Yellowhead Cty. Bdry. to Hwy 16

#### Whitecourt

Hwy 43: Eagle Tower Road to Hwy 658  
Hwy 32: Baseline Road(TR 570) to Hwy 43  
Hwy 32: Hwy 43 to 43km North of Hwy 43  
Hwy 33: Hwy 661 to TR 635B  
Hwy 751: Hwy 647 to Hwy 43  
Hwy 658: Hwy 43 to Hwy 33  
Hwy 661: Hwy 33 to RR 41A

#### Hinton

Hwy 16: Jasper Park Boundary to Range Road 213  
Hwy 40: Pinto Creek Crossing to Hwy 734  
Hwy 47: Hwy 16 to Hwy 40  
Hwy 734: Hwy 40 to Yellowhead Cty. Bdry

#### Edson

Hwy 16: Range Road 213 to Hwy 753  
Hwy 748: Edson to end of Pavement  
Hwy 748: Edson to Hwy 32  
Hwy 751: Hwy 16 to Hwy 647  
Hwy 32: Hwy 16 to Baseline Road(TR 570)

For Chemical Spray Exemptions-“No Spray Areas”, Questions or Concerns  
Contact Project Coordinator 1-825-582-4399



A

Monthly update on the Oil & Gas and Energy Industry

# ENERGY EDUCATION IN ACTION

## The era of total reliance on the U.S. market for Canadian oil is over

Canada has little choice but to expand pipeline capacity and build infrastructure to ship oil beyond North America

by Rashid Husain Syed

Global energy leaders began their annual pilgrimage to the George R. Brown Convention Centre in Houston, Texas, for the week-long CERAWeek conference (March 10 to 14th).

More than 8,000 delegates converged to discuss, deliberate and hear leaders share their views on the current state of the energy industry. Participants and speakers included U.S. Energy Secretary Chris Wright, energy ministers from OPEC+ members Nigeria, Libya and Kazakhstan, and CEOs from Saudi Aramco, Chevron, Shell, BP and TotalEnergies, to name a few.

The meeting occurred amid an imminent downturn. The number of variables affecting the industry is growing daily. Oil prices are plummeting. Oil futures closed March 14th with a gain of one per cent, paring some losses earlier in the week, but remained weighed down by bearish sentiment over a possible increase in OPEC+ output and fears of weak demand.

West Texas Intermediate fell three of five trading days on the New York Mercantile Exchange last week, including Wednesday's plunge of US\$1.95 per barrel, sending prices to lows last seen on Sept. 10.

Since returning to the White House, U.S. President Donald Trump has been exhorting the energy industry to "Drill, baby, drill" and directing government agencies to slash red tape to maximize U.S. oil and gas output, already at record levels before he took office. He has also ended a pause on new gas export project approvals and overturned a ban on drilling in federal waters.

The overall direction and impact on global energy markets have generated some confusion. Trump's trade and foreign policy issues with Canada and Mexico will drive up the cost of millions of barrels of heavy oil that U.S. refiners require. A sense of uncertainty grips the markets. Oil flow from Canada to the U.S. slowed on three major pipelines Tuesday (11th) morning, hours after the introduction of U.S. tariffs on Canadian crude imports, Wood Mackenzie reported.

The U.K.-based data provider monitors real-time data covering 90 per cent of oil capacity crossing the Canada-U.S. border. Wood Mackenzie detected reductions on three major pipeline systems delivering Canadian crude to U.S. markets.

Further, Trump's rapid pivot in foreign policy with Russia could upend global oil flows and reduce the European market for U.S. oil and gas if the U.S. eases sanctions on Russian energy in exchange for a deal to end the war in Ukraine, Reuters reported.

Trump's termination of a licence allowing Venezuelan oil exports to the U.S. and threats to drive Iranian oil exports to zero also suggest further disruptions to global oil markets. "It's a revolution in energy policy that is unfolding ... the industry is trying to catch its breath," Daniel Yergin, a leading energy analyst and vice-chairman of S&P Global, told Reuters.

In the wake of these developments, calls to diversify Canadian oil markets away from the U.S. are gaining momentum. For decades, Canada has depended almost exclusively on the U.S. as its primary oil export market. Roughly 98 per cent of Canadian crude oil exports flow south due to geographic convenience and existing pipeline infrastructure. However, this reliance has left Canada vulnerable to U.S. policy shifts, tariffs, and changing energy strategies. The push for diversification is not new, but efforts to build alternative export routes, such as the now-cancelled Energy East pipeline, have faced regulatory and political hurdles from the Trudeau government.

Much is at stake for Canada. It must consider ways to diversify oil export markets, both in the short term and through exploring longer-term solutions, such as a new east-west pipeline, Canadian Natural Resources Ltd. president Scott Stauth told Reuters on Thursday. Stauth added that Canadian Natural, Canada's largest oil and gas producer, supports plans recently announced by pipeline companies Enbridge Inc. and Trans Mountain Corp. to enhance oil transport capabilities by optimizing and debottlenecking existing lines.

"We think those discussions are very prudent," Stauth said. "I also think as Canadians we should look at even larger and more long-term project opportunities to create broader markets for our oil, even outside North America."

Amid tariff threats, Trans Mountain Corp. is exploring expansion projects that could add between 200,000 and 300,000 barrels per day of capacity to its system. The Trans Mountain pipeline runs from Alberta to the British Columbia coast, where crude is loaded onto tankers for shipment to overseas markets. Enbridge also plans to invest approximately C\$2 billion to expand its Mainline pipeline network, transporting crude from Alberta to eastern Canada and the U.S. Midwest. South Bow Corp., the Canadian company operating the Keystone pipeline system from Alberta to key U.S. refining markets, also told Reuters

Thursday (20th) that supply growth from the Western Canada Sedimentary Basin exceeds expectations.

In a conference call with Reuters, South Bow CEO Bevin Wirzba said his company is in talks with customers to assess commercial interest in new projects to enhance export access. At the political level, calls for a new east-west pipeline are also gaining strength. Such a pipeline would address the Canadian oil industry's desire for new export capacity and reduce the country's dependence on the U.S. market. While the project would be a multibillion-dollar undertaking spanning years, Stauth believes it is necessary. "I do think it could happen," he said. "It'll take the will and support of governments, communities and individual Canadians."

However, past attempts to build cross-country energy corridors have been met with resistance. Environmental opposition, federal and provincial regulatory barriers, and political disagreements have derailed previous projects. If Canada is serious about energy security, these issues must be addressed through policy reforms and proactive government support.

Tariffs and Trump's unpredictability leave Canada with little choice but to develop infrastructure enabling shipments of oil and other exports to markets beyond the U.S. Meanwhile, global energy dynamics are shifting. OPEC+ policies, growing interest in renewables, and the evolving role of natural gas in the global energy transition are reshaping markets. Canada must adapt by securing stable long-term buyers for its oil and investing in infrastructure that ensures market access.

The era of total reliance on the U.S. market for Canadian exports is over. Canada must take decisive steps to build the infrastructure necessary for global market access. This year's CERAWeek is unfolding in an increasingly unpredictable environment, making these discussions more urgent than ever.

Toronto-based Rashid Husain Syed is a highly regarded analyst specializing in energy and politics, particularly in the Middle East. In addition to his contributions to local and international newspapers, Rashid frequently lends his expertise as a speaker at global conferences. Organizations such as the Department of Energy in Washington and the International Energy Agency in Paris have sought his insights on global energy matters. © Troy Media

*Note: The views, opinions, and positions expressed in the column are the author's alone. They do not inherently or expressly reflect the views, opinions and/or positions of The Weekly Anchor, its staff, or Troy Media.*

## Industry supporters of responsible energy





**A Monthly Update on the Coal Industry**

# ENERGY EDUCATION IN ACTION

## What is Coal Gasification?

Coal gasification is a process that transforms coal into synthetic natural gas (SNG), which can be utilised for various purposes such as power generation, heating, and chemical production. This process offers several advantages over traditional coal combustion:

Local air pollution caused by burning coal is reduced as the produced gas is purified before use.

It facilitates the capture and utilisation of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and other greenhouse gases emitted during the gasification process.

Coal to Liquid (CTL) converts coal into liquid fuels like diesel or gasoline. CTL is primarily used in countries with abundant coal resources but lacking oil reserves, such as China and South Africa. CTL can also reduce dependence on oil imports and enhance a country's energy security.

Another application is to produce clean electricity in a system called Integrated

Gasification in Combined Cycle (IGCC). IGCC is a more efficient and less polluting way of using coal and other fuels for electricity generation than conventional methods.

Coal gasification can also produce hydrogen that can be used for various applications, such as transportation, electricity generation, industrial processes, and heating.

The gaseous products of gasified coal can also be converted into ammonia, an essential product for fertiliser to grow crops.

### How Does Coal Gasification Work?

Coal Gasification is a crucial thermo-chemical process utilising more efficient technology than traditional pulverised fuel (pf). Here's how it works:

Coal is fed into a high-temperature pressurised container with steam and a limited amount of oxygen to produce a gas.

The resulting gas, known as synthesis gas or syngas, mainly consists of carbon monoxide and hydrogen. The gas is cooled, removing undesirable components such as carbon dioxide and sulfur.

The gases can be further processed to produce synthetic methane or left as hydrogen.

For IGCC applications, coal gasification has greater efficiency than conventional coal burning.

The cleaned syngas can be burned in a

conventional gas turbine to produce electrical energy. The hot exhaust gas is recovered to create steam, which drives a steam turbine to produce electricity – similar to a Combined Cycle Gas Turbine (CCGT). This is called an integrated gasification combined cycle (IGCC).

### Japan

In Japan, the Nakoso IGCC plant began commercial operations in April 2021. The plant's efficiency has been "substantially enhanced" to reach 48% net thermal efficiency on a lower heating value (LHV) basis.

The global average for CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from coal-fired power plants is 0.90 kgCO<sub>2</sub>/kWh (38% efficiency) at the generator terminal; the IGCC aims to achieve emissions of 0.7 kgCO<sub>2</sub>/kWh with the added benefit of easier separation and capture of CO<sub>2</sub> from the flue gas stream than a conventional pulverised fuel (PF) plant. - FutureCoal



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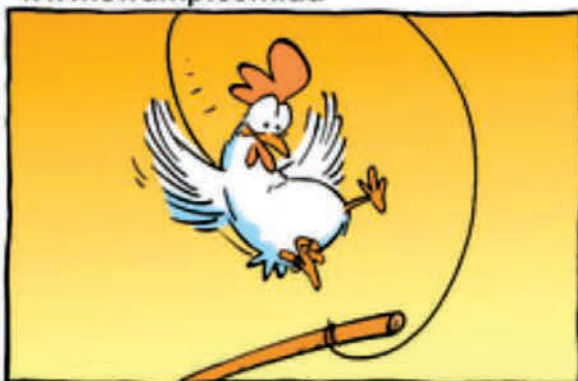
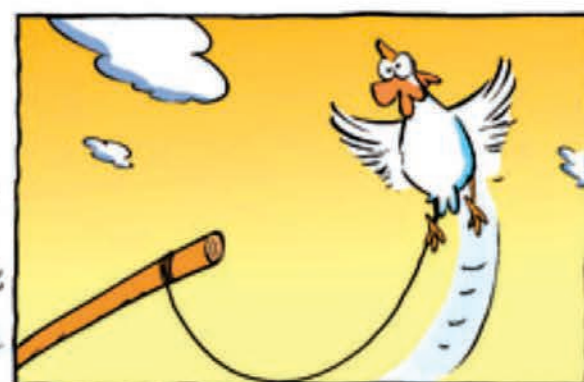


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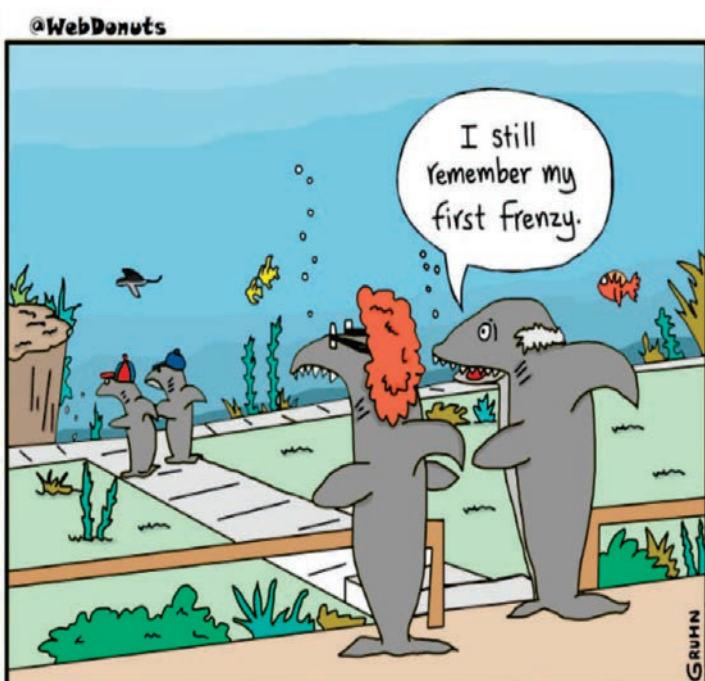


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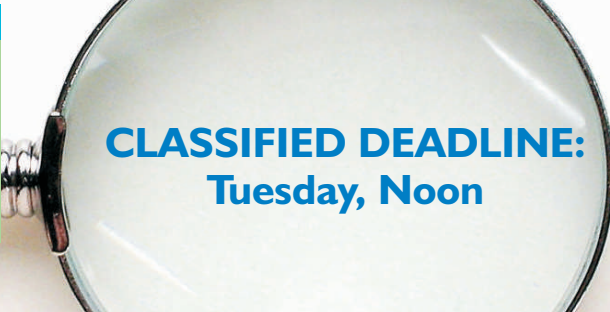
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What's happening, when and where in the community

Community Events

**March 30:** Yoga in Marlboro 7:00 -8:00pm at Marlboro Community Hall.  
**March 27:** 3D Printing Workshop ages 11-17 1:00pm-3:00pm at the Edson and District Library register at www.edson.ca/yia  
**March 28:** Youth Interagency Presents Henna & Crafts 1:00pm-3:00pm ages 11-17 at The Griffiths Park. Register now at www.edson.ca/yia  
**April 2 April 20:** @ 6:00pm Wellness Wednesday Winter Walks. Join for a 60 min walk through Town of Edson starting at Edson Drive Trail Head  
**Feb 13 to Mar 20: County Free Winter Run Club:** All runs start at noon at the following locations: Feb 13 - Robb Multiplex; Feb 20 - Marlboro Community Hall; Feb 27 - Peers Multiplex; Mar 6 - Niton Playground; Mar 13 - Wildwood Rec Complex; Mar 20 - Evansburg Arena. Pre-register at: yhcounty.ca/registration - for the runs you would like to join.  
**April 2:** Family Wellness Day. In Peers Baking crafts and exercising. Build your own sub for lunch register at yhcounty.ca/registration or call 780-723-4800  
**April 3:** Family Wellness Day. In Evansburg Baking crafts and

exercising. Build your own sub for lunch register at yhcounty.ca/registration or call 780-723-4800  
**April 9,29 May 7,21 :** Yellowhead County Family Time In Marlboro 10:30 Am-12:30pm Light Snacks and Refreshments. Registration is required www.yhcounty.ca/registration  
**April 12:** North Rosevear Hall is having a Spring Dance on Saturday April 12thj featuring the live band "FLATBROKE". Doors open 8:00 pm Dance 9:00 pm. Tickets Price \$30.00 Late Night Lunch will be served. Call Eugene @780-728-6874 for tickets.  
**April 17:** North Rosevear Hall is having a Family Easter Bingo on Thursday April 17TH at 6:00 pm Come out and have some family fun! Win Prizes and a Concession will be open to purchase treats!  
**April 16, 30 May 14,28 :** Yellowhead County Family Time in Peers 10:30 Am-12:30pm Light Snacks and Refreshments. Registration is required www.yhcounty.ca/registration  
**May 31:** Eddies Big Run. Registration opens February 10. Register online at edson.ca or in person at Edson District Leisure Centre.

We are proud to support community events

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Morning worship  
**EDSON ALLIANCE CHURCH**  
5525-2nd Ave., Edson  
Ph: 723-5776 Pastor Bryan Walter  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship Service  
Wednesday: 7 p.m. Prayer Meeting.  
**EDSON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
4719 - 9th Ave., Ph: 723-3982  
Sunday Services: 10:00 a.m.  
**EDSON MENNONITE CHURCH**  
6212 - 13 Ave, Edson  
Office hrs: Tues 9am-1pm  
Office phone: 780-723-4992  
Pastor Tyson Moerike  
(Call or text 403-966-4705)  
Sunday worship - 9:45  
**EDSON-PEERS CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**  
4633-7th Ave., Edson  
Ph: 723-5242  
Pastor: Ryan Hoogerbrugge  
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Edson - Nursery provided Sunday School  
**EDSON SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH**  
1133-55 St. Edson - Ph: 723-5490.  
Saturday Morning Service at 11:00 a.m. Sabbath School at 10:00 a.m.  
**EDSON UNITED CHURCH**  
Edson United Church  
1214 Edson Drive Edson AB  
Phone: 723-3418  
**FAMILY OF FAITH CHURCH**  
463 72 St., Edson (formerly Glenwood Hall), Telephone: 780-517-7558  
Sunday: 10:00 am - Coffee and Donuts; 10:30 am - Morning Service  
Pastors: Pastors John and Ingrid Huizing vfm@shaw.ca  
**HOLY TRINITY**  
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The Weekly **ANCHOR**

Farm & Field

News and Views

# Alberta is ready for the 2025 wildfire season

**Budget 2025 builds on the province’s commitment to prepare for, mitigate and respond to the impacts of catastrophic wildfires**

Alberta has faced unprecedented wildfire challenges over the last two years, and as the province enters the 2025 wildfire season, Alberta’s government is focusing on a three-pronged approach to tackle the threat of catastrophic wildfires: prevention, mitigation and readiness to respond. With increased wildfire activity in recent years, it is crucial that Alberta’s wildland firefighting teams and communities at risk are prepared for any challenge that may arise this season.

If Budget 2025 is passed, the province will invest a new historic high of \$160 million in base funding for wildfire personnel, equipment, training and contracts for aircraft, an additional night vision equipped helicopter, and heavy equipment. This investment is vital to ensure Alberta’s wildland firefighting teams have the equipment, training, and personnel needed to respond to wildfire threats and mitigate the impacts of catastrophic wildfires on Alberta’s communities.

“There is nothing more critical than protecting Albertans, our homes and our communities from the effects of wildfires. Alberta is home to some of the best firefighting personnel in the world and through Budget 2025, we are making a major investment in our wildfire teams and communities, giving them the tools, training and support they need to prevent, mitigate and respond quickly to any challenge that may come up this wildfire season.” - Todd Loewen, Minister Forestry and Parks

“We thank our Alberta Wildfire team and first responders for their ongoing dedication to keeping people safe. The Alberta Emergency Management Agency (AEMA) aims to strengthen the province’s emergency preparedness and recovery efforts, collaborating with communities to enhance resilience and public safety. With a 2025-26 budget increase of \$10 million for a total of \$118 million, the AEMA will empower communities to turn challenges into opportunities for growth and safety.” -Mike Ellis, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services

The Community Fireguard and FireSmart programs are critical to ensuring vulnerable communities in the Forest Protection Area have the tools needed to successfully mitigate the risks of wildfires. In addition to ongoing work on Fireguard projects across the province – including in the Bow Valley near Canmore, as well as Cypress Hills Provincial Park, Hinton, Whitecourt and Slave Lake, Budget 2025 would allocate an additional \$15 million

over three years to continue supporting projects being administered by the Forest Improvement Association of Alberta (FRIAA.)

Alberta’s government would also allocate \$10.8 million to ensure Albertans can easily access FireSmart resources to better protect their homes and properties.

“FRIAA is pleased to help support Alberta Forestry and Parks as the province enters the 2025 wildfire season. We continue to strongly encourage all communities in Alberta that are exposed to risks of wildfire to participate in the Community Fireguard and FireSmart programs by developing plans and proposals to access funding. Wildfires pose a significant risk to Alberta’s communities, and it’s great to see the province is making wildfire management a priority.” -Todd Nash, manager, Forest Improvement Association of Alberta

“Alberta’s wildfire team remains fully prepared and is ready for the 2025 wildfire season. Each year we improve our ability to meet the challenge ahead and the investments we make in people, resources and new technology prove critical in our response efforts.” -Trevor Lamabe, executive director, Wildfire Management Branch

A key part of prevention efforts is stopping wildfires before they start. It is essential that every Albertan understands their role in wildfire prevention – every action counts in protecting our communities and natural resources. Last year, the province saw a significant decrease in human-caused wildfires. In 2024, there were 282 wildfires caused by residential and recreational fires, down from 385 in 2020, 395 in 2021, 399 in 2022, and 303 in 2023. This represents a nearly 30 per cent drop from the highest numbers Alberta saw in 2022. It is more important than ever to continue building on that progress to further reduce the risk of future wildfires. As part of these efforts, Alberta’s government is renewing its commitment to public awareness and education campaigns on safe practices, while also enforcing fire bans when necessary.

“Wildfire is the hazard which poses the greatest risk to communities like Canmore. We are more prepared than we have ever been with work on the Bow Valley Community Fireguard ongoing, years of FireSmart work in the community and ongoing efforts to ensure we have the emergency resources we need in place. The support

from the Government of Alberta has been instrumental in helping us advance these initiatives.” -Sean Krausert, mayor, Town of Canmore

“As a community surrounded by forests, fire hazard reduction and protection is a priority for the ongoing safety and security of our community. With the ongoing support of the province, we are nearing completion of our internal community fireguard which will help break the path of a wildfire and keep it away from populated areas and vital infrastructure.” -Tom Pickard, mayor, Town of Whitecourt

In 2025, Alberta Wildfire is also launching a pilot project using hoist-equipped helicopters. These helicopters will enable rapid deployment of crews to remote, hard-to-reach areas and provide critical support for emergency evacuations if needed. One new helicopter is under contract and two specialized crews have been hired for this wildfire season. The results of this pilot will determine whether the program will be expanded and continue into 2026.

- GoA

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