

THORSBY TARGET

MECCS NEW OUTDOOR CULTURE CLASSROOM

On December 15, 2021 was the official grand opening of Mother Earth's Children's Charter Schools camp/outdoor classroom. This beautiful property and school located on the shores of the North Saskatchewan river near Genesee is Canada's only Indigenous Charter School.

Official Opening Story by MECCS superintendent Ed Wittchen:

"In late August we broke ground on our vision to have an all weather culture camp/outdoor classroom. Trees and rocks were removed, the ground was leveled for pads for a fire pit, a lean to shelter and a tipi.

The site clearing was mostly done by Dale LeMoignan- Maintenance Director, Maxine Hildebrandt- teacher and her husband Mark Hildebrandt (many after school and weekend hours). Construction of the concrete pads and building the lean to shelter was done by ZAPA Construction (Zach and Brandon Paul). The final stage was getting the tipi from Lethbridge Custom Canvas and having Mark and Maxine Hildebrandt put it up.

For the official opening of this welcome addition to our facilities we were able to demonstrate the success of the vision of having an all weather facility as it was held in minus 24 temperatures. Despite the cold, participants were kept comfortable by the 4 fire pits and the straw bales to sit on. As well we are fortunate to have a heated, lighted all weather washroom supplied by Kopala Towers which makes a big difference in comfort for our students staff and guests when it gets cold like this.

The MC for the ceremony Erin Danforth –MECCS Principal introduced our Stoney Elder Theresa Bird to deliver an opening prayer. That was followed by

a special drum song from Arnold Alexis. Maxine Hildebrandt then performed the dedication of the facility name- OSKI Kisikau ENA Mahkochih which is a combination of Cree and Stoney words roughly translating to New Day for Mother Earth.

Minister of Indigenous Relations Hon. Rick Wilson represented the Alberta government and provided his remarks as well as best wishes from Premier Jason Kenney and Minister of Education- Hon. Adriana LaGrange. Mother Earth's Board Chair Dale Friedel then thanked the staff for their efforts in creating this wonderful space for the students of the school.



Students Tristen Lafleche and Tyrell Baynes reflecting on their initial experiences at the culture camp.

MORE PICTURES & STORY INSIDE THIS ISSUE

To learn more about Mother
Earth School visit their website
www.meccs.org or
scan this code



Classifieds

FOR SALE

CAT HOUSE FOR SALE, solid wood, self contained, 4' x 4' wire cage area with pay area on top, 2 cubicles, areas for bed, litter box and food/water dishes. Asking \$240. Call Eric 780-887-7057

ICE FISHING EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Aqua Vu Underwater camera w/50' cord, new battery, 4" black & white screen - \$150
Mr Heater Buddy, 4000-9000 BTU. Never Used - \$115
Little Buddy Heater, 3800 BTU - \$75
One man Polar Fire Quick Hut w/chair, has cover - \$150
Phone: 780-918-9931

WANTED

WANTED TO RENT FOR 2022 - Pasture land for cow/calf pairs. Call Kristen 403-559-6863

LOOKING FOR AN EXPERT TO LEASE VACANT LAND for any purposes according Thorsby Bylaws, for a long-term agreement. Located at 4804 -53 Ave in Thorsby. The successful candidate will receive \$450 in cash. Please call 780-802-7528

WANTED - SINGLE FAMILY HOUSE TO RENT

Good, Responsible and Reliable Tenants seek long term rental. Must be well maintained. 3 People, 2 cats, \$1600 w/utilities Call Eric at 780.887.7057

WANTED - ARCADE TYPE MACHINES. Pinball, video upright, sit down & cocktail games. Other related items. Parts, pieces, whole, manuals, dead or alive all considered. Text/Call Steve 780-918-8495

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LOOKING FOR FARM, PASTURE OR HAY LAND TO RENT Thorsby, Warburg or Pigeon Lake area. Please call or text 780-868-3374

WANTED CONCRETE RUBBLE AND/OR FIELD ROCKS Contact Alex 780-905-9200 or 780-789-3843

WANTED - 50 BALES OF HAY FOR COWS

Phone or text 780-542-0896

IN SEARCH OF PASTURE to rent within an hour of Thorsby for 20 pairs, willing to maintain and repair fences if needed. Call 403-597-3442

You can drop off your ads at
CE MEDIA Signs & Promotional
780.499.9006 or media@community39.com

FOR RENT

2 BEDROOM HOUSE FOR RENT in Breton.

Non-smoking, available Feb 1. Rent is month by month, \$1100.00. Damage deposit is \$1100.00. This includes power, heat, water, garbage removal. Also includes washer, dryer, stove, and fridge. Contact Tyler at 780 621-7120.

SERVICES

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1	3	5	8	4	7	9	2	6
7	4	9	1	6	2	5	3	8
6	8	2	9	3	5	7	1	4
2	7	4	6	5	1	8	9	3
5	9	6	3	7	8	2	4	1
8	1	3	2	9	4	6	5	7
9	5	8	4	1	6	3	7	2
3	2	1	7	8	9	4	6	5
4	6	7	5	2	3	1	8	9

*Sudoku Answers
from Dec 24 Issue*

**Life is more
fun if you
play games.**

- Roald Dahl-

Town of Thorsby EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Manager of Recreation

The Town of Thorsby is looking for an experienced Recreation Manager that can operate, market, build and teach programs, organize large events, budget and provide all services a recreation centre can offer on the 39-20 Corridor.

Duties Include: staffing, coaching, mentoring, program development, teaching programs, building budgets, writing grants, organizing ice user groups and field house programming. Writing grants is important as is building budgets, business cases, staff training and customer service to our public.

Experience in a recreational facility is a must, with progressive competencies that have increased in the successful operation of a recreation facility.

Competition opens on January 8th and closes on the 12th of January with availability for interviews on January 13, ready for work January 17, 2022.

Please direct all inquiries to
Donna Tona Interim CAO at
dtona@thorsby.ca



Seniors Services: could they be a benefit to you?

Seniors Services provides preventative social programs that assist seniors and adults with disabilities in maintaining their independence and enhancing their quality of life.

Houskeeping subsidy

Provides access to affordable housekeeping services through a partnership with Serving Hands Senior Care Inc. To be eligible for the housekeeping subsidy, you must:

- be a senior (65+) or an adult with a disability or inability to complete household task,
- meet annual income thresholds, and
- be a resident of Leduc County (including New Sarepta), Calmar, Thorsby or Warburg.

Housekeeping fees are determined based on family income level and eligibility to other subsidies. Seniors who are eligible for subsidy from the Government of Alberta will be assisted with applications.

Seniors Services also offers one-to-one support to assist with:

- Information and referrals to other local resources.
- Assistance with forms and applications.
- Advocacy and coordination of services.
- Goal setting and future planning.

For more information, contact Leduc County FCSS seniors services coordinator at **780-955-4554**.



CLAYTON SWAN, B.A. M.A. J.D.
BARRISTER & SOLICITOR

LINNÉE PETERS, B.Sc. J.D.
BARRISTER & SOLICITOR



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COMMUNITY EVENTS & info

PROGRAMS & REGULAR EVENTS

THORSBY AFTERNOON CRIB at the Seniors Centre runs every Monday at 1:30pm Everyone welcome! Bring your Vaccination Card and a mask.

THORSBY MUNICIPAL LIBRARY

is open for in-person or curbside service from 10am - 6pm Tuesdays and from 12pm - 6pm on Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays from 10am - 4pm. Please call 780.789.3808 for more information. Follow Thorsby Library on Facebook.

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION #246 MULHURST BINGO:

Weekly bingo's will start again on Tues. Feb. 1, 2022 at 7pm.

ROCK & ROLLERS FLOOR CURLING CLUB

meets at 1:15pm on Thursdays at the Warburg Community Hall for Adult floor curling. \$2 drop in fee. COVID protocols apply. Call Eleanor Jehn at 780-848-2621 if you have any questions.

MARKETS/THRIFT SHOPS(NONPROFIT)

THORSBY SENIORS THRIFT STORE Open Thursdays and Fridays 10am - 3pm. We accept donations that are **CLEAN & RE-SELLABLE**

TREASURES THRIFT SHOP IN WARBURG

Wednesdays from 10am - 4pm. Donations will only be accepted during store hours, please ensure your donations are clean. 5112 - 53 Street, Warburg

Country Market Every Third Saturday 11-4pm at Sunnybrook Hall. Homemade Crafts, Baking, Farm Eggs and so much more. New and returning vendors.

Email foreverboredmarket@gmail.com with questions or to become a vendor. Next Market Jan 15, 2022

Leduc Public Market Every Thursday from 10-2:30pm in the Leduc City Center Mall

COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

Thorsby Family & Community Support Services (FCSS)

Sandi Raymond at 780.789.4004 or email fcss@thorsby.ca

Thorsby Bylaw Enforcement - for concerns or inquiries contact Barry Rasch at bylaw@thorsby.ca or 780.233.4151

Community Events Sign is Free to Non-Profit Organizations on a first come, first served basis for a period of one week or less. To have your event placed on the sign call 780.789.4041

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Foot Care Nurse will be in Thorsby on the 1st Wednesday of every month. Please call Irene at 780-789-3176

Does drinking affect your personal life in any way? Have friends or family expressed concerns towards your drinking habits? Have you ever tried to quit drinking but could not manage to do so? **AA can help!** 5203 - 54 Avenue at Thorsby New Life Christian Church (every) Monday 8:00pm 780.270.7903

Thorsby RCMP call 780-789-3950 or contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS), online at www.P3Tips.com For emergencies call 911

COMMUNITY GROUP REGULAR MEETINGS

Thorsby Agricultural Society - Regular meetings on the first Wednesday of every month at 7pm. Haymakers Arena. www.thorsbyhaymakers.com or call 780.789.3829

Thorsby Seniors - Meetings held monthly in the Seniors' Centre (4812 - 51 Street) and are on the last Wednesday of every month at 7pm. Memberships are available for \$10 from Elaine Warnock at 780.221.3939

Thorsby & District Fish & Game - Regular meetings are held on the third Monday of each month @7pm at the Warburg Village Office Basement (entrance through the back). Please join us. Contact Bruce at 780.848.2242 for more information.

Thorsby & District Lions Club - (non-profit organization serving Thorsby & District). Meeting the 2nd and the 4th Monday of the month at the Lions' Den in the Community Hall basement at 7pm. For information or membership, call 780.903.1695

The Royal Canadian Legion Pioneer Branch #144 Thorsby is wanting more members. Meetings are every third Wednesday of the month, except July & August at the Thorsby Seniors Centre 4812 - 51 Street at 9:30am. For Membership contact Doreen Mackenzie at 780.789.3812

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION #246 MULHURST:

Monthly Community Social: Friday Jan. 28th 7pm

Next General Meeting: Feb. 14, 2022 @ 7pm

Veterans and New Members Welcome: Marion 780-935-6281

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) at the Thorsby Seniors Centre - Mondays, weigh in at 9am to 9:15am, meetings at 9:15am to 9:45am. For more information call Jane 780.789.3789 or Elaine 780.221.3939



Blue Monday ONLINE LIVE VARIETY SHOW!

Blue Monday is known as the most depressing day of the year. It's dark, it's cold and the credit card bills from holiday spending are arriving. Join artists, poets and storytellers for an ode to both the struggle and the hope that we need in our darkest hours. Through powerful and inspiring performances, we will honour the melancholy and welcome the new year with some optimism and anticipation. We'd love to hear your tale or reading for the open mic segment, but there is no obligation to actively participate. You're more than welcome to sit back, relax and enjoy the variety show!

FEATURING



Erin Dingle



Cherica



Mera Reyes



Ryan Some-Sum

- **Date:** Jan. 17, 2022
- **Time:** 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. with open mic to follow
- **Spaces available:** minimum of 10 registrants, maximum of 100
- **Technology needed:** internet access by computer, laptop, tablet or smartphone
- **Register:** contact Eugena at **780-955-6421** or eugena@leduc-county.com.



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WORSHIP

New Life Christian Fellowship - 5203-54 Avenue, Thorsby
Worship Services Sunday at 10:30am, Ladies Fellowship and Prayer on Fridays at 9:30am. Call 780.789.3020

Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church - 4813-51 Street, Thorsby. Mass is every Sunday at 9am and weekdays, Wednesday at 10:30am by Fr. Arun Rodrigues. COVID rules apply. 780.987.2858 or visit www.olvtorsby.wordpress.com

Philippian Church - 4721-48A Ave., Thorsby
Sunday Service 10:30am, Wed & Friday Service at 7pm, Saturday Prayer Service at 7pm. Call for prayer Rev. Pollard 587-921-7790 or Elaine 587-926-4705. Have a blessed day!

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, Thorsby - Divine Liturgy Sunday Jan. 23 at 10:30 a.m. For further information please contact Dan @ 780-789-3698.

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church - 5115-48 Avenue, Thorsby
In-Church Worship every Sunday at 10:30am. Following COVID Protocols. Our weekly worship with Pastor Ron can still be found on You Tube



Thorsby Seniors Crib Results!

Seniors Monday Cribbage Results:

Winner results:

1st place - Marie Gutenberg - 948
(way to go Mo)

2nd place - Phyllis Yawney - 945

3rd place - Elaine Blair - 938

High Hand - Marie Gutenberg - 20

Come and join us for some fun!

Mondays at 1:30 pm at the
Thorsby Seniors Centre

Admission - \$5

FACILITY RENTALS

Ashland Dam Park

For reservations call Kelly at 780.898.9636

Breton Community Centre

Please contact the Breton Village Office at 780.696.3636

Breton Golden Age Club building is available for rent. Call Jane 780.696.6599/403.542.7921 or alt Jean at 780.696.2439

Camp Bar V Nok - for bookings call Walter 780.717.2432 or Jason 780.990.4043 or email bookings@barvnok.com

Centreldodge Community Centre

For bookings call Caroline at 780.789.3089

Funnell Community Hall

For hall rental or more contact Ashley @ 780.514.6546

Genesee Community Hall

Rentals call Joanne Liba at 780.940.7229

Glen Park Hall

For bookings call Mike at 780.919.1250

Morrowdale Community Hall

For bookings call Elaine at 780.789.2104

Mulhurst Bay Community Hall

For bookings call 780.389.2455

Mulhurst Legion #246

Give Marie a call: 780-361-7350

Rundle's Mission Retreat Centre

For retreat or hall bookings call 780.389.2422 or email rent@rundlesmission.org.

Sandholm Community Hall

For bookings call Doris 780.389.2381

Strawberry Community Hall

Call Ollie at 780.789.2180

Sunnybrook Community Hall

For rentals contact Mikayla at 306.307.2599 or email sunnybrookcommunityhall@gmail.com

Telfordville Hall

For bookings call Tracy at 780.718.9549 after 5pm

Thorsby Community Center

Call Marlene at 780.789.3734 or text 780.217.9394 or email thorsbyhistoricalsociety@gmail.com

ThorsbySeniors Centre

For rentals call Cathy Kuzio at 780.719.7124

Warburg Cultural Centre

For rentals of facility, wine glasses and/or tablecloths phone Lindsay McLaughlin at 780.848.2916. Meetings held quarterly

Warburg Legion for rental. Contact Deb or Max at 780-848-2923

Warburg Seniors Centre for rental. Contact Allan or Nancy at 780-848-7756

Winfield Legion

Available to rent. Rental inquiries to Gordon 780.542.1243 or Ron 403.862.0769

Community Events & Information
is **FREE** to advertise



Harvey Earl Ruff

April 15, 1941 – January 5, 2022

It deeply saddens us to share the news that our father, grandfather, and loving husband to Lorene Ruff, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, January 5, 2022, after a battle with cancer.

Faith, family, and friendship were the foundation of his life. Harvey loved a good visit, was willing to listen and learn, and he always put in a few good words too!

Harvey was born in Edmonton, Alberta to Jack and Doris (Forbes) along with younger sister, Treasa (Les Nemeth) and brother, Jack Allen (Gail). He grew up on the family farm in Thorsby, Alberta, a place that would remain dear to him throughout his life.

Harvey started his professional life in banking and transitioned into construction, where he eventually became a partner and President of D&B Realty Ltd. in Grande Prairie, Alberta. Following that opportunity, he maintained several roles in real estate and retail sales. Throughout his life, he continued to farm the land in Thorsby.

Harvey married Lorene Snyder on July 11, 1964, at the Church of God in Carstairs, Alberta and they began their life together in Grande Prairie, Alberta. Daughters, Sheryl (Bob Bowhay) and Barbara (Martin Bean), soon enriched their lives. Family adventures included spending time at the farm, camping, winter picnics, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, and many memorable vacations with all the cousins at Fairmont Hot Springs. Harvey and Lorene also shared many adventures travelling with family and friends, with trips across Canada, to Florida, Colorado, Alaska, Hawaii, and Europe.

Harvey's grandchildren, Matthew and Jordan Bean, and Hailey and Connor Bowhay, will always remember their Poppa as the world's greatest cheerleader. He loved them deeply and was so proud of each of them and their accomplishments.

A small funeral service will be held for family and friends at the Southside Nazarene Church on Friday, January 14, 2022, at 1:00 pm. An interment will follow at approximately 3:00 pm at the Thorsby Cemetery.

The service can be accessed by live stream. Go to Southside Church of the Nazarene Edmonton and click on Watch Live.

We are so grateful for the professional care and compassion the staff at St. Joseph's Auxiliary Hospital offered Harvey. Their kind words and actions gave each of us courage and strength.

In lieu of flowers, it would make us happy to have you consider a gift to a charity of your choice.



TIPS From TOPS! From P. Elson

Our meetings are designed to encourage weight loss, maintenance, to educate and to provide support. New members are welcome to attend a meeting with no obligation. Meetings are held at the Thorsby Senior's Centre on Monday mornings with weigh in from 9am to 9:15am and the meeting following from 9:15am to 9:45am. There is an annual fee to TOPS International of \$49 and a monthly fee to the Thorsby Chapter #1694 of \$5. The first month chapter fees are free. Phone Jane at 780-789-3789 or Elaine at 780-221-3939 for more info.

The TOPS Ten Ten Ways to Lighten Your Holiday Meal

Cookie swaps, catered lunches, buffet tables brimming with treats: we celebrate the holidays by sharing food. Don't let the season be reason to overdo it, though. Follow these ten tips to keep the season bright-and light:

- 1. Fill up first.** Have a healthy snack before hitting the holiday party scene. You make wiser choices when you're not famished.
- 2. Go easy at the get-go.** Holiday appetizers are calorie minefields. Choose one delectable starter then stick to shrimp, vegetables and fruit before the main course.
- 3. Bring your own.** Stressing about what to eat at a holiday gathering? Volunteer to bring your own healthy dish that can double as a host or hostess gift.
- 4. Consider cauliflower.** Cauliflower can stretch the starchiest of dishes. When planning an appetizer, look for cauliflower mashed potatoes, pizza torte crusts, and even cookie recipes online.

5. Swap and save. Substitute low-fat yogurt, milk, cream cheese, mayonnaise, chicken stock and eggnog for high-fat recipe ingredients.

6. Get a gravy separator. Make your gravy lean and mean. Use a gravy separator to separate juices from fat, saving calories while concentrating flavour.

7. Do winter fruit desserts. There's no need for high-fat desserts when winter fruits are in season. Oranges, kiwis and pears are a great finale for healthy holiday meals.

8. Mingle more and linger less. Make the rounds at holiday meals, try not to hang around the buffet table, and limit second helpings to the healthiest fruits and vegetable dishes.

9. Put your fork down. It's time-tested trick-if you put your fork down between every bite, you'll eat less and savour more.

10. Sip smartly. Avoid calorie-laden soft drinks, punches and/or mixers in alcoholic beverages, and take in large glasses of water between drinks.





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LOUNGE NOTABLE BITES

Calamari 14

Home prepared 6oz cold water Calamari, lightly battered, deep fried with jalapeno peppers, finished with lemon pepper and red onions, served with homemade tzatziki dip.

Mussels 21

One lb. of cold water shelled mussels, pan fried with extra virgin olive oil, fresh lemon and garlic mixture.

Classic wings (1 lb) 15

Choose hot buffalo, salt & pepper, honey garlic, teriyaki or peri – peri.

House wings (1 lb.) 16

Charbroiled wings, marinated with chef's secret recipe served with house made garlic dip.

Nachos 16

Generous portion of tortilla chips, topped with chives, green peppers, tomatoes, olives, jalapeno peppers, mix of mozza & cheddar cheese, served with salsa and sour cream.

ADD BEEF, CHICKEN OR SHRIMP FOR 5

Buttermilk Crispy Chicken Bites 13

Buttermilk crispy chicken breast bites served with your choice of plum, sweet and sour, honey mustard or house signature dipping sauce. (6 pieces)

ADD FRIES FOR 3

Creamy Whipped Feta Dip 15

Chef signature dip, served with a basket of freshly baked parmesan bread.

Battered Broccoli Cheddar Bites 12

A rich smooth cheesy batter covers a mix of cheddar cheese, bacon bits and broccoli bites, dressed in our house made sauce. (6 pieces)

Jalapeno Cheese Poppers 11

Hot jalapeno halves filled with cheese and dipped in extra spicy breading, served with rose' salsa (salsa + sour cream) for dipping. (4 pieces)

Breaded Pickle Spears 11

Brined pickles cut into thin wedges coated with a dill tangy breading, served with chipotle mayo for dipping. (6 pieces)

Yam Fries 9

Served with Garlic aioli.

Mediterranean Vine Leaves 8

Soft Vine leaves stuffed with rice served on a bed of house signature meat sauce (6 pieces)

Chicken Wonton 11

Diced chicken, cabbage, green onions and cilantro wrapped in a delicate wheat flour dough deep fried and served with pinadine dip. (15 pieces)

----- FLAT BREAD -----

Chicken Shrimp Aioli 21

Full chicken breast, Shrimp, mushrooms topped with smoked aged cheddar cheese, drizzled with house signature roasted garlic aioli.

Chicken Fajita 21

Full chicken breast, mushrooms, red onions, green bell peppers, diced tomatoes, jalapenos topped with mixed cheese and drizzled with house signature sauce.

Buffalo Chicken 20

Full chicken breast, red onions, buffalo hot sauce, mozza cheese drizzled with ranch.

Cheese Steak 24

AAA certified Black Angus top sirloin (7 oz), thinly sliced, mushrooms, green bell peppers, red onions, Worcester sauce and mixed cheese drizzled with your choice of HP sauce or teriyaki.

Creamy Spinach Feta 20

Our house signature mix of baby spinach, garlic and feta cheese.

MECCS NEW OUTDOOR CULTURE CLASSROOM continued from Front Page

Friends of MECCS Education Foundation who provided the bulk of the funding for Phase 1 of the project were represented by Superintendent Ed Wittchen who recognized all the partners who helped make this day possible.

It was important to ensure that the people most impacted by the completion of this camp were well represented and heard from. The staff was represented by 17 year veteran teacher Mark Ehnes who talked about what it would mean to realize the long term vision of what and how we should be teaching our students about indigenous issues. Parent Brenda Baynes who has three children in the school talked about what it means for her children to have the opportunity to learn about their culture in a supportive environment like Mother Earth School provides. And finally students Tristen Lafleche and Tyrell Baynes talked about the initial experiences that they have had in the camp and what they think the future activities will be like for student. They mentioned that they particularly liked learning how to make traditional dry meat from Elders Edna Paul and Annie Thomas and learning how to use a bow drill from Hart Wichern. They are looking forward to the hide tanning exercise which will be one of the next activities.

Special guests for the day included our MLA-



Students keeping warm by the fire pit. It was minus 24 on the day of the celebration.

Drayton Valley-Devon –Mark Smith and Enoch Chief Billy Morin who brought Elder Joe Grand, Enoch Principal Jonathan Kaiswatum and Land Based Teacher Chelsea Cattroll with him. MECCS has partnerships with several companies and schools and we were pleased to see them participating in our special day. Jenn Flynn and Nicole Deschner- Apple Schools; Duncan Webster - TransAlta, Lisl Gunderman - Wildwood School, Andrea Dion - Ever Active Schools, Roxanne Prukl - Kopala Towers, Ed and Joan Holzapfel from PF Custom Countertops, Lynne Paradis- Suzuki Charter School and Chris Gilmour- Connect Charter School all braved the cold weather to share this experience with students, staff and parents.



The lean-to decorated for the celebration.



A first look at the completed culture camp.



Alberta's Minister of Indigenous Relations Rick Wilson.



Tipi in the snow.

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Black oil sunflower seeds

Flax

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or we can order what you need. We can also order
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Lawn seed & lawn & garden fertilizer

*Nitrogen & PowerRich fertilizer & bagged forage
seed*

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Message from
Gerald Soroka, MP




CANADA EMERGENCY BUSINESS ACCOUNT LOAN FORGIVENESS REPAYMENT DEADLINE EXTENDED

OTTAWA: Gerald Soroka Member of Parliament for Yellowhead wishes to advise that the – Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) Loan Forgiveness Repayment Deadline has been extended. The repayment deadline for CEBA loans to qualify for partial loan forgiveness is being extended from December 31, 2022, to December 31, 2023, for all eligible borrowers in good standing.


This extension will support short-term economic recovery and offer greater repayment flexibility to small businesses and not-for-profit organizations, many of which are facing continued challenges due to the pandemic. Repayment on or before the new deadline of December 31, 2023, will result in loan forgiveness of up to a third of the value of the loans (meaning up to \$20,000).

Outstanding loans would subsequently convert to two-year term loans with interest of 5 per cent per annum commencing on January 1, 2024, with the loans fully due by December 31, 2025.

The repayment deadline to qualify for partial forgiveness for CEBA-equivalent lending through the Regional Relief and Recovery Fund is also extended to December 31, 2023.



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MLA REPORT

from The Office of MLA Mark Smith,
Member of the Legislative Assembly
for Drayton Valley - Devon

While 2021 has been a challenging year for many Albertans, there is a lot worth celebrating from this past year.

Alberta is leading Canada's economic comeback. We replaced approximately 340,000 jobs that were lost due to the pandemic, and we added approximately 105,000 new jobs that will help Albertans pay their bills and mortgages. At 64 per cent, Alberta now has the highest employment rate in the nation.

2021 saw the return of high oil prices. Our province is now producing more oil than ever before in our history. According to a recent forecast from the Canadian Association of Energy Contractors, Alberta will see over 6,000 new wells drilled in 2022 – a 26 per cent increase from 2021.

In 2021, we continued our focus on diversification, with burgeoning industries like technology having banner years in our province. Alberta is now home to more than 3,000 technology companies, a 233 per cent increase since 2012. 2021 also saw Amazon Web Services recently announce that it's building a data hub in Calgary. This \$4.3 billion investment will create 1,000 new jobs and marks the largest technology sector investment in Alberta history.

Our film and television industry also had a record year in our province, with more than 50 major productions underway, supporting over 9,000 jobs. These projects include HBO's *The Last of Us*, the largest production in Canadian history. With Alberta being featured in movies like *Ghostbusters: Afterlife*, it's easy to understand why our province is fast becoming the new "Hollywood North."

2021 saw historic industry investments in renewables. Air Products is investing \$1.3 billion to build a net-zero hydrogen energy complex near Edmonton and Dow Chemical is investing up to \$10 billion to build the world's first net-zero carbon emissions ethylene and derivatives complex near Fort Saskatchewan, marking the biggest capital investment in the province in 15 years. This is just a couple of the exciting investments happening in Alberta that will create thousands of new jobs for our

workers.

We know the pandemic has been hard on many Albertans, so we made historic investments to support those struggling with addiction. In 2021, we doubled down on addiction treatment announcing that the government will fund more than 8,000 addiction treatment spaces annually, doubling the original commitment made in 2019 and firmly establishing Alberta as a national leader in treating addiction.

In 2021, we fought for and delivered a made-in-Alberta childcare plan that protects Alberta's mixed-market system. This new plan will make childcare more affordable for families with kids aged zero to kindergarten by reducing fees by an average of half in early 2022 and by 2026, all Alberta families will pay an average of \$10 per-day for childcare. And unlike the NDP's proposed plan, we delivered a plan that includes private operators who make-up most of our system.

In 2021, we were proud to deliver on a promise to give Albertans a say on Canada's broken equalization system and watched as over 60 per cent of voters voted in favour of reform. We will continue to update you as we proceed to our next steps of fighting for a fair deal for Alberta within our confederation.

2021 also saw what economist Trevor Tombe called "the largest improvement in provincial finances ever recorded." The deficit for 2021-22 is now forecast at \$5.8 billion. This is \$12.4 billion lower than the budget estimate and \$1.9 billion lower than the first quarter fiscal update. Total revenue in 2021-22, meanwhile, is forecast at \$57.9 billion, \$14.2 billion higher than the budget estimate and \$2.9 billion higher than the first quarter fiscal update. In 2022, we will remain focused on prudent fiscal management to ensure our province's books are healthy.

Alberta's Recovery Plan is working, and Albertans are going back to work. In 2022, our United Conservative government will remain relentless in delivering jobs and investment for Alberta families and businesses. Truly, our best days are still to come.

Mark Smith, MLA for Drayton Valley – Devon

I can be reached at the main constituency office in Drayton Valley at 1-800-542-7307 toll-free. The office is open Monday to Friday. The Devon constituency office is open every Wednesday and the phones are manned Tuesday to Friday at 780-987-3666 or I can be emailed at draytonvalley.devon@assembly.ab.ca anytime.

ALBERTA RCMP MAJOR CRIMES INVESTIGATE A SUSPICIOUS DEATH INVOLVING A FIREARM IN CALMAR, AB

Calmar, Alta.—On Jan. 9, 2022, at 5:37 a.m., Leduc RCMP received a call for service related to a suspicious death involving a firearm.

Leduc RCMP attended along with Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and located a deceased male in a residence in the town of Calmar. A male was arrested at the residence but no charges have been laid at this time.

Alberta RCMP Major Crimes Unit has taken over carriage of this investigation. Further investigation indicated Jesse John CARDINAL of Edmonton was believed to be associated to the call for service and may have been injured in the incident and require medical attention. The Alberta RCMP Major Crimes Unit were seeking to locate this individual and seeking the public's assistance but in a later update, Jesse Cardinal had been located. The extent of his involvement is unknown.

Additional information regarding the deceased is not available at this time pending notification of next of kin.

Alberta RCMP Major Crimes continue to investigate this suspicious death.

Further updates will be provided when additional information can be shared.

If you have information about this crime, please call the Leduc RCMP at 780-980-7267, or your local police. If you wish to remain anonymous, you can contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS), online at www.P3Tips.com or by using the "P3 Tips" app available through the Apple App or Google Play Store.

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The Bible Truth Page

Are you his Disciple?

If we have made Jesus our Lord, our life should be very different than it was before. If we believe in Jesus as Lord, we will:

1. Love God with all our heart and love other people.
2. Dedicate the rest of our life to following Him as our Lord
3. Be His disciple, and allow Him to teach us and lead us into all truth
4. Fellowship with Him by reading His word, meditating on His word, talking to Him, listening for a response, and by praising and worshipping Him.
5. Study His word, commands, and actions so that we will know what He wants us to do.
6. Obey His word, and commandments.
7. Do the works that He did and greater
8. Make disciples by teaching others to follow Jesus, and helping them along the way
9. Trust Him to do what He said He would do; He is not a liar.
10. Fear, reverence, honour, and respect Him

In Previous articles I wrote about #1, 2 and 5. It is time now to have a look at #3. If Jesus really is our Lord and we claim to be a Christian, we will be His disciple and allow Him to teach us and lead us into all truth. Jesus said, **“And He who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me”** (*Modern English Version* Matt. 10:38). The Greek word that follow is translated from means to follow, to join one as a disciple. Jesus is saying that if we don't follow Him as a disciple, we are not worthy of all that He has provided for us. If we don't follow Him as a disciple, we are not on His side. Here is a similar verse. **“He who loves his life will lose it. And he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me. Where I am, there will My servant be also. If anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him”** (John 12:25-26). In this passage Jesus is saying that if we are His servants we will follow Him, He will be with us, and God will honor us. It is also important to notice that in order to follow Him we must give up our own way of life and live for Him instead. You might ask, “How can I follow Him now that He ascended up to Heaven?” Well, that is a good question, however the answer is simple.

We follow Him by studying His teachings and actions that are recorded in the Bible, and by doing what He did, taught, and commanded. The Bible is the written Word of God. It is truth. Look at John 8:31-32: **“Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, “If you remain in My word, then you are truly My disciples. You shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free.”** Another way we can follow Him now is by allowing Him to lead us by the Holy Spirit whom Jesus promised to send. Jesus said: “But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you” (John 14:26). **“But when the Counselor comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will bear witness of Me”** (John 15:26). The Holy Spirit is truth and He will teach us truth, which is found in the written Word of God. He will help us to remember and apply The Word of God in our life.

Written by Tyler Untinen, Lifeteam Leader with John G. Lake Ministries. If you have any questions, comments, or would like prayer please email tbu.lifeteam@gmail.com

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DUE TO RISING DEMAND FOR PCR TESTS, ALBERTA IS CHANGING THE ELIGIBILITY FOR THESE TESTS TO FOCUS ON THOSE WHO MOST NEED THEM.

Daily PCR testing volumes are beginning to exceed system capacity. Wait times for booking a PCR test are now approaching four days and turnaround time for providing results to patients is approaching 48 hours. To ensure that patient care decisions are supported by timely diagnostic information, PCR testing eligibility will now be focused on those who have clinical risk factors for severe outcomes and those who live and work in high-risk settings.

"Like other provinces, Alberta's testing resources have increasingly become stretched, and with the rising number of COVID cases due to Omicron, we now need to focus this testing capacity strategically to those most at risk of serious illness from COVID." Jason Copping, Minister of Health

"While we have been used to managing COVID through widespread PCR testing, that approach is not possible with the Omicron variant. At this time, most people who have mild symptoms don't need a PCR test. For those without risk factors such as immunosuppression, they should self-isolate and manage their symptoms at home, using a rapid test if they have one." Dr. Deena Hinshaw, chief medical officer of health

Alberta Health Services has updated the online COVID-19 assessment tool to help Albertans determine whether they need a PCR test, what type of care to seek based on their symptoms and how to take care of symptoms at home with appropriate support.

Health Link 811 continues to experience high daily call volumes. It is recommended Albertans use the online COVID-19 assessment tool to check their symptoms or the symptoms of someone they may be caring for before they call Health Link.

At this time, the assessment tool has been updated to reflect new PCR testing criteria for adults. The tool will be updated later this week for children and youth.

Those with mild illness should not visit emergency departments seeking a test, as tests in those settings are only used when a test is needed for patient care. If Albertans are unsure whether they need to talk to a doctor about their illness, they can also use the Alberta Medical Association tool to determine what they should do. Most people with mild illness do not need a test or a conversation with their doctor.

Employers and organizations should not require individuals with mild symptoms to have a PCR test to be eligible for sick time off work. It is critical to support those who are sick to stay home with no testing requirements at this time of high transmission.

Eligibility criteria

Effective immediately, PCR tests will be available only for the following individuals:

- Continuing care residents and health-care workers and staff in acute and continuing care settings, shelters and correctional facilities who meet one or more of the following criteria:

- need confirmation of a positive rapid test on screening
- have COVID-19 symptoms
- are part of an outbreak investigation where public health has requested lab-based PCR testing

- Symptomatic household members of a person who works in continuing care or acute care.

- Emergency department or hospital patients of all ages who meet one or more of the following criteria:

- inpatients who develop new COVID-19 symptoms while in hospital
- patients being admitted for symptoms consistent with COVID-19
- patients in the emergency department with respiratory illness where a test will change treatment plans

- Symptomatic community patients who would be eligible for Sotrovimab (monoclonal antibody) treatment if positive:

- Those who are not immunized and are:
 - age 55 and over
 - 18 years and over with one of the following health conditions: diabetes, obesity, chronic kidney disease, congestive heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease or moderate to severe asthma
 - children aged 12 to 17, with referral by a pediatric I.D. specialist
 - pregnant
- Those who are immunosuppressed (transplant, active cancer or systemic immune treatment), regardless if immunized or not.

- People from isolated and remote First Nation, Inuit and Métis communities, and individuals travelling to these communities for work.

- Asymptomatic continuing care residents returning/readmitted from other health-care settings.

- Pediatric and adult asymptomatic transplant donors and recipients, prior to transplant.

- Pediatric and adult oncology patients, prior to commencing chemotherapy.

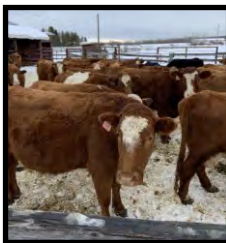
- Newborns born to COVID-19-positive parents.

- Returning international travellers who become symptomatic within 14 days after their arrival.

Cattle & Hay for Perry THYR Sale of Drayton Valley, AB

Directions: South Entrance of Drayton Valley (Derricks) on Hwy#22, West 1 km to SH 620 (Lodgepole Hwy), South 11 km to RR 83, South 0.5 km to Twp Rd 483, West to 1st Driveway on Left (Rural Address 8303 Twp Rd 483)

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Laurie's Laughs



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Me: I know! That's how far behind I am.



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As you get older, you've got to stay positive.
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@Nina ROSS

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						3		2
1		3						
	5		7		2			1
							6	
		7						9
		8	4	2	5			
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Answers will be published in the next issue!

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- **Thorsby - Gorgeous Bi-level** (E4255555) backing onto greenspace, 4 bedrooms, 3 bath and partly finished basement. Finished garage. ~~\$324,900~~ **REDUCED \$319,900**

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- **Sunnybrook - 6.2 manicured acres with 2 residences** (E4268633) Double detached garage, barn/shop and all services. ~~\$369,000~~ **REDUCED \$349,000**
- **St. Francis - 1 Acre lot on pavement** (E4263583) 2011, 2 bedroom mobile, fenced and serviced **\$229,000**

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- **Wizard Lake - 30.15 Acres** (E4261137) recreation land - great building spots or makes a good weekend retreat ~~\$249,000~~ **REDUCED \$239,000**
- **Genesee - 145 Acres** (E4256128) of excellent pasture land **\$369,000**
- **Genesee - 136.31 Acres** (E4239253) of pasture land or recreation land (creek - ravine - small lake on property) **\$349,000**
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