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Minnedosa lets the good times roll!

Minnedosa Bowl celebrates its' 65 years of operation in the community

By Eoin Devereux
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

The thundering sound of falling pins which echos through the lanes of Minnedosa Bowl had a bit more meaning behind it last weekend. On Saturday, Oct. 18, the local landmark commemorated 65 years in the community, and marked the occasion with a birthday celebration.

Locals assembled to recognize, not only this special day, but also the enduring legacy of a business that's been part of their community since 1960. Mayor Ken Cameron offered congratulations to Alan and Debbie Tarn, the owners and operators of Minnedosa Bowl since 2012. Cameron noted that Minnedosa Bowl has been a family and community fixture for generations.

"Businesses like this are hugely important to a community, such as [Minnedosa]. They're a facility for families and family activities. A gathering place for all. Congratulations to Minnedosa Bowl for their 65 years. You just have to look up at the banners on the walls and see just how important it's been to the community," noted Cameron.

As part of the festivities, Mayor Cameron had a friendly showdown against some of Minnedosa Bowl's most prominent players. His opposition included Ava Harris and Mac Davidson, Minnedosa's

oldest active players, as well as Nora Zaruwny, the alley's youngest active participant, at just under four-years-old, and Tyler Dyck, Minnedosa's award winning junior bowler. Ken didn't have quite as much experience in the lanes as his competition (including Nora), but all things considered, still did well enough.

**A look back
at 65 years
of memories**

Still located at its original location at 200 Main St. N, Minnedosa Bowl offers six lanes of five pin bowling fun. During the early years of operation, it was managed by the MacDuffs (1960-1961), followed by Bob Bremner (1961-1962).

The building and business was sold in 1963 to Peter Stuart, who operated it for a decade. During this time period, the second story apartment was constructed above the common area of the centre. Ralph Laming was the next owner, who along with his family operated and lived in the apartment until 1980.

From there, Minnedosa Bowl became part of the "Mansell Era", with Fred and Maureen Mansell running the business from 1980 to 1995. David and Cathy Mansell would then take over from 1995 to 2012, with managers Wayne and Caroline Mansell also involved.

In June 2012, Minnedosa

Bowl was sold to Alan and Debbie Tarn, owners still to this day.

Speaking with the Banner & Press about the businesses' birthday, Minnedosa Bowl's Alan and Debbie Tarn expressed their gratitude to all those who have supported them through the years.

"It's been a good community, a supportive community, to us through the years," noted Alan. "Even supporting us through COVID, when we couldn't be open."

Debbie added some context to that statement, noting that they began operation of Gutters Pizza during the COVID-19 years. During that time, the community would order takeout, which helped to keep them from facing the perils of a long term closure without an income option.

"We're overwhelmed by the support we received then, and now. It's a really good community."



PHOTOS BY EOIN DEVEREUX
Pictured: Alan and Debbie Tarn, the owners and operators of Minnedosa Bowl since 2012.



PHOTOS BY EOIN DEVEREUX



A special birthday celebration was held on Saturday, Oct. 18 for Minnedosa Bowl's 65th year of operation. Some of the festivities included congratulations from Mayor Ken Cameron, on behalf of the Town. As well, a friendly competition was held as Mayor Cameron played a game versus the communities oldest active players (Mac Davidson and Ava Harris), youngest active player (Nora Zaruwny) and its' top player (Tyler Dyck).



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1975: Building an outdoor rink in Neepawa

By Casper Wehrhahn
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

**125 years ago,
Wednesday,
October 24, 1900**

Note: The entries for 1900 are from The Neepawa Register, as The Press for that year is not fit for regular handling.

The Lucille Davidson bazaar and entertainment, which was successful last year in raising the sum of \$55, the proceeds of which have maintained two cots in the hospital at Chentou, China, will be again repeated next month with the same object in view.

They are not much interested in fire protection at Gladstone. Last week, they voted on a bylaw to spend \$5,000. There were 16 voted for and 12 against.

**100 years ago,
Tuesday,
October 20, 1925**

Arden: The war memorial committee would like relatives to send in the names of all men who enlisted for the Great

War from the municipality of Lansdowne, and paid the supreme sacrifice to J. Ogston, Arden, Secretary of the Committee.

McCreary: Mr. and Mrs. Frank Geish have returned from Saskatchewan, where they have been looking after their interest in the crop grown on his land in that district.

The Black Diamonds Minstrel show on Friday should bring out a full house. Local artists, local hits and good singing. Admission 50¢, gallery 35¢, children 25¢.

Oct. 23, 1925—Arden: W. A. Bailey, a former resident of the Inkerman district, has purchased the Porteous property and with his family, will take immediate possession.

Oct. 23, 1925—Franklin: Mrs. Arthur Neal had quite a bad chimney fire yesterday, but willing hands came to her assistance and no damage was done. At the same time it makes one wonder where the fire engine has got itself tucked away and whether we

should have an occasional fire drill to keep it in working order.

Oct. 23, 1925—McCreary: Mrs. Frank Ashby, Kelwood, has been appointed agent for the Spirella Company of Canada, and will visit McCreary very shortly.

Oct. 23, 1925—Kelwood: Mrs. Frank Ashby has been appointed agent for the Spirella Company of Canada, for McCreary, Norgate, Kelwood, and Riding Mountain, with headquarters at Kelwood.

Oct. 23, 1925—Birnie: We seem not to be able to get the threshing finished here; just as we get started, it snows again. Well, such is life, take what we get and make the most of it.

Oct. 23, 1925—Birnie: Lots of sand being hauled to the fox farm for the new barn which is to be built this fall, also cement unloaded and hauled out.

Oct. 23, 1925—Norgate: Born to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Willerton, on Saturday, Oct. 10, a daughter, Fern.

Oct. 23, 1925—Eden: R. E. and Earl Coad installed a five tube Distantone Radio on Monday.

**75 years ago,
Thursday,
October 26, 1950**

Against a substantial vote in favor, an actual voting minority of ratepayers last Friday defeated the \$60,000 debenture issue which was designed to give Neepawa adequate fire protection and, as ordered by the provincial health department, extensions to the disposal plant.

Work is progressing

rapidly on the new school and new hospital.

Mekiwin: The funeral service for James Stewart, pioneer resident of the Mekiwin district, who died at Helston on Oct. 8, was held in Mekiwin United Church on Oct. 11. Rev. A. D. McCaskey officiated.

**50 years ago,
Thursday,
October 23, 1975**

The CGIT group of Knox Presbyterian Church joined in the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Canadian Girls In Training across Canada on Sunday, Oct. 12, by taking full charge of the church service.

P l u m a s : Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Brian Kirkland who were married Saturday, Oct. 18.

A large crowd of family, friends and enighbours gathered at Glenhope hall Saturday evening, Oct. 11 to celebrate the 25th wedding anniversary of Walter and Vina Muzyka, which is on Oct. 27. The evening was spent dancing to music supplied by the Asham-Anderson orchestra. All of the Muzyka family were able to attend.

**20 years ago,
Monday,
October 24, 2005**

The Viscount Cultural Council celebrated its grand opening in its first permanent home last Friday, and administrator Brenda Krychuck couldn't have been happier.

"It turned out better than we expected," Krychuck said of renovations to the former First Baptist



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BANNER & PRESS ARCHIVES

The task of building an outdoor rink at the west end of the Yellowhead Arena was undertaken by volunteers in October of 1975. This rink was being set up for the purpose of handling overflow skaters.

Church on Mountain Ave...

16 West, was celebrating its 29th anniversary.

The VC took possession of the 4,000 square foot building July 1.

Two charter members—Merv Drayson and Lionel Windus—will be recognized with 50-year pins when the Neepawa BPO Elks Lodge celebrates its 50th anniversary Saturday.

Note: Another item from around this time in 2005 is related to Chalet Capets & Drapes, of Neepawa. Chalet Carpets & Drapes, which had been located on Highway No.

Disclaimer: The information gathered and used each week in the Looking Back feature is directly taken from the original print copy of the Neepawa Press and Neepawa Banner newspapers. Any errors or omissions from stories (Factually or otherwise) are the result of the original print and not the responsibility of the archivist for the current version of the Neepawa Banner & Press.

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Irvine Lumber and Furniture
PHONE 253 NEEPAWA

NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS ARCHIVES

Irvine Lumber and Furniture was once located in Neepawa. This advertisement is from the Oct. 26, 1950 edition of The Neepawa Press.

**I desire to do your will, my God;
your law is within my heart.**
Psalm 40:8 (New International Version)

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Highlights of the week

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Oct. 28 at 6:30 pm | Oct. 30 at 4pm | Nov. 2 at 2pm

What's the Big Idea - Colleen Krebs, WeMB

Oct. 27 at 4:45 pm | Nov. 1 at 4:15 pm

What's the Big Idea - Wendy Yan, Futurpreneur

Oct. 28 at 10:30 am | Oct. 30 at 1:15 pm

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Tundra

By Chad Carpenter



Sometimes it's too little, too late

I was thinking about municipal politics recently and pondered for a moment about how young I was when I first became aware of municipal affairs. I know it was in the early 1950s and I would have been about 7 years old. During a particularly heavy snow year, the roads to town in the RM of Victoria were blocked for several weeks. My dad had a "school van" route and had to switch from a 1952 International truck to a horse drawn old-fashioned school van for several weeks.

I am not sure if that wintery ordeal was the instigation for my dad to visit a neighbour to encourage him to run for reeve but I distinctly remember the condition of roads, especially in winter was a major problem. Dad, and some neighbours thought that Fred Harrison would make a good reeve and hoped that he could convince the RM of Victoria to have bigger and better equipment to grade the roads in summer and plow the roads in winter. It was my first example of seeing that the most important level of politics in Manitoba is municipal.

Fast forward by about 70 years and my memory bank is full of events where municipal affairs have affected our daily lives and livelihood.

As an adult, I have now lived in two RMs and the Town of Neepawa. I have attended countless council meetings as a taxpayer and newspaper editor. I also served as mayor of Neepawa from 1998-2002 and from 2012 to 2014. I have seen municipal successes, struggles and a few disasters. In my first term as mayor of Neepawa, I was in the council chair when the Neepawa water treatment plant failed completely. That was about five days of stress, expense and finally, a solution.

The biggest current issue, dare I say crisis, in the coverage area for our three papers at Virden, Rivers and Neepawa is the evolving issue of water quality and supply at Virden. Virden's water

supplies are running low and an emergency well drilling project is underway to try to avoid a full scale water shortage crisis. Back in the day, the Virden council received well-intended advice that a new well would supply lots of water and do away with the arsenic level issue. That said, the arsenic level was never very high, but it was above legislated limits and as everyone would assume, having any arsenic in drinking water isn't a good feeling.

I don't think any council or officials can be blamed for the current crisis, but it has happened and is being addressed and to that, I say good on Virden Council.

There may have been an earlier solution and what has been suggested is that the RM of Wallace-Woodworth reportedly had better water and in good supply. I don't know if that is so. Maybe Virden and Wallace-Woodworth should have worked together on a regional system.

My personal opinion is that the biggest problem we have in rural Manitoba is a lack of cooperation between municipal entities. Before anyone gets too upset with that statement, please note I said it's my personal opinion, but it is an opinion based on many years of municipal experience and observation.

Back around 2010 or so, the NDP Greg Selinger government decided to "enforce" amalgamation. It didn't go all that well, as there was severe distrust between municipalities and government and also between municipalities. For

over a 100 years towns and RMs had been competing to stay alive, to achieve levels of service and at the same time, watch populations dwindle as farms got larger, many RMs and towns shrank. Forced amalgamation was not popular. That said, several amalgamations took place across Manitoba and in our newspaper coverage area.

Personally I think RMs and Towns should amalgamate. Long gone are the days when as one reeve said long ago, the government should just leave us alone as all we need to worry about is plowing the roads in winter and grading the roads in the summer.

Towns, villages and RMs all have to deal with much more than roads. There are challenges with water supply and distribution, sewage treatment and disposal, garbage and recycling, health care facilities and much more.

I am told there are over 20 CAO vacancies in Manitoba. Maybe we have to pay CAOs more money. Municipal politics has become too complicated, expensive and risky to stick with what I would call the more casual approach of the past.

It's rare that any major municipal project comes in under a half million dollars nowadays. The Virden water repair will be that high and it costs over \$100,000 to simply pave a block of street let alone install or replace water and sewer pipes.

We owe all our councillors and staff a vote of thanks but that doesn't include sticking with outdated practices.

RIGHT IN THE CENTRE

KEN WADDELL



Homebodies

RITA FRIESEN



Fruit cakes revisited, 20 years later

Those who know me well will find this difficult to believe- I was studying a cook book. Not reading it for pleasure, for that's absurd on many levels, but studying as if I was preparing for a quiz, like I had a major exam coming up. "Easily Made Christmas Cakes and Fruit Cakes" page 51 of the old "A Guide to Good Cooking, compiled by the makers of Five Roses Flour", copyright 1938.

Oh, it's not the first fruit cake I've ever made, but it is the first one in almost two decades, and I got to choose from three hand written recipes. I chose the dark cake, not two cups of molasses dark, just one tablespoon dark. It was a separate shopping trip to pick up the ingredients. My basic kitchen shelves do not hold two pounds of raisins, one pound of currants, half a pound of slivered almonds, three quarters of a pound of mixed peel nor one pound of glace cherries! It did contain the cinnamon, the molasses, the nutmeg and the allspice- not the mace so I chose to forgo it! On hand was a pound of butter and eight eggs.

The night before baking I carefully cut the brown paper to fit the three sizes of pans. And called my sister to see if she double or triple layers the paper, remembering faintly that our mother used three. She only uses one, so I was down for that. Then I pre-mixed all my fruits, one recipe said that would allow the flavours to blend. And called my sister to see if I should dust them with flour so they remain separate. Again, thinking that was something we used to do. She said no, and I rejoiced.

Mixing day and I enlisted the strong arm of my grandson. It gets to be heavy work! The wooden spoon did not bend or break, and we took turns adding the eggs to the flour, and the fruit to the batter. A slow oven... how slow?? One book said 325 degrees, another said 250. And called my sister to double check the temperature. She said try 300. And so I did. I did check online to see which shelf level was recommended, and the middle won.

The littlest cake was brown and firm in about an hour, the other two more than twice that long. It could have been a shorter time if I hadn't opened the oven so frequently to check on colour and firmness!

So, out of the oven, cooled and ready to store. And, I called my sister to see how she stores her, and read the cookbook again. She said that after they are cool wrap in tin foil, then plastic and store in a tin or a plastic container in a cool, dark place. And so I will!

Some major changes in baking the cake this time compared to the last time. One thing is the price. All I can say is that it better be good! And second, the time was when my sister might have asked me for some input, and now I rely on her!

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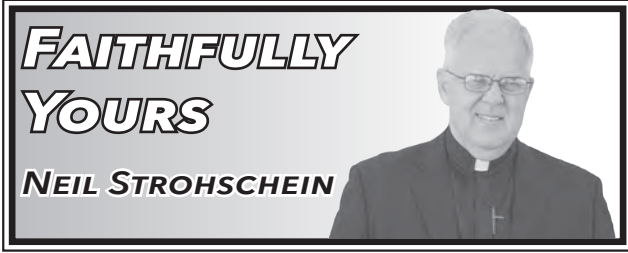
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From the ground up

It officially opened on June 30, 1968. At 626 ft., it was the tallest structure in the City of Calgary, Alberta. It isn't any more. It took 15 months to complete. It cost \$3.5 million (roughly \$32.5 million today). It is one of only four free standing towers in Canada. The others are the CN Tower in Toronto, the Skylon Tower at Niagara Falls, and the Olympic Stadium tower in Montreal. All are impressive structures, engineered to stand tall and strong in all kinds of weather for many decades to come.

What is the secret to their strength, stability and durability? In the case of the Calgary Tower, it comes from something that those visiting it will never see. The tower weighs 10,884 metric tonnes, of which 60 percent is below ground. Its base is anchored into bedrock 50 ft. below ground level. That, the width of the base and its weight ensure that it can withstand winds of up to 161 km/h, thanks to the foundation on which it is built.



A few months ago, I watched a YouTube time lapse of a major house renovation. The house was quite old, but was in remarkable condition for its age. Its frame was sound. Its electrical and heating systems had been upgraded to current standards. New, energy efficient windows replaced the old single panes that had been there for years. Insulation had been added, and the beautifully decorated woodwork had been restored.

But it was in danger of collapse. Its foundation was crumbling and its owners knew that it was only a matter of time until the foundation would break and the whole house would implode. So they took immediate action to save their home.

They hired a contractor

who understood the problem and knew what to do. Huge beams were placed at strategic locations under the house's frame. Then, the house was slowly jacked up and placed securely on blocks. Small excavators with jack hammers removed the old foundation one piece at a time. When everything was removed, a firm base was prepared and new footings and walls were poured. Once the cement had cured, the house was lowered until it rested on the new foundation. Now, with a solid foundation beneath it, that house could stand for many more years. The entire process took several months to complete. The time lapse video showed it all in less than 15 minutes.

In the past few months, we have heard many of our

leaders talk about the need to build a new Canada, or a new Manitoba. We hear a lot about new programs, new ways of making decisions, new initiatives and new government priorities; which, in my view, are little more than renovations to a building that has been standing since Confederation.

But sadly, no one talks about the foundations on which the building stands. Maybe its time we did. Maybe its time we went back in our history—way back to the beginning of time, to discover three foundation stones on which all of human society was built—freedom, family and faith.

That we would discuss them now is no accident. They are the values for which those we honor on Remembrance Day fought and in some cases died to defend. Over the next three weeks, we will explore these values, one at a time and consider ways by which they can be incorporated into our lives and shared with others.

Market report

By Blaine Huston
GLADSTONE AUCTION

It was another strong market in Happy Rock this week! We sold 1,563 head of cattle through the ring in Gladstone on Tuesday, Oct. 21.

Here are some market highlights from yesterday's sale:

• Three red exotic steers weighing 831 pounds bring \$5.25 a pound (\$4,363 a head).

• A ring full of 39 red and black steer calves come in the ring weighing 681 pounds and cash in at \$5.95 a pound (\$4,055 per head).

• Four Charolais cross calves weighing 570 pounds stamp there ticket at \$6.98 a pound (\$3,977 a head).

On the heifer side of things:

• Four black heifers weighing 825 pounds bring \$4.70 per pound (\$3,877 per head).

• 19 red and black heifers

weigh 614 pounds and fetch \$6.02 per pound (\$3695 per head).

• Red and black heifer calves weighing 484 pounds bring \$7.15 a pound (\$3,303 a head).

Plainer type cattle are still seeing some discounts.

As you can see, the market was powerful in Gladstone on Tuesday.

Gladstone Auction Mart Cattle Market Report Oct. 21, 2025

Steers

3-400 lbs.	\$8.50 to 10.12
4-500 lbs.	\$7.30 to 8.91
5-600 lbs.	\$6.45 to 7.58
6-700 lbs.	\$5.30 to 6.60
7-800 lbs.	\$4.85 to 5.95
8-900 lbs.	\$4.45 to 5.26
900+ lbs.	\$3.75 to 4.94

Heifers

3-400 lbs.	\$8.00 to 9.72
4-500 lbs.	\$6.90 to 8.01
5-600 lbs.	\$5.90 to 6.90
6-700 lbs.	\$4.95 to 6.03
7-800 lbs.	\$4.45 to 5.36
8-900 lbs.	\$3.95 to 5.00
900+ lbs.	\$3.40 to 4.85

1,563 head sold

BP Museum history: West Park School

By Casper Wehrhahn
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

Hazel M. Kellington School was first opened on Third Avenue in Neepawa in 1951 as West Park School. Hazel Maria Kellington was the teacher-in-charge under the supervision of Richard W. McAmmond, principal of the Neepawa Central School.

West Park was renamed in Hazel Kellington's honour upon her retirement in 1995.

Hazel Kellington, daughter of William Kellington and Caroline Bradigan, was born in the Rural Municipality of Langford on Nov. 8, 1899. She taught for two years at Dumfries School, then moved to Neepawa. While teaching here, she taught primary grades for 45 years at Neepawa Central School and West Park School.

Kellington was also elected as secretary-treasurer of the Neepawa Teacher's Fed-



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BEAUTIFUL PLAINS MUSEUM

Seen here are the West Park School staff from the 1959-60 school year. They are Doris Burns, Ruth Faryon, Merle Bailey, Ann Jespersen, Hazel Kellington, Ella Madsen, Carrie Dalglish, Julie Dyer, Doreen Murray, Elizabeth Sneesby, Wilder Hammersly, Mabel Johnson, Marg Kaspick, Edith Martin and Violet Robinson.

eration in 1931, secretary of the Neepawa Business and Women's Professional Club in 1948 and noble grand of the Neepawa Rebekah

Lodge.

She was also an accomplished pianist, having involved herself with the music festival and school

concerts.

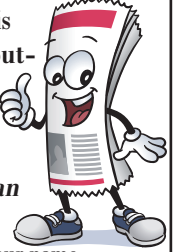
Kellington moved to Victoria, B.C. the summer she retired, living there until her passing on Oct. 14, 1991.

If there is an individual or group in this community who you think deserves a shout-out, send them a thumbs up on our opinion page to let them know they're doing great!

If there's something not so great, you can also send a thumbs down...

Submissions must be under 100 words and include your name.

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HELEN DRYSDALE

OUT OF HELEN'S KITCHEN

Pork stew and banana cake

From the Manitoba Pork Producers web site, "Manitoba pork producers are proud to provide consumers at home and abroad with some of the best tasting and highest quality pork in the world." HyLife is now selling their pork products in our local grocery stores, FreshMart and Co-op. Today's main meal recipe showcases this affordable and delicious locally produced meat.

This simple and delicious pork stew recipe will warm you up on the chilly days that are coming. Pork stew is a cozy, hearty one pot dinner filled with tender pork and vegetables in a flavorful broth. If your Dutch oven cannot be placed in the oven, transfer the stew to a small roaster before placing in the oven.

Oven pork stew

- 1/4 cup oil

2 1/2 lbs. boneless pork shoulder, fat trimmed and cut into 1 1/2 inch pieces

1/4 cup flour

1/2 tsp. each salt and pepper

1 liter chicken broth

1 medium to large onion, diced

2 cloves garlic, finely diced

2 celery stalks, cut into 1/2" pieces

1 small red pepper, diced
- 5 medium carrots, peeled and cut into lynch pieces

1 small sweet potato peeled and cut into 2 inch pieces

2 bay leaves

1 tsp. dried marjoram or thyme

1 tsp. Dash

2 Tbsp. flour mixed with 1/4 cup water

Whisk together flour, salt and pepper in a medium bowl then toss the pork cubes in it until coated. Heat oil over medium-low heat in a large Dutch oven. Once oil is hot, place the pork in an even layer on the bottom of the pan. You may need to do this process in two batches depending upon the size of your Dutch oven and amount of pork used. If doing this save some of your oil for the second batch. Brown the pork for two to three minutes on each side until all pieces are browned and then transfer to a bowl. When all the meat is browned add back to the Dutch oven. Add the remaining ingredients except for the flour and water and place in a preheated 350°F oven and bake for 1 1/2 hours. Remove from oven and add the flour and water mix. Bring to a gentle boil on the stove and cook for several minutes until the stew thickens. Remove the bay leaves. Season with additional salt and pepper if needed, then serve with a slice of bread.

For a sweet ending to your meal and to help fill the lunch box try this banana oatmeal cake recipe. It will become a family favourite.

Banana oatmeal cake

- 2 cups flour

1 cup quick oatmeal

2 tsp. baking powder

1 tsp. baking soda

1/2 tsp. salt

1 tsp. cinnamon

1 1/2 cup mashed ripe banana

3/4 buttermilk

1/2 cup butter at room temperature

1 cup white sugar

2 eggs
- 1 tsp. vanilla

2/3 cup raisins or chopped walnuts or chocolate chips
- Caramel icing:

1/3 cup butter

1 cup brown sugar

1/4 cup milk

1 tsp. vanilla

2 cups icing sugar

Preheat oven to 350°F (180 °C). Lightly grease a 9 x 13 inch cake pan. In a bowl mix together the flour, oatmeal, baking powder, baking soda, salt and cinnamon. Set aside. Mix the bananas and buttermilk together. Set aside. In an electric mixer bowl cream together butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Add the eggs and vanilla and mix well. Add the half the banana mix alternately with the flour mix mixing lightly after each addition. End with the flour mix. Stir in the desired raisins or nuts or chocolate chips. Pour batter into prepared pan. Bake for 35-40 minutes or until toothpick inserted in the middle comes out clean. Cool and ice with caramel icing. Icing: Sift your icing sugar first to remove any lumps. Do not miss this step! Melt the butter in a heavy bottomed pot. Stir in the brown sugar. Heat to boiling stirring all the while. Then turn down the heat and while stirring gently boil for two minutes. Stir in the milk and heat to boiling. Remove from heat and add the vanilla. Gradually stir in the icing sugar and quickly spread over the cake. Enjoy with your favourite people.

Let's Scare Away Hunger

Submitted

By ADDISYN VAN DEN BUSCHE & REBECCA DAVIDSON

It is that time of year again for the Neepawa Area Collegiate HOPE group to take part in their annual "Scare Away Hunger" food drive to support the local Salvation Army food bank. From January to September, the Neepawa Salvation Army has assisted 1,294 individuals, 515 households and has given out 32,818 lbs. of food. Just this past month of September, the Salvation Army helped serve 65 households/169 individuals, which is well over their current average. These few statistics are just a little reminder of how valuable our food bank is

in our community.

On Oct. 23, the HOPE group will be hanging bags supplied by the Neepawa Rotary Club on all door-knobs in our community. To help fill the food bank we are asking for the following items: canned fruit, vegetables, meat and fish, cereal, oatmeal, peanut butter, jam, pasta and pasta sauce, ramen noodles, ready-to-eat school snacks, baking supplies, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes and deodorant.

On Oct. 31, the HOPE group will be coming around in the evening to

collect the donations and take them to the Salvation Army. The HOPE group asks that you leave your filled bag in a visible, well-lit space by 5:30 p.m. on Oct. 31 for pickup. Monetary donations are also greatly accepted.

Please note that if your home is missed inadvertently on pick up night, we ask you to take your bag to the Salvation Army or call them at 476-5869 for it to be picked up the next day.

The HOPE group and the Neepawa Salvation Army would like to thank everyone in advance for all your generous donations! Let's help "Scare Away Hunger" in our community!

4-H Manitoba announces Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarships

Submitted

4-H MANITOBA MEDIA RELEASE

4-H Manitoba is proud to announce the recipients of the 2025 Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarships. The Manitoba Government generously established a \$1 million endowment fund with the Brandon Area Community Foundation, which provided \$38,126 for scholarships this year. Four outstanding 4-H Manitoba members were selected to receive scholarships in support of their post-secondary education.

"We're very proud of this year's scholarship recipients and excited to see where their paths take them," said Greg Penner, President of 4-H Manitoba. "Each of them has shown real leadership, dedication, and

a commitment to their communities. Supporting them as they take the next step in their education helps build a strong future for Manitoba."

4-H Manitoba's mission is to build leadership in youth and adults while developing essential life and leadership skills as members "Learn To Do By Doing."

"One hundred and twelve years ago, Canada's 4-H movement began here in Manitoba, paving the way for a long and successful history of opportunities for Manitoba's youth to develop leadership and communication skills while learning about agriculture and environmental sustainability," said Agriculture Minister Ron Kostyshyn. "On behalf of the Manitoba government, I congratulate all of the 2025 scholarship recipients and extend my heartfelt wishes as they head toward a bright future in our province."

The Leaders of Tomorrow scholarships honour and recognize four long-

serving 4-H leaders who have made a lasting impact on their clubs and communities.

Recipients

• **Brooklyn Piasta — La Salle, MB.** (*University of Manitoba*): In honour of Estelle Bahaud, Headingley 4-H Club.

• **Allison Beaumont — Neepawa, MB.** (*Brandon University*): In honour of the late Sharon Evans, Hartney 4-H Club.

• **Sarah Meggison — Goodlands, MB.** (*University of Manitoba*): In honour of Lois Clarke, Poplar Hill 4-H Club.

• **Ashlyn Whetter — Alexander, MB.** (*University of Manitoba*): In honour of Karen Jones, Tilston 4-H Beef Club.

Brooklyn, Sarah and Ashlyn are all current members of the U of M Young Leaders Club, Allison is a member of the Neepawa Belles Beux and Builders Club.



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Neepawa Ravensburger Puzzle Competition recap

Manitoba Speed Puzzlers welcomed as guest speakers

By Casper Wehrhahn
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

Puzzle enthusiasts packed into Neepawa's ArtsForward last week. On Oct. 11, a Ravensburger Puzzle Competition was hosted in partnership between hid'n hollow and the local arts and culture centre. The event began at 10:30 a.m., with a time limit of two hours. Puzzlers of all ages and skill levels were welcome.

A total of 18 teams participated, with 14 of those teams completing their 500 piece puzzles. People in the participating teams came from both near and far— including Neepawa, Brandon, Winnipeg, and Portage la Prairie.

Competition results

Doubles: Eat Our Puzzle Dust, first place (31:17); False Fits, second (45:03); Interlocking Minds, third (1:07:20).

Family competition (teams of three to four): Not Last... Hopefully, first place (47:56); The Fast & The Furious, second (1:08:38); and the third place team, which was unnamed, finished with a time of 1:30:39.

"[The competition] went nice. It's a nice facility that they have here and the event was very well organized," said Carrie Braden, of team 'Not Last... Hopefully'.

Contributing a personal reflection regarding her love of puzzles in general, fellow team member Mackenzie Brown stated, "There's a real sense of accomplishment when you finish one."

The Neepawa Banner & Press extends congratulations to all contestants of the Neepawa Ravensburger Competition for their efforts and the sportsmanship exhibited during the competition.

A special surprise

All in attendance were in for a special treat at the end of the competition. This was a presentation from Manitoba Speed Puzzlers representatives Amy Rutledge, Kirsty Williams, Rebecca Waddell, and Shantal Johnson, who took part in the Neepawa



PHOTO BY CASPER WEHRHAHN

Pictured from left to right are Manitoba Speed Puzzlers representatives Rebecca Waddell, Shantal Johnson, Kirsty Williams and Amy Rutledge. These four friends were in Neepawa last weekend, both to participate in and give a special presentation at the Neepawa puzzle competition.

competition as teams 'Eat Our Puzzle Dust' and 'False Fits' respectively.

All puzzlers welcome to join

Manitoba Speed Puzzlers is a public group made by Rebecca Waddell with the purpose of connecting Manitoba puzzle enthusiasts, and sharing puzzle events. While 'speed' is in the name, all who hold a love for puzzles are welcome to join, regardless of how fast or slow their puzzle process may be.

"Partially, [the purpose of the presentation] is letting people know that it's not just a local thing, that there's [more of us]," said Rutledge. "And sharing techniques, ways you can practice if you do want to get fast, and answering questions people may have."

Waddell added later, "The big point of the presentation, for us, is 'come join us'. We want you to come and do puzzles with us, come to events, hear how you're doing, and encourage you. That's the bottom

line. And if you want to learn tips and tricks, we have lots of ways to do that. If you want to come puzzle with friends, we'll provide opportunities for that. We just want to make sure that anyone who wants to join us can."

A friendly hobby community

Emphasizing that point, Johnson stressed the fact that speed is not a necessity.

"I'm the slowest of the four of us, but everyone is just 'No, come out!'. It doesn't matter how slow you are. It really doesn't. And nobody is going to say 'no, you're too slow'," said Johnson. "You may think in your head, 'Oh I'm not good enough, I'm not fast enough', but it truly doesn't matter. If [puzzling] is something you want to do, then just come and do it. We'll help you and guide you."

Johnson, Rutledge, Waddell and Williams have participated in a wide range

of local and virtual puzzle events. Additionally, Williams has participated in the World Championship in Spain, and Canadian

Nationals; and Waddell has competed at Western Regionals and the Canadian Nationals.

Regardless of location,

any puzzler's speed, or the level of competition, these four friends highlighted how welcoming the puzzle community is.

"Everyone is SO friendly and welcoming," said Williams. "Everyone wants everyone to have as much fun as they are having."

Rutledge added, "Yeah! I think it was [during the] Worlds last year, because they livestream it, one of the commentators made a comment like 'I think we're the most wholesome community on the internet', and I'm like 'yeah that's true'. Everyone is so happy to talk puzzles."

To learn more about puzzling and puzzle events in Manitoba, or Canada as a whole, further information can be found at Manitoba Speed Puzzlers, Canadian Speed Puzzlers, and the Canadian Jigsaw Puzzle Association.



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Meet your local entrepreneurs!

Five new businesses highlighted at Neepawa's What's the Big Idea?

By Casper Wehrhahn
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

Big ideas continue to spring forth in Neepawa and the surrounding area. On Oct. 16, some of these ideas stepped into the spotlight. The 10th annual 'What's the Big Idea?' was held that day at the Neepawa legion, welcoming entrepreneurs to pitch their business ideas. The day also included networking opportunities, an entrepreneur trade-show, and more.

A show of value
Since 2015, a total of 62 businesses have been awarded a total of \$98,100 through this event to support the launch of businesses in the region. These figures include the 2025 presentations.

"We are glad to support events like this—giving local entrepreneurs a chance to connect, share ideas and launch successful businesses in our communities," said deputy mayor Murray Parrott.

Neepawa economic development officer Marilyn Crewe, who assists businesses in preparing for the event, added, "As part of the 10 year review of What's the Big Idea?, Sabine Chorley (the EDO from Minnedosa) and I reached out to all of the What's the Big Idea? businesses to find out how they are doing. We learned that 36 of the [57 prior] Big Idea businesses are still operating— that's 63 per cent! The Canadian average for businesses still operating after five years is 50 per cent, and after 10 years only 33 per cent of businesses are still around. What the numbers show is that participating in What's the Big Idea increases your chance of business success."

This year's event saw a total of five businesses competing for 12 prizes, amounting to \$8,050 in cash and prize awards. Awards were determined by judges Caroline Ksiazek (Futurpreneur), Alanna Keefe (Women's Enterprise Centre of Manitoba), and Jodi Baker (Jodi Baker Photography, and an alumni of What's the Big Idea?).



PHOTOS BY CASPER WEHRHAHN

These friendly faces are the owners and operators of new businesses in Neepawa and area. Pictured from left to right, starting in the back row, are: Roman and Veronica Zhuniak (Happy Clover), and Gregory Bykov (Relax & Enjoy Cleaning Service). Front row: Roderick Pernicious and Thea Krystobel Duke (Chroma Films), Natalia Zhuniak (Happy Clover), Shelby Gillies and Martina Villa (A Better Connection), and Pardeep Singh (Northern Taxi).

2025 awards results
The 2025 awards, in order of the business pitch presentations, are:

•**Northern Taxi:** Owned by Pardeep Singh, this Neepawa-based taxi service seeks to provide reliable transport for its customers. Singh's business is currently operated from his home, but seeks to expand and acquire an office space in the future, and bring on additional drivers as demand increases.

Northern Taxi received a \$750 marketing package from PromoTime and the Neepawa Banner & Press; and \$1,000 from Neepawa and Area Development Corporation (NADCO).

•**Relax & Enjoy Cleaning Company:** Located in Minnedosa, this service was founded by Gregory Bykov. Bykov offers carpet and upholstery cleaning, deep cleaning, and more. He seeks to grow his business and take on bigger projects, and eventually hire additional staff as well.

For his pitch, Bykov received \$500 and a one year membership from the Minnedosa Chamber of Commerce; and \$1,000 from the Minnedosa CDC.

•**Happy Clover:** This food truck is operated by Natalia, Veronica and Roman Zhuniak. The Zhuniaks' business offers food which combines a variety of cultures found throughout Manitoba. For example, french hotdogs

served with bread that uses a distinctly Ukrainian recipe.

As food trucks are season limited, the family hopes to establish a year-round cafe location, and expand their catering services in the future.

Happy Clover was awarded \$300 from the Neepawa Lionelles; and \$1,000 from the Town of Neepawa.

•**Chroma Films:** Based in Neepawa, Chroma Films is owned by Thea Krystobel Duke and Roderick Pernicita. This photography and videography business aims to capture meaningful memories in both mediums. Currently operated out of their home, the pair seek to establish a professional studio in the future.

For their pitch, Chroma Films was awarded \$500 and a one year membership with the Neepawa and District Chamber of Commerce; and \$1,000 from Community Futures Westman for Best Pitch of the Day.

•**A Better Connection Therapy Services:** Operated in partnership between Shelby Gillies and behav-

iour consultant Martina Villa, this business won Best Overall Idea. They offer speech, language and behaviour consulting services for both individuals

and families. The pair seek to welcome occupational therapists, physical therapists, and more, in the future. They also hope to help train future profession-

als in speech therapy and behavioural therapy. A Better Connection was presented with \$1,000 from the NADCO; and \$1,000 from Stride Credit Union.

TEMPORARY SERVICE INTERRUPTION

To enhance our services, Stride Credit Union will be upgrading its banking system. The upgrade will take place **the weekend of October 24th, starting at 5:00 PM.**

SERVICES AFFECTED:

- **ATM & Debit Card transactions:** From **Friday, October 24th, at 5 PM to Sunday, October 26th, at 12 PM.** During this period, MemberCard transactions will be subject to offline limits.
- **Online banking (Log-in, bill payments, e-transfers):** Online banking services will be unavailable from **Friday, October 24th, at 5 PM to Sunday, October 26th, at 2 PM.**

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Neepawa Tigers advance to Murray Black Cup

By Eoin Devereux
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

The NACI Tigers have earned a place in the RMFL's Murray Black Cup, defeating the Parkwest Outlaws 35-8 on Sunday, Oct. 19. Quarterback E.J. Keegan helped propel the Tigers to the final, going 7-for-18 passing for 229 yards and a pair of touchdowns. He also rushed for 84 yards and two TDs on the ground.

Another notable performance on offence came from Daxton Brock, who rushed for 76 yards, including a massive 40 yard dash in the first half to set up a Neepawa score. As for the defensive side of things, Tyson Selby came up huge just before halftime, intercepting a Parkwest throw and running it back all the way for a touchdown. That made the score 21-0 for Neepawa at the break, which was more than enough points for the Tigers to secure the victory.

Head Coach Luca Clark noted that the entire Tigers coaching staff was pleased with how locked in the team was in every facet of the game.

"We played well in all three phases of the game against the Outlaws. They're a tough team, and with this being their potentially last game of the season, we were expecting them to leave everything on the field," said Clark. "Our players started the game strong, ended the first half with an interception returned for a touchdown, and that play really sealed the game. The second half was a consistent push to not give them any free chances and it paid off with a big win."

Next for Neepawa will



PHOTO BY EOIN DEVEREUX

Neepawa running back Daxton Brock put together a respectable 76 yards rushing against Parkwest on Sunday, Oct. 19, including a this massive first half run.

be a showdown with the Transcona Nationals in the Murray Black division final. This will be the third game between these clubs

this year, with Neepawa winning the first contest back in week three of the season 37-28. Transcona would reply back in the final

game of the regular season, by besting the Tigers 24-19, and handing Neepawa its first and (so far) only loss of the year.

Clark said this third game with the Nationals will definitely going to be a battle.

"They have strong play-

ers and, like us, are looking for that championship. It's their first year in the RMFL and I'm sure they're looking to make a statement. We're healthy, fast, strong, and most importantly, smart in how we play the game. I expect them to come in chippy and to bring everything they have. I expect nothing less from our players and coaches. We know what we need to do so we just need to execute."

Clark concluded by stating that the team's mantra over the last few weeks has been 'We're not done yet.'

"Our grade 12s and down to our grade 9's realize we have one more to go to bring the Murray Black Cup home where it belongs to Neepawa."

The Murray Black Cup Championship game will be played in Neepawa on Sunday, Oct. 26, with a start time of 3:00 p.m. at Neepawa Collegiate Field. Everyone is invited to attend and cheer on the team.



PHOTO BY EOIN DEVEREUX

NACI Tigers quarterback E.J. Keegan receives the snap from centre. Keegan concluded the game with a pair of passing touchdowns, as well as two more on the ground, helping power Neepawa to a 35-8 win.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

This week's Dairy Queen Neepawa Tigers players of week were presented to Tyson Selby, Soren Brock, and Jesse Whitlaw!! Tyson has really come into his own as a safety this season, Jesse is no stranger to touchdowns and Soren keeps our players hydrated with ease!! Congrats boys!



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MJHL Standings

Western Division	G	W	L	OTL	SOL	Pts
Dauphin Kings	10	8	2	0	0	16
Virden Oil Capitals	11	7	4	0	0	14
Waywayseecappo Wolverines	13	6	6	1	0	13
Swan Valley Stampeders	13	4	9	0	0	8
Neepawa Titans	11	3	7	0	1	7
Northern Manitoba Blizzard	9	2	6	1	0	5
Eastern Division	G	W	L	OTL	SOL	Pts
Steinbach Pistons	11	10	0	1	0	21
Selkirk Steelers	13	10	2	1	0	21
Niverville Nighthawks	10	9	1	0	0	18
Portage Terriers	11	7	3	1	0	15
Winnipeg Blues	11	4	5	2	0	10
Winkler Flyers	12	4	7	1	0	9
Winnipeg Monarchs	15	1	14	0	0	2

Game results

Sunday, Oct. 11
Niverville 4-3 SO Neepawa
First Period
15:28 NIV K. Mears (2)
ASST: E. Panzer (6), D. Zeller (2)
Second Period
00:53 NIV R. Arran (1)
ASST: J. Scott (2)
19:40 NIV J. Scott (4)
ASST: R. Arran (2)
Third Period
00:34 NPA K. Weisgarber (3)
ASST: J. Kohut (1), K. Skrupa (5)
10:04 NPA t. Wamboldt (2)
ASST: T. Wallis (6), J. Kohut (2)
19:28 NPA K. Skrupa (3)
ASST: L. Paquette (4), DJ. Meloney (2)
Overtime
No scoring
Shootout
NPA: K. Skrupa - Goal; J. Clark - No goal;
T. Wamboldt - No goal; L. Paquette
- No goal.
NIV: L. Leduc - Goal; D. Zeller - No goal;
T. Phillips - No goal; J. Scott - Goal.
Scoring 1 2 3 OT SO Total PP
NPA 0 0 3 0 0 3 0/3
NIV 1 2 0 0 1 4 0/0
Goaltender
NPA - Z. Burleigh (SOL) 35/39 saves
NIV - A. Dubinsky (SOW) 39/42 saves
Attendance: 480 - Niverville CCRC

Game results

Tuesday, Oct. 21
Winkler 6-3 Neepawa
First Period
03:27 WKR N. Stott (1)
ASST: W. Lyons (5), K. Fisher (8)
11:44 NPA L. Paquette PP
ASST: J. Clark (4), D. Andries (2)
12:43 WKR O. Wallace (3)
ASST: O. Schroeder (2), T. George (3)
19:22 WKR T. George (3) PP
ASST: L. Carlone (7), K. Thomas (6)
Second Period
16:34 WKR T. George (4) PP
ASST: K. Fisher (9), N. Gudmundson (14)
17:37 WKR N. Gudmundson (10) PP
ASST: K. Fisher (10), L. Carlone (8)
Third Period
10:31 NPA T. Wallis (2)
ASST: R. Harris (2), DJ Meloney (3)
10:45 NPA T. Wallis (3)
ASST: T. Kirk (1), DJ Meloney (4)
18:33 WKR J. Michelson (4)
ASST: Unassisted
Scoring 1 2 3 Total PP
NPA 1 0 2 3 1/5
WKR 3 2 1 6 3/6
Goaltender
NPA - A. Myers (L) 32/38 saves
WKR - L. Russell (W) 19/22 saves
Attendance: 289 - ICON Arena

MJHL Player stats

Leading scorers (MJHL)	G	A	Pts	Leading scorers (Titans)	G	A	Pts
1. Rohan Guevarra (SEL)	6	19	25	1. Talen Wallis	3	6	9
2. Nik Gudmundson (WKR)	10	14	24	2. Logan Paquette	4	4	8
3. Sebastien Hicks (WAY)	9	15	24	3. Keenan Skrupa	3	5	8
4. Ben Roulette (WAY)	8	15	23	4. Kyle Weisgarber	3	4	7
5. Wyatt Witham (SEL)	5	16	21	5. Jack Clark	3	4	7

Club 55 Bowling Minnedosa

Oct. 16, 2025: Men's High Single & Triple: Darrell Gabler 259 & 639. **Ladies' High Single:** Caroline Harding 175. **Ladies' High Triple:** Vivian Oswald 441. **Other Good Scores:** Darrell Gabler 187, 193; Vivian Oswald 167; Chuck Morden 185, 173; Judy Gabler 155; Eleanor Scott 152; Frank Porada 160, 159; Russ Taylor 212, 174; Carole LeBoutillier 156.

Sports

Neepawa Titans bested by Winkler



Titans goaltender Alex Myers faces a shot from Winkler during Neepawa's game against the Flyers on Tuesday, Oct. 21. Myers made 32 saves on the night, but was still tagged with the loss in a 6-3 defeat at ICON Arena. The next home game for the Neepawa Titans will be on Oct. 29 against the Steinbach Pistons.

PHOTO COURTESY OF RICK HIEBERT

MJHL Report: Is Selkirk for real?

By Derek Holtom
SUBMITTED

So, are the Selkirk Steelers for real this year? The answer just might be yes. Or at the very least, they are positioned to get back into the playoffs this year for the first time since 2022.

A month into the season, the Steelers sit atop the MJHL standings with 20 points in 11 games, one more than the Steinbach Pistons who have 19 points in 10 games.

The Steelers rocketed out to a similar strong start last year, only to flounder as their schedule got tougher. The finished nine points back of the Niverville Nighthawks for the final playoff spot – a team that has since their addition to the MJHL has edged out the Steelers for the final playoff spot in the East Division.

Admittedly the Steelers' schedule this year has had them playing many weaker opponents in the MJHL. This includes three games against the Winnipeg Monarchs, two against the Northern Manitoba Blizzard and one against both the Swan Valley Stampeders and Winnipeg Blues. All those teams are currently outside of the playoff line.

By comparison, the Winkler Flyers have played only playoff teams such as Steinbach, Waywayseecappo, Portage, Niverville and Selkirk. Their lone "easy" game was a 7-1 victory over the lowly Winnipeg Monarchs.

More importantly though is a pair of wins against the Winkler Flyers, who are also below the playoff line (and only have two victories in nine starts this year). For the Steelers to get back into the playoffs, they're going to have to beat teams that have

traditionally struggled against. The Winkler Flyers, who won the MJHL championship two years ago and had the best record in the league last year, is the sort of team the Steelers need to finish ahead of in the standings if they want to make the playoffs.

All that said, the only loss for the Steelers this year is the only game they have played against a team in the playoffs – a 5-3 loss to the Steinbach Pistons.

In the next 10 games the Steelers face teams such as the Dauphin Kings, Waywayseecappo Wolverines, Niverville Nighthawks and the Steinbach Pistons – all playoff teams. How they fare in the in the next 10 games will give us real insight into whether the Steelers are contenders, a playoff team, or if another collapse is in the works.

- A light week in the MJHL in terms of trades with just a pair to report.

First up, the Winnipeg Blues sent forward Nolan Masson to Timmins from the NOJHL for a player development fee (PDF).

As well, the Niverville Nighthawks sent forwards Lucas Bertolin and Matthew Bertolin to Thunder Bay of the SIJHL for a PDF.

- The MJHL Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries three stars of the week are headed up by forward Niklas Gudmundson of the Winkler Flyers. Despite their slow start, Gudmundson has a hot hand, and shown by his four goals and three assists for seven points in two games last week.

Next up is goaltender Bryson Yaschyshyn from the Dauphin Kings. The Morden native won both of his starts, posting a 1.00 GAA and a .957

save percentage.

The final winner is forward Bryce Bryant from the Virden Oil Capitals. In three games Bryant scored four goals and added one helper for a five-point week.

- And a good old-fashioned donnybrook (two of them actually) that went down when rivals Steinbach and Portage clashed has led to several suspensions.

The most severe went to rookie forward Dylan Karran, a native of St. Albert, Alta., from the Terriers. He was dinged eight games for leaving the bench to fight and being part of multiple fights at same stoppage. Other Portage players hit with suspensions include Breck Hirschof (one game for fighting off the playing surface), Noah Therrien (two games for multiple fights at the same stoppage), and head coach Blake Spiller (one game for failure to control the bench).

Steinbach Pistons suspensions include two games for multiple fights at the same stoppage to Liam Doyle and Rory Gilmour, as well as a one-game suspension to Brett Kaiser for fighting off the playing surface.

Karran finished the game with 59 minutes in penalties all by himself. Collectively, the two teams amassed a staggering 272 minutes in penalties – numbers not seen in a MJHL for years following changes to limit fighting.

That might not be the hockey the MJHL wants its players being a part of, but I'm betting the 568 fans in attendance didn't mind one bit.

Derek Holtom is freelance reporter based in Winnipeg who covers the MJHL

Regional library board presents potential levy raise

By Joshua Jackson
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

As the popular PBS kids television show 'Arthur' taught us, "having fun isn't hard when you've got a library card," and that was the point of the Westman Regional Library as Director of the Westman Regional Library, Erika Martin, alongside Neepawa Public Library Branch Supervisor Caitlin Henderson presented a potential levy increase to the Neepawa Town Council earlier this month.

According to the presentation, six municipalities contribute to the WMRL: The City of Brandon, the Town of Carberry, the Municipality of North Cypress-Langford, the Town of Neepawa, the Municipality of Glenboro South Cypress,

and the RM of Grassland.

In total, the WMRL serves 64,828 people, and membership is over 14,000 across the region. There are 1,179 members in the Neepawa Public Library. The Westman Regional Library shares expenses for staffing, resources, book-keeping, programming, and cataloging across its branches.

The WMRL presented its draft budget to the council, which the library board is set to vote on. The increase will be up from \$14.50 per capita to \$14.80, which equates to a 4.6 per cent increase. The WMRL is increasing their levies by 4.6 per cent, which equates to an increase of \$3,965 for the Town of Neepawa. The reason for the increase is due to the general rising costs of everything from

supplies to toilet paper, which is putting a strain on the WMRL.

Last year, the levy was raised by \$1, which was a 7.6 per cent increase. During the presentation, it was pointed out that the Selkirk Library recently entered a three-year agreement and saw its rates rise by 20 per cent in the first year.

"We have increases on everything from our supplies down to toilet paper, receipt print paper, and books, especially, have increased. The cost of doing a library is going up, and a 4.6 per cent increase is just staying at the status quo if I'm being honest," said Martin.

Plenty to do at the library

There are many benefits that the Neepawa Public

Library and the WMRL provide our community.

The WMRL has around 124,000 physical items available to everyone across the region. Neepawa has around 18,000 items. 72,000 items available via e-library apps.

The Neepawa Library hosts programming year-round, which is available for free, and you don't need a library card. They strive to host a variety of activities for all ages, from book clubs and story times to children's activities, and even Dungeons and Dragons sessions.

The library also takes pride in getting out around the community. They attend events such as Neepawa's Got Pride to raise awareness of the library services. The Neepawa Public Library also has a good relationship. The

Neepawa Library operates a free library at the Neepawa Campground and celebrates local authors.

More than just books

The Neepawa Library offers many other services, such as audiobooks and loaning out their new Envoy Connects—an easy-to-use, portable device for reading accessible audiobooks. The library contains resources members can borrow, such as Leapfrog Kids Learning, a stargazing kit, and more. The library prides itself on offering lots of activities available for kids, such as scavenger hunts, a craft corner, different books, and even some toys in the library.

The Neepawa Library and WMRL have also noticed more school-aged children and teenagers

coming to the library because it's a place where they can be, and they won't have to spend money.

With the census in Neepawa expected to show growth, as the population in Neepawa continues to grow, Martin reminded council that when families move in, they're the demographic that needs the library.

"Where else can you go for three hours and not spend a penny out of your pocket for that afternoon. They can take their kids to Lego Club, study in the back corner, read a book quietly, check on some government documents they need on the computer or access the free wifi. We offer programming, physical and digital resources."

Westman Youth Choir concludes area tour



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ARTSFORWARD AND RRAIN PRIOR

The Westman Youth Choir had a very busy time recently as the group toured the Westman area, performing both private and public concerts. As part of the tour, the choir provided quality entertainment in Neepawa on Monday, Oct. 20. A public performance was put on that evening at the Neepawa United-Anglican Church (pictured right).

Earlier in the day, the Westman Youth Choir was hosted at ArtsForward for an eagerly welcomed lunch, and some time to rest and socialize. The lunch was prepared by Fil-Can of Neepawa & Area, and also included Farmery Craft Sodas and pandesal buns from Rotor's Bakery. Scenes from the lunch hour activities are pictured at left and middle.



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- Please check your ad when first published the Neepawa Banner & Press will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion.
- All copy is subject to approval by the Neepawa Banner & Press.
- We reserve the right to edit copy or to refuse to publish any advertisement we deem illegal, libelous, misleading or offensive

To PLACE AN AD:

Telephone: 204-476-3401
Email: ads@neepawabanner.com

All word classifieds must be prepaid before printing

Personal

Crisis Pregnancy Centre
Winnipeg: Need to talk? Call our free help line, 1-800-665-0570 or contact our Westman office: 204-727-6161

Notice

Drug problem? Yellowhead Narcotics Anonymous meets Sundays at 7 pm, at the Minnedosa Town Hall basement.

Minnedosa Handivan 204-868-8164 Mon-Fri 9:00-3:30

Notice

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings currently being held at 342 Mountain Ave, Neepawa, Thursdays at 7 pm. Call Don 204-856-9072 or Debby 204-352-4065

Thank You

In Loving Memory of Clinton

Our deepest gratitude to our family, friends, neighbors, and the Gladstone community.

Clinton was born and raised in Gladstone and chose to stay here to farm and build a life and family. Your support has shown the deep bonds he made and valued the most.

Clinton was taken from us far too soon, and we are all mourning our father, son, brother, uncle, and our rock. Everyone has made it easier knowing he was loved, cherished, and appreciated.

The outpouring of support and love continues to help our family in so many ways. We are grateful for the kindness and hold tightly to our memories and the lasting impact everyone has made.

With heartfelt thanks,
The Winters Family

Obituary

Norma Minerva Owen (Welbourne)
December 19, 1933 - October 5, 2025

Norma Owen peacefully passed away Sunday morning October 5, 2025 at the Carberry Personal Care Home, where she had resided since January 27, 2023.

Norma was born in Newdale, Manitoba on December 19, 1933. She was the fourth child out of thirteen born to James and Minerva Welbourne. She was raised on the family farm and attended Mount Calm School with her siblings. Norma moved to Winnipeg, where she pursued her dream of being a Licensed Practical Nurse, completing her practicum in Hamiota, Manitoba, where she met Harold Owen. On September 14, 1955, Norma and Harold were married in Newdale. Mom & Dad raised their family of five children in Neepawa, Manitoba. Mom stayed home with her children until 1965, when she took a refresher course and went to work at the Neepawa Memorial District Hospital. She worked until her retirement in 1994. Norma then worked for We Care - Janice Bailey's business.

Mom loved to sew, making her kids clothes, quilts and baby blankets. She also enjoyed crocheting and knitting. Her hands held several balls of wool over the years.

Mom was involved with the church, attending Sunday Services, ladies' auxiliary, Neepawa UCW ladies Unit 6, Band Boosters, Fine Arts Festival, Rifle Club, Neepawa Health Auxiliary, 4-H Garden & Sewing Club and a member of the LOBA. Big gardens were always planted and canning and freezing completed each year with the help of her family, plus she was very supportive of any activities her children were involved in.

Mom was predeceased by her parents, her son Clarke in 1976, her husband in 2010 and brothers Bob, Lionel, Dwight, Bill, Gordon and Bryan and sister Emily at birth.

Norma is survived by her 3 daughters Audrey, Dianne & Nancy and son Gladwyne; Grandchildren Angela (Craig), Megan, Kellie, Jonathan, Kristopher & Kelsey (baby due February 2026); Great Grandchildren Castor and Jaxson; sisters Helen, Marlene (Ted), Sandra (Jim), and brothers Eric and Duncan.

Donations can be made to Carberry Palliative Care or Neepawa Health Auxiliary. White's Funeral Home of Neepawa, Carberry and Minnedosa in care of arrangements. www.whitesfh.ca

I believe Mom was happiest when visiting with family and friends or in the kitchen preparing a meal for a family gathering.

LOVE YOU FOREVER MOMXOXOXO

For Sale or Rent

Storage vans (semi trailers) for rent or sale. Anderson's 204-385-2685, 204-385-2997 Gladstone

For Rent

Apartment for rent. Bri-Mont apartments, 331 Mountain Avenue. Phone 204-841-4419

For Rent

Fully furnished, walk in shower in master bedroom. Roman bathtub in washroom. Kitchen supplied completely. Hydro/water, Washer/dryer included. For \$700. Two bdrms renting for \$400 each. All units have fridge, microwave, air cond. Access to walk out terrace available. Pet friendly. All units are newly renovated. House situated in Laurier, MB. 1-204-447-3350

Tender

TURTLE RIVER SCHOOL DIVISION

2025/2026
Snow Removal
Tenders

Turtle River School Division invites tenders for Snow Removal at the following locations:

**Alonsa School • McCreary School
Ecole Laurier • McCreary Bus Garage
Glenella School • Ste. Rose School**

Please tender separately for each location. Tenders are to be on a per hour basis, complete with specifications of snow removal equipment and their individual hourly rate.

The lowest, or any tender not necessarily accepted.

Please mark submitted tenders SNOW REMOVAL TENDER. Sealed submissions will be accepted by the undersigned until 12:00 noon November 7th, 2025. Please send Snow Removal Tender submissions to:

Stephen Oversby
Maintenance Supervisor
Turtle River School Division
Box 309 McCreary, Manitoba
R0J 1B0
Email: soversby@trsd.ca
Phone: (204) 835-2067 Fax: (204) 835-2426

For Rent

Sunny executive bungalow on Brandon's north hill overlooking Research station and Coral Centre. Winter months or more \$2100.00 for mature couple. No pets, or smoking. Call 1-204-725-3191.

For Sale

Fresh Vegetables for sale. Tomatoes, onions, potatoes, tomatoe juice. Onions 5lb \$6. Potatoes 50 lbs \$25 Tomato juice \$2. per liter. Can deliver. Call Bruce 204-466-3088. Bauman's RR1 Austin

Archives

Neepawa Banner & Press offers full research and re-print services from our archives that go back to 1896. Additional copies of papers, \$2 each depending on availability. Re-print of a page from past copies, \$2 per page. Archival research, \$25 per hour with a \$10 minimum. Individual photos on photo paper \$5 depending if we have a suitable original in our digital, print or photo archives. Ken Waddell, publisher

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Notice

Rolling River School Division Board of Trustees

invites

Interested individuals to present their views on educational and budget priorities for the Board of Trustees to consider in setting the 2026-2027 budget.

How to provide input:

- Send a written submission for the Board's review.
- Make a presentation at a Board meeting.
- Visit the school division website, rrds.mb.ca (click on the Budget Input link)

Forward a written submission or a request to make a presentation at a Board meeting to the attention of:

Rolling River School Division
c/o Kathlyn McNabb, Secretary-Treasurer
Box 1170
Minnedosa, MB R0J 1E0
kmcnabb@rrsd.mb.ca

2026 BOARD OF REVISION

Public Notice is hereby given that the 2026 Assessment Roll for the Town of Neepawa will be delivered to the Municipal Office, 275 Hamilton St., Neepawa, MB, on or before October 17, 2025 and will be open for public inspection during regular business hours. Applications for revision may be made in accordance with Sections 42 and 43 of the Assessment Act.

APPLICATION FOR REVISION SECTION 42(1) Any person in whose name property has been assessed, a mortgagee in possession of property under Section 114 (1) of the Real Property Act, an occupier of premises who is required under the terms of a lease to pay the taxes on the property, or the assessor may make application for the revision of an assessment roll with respect to:

- liability to taxation;
- amount of an assessed value;
- classification of property; or
- refusal by an assessor to amend the assessment roll under Section 13(2)

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS SECTION 43(1) An application for revision must:

- be made in writing;
- set out the roll number and legal description of the assessable property for which the revision is sought;
- state the grounds on which the application is based; and
- be filed by:
 - delivering it or causing it to be delivered to the office indicated in the public notice given under subsection 41(2) or;
 - serving it upon the CAO, at least 15 days before the scheduled sitting date of the board, as indicated in the public notice.

The Board of Revision will sit at the Town of Neepawa Municipal Office on Tuesday, November 18, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at to hear applications. The final date on which applications must be received by the Secretary of the Board is November 3, 2025 between regular office hours (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

Prior to filing a complaint against the liability to taxation, the amount of the assessed value, or the classification of property, you are encouraged to discuss the matter with the Provincial Municipal Assessment Branch: Minnedosa, (204) 867-4760. Appeal forms can be found at neepawa.ca under Residents, Property Tax or 275 Hamilton St.

Dated at The Town of Neepawa, this 10th day of October, 2025.

Neepawa
Land of Plenty

CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE

TUESDAY NOON
Cancellations and corrections only within business hours and corresponding deadlines.

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Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF the estate of Edith Loretta Habke, late of Neepawa, Manitoba.

ALL CLAIMS against the above Estate must be filed with the undersigned at 2210 Saskatchewan Avenue W., Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, R1N 0X1, within fifteen (15) days of the date of publication.

DATED at Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, this 17th day of October, 2025.

CHRISTIANSON TDS,
Solicitors for the Executor

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the Neepawa Banner & Press

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item to announce? An exciting change in operations? Though we cannot guarantee publication, MCNA will get the information into the right hands for ONLY \$35.00 + GST/HST. Call MCNA (204) 947-1691 for more information. See www.mcna.com under the "Types of Advertising" tab for more details.

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Oct. 22nd @ 7:00 PM

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Oct. 29th @ 7:00 PM

Featuring: Building Supply
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204-467-1858
or 204-886-7027
mcsherrytld@gmail.com

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for Walter Horta

Tuesday, Nov 4th @ 7:00PM

#1 Larter Cres, St Andrews, MB
Contact: 204-771-2429

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(Lots Treated), Cultured Stone,
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Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION
SALE OF LANDS FOR ARREARS OF TAXES
MUNICIPALITY OF MCCREARY



Pursuant to subsection 367(7) of The Municipal Act, notice is hereby given that unless the tax arrears for the designated year and costs in respect of the hereinafter described properties are paid in full to the Municipality prior to the commencement of the auction, the Municipality will on the 13th day of November, 2025, at the hour of 02:00 PM, at Municipality of McCreary, 432 First Avenue, McCreary, MB, proceed to sell by public auction the following described properties:

Roll Number	Description	Assessed Value	Amount of Arrears & Costs for Which Property May be Offered for Sale
105200	LOT 38 PLAN 6271 NLTO EXC: ALL MINES AND MINERALS IN DEED 140611 NLTO IN NE 1/4 33-20-15 WPM - 462 JONASSON CRES, MCCREARY	L -\$4,000	\$2,421.45
109600	LOT 3 PLAN 807 NLTO EXC: ALL MINES AND MINERALS IN DEED 140611 NLTO IN NE 1/4 33-20-15 WPM - 211 BURROWS RD S, MCCREARY	L -\$4,000 B -\$12,900	\$10,097.76
119550	LOT 1 PLAN 41878 NLTO SUBJECT TO SPECIAL RESERVATIONS AS TO MINES MINERALS AND OTHER MATTERS AS PARTICULARLY DEFINED IN THE ORIGINAL GRANT FROM THE CROWN IN SE 1/4 4-21-15 WPM - 120086 ROAD 87W	L -\$10,100 B -\$202,500	\$21,876.23
143100	LOT 2 BLOCK 'B' PLAN 500 NLTO SUBJECT TO SPECIAL RESERVATIONS AS TO MINES MINERALS AND OTHER MATTERS AS PARTICULARLY DEFINED IN THE ORIGINAL GRANT FROM THE CROWN IN SE 1/4 4-21-15 WPM - 604 BURROWS ROAD N, MCCREARY	L -\$4,500 B -\$80,300	\$12,128.34
144200	AT MCCREARY AND BEING: LOT 18 AND THE SLY 2 FEET OF LOT 19 BLOCK 'B' SS PLAN 500 NLTO SUBJECT TO SPECIAL RESERVATIONS AS TO MINES MINERALS AND OTHER MATTERS AS PARTICULARLY DEFINED IN THE ORIGINAL GRANT FROM THE CROWN IN SE 1/4 4-21-15 WPM - 610 BURROWS ROAD N, MCCREARY	L -\$3,800 B -\$39,300*	\$10,177.77

*Roll 144200 - The assessed value is subject to review for 2026 (\$1,800). The Purchaser, at their sole expense, must obtain permits for and remove the building on this parcel.

The tax sale is subject to the following terms and conditions with respect to each property:

- The purchaser of the property will be responsible for any unpaid municipal utilities and any property taxes not yet due.
- The Municipality may exercise its right to set a reserve bid in the amount of the arrears and costs.
- If the purchaser intends to bid by proxy, a letter of authorization form must be presented prior to the start of the auction.
- The Municipality makes no representations or warranties whatsoever concerning the properties being sold.
- The successful purchaser must, at the time of the sale, make payment in cash, certified cheque or bank draft to the MUNICIPALITY OF MCCREARY as follows:
 - The full purchase price if it is \$10,000 or less; OR
 - If the purchase price is greater than \$10,000, the purchaser must provide a non-refundable deposit in the amount of \$10,000 and the balance of the purchase price must be paid within 20 days of the sale; AND
 - A fee in the amount \$500.85 (\$477 + GST) for preparation of the transfer of title documents. The purchaser will be responsible for registering the transfer of title documents in the land titles office, including the registration costs.
- The risk for the property lies with the purchaser immediately following the auction.
- The purchaser is responsible for obtaining vacant possession.
- If the property is non-residential property, the purchaser must pay GST to the Municipality or, if a GST registrant, provide a GST Declaration.

Dated this 9th day of October, 2025.

Managed by:



Lorilee Ryzner
Chief Administrative Officer
MUNICIPALITY OF MCCREARY
Phone: (204) 835-2309
Fax: (204) 835-2649



NOTICE OF APPLICATION
MUNICIPALITY OF WESTLAKE-GLADSTONE
REVISED WATER AND WASTEWATER] RATES
GLADSTONE WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITY

October 8, 2025

The Municipality of Westlake-Gladstone (Municipality) has applied to the Public Utilities Board (Board) for revised water and wastewater rates for the Gladstone Water and Wastewater Utility (Utility) as set out in By-Law No. 2025-11, read the first time on May 21, 2025. Rates were last approved in 2019 in Board Order No. 82/19, with current rates coming into effect January 1, 2022. In Board Order No. 62/25, an approval in principle was granted in May 2025 to recover debenture servicing costs. A deficit recovery rate rider was approved in November 2024 in Board Order No. 134/24 and in June 2023 in Board Order No. 75/23.

The current and proposed rates are as follows:

	Current Rates	Proposed Rates		
	By-Law No. 2019-01	Year 1 By-Law No. 2025-11	Year 2 By-Law No. 2025-11	Year 3 By-Law No. 2025-11
Quarterly Service Charge	\$15.25	\$20.10	\$21.86	\$23.61
Water (per 1,000 gallons)*	\$18.38	\$22.30	\$23.72	\$25.14
Wastewater (per 1,000 gallons)	\$4.89	\$6.35	\$6.88	\$7.40
Rate Rider - Board Order No. 134/24 (per 1,000 gallons)	\$2.73	\$2.73	\$2.73	\$ -
Rate Rider - Board Order No. 75/23 (per 1,000 gallons)	\$0.94	\$0.94	\$ -	\$ -
Debt Surcharge - Board Order No. 62/25 (per 1,000gallons)	\$ -	\$ -	\$2.63	\$2.63
Minimum Quarterly Charge**	\$85.06	\$106.05	\$113.66	\$121.23
Minimum Quarterly Charge + Rate Rider + Debt Surcharge**	\$96.07	\$117.06	\$129.74	\$129.12
Bulk Water (per 1,000 gallons)*	\$24.58	\$26.78	\$28.28	\$29.78
Minimum Quarterly Unmetered Wastewater only***	\$54.37	\$70.90	\$76.90	\$82.81
Minimum Quarterly Unmetered Wastewater only (Rate includes Rate Rider and Debt Surcharge)***	\$ -	\$100.26	\$119.78	\$103.85
Hydrant Rentals (annually)	\$75.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
Lagoon Tipping Fee (per truck load up to 3,000 gallons)	\$25.00	\$40.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00

*Current rate includes passthrough rates from Yellowhead regional Water Co-op

**Based on 3,000 gallons

***Based on 8,000 gallons

Details of the Municipality's application are available for review at the Municipal office or the Board's office. Any questions concerning the application for revised rates, or the operation of the Utility, should be sent directly to the Municipality.

Room 400 – 330 Portage Avenue Winnipeg, MB R3C 0C4 www.pubmanitoba.ca
330, avenue Portage, pièce 400 Winnipeg (Manitoba) Canada R3C 0C4 www.pubmanitoba.ca

If you have concerns/comments regarding the Municipality's application for water and wastewater rates, please go to www.pubmanitoba.ca and provide your comment. Please note all comments will be forwarded to the Municipality.

Questions or comments should be sent on or before November 21, 2025.

The Board is the provincial regulatory agency that reviews and approves rates for water and wastewater utilities in Manitoba, with the exception of the City of Winnipeg. The Board's review process involves:

- the Utility filing a rate application to the Board,
- a public notification of proposed rate changes,
- the Board's review of the application through a public hearing or paper review process, and
- the issuance of an Order which outlines the Board's decision on the rate application and the rates to be charged.

The Manitoba Ombudsman has privacy guidelines for administrative tribunals. The Board is mindful of its obligations under those guidelines. Its decisions in respect of the application being considered will be sensitive to the guidelines. Personal information will not be disclosed unless it is appropriate and necessary to do so. However, the Board advises participants that these proceedings are public and that as a result, personal information protections are reduced.

The Board will then decide whether any further notice is required and whether to proceed with a public hearing or paper review process. All concerns received by the Board will be considered in the Board's decision on rates to be charged.

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT IN CONSIDERING THIS APPLICATION, THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD MAY OR MAY NOT FIND IT NECESSARY TO DETERMINE RATES DIFFERENT FROM THOSE APPLIED FOR BY THE APPLICANT.

Note: All proceedings will be conducted in accordance with the Board's Rules of Practice and Procedure, which the Board may vary in order to constrain regulatory costs. The Rules are available at www.pubmanitoba.ca.

Frederick Mykytyshyn Assistant Associate Secretary
Manitoba Public Utilities Board

Help Wanted

 HyLife
FOODS
Industrial Plant Cleaner (NOC 65312)

Why join our team?
HyLife is a global leader in food processing, with a vision to be the best food company in the world. To achieve this, we are currently expanding our team and have exciting career opportunities at 623 Main St. Neepawa, MB. We are actively seeking to fill 10 positions.

The current starting wage is \$22.20/hour with incremental increases to \$23.55/hour based on tenure as per our Collective Agreement

- Quick Facts:**
- Culturally diverse – employ people from all over the world
 - Fully integrated facility –Feed Mills, Barns, Transportation, and Production Plant
 - 2500+ employees worldwide
 - We Care about our employees, communities, customers, animals, and our environment

- What we can offer you:**
- Competitive Wage
 - Vacation: 10 working days of paid vacation as per our collective bargaining agreement
 - Comprehensive Benefits package – health coverage, dental plan, vision care, long-term disability, and pension plan
 - Permanent full-time employment (74-80 hours per bi-weekly)
 - PM Shift
 - Full training, with genuine opportunities for career progression
 - Employee Referral program - \$500!
 - Free parking
 - Company events
 - And more!!!!

- Your duties may include:**
- Cleaning and sanitizing butcher and slaughter production areas and everything in between to ensure top-quality food safety standards.
 - Operating cleaning equipment like high-pressure hoses to clean production equipment.
 - Using cleaning chemicals with respect and following Material Safety Data Sheets.
 - Ensuring all Quality Assurance checks are performed.
 - Maintaining a safe, clean, and organized work area throughout the facility.
 - Collaborating as a team to meet tight deadlines, ensuring production floors operate on time.

- We are looking for people who are:**
- Fit and capable of working in a physically demanding role. Capable of bending, lifting, and climbing.
 - Available to work an 8-hour Night Shift from Monday-Friday, between 11:15 PM to 9:00 AM
 - Capable of repetitive manual tasks and standing for long periods of time
 - Capable of working in diverse environments, including exposure to varying temperatures, humidity, and odors
 - Minimum of one (1) to seven (7) months experience in sanitation, or industrial cleaning, or heavy-duty cleaning
 - Completion of Secondary school or equivalent experience
 - Able to effectively communicate in English
 - At least 18 years old to meet the minimum age requirement

HyLife is dedicated to promoting equal employment opportunities for all job applicants, including those who identify as a member of the following groups: Indigenous people, Newcomers to Canada, Older workers, Veterans, and Visible minorities.

Ways to apply:
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HyLife has an accommodation process for employees with disabilities. If you require a specific accommodation during your employment because of a disability, please contact Jobs@hylife.com. An HR representative will be in touch with you as soon as possible. Reasonable accommodations will be determined on a case-by-case basis and our accommodation policy can be forwarded upon request.

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We thank all applicants, however, only those under consideration will be contacted



www.neepawabanner.com

Help Wanted

 HyLife
FOODS
Hog Receiving Barn Worker (NOC85100)

Why join our team?
HyLife is a global leader in food processing, with a vision to be the best food company in the world. To achieve this, we are currently expanding our team and have exciting career opportunities at 623 Main St. Neepawa, MB. We are actively seeking to fill 5 positions.

The current starting wage is \$19.25/hour with incremental increases to \$20.55/hour based on tenure

- Quick Facts:**
- Culturally diverse – employ people from all over the world
 - Fully integrated facility –Feed Mills, Barns, Transportation, and Production Plant
 - 2500+ employees worldwide
 - We Care about our employees, communities, customers, animals, and our environment

- What we can offer you:**
- Competitive Wage
 - Vacation: 10 working days of paid vacation
 - Comprehensive Benefits package – health coverage, dental plan, vision care, long-term disability, and pension plan
 - Permanent full-time employment (74-80 hours per bi-weekly)
 - PM Shift Premium
 - Full training, with genuine opportunities for career progression
 - Employee Referral program - \$500!
 - Free parking
 - Company events
 - And more!!!!

- Your duties may involve:**
- Receiving and unloading hog deliveries.
 - Sorting hogs into appropriate receiving pens.
 - Ensuring humane and safe handling of hogs in our facility.
 - Completing hog receiving documents to CFIA standards.
 - Scraping trailers.
 - Working outdoors and in a barn environment.

- To excel in this role, you should possess:**
- Respect for animal welfare, food safety, and workplace safety. Understanding of animal behavior
 - Capable of working in diverse environments, including exposure to varying temperatures, humidity, and odors
 - Minimum of one (1) to seven (7) months experience working with livestock
 - Fit and capable of working in a physically demanding role. Capable of bending, lifting, and crawling
 - Completion of Secondary school or equivalent experience
 - Capable of repetitive manual tasks
 - Able to effectively communicate in English
 - At least 18 years old to meet the minimum age requirement

HyLife is dedicated to promoting equal employment opportunities for all job applicants, including those who identify as a member of the following groups: Indigenous people, Newcomers to Canada, Older workers, Veterans, and Visible minorities.

Ways to apply:
Online at <http://hylife.com/careers/> or mail to PO Box 10,000, 623 Main St E, Neepawa, MB R0J 1H0.
Fax to: 204.476.3791 | Email to: jobs@hylife.com | In Person at 623 Main ST. E, Neepawa, MB R0J 1H0

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Help Wanted

 HyLife
FOODS
Industrial Butcher (NOC 94141)

Why join our team?
HyLife is a global leader in food processing, with a vision to be the best food company in the world. To achieve this, we are currently expanding our team and have exciting career opportunities at 623 Main St. Neepawa, MB. We are actively seeking to fill 100 positions.

The current starting wage is \$16.45/hour with incremental increases to \$24.60/hour based on tenure as per our Collective Agreement

- Quick Facts:**
- Culturally diverse – employ people from all over the world
 - Fully integrated facility –Feed Mills, Barns, Transportation, and Production Plant
 - 2500+ employees worldwide
 - We Care about our employees, communities, customers, animals, and our environment

- What we can offer you:**
- Competitive Wage
 - Vacation: 10 working days of paid vacation as per our collective bargaining agreement
 - Comprehensive Benefits package – health coverage, dental plan, vision care, long-term disability, and pension plan
 - Permanent full-time employment (74-80 hours per bi-weekly)
 - PM Shift Premium
 - Full training, with genuine opportunities for career progression
 - Employee Referral program - \$500!
 - Free parking
 - Company events
 - And more!!!!

- Your duties may include:**
- Slaughter, eviscerate, and mark hogs for further processing;
 - Debone edible parts and remove inedible organs for parts;
 - Cut pork carcasses into primal cuts for further processing, cutting, or packaging for local, national, and international premium markets.

- We are looking for people who are:**
- Fit and capable of working in a physically demanding role
 - Capable of repetitive manual tasks and standing for long periods of time
 - Open to working in colder/warmer environments
 - Minimum of one (1) to seven (7) months experience in meat cutting or slaughter or completed a program in Industrial Meat cutting
 - Completion of Secondary school or equivalent experience
 - Able to effectively communicate in English

HyLife is dedicated to promoting equal employment opportunities for all job applicants, including those who identify as a member of the following groups: Indigenous people, Newcomers to Canada, Older workers, Veterans, and Visible minorities.

Ways to apply:
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We thank all applicants, however, only those under consideration will be contacted



Help Wanted



**Chief Administrative Officer
Full Time Permanent Position**

The Council of the Municipality of WestLake-Gladstone is seeking an individual with strong leadership skills for the position of Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). This is a permanent full-time position.

WestLake-Gladstone is a large municipality with a population of 3,273, at the 2021 census. There are four communities of interest within the Municipality: Gladstone, Plumas, Westbourne and Langruth.

In addition to supporting the Head of Council and Council, the CAO also fosters a collaborative and service-oriented workplace culture by supporting and supervising staff across administration and public works departments. The CAO is responsible for providing leadership for the general management and stewardship of the municipality.

The CAO works cohesively with the elected officials and residents, community organizations and neighbouring municipalities to advance the priorities of Council.

- Key responsibilities include:**
- Direct general administrative affairs of the Municipality and perform all duties and responsibilities in accordance with the Municipal Act.
 - Recommend objectives, policies and programs to Council and provide support and advice on new initiatives and fiscal matters.
 - Direct the implementation and monitor progress of policies and programs approved by Council.
 - Provide responsible financial planning and management of a budget over \$8.0 million. Prepare and monitor the annual financial plan including the general operating budget, capital budget, and the five-year capital plan. As well as administer the entire taxation process, including the collection of overdue accounts and the tax sale process. PSAB accounting reporting procedures and TCA reporting.
 - Manage all human resource functions, including hiring, development, performance management, and team engagement.

While prior CAO experience is an asset, the Municipality welcomes applications from emerging leaders who bring strong municipal operations expertise, ambition, and the capacity to grow into the CAO role. As CAO, you will be a key partner to Council and the community in shaping the Municipality's future.

Preference may be given to applicants with five years practical experience in finance, human resources, or public administration as well as CMMa designation or similar or willingness to obtain these certifications in a timely manner.

The successful candidate can expect a comprehensive benefits package as well as a defined benefit pension plan – Municipal Employees Benefit Program (MEBP).

Wages will be determined based on experience, education, and skill level.

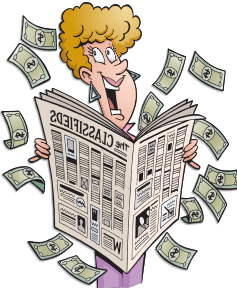
In confidence, applicants are encouraged to electronically submit their resume, a cover letter, three work-related references and salary expectations by 3:00pm on Monday November 3, 2025 to the following address:

Municipality of WestLake-Gladstone
Box 150
Gladstone, MB.
R0J 0T0
E-mail: assistantcao@westlake-gladstone.ca

For further information about this career opportunity, please feel free to contact the Municipality of WestLake-Gladstone at 204-385-2332

We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only those selected will be contacted for an interview.

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Minnedosa's RD's on Main celebrates 10 years of community, culture, and cuisine



PHOTO BY JOSHUA JACKSON

RD's on Main in Minnedosa hosted its 10th anniversary last week. The restaurant hosted a by donation buffet, which This year, which raised \$2716 for the Minnedosa Health District Auxiliary.

By Joshua Jackson
NEEPAWA BANNER & PRESS

A Minnedosa staple is celebrating a decade of delicious memories as RD's on Main marked its 10th anniversary this month. Owner, Raj Mishra and his family have lived in the area since 2010, and have worked at area restaurants

until he had the chance to start his own endeavour. "We bought the place in Minnedosa in 2016, and we've been very successful so far," he said. "We really enjoy having a business here and helping out our community." To celebrate the milestone, RD's on Main hosted a free buffet to celebrate its

anniversary while giving back to the community. Patrons are encouraged to pay what they can, with the donations going to a local charity. This year, the buffet helped raise \$2716 for the Minnedosa Health District Auxiliary. Mishra said it's gratifying to see everyone coming to support their restaurant and help give back to the Town of Minnedosa. "When we came into this town, we didn't know anything about anybody. Luckily, the town (of Minnedosa) supported us. They welcomed us and are very friendly," he said. "We try to give the best quality, quantity, and service. We have prided ourselves on doing that for the past 10 years, and we are hoping to have more success in the coming years." Mishra emphasized the restaurant's success isn't just about the food, but about the relationships they've built over the years. From

recognizing his regulars by name to supporting local causes, the owner of RD's on Main believes in the importance of connection and gratitude. "We do business in our town, and we help the community, and the community helps me to give back. It's the small things like we did at our 10th anniversary. We try to give something to them to get back to them, which takes a good relationship with the customer," he said. Mishra picked up the profession since he was a young boy and attributed his love of the industry to his parents. "I didn't have enough money to go to school, so I started learning from my parents; they had a restaurant too. I started slowly learning and helping them," he said. "From there, I started going to big kitchens, like four-star hotels and restaurants, and I started learning under the chef.



PHOTO BY JOSHUA JACKSON

RD's on Main Owner, Raj Mishra and his family have lived in the area since 2010, and started their restaurnt in 2016.

When I came to Canada, I learned many things, including the culture. I try to bring a fusion of Canadian and Asian culture together." RD's on Main is nestled within the town of Minnedosa's core. The restaurant boasts an atmosphere and menu fit for the whole family, from classic breakfasts to lunch staples, fried chicken, and Indian cuisine.

Plus, RD's offers a supper buffet and an Indian buffet on select nights. As to what the future holds for Mishra, he said that he's hoping to share some exciting news in the next little bit about expanding his business. "Our new location is going to be coming very soon in Neepawa," he said.



ACCEPTED MATERIALS



Newspapers, flyers, envelopes, & office paper



Steel containers for food & beverage



Plastic bottles, tubs, jugs, & clamshell containers



Egg cartons, cereal & tissue paper boxes, cardboard boxes & tubes



Aluminum containers for food & beverage



Milk cartons, juice boxes, & soup cartons

HAPPY RECYCLING WEEK!

Visit the Recyclepedia for detailed information:
SimplyRecycle.ca/Recyclepedia

NON-ACCEPTED MATERIALS



Paper cups



Paper towels, tissues, & napkins



Black plastics



Foam packaging of any kind



Aluminum foil, pie plates, & trays



Highly-flexible plastics (bags, pouches, wrap)

RM of Alonsa | Municipality of Clanwilliam-Erickson | Town of Carberry
Municipality of Glenella-Lansdowne | Municipality of Harrison Park | Town of Minnedosa
Municipality of McCreary | RM of Minto-Odanah | Town of Neepawa
Municipality of North-Cypress Langford | RM of Rosedale | Municipality of Ste. Rose
Municipality of West Lake Gladstone

Space provided through a partnership between industry and Manitoba municipalities to support waste diversion programs



Preparing for the future



PHOTOS BY JOEL ASSELSTINE

The Town of Neepawa has started one last improvement project before the winter arrives. Crews have dug up a section of Mountain Avenue, close to Commerce Street. This work is beleived to be a prelude for a planned expansion of the nearby school.

As a part of this work, however, a water disruption notice has been released, effective immediately. The disruption will impact buildings on Mountain Avenue from William Street to Seeds and Sprouts.

As well, a boil water advisory will be in place for that area until further notice. Work on the section of road, and water lines will be completed as quickly as possible.

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Saturday, October 25,
2025 • 1-3 pm

It's beaver business



PHOTO BY ROB WADDELL

This beaver was spotted in the area by photographer Rob Waddell. Fall is a very busy season for these animals, as they begin working on their lodges, building up their body fat and food reserves, and more, in preparation for the winter season. As they remain active in winter, these tasks are important beaver business!

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Farmers' Advocate



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On a clear day...!



PHOTO BY ROB WADDELL

On a clear day, you can see forever. For motorists and hikers that ascend the Riding Mountain escarpment, fall is a great time of year to take in one of the best views in Manitoba. Even on into mid October there were lots of colour to see and warm weather to enjoy.



Lyle Peters
Third Generation Hog Farmer
Randolph, MB

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ME

I work hard every day to properly raise my animals, ensuring a healthy herd.

GOOD FOR
MB

Pigs receive nutritious feed, safe living conditions, and global-leading veterinary care.





Together we grow: local farmers contribute to Canadian Foodgrain Bank

By Joshua Jackson
FARMERS' ADOVCATE

A group of farmers in the Beautiful Plains region is making a difference worldwide one harvest at a time.

As the harvest in the region is drawing to a close, some farmers in the area are taking off the last of their crops for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFB).

Locally, the Whitemud Growing Project began in 2013, after Jake Hamm purchased some land near Plumas and started planting a crop of corn as well as a crop of wheat, thanks to donated land. The project has continued to expand in the region thanks to eager farmers and local Hutterite Colonies stepping up to donate.

The Canadian Foodgrains Bank is a partnership of 15 Canadian churches and church-based agencies working together to end global hunger. The Foodgrains Bank sells donated Canadian grain and uses the proceeds to buy food locally in developing countries, which is then distributed during crises or used for long-term development projects. Through the Federal Government, the CFB leverages donations from individuals, churches and businesses, up to a ratio of 4:1 for food assistance in the developing world—up to \$25 million each year.

Volunteer Representative Jake Hamm said he's proud of the work that's been done for the CFB in the area, as well as the number of volunteers who contribute.

"It's a big harvest, especially with the matching funds from the federal government," he said. "It's nice to be provided a vehicle where others could jump in and add



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Farmers from various parts of the region continue to produce grain for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, Grain is harvested and sold to raise funds to invest in development projects around the world. The Canadian government matches the funds 4:1. Pictured here are several area farmers.

to it, and they have added to it big time. So, it's really appreciated."

One of their big hauls of grain comes from 136 Acres of land that are cultivated north of Gladstone. It marks a unique project for the local chapter of the CFB, as the lands were donated by a local lawyer who has since passed away.

"This year, we had wheat on it. With dry weather and heat, the wheat wasn't terrific. It was 40-plus bushels per acre this year, which was marketed directly to Parrish and Heimbecker in Gladstone. They made room for us right off the elevator, so we don't have to store it."

Other contributors in the Whitemud Growing Project included Odessa Colony and the Spring Hill Colony, which

harvested 106 Acres of canola, averaging 59 bushels per acre. Riverdale Colony had 50 acres of canola, while Riverside Colony also delivered a load of wheat, and the Odessa Colony and Pine Creek Colonies brought in some wheat as well, which they delivered directly.

There is also a CFB growing project in Austin, split between the MB Agricultural Museum and the Austin Heritage Harvest Growing Project.

Hamm noted there will be more deliveries being made as the season winds down, and the local project is hitting a huge milestone.

"This year, we will hit 2 million dollars that we have sent in from the White Mud growing project with this surrounding support," he said. "It's amazing what we can do collectively. One person alone couldn't do it, but collectively, we can. When you get the matching government grant, you can feed a lot of people."

According to its website, the Canadian Foodgrains Bank started in 1974, after Canadian farmers were harvesting a bumper crop at the same time that families in Bangladesh were facing famine. This grassroots initiative to send Canadian grain to people in need was the catalyst for nearly 50 years of humanitarian efforts.

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Farmers' Advocate

Memories in agriculture: growing registered seed

By Casper Wehrhahn
FARMERS' ADVOCATE

Note: This history piece was written using information culminated from the Canadian Seed Growers Association, and the book 'History of Riding Mountain and Area'.

The Canadian Seed Growers Association (CSGA) has a history spanning 121 years. Founded in 1904, it was formed to pursue crop improvements in Canada.

The Manitoba Branch of the CSGA kickstarted in 1922, when a man named M. P. Mountain, of Sols-girth, was elected as its president.

However, there are strong local bonds to the CSGA as well. One example of those bonds is Tom W. Spafford, of Riding Mountain.

Spafford became a registered seed grower in 1934, when he grew his first registered seed crop. His dedication to growing crops with registered seed throughout the years since then led him to becoming an "elite stock" grower.

According to 'History of Riding Mountain and Area', elite stock is obtained from "breeder seed"—seed that is of the highest status and used as the 'parent seed' to produce all other classes of pedigreed seed. This breeder seed is developed by the Department of Agriculture.

To this day, breeder seed



PHOTOS FROM HISTORY OF RIDING MOUNTAIN AND AREA
Ken, Gordon and Tom Spafford, of the Riding Mountain area, at Tom Spafford's registered seed plot. Inset: A close-up of Tom Spafford, pictured in 1967. He was at his Registered Neepawa Wheat plot for this photo.

is still sown, usually with a drill, in plots of an acre or two in size.

Space is also left between every six rows in order to allow for by-hand removal of any undesirable plants.

In particular, the re-

moval of these plants, formally known as 'roguing', included "bearded and semi-bearded off types, abnoxious weeds, wild oats

and speltoids". When the crop is harvested, the progeny is kept separate and is later cleaned for the next year's "foundation crop".

and speltoids".

Inspectors also check the plots row by row, and can "pass or fail" the plot depending how many undesirable plants are found.

When the crop is harvested, the progeny is kept separate and is later cleaned for the next year's "foundation crop".

The Spaffords did their seed cleaning on the farm with a fan-milling mill and Carter disc until 1950, when they moved their equipment to a building in Riding Mountain.

The Spaffords cleaned and shipped thousands of bushels of Selkirk wheat. Manitou, Neepawa, and Rodney and Harmon Oats were also processed by the Spaffords.

Tom Spafford also served as president of the CSGA's Manitoba Branch. His term of service was from 1953 to 1955. Also in 1953, Spafford was recognized with the Robertson Associate Award—a commendation given to seed growers for distinguished.

Note: Gordon Spafford also became a seed grower in the early 60s. Like his father, he also became an elite seed grower, producing and cleaning many varieties of wheat, and some oats.

RED SEAL

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2026

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ARBORG Monday, Oct. 27th Nutrien Ag Solutions 55 Main St. S (204) 376-5990	DAUPHIN Tuesday, Oct. 28th Dauphin Co-op Agro 601 Whitmore Ave. E (204) 622-6080	HOLLAND Monday, Oct. 27th Nutrien Ag Solutions Junction of Hwy 2 & Centreville Rd. (204) 723-2423	ST. CLAUDE Wednesday, Oct. 29th R-Way AG 38084 PTH 2 (204) 379-2582
BALDUR Tuesday, Oct. 28th Pembina Co-op 121 2nd St. S (204) 535-2598	DELORAIN Friday, Oct. 31st Nutrien Ag Solutions Junction of Hwy 3 & Broadway St. S (204) 747-2877	INGLIS Wednesday, Oct. 29th Prairie Giants Crop Supply 2 km E of Hwy 83 on PR 366 (204) 564-2293	STEINBACH Friday, Oct. 31st Clearview Co-op - Steinbach Agro Centre 33124 Rd. 39 N (Corner of Rd. 39 N & Hwy 12 N), Between Steinbach and Blumenort (204) 326-9921
BEAUSEJOUR Thursday, Oct. 30th Nutrien Ag Solutions 73010 Rd. 40 off Hwy 44 (204) 268-3497	DOUGLAS Wednesday, Oct. 29th Heritage Co-op - Brandon Agro Centre South on Rd. 100 W, 8 miles E of Brandon on Hwy 1 (204) 763-8998	MEADOWS Wednesday, Oct. 29th Ag Advantage Ltd. 68156 Rd. 6 W (204) 322-5351	SWAN RIVER Monday, Oct. 27th New Era Ag 520 3rd Ave. S (204) 734-6222
BIRTLE Thursday, Oct. 30th Twin Valley Co-op 66 Hwy 83 S (204) 842-3388	GLADSTONE Friday, Oct. 31st Parrish & Heimbecker 64084 Rd. 64 W (204) 385-2139	MINTO Thursday, Oct. 30th Pembina Co-op 210 S Railway St. (204) 776-2353	
		PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE Thursday, Oct. 30th Portage AgriSales Portage 38149 Hwy 1 W (204) 857-7838	

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Farmers' Advocate

Manitoba farmers racing to finish harvest

Staff Written
FARMERS' ADOVCATE

The latest crop report from the Province shows that around 93 per cent of the crops have now been harvested.

Cereal Crop Specialist Anne Kirk, who compiled the most recent report, noted that there was some strong momentum out in fields before the arrival of wet weather slowed things down.

"We had pretty good progress, [though] we did have more precipitation over the weekend, so that put a pause on harvest operations, but earlier in the week, we did have some good progress," said Kirk.

In terms of specific crops, cereal and canola harvests are essentially complete, with soybeans



PHOTO BY JODI BAKER PHOTOGRAPHY

From dawn until dusk, farmers across the region have been out in the fields attempting to complete the harvesting of crops. Pictured: Jodi Baker recently captured this striking image which encapsulates that effort. These types of images and more are for purchase and can be found online at Jodi Baker Photography.

sitting around 90 per cent. Meanwhile, grain corn was at 42 per cent and sunflowers were near 20 per cent harvested.

"The crops that are left to come off are a little bit of canola, some flax, soy-

beans, sunflowers, grain corn, and silage corn," stated Kirk.

For cereal yields, Kirk noted that they have been solid across much of the province, though conditions varied depending on

rainfall.

"For spring wheat, we're looking at about 60 bushels or just higher per acre on average, depending on the region. We did have some higher yields ranging from about 70 to 90 bushels per acre in areas that got more favourable growing conditions during the season."

Oat yields ranged from 110 to 130 bushels per acre, while barley came in between 65 and 110 bushels per acre.

Recent moisture and wind in some parts of the province has created some challenges for farmers in the final stretch. But despite those issues, most producers are satisfied with how the season turned out.

"I think in general, farmers are fairly happy with their crop," Kirk said. "Some of the pockets that were really dry during the growing season do have quite a bit lower yields, and people that weren't able to get their crops off in a timely manner would be less happy with their harvest. But I think in general, things look pretty good."

Kirk also noted that winter cereal planting is complete and crops are establishing well with the majority of winter cereals at the three-leaf stage.



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Farmers' Advocate

Manitoba Forage & Grassland Association honoured with National Water Canada Award

Submitted
MFGA MEDIA RELEASE

Manitoba Forage & Grassland Association (MFGA) is the first-ever Water Canada Awards winner of the Early Adopter or Innovation Partnership award. The MFGA Aquanty Model created by Manitoba Forage and Grassland Association and Aquanty Inc., delivers Canada's first digital twin of the Assiniboine Basin to help farmers and communities adapt to extreme weather.

Mike Duguid, MFGA chair, said the award is a huge honour for all MFGA board members and staff that have worked on the model over the years, showcasing the leadership ability of MFGA to work with farmers and farm groups to key in on water management via the model and forecasting tool as well as the important role and potential of forages and grasslands in future climate change scenarios and resilience, especially around water. Duguid tipped his hat to the outstanding ongoing partnership with Aquanty and the partnerships with Assiniboine West, Pembina Valley, Souris River and Redboine Watershed Districts as well as the Rolling River First Nations/AWWD and Swan Lake First Nations/PVWD collaborations as well as the original funders at AAFC and the Province of Manitoba.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Dr. Steven Frey (Aquanty), Mike Duguid (MFGA Chair), Duncan Morrison (MFGA ex director) and Dr. Andre Erler (Aquanty) celebrate MFGA Aquanty Model's win at 16th annual Water Canada Awards Oct. 16 in Toronto.

MFGA zeros in on Province's net zero plans for Regen Ag

Submitted
MFGA MEDIA RELEASE

The Manitoba government has unveiled Manitoba's Path to Net Zero, a strategy guided by the Indigenous teachings of gathering manoomin (wild rice)—a bold plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, strengthen communities and build a resilient, low-carbon economy that benefits all Manitobans, Premier Wab Kinew and Environment and Climate

Change Minister Mike Moyes announced earlier this month.

Of special interest to MFGA audiences, the strategy includes sector-based opportunities around sustainable agriculture, including key initiatives around the advancement of regenerative agriculture and BMPs. For more information and to view the full roadmap, visit <https://manitoba.ca/netzero/>

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Memories in Agriculture: the Circle C Calf Club



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BEAUTIFUL PLAINS MUSEUM
This photograph from Manitoba's agricultural history features the Circle C Calf Club. This calf club was based in the Beautiful Plains area, and was one of many calf clubs that could be found throughout Manitoba back in the day. This particular photo is dated to the 1940s.

Pictured in the back row, from left to right, are: Peden Connell, Clarence Minkus, Merr Simon, Don Conrod, and Archie McNair.

Middle row: Joyce Campbell, Jean McNair, Verla Simon, Jean Connell, and Mary Lindsay.

Front row: Shirley Wilkinson and Clarence Wilkinson.

If anyone has further information, please email Casper at the Neepawa Banner & Press via newsroom@neepawapress.com.

Thank you for reading the Farmers' Advocate!

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Farmers' Advocate

Province extends rent freeze for agricultural crown lands

Media Release

MANITOBA BEEF PRODUCERS

The Manitoba government is extending the rent freeze for Agricultural Crown Lands (ACL) forage leases into the 2026 growing season, continuing its commitment to making life more affordable for producers. Agriculture Minister Ron Kostyshyn announced.

"Manitoba producers are the backbone of the provincial economy and our government is committed to keeping life affordable for the hard-working Manitobans who put food on our tables," said Kostyshyn. "Continuing this rent freeze provides financial stability for producers and reflects our commitment to affordability."

The current rate of \$3.66 per animal unit months remains the lowest ACL rental rate in Western Canada.

"This announcement is a relief for Crown land users and gives us some certainty after a year of severe challenges," said Brent Benson, cattle producer. "From extreme weather to the uncertainty of trade markets and feed supplies, some producers struggled to keep their family ranches operational without having to make decisions that could affect their sustainability or viability. We look forward to working with the Manitoba government as we move toward a system of fair and predictable rental rates as well as policies that encourage young producers to enter the industry, an important component to ensuring the long-term sustainability of the family ranch."

The ACL program supports approximately 1,750 leaseholders across Manitoba who rely on Crown lands for grazing, haying and cropping activities. These lands are a vital public asset, supporting the livestock sector, advancing sustainable land use, and respecting treaty and Indigenous rights, the minister noted.

Alongside the rate freeze,

the Manitoba government has launched the first phase of a public engagement process to help shape the future of the ACL program. Through an online survey on EngageMB, Manitobans can provide feedback on three areas:

lease allocation methods, limits on the total amount of land a single leaseholder can hold, and renewal options for modern leases.

"Manitoba Beef Producers appreciates the consultations about various aspects of the Agricultural Crown Lands Leasing Program to ensure it is responsive to the needs of

the cattle sector," said Matthew Atkinson, president, Manitoba Beef Producers. "We strongly encourage beef producers to make their views known during this important engagement process as it will help shape the future of the program."

This survey represents the first phase of public engagement in the ACL program

review. Feedback gathered will help inform proposed regulatory updates and program improvements. Further consultation with stakeholders, including leaseholders and Indigenous communities, will follow before final decisions are made, the minister said.

Feedback collected through the survey and

consultations will inform final program adjustments and regulatory updates, anticipated for implementation in 2027, the minister added.

Manitobans interested in sharing their views are encouraged to visit <https://engagemb.ca/ag-crown-lands> to complete the survey by Nov. 24.

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