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**The Weekly**

**ANCHOR**

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The Weekly Anchor

VOL. 36, NO. 01

MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2025

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At participating McDonald's restaurants in Canada. © 2024 McDonald's

**EDSON**

Community Resource Fair Jan. 11...

see page 4

**COLUMN**

Family physician for every Albertan...

see page 11

**COMMENT**

Canada put on hold...

see page 6

**LEAP Centre Gift Shop Fundraiser a community favourite**

by Shaylyn Thornton

On December 13 and 14, 2024, the Edson LEAP Centre hosted their fourth annual

Santa's Little LEAP Gift Shop fundraiser. The event allows for children, youth, and dependent adults with diverse needs to do some secret holiday shopping

for their loved ones all while supporting a great cause.

Adults were able to register their family member and book a shopping appointment in

advance. Upon arrival at the Gift Shop, patrons would exchange real money for Elf Cash which they would then

*continued page 2*



At the LEAP Centre's 4th annual Gift Shop Fundraiser, patrons could grab a cart and shop for their loved ones alongside their own personal Elf Shopper. photo Shaylyn Thornton

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# LEAP Centre Gift Shop Fundraiser a community favourite

continued from front

shop with, alongside their own personal Elf Shopper. They could shop for up to four loved ones during their appointment.

All around the Gift Shop were great items suiting all sorts of different tastes. Kids loved looking around and choosing the perfect gift for those on their list. All of the items were either donated or purchased using cash donations from local businesses and residents.

The cost of renting the location was also generously donated by an anonymous donor, as a new space was needed due to the flooding at the Red Brick this past spring.

After each guest finished shopping, they would pay the Elf Cashier for their gifts. Item prices ranged from \$5 to \$15, and whatever wasn't spent was transferred back into real cash, which families could then keep or donate.

Once their purchase were paid for, shoppers got to go into a room where several Elf volunteers were ready to help wrap their gifts. LEAP also provided a sensory-sensitive gift-wrapping room, for those that needed an additional quiet space.

One of the most fun aspects of the event is that children then bring home their wrapped, secret gifts that they

chose themselves. Loved ones get to be surprised when it comes time to open them - so long as their kids don't "spill the beans" before then.

Melissa Johnson, Event Coordinator at the LEAP Centre, organized the event alongside Christina Gauchier. Johnson noted that 30 volunteers helped make the Gift Shop happen, from shopping elves to gift wrappers.

Johnson said that 273 children registered as shoppers, adding that it "booked faster this year." "For a lot of families, it's become a family tradition," she said. "We are seeing a lot of returning customers."

The Gift Shop has become something a lot of families in our community look forward to. "We had one family that messaged us in June saying their child had already started asking if they could come shop," Johnson laughed.

LEAP's Gift Shop is one of two main fundraisers the LEAP Society puts on every year, with the other being Touch-A-Truck in the spring. Attending either of these events is a great way to support a local cause, as the LEAP Centre provides specialized support for families in the Edson area who are raising children and youth with extra needs.



The gift-wrapping room was a fun place to be at the LEAP Centre's Gift Shop fundraiser. Joyful elves helped patrons wrap all of their chosen gifts. photo Shaylyn Thornton



At the LEAP Centre's 4<sup>th</sup> annual Gift Shop Fundraiser, kiddos could grab a cart and shop for their loved ones, alongside their own personal Elf Shopper. photo Shaylyn Thornton



One of the many homes in Edson and area decorated for the Christmas season with an amazing display of lights and figurines. photo Niki Luymes



## HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY TED ICE!



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A Pre-employment Medical and Drug Screening is required.

**Apply online at: <http://www.westfraser.com/jobs>**

# Edson Dance Academy hosts Christmas Recital

by Shaylyn Thornton

The Edson Dance Academy (EDA) hosted their annual Christmas Recital on December 13, hosted at Vanier Community Catholic School.

EDA owner Amy Wesolowsky said that the recital is a performance for the studio's recreational dancers, with dancers ranging in age from 3 to 16. The event was split between two shows: a Mini/Tiny Recital and a Recreational Recital. "We had just under 100 students perform in the two shows," said Wesolowsky.

The Mini/Tiny Recital featured dances ages 3-5, with performers showing off skills in Tap/Hip Hop, Jazz/Ballet, and Musical Theatre/Acro combo classes. "For our older recreational dancers, the styles performed were Highland, Ballet, Jazz, Lyrical, Hip Hop, Musical Theatre, and Aerial Hoop," Wesolowsky said.

The dancers were supported by several EDA teachers, with eight lead teachers and nine student teachers involved in making and practicing the routines for the recital.

"Dancers were excited to get to perform on stage for their loved ones," said Wesolowsky, noting that the turnout was "great!" "Many dancers had their immediate families attend, as well as grandparents and family friends." Feedback after the show was also positive, with many audience members congratulating both Wesolowsky and her instructors on a great show.

The Edson Dance Academy also always takes the opportunity to give back to their community during the holiday season. "The price of admission for our Christmas Recital has always been a food bank donation," Wesolowsky said. "This year we were incredibly proud to be able to donate over 600 lbs of food as well as a \$130 cash donation. Our dance families constantly amaze us with their generosity."

EDA's next recital, the Academy's spring show, will also include their competitive dancers. The event will be held March 15 and 16 at the Red Brick.



Young dancers performed at the Edson Dance Academy's Christmas Recital on December 13. Dancers and their loved ones had a great time, and the event brought in over 600 lbs of food bank donations. photo submitted

# United Church Community Kitchen makes plans for 2025

by Deanna Mitchener

The Edson United Church Community Kitchen had a very successful year.

Kandis Leslie, with the United Church, says, "What a magnificent year we've had in the kitchen. This year our Community Kitchen project started in April 2024, running twice a month with dine-in and delivery. Over the last eight months we have served around 3,300 meals."

"This would be impossible without the steadfast help of our volunteers. Cooking, cleaning, prep work, and our wonderful delivery drivers. We cannot thank them all enough. Our kitchen volunteers donated about 200 hours each, over the eight months. An extra big shout-out to Jean Linklater for all her hard work and dedication in organizing all the meals," Leslie says.

"Thanks also to the United Church of Canada Seeds of Hope Foundation for their grant enabling us to continue this program. Thanks also to Mountain Pizza and Steak House for supplying meals, the Edson Food Bank, Town of Edson FCSS Grant, and to everyone who made monetary donations to this program. We plan to start the Community Kitchen back up on March 6, 2025" says Leslie.

If you would like more information on the community kitchen please contact Kandis Leslie at Edson United Church at 780-723-3418. The church is located at 1214 Edson Drive.



We are delighted to share the news of a generous \$500 donation from FortisAlberta! Our heartfelt thanks go to Curtis Sinclair of FortisAlberta for presenting this contribution to Moving Edson & Area's Executive Director, Dawn Mitchell. This donation will greatly support our efforts in continuing to make a positive impact for Edson residents.

780-723-1122  
 admin@movingedson.com  
 movingedson.com

# Community Resource Fair happening January 11

by Deanna Mitchener

The Community Resource Fair will be taking place on January 11, from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the Edson Royal Canadian Legion.

This event is a fantastic opportunity to connect with residents, showcase programs, and help the community kick off the new year strong. This is an ideal platform to support community members in achieving their 2025 goals from wellness and learning to family

support and more.

Whether it's learning new skills, arts, volunteering, joining a new group, or building connections —there's something for everyone at the fair. It's a perfect way for families to come see what the Edson area has to offer.

Sarah McDonald, with Edson's Community Development, says, "We hope to see your organization represented at this exciting event. Together we can help Edson start the year on the right foot!"

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out at Sarahm@edson.ca or 780-725-0582.

"Let's connect as many community agencies with residents as possible," said McDonald.

Spots need to be reserved by January 8, 2025. You can also contact Griffiths Park Centre if you have questions at 780-725-0582. For more information or to register visit Edson.ca/cdprograms.



The Holy Redeemer Travel Club held a Winter Carnival fundraiser on December 14. The event featured carnival games, Santa photos, a bake sale, and even a visit from the Grinch. Pictured are some young eventgoers participating in carnival games hosted by members of the Travel Club. photo Shaylyn Thornton



## TOWN OF EDSON

Public Information & Notices 2024

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



### Women's Fitness Conference

Saturday  
January 18th, 2025

Discover your new favorite ways to stay active at the Women's Fitness Conference in Edson! Try a variety of fun, local fitness activities and connect with amazing women including two keynote speakers who share your passion for health and wellness.



For more information call or visit:  
**780-725-0582**  
[edson.ca/CDprograms](http://edson.ca/CDprograms)  
Gift, prizes, snacks & lunch provided!

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January 13-16, 2025

### Christmas Tree Pickup

Trees are NOT accepted at Griffiths Park.

- Yellow Zone: Monday, Jan 13
- Orange Zone: Tuesday, Jan 14
- Green Zone: Wednesday, Jan 15
- Purple Zone: Thursday, Jan 16



Waste Collection Schedule  
[www.edson.ca/curbside](http://www.edson.ca/curbside)

### NOTICE OF DEVELOPMENT

Recent Development Permits approved by the Development Authority, under the Town of Edson Land Use Bylaw 2070 as amended, can be found at <https://www.edson.ca/business/planning/development-permit-applications>. Additional information can be requested from the Planning Department at 780-723-4402 or [planning@edson.ca](mailto:planning@edson.ca). Any person who is deemed to be affected by the issuance of any one of these permits may appeal to the Subdivision and Development Authority by 4:00 p.m., on the 21<sup>st</sup> day after the date of issue as published on the Town's website. On Permitted Uses, grounds for appeal must relate only to interpretation, variance, or relaxation of Land Use Bylaw 2070. On Discretionary Uses, all aspects of the proposed development may be challenged upon appeal. Written notice of appeal, accompanied by the appeal fee as established by Town Council, must be filed through the Office of the Secretary of the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board at Box 6300, Edson, AB T7E 1T7. Direct Control District Approvals cannot be appealed.





# TOWN OF EDSON

Public Information & Notices 2024

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

## 2025

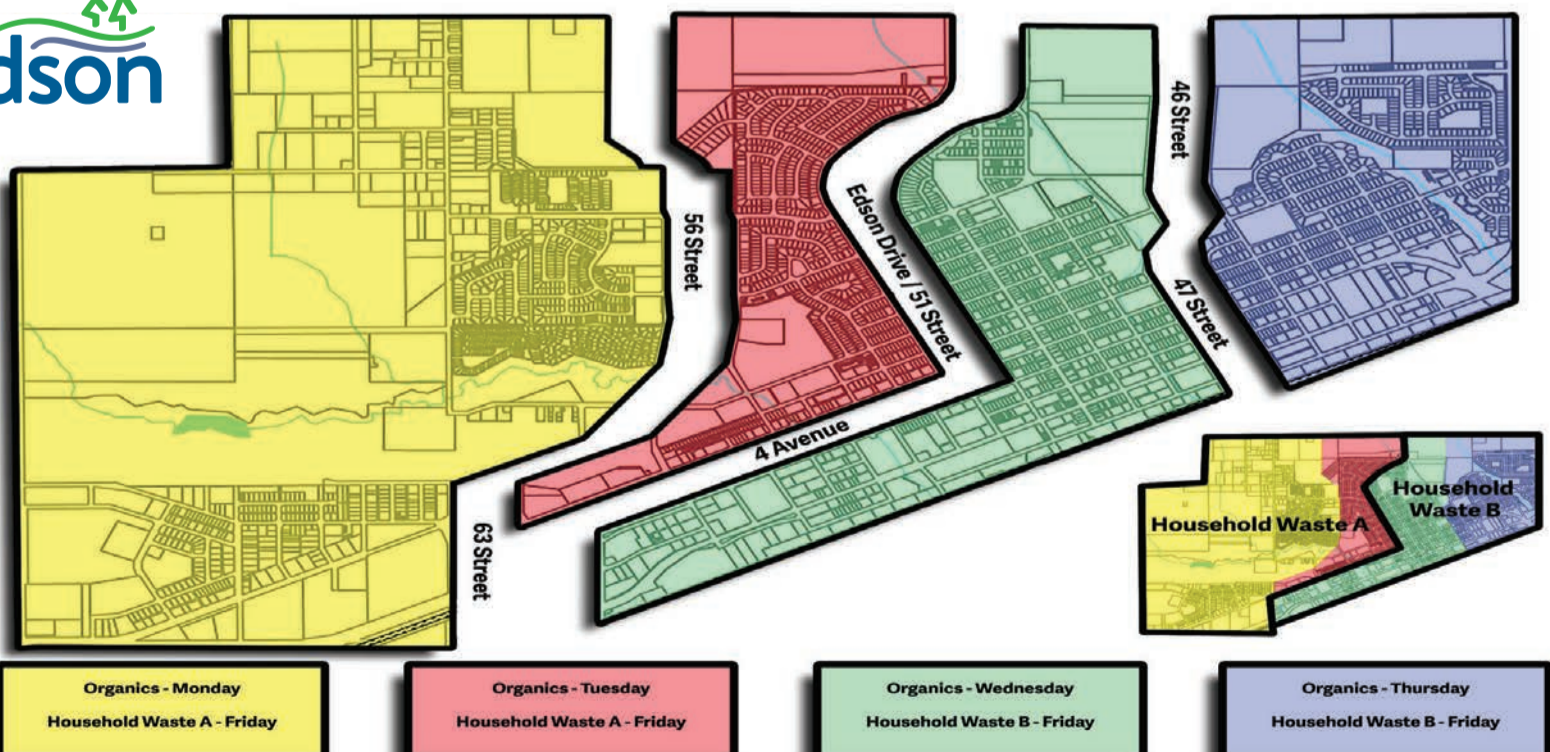
### Waste Collection Pickup Schedule

- Monday Organics
- Tuesday Organics
- Wednesday Organics
- Thursday Organics
- Household Waste A
- Household Waste B



Note - The January 1 organics pickup will be done on January 2.

### Waste Collection Routes/Schedule



Organics pickup is every week during the summer months and every 2 weeks during the winter, based on the routes above. Household waste collection is every 2 weeks. See the schedule for your pickup dates. For more information, please call Public Works at 780-723-6461 or go to [www.edson.ca/curbside](http://www.edson.ca/curbside).

# Canada on hold...

The overwhelming wave of public opinion and political



by Dana McArthur  
publisher/Editor

Member Canadian Association of Journalists

Trudeau to resign, citing a loss of confidence in his leadership. The

sentiment has brought Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's leadership into glaring focus.

Calls for his resignation have grown louder, not just from the public and opposition parties, but also from within his own Liberal caucus.

Prime Minister Trudeau once enjoyed widespread support and led the Liberal Party to three consecutive electoral victories. However, with years of crippling inflation, unaffordable housing, unrelenting carbon taxes, a federal debt exceeding \$1.2 trillion, the recently proposed \$60B budget deficit, and looming USA tariffs—many Canadians have lost confidence in his leadership.

The resignation of Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland, a key ally, has triggered a further cascade of dissent within his party. Reports indicate that a significant number of Liberal MPs believe it is time for Trudeau to step aside.

Recent surveys reveal that nearly three-quarters of Canadians want

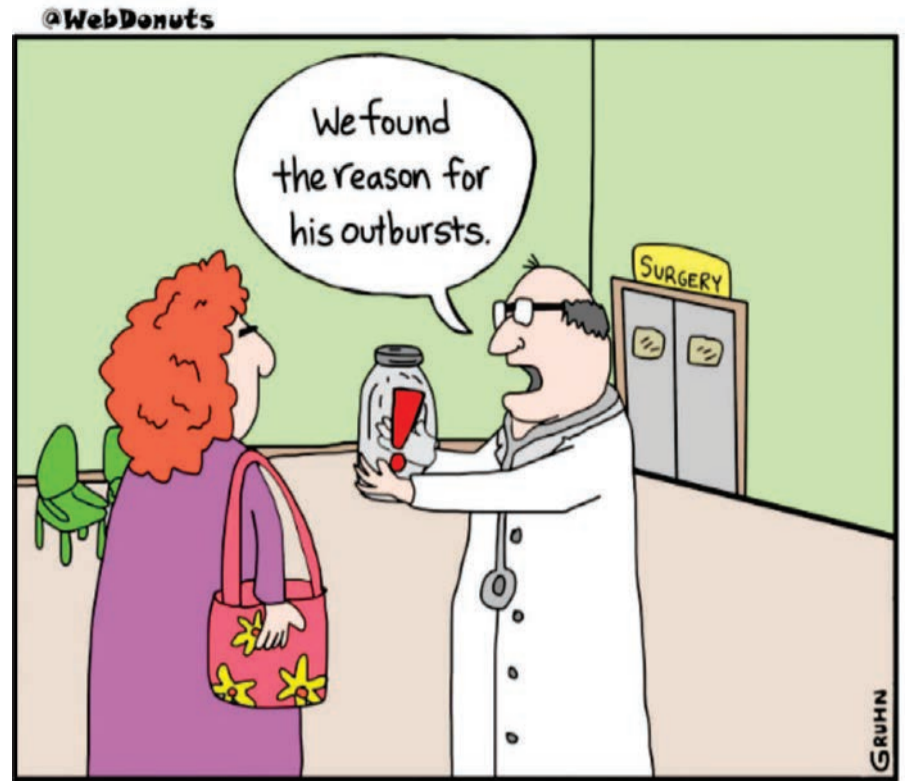
Liberal Party's support has plummeted to near-historic lows, with many Canadians feeling that the country is headed in the wrong direction.

There seems little doubt that Trudeau's leadership has become a liability for the Liberal Party. Much of Trudeau's own caucus believe that his continued presence at the helm could lead to a devastating defeat in the next election.

When parliament resumes on January 27, it remains to be seen if NDP leader Jagmeet Singh puts Canada first and makes good on his promise to bring down the government.

Trudeau could also prorogue (terminate) the new session at the start to avoid a confidence motion (keeping the Trudeau/Singh duet in charge a bit longer).

The question is, whether they will continue putting the future of Canada on hold at this very critical time, in order to play more party politics.



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Publisher/Editor Dana McArthur  
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- Edson Post office (outside boxes)
- Edson, Your Independent Grocer (inside)
  - Edson Sobeys (outside box)
  - Edson Tags North (inside)
- Edson and District Leisure Centre (outside box)
  - Edson, Home Hardware (inside)
  - Edson, Thymes Two (outside box)
- Weekly Anchor (outside box and inside)
  - Edson, Parkland Lodge (inside)
  - Peers Trading Post (inside)
- Niton beside postboxes next to A&W (outside box)
  - Wildwood Post Office (outside box)
  - Evansburg Post Office (outside box)
  - Evansburg Super A Foods (inside)

**Edson RCMP Occurrences**  
For the week of: Dec 16 to Dec 22, 2024

Traffic Collisions 15; Assistance Calls 13; and Theft Complaints 12 topped the list of Edson RCMP occurrences. Other investigations included: Abandoned Vehicles 0; Alarms/False Alarms 1; Animal Calls 3; Assault 2; Cause Disturbance 5; Child Welfare 0; Fail to Comply with Conditions 4; False/Abandoned 911 Call 2; Family Orders and Agreements 0; Fraud 1; Harassment/Criminal Harassment 1; Impaired Operation of Motor Vehicle 0; Information File 3; Lost or Found property 3; Mental Health Act 2; Mischief or Damage 4; Missing Person/Request to Locate 0; Municipal Bylaws 1; Obstruct/Resist Peace Officer 0; Possess Stolen Property 1; Recovered Stolen Property 0; Sudden Death 0; Suspicious Persons 7; Traffic Complaints 11; Traffic Violations 4; Trespassing 4; Unlawfully in Dwelling 0; and Wellbeing Checks 3.

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**KID'S CORNER**

Meet Sophia in Grade 6 at Mary Bergeron Elementary School.

Q: Do you have pets?  
A: A Bernese Mountain Dog named Bo, German Shepard named Nyx, a Russian Blue Cat named Silver, and 2 giant fish tanks with about 50 fish.  
- Sophia wants to be a lawyer or doctor when she grows up.

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EDSON



The Edson Lions Club collects used eye glasses and repurposes them for less fortunate individuals.

## Edson Lions helps repurpose used eyeglasses for those in need

by Deanna Mitchener

If you have eyeglasses you no longer use please consider dropping them off to one of the Edson Lion's local drop off locations in Edson.

The Canadian Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centre (CLERC) has been collecting used eye glasses and repurposing them for less fortunate individuals.

Arden Lohner with the Edson Lions Club, say, "We have collection boxes at all of the eyeglass shops in Edson, the hospital, the Edson Funeral Home, and the Legion. They can also be dropped off at the Lions Campground during camping season."

Lifetime member Larry Williams collects the glasses and takes them to the recycling centre. "We collect about 218

packing boxes full of used eyeglasses per year from the Edson area," says Lohner.

Eyeglasses from the Hinton area have been dropped off in Edson for the last couple of years since the Hinton Lions disbanded.

All types of glasses in good frames are accepted including sunglasses (cases and loose lenses can't be accepted). "We are now accepting hearing aids put in a baggie and dropped in the collection boxes," Lohner says.

"The glasses are sanitized and the prescriptions read then sorted to be given at no cost to recipients in countries that would otherwise go without," said Arden.

Eye glasses we no longer have use for can make a big difference in another person's life.

### Feature:

## Bringing craft lessons and ideas to life



The Crafty Lady held an acrylic class with 20 participants before Christmas at the Creative Crossroads in the Farmer's Daughter building in Edson.

by Deanna Mitchener

'Crafty Lady' Christine Handford has been crafting for over 50 years. "I jump from craft to craft driving my family crazy, but I love to learn new creative things," said Handford.

"I have been doing paint parties and other crafts at the bars and private events for a few years," said Handford.

"I have done a wide variety of classes including paint parties, alpaca fibre art, creating scenes with assorted colors of alpaca fibres and sheep wool, Swedish weaving place mats with monk's cloth and yarn, mixed media on barn board, braided rugs with leftover t-shirts and fabrics, macramé, and more. I am self-taught and love to share what I know, and also to learn from guests," Handford added.

"I decided the Edson area needs a place where creativity can be shared

with everyone.

So back in March [2024] I rented a location in the same building as Farmer's Daughter and the Little Book Store. With a lot of help and elbow grease from my family, we created a cozy little place for all ages to get creative," said Handford.

"So far we have had many paint parties, as well some resin classes with Jan Underhill. All natural soaps and other products with Cheryl Whitesell, and watercolor lessons with Karen Shilka," Handford said. "Coming up in the new year we will also be having kids sewing classes, tie-dye classes, screen painting, mosaics, mixed media, paper crafts, polymer clay, cement art in the spring, and so much more," said Handford. "We have had so many great classes so far and I am so excited for the new instructors and mediums coming in 2025."

## Element Zone 13 rounds up 2024 with supper and dance

by Deanna Mitchener

Element Zone 13, held a supper and dance out at the Pine Grove Hall before Christmas. The event was in recognition of all the 2024 season leaders that were presented buckles.

110 people attended the event on December 7. For supper they enjoyed prime rib and racks of ribs that were prepared by Kendlyn's


Little Kitchen. It was a good hearty meal for everyone that attended and brought lot of positive comments.

After supper, they watched the National Finals Rodeo together. That was followed with dancing the night away with DJ Lifter. A 50/50 draw brought one lucky winner \$452.

It was a great way to end the season of rodeo events at Element Zone 13.

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8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

## World Snow Day!

2025

**Bear Lake Park**  
January 19<sup>th</sup>  
1 PM - 3 PM

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Enjoy winter in the County!

**Weekly Rentals for Snowshoes:**  
**\$10/pair (includes poles)**



Rentals must be reserved ahead of time by calling 780-723-4800 or emailing [jmater@yhcounty.ca](mailto:jmater@yhcounty.ca)

NEW THIS YEAR! You can also reserve your skis online at [yhcounty.ca/registration](http://yhcounty.ca/registration)

\*A valid credit card is required for rental!



Permit No.	Location	Proposal	Date	Appeal Deadline
D24-150	Plan 9020485 Blk 3, Lot 12 SE-25-50-26-W5 Seabolt Area	Rural Event Centre - Four (4) Additional Glamping/Dome Sites & Four (4) Additional Washroom Facilities - Discretionary	Dec 10/24	Dec 31/24
D24-153	SE-31-53-13-W5 Carrot Creek Area	Single Detached Dwelling with Additions (Covered Patios)	Dec 10/24	Permitted Use
D24-155	SE-28-55-9-W5 Alpha Lake Area	Rural Event Centre - Two (2) Additional Cabins - Discretionary	Dec 10/24	Dec 31/24
D24-156	NE-9-56-14-W5 South of Shiningbank	Accessory Building (Shop) with Lean-to and Addition (Covered Deck)	Dec 10/24	Permitted Use
D24-157	NW-30-55-7-W5 Rangiton Area	Accessory Building (Shop)	Dec 10/24	Permitted Use
D24-147	Plan 7921188 Lot 17 SW-14-49-21-W5 Lower Robb	Accessory Building (Shed) - Variance to Rear Yard Setback	Dec 11/24	Jan 1/25
D24-158	Plan 9921805 Blk 1, Lot 2 SE-13-53-18-W5 Edson West	Vehicle Repair & Sales (Tire Shop/Tire Sales/Mechanic)	Dec 12/24	Permitted Use

Yellowhead County Development Permits are also posted online at [www.yhcounty.ca](http://www.yhcounty.ca). The public is considered officially notified of approved development permits once posted online, in accordance with the Public Notification Bylaw. The Yellowhead County Land Use Bylaw NO 02.24 provides that any person claiming to be affected by a decision of the Development Authority may appeal to the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board or Alberta's Land and Property Rights Tribunal dependent on jurisdiction of the appeal authority. Appeals under the jurisdiction of Yellowhead County's Subdivision and Development Appeal Board require a written notice of appeal and a payment of \$500.00 payable to Yellowhead County within 21 day of the publishing of the Notice of Decision.

Requirements for appealing the development to the Alberta's Land and Property Rights Tribunal can be found here: <https://www.alberta.ca/subdivision-appeals.aspx> or by calling 780-427-2444.

## No Till Gardening Workshop

Join this in-person class for \$10 Includes snacks & refreshments

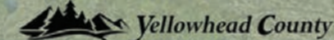
Wildwood Community Hall  
Thursday January 16<sup>th</sup>  
from 5:30pm-7:30pm

with Yellowhead County Agricultural Services and Master Gardener Kim Ross



Love gardening but hate weeding and watering?  
No Till Gardening might be right for you!

Registration opens January 1<sup>st</sup> and closes January 14<sup>th</sup> 2025  
Register by calling 1-800-814-3935 or online at [yhcounty.ca/registration](http://yhcounty.ca/registration)  
Visit [www.yhcounty.ca](http://www.yhcounty.ca) for more info



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# Library hosts annual Christmas Tree Trimming Party

by Niki Luymes

Edson and District Public Library brought back one of its oldest traditions with its Annual Christmas Tree Trimming Party on December 14.

From 12:30pm to 3pm there were free crafts, snacks, and refreshments set up for library patrons. Visitors were welcome to stay and take part in the fun, while also enjoying everything else the library has to offer.

Upon entering the library, families could make their way to the community use room where there were five unique craft tables set up. These crafts included origami Christmas trees, button ornaments, and more. Families could do the projects together or try them alone. The more complex crafts were supervised by library staff or a volunteer from the library board.

There was also a snack table that included granola bars, candy canes, and hot chocolate. Kids could choose to take their creations home or ask for them to be placed on the library's Christmas tree. People of all ages came out to enjoy the event. "It's been really wonderful. We've had a lot of our regular families and a lot of new families come through," said Sarah Tonowski, Library Manager.

Outside of the community use room, the library staff fully decorated the building for the season. "The Christmas trees are set up, and we also have books for other faiths. So we got everyone covered," added Tonowski, "Our goal is to just bring everyone together. Everyone's celebrating."

"It has been extremely busy today. It's been a nice, constant rotation of people and everyone has been really happy. It's nice seeing everyone come out," said Tonowski. Over 120 people made their way through the library during the party. Many guests also enjoyed the other library

amenities during their visit.

The library's Tree Trimming Party has been an event in the community for over 20 years. During the 2022-2024 library renovation project, they were unable to host it because of limited space in their temporary location. With the renovations being finished this summer, staff and the board were excited to bring the

celebration back this year in the newly renovated building.

There is also hope to bring back more of the library's programming. Right now they are offering Story Time and Teen Hang Out on Thursdays, and Silent Book Club every third Monday at 6:30. More information on all library programming can be found on their website.



The Edson and District Public Library Tree Trimming Party was held on December 14. There were crafts, snacks, and refreshments for people of all ages to enjoy. photo Niki Luymes

# Carrot Creek Community Hall hosts Christmas Market

by Niki Luymes

The Carrot Creek Christmas Market made its annual return from December 10 to the 14th. There was a delightful selection of Christmas crafts, baked good, and gifts for sale.

The sale ran for the full week at the Carrot Creek Community Hall. Every year a group of local crafters, creators, and vendors gather in one place to simplify the shopping process. Unlike many markets, the Carrot Creek sale functions more like one big store. Visitors can browse the tables, select what they want, and pay for it all at once. The money is distributed to the proper vendors afterwards.

44 different sellers brought their items to the sale this year. This made for quite the variety of items. "We try to attract as many local vendor as we can," said Leanne DeLeeuw, vendor and sale organizer. "We have Christmas decor, soap, blankets, quilts, a lot of baking, crocheted items, woodworking, canned goods, and an ongoing raffle for a gift set that include items from all vendors." Along with a raffle for adults, there was also one set up for the kids.

The sale has been growing in popularity and saw an increased numbers of visitors this year. "It's been steady and we've had good weather which helps as well. Usually our busiest days are Friday and Saturday, which makes sense," said DeLeeuw. Everyone who came out also got to enjoy a small selection of treats and beverages while shopping.



The Carrot Creek Christmas Market was held at the Carrot Community Hall from December 10-14th. Photo Niki Luymes



There was a wide selection of items at the annual Carrot Creek Christmas Market at the Carrot Community Hall. photo Niki Luymes





Did he run away? Vanier Kindergarten students were trying to figure out the snowman's disappearance while singing "Snowman, Where'd You Go?" during their Christmas concert. submitted

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## Edson's Fire Chief awarded King's Coronation Medal

Guest Editorial/Column:

## A Family Physician for Every Albertan

by Dr. Vamini Selvanandan - rural family physician and public health practitioner in Alberta

All some people want for Christmas is a family doctor. More than 650,000 people in Alberta do not have a regular health care provider, and are sometimes forced to wait long hours in the emergency room for conditions better managed in primary care.

Primary care is the foundation of our health system and covers the everyday needs of patients. Primary care providers prevent, detect and treat illnesses; give advice regarding healthy living; and manage chronic conditions like diabetes, hypertension and asthma. They have trusted, long-term relationships with their patients and often provide health services from cradle to grave for their community.

Patients who see a regular primary care provider have better long-term health than those who don't and they live longer. Primary care provides these benefits while lowering health care expenditures.

In the last provincial elections, both the NDP and the UCP parties committed to better access to primary care. Current premier, Danielle Smith, promised every Albertan a primary care provider, but has not put forth a convincing plan to make good on her pledge.

On the other hand, in Ontario, Premier Doug Ford reached across party lines to appoint Dr. Jane Philpott, former federal health minister and member of the Liberal cabinet, to lead a primary care action team whose mandate is to attach every person in Ontario with a primary care provider within the next 5 years.

Philpott was chosen for the job because she sets out a very clear

proposal for universal access to primary care in her book *Health for All*, launched earlier this year. Philpott's vision is simple but bold: everybody will be guaranteed access to a primary care team within a half hour of where they live. Just as every child is automatically assigned a public school in their neighbourhood, every person will have access to ongoing, comprehensive primary care even if they were to move residences.

Ontario already has the highest proportion of residents attached to a regular health provider and Philpott is going to take them across the finish line of attaching everybody to primary care. We in Alberta need to demand the same from our government.

We need to make our voices heard strong and clear through conversations with our MLAs, letters to Minister of Health Adriana LaGrange and unequivocal signals to Premier Smith that we too want the advantages of universal access to primary care. We need to urge our government to set up a primary care action team, chose the best person to lead that team, and give full support and adequate resources to get the job done.

The time for action is now. Instead of the expensive smoke and mirrors exercise of dismantling Alberta Health Services, our government needs to make meaningful change in the lives of Albertans. We need them to invest adequate resources into primary care to build a strong and reliable foundation for the rest of the health care system. Every Albertan deserves the right to be healthy, and universal access to primary care is crucial to achieving this goal.



Fire Chief Brad Milton was honoured with the King's Coronation Medal at a ceremony in Ottawa recently.

Edson Fire Chief Brad Milton has been honoured with the King's Coronation Medal.

At a ceremony in Ottawa on December 4, 2024, Chief Milton was recognized by the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs (CAFC) as an official recipient of King Charles III's Coronation Medal.

The medal was awarded through the CAFC to members that go to extraordinary and unspoken lengths, timewise, and strategically, to represent the fire service.

"On behalf of the residents of Edson, Town Council congratulates Chief Milton on this prestigious honour. His leadership during the 2023 & 2024 fire and flood emergencies was exemplary. In his short time with us he has increased the capacity and built a strong culture within the Edson Fire Service. Congratulations Chief Milton!" stated Edson Mayor Kevin Zahara.

The Town of Edson recognizes

the significance of this award and everything Chief Milton has done for the community since his arrival.

"It is with immense pride that I extend congratulations to Chief Milton on receiving this well-deserved honour. Chief Milton has consistently demonstrated exceptional leadership and dedication, making significant contributions that have resulted in outstanding achievements for both our organization and the community. His commitment to excellence and tireless efforts have truly set a remarkable standard for all of us," Edson CAO Christine Beveridge stated.

The King Charles III Coronation Medal is the first Canadian honour to feature the Canadian Royal Crown approved by His Majesty. It symbolizes significant contributions and reflects the profound impact recipients have made to their communities or Canada as a whole.

# A Thriving Hub of Industry, Recreation, and Opportunity in Western Canada

**Editor's note:** We would like to share with our readers *Business View Magazine's* recent interviews with representatives of Edson for their focus on Economic Development in north American towns & cities. It is a well-presented overview of our region.

Situated along the Yellowhead Highway, halfway between the bustling city of Edmonton, and the unrivaled beauty of Jasper National Park, Edson embodies the charm and resilience of rural Alberta. With its welcoming, community-focused spirit, the town is home to just under 9,000 residents and is rich with potential.

"Edson is at a strategic point along the Yellowhead highway, with a very robust economy," boasts Mayor Kevin Zahara. "We are a regional hub for business in the area, supporting the surrounding Yellowhead County. There are a lot of opportunities here."

## Economic Growth and Possibility

Edson's economy is anchored by major industries such as the Weyerhaeuser OSB Mill, which has been in operation since the 1980s. "It provides a lot of jobs and opportunities, and many businesses benefit from having that mill within our community," Zahara explains.

Outside of town, the West Fraser mill supports the local forestry industry, while the recently established Pivotal, an NGL liquids gas facility, and the Cascade Power Plant, are strengthening the region's industrial landscape. "Those are some of the primary industries within the community," Zahara says.

"Businesses that are located within the town of Edson support those industries and have done very well over the years. We have a lot of oil and gas, construction firms, and things of that nature."

He emphasizes the town's commitment to economic growth, stating,

"We've just hired our economic development officer and developed our first strategy for the community. We are really trying to strengthen relationships with our business community to better support them." One of Edson's priorities is to revitalize the downtown core. "We have taken some actions earlier this year, and we will be working with our business community to look at beautification programs and other ways in which we can assist in improving the look of our downtown," he reports. "A lot of investment has been made over the years to improve the buildings but there's still much more work to be done."

When it comes to business attraction Zahara stresses, "We are absolutely open for business, and our strategic plan very clearly defines that economic development is a key priority for the community and for the Town Council."

He points out the benefits for potential businesses, including access to high-speed fiber internet which is available throughout the town. Edson also offers comparably lower property costs in terms of rent and purchase prices, creating an affordable environment for those looking to invest and grow in the community. Zahara highlights the town's enterprise recruitment measures, which include a tax incentive program, and ongoing efforts to streamline development.

"One of the strategies has been to completely redo our land use bylaw and simplify the process for doing development. That work was completed earlier this year, and that will help anybody looking to set up shop within Edson or develop a property, to do so in a less bureaucratic way," he says.

## A Destination of its Own

Edson's proximity to Jasper National Park makes it a gateway for outdoor enthusiasts, while the town itself boasts numerous parks, trails, and recreational facilities, ideal for hiking, camping, and wildlife watching. "Edson is truly located in a beautiful part of the province," says Mayor Zahara, pointing out the region's appeal to ATV riders, campers, off-roaders, and snowmobilers.

He notes that Edson offers "some of the best



*Business View Magazine's* recently interviewed representatives of Edson for their focus on Economic Development in north American towns & cities.

snowmobile trails in all of Alberta," maintained by the Edson Snow Seekers.

The town has also partnered with the Edson Cycling Association to develop an eight-acre skills bike park, attracting visitors from across the province. Events that showcase Indigenous culture are another part of the experience, including those put on through the Edson Friendship Centre at Willmore Park, which Zahara describes as, "a hidden gem."

With additional amenities like a scenic 18-hole golf course and a robust trail system, the town offers something for everyone. "There's lots to do out in Yellowhead County, which is our rural neighbor," adds Zahara.

From comfortable hotels to scenic campsites that offer the chance to fully experience the natural beauty of the area, Edson has accommodations to suit any traveler. As a halfway point between Edmonton and Jasper Provincial Park, the town has strategically installed EV charging stations, creating a convenient stop along the route.

"Obviously, we're very focused on oil and gas out in this area, but we're also very environmentally conscious as well. We have a lot of high environmental standards within our community, and we take that very seriously," Zahara conveys.

## Investing in Growth

Infrastructure investment is at the forefront of the town's growth strategy, as Zahara discloses, "We have a very ambitious infrastructure plan right now. Our capital budget for the town of Edson, which is just under 9000 people, is over \$80 million this year." This includes improvements to storm and sanitary sewer lines, bringing additional water wells online, and road paving projects. The revitalized Edson Public Library is another significant undertaking, made possible through a partnership with Yellowhead County, and the Province of Alberta. "It's a facility that's been in our community for 40 years, and this is the first major investment in it," he details.

"With Yellowhead County, we also have the YCE Center, which is an expansion and renovation of our current leisure Center. It is going to have a brand new pool, a brand new ice rink, as well as a brand new gymnasium and walking track. This is a very big project in our community, and that will support our region for decades to come."

As for housing inventory, Zahara acknowledges, "A lot of the major oil and gas projects have now been completed. So, we do have an excess supply of rental units as well as a number of homes available to be purchased and rented." Along with existing options, phase two of the Hillendale subdivision offers 90 ample lots.

"People can build their own homes at a very affordable rate," he expands. "Our lots are not like those that you would see in the city, where houses are built right next to each other. You actually have a nice large backyard for pets and for kids. It is a really great opportunity for those that are

trying to get out of the city and relocate to rural Alberta."

## Small Town Charm and Big City Amenities

For people wanting to take advantage of Edson's affordability and quaint rural ambiance, the town has amenities that contribute to a high quality of life. These include the newly constructed Edson Healthcare Center, top-notch schools, and the Parkland Seniors Lodge for aging residents who may need extra care. "All of those are a benefit for those looking to move here," Zahara asserts.

The Edson Airport, conveniently located near downtown, is another advantage for businesses and residents. "Our airport is fairly busy," says Zahara. "We do have a lot of private aircraft that come in for industry from either Calgary or Edmonton." The facility also functions as an air tanker base for Alberta Wildfire and accommodates STARS air ambulance services, along with various private operators.

"A flight to Calgary is pretty quick, or Grand Prairie, or any of the surrounding cities. If you're looking to charter a flight, it's pretty easy," the mayor depicts.

Edson boasts an abundance of green spaces and is continuously enhancing its recreational offerings. "We actually just revitalized our Glenwood Park with a year-round rink," says Zahara.

This versatile space is used for activities like basketball, pickleball, and soccer during the summer and transforms into an outdoor ice surface in winter. The Kinsman Spray Park, centrally located just across from the library, is another popular summer destination, especially for the youngest residents. RCMP Centennial Park is a community hotspot, hosting various events, including concerts, outdoor movies, and Canada Day celebrations. The town is also working on revitalizing Vision Park, known for its ball diamonds, which have historically earned Edson the title of "slow pitch capital of Canada." Zahara relays that new diamonds are being built, with ongoing improvements in the years ahead.

## Looking Towards a Bright Future

Moving forward, Mayor Zahara envisions a continued focus on infrastructure improvements, local business support, and economic growth. "We will be working with our business community, the Chamber of Commerce, and Community Futures. Our economic development officer has been very busy connecting with local businesses, learning how we can better support our business community and really attract investments into our town."

With projects like the YCE Center, along with revitalized parks, trails, and community facilities, Edson is dedicated to ensuring a high quality of life for current and future residents. Its vibrant economy, affordable housing, and wealth of recreational opportunities make Edson a welcoming and promising place for those seeking the charm and opportunities of rural Alberta.

**A** Monthly update on the Oil & Gas and Energy Industry

# ENERGY EDUCATION IN ACTION

## More energy production using less water

Alberta's government is investing \$2.7 million in new technologies that will help oil and gas companies reduce water use while creating jobs and powering the world.

As global energy demands continue to rise, jurisdictions around the world are looking for responsible, reliable and secure energy. At the same time, many companies and countries are also looking for ways to reduce water use and manage water more efficiently while also meeting this soaring demand.

Alberta's oil and gas operators are leading the world in responsible water management, with operators already having reduced their overall water use by 25 per cent to date. Alberta companies now recycle about 80 per cent of the water used in their operations, reducing the need for freshwater, and using advanced filtration systems to treat wastewater.

To keep this momentum going, Alberta's government is investing nearly \$2.7 million from the industry-funded Technology Innovation and Emissions Reduction (TIER) program into three new projects that are developing technologies to help reduce water use while growing responsible energy production.

"Global energy demand is rising and jurisdictions around the world are looking to us for ways to grow production while maximizing water efficiency. This funding will help test and advance three new technologies designed to help companies reduce water use and increase energy production at the same time. It's a win for the environment, the energy sector and the economy." - Rebecca Schulz, Minister of Environment and Protected Areas

Through Emissions Reduction Alberta, the province will invest \$1.47 million into two new water filtration technologies led by Aqua Pure Technologies and Eximius Environmental

Solutions. An additional \$1.2 million will go to helping Canadian Natural Resources Limited test a new chemical developed by ChampionX that makes heavy oil and bitumen flow faster and more easily toward the production well, reducing the demand for steam.

"These projects have already shown great promise with support from our partners, and we're excited to see how provincial funding through Emissions Reduction Alberta can help take them to the next level. What is especially exciting is their potential to be commercialized in the near future, offering the oil and gas industry practical solutions to lower emissions, save water, and reduce costs." - Justin Riemer, CEO, Emissions Reduction Alberta

"The significant financial backing received from the Government of Alberta and Emissions Reduction Alberta will accelerate the progress and commercialization of Aqua Pure Technologies' PROH2O® Technology. This funding is crucial for improving the company's ability to deliver clean technology developed in Alberta to both domestic and global markets while highlighting Alberta's leadership in oil and gas water reuse and emissions reduction initiatives." - Daniel Nelson, CEO, Aqua Pure Technologies

"Funding from the Government of Alberta through Emissions Reduction Alberta is essential to the commercialization of the VelRay X™ and its application in mobile filtration operations, bridging the gap between prototype validation and market readiness. This support enables critical testing, stakeholder engagement, and deployment, ensuring the technology's scalability and positioning it to set new standards for sustainable water management in Alberta and beyond." - Jeff Wollin, vice president of sales and operations, Eximius Environmental Solutions

Aqua Pure Technologies will test its innovative PROH2O® ultra-filtration technology to improve

water recycling in the oil and gas industry. This technology can remove 99.9 per cent of contaminants from water.

Funding will also support a self-cleaning system to help make oil and gas operations more efficient, helping companies find ways to reduce costs and improve productivity. The project will be demonstrated in Three Hills.

Eximius Environmental Solutions will advance its VelRay X™ system, which filters tiny particles from water used in oil extraction, making it cleaner for reuse and reducing the need for freshwater. Cleaner water prevents blockages, protects equipment, extends its life, lowers pollution risks, and cuts wastewater disposal costs.

The system uses durable stainless-steel filters instead of emissions-intensive bag filters, reducing waste and landfill emissions. Test sites will be announced soon.

Canadian Natural Resources Limited:

Canadian Natural Resources Limited is using \$1.2 million in provincial funding to test a chemical additive that improves the flow of heavy oil and bitumen in its steam-assisted gravity drainage operations. The additive helps oil flow faster, prevents blockages, and reduces the need for steam, thereby lowering water use. Testing will occur at the Kirby North plant in Lac La Biche.

### Quick facts

- The three projects were selected through Emissions Reduction Alberta's Continuous Intake Programs and combined, are worth a total of \$6.1 million in public and private investments.

- Drilling and fracturing operations currently require 0.17 per cent of all allocated water in Alberta.

## Industry supporters of responsible energy



**A Monthly Update on the Coal Industry**

# ENERGY EDUCATION IN ACTION

## Coal will continue to stay: it's time to level the playing field

The International Energy Agency's (IEA) 2024 Coal Outlook findings, confirm coal's enduring role in the global energy landscape. Global coal demand reached historic levels in 2024, underlining its essential role in energy security, economic growth, and industrial development.

Key findings from the report include:

- Global coal demand is expected to grow by 1% in 2024 to an all-time high of 8.77 billion tonnes (Bt).
- Electricity generation from coal is set to reach an all-time high of 10,700 terawatt-hours (TWh) in 2024.
- Global coal production is forecasted to surpass 9 Bt for the first time in history.
- Since 2020, the global coal market has grown by more than 1.2 billion tonnes.

“Coal will continue to stay—it is the bedrock for over 100 countries,” said Michelle Manook, Chief Executive at FutureCoal. “This report underscores coal's vital role in driving economies, creating jobs, and fuelling industrial growth. Nations like China, India, and emerging economies like Indonesia and Vietnam are harnessing coal for growth and self-sufficiency.”

“More importantly, coal supports heavy manufacturing, allowing regions like Europe to help afford new capital spending on so-called clean energy transition products such as electric vehicles, solar PV and wind turbines—or at least their essential components.”

China's coal demand is expected to grow by 1% to reach 4.9 Bt in 2024, and India's coal demand is projected to grow by over 5%, reaching 1.3 Bt. Emerging economies such as Indonesia and Vietnam also drive demand to support economic development.

“Coal is central to decarbonisation when paired with proven abatement technologies,” Manook stated. “Our Sustainable Coal Stewardship

roadmap shows how coal can reduce emissions, enhance economic growth, and ensure environmental responsibility. It's time for global stakeholders like the IEA to acknowledge coal's transformative role.”

To sustain coal's future responsibly, FutureCoal calls for increased investment in abatement technologies and balanced, fair policies supporting coal innovation.

“Technologies today can abate up to 99% of emissions while boosting efficiency, without the need for massive new infrastructure or over-reliance on critical minerals,” said Manook. “A level playing field in regulations and finance, backed by fair government and media support, will drive investment to modernise coal abatement technologies and de-risk assets that will operate for decades,” Manook concluded.



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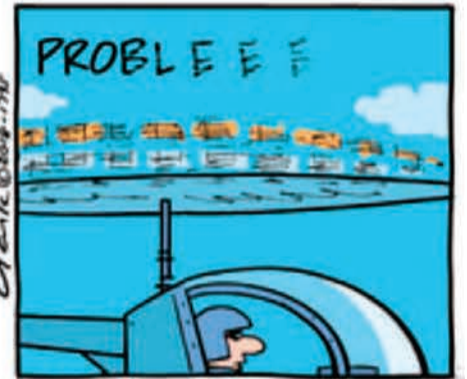
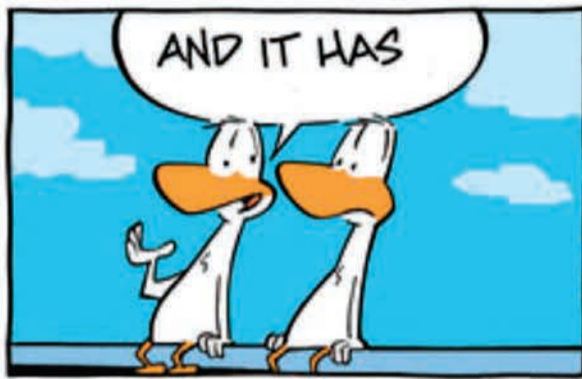
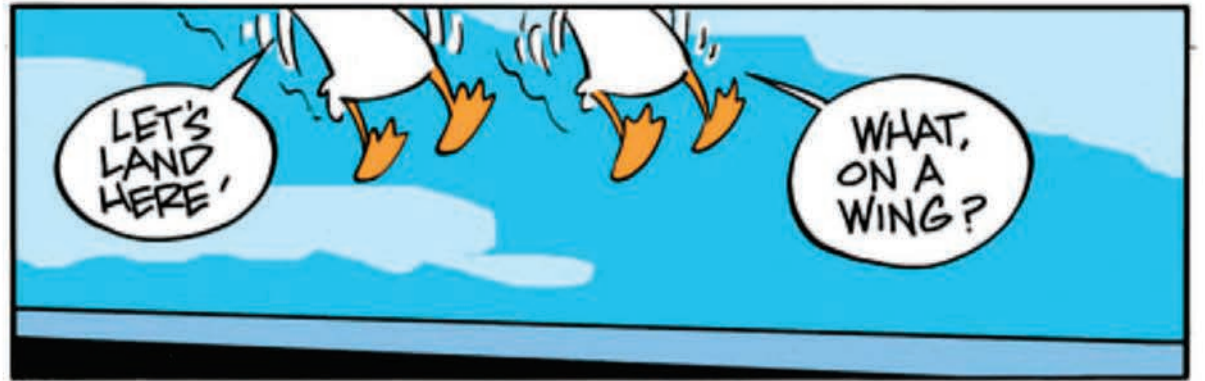
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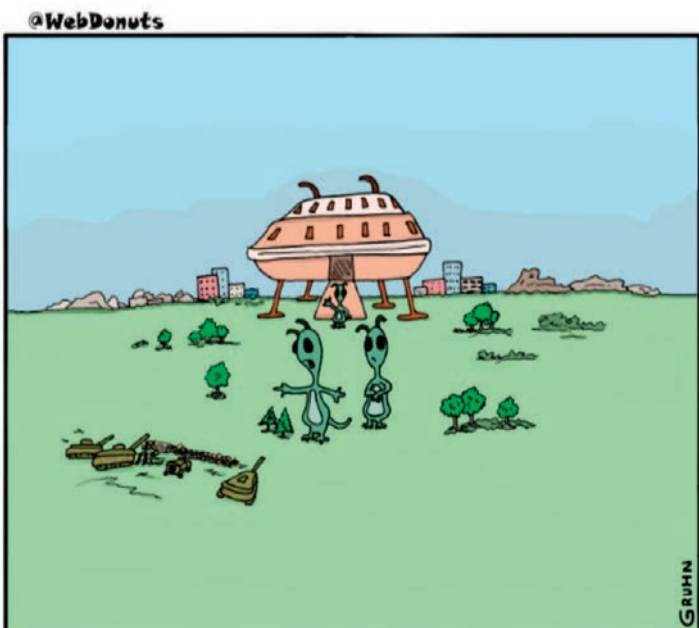
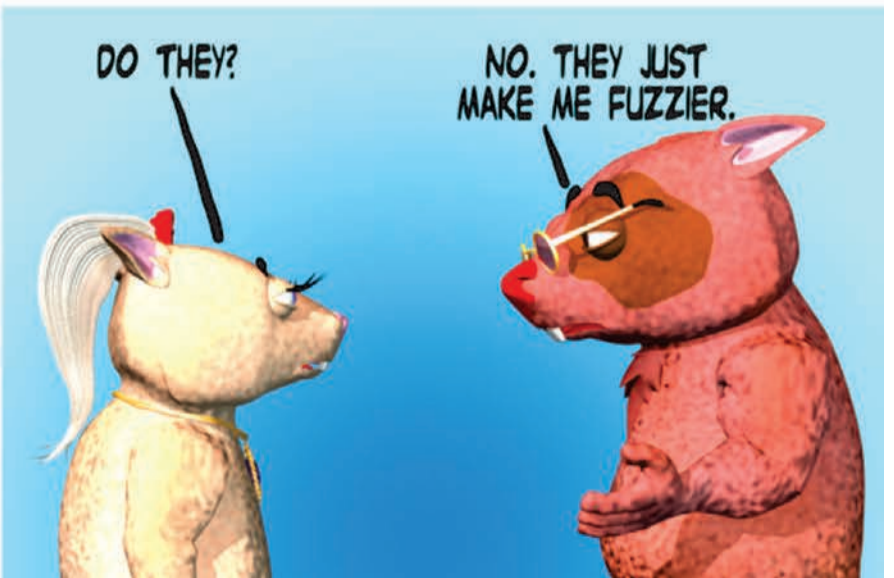


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by PETER MARINACCI



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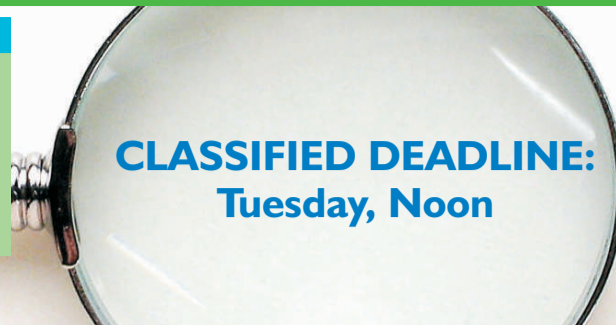
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# CLASSIFIEDS

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**CLASSIFIED DEADLINE:**  
Tuesday, Noon

**FOR SALE**

Firewood for sale (Edson & Area). Split & Dry - Starting at \$70 / pickup load. Free delivery within Town of Edson. Please call or text (780) 712-1144

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**Seed Oats** 98 % germination, Fusarium tested, No wild oats, Can deliver, On farm scale jamesbeniuk@gmail.com Woodland Lumber, Evansburg 780-621-2229 Feed and Seed Oats for sale. Can roll or grind. Scale on farm also. 780-727-4309 mar2025

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**Commercial Property** for Lease - 3000 sq.ft., offices, mezzanine, in-floor heating, Sumo, 12' x 12' insulated overhead door, fenced backyard. Contact Marion 780-712-1497

**Office space** for rent, various sized central location, ample parking call 780-712-9890

**FOR RENT:** 2 bdrm, suitable for 1 person only. No children, pets or smoking. Call 780-728-5917 leave message

**Pine Manor Apt:** 4102-6Ave, Edson 2 bdrm \$1075/ mth rent, \$1075 damage deposit. 1 bdrm \$950/ mth, \$950 damage deposit. Includes heat and water. 780-723-2177 or 780-728-3932

**For Rent:** Basement Suite, Country living 5 min away from town. 2BR 1 1/2 bath. Private entrance and parking. No pets Non smoking. Perfect for seniors, workers and small family. Available june 1. Phone 780-517-9227 evenings or leave a message

**HELP WANTED**

EYAEYO Cleaning Services Ltd: Looking for 2 Cleaning Supervisor with NOC62024. Wages \$35.50 hourly. Resumes: eyaeyo.cs@yahoo.com

**Wildwood Legion** Bottle Depot is hiring bottle sorters. Forklift experience would be an asset. Please drop resume off at the bottle depot on Tues- Sat from 11:00 am - 5:00 pm or email to rclbr149@gmail.com

## CHURCH DIRECTORY

EDSON

**BETHEL PENTECOSTAL CHURCH**  
6350 - 13th Ave., Edson. Phone 723-3007

Pastors John & Roberta Greiner: Heather & Daniel Greiner  
Sunday service: 10:30 am  
Morning worship

**EDSON ALLIANCE CHURCH**  
5525-2nd Ave., Edson  
Ph: 723-5776 Pastor Bryan Walter  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship Service  
Wednesday: 7 p.m. Prayer Meeting.

**EDSON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
4719 - 9th Ave., Ph: 723-3982  
Pastor Mesh Hit

Sunday Services: 10:00 a.m.  
**EDSON MENNONITE CHURCH**  
6212 - 13 Ave, Edson

Office hrs: Tues 9am-1pm  
Office phone: 780-723-4992  
Pastor Tyson Moerike  
(Call or text 403-966-4705)

Sunday worship - 9:45  
**EDSON-PEERS CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**  
4633-7th Ave., Edson

Ph: 723-5242  
Pastor: Ryan Hoogerbrugge  
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Edson -  
Nursery provided Sunday School

**EDSON SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH**  
1133-55 St. Edson - Ph: 723-5490.

Saturday Morning Service at 11:00 a.m. Sabbath School at 10:00 a.m.

**EDSON UNITED CHURCH**  
Edson United Church  
1214 Edson Drive Edson AB  
Phone: 723-3418

**FAMILY OF FAITH CHURCH**  
463 72 St., Edson (formerly Glenwood Hall), Telephone: 780-517-7558

Sunday: 10:00 am - Coffee and Donuts; 10:30 am - Morning Service

Pastors: Pastors John and Ingrid Huizing vfm@shaw.ca

**HOLY TRINITY**  
(An Anglican/Lutheran Faith Community)

Rev. Johnny Pooten 780-723-3157  
Worship Service 10am Sundays.

All Services will be held at 623-50 St., Edson. (St. Catherine's). Please phone for other information.

**THE NEW JOSHUA GENERATION FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL**  
4911 B 3rd Avenue, Edson, AB

Sunday Worship at 2:00 p.m.; Fellowship after service.

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noemi\_sogocio2006@yahoo.ca  
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Pastor Father Thomas Basani (SAC)  
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What's happening, when and where in the community

## Community Events

**January 8:** Family Connection Night. Grand Trunk High School 5:50-7:30. Registration for this event is mandatory. By email at [jenumulg@gypsd.ca](mailto:jenumulg@gypsd.ca) or 780-728-7061

**January 11:** Community Resource Fair. 11am-2pm at The Royal Canadian Legion. Discover new programs and support in Edson.

**January 18:** Edson Sabres Excel U13 Tourny. Time: All Day, Location: Edson & District Leisure Centre. Please come out and cheer our local Sabres on and check out the raffle table.

First Wednesday of Every Month: Senior's Recycling Day. Between 10 am and 1 pm, senior citizens are welcome to

visit the depot for snacks and refreshments while their staff unloads your sorted recyclables free of charge.

**January 18:** Womens Fitness Conference 9am-5pm. At The Best Western High Road Inn for more info call 780-725-0582/ edson.ca/cdprograms

**January 19:** World Snow Day. Bear Lake Park 1pm-3pm. Sleigh Rides, Cross Country Skis and Snowshoes. Free drop in event.

**January 23:** Ladies Night Clay pottery. The Griffiths Park Centre 6PM-8PM AGES 18+ Register at [www.edson.ca/cdprograms](http://www.edson.ca/cdprograms)

Email us with your non-profit event date at: [anchorwk@telusplanet.net](mailto:anchorwk@telusplanet.net)

**We are proud to support community events**

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The Weekly **ANCHOR**

# Farm & Field News and Views

## 4-H celebrates new year and generous funding

4-H Alberta is proud and thrilled to announce and celebrate the launch of generous and strong new funding from TD Bank Group.

As a dedicated supporter of youth in rural and urban communities across Alberta, the new funding provided by TD – through the TD Ready Commitment – will provide additional financial literacy support and resources to 4-H Alberta members and will help expand their financial knowledge and confidence.

The initial \$25,000 investment will grow to \$40,000 the following year, increasing the learning opportunities and resources year over year. The Financial Confidence program aims to break down barriers by providing educational webinars and workshops on financial literacy and confidence, reaching more than 5,700 youth and nearly 4,000 families. The program will help participants

understand the importance of financial literacy and how it relates to our communities.

The 4-H Alberta Financial Confidence webinar series - proudly supported by TD - will launch in January 2025, with three webinars scheduled between January and March 2025 and at least one in-person workshop scheduled for the latter part of the year. Those educational offerings will then be further expanded in 2026, thanks to the generous support of TD.

"We're proud to help 4-H Alberta expand its financial literacy programming for youth and families across our province," said Robert Ghazal, Senior Vice President and Alberta Region Head, TD Bank Group. "Through the TD Ready Commitment, our corporate citizenship platform, we're supporting educational initiatives focused on improving financial knowledge and money

management skills."

"We are very grateful for this new collaboration with TD and thrilled to welcome them to the 4-H Alberta family of supporters. With the support of TD Bank Group, Members can gain financial confidence and literacy and continue to use those learnings as they apply them to their everyday lives. A strong understanding of financial literacy will support our members in their various life goals, whether taking on the role of treasurer with their local club, saving for post-secondary education, or planning to start an investment. The Financial Confidence Program helps to ensure our members are set up for success as they grow into the future leaders of tomorrow," added Kurt Kinnear, Chief Executive Officer at 4-H Alberta.

4-H Alberta is the new streamlined youth development body that combines the former three-party organizations that operated 4-H in Alberta; the 4-H Council of Alberta, the 4-H Foundation of Alberta, and the 4-H Section of Alberta Agriculture and Forestry.



Mary Bergeron School wrapped up their 12 Days of Christmas countdown on December 20 with a Pajama Day at Edson's movie theatre. The entire school was thrilled to take a trip to the theatre to enjoy a festive Christmas movie together. photo submitted Deanna Mitchener

### Summers Drilling Water Well Drilling

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