

#### MULTIPLEX

Construction starts on YCE **Multiplex** in Edson...

by Niki Luymes

The free income tax clinic in Griffiths Park Centre are there Community Volunteer Income Every year the team of Edson is once again offering its to help. service to the community. If

\* \*

you need help filling your appointments, drop-ins, and taxes, the volunteers at the drop offs until May 1. The in Edson for nearly 30 years. They are open for of Edson FCSS.

Edson FCSS hosts free income tax

Tax Program is run by the Town volunteers assist hundreds of

The program has been active

*continued page 2* 

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#### ARTS

Food Bank hosts Naloxone and Narcan Training course...

see page 4

#### COMMENT

Trump's economic chaos isn't a side effect. It's his strategy...

see page 6







tmhdale@gmail.com

Box 6666 Edson, AB T7E 1V1

# Edson FCSS hosts free income tax clinic

continued from front

residents with properly filing their taxes. In the early years, the program simply completed the forms for you, but now the group works to teach people the proper procedures.

The clinic is open to assist with low income and simple tax returns. The threshold as to what counts as low income are: 1 person income of \$35,000 or less, 2 person income of \$45,000 or less, 3 person income of \$47,500 or less, and then each additional person adds \$2,500 thereafter. The program will not assist those with business income and expenses, self-employment, and rental income and expenses. It is also not for those who have declared bankruptcy in the tax year (or the year before), those that have died or have foreign property or income. Some exceptions do apply.

The program runs for four days a week. 9am to 3pm on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday; and 11am to 7pm on Wednesday. You can book an appointment through the Griffiths Park Centre at 780-725-0582 or email at edsoncvitp@gmail.com. "Making an appointment is always best. Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments come first. Sometimes, it goes really quick and in 15 minutes you are done and some take an hour and you are still working on it," said Marty-Jo Beier, a volunteer and overseer for the program.

When people come in to use the program they need to remember to bring all the proper paperwork. This includes ID, personal information such as SIN card and mailing address, and their relevant tax slips. "I highly recommend that they look at last year's tax return. Looking at what they had and making sure they have the same stuff this year," added Beier. The volunteers can fit in 14 to 16 appointments per day and are booking a week in advance. Within the first week of opening, the group has

assisted with completing over 300 tax returns. "I'm happy to see that many people are using the service. I would like to see more, especially students. Last year we did over 800, so I'm trying to break that 1,000 mark," said Beier.

While the program closes for walk-ins and appointments on May 1, they will still accept drop-offs further into the year. "We do drop-offs all year long though the FCSS. If anyone needs the extra help after it's all done, we're always willing to help. There are a lot of people with questions and we are willing to help with anything throughout the year," concluded Beier.

For infromation on the Yellowhead County Volunteer Income Tax Program please call 780-325-3782.



Rhys Marchewka goes to the Holy Redeemer High School in Edson and has been on a mission in getting donations for March 4 A Cure this year. Rhys has raised \$1,554 in donations and had his hair shaved off on March 20. Rhys says he is doing this for his papa and uncle. photo submitted by Deanna Mitchener

2025 Rimbey Spring Machinery Consignment Auction **Edson Area - Grazing Lease** Sale Starts on April 18th, 2025 Grazing Lease (Located in the Cattle Handling Ring) - April 21st, 2025

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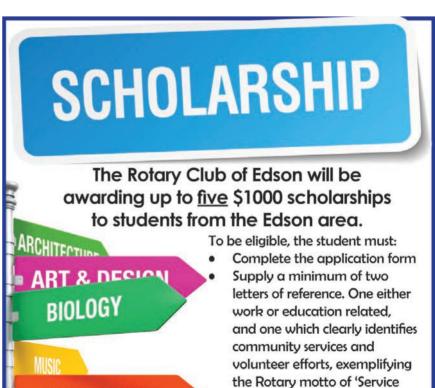
There are four separate pastures; three with dugouts. There are three springs, one is fenced off. The fourth pasture has water holes in a wet year but cattle can

access the pasture # 3 dugout.

#### Legal Descriptions:

- NW 11-53-19 W5M 114.5 Acres M/L SW 11-53-19 W5M 19.5 Acres M/L
- 3. SE 10-53-19 W5M - 8.24 Acres M/L
- NE 11-53-19 W5M 160 Acres M/L 4.
- SE 14-53-19 W5M 23 5 Acres M/I





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6. SW 12-53-19 W5M - 160 Acres M/L NW 1-53-19 W5M - 156 Acres M/L 8. NE 1-53-19 W5M - 142.34 Acres M/L 9. SE 12-53-19 W5M - 160 Acres M/L 10. NE 12-53-19 W5M - 160 Acres M/L



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Rotary

For more information and the application form, visit edsonrotary.org & scroll down to youth scholarships. Questions can be directed to Lorraine Symes, Youth Services Chair Club of Edson lbsymes@moradnet.ca



Grade two students from Mary Bergeron Elementary School recently had an incredible time at Edson Tumblers Gymnastics Club. They explored the equipment, honed their skills, and had a blast jumping, flipping, and balancing. It was an unforgettable high-energy experience. photo submitted by Deanna Mitchener



A few of the students who received March Aspire Awards at Vanier Community Catholic School. This month, they celebrated students who exemplify the universal teaching of honesty and prudence. photo submitted by Deanna Mitchener



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# **Rotary to host High Tea and Regency**

by Deanna Mitchener

Join the Rotary Club of Edson at the Galloway Station Museum on April 13, for High Tea and Regency. The event runs from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tiffany Wood, Rotary Club of Edson President, said, "If you love Jane Austen, Bridgerton, or even just an opportunity to dust off those breeches and gowns, this is the event for you."

"Some lucky attendees will also have the opportunity to drink tea from a silverware set that Queen Elizabeth II and King Charles (at that time, Prince Charles) used during their visit to the Northwest Territories in 1970 during their Yellowknife visit," said Wood. "Remember to dress up as there will be a prize for the best costume. Enjoy some delicious food catered by Shekinah Coffee and participate in the raffle with prizes coming from Bannister GM, Edson Studio on 4th Hair Design, Blom Photography, Weyerhaeuser Edson, and so much more," added Woods.

Join Edson Rotary for a delightful afternoon of elegance and charm and indulge in a traditional high tea experience while immersing yourself in the beauty of the Regency era. You will enjoy a selection of teas, scones, and delectable treats. Dress up is only encouraged and not a requirement.

"Immerse yourself in the ambiance of a bygone era and create memories to cherish. Don't

# Food Bank hosts Naloxone and Narcan Training course

#### by Deanna Mitchener

The Edson Food Bank recently hosted a Naloxone and Narcan



Members from the Edson Food Bank Society learning how to use naloxone during a recent course.

training course for their board and staff members.

Amy Pillage, Program Coordinator, said, "The instructors were from Hinton Employment and Learning Place and this was a refresher course."

When asked why it was important for staff to take such a course, Amy replied, "We're a service that is frequented by the vulnerable sector and sometimes that means we help people who may need our help with a drug poisoning, so it's a good course for us to take."

An overdose is a life-threatening medical emergency. Naloxone is a medication that can temporarily reverse the effects of an opioid overdose, but it does not cure an overdose. If anyone suspects or witnesses a person experiencing a drug overdose, call 911.

Being able to recognize the signs of an overdose quickly and having a naloxone kit can save a life. Naloxone can buy time while paramedics are in route.

Take-home naloxone kits do not replace the need for emergency care or minimize the importance of calling 911. miss this unique opportunity to step back in time and experience the sophistication of the Regency period," said Wood. Tickets can be purchased at the Galloway Museum or online. Be sure to get your tickets early. (see below)

Dearest Reader The Rotary Club of Edson Cordially Invites You to Attend ...

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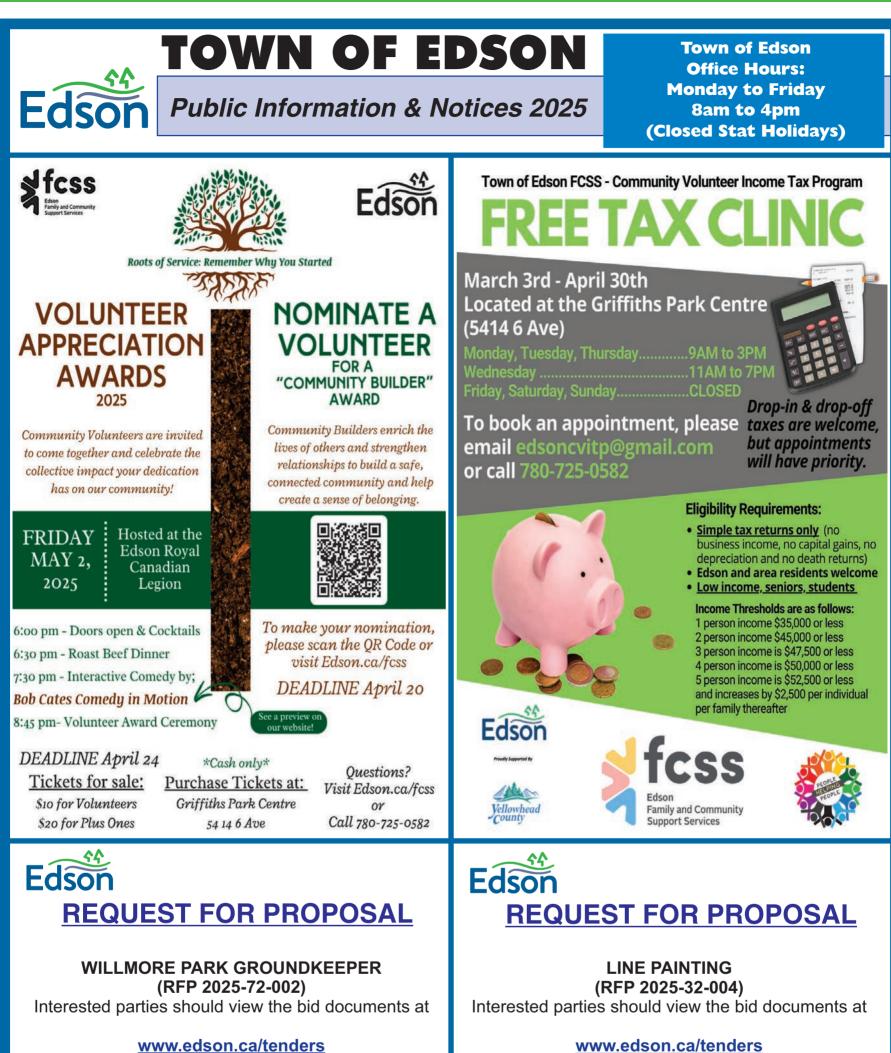
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MONDAY, MARCH 31, 2025 PAGE 5



RFP ISSUE DATE: RFP CLOSING DATE: RFP CLOSING TIME: Monday, March 24, 2025 Thursday, April 10, 2025 14:00:59 (2:00 P.M) MST RFP ISSUE DATE:MRFP CLOSING DATE:1RFP CLOSING TIME:1

Monday, March 31, 2025 Thursday, April 17, 2025 14:00:59 (2:00 P.M) MST

### NOTICE OF DEVELOPMENT

Recent Development Permits approved by the Development Authority, under the Town of Edson Land Use Bylaw 2296 as amended, can be found at <a href="https://www.edson.ca/business/planning/development-permit-applications">https://www.edson.ca/business/planning/development-permit-applications</a>. Additional information can be requested from the Planning Department at 780-723-4402 or <a href="planning@edson.ca">planning@edson.ca</a>. Any person who is deemed to be affected by the issuance of any one of these permits may appeal to the Subdivision and Development Authority by 4:00 p.m., on the 21<sup>st</sup> day after the date of issue as published on the Town's website. On Permitted Uses, grounds for appeal must relate only to interpretation, variance, or relaxation of Land Use Bylaw 2296. On Discretionary Uses, all aspects of the proposed development may be challenged upon appeal. Written notice of appeal, accompanied by the appeal fee as established by Town Council, must be filed through the Office of the Secretary of the Intermunicipal Subdivision and Development Appeal Board (ISDAB) at Box 6300, Edson, AB T7E 1T7. Direct Control District Approvals cannot be appealed.





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# omment

#### **Guest Editorial/Column**

# Trump's economic chaos isn't a side effect. It's his strategy

#### by Sylvain Charlebois

What if the dismantling of the global economy isn't a side effect but the very point of Donald Trump's agenda?

Now in his second term as U.S. president, Trump is again undermining multilateral trade frameworks, imposing aggressive tariffs and sowing uncertainty across global supply chains. He is deliberately attempting to rewire the global economy around the United States. It's a high-risk strategy, but one that could prove devastatingly effective at reasserting American economic dominance while letting the rest of the world grapple with the fallout, including skyrocketing food prices and disrupted agricultural markets.

With Prime Minister Mark Carney calling a federal election for April 28, the stakes for Canada are immediate and high. Ottawa will soon have to decide how to respond to a shifting global food and trade order driven not by cooperation, but by raw power.

While many in the West view Trump's actions as reckless, even irrational. there's reason to believe a deliberate playbook lies behind the chaos.

Trump has long criticized trade liberalization and globalization. His views on tariffs aren't new: they date back more than three decades. And unlike many presidents who have built wealth via globally integrated industries, Trump built his fortune in real estate and media-sectors largely insulated from international competition. That perspective shapes his disdain for multilateralism and his preference for bilateral economic muscle.

Markets have responded accordingly. Since his return to office, U.S. indices such as the S&P 500 and Nasdaq have posted notable corrections, driven by investor concerns over persistent inflation, economic slowdowns and erratic tariff policy. For the food sector, where margins are thin and supply chains complex, this environment has already increased input costs and weakened trade fluidity.

But beyond the noise, Trump appears to be pursuing a form of neomercantilism-a 21st-century take on the old economic doctrine that favours high tariffs, trade surpluses and strong state involvement to protect domestic

sabotaging trade strategy could, in fact, be designed to compress global demand, suppress U.S. interest rates and reignite American middle-class consumption while exporting inflation and volatility abroad, particularly into emerging markets and food-importing nations.

The implications are profound. If global agri-food flows are destabilized in favour of U.S. self-sufficiency, nations like Canada-highly integrated into American supply chains—become uniquely vulnerable. Canada exports more than 50 per cent of its agri-food products, much of it to the U.S., including beef, wheat, canola, lentils and processed food products. Farm equipment, fertilizer inputs and food retail logistics also rely heavily on cross-border networks.

A weakened American dollar might soften some food prices at home, but the overall macroeconomic shock would be severe

In such a scenario, Canada's agri-food sector would need to pivot fast: dismantle protectionist barriers, pursue new trade partnerships and invest heavily in domestic food resilience and value-added processing. But more fundamentally, Canada would need to recalibrate its agrifood geopolitical posture.

Ottawa's recent hesitations—such as protecting an underdeveloped battery sector at the cost of agricultural diplomacy—signal a worrying misalignment. While others assess Trump's return pragmatically, Canada risks being caught flat-footed, trapped in ideological bias rather than strategic foresight.

Trump's antagonism toward China only complicates things further. His narrative frames the pandemic not as a global tragedy, but as a geopolitical affront from a communist regime to capitalist hegemony. In that sense, his economic retaliation through tariffs, reshoring and deglobalization may be viewed as a reassertion of U.S. supremacy.

If true, the consequences are not abstract. They will be felt at ports, in grain terminals and in grocery aisles.

And as Canadians prepare to vote on April 28, the ballot-box question won't be how to deal with Donald Trump. It will be about how to respond to an evolving global food order, one increasingly shaped by two superpowers: the U.S. and China. This new agri-food

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# **Edson RCMP Occurrences**

For the week of March 17 – March 23, 2025

Suspicious Persons/vehicles 16, Traffic Violations 15, Assistant Calls 11 topped the list of Edson RCMP occurrences. Other investigations included: Abandoned Vehicles 0; Alarms/False Alarms 3; Animal Calls 0; Assault 1; Assistance Calls 11; Cause Disturbance 1; Child Welfare 0; Drive While Unauthorized 0; Drugs 1; Extortion 0; Fail to Comply with Conditions 2; Fail to Stop or Remain at Collision 0; False/Abandoned 911 Call 1; Family Orders and Agreements 1; Family relations 0; Fire Prevention Act 1; Fraud 3; Harassment/Criminal Harassment 0; Impaired Operation of Motor Vehicle 0; Information File 3; Liquor act 0; Lost or Found property 4; Mental Health Act 0; Mischief or Damage 5; Missing Person/Request to Locate 0; Municipal Bylaws 1; Noise Complaints 0; Obstruct/Resist Peace Officer 0; Possess Stolen Property 1; Recovered Stolen Property 0; Sudden Death 1; Theft complaints 10; Traffic Collisions 6; Traffic Complaints 3; Trespassing 6; Uninsured/Unregistered Vehicle 4 ;Unlawfully in Dwelling 0; Unwanted Person 0; Uttering Threats Against Person 0; and Wellbeing Checks 7.



industries and assert national power. His worldview echoes a pre-First World War model, where tariffs-not income tax-funded governments.

He rejects the post-war consensus: a multilateral order shaped by institutions like the World Trade Organization (WTO), International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank, designed to foster global economic interdependence and stabilize food flows and commodity markets.

Instead, he envisions a new economic order centred solely on American leverage. His nostalgic vision of an "American Golden Age" involves reduced reliance on trade, reindustrialization and a consumerdriven economy detached from international obligations.

In this light, what appears to be a self-

world is not only real, it's shifting by the day. And those who fail to adapt may find themselves not just behind but left out entirely.

Let's hope that recognition comes soon.

Dr. Sylvain Charlebois is a Canadian professor and researcher in food distribution and policy. He is senior director of the Agri-Food Analytics Lab at Dalhousie University and co-host of The Food Professor Podcast. He is frequently cited in the media for his insights on food prices, agricultural trends, and the global food supply chain. © Troy Media

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



Meet Griva age 10 in grade 5 at Mary Bergeron Elementary School.

Q: What do you think is the best job?

A: A scientist, because you can discover new things and do experiments.



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# **MacKay Community Association hosts dance, supper, and auction fundraiser**

by Niki Luymes

The MacKay Community Association hosted its annual St. Patrick's Day Supper, Silent Auction and Dance Fundraiser on March 15.

The event was held at the Mackay Community Hall and was open to people of all ages. Tickets were \$30 for ages 15 and up, \$15 for 7 to 14, with six and under getting in for free. The doors opened at 5pm, with supper starting at 6pm.

One of the highlights of the night was the prime rib supper. Families got to enjoy the food while also perusing a silent auction of over 50 items. At the end of the evening people danced the night away to live band 'Two Bad Apples'.

The St. Patrick's Day leprechaun hid gold coins around the venue. Three lucky kids got to take home old-fashioned gumball machines after finding the gold coins. "The hall was filled with excitement and joy as the kids searched for the coins," said Keli Setzer, organizer and hall association member.

The event's principal purpose was to fundraise for the continued upkeep of the hall. "Money raised from this event will go towards the purchase of a new lawnmower to maintain the hall's large green space, which includes a ball diamond and picnic area," said Setzer.

The event is put on entirely by local volunteers, with some help from local sponsors. "The hardworking, dedicated volunteers, sponsors, and all those who attended this event helped make it a huge success. The MacKay Community Association is immensely grateful to all of our sponsors; without them events like this would not be possible," said Setzer.



The Mackay Community Association held their annual St Patrick's Day dance on March 15. As part of the fun, three kids won retro gumball machines by finding gold coins. The event was held at the Mackay Community Hall. photos submitted.

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#### PAGE 10 MONDAY, MARCH 31, 2025

#### THE WEEKLY ANCHOR

# Construction starts on YCE Multiplex in Edson

The Town of Edson and Yellowhead County were excited to announced on March 24, the start of construction on the YCE Multiplex Project!

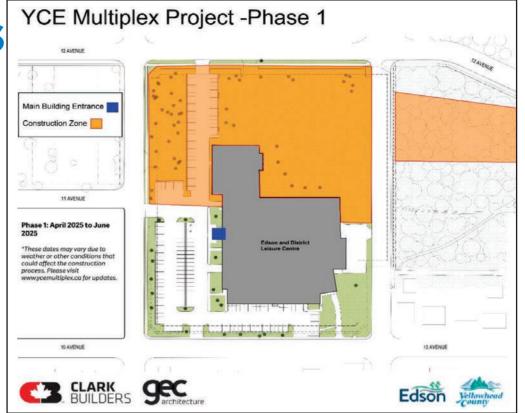
Phase 1 is set to commence on April 7, 2025, with on-site preparation and foundational work. This includes clearing the area, grading the land, and preparing the foundation.

The main entrance will

remain open during Phase 1, but the north parking lot will be closed. Expect some equipment and noise in the area as work gets underway.

For the most up-to-date information, please visit the YCE Multiplex website at ycemultiplex.ca.

A formal groundbreaking ceremony will be scheduled later this spring.



# **Yellowhead County Council updated on YCE Multiplex Project**

#### by Dana McArthur

During the Yellowhead County Council meeting on March 25, Crystal McNernie, General Manager of Community Services gave an update on the YCE Multiplex Project.

"In April 2024, Council approved the program design for the YCE Multiplex with a total budget of \$80.24 million. Since the last project update in January, planning has progressed significantly, with several key developments.

"The construction footprint for the pool and gymnasium has been adjusted by shifting it three meters east. This change creates additional space between the existing building and the new pool, addressing concerns regarding vibration risks. More in-depth geotechnical and engineering assessments have been completed, and it has been determined that the risk of vibration should not materialize, particularly with the footprint's repositioning.

"The development permit application was submitted on December 23, 2024, with a revised submission on January 21, 2025, reflecting the adjusted footprint. The foundation for the facility will be constructed using piles, which allows the project to maintain a tight construction schedule while also realizing a cost savings of \$125,000 identified through value engineering exercises.

"Contracts have been awarded for the preengineered arena and mechanical, electrical, and aquatic subcontractors, with major tenders being finalized over the next six months. Construction mobilization begins April 7, 2025, starting with tree removal, asphalt stripping, and temporary access development, with a intentionally segmented to encourage participation from local contractors. A wellattended pre-bid walkthrough indicated strong local interest in the project. As project drawings continue to develop, additional tender packages will be released, each accompanied by award recommendations to facilitate subcontractor onboarding.

"Contractors interested in bidding on future opportunities can submit their company name, contact information, and relevant qualifications to YCEMultiplex@clarkbuilders.com.

"One of the key challenges the project team is closely monitoring is the potential impact of tariffs and countermeasures on construction materials. While it remains uncertain how these trade policies will affect the project's schedule and budget, early indications suggest some cost increases, particularly for equipment and pumps assembled in the United States with nondomestically manufactured components. To mitigate these risks, the project team is prioritizing the specification of Canadian manufactured materials wherever possible. Collaboration with subcontractors and construction managers is ongoing to reduce reliance on U.S. products.

"An updated budget presentation is planned for discussion at the next steering committee meeting on April 29. By that time, tender package two will have been released, providing further clarity on costs and final piling specifications for the pool, arena, and gymnasium. This budget review will serve as a crucial step in making informed decisions.

"The YCE Multiplex project continues to progress steadily, with proactive planning and strategic decision-making guiding the way. As construction mobilization begins in April, key milestones will be reached in the coming months, bringing the project closer to realization," concluded the update.

Mayor Wade Williams said, "These are exciting times. The concept of this project started many years back. It's been a long and hard process. We have figured out as a steering committee, there is never a good time to attack a project of this magnitude. Something always gets in the way. First that was COVID and all the things that went after that. Now it's a threat of tariffs. I'm excited that we have a start date of April 7th."

Williams added, "I want to thank Yellow Head County Council, our Administration, the Town of Edson Council and their Administration as well as the design teams for getting us to the point where we're at now. I'm excited to see the construction start and there's no looking back now."

Council for Yellowhead County accepted the YCE Multiplex Project Update for March 2025 as information.



formal groundbreaking ceremony earmarked for later in the spring.

"A detailed parking plan has been released, prioritizing efficiency, accessibility, and pedestrian safety. It includes additional stalls along 48 Street and converts the road into a one-way with angle parking to maximize availability while maintaining cost efficiency.

"The final design was informed by public engagement feedback, land use regulations, and considerations related to pedestrian and traffic movement. An important factor in determining parking solutions was the cost-effectiveness of utilizing existing asphalt, curbs, and sidewalks rather than constructing a new parking lot.

"The procurement process remains on track for completion by July 2025. The tender package for site services, tree removal, and site stripping is already in progress, with the scope

Mary Bergeron Elementary School was thrilled to welcome Reanne Dennison, Safety Smarts Instructor from the Heartland Training and Support Hub, for an important lesson on farm and rural safety recently. From protecting their hearing to staying safe around ATVs, equipment, and animals, students gained valuable knowledge through her engaging approach. photo submitted by Deanna Mitchener

# Wildwood Complex Arena Ice Slab Retrofit Project

#### by Dana McArthur

The 2025 Capital Budget request for the removal of the existing ice slab and piping, at the Wildwood Complex Arena, along with the supply and installation of a new ice slab and piping, has exceeded the allocated budget of \$330,000.

During the Yellowhead County Council meeting on March 25, General Manager of Community Services Crystal McNernie said, "Included within our 2025 capital budget we have a project identified as the Wildwood Complex arena ice slab retrofit with a current budget allocation of \$330,000. As a quick refresher on that project we are looking to replace the heating and cooling lines as well as the ice pad itself."

"There have been a lot of inefficiencies with those lines. There are leaks and it's making it very difficult to maintain a good quality ice surface. So we are looking to replace those lines and the slab itself," McNernie added.

To move forward with the lowest qualified proposal, Administration is requesting an additional \$120,920 be allocated to CS25-018 Wildwood Complex Arena Slab Retrofit.

This would increase the 2025 Interim Capital Budget pricing from \$330,000 to \$450,920 for the Wildwood Complex

#### Arena project.

McNernie explained in recent years there was a complete replacement of the ice plant at both the Wildwood complex and the Evansburg arena, so the system itself is in good shape otherwise.

Councillor Brigitte Lemieux asked, "Did the proponents provide you with any reasoning as to why this is considerably more than our estimate?" McNernie responded, "In the conversations that we've had, the proponents are referencing the tariffs, the threat of tariffs, and the impacts that they're going to have to their projects."

Lemieux added, "That actually seems really quite unreasonable. I'm not sure that there's any tariffs on concrete. And the majority of this project is concrete based."

Chief Administrative Officer Luc Mercier responded, "The only option would be if we felt that there were issues with the numbers that we do not like, we could reject all these and direct Administration to proceed with retendering the project. At this stage, we are not confident that that would give us any better results."

Yellowhead County Council voted to approve increasing the 2025 Interim Capital Budget from \$330,000 to \$450,920 for the retrofit.



Daphanie Steen-Johnston and daughter Ryeleigh enjoying some time together recently at the Edson Fish and Game Association indoor archery shoot. Archery takes place every Monday night from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the basement of The Gallery and Studio at 303-50th Street in Edson, until the end of May. photo submitted by Deanna Mitchener

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# Plans underway for Marlboro's underground connected sanitary sewer and water system

#### by Dana McArthur

Yellowhead County has been analysing the implementation of water and sanitary services in the Hamlet of Marlboro for the past number of years.

"Beginning in the fall of 2024 the lagoon, sanitary trunkline and outfall project was awarded, and construction began shortly after award," stated Cory Armfelt, the County's General Manager of Infrastructure and Planning Services in his report to county council on March 25.

Options have been explored for either constructing a water distribution and sanitary collection system, or having wells drilled on private lots subsidized by the County and only constructing the sanitary collection system.

The lead consultant engineer for the project, Dr. Amin Augustin, Ph.D., P. Eng. Director, Canadian Consulting Engineers Inc. delivered a presentation to council and took questions related to the cost comparisons for undertaking the full build-out of water and sanitary services or sanitary services with subsidized wells.

The calculated differential between piped water services and subsidised wells is \$358,740 or 2.2% of the total estimated project cost not considering engineering fees and contingencies. Implementation of underground water services would significantly benefit growth options for the hamlet, as well as firefighting services due to the incorporation of fire hydrants.

The cost estimate with the water system totals \$16,063,855 including a 10% contingency. The cost estimate with the water wells subsidies totals \$15,633,365 including a 10% contingency. Both plans would incorporate a three-phase process.

Councillor Dawn Mitchell then made the motion, "I'll move the Council for Yellowhead County directs Administration to proceed with the Marlboro sanitary collection and water distribution strategy as proposed by the phased approach and returned to council for future deliberation." Mitchell added, "I really find it difficult to express just how much this project means to me and how much it means to the residents of Marlboro."

Councillor Anthony Giezen asked, "Were there any other options explored like directional drill?" Augustin explained that directional drilling is out of the question in this case, because of the amount of tie-in connections. They will be using short vertical trenches.

Mayor Wade Williams asked, "Is there going

to be sufficient room for the crews to be able to work through the narrow streets in order to get these services to the residences?" Augustin responded that some of the narrow streets are particular challenging, but it's doable. Williams added, "With a half a million dollar difference between a water system and water wells, I know which one of those makes sense to me, but that's for further discussion."

Councillor Shawn Berry said, "The details make a lot of sense to me as I've been involved in water and sewer projects in the past."

Chief Administrative Officer Luc Mercier said, "Dr. Augustin has shown very clearly that even if we would support some of those properties with well development, we're still going to have to service them. We can serve them with water lines through all the roads, first and foremost." He added, "When council makes this motion, and when this project is done, Marlboro will have the same sort of water system as most hamlets and urban centers have."

Mercier clarified that once all the possibilities are narrowed down and the funding model is known, community discussions with residents will then be taking place.

Council voted in favour of the motion.



Kindergarten students from Mary Bergeron School took a special trip to Your Independent Grocer on March 16, as part of their community awareness unit. They explored the store, discovering where food comes from, and how it gets to our tables. photo submitted by Deanna Mitchener



Frankie Marchewka caught this great mid-day action photograph of an owl recently, just before Obed Lake. photo submitted Deanna Mitchener Kindergarten students from Mary Bergeron School enjoying their trip to Your Independent Grocer on March 16. Students were fascinated to discover how many countries food comes from. photo submitted by Deanna Mitchener

# **Lottery Fraud Prevention**

Western Canada Lottery Corporation (WCLC) would like to remind players that you can only win a prize on our games if you've purchased a ticket. If you've received an email, a letter or phone call saying you've won a prize WITHOUT buying a ticket, or if someone asks for money to receive a prize, IT IS A SCAM.

WCLC is aware of attempted lottery scams in the region and would like to remind players of some key tips to protect themselves against scammers – whether through email, phone calls, social media, or even text messages.

Fraud Prevention Tips:

Unsolicited Communication: If you receive an unexpected email, phone call, or text claiming you've won a prize, be cautious.

Unless you bought a ticket through an official channel, you haven't won a prize. In the Prairie Provinces, you may be contacted if you win through SubscriptionSpot.ca, PlayNow (in Manitoba), and Play Alberta (in Alberta). If you did purchase through these channels, you can easily verify the message by double-checking the winning numbers online, logging in to your account, or contacting the platform directly.

If you purchased a ticket at a Lotto Spot retailer or on the Lotto Spot app, you will not be contacted about a prize.

Always Verify: If in doubt, contact WCLC directly by calling Player Care at 1-800-665-3313. Never use contact information provided in unsolicited messages.

Do Not Transfer Money: If you are asked to pay taxes or fees to claim a prize, it is not legitimate. Don't send money, and don't respond.

Be Skeptical of Urgency: Scammers often create a sense of urgency. If something feels rushed, take a moment to think it through.

Keep Personal Information Secure: Never share your account information, passwords, or PINs with anyone – including over the phone.

Report Suspicious Activity: You can report suspicious activity to your local authorities or the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre, particularly if you've already provided money or information to scammers.

For more information or help identifying lottery scams, please visit https://www.wclc.com/forplayers/identifying-lottery-scams-2.htm



# HRH team finishes with 10-1 record!

The Holy Redeemer Junior A Boys Basketball Team is having a fantastic season. They finished the regular season with an impressive 10-1 record, and went on to win gold at GYAC on March 1st. The gold medal game at GYAC was a close contest, but the Rebels came out victorious by four points. "These young men worked incredibly hard this season," says Head Coach Sean Murray. "Each and every one of them are so talented and work hard to improve their skills. I can tell you that our basketball program at HRH is in good hands for years to come." submitted

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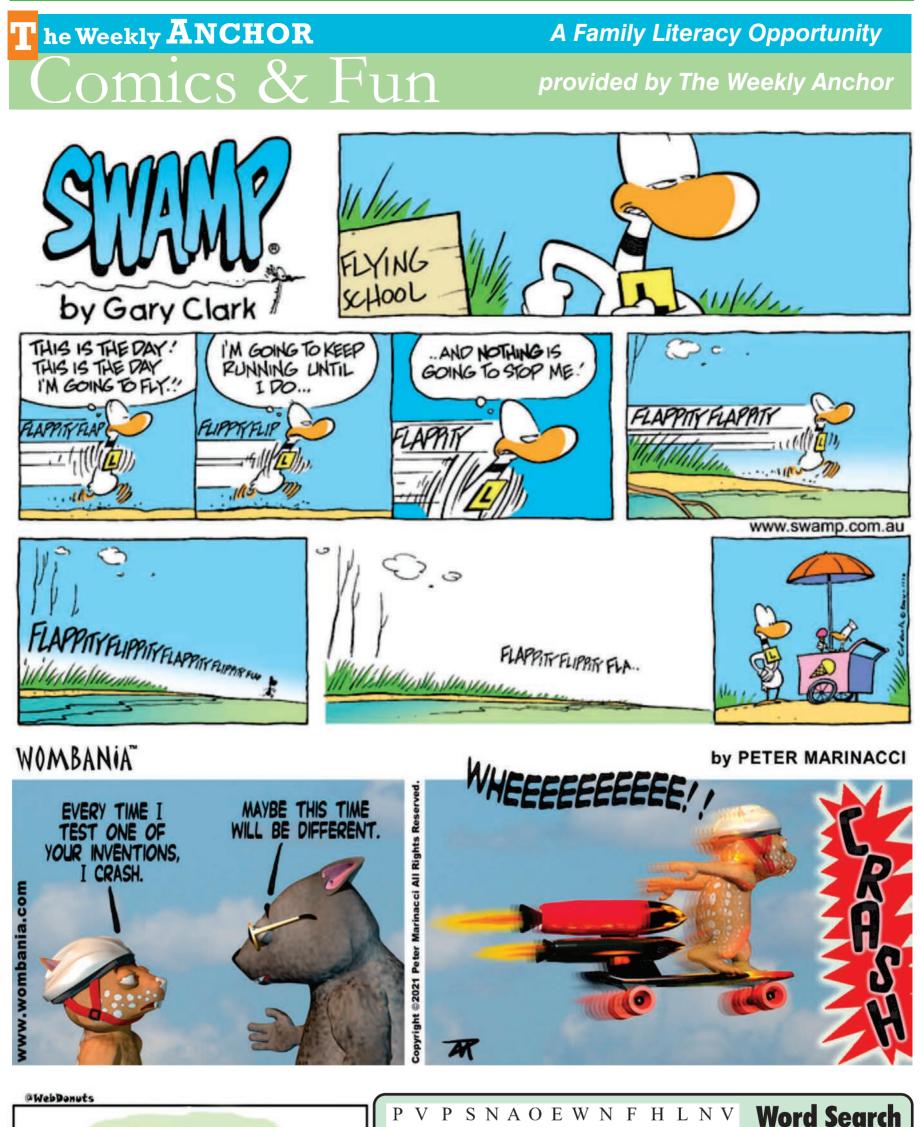
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\*Subscription price for Edson and Yellowhead County addresses. Please contact us for pricing outside the area.

#### PAGE 14 MONDAY, MARCH 31, 2025

#### THE WEEKLY ANCHOR





The Directors Cut

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**CHURCH** 

DIRECTORY

EDSON

BETHEL PENTECOSTAL

Heather & Daniel Greiner

Sunday service: 10:30 am

5525-2nd Ave., Edson

a.m. Worship Service

6212 - 13 Ave, Edson Office hrs: Tues 9am-1pm

Morning worship EDSON ALLIANCE CHURCH

Ph: 723-5776 Pastor Bryan Walter

9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45

Wednesday: 7 p.m. Prayer

**EDSON BAPTIST CHURCH** 

4719 - 9th Ave., Ph: 723-3982 Sunday Services: 10:00 a.m.

Office phone: 780-723-4992 Pastor Tyson Moerike

(Call or text 403-966-4705)

Pastor: Ryan Hoogerbrugge

Worship: 10:30 a.m. Edson

Nursery provided Sunday School EDSON SEVENTH-DAY

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

1214 Edson Drive Edson AB

FAMILY OF FAITH CHURCH

Sunday worship - 9:45 **EDSON-PEERS CHRISTIAN** 

**REFORMED CHURCH** 

**ADVENTIST CHURCH** 

**Edson United Church** 

Phone: 723-3418

4633-7th Ave., Edson Ph: 723-5242

EDSON MENNONITE CHURCH

723-3007

Meeting.

CHURCH 6350 - 13th Ave., Edson. Phone

Pastors John & Roberta Greiner:

# CLASSIFIEDS EMAIL:ANCHORWK@TELUSPLANET.NET

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W hat's happening, when and where in the community Community Events

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April 2: Family Wellness Day. In Peers Baking crafts and exercising. Build your own sub for lunch register

#### www.yhcounty.ca/registration

April 16, 30 May 14, 28 : Yellowhead County Family Time in Peers10:30 Am-12:30pm Light Snacks and Refreshments. Registration is required www.yhcounty.ca/registration

at yhcounty.ca/registration or call 780-723-4800 April 3: Family Wellness Day. In Evansburg Baking crafts and exercising. Build your own sub for lunch register at vhcounty.ca/registration or call 780-723-4800

April 9, 29 May 7, 21 : Yellowhead County Family Time In Marlboro 10:30 Am-12:30pm Light Snacks and Refreshments. Registration is required

Email us with your non-profit event date at: anchorwk@telusplanet.net May 23-24: Mustachio Bullashio Both days start at 7PM Element Zone 13 -54011 Range Rd 171 Yellowhead County

May 31: Eddies Big Run. Registration opens February 10. Register online at edson.ca or in person at Edson District Leisure Centre.





COMMUNITY COWBOY CHURCH Niton Junction Hall Tuesdays, 7 p.m. 780-712-3502

# T he Weekly ANCHOR Farm & Field

**News and Views** 

#### Comment

# Farmers pay the price for Ottawa's EV obsession

#### EV gamble leaves farmers to suffer China's retaliation alone

#### by Sylvain Charlebois

Canada has started a trade war with China, yet few in Ottawa seem willing to acknowledge the consequences.

Unlike the United States, which often imposes tariffs as a bargaining chip only to later negotiate, China takes a far more calculated and punitive approach. When Beijing retaliates, it targets industries with both economic and symbolic significance, ensuring maximum pressure on its adversary.

In Canada's case, that means agricultural exports—particularly canola, known globally as "Canada oil," and Atlantic lobster, both of which have now become collateral damage in this escalating dispute.

The fallout is already being felt. Starting March 20, Canadian grain farmers, hog producers and seafood harvesters will face 100 per cent tariffs when exporting to China, a critical market for these sectors.

Canola, which generated \$3.72 billion in exports in recent years, is now under anti-dumping investigations, while rapeseed oil-a major processed product-is being hit with prohibitive tariffs. Pork exports, once thriving, have dwindled as China tightens import restrictions, and the billion-dollar seafood industry, led by lobster and crab, is now facing similar uncertainty.

This crisis was set in motion by Ottawa's decision last October to impose tariffs on Chinese electric vehicles and batteries, mirroring a move by the United States. Then-Prime Minister Justin Trudeau sought to align with U.S. President Joe Biden, aiming to shield North American manufacturing from an influx of cheap Chinese imports.

But now, with both leaders gone, Prime Minister Mark Carney has made it clear he has no intention of reversing course.

China's retaliation follows a familiar pattern. When Huawei executive Meng Wanzhou was arrested in Vancouver in 2018 at the request of the U.S., Beijing didn't retaliate against Washington-it went after Canadian farmers, restricting key agricultural exports.

The same playbook is being used now, yet Ottawa appears either oblivious or unwilling to acknowledge how much damage this is causing to its own producers.

At the core of this conflict is Canada's high-stakes bet on electric vehicles and battery manufacturing. The federal government has committed nearly \$50 billion to develop the sector, funding projects like Stellantis and LG's battery plant in Windsor, Volkswagen's gigafactory in St. Thomas, Ont., and Northvolt's facility

in Quebec-despite Northvolt's financial struggles and reports that its parent company is on the verge of bankruptcy.

Additional billions have gone to Ford and other automakers as part of Canada's strategy to become a global battery hub.

While these subsidies are intended to create jobs and secure supply chains, they come with immense financial and economic risks. There is no guarantee that Canada's EV industry will be globally competitive or that these government-backed projects will deliver on their promised returns.

Ottawa has essentially chosen to apply a supply management-style approach to an emerging sector-limiting competition, inflating costs and betting taxpayer money on an industry that is far from proven. As history has shown, when markets are heavily managed, consumers end up with higher prices, lower quality and fewer choices.

In prioritizing Ontario and Quebec's manufacturing jobs, Ottawa has knowingly sacrificed the interests of Canadian farmers and seafood harvesters. Yet, rather than acknowledging this trade-off or offering support, the federal government has remained largely silent.

The absence of a response from new Agriculture Minister Kody Blois is particularly troubling. With farmers already struggling due to rising costs and declining margins, the imposition of 100 per cent tariffs on critical exports is a major blow.

If Minister Blois does not act swiftly to defend Canada's agricultural sector, farmers and seafood harvesters will be left to bear the full weight of Ottawa's geopolitical gamble.

Canada's handling of this trade war has been reckless. Instead of mitigating risks, the government has gone all in on an industry that remains untested while turning its back on agricultural sectors that have long been pillars of the Canadian economy.

If Minister Blois and the government fail to intervene, the economic consequences for Canadian farmers and seafood producers will be severe. Ottawa may have been willing to make this gamble, but it's the agricultural sector that will ultimately pay the price.

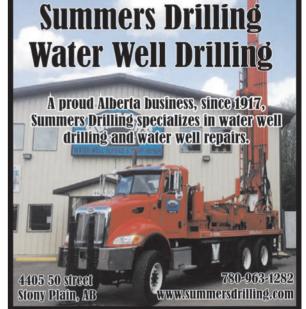
What a mess.

Dr. Sylvain Charlebois is a Canadian professor and researcher in food distribution and policy. He is senior director of the Agri-Food Analytics Lab at Dalhousie University and co-host of The Food Professor Podcast. © Troy Media

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

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THE WEEKLY ANCHOR





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