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**Looking back at 2025**

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# 2025 a big year for Moosomin, says Gray

BY NICOLE TAYLOR

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Moosomin mayor Murray Gray talked about what kind of year it has been for the town of Moosomin in 2025, and what he thinks 2026 holds.

**What were some of the main projects the municipality worked on or got done this past year?**

The big one was the water treatment plant start up and water meter replacement. We also completed four more blocks of new water line on Albernie St. In rec with the help of many volunteers and sponsors there was a pickle ball court added at Bradley Park as well as an outdoor basketball court at the swimming pool.

**What were some of the big challenges in 2025?**

Probably the biggest challenges came from the new water treatment plant coming online as we had a lot of water breaks that the crew needed to repair over the first few weeks of operations. It caused a great deal of stress for the crew as they were unable to get all the projects completed that were scheduled to do as the water breaks have to take priority over all the other work. The staff in the new plant worked extremely hard all summer learning the operation of the new system and their efforts certainly need to be acknowledged as well.

The new water meters will work awesome in time but the installation being mid billing cycle made for some extra work for our office staff over the summer as the meters came online. We also had some software issues that caused some incorrect billing which added to the frustration that residents had over the increased water bills. At the end of the day it is our staff that have to deal with the upset residents when things don't go as planned and I am so thankful for all of the dedication and patience that they showed this year. We got through one of the most chaotic periods the town of Moosomin has ever had. For someone not privy to the inner workings of our water system it is easy to just think that I turn the tap and the water comes out. Once every three months I get a bill for the water used but behind the scenes all of our staff went way above what is expected of them to ensure that the new and improved water is there for everyone's use every day. I really can't thank them enough for all they did and continue to do.

Another challenge we faced this year was losing a great deal of our urban forest to dutch elm disease. We took some trees down ourselves but also contracted out a large number of removals. We have to replant a large number of trees over the next few years as we know the trees are an important part of our community.

**What were you most proud of?**

First and foremost I am most proud of the staff for all that they do each and ev-



Moosomin Mayor Murray Gray

shortage of work for our public works department, that is for sure.

Another project we will be working on is transitioning our garbage dump to a transfer station. This hopefully will free up some of our public works staff for some other projects as covering the dump is a very time consuming and expensive endeavor.

**What do you find most challenging about being a mayor?**

I think being on more committees and having to know what is going on in all the committees. I always try to be well informed when I am asked by a resident about something. When we have so much going on, it is easy to fall behind in some departments, so keeping in the loop on what is going on is a challenge at times for sure.

**What do you find most rewarding about being a mayor?**

When other communities from across the province recognize the growth and progress we have made here. As well just to see the population growth we have experienced over the last few years. For towns to survive the test of time, we need to continue to grow and add services and

knowing that we are on the right path with this is very rewarding for sure. I didn't run for mayor to be rewarded personally, so all community wins are also wins for the job.

**What are the long-term goals of the town?**

Steady and sustainable population growth. As well, continuing to add to and supporting our existing business community. We are a regional health care hub and continuing to work towards adding more services right here in our community so that the residents of the area do not have to go to the city to receive the care they need. This is a big goal for not only Moosomin but our region.

**What do you personally want to see accomplished by the next municipal election?**

I am unable to accomplish anything on my own. I want to work together with council, our staff and the people of the area to do all the things we need to do to make the community the best it can be every day. Collaboration and co-operation can not be done personally as it needs to be done as a community, therefore the people will dictate the direction we take the next three years of this term.

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The Moosomin Communities in Bloom Committee with their national certificate for five blooms. From left are Kathy Doane, Pansy Taylor, Lyla Smart, Zoie Ferguson, Greg Nosterud, Angela Thorn, Mike Schwean, Mayor Murray Gray, Carol Fawcett, Karen Hebert, Andrew Exelby with Saskatchewan Parks and Rec who was there to present the certificate on Dec. 16, Ann Norgan, and Alice Abrahamson.

## Certificate for five national blooms presented to Moosomin Communities in Bloom committee

BY NICOLE TAYLOR

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Moosomin is preparing for another season in the Communities in Bloom program following a strong showing at the national level.

Angela Thorn with Moosomin Parks and Recreation and Communities in Bloom project co-ordinator attended the Communities in Bloom symposium to represent the community.

"I had the privilege of attending the Communities in Bloom symposium in Stratford, Ontario this past October to represent Moosomin," Thorn said at the Moosomin Chamber of Commerce meeting on December 16. "The event was filled with tours, presentations, and a wealth of information that I am eager to take forward."

Thorn said the program extends beyond beautification and plays a role in community and economic development.

"It's important to remember this initiative is more than just flowers. It significantly benefits our economy by making our town a desirable destination for visitors to stay and play."

Moosomin has committed to competing again at the national level in the upcoming season. This year Moosomin earned five blooms nationally.

"I am currently brainstorming numerous ideas for the upcoming season, as we have decided to compete once more at the national level," Thorn said. "I was delighted with our report from last year. Many attendees, judges, and other Communities in Bloom members confirmed that achieving five blooms in our first year at the national level is quite an impressive feat."

She said the community's goal is to maintain its five-bloom rating while working toward additional recognition.

"Next year we want to secure our five blooms and add a medal onto that," Thorn said. She added that residents

can follow updates through the Moosomin Parks and Recreation and Moosomin Communities in Bloom pages and are encouraged to get involved.

Andrew Exelby with Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation said Moosomin's performance in the program has been notable.

"Moosomin has done really well with the Communities in Bloom program," Exelby said. "I have been involved with you for the last couple of years since you rejoined the provincial program and have watched you grow through the provincial level and progress into the national program."

Exelby said 49 communities participated in the program across Saskatchewan this year, with Moosomin one of only two competing at the national level.

"We were in the under 5,000 population category with Athabasca, Alberta, and Capreol, Ontario," he said. "It is an incredible achievement to go from a provincial to a national program and maintain a five-bloom rating."

He said communities often see a rating drop during the transition to national competition.

"It's not uncommon to drop down to a four-bloom rating when making that leap, but Moosomin maintained its five blooms, and that is an amazing achievement," Exelby said.

He said judges highlighted the high level of community involvement in Moosomin.

"The businesses, residents, volunteers, boards, and non-profits truly have what's best for Moosomin at heart and want to see the community be successful," he said.

Exelby says the program continues to gain recognition across the country.

"Communities in Bloom has garnered a lot of attention across Canada and was mentioned in the Senate last week," he said. "It's about building a community where businesses want to be and residents want to live, creating a successful environment for future generations."

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9:00 AM TO 10:30 AM - FAMILY SWIM  
11:00 AM TO 12:00 PM - SENIOR AQUAFLEX  
1:30 PM TO 3:00 PM - FAMILY SWIM  
4:00 PM TO 7:00 PM - PUBLIC SWIM  
7:00 PM TO 8:00 PM - AQUAFIT

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7

7:30 AM TO 9:00 AM - LANE SWIM  
9:30 AM TO 10:30 AM - AQUAFIT  
11:00 AM TO 12:00 PM - SENIOR AQUAFLEX  
1:30 PM TO 3:00 PM - FAMILY SWIM  
4:00 PM TO 6:30 PM - PUBLIC SWIM  
6:30 PM TO 8:00 PM - LANE SWIM

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 8

4:00 PM TO 7:00 PM - PUBLIC SWIM  
7:00 PM TO 8:00 PM - AQUAFIT

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 9

7:30 AM TO 9:30 AM - LANE SWIM  
11:00 AM TO 12:00 PM - SENIOR SWIM  
1:30 PM TO 3:00 PM - FAMILY SWIM  
4:00 PM TO 7:00 PM - PUBLIC SWIM

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 10

9:00 AM TO 12:00 PM - PUBLIC SWIM  
1:00 PM TO 2:00 PM - LANE SWIM  
6:00 PM TO 9:00 PM - EVENING SWIM

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

9:00 AM TO 12:00 PM - PUBLIC SWIM  
1:00 PM TO 2:00 PM - LANE SWIM  
6:00 PM TO 9:00 PM - EVENING SWIM

## MONDAY, JANUARY 12

7:30 AM TO 8:30 AM - LANE SWIM  
9:30 AM TO 10:30 AM - AQUAFIT  
12:00 PM TO 1:00 PM - OPEN FITNESS SWIM  
1:30 PM TO 3:00 PM - FAMILY SWIM  
4:00 PM TO 6:30 PM - PUBLIC SWIM  
6:30 PM TO 8:00 PM - LANE SWIM

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 13

7:30 AM TO 8:30 AM - LANE SWIM  
9:30 AM TO 10:30 AM - AQUAFIT  
12:00 PM TO 1:00 PM - FITNESS SWIM  
1:30 PM TO 3:00 PM - FAMILY SWIM  
4:00 PM TO 6:30 PM - PUBLIC SWIM  
6:30 PM TO 8:00 PM - LANE SWIM

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14

6:30 AM TO 7:15 AM - EARLY BIRD AQUAFIT  
7:30 AM TO 9:00 AM - LANE SWIM  
9:30 AM TO 10:30 AM - AQUAFIT  
11:00 AM TO 12:00 PM - SENIOR SWIM  
1:30 PM TO 3:00 PM - FAMILY SWIM  
3:30 PM TO 6:30 PM - PUBLIC SWIM  
6:30 PM TO 8:00 PM - LANE SWIM

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 15

6:30 AM TO 8:30 AM - LANE SWIM  
9:00 AM TO 10:30 AM - FAMILY SWIM  
11:00 AM TO 12:00 PM - SENIOR AQUAFLEX  
1:30 PM TO 2:30 PM - PARENTS & TOT AQUAFIT  
4:00 PM TO 7:00 PM - PUBLIC SWIM  
7:00 PM TO 8:00 PM - AQUAFIT

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

6:30 AM TO 7:30 AM - EARLY BIRD AQUAFIT  
7:30 AM TO 9:30 AM - LANE SWIM  
12:00 PM TO 1:00 PM OPEN FITNESS SWIM  
1:30 PM TO 3:00 PM - FAMILY SWIM  
3:30 PM TO 6:30 PM - PUBLIC SWIM

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

9:00 AM TO 10:30 AM - PUBLIC SWIM  
1:00 PM TO 2:00 PM - LANE SWIM  
6:00 PM TO 9:00 PM - EVENING SWIM

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

9:00 AM TO 10:00 AM - LANE SWIM  
10:00 AM TO 12:00 PM - FAMILY SWIM  
1:00 PM TO 6:00 PM - PUBLIC SWIM

## MONDAY, JANUARY 19

7:30 AM TO 8:30 AM - LANE SWIM  
9:30 AM TO 10:30 AM - AQUAFIT  
12:00 PM TO 1:00 PM - OPEN FITNESS SWIM  
1:30 PM TO 3:00 PM - FAMILY SWIM  
3:30 PM TO 6:30 PM - PUBLIC SWIM  
6:30 PM TO 8:00 PM - LANE SWIM

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 20

7:00 AM TO 8:30 AM - LANE SWIM  
9:00 AM TO 10:30 AM - FAMILY SWIM  
11:00 AM TO 12:00 PM - SENIOR AQUAFLEX  
1:30 PM TO 3:00 PM - FAMILY SWIM  
3:30 PM TO 7:00 PM - PUBLIC SWIM  
7:00 PM TO 8:00 PM - AQUAFIT

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

6:30 AM TO 7:15 AM - EARLY BIRD AQUAFIT  
7:30 AM TO 9:30 AM - LANE SWIM  
9:30 AM TO 10:30 AM - AQUAFIT  
11:00 AM TO 12:00 PM - SENIOR SWIM  
1:30 PM TO 3:00 PM - FAMILY SWIM  
3:30 PM TO 6:30 PM - PUBLIC SWIM  
6:30 PM TO 8:00 PM - LANE SWIM

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

6:30 AM TO 8:30 AM - LANE SWIM  
9:00 AM TO 10:30 AM - FAMILY SWIM  
11:00 AM TO 12:00 PM - SENIOR AQUAFLEX  
1:30 PM TO 2:30 PM - PARENT & TOT AQUAFIT  
4:00 PM TO 7:00 PM - PUBLIC SWIM  
7:00 PM TO 8:00 PM - AQUAFIT

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 23

6:30 AM TO 7:30 AM - EARLY BIRD AQUAFIT  
7:30 AM TO 9:30 AM - LANE SWIM  
12:00 PM TO 1:00 PM OPEN FITNESS SWIM  
1:30 PM TO 3:00 PM - FAMILY SWIM  
3:30 PM TO 8:30 PM - PUBLIC SWIM

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

9:00 AM TO 10:30 AM - PUBLIC SWIM  
1:00 PM TO 2:00 PM - LANE SWIM  
2:00 PM TO 4:30 PM - FAMILY SWIM  
6:00 PM TO 9:00 PM - EVENING SWIM

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

9:00 AM TO 10:00 AM - LANE SWIM  
10:00 AM TO 12:00 PM - FAMILY SWIM  
1:00 PM TO 3:00 PM - PUBLIC SWIM

## MONDAY, JANUARY 26

7:30 AM TO 8:30 AM - LANE SWIM  
9:30 AM TO 10:30 AM - AQUAFIT  
12:00 PM TO 1:00 PM - OPEN FITNESS SWIM  
1:30 PM TO 3:00 PM - FAMILY SWIM  
3:30 PM TO 6:30 PM - PUBLIC SWIM  
6:30 PM TO 8:00 PM - LANE SWIM

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 27

7:00 AM TO 8:00 AM LANE SWIM  
9:00 AM TO 10:30 AM FAMILY SWIM  
11:00 AM TO 12:00 PM - SENIOR AQUAFLEX  
1:30 PM TO 3:00 PM - FAMILY SWIM  
3:30 PM TO 7:00 PM - PUBLIC SWIM  
7:00 PM TO 8:00 PM AQUAFIT

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28

6:30 AM TO 7:15 AM - EARLY BIRD AQUAFIT  
7:30 AM TO 9:30 AM - LANE SWIM  
9:30 AM TO 10:30 AM - AQUAFIT  
11:00 AM TO 12:00 PM - SENIOR SWIM  
1:30 PM TO 3:00 PM - FAMILY SWIM  
3:30 PM TO 6:30 PM - PUBLIC SWIM  
6:30 PM TO 8:00 PM - LANE SWIM

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 29

6:30 AM TO 8:30 AM - LANE SWIM  
9:00 AM TO 10:30 AM - FAMILY SWIM  
11:00 AM TO 12:00 PM - SENIOR AQUAFLEX  
1:30 PM TO 2:30 PM - PARENT & TOT AQUAFIT  
4:00 PM TO 7:00 PM - PUBLIC SWIM  
7:00 PM TO 8:00 PM - AQUAFIT

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 30

6:30 AM TO 7:30 AM - EARLY BIRD AQUAFIT  
7:30 AM TO 9:30 AM - LANE SWIM  
12:00 PM TO 1:00 PM OPEN FITNESS SWIM  
1:30 PM TO 3:00 PM - FAMILY SWIM  
3:30 PM TO 8:30 PM - PUBLIC SWIM

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 31

9:00 AM TO 12:00 PM - PUBLIC SWIM  
1:00 PM TO 2:00 PM - LANE SWIM  
2:00 PM TO 4:30 PM - FAMILY SWIM  
6:00 PM TO 9:00 PM - EVENING SWIM



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# Kipling mayor Pat Jackson looks back on 2025

BY NICOLE TAYLOR

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The World-Spectator asked Pat Jackson what kind of year 2025 has been for the town of Kipling, and what she's looking forward to in 2026:

**What were some of the main projects the municipality worked on or got done this past year?**

The biggest "new" thing was the Fall Fair. We had a full day of activities, largely on Main Street beginning with a pancake and sausage breakfast hosted by the Kipling and District Fire Fighters.

Over 50 vendors set up for a huge outdoor marketplace. Several food trucks plus some local eateries provided food service all day. Paw Patrol members were around entertaining kids. A special dedication was held at the Kipling Library in honour of Mary Balogh, our resident "Regency Romance" author (the room in the Library dedicated to her is available for use—talk with the Librarian!).

We ended the day with a concert in the Community Centre that was enjoyed by many.

Now council and staff have done debriefing and are looking forward to an even more successful Fall Fair in 2026.

**What were some of the big challenges in 2025?**

Transition is probably the biggest challenge. After hiring a new administrator in March of 2024, the council was informed in November that he was moving on. Thanks to the other office staff members and our retired CAO, the office was able to keep up from December until our new CAO, Brenna Ackerman, came aboard in March 2025. She has had her hands full learning lots about Kipling and our residents.

As the year has progressed, one other of our office staff has retired effective the end of December and another staff member has been terminated. This means that staffing is also in part in limbo as our CAO hires and onboards new staff.

**What were you most proud of?**

As always, our pride is greatest in the personnel that we have working for the Town of Kipling. We know that they have the best and the brightest working for the town. They do their utmost to provide exceptional service, whether in the office or in the field, for our residents.

**What are some of the most common things you hear from your ratepayers?**



Kipling Mayor Pat Jackson

Our ratepayers tell us, either at the Residents' Supper in the spring or at casual meetings in the town, that they feel that they are being well served by the council and the staff. It is our aim that this continues.

**What do you want to work on in 2026?**

Following Covid, the council has taken a look at a project that was "back burnerred" in 2020. We have plans well underway for the construction of a splash park in town.

While it may yet take a bit of time to get the planning and the funding in place, it is our hope that the ground work will begin next summer.

It may seem like it cannot be, but 2026 is the 20th An-

niversary of the final trade in the Paper Clip saga. We are working on plans to have a celebration—certainly not of the size of either the Paper Clip Trade Day on July 12, 2006 or the World's Largest Housewarming Party on the September Long Weekend of that year, but something that will mark the anniversary. It is amazing how many people still stop to take photos of the Paper Clip almost 20 years later. Stay tuned!

**What do you find most challenging about being a mayor?**

I am very grateful to work with a group of people whose main aim of being on council is to do the very best that can be done for the whole community. While each councillor has his or her own interests, each also knows that it is imperative that the whole community must be considered in every thing that we do. As for challenging—it is necessary always that we consistently look to our fiduciary responsibilities toward the people who pay the taxes in town. As costs rise for almost everything, we must make difficult decisions—the needs coming before the wants.

**What do you find most rewarding about being a mayor?**

When people of the community indicate that they believe that we are making good decisions, it is rewarding and leads to council concentrating even more on making their good the primary focus.

**What are the long-term goals of the town?**

Housing is a primary focus for the short- to mid-term. We have very limited housing for sale or for rent. The focus must be to find people with the interest and funds to develop both types of housing for our community. Long-term, there is still interest and work going on to replace our ageing arena.

**What do you personally want to see accomplished by the next municipal election?**

As I am in my last term as mayor of the town of Kipling, it is my personal wish to see the following:

- A plan for succession for the various positions within the staff.
- A plan for recruiting dedicated council members.
- A viable five- to 10-year plan for growth within the town.
- A viable plan for economic development within the greater area including and surrounding Kipling.

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Rural Municipality of Moosomin No. 121

**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ADOPT  
BYLAW NO. 327/2025**

Public notice is hereby given that the Council of the RM of Moosomin No. 121 intends to adopt a bylaw, under The Planning and Development Act, 2007, to amend Bylaw No. 249/17, known as the Zoning Bylaw.

**INTENT:**

The proposed bylaw will allow for a 0-metre side yard setback between multiple-unit dwellings that share a wall across lot boundaries.

**REASON FOR THE AMENDMENT:**

The zoning bylaw does not currently allow for multiple-unit dwellings such as semi-detached, triplex, and townhouse dwellings to cross lot boundaries because the minimum side yard setback is 1.5 metres (5 feet) between dwelling units. The proposed bylaw amendment will allow for units to be on separate lots or condominium units, by allowing a 0-metre setback between units.

**PUBLIC INSPECTION:**

Any person may inspect the bylaw at the RM of Moosomin Municipal Office, 602 Main Street, Moosomin, SK, Monday to Thursday between 8:00 am to noon and 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm excluding statutory holidays. Copies are available at cost at the Municipal Office.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

Council will hold a public hearing to receive submissions on the proposed bylaw on January 13th, 2025 at 10:00am at the RM of Moosomin Council Chambers. Council will also consider written submissions received at the hearing or delivered to the undersigned at the municipal office before the hearing. For further information, please contact the Municipal Office at 306-435-4950.

Issued at the RM of Moosomin this 11th day of December, 2025.

Signed:

Kendra Lawrence, CAO

# Looking back at the best from 2025 (Part 2)

The best of 2025's notes, quotes and anecdotes (Part 2 — July through December):

- Globe and Mail columnist Cathal Kelly, on the lengthy contract awarded defenceman Morgan Rielly: 'that lasts until he's about 80': "Toronto should rehire Kyle Dubas so they can fire him again for agreeing to that."
- Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg: "Joey Chestnut once again won the 4th of July hot dog eating contest, eating just over 70 hot dogs in six hours. The real loser in this? Joey Chestnut's plumber."
- Another one from Kaseberg: "Chicago native Pope Leo wore a White Sox hat. Or as Cubs fans call it: the seventh sign of the apocalypse."
- Mike Bianchi of the Orlando Sentinel: "By the way, can you imagine a negotiating session between Urban Meyer and a sports agent? You'd need a referee, a priest, a federal investigator and a tetanus shot."
- Headline at theonion.com: "White Sox Fans Asked To Remove Polish Sausage From Mouths During National Anthem"
- Golf writer Joel Beall, after Day 1 of the Open Championship: "Would be cool to see Phil contend this weekend, if only for the chance he uses the 'Champion Golfer of the Year' speech as a plea to 'release the (Epstein) files.'
- Jack Finarelli at sportscurmudgeon.com: "Braves' bullpen had a 'Bummer' (Aaron) and a 'Blewett' (Scott) at the ready. Not exactly a great vibe."
- RJ Currie of sportsdeke.com: "When James Harden of the Clippers finally quits basketball, he might be the first to spend less time travelling."
- Vancouver comedy guy Torben Rolfsen: "Water on Mars has been 100 per cent confirmed, with year-round ice. Get ready for Bettman to start sniffing round."
- Another fark.com headline after the Mets acquired lefthanded pitcher Gregory Soto from Baltimore: "Mets decide two Sotos are better than Juan."
- The late Bob Uecker, Mr. Baseball: "The biggest thrill a ballplayer can have is when your son takes after you. That happened when my Bobby was in his championship Little League game. He really showed me something. Struck out three times. Made an error that lost the game. Parents were throwing things at our car and swearing at us as we drove off. Gosh, I was proud."
- Former MLB pitcher Tug McGraw: "Ninety per cent of my salary I'll spend on good times, women, and Irish whiskey. The other 10 per cent I'll probably waste."
- Comedian Tommy Cooper, on the hazards of sports gambling: "Gambling has brought our family together. We had to move to a smaller house."
- Mike Bianchi of the Orlando Sentinel, on the 'massive mess' in U.S. college football: "Fixing it is like trying to stop a tornado with a 'no trespassing' sign."
- Former MLB pitcher Jim Boutin: "Baseball players are smarter than football players. How often do you see a baseball team penalized for too many men on the field?"
- Another one from fark.com: "SF Giants manager Bob Melvin talks about how the team can pull out of its current mess. Surprisingly absent: Firing Bob Melvin."
- Another one from RJ Currie: "Elks QB Tre Ford was benched for Cody Fajardo after a week-six loss when he completed only four of 12 attempts for 34 yards with no touchdowns. I have a higher rate of passing kidney stones."
- Norman Chad again: "The New Orleans announced Spencer Rattler as their starting quarterback. Thoughts and prayers."
- Steve Simmons of the Toronto Sun: "Give Tyson Barrie credit for a sense of humour on his retirement announcement. He said his decision was made 'in tandem with the 32 NHL teams.'"
- Another one from Rolfsen: "The Blue Jays sold a record 92,221 hot dogs at their recent Loonie Dog night. Thankfully, nobody choked, other than Jeff Hoffman."
- Rolfsen again, after Bill Belichick's North Carolina team lost 48-14 in its opening game: "Belichick is about one week away from appointing his girlfriend as defensive coordinator."
- Another fark.com headline: "Vikings quarterback JJ McCarthy out 2-4 weeks due to paucity of talent."
- Michael Rosenberg of SI.com after the U.S. fell far behind Europe on Saturday in the Ryder Cup: "I can think of some ways for the U.S. to win this, but they all involve food poisoning."
- From fark.com: "The NBA takes a brief pause from its DraftKings and FanDuel sponsorship to lament the fact that it had to fire three more players for betting on their own games."
- Rolfsen again: "People are asking if (Blue Jays' reliever)



Bruce Penton

Jeff Hoffman has earned John Schneider's trust in October? Are you kidding? I wouldn't trust him taking my kids out trick or treating."

• Norman Chad again: "The Falcons lost 30-0 to the Panthers last week. Not scoring against the Panthers is like Ryan Gosling not scoring in a college bar."

• Another one from Norman Chad on Twitter: "I hate to pick on Joe Flacco, but he's 57 years old, has Metamucil for breakfast and has the mobility of a fire hydrant."

• Headline at theonion.com: "Victor Wembanyama Reports To Training Camp Having Added 25 Pounds Of Hair"

• Cathal Kelly, on Mariners' fans boozing Blue Jays' George Springer: "They hate him because he was a mezzo-soprano in the Houston Astros' garbage-can choir."

• Another one from Torben Rolfsen: "There's talk of a third 'Goon' movie. The producers said they'd need a budget of about \$20 million. Connor McDavid said he could do it for \$12.5 million."

• A groaner from RJ Currie: "I hear police in Canada doubled radar patrols from Thanksgiving Monday to Thursday. No surprise — many folks exceeded the feed limit."

• Kelly again, on Seattle's poor post-season baseball record: "The Mariners are the Leafs on grass."

• Eizo Basa on Bluesky: "Hockey would be better if the players had to write a short essay about what they did wrong before they could leave the penalty box."

• Montreal Canadiens' Brendan Gallagher, with an on-ice chirp to Florida's Brad Marchand: "Oh, my God, your nose is even bigger in person than it is on TV."

• Columnist Norman Chad, on X, on cries that gambling should be banned. "That's like legislating that the sun could not rise. Trust me, the sun will still rise."

• Columnist Norman Chad on X: "True story: I was watching Trey Yesavage as an 18-year-old freshman at East

Carolina in 2022. He had a 4.50 ERA and a 1.731 WHIP, with 13 wild pitches and 15 walks in 26 innings. I told my bar buddy, 'He's working at Best Buy by year's end.' So once in a while I'm wrong."

• Headline at fark.com: "Giannis Antetokounmpo walks from midcourse to the rim on one dribble, refs are like 'hey, that's cool!'"

• Super 70s Sports back when O.J. Simpson was a football broadcaster: "Let's go down to the sideline for a report from O.J. who appears to be wearing his murder gloves now so everybody be careful down there."

• Torben Rolfsen again: "I'm not sure about the NHL's Frozen Frenzy (when all 32 teams played on the same night). It sounds like margarita night at an all-inclusive resort in Cancun."

• Greg Cote of the Miami Herald: "Tom Brady cloned his dog: Is the Super Bowl legend-turned-Raiders part owner and mediocre broadcaster quirky, eccentric or just plain weird?"

• Jack Finarelli on his sportscurmudgeon.com site, on the weather in Winnipeg on Grey Cup Sunday: "The weather forecast for kickoff time in Winnipeg calls for the temperature to be 28 F and dropping. Anyone who can watch that game with a cold watermelon rind on his head for three hours deserves my support."

• Cathal Kelly, on the Maple Leafs' woes: "On Saturday, they played a statement game in Chicago. Their statements was, 'Is it bedtime yet?'"

• RJ Currie of sportsdeke.com: "Canadian tennis star Felix Auger-Alassime, got married after the U.S. Open. His wife, Nina, was game, Felix was set, and now they're a match."

• Steve Simmons of the Toronto Sun: "A former Olympic coach on deciding who your third goalie is: 'If you need your third goalie at the Olympics, you're already in trouble.'"

• A golden oldie from Mets' manager Casey Stengel, during an early-1960s mound visit with pitcher Roger Craig, with Giants slugger Willie McCovey about to bat: "Where do you want to pitch him, upper deck or lower deck?"

Care to comment? Email [brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca](mailto:brucepenton2003@yahoo.ca)

## RM OF RECIPROCITY NO. 32

### Notice of Call for Nominations

#### FORM H [Section 66 of the Act]

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that nominations of candidates for the office(s) of:

#### COUNCILLOR: DIVISION NO. 5

will be received by the undersigned on the 21st day of January, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the municipal office, Pt SW 22 05 33 W1M, and

during regular business hours, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on January 2nd, 2026 to January 21st, 2026, at the municipal office, Pt SW 22 05 33 W1M.

Nomination forms may be obtained at the following location:

R.M. of Reciprocity No. 32,  
Municipal Office located at  
Pt SW 22 05 33 W1M.

Dated this 30th day of December, 2025.

Christine Kendall  
Returning Officer



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Our community meat shop invites all members, supporters, and interested locals to attend our Annual General Meeting.

Date: January 12, 2026

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: Wawota Legion

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- Hear about the past year's performance
- Learn about future plans and opportunities including a possible sale.
- Have your say and ask questions or join the board.
- Meet fellow members and the team behind your local shop.

All members are encouraged to attend. New faces welcome!

Refreshments will be provided.

For more information, contact:

Cam Husband

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# Bonk looks back on 2025, forward to 2026

BY NICOLE TAYLOR

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The World-Spectator reached out to Souris-Moose Mountain MP Steven Bonk for his take on 2025, and his thoughts on what 2026 may hold. Following are his comments.

#### What were some of the highlights of 2025?

One of the real highlights of the year was being elected in April. I'm incredibly grateful for the trust the people of Souris-Moose Mountain placed in me, and it was humbling to see our riding record the highest percentage of support for any candidate in Canada. That is something I do not take for granted. It's truly an honour to serve this region.

#### What were some of the things you accomplished?

At the Agriculture Committee, I was able to secure an important commitment from the Minister of Agriculture to grant exemptions for strychnine use where jurisdictions apply. Since the previous Liberal government banned strychnine, farmers have been left without an effective tool to manage gophers—an issue that has caused immense damage across western Canada. This commitment is a significant step forward for producers, and I was proud to help deliver it on their behalf.

#### What were some of the disappointments in 2025?

While I was extremely encouraged by the strong support for a Conservative government in Souris-Moose Mountain, the national election result was disappointing. That said, our team is working every day to hold the Liberal government accountable, and we will continue to fight for the priorities of Canadians who are struggling under years of costly policies.

#### What happened in 2025 that had the most effect on your constituents?

The removal of the consumer carbon tax made a meaningful difference for families across our riding. Conservatives pushed hard for this change, and it has helped ease some of the financial pressures that people are facing. We will continue pushing to eliminate the industrial carbon tax as well—because it does nothing to help the environment, but it does make everything more expensive for the people who grow our food and power our economy.

#### What are some of the most common things you hear from your constituents?

The rising cost of living is the number one concern I hear—especially grocery prices, which have increased nearly 40 per cent faster in Canada than in the United



Souris-Moose Mountain Steven Bonk

States. People see the impact of federal policy every time they check out at the grocery store. I also hear concerns about trade tariffs, freedom of expression, and increasing federal intrusion into people's day-to-day lives. These issues matter deeply to the people of this region.

#### What do you want to see accomplished in 2026?

Above all, I hope Canadians will have the opportunity to elect a common-sense Conservative government—one that focuses on affordability, economic growth, and restoring hope in this country. That's what I'll be working toward in 2026.

#### What will be some of the biggest challenges for your party in 2026?

We will need to work constructively with other parties in the House of Commons to find common ground and hold the government accountable. Ultimately, our goal is to bring forward a non-confidence vote so Canadians can choose a government that works for them rather than against them. Building that co-operation will be an important challenge in the year ahead.

#### What do you want to see accomplished by the next election?

Resolving the unfair and unjustified tariffs placed on

Canada by the U.S., China, and India must be a priority. Here in Souris-Moose Mountain, the canola and pea tariffs are especially harmful, and securing fair market access for our producers is essential. I want to see real progress on these files before Canadians next go to the polls.

#### What are some of the most challenging things about being an MP?

There is a tremendous amount of information to stay on top of, and it's important to be well-informed on a wide range of issues—from agriculture to trade to national policy. In a large rural riding like ours, it can also be challenging to be everywhere at once, but I'm working hard to attend as many community events as possible. Staying connected to the people I represent is incredibly important to me.

#### What are some of the most rewarding things about being an MP?

The most rewarding part of this job is helping people—whether it's resolving an issue for a family, assisting a business, or advancing policy that strengthens our region and our country. Making a positive difference, even in small ways, is deeply meaningful. I'm truly grateful for the opportunity to serve the people of Souris-Moose Mountain, and I appreciate their support more than I can express.

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## In our opinion:

# Taxing food is like slapping a surcharge on hunger. It needs to end

About a year ago, Canada experimented with something rare in federal policy-making: a temporary GST holiday on prepared foods.

It was short-lived and poorly communicated, yet Canadians noticed it immediately. One of the most unavoidable expenses in daily life—food—became marginally less costly.

Families felt a modest but genuine reprieve. Restaurants saw a bump in customer traffic. For a brief moment, Canadians experienced what it feels like when government steps back from taxing something as basic as eating.

Then the tax returned with opportunistic pricing, restoring a policy that quietly but reliably makes the cost of living more expensive for everyone.

In many ways, the temporary GST cut was worse than doing nothing. It opened the door for industry to adjust prices upward while consumers were distracted by the tax relief. That dynamic helped push our food inflation rate from minus 0.6 per cent in January to almost four per cent later in the year. By tinkering with taxes rather than addressing the structural flaws in the system, policymakers unintentionally fuelled volatility. Instead of experimenting with temporary fixes, it is time to confront the obvious: Canada should stop taxing food altogether.

Canadians are paying more as GST/HST lifts food prices and adds pressure at the till. Cutting the food tax is one clear way to ease rising costs.

Start with grocery stores. Many Canadians believe food is not taxed at retail, but that assumption is wrong. While “basic groceries” are zero-rated, a vast range of everyday food products are taxed, and Canadians now pay over a billion dollars a year in GST/HST on food purchased in grocery stores.

That amount is rising steadily, not because Canadians are buying more treats, but because shrinkflation is quietly pulling more products into taxable categories. A box of granola bars with six bars is tax-exempt, but when manufacturers quietly reduce the box to five bars, it becomes taxable. The product hasn’t changed. The nutritional profile hasn’t changed. Only the packaging has changed, yet the tax slips on.

This pattern now permeates the grocery aisle. A 650-gram bag of chips shrinks to 580 grams and becomes taxable. Muffins once sold in six-packs are reformatted into three-packs or individually wrapped portions, instantly becoming taxable single-serve items. Yogurt, traditionally sold in large tax-exempt tubs, increasingly appears in smaller 100-gram units that meet the definition of taxable snacks. Crackers, cookies, trail mixes and cereals have all seen slight weight reductions that push them past GST thresholds created decades ago. Inflation raises food prices; Canada’s outdated tax code amplifies those increases.

At the same time, grocery inflation remains elevated. Prices are rising at 3.4 per cent, nearly double the overall inflation rate. At a moment when food costs are climbing faster than almost everything else, continuing to tax food—whether on the shelf or in restaurants—makes even less economic sense.

The inconsistencies extend further. A steak purchased at the grocery store carries no tax, yet a breakfast wrap made from virtually the same inputs is taxed at five per cent GST plus applicable HST. The nutritional function is not different. The economic function is not different. But the tax treatment is entirely arbitrary, rooted in outdated distinctions that no longer reflect how Canadians live or work.

Lower-income households disproportionately bear the cost. They spend 6.2 per cent of their income eating outside the home, compared with 3.4 per cent for the highest-income households. When government taxes prepared food, it effectively imposes a higher burden on those often juggling two or three jobs with limited time to cook.

But this is not only about the poorest households. Every Canadian pays more because the tax embeds itself in the price of convenience, time and the realities of modern living.

And there is an overlooked economic dimension: restaurants are one of the most effective tools we have for stimulating community-level economic activity. When people dine out, they don’t just buy food. They participate in the economy. They support jobs for young and lower-income workers. They activate foot traffic in commercial areas. They drive spending in adjacent sectors such as transportation, retail, entertainment and tourism.

A healthy restaurant sector is a signal of economic confidence; it is often the first place consumers re-engage when they feel financially secure. Taxing prepared food, therefore, is not simply a tax on convenience—it is a tax on economic participation.

Restaurants Canada has been calling for the permanent removal of GST/HST on all food, and they are right. Eliminating the tax would generate \$5.4 billion in consumer savings annually, create more than 64,000 foodservice jobs, add over 15,000 jobs in related sectors and support the opening of more than 2,600 new restaurants across the country. No other affordability measure available to the federal government delivers this combination of economic stimulus and direct relief.

And Canadians overwhelmingly agree. Eighty-four per cent believe food should not be taxed, regardless of where it is purchased. In a polarized political climate, a consensus of that magnitude is rare.

Ending the GST/HST on all food will not solve every affordability issue but it is one of the simplest, fairest and most effective measures the federal government can take immediately.

Food is food. The tax system should finally accept that.

*This editorial is written by Dr. Sylvain Charlebois, 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.*



## The climate argument against livestock doesn't add up

The war on livestock pushed by Net Zero ideologues is not environmental science; it's a dangerous, misguided campaign that threatens global food security.

The priests of Net Zero 2050 have declared war on the cow, the pig and the chicken. From glass towers in London, Brussels and Ottawa, they argue that cutting animal protein, shrinking herds and pushing people toward lentils and lab-grown alternatives will save the climate from a steer's burp.

This is not science. It is an urban belief that billions of people can be pushed toward a diet promoted by some policymakers who have never worked a field or heard a rooster at dawn. Eliminating or sharply reducing livestock would destabilize food systems and increase global hunger. In Canada, livestock account for about three per cent of total greenhouse gas emissions, according to Environment and Climate Change Canada.

Activists speak as if livestock suddenly appeared in the last century, belching fossil carbon into the air. In reality, the relationship between humans and the animals we raise is older than agriculture. It is part of how our species developed.

Two million years ago, early humans ate meat and marrow, mastered fire and developed larger brains. The expensive-tissue hypothesis, a theory that explains how early humans traded gut size for brain growth, is not ideology; it is basic anthropology. Animal fat and protein helped build the human brain and the societies that followed.

Domestication deepened that relationship. When humans raised cattle, sheep, pigs and chickens, we created a long partnership that shaped both species. Wolves became dogs. Au-rochs, the wild ancestors of modern cattle, became domesticated animals. Junglefowl became chickens that could lay eggs reliably. These animals lived with us because it increased their chances of survival.

In return, they received protection, veterinary care and steady food during drought and winter. More than 70,000 Canadian farms raise cattle, hogs, poultry or sheep, supporting hundreds of thousands of jobs across the supply chain.

Livestock also protected people from climate extremes. When crops failed, grasslands still produced forage, and herds converted that into food. During the Little Ice Age, millions in Europe starved because grain crops collapsed. Pastoral communities, which lived from herding livestock rather than crops, survived because their herds could still graze. Removing livestock would offer little climate benefit, yet it would eliminate one of humanity's most reliable protections against environmental shocks.



**Dr. Joseph Fournier**

Today, a Maasai child in Kenya or northern Tanzania drinking milk from a cow grazing on dry land has a steadier food source than a vegan in a Berlin apartment relying on global shipping. Modern genetics and nutrition have pushed this relationship further. For the first time, the poorest billion people have access to complete protein and key nutrients such as iron, zinc, B12 and retinol, a form of vitamin A, that plants cannot supply without industrial processing or fortification. Canada also imports significant volumes of soy-based and other plant-protein products, making many urban vegan diets more dependent on long-distance supply chains than people assume. The war on livestock is not a war on carbon; it is a war on the most successful anti-poverty tool ever created.

And what about the animals? Remove humans tomorrow and most commercial chickens would die of exposure, merino sheep would overheat under their own wool and dairy cattle would suffer from untreated mastitis (a bacterial infection of the udder). These species are fully domesticated. Without us, they would disappear.

Net Zero 2050 is a climate target adopted by federal and provincial governments, but debates continue over whether it requires reducing livestock herds or simply improving farm practices. Net Zero advocates look at a pasture and see methane. Farmers see land producing food from nothing more than sunlight, rain and grass.

So the question is not technical. It is about how we see ourselves. Does the Net Zero vision treat humans as part of the natural world, or as a threat that must be contained by forcing diets and erasing long-standing food systems? Eliminating livestock sends the message that human presence itself is an environmental problem, not a participant in a functioning ecosystem.

The cow is not the enemy of the planet. Pasture is not a problem to fix. It is a solution our ancestors discovered long before anyone used the word “sustainable.” We abandon it at our peril and at theirs.

Dr. Joseph Fournier is a senior fellow at the Frontier Centre for Public Policy. An accomplished scientist and former energy executive, he holds graduate training in chemical physics and has written more than 100 articles on energy, environment and climate science.

# Esterhazy mayor Randy Bot looks back on 2025 and forward to goals for 2026

BY NICOLE TAYLOR

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER  
Esterhazy mayor Randy Bot talked about what kind of year it has been for the town of Esterhazy in 2025, and what he thinks 2026 holds.

**What were some of the main projects the municipality worked on or completed this past year?**

This was a big year in building our new Regional Water Treatment Plant, with all mechanical processing equipment installed and external tanks constructed. The schedule and plan is for the new system to be flowing into our lines by fall 2026. This project has been a long wait for our community, and seeing this progress is exciting.

Another major achievement in 2025 was the successful installation of all new water meters in residential and commercial properties. Our previous meters dated back to 1964, making this upgrade long overdue. This was a large undertaking but was handled very efficiently within our municipality.

Our Recreation Department continues to be one of the hubs of our community. This past summer we had one of the highest numbers of residents registered for swimming lessons, and our summer programs were full every session. Engaging youth with employment and programming here in Esterhazy helps keep our community spirit strong.

Other highlights included:

- Landfill Upgrades: Improved compliance, new operating plans.
- Healthcare Advocacy & Recruitment: Ongoing work toward the new integrated healthcare facility, doctor recruitment, lobbying SHA plus Ministry, and strengthening the partnership with the St. Anthony's Hospital Foundation.
- Economic Development: Early steps toward the creation of a more formalized Economic Development Committee, Main Street improvements, and business attraction work.

**What were some of the big challenges in**

2025?

2025 wasn't without challenges. The biggest ones included:

- Healthcare Staffing and Local Service Pressures: Navigating doctor shortages and gaps in rural health service delivery.
- Aging Infrastructure: Water, sewer, roads, and facility upgrades.
- Economic Pressures: Inflation driving up municipal project costs.
- Balancing Expectations: Ratepayers want improvements, but they also want affordability—finding the balance is always a challenge.

**What were you most proud of this year?**

A few things stand out. One is the unified regional approach to healthcare and the compelling case built for a new integrated facility.

We have also been building relationships with partners like Mosaic, Emmanuel Health, local RMs, and community organizations.

There has been a lot of community engagement, whether it was the Friends and Fairways tournament, recreation events, or public meetings.

I'm happy about seeing tangible progress, especially on long-term projects like the water treatment plant and infrastructure.

**What are some of the most common things you hear from your ratepayers?**

Ratepayers are pretty consistent. Most common themes are:

- Roads, roads, roads. Condition, maintenance, gravel, dust, and priorities.
- Healthcare and doctor availability. People want to know what's happening and when improvements are coming.
- Cost of living and taxes. Understandably, people are looking for value and want transparency.
- General pride and concern. Residents love Esterhazy and want to see it grow, modernize, and stay safe.

**What do you want to work on in 2026?**

2026 needs to be a year of action and continued momentum. My top focuses are



Randy Bot

committees, and family.

**What do you find most rewarding about being a mayor?**

Without question it is seeing projects move from ideas to reality.

I love helping people, whether it's a small issue or a big community-level concern.

I also enjoy building partnerships that make our town stronger, and watching our youth succeed in sports, school, events, and leadership.

And the biggest reward: being trusted by the community to represent them.

**What are the long-term goals of the town?**

Long-term, Esterhazy is focused on:

- Modern, sustainable infrastructure (water, sewer, roads, recreation).
- A new integrated healthcare facility serving the region.
- Economic diversification—more businesses, stronger industry partnerships, stable growth.
- Population growth, especially targeting young families and professionals.
- Safe and vibrant neighborhoods, including housing development and community amenities.
- Strong regional collaboration with surrounding RMs and communities.
- Seniors, especially regarding transportation to appointments.

**What do you personally want to see accomplished by the next municipal election?**

By the time we reach the next election, I want to see shovels in the ground or firm funding commitment for the new health care facility.

I'd like to see our regional Water Treatment Plant fully operational.

I also like to see a revitalized Main Street plan in motion, with improved aesthetics and business attraction outcomes, road planning completed with a long-term strategy that outlives this term of council, and a stronger, more engaged community that feels connected, informed, and proud of our direction.

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## Team Weiss are U18 provincial champs for second straight year

For the second year in a row, Team Weiss has claimed the U18 provincial curling championship, advancing them to nationals.

The U18 Curlsask Provincial Championships took place in Estevan from December 27-30.

Team Weiss went 4-1 in round robin play finishing second. They played in the one versus two game against Team Heisler and won, which advanced them to the finals.

The team then ended up playing Team Snow to capture the green jackets and win Sask provincials for a second straight year.

The rink is made up of Skip Brandon Weiss from Esterhazy, Third Joshua Lussier from Esterhazy, Second Tyler Derksen from Hague, and Carter Nelson from Avonlea. The team is coached by Mark Weiss of Esterhazy and curls out of the Esterhazy Curling Club.

The team will be advancing to U18 Canadian Nationals which take place in Timmins, Ontario from Feb. 7-15.



## MOOSOMIN MINOR HOCKEY DAYS JANUARY 9-11, 2026

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**Friday, January 9**

U15 Eastons Autobody vs Melville Millionaires 7:30 p.m.

**Saturday, January 10**

U13 Provincial vs Wawota Flyers 10:45 a.m.

U5 Rangers vs Elkhorn 1:00 p.m.

U7 HGV Rangers vs Elkhorn 1:00 p.m.

U15 Borderland Badgers Female vs Regina Rebels 2:15 p.m.

U18 AAA Regina Rebels vs Westman Wildcats 4:30 p.m.

U18 Celebration Ford Rangers vs Fort Knox 7:30 p.m.

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U9 POELZER TRUCKING & ROCKY MOUNTAIN RANGERS: Gross Mechanics

U7 PHARMASAVE & SPORTS EXCELLENCE RANGERS: Kari's Pharmacy

U5 & U7 HGV: Oakland Acres

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# Weedmark says a lot was accomplished in 2025

BY NICOLE TAYLOR

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Moosomin-Montmartre MLA Kevin Weedmark says 2025 has been a busy year for him. Weedmark is also the Legislative Secretary to the Ministers of Health. Following are his thoughts on the year.

## What were some of the highlights of 2025?

There were so many! Every time I was able to make a difference for a constituent, every time we were able as a government to move a positive policy change forward, it's always a great feeling.

One of the biggest highlights for me was the day we introduced the new compassionate intervention legislation.

When it was first mentioned in the Throne Speech we had a local woman who had come to me to ask for this type of legislation, in the hopes that it would help her son, there in the Legislature. And we had Chief Shelley Bear and Headwoman Audrey Isaac from Ochapowace First Nation there. Chief Bear had told me that she believes there are people from Ochapowace First Nation who would be alive today if we had that legislation. So it was an honor to have them there for that. Then the day the legislation was introduced we had a large group of people from Moosomin-Montmartre and from White Bear First Nation who wanted to be there to see that legislation introduced.

Another highlight was to make the announcement at Kahkewistahaw to designate the highway running through the First Nation as Chief Kahkewistahaw Way.

Another highlight was bringing the Premier to Moosomin-Montmartre. We visited three communities, including a lunch in Moosomin with a large group of people there to hear from the Premier.

Another highlight was the opening of Rocanville's indoor pool. The amount of the ICIP grant for the pool was more than doubled this year, making it more affordable for the community, and thanks to the hard work of so many people in Rocanville, that new pool is now a reality.

To see construction start on the new 90-spot daycare in Moosomin was also a highlight, to see the water treatment plant to allow Moosomin to grow was a highlight, the opening of the new pool at Kenoa Regional Park was a highlight, and there are so many more.

## What were some of the things you accomplished?

There has been so much accomplished for our area in 2025. We have had a lot of highway work done in the area including work on Highways 1, 8, and 48.

In June, I was thrilled to be in Grenfell as we announced that work would get started on the new long-term care facility in that community. That is now under construction.

We have had the head of medical diagnostics out to Moosomin twice to look at the Southeast Integrated Care Centre to determine if, where, and how a CT Scanner could be accommodated in the building. He has been speaking with equipment vendors to determine options.

That's the first step in the process, so there is work being done on that.

## What were some of the disappointments in 2025?

Everywhere I go across the constituency and across the province, I see people who are improving things, who are making things better, who are building up businesses, who are finding ways to make things better within our health system.

I have toured facilities like the Breast Health Centre in Regina, and heard what a difference that is making. I have seen the work on the new Long Term Care Home at Grenfell and heard from local people how excited they are for that. I was there in Yorkton when we announced that there will be a new medical residency program for doctors to finish their training here, just like we have in Moosomin that has made such a difference in that community.

And everywhere I go I hear positivity and see good things happening, so the most disappointing thing is to go into the Legislative Assembly and hear the opposition put a negative spin on absolutely everything every day.

We have challenges, yes. But we are incredibly fortunate in this province to have amazing people who are going to overcome those challenges and keep this province moving forward.

## What happened in 2025 that had the most effect on your constituents?

Everything we're doing is focused on building a strong, safe, secure Saskatchewan, and that benefits everyone.

In the spring we made Saskatchewan the first Carbon Tax Free province in Canada, reduced the education property tax mill rate, and provided \$250 million in tax savings as well as introduced various affordability measures.

This fall we introduced the Saskatchewan Internal Trade Promotion Act, which aims to reduce trade barriers between provinces and help support free trade across Canada.

Another major step was the Response to Illicit Drugs Act, designed to protect families and communities from illegal drugs and to hold those who profit from them accountable. I have heard a lot of positive comments about that.

On the last day of the fall sitting we introduced the Compassionate Intervention Act, which will require individuals whose addictions put themselves or others at risk to receive the care they need.

I had a large group from our constituency in the Legislature to see that legislation introduced.

We brought in amendments to the Saskatchewan Firearms Act which will protect gun owners from financial liability caused by federal firearm bans.



Moosomin-Montmartre MLA Kevin Weedmark on the steps of the Legislature.

All of these changes are moving Saskatchewan in the right direction.

## What are some of the most common things you hear from your constituents?

I hear a lot of things from my constituents every week, ranging from individual issues with municipal affairs and farm drainage to health care to education. Part of my role is connecting people with those who can work on their issues and come to a resolution.

People seem to be generally supportive of the direction we are taking the province in, but of course there are issues, whether it be health care, highways, drainage, social services, sometimes specific to communities, sometimes just affecting individuals, that need to be addressed.

## What will be some of the biggest challenges for your party in 2026?

The biggest challenge I see for our government and our province next year is navigating international trade.

Saskatchewan's economy is built on exports, and we certainly see that in our region, with potash, agriculture, energy and manufacturing all focused on export markets. Saskatchewan and Alberta have by far the most exports per capita among Canadian provinces.

We see challenges in the logistics of getting our goods to market, whether it be oil flowing through pipelines, or logistical problems getting goods by rail to port, or labor stoppages causing issues.

On top of that we now have tariff and trade issues that are causing challenges.

Scott Moe has provided incredible leadership on trade, leading the way for Canada with India and China.

Navigating tariffs and trade will definitely be a challenge to overcome.

## What are some of the most challenging things about being an MLA?

Trying to be five places at once. I don't think a lot of people realize how busy an MLA's schedule is, and the difficult decisions that have to be made when for one evening you have two invitations to events in Saskatoon, two in Regina, one in Rocanville, one in Moosomin, one in Montmartre, and one in Indian Head. Trying to balance the need to get around the riding and meet people with my responsibilities in Regina and my role as Legislative Secretary to the Ministers of Health, which takes me right across the province, is a challenge for me. I take my role very seriously and I'm disappointed when I cannot make it to an event or a meeting because I have another more urgent meeting.

I try to do the best for my constituents while fulfilling my provincial responsibilities.

I believe communication is vitally important, so I submit a report each week to media across the riding letting people know a few highlights of where I have been and what I have done that week.

## What are some of the most rewarding things about being an MLA?

All of it. Being part of the discussion on the future of this province, having the great honor of being part of the provincial government is great, but there are two answers to that, and both are about people.

Most importantly, being able to make a difference for people means a lot to me. I can't speak about the individual casework I and my constituency assistant Charlene take on for constituents because I need to protect their privacy, but in some cases we are able to make a difference for people. Charlene is excellent at talking to the various ministers' offices and getting the information to the right people to get issues solved.

And secondly, meeting amazing people across the riding and right across the province.

South of McLean, at the west end of my constituency a man named Ian Moats set up Ian's Christmas Lights and has raised \$182,000 for the mental health ward in Regina. Meeting him and touring his light display was rewarding, as was bringing him to the Legislature to give him some recognition.

There's a group that works on grief counselling and suicide prevention, Caring Hearts, that I first found out about when I went to their event for Suicide Prevention Awareness Day. I learned a lot about them, met with them and health officials, two months after first learning about them I had the honor of announcing funding for their group to expand their service across the province.

At meeting after meeting, at event after event, I meet amazing people.

I've always been optimistic about the future of Saskatchewan, and every day I'm even more optimistic because we are a province full of potential, and what will help us develop to our full potential is the resilience, resourcefulness and drive of the people of this province.

It really is an honor to represent the people of our area, and I'm going to continue working hard for them!

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Jeff Cole presents Keith Russell with a Builder Award.



Jeff Cole presents Doug Baily with a Player Award.



Jeff Cole presents Ryan Potter with a Player Award.



Jeff Cole presents Brayden Nabholz with a Player Award.



Jeff Cole presents the Player Award for Graham Dearle.

## Rangers Hall of Fame Awards

The Senior Rangers Hall of Fame Awards were presented on December 20. The awards for notable players and team builders over the years. The awards were followed by the Rangers vs Redvers Rockets game that night and annual Christmas Cabaret.



If you're in need of a food hamper, or want to be part of our **Backpacks for Children** or **Milk for Children** programs, please reach out to us.

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Santa made an appearance for members of Pipestone Kin-Ability during their annual Christmas party hosted by the Moosomin Legion Ladies Auxiliary on December 16. There was lots of excitement as everyone met Santa and got to open their presents.

Above left, Rhonda Polvi gives a hug to Mrs. Claus. Above right, Johnny Haywahe gives Santa Claus a hug after opening his gift.



Above participants of the Kin-Ability sing Christmas Carols at the Legion last Tuesday before meeting with Mrs. and Mr. Claus and opening Christmas gifts.



Left: Judy Mitchell and Mrs. Claus talk about Christmas.  
Above: Charlotte Kovach and Mrs. Claus pose for a picture.

# Kaeding talks about the challenges and highlights of 2025 as MLA, Trade and Export Minister

BY NICOLE TAYLOR  
LOCAL JOURNALISM  
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Melville-Saltcoats MLA and Minister of Trade and Export Warren Kaeding talked about what kind of year 2025 was and what he's looking forward to in 2026.

## What were some of the highlights of 2025?

As the Minister of Trade and Export Development I participated in a number of trade missions to South East Asia. These included stops in Vietnam, Singapore, South Korea, Japan, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand. These stops provided a fascinating look into the incredible trade opportunities we have in a rapidly growing and emerging market.

Trade visits into the Northern United States provided me an opportunity to meet with industry and trade representatives from some of our most important trading states within the USA. We were able to discuss a number of issues with partners that we share a strong trading relationship with.

I had the opportunity to tour a number of our mining, manufacturing and production facilities throughout the province from Estevan to Esterhazy to McArthur River. We have an incredibly diverse economic, industrial powerhouse in our province that will be providing tremendous opportunity for those in the provincial workforce and those wanting to enter it.

A most recent highlight was having Mosaic make a significant investment in our skilled trades and training space in the constituency with their investment in the Churchbridge Millright Lab and Suncrest College in their expansion of their trades center in Esterhazy. What began as a dream of local Churchbridge millright, Bob Haacke, and myself has now blossomed into a significant trades training center for our area students.

We ended up with a remarkable harvest in this area considering the early growing season issues, the lingering forest fire smoke and lower than normal in-season rainfall.

I met some incredible local and provincial entrepreneurs that were willing to take a chance on building a successful business in Saskatchewan. Their perseverance, drive and initiative was an inspiration to continue supporting business development in the province.

There are a number of significant businesses that have developed new or expanded current facilities in our area. From new buildings in Langenburg-Smith Creek Villas and Churchbridge Credit Union Langenburg Branch to the new UFA card lock in Melville to completed municipal

infrastructure projects in Esterhazy and Melville to the huge expansion of the canola plants in Yorkton to the new pea processing plant being built in Yorkton. There were a number of new small businesses that opened throughout the constituency from consulting services to interior decorating stores.

There were two new, large daycares that will be developed in Esterhazy and Melville.

## What were some of the things you accomplished?

As the Minister of Trade I was able to take Saskatchewan to the world and tell our story to new audiences. We were able to diversify trade even more throughout the world (over 160 countries), reducing our dependency on two or three major markets.

I was able to meet with hundreds of provincial stakeholders listening to their issues and concerns and facilitating opportunities between them. We were able to introduce a number of programs and initiatives that supports business development including the Young Entrepreneurs' Program which benefited a number of local businesses.

I was part of the organizing committee that brought over 400 American and Canadian politicians to Saskatoon for the Midwest Legislative Conference in July.

On a constituency level we were able to advance the planning and development of our new Integrated Health Facility in Esterhazy to the next level.

We were able to facilitate a number of stakeholder meetings that ended up with a number of positive results in and around the constituency. Nothing big, but lots of successful outcomes.

We were able to get more highway projects completed such as repaving Highway 16 from Saltcoats to Yorkton, the start of developing passing lanes on Highway 10 from Melville to Fort Qu'Appelle and a commitment by Highways to repave Highway 16 from Manitoba border to Churchbridge. We just received a commitment to resurface the #247 from the #9 to the #47. All of these are going to improve the safety of our constituents.

## What were some of the disappointments in 2025?

Tariff issues with our major trading partners in the United States, China and India resulted in a lot of uncertainty and hesitation for expansion in 2025.

The Blue Jays losing in game seven! I am still in mourning over the sting of defeat, however the disappointment was made up by the Riders winning the 2025 Grey Cup with local talent such as Noah Zerr contributing.

## What happened in 2025 that had the most effect on



Melville-Saltcoats MLA and Minister of Trade and Export Warren Kaeding.

## your constituents?

A relatively long, open harvest provided some great crop yields and positive returns in the livestock sector.

Tariff issues with the United States, China and India increased the level of uncertainty. This resulted in many of our businesses pausing their large capital expenditure decisions.

## What are some of the most common things you hear from your constituents?

Constituents are concerned with access to specialists in healthcare. They are also nervous that we are having difficulty retaining doctors, long-term.

As part of that discussion is the continued, increasing demand for access to mental health services and addictions recovery support. We are starting to see professional clinics, supporting that sector, opening in our constituency.

Constituents are generally satisfied that our East Central region has a stable economy with ag, potash, rail, manufacturing and government sectors performing well.

We hear a lot from our businesses about their struggles in attracting skilled professionals to the various job openings in the area. A number of our office calls and visits are with local businesses that are having difficulty getting their newcomer employees approved through the federal immigration process.

I hear about the great work that my constituency assistant, Tim Ziola, is doing in getting results and solving problems for our constituents on a daily basis.

## What do you want to see accomplished in 2026?

We need to continue to support and attract private sector capital investment in our province.

We need to continue our work on improving health care outcomes.

We need to ensure our kids have every opportunity to succeed in this province, to make this the destination where they want to live, work and

in the province.

We will continue to be challenged in receiving the recognition from our federal government regarding the role we play in the national economy.

We will continue to be challenged by balancing the needs of our province with the revenue that we are generating. We will need to continue our focus on building a strong economy to be able to underpin all of the services that are required to support our constituents.

## What do you want to see accomplished by the next election?

Construction of a new integrated health centre in Esterhazy.

I would like to see a full complement of skilled trades instructors populating all of our comprehensive high schools.

We need to have a health care sector that is stable and able to support the needs of a growing province.

## What are some of the most challenging things about being an MLA?

My biggest challenge as an MLA is not being able to attend all of the great community events that are happening in our constituency.

One of our biggest challenges will be attracting enough skilled professionals for all of the opportunities that are going to exist

I struggle with balancing family time with the role and responsibilities of being an MLA. Events and activities that I need to attend are often on weekends and evenings, which are also the time when there are family events and grandkids' activities.

Unfortunately a negative of the job is when we are not able to achieve the outcome that a constituent is hoping for when they bring an issue forward to our office.

## What are some of the most rewarding things about being an MLA?

I get to work every day with people that are committed to making the province better.

I enjoy engaging with our fascinating constituents and having them tell their story.

I enjoy talking to young people about the incredible opportunities that they are going to have available to them in the province.

I have had the opportunity to meet business leaders of the province, the country and even internationally. Everyone has a great story of success and failure to learn from.

I really enjoy positioning our province as an economic powerhouse that is going to continue to play a pivotal role in providing food, fuel, fertilizer and more to the world.

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS



## 2026 Junior Citizen of the Year Scholarship

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## JUNIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Over the past four decades, the Saskatchewan Weekly Newspapers Association, in partnership with SaskPower and the Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan, has recognized the youth of Saskatchewan through the Junior Citizen of the Year Award.

These prestigious awards are given to youths who:

- Have a positive lifestyle
- Volunteer within their community and school
- Has overcome a personal life challenge (physical, emotional or environmental)
- Have a strong sense of caring and responsibility
- Are between the ages of 8 and 18

This year, four deserving youths will receive a \$3,000 bursary, provided by SaskPower, to use towards their post-secondary education.

## JUNIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR STEM AWARD

Introduced in 2025, The Junior Citizen of the Year STEM Award will recognize a Saskatchewan youth who contains all the same qualities of a Junior Citizen of the Year but has an aptitude for science, technology, engineering, or mathematics. This award is eligible for all students, including but not limited to, young women, and underrepresented communities.

This year, one deserving youth will receive a \$3,000 bursary, provided by Crown Investments Corporation of Saskatchewan, to use towards their post-secondary education.

*Building a Strong Saskatchewan through the Crown Sector*

Visit [www.swna.com](http://www.swna.com) for further information and nomination forms. Nominations close March 31, 2026.

# Moosomin Rec Report

Mike Schwean, Recreation Director

306-435-3622 • msmn.rec.brd@sasktel.net

## Happy New Year everyone!

On behalf of our Parks and Recreation Department I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year full of joy, success and milestones. We look forward to hosting you at all our facilities in what will be a very busy 2026!

## 2025 a busy year for Park & Rec

2025 was a very, very busy year for Parks and Recreation with regards to facility development. In fact, in terms of sheer projects, it was undoubtedly the busiest we have ever had with 30 projects completed around town with the bulk of them at Bradley Park.

Here is a list of the work from 2025 ... and I would like to thank the countless number of community sponsors and donors who allow us to complete these projects for pennies on the dollar as well as multiple community groups who undertake/pay for these projects all on their own!

### Bradley Park

4 Outdoor Pickle Ball - Completed  
Golf / Fun World Completion at Bradley Park - Completed  
Soccer Field Project Upgrades - Completed  
WestPoint Dog Park at Bradley Park - Completed  
Bradley Park Directory Sign - Completed  
Disc Golf Course at Bradley Park - Completed  
Loaner Equipment Storage Building at Bradley Park - Completed  
2 on 2 Basketball Pad at Bradley Park - Completed  
Scoreclocks for Diamonds 1, 2, 4 and 5 - Complete  
Celebration Ford Bandstand Upgrades - Completed  
Minature Golf Course Upgrades - Completed  
6 Camper Spots at Fun world ( Rodeo Parking Lot ) - Completed  
Generals Football Field Project Upgrades - Completed  
Heritage Park - Completed  
Rodeo Area Upgrades - Completed

### Kin Park

Terry Lynd Basketball Court - Completed

### Nutrien Sportsplex

Sportsplex Repairs  
Bowling Alley Upgrades - Completed  
Simulators Upgrades - Completed  
Replacement Pool Table - Completed  
Communities in Bloom Upcycle Oasis - Completed  
Handicap Parking Spots at Sportsplex - Completed  
New Septic Tank at Bowling Alley - Completed

### ConeXus Convention Centre

ConeXus Meeting Room Restored - Completed  
Privacy Wall on Wright Road - Completed  
Boulevards Site Improvements - Completed

### Mike Schwean Arena

Tiles in MS Arena Lobby - Completed  
Bradley Park - Main Parking Lot Paving - Completed  
MS Arena Kids Room - Completed  
New Night Lighting - Completed  
New Indoor Electronic Message Boards (3) - Completed

## Mike Schwean Arena new video monitors

Those arriving at the MS Arena in 2026 will find three new indoor monitors/boards. One is located in the atrium and two by the ticket booth. One of the two by the ticket booth will run the dressing room allocation. The second was purchased by the Senior Rangers and will run sponsor ads and upcoming games. The board in the atrium will run upcoming events at both the MCC and the MS Arena.

## Mike Schwean Arena new kids area

Thank Councillor Andi Hodgson and

our own staff member Angela Thorn for putting together the kid's area in the rink lobby. It has already been made good use of! Also, thanks to a few generous donations that allowed us to purchase many of the items in the room.

## Open ice MS Arena

We have an absolute ton of things going on this spring. As a result not a lot of open ice coming up in the next weeks. Here is a list of what was open from January and February as of last week:

January: Sorry we have no open ice available

Sunday, February 8: 5:15 pm to close  
Saturday, Feb. 21: 9:15 am to 12:45 pm  
Saturday, February 28: 7:45 pm to close

## Parents and Tots

We had a few calls regarding information on Parents and Tots and if it were a pay to participate program. The answer is no! We offer Parents and Tots as a free public skate time where parents can bring little ones out to team skating skills without concerns of sticks and pucks and older kids whizzing around. The program runs most weekdays from 10 am to 12 noon. Just head down to the rink, get geared up and enjoy the time with the tots!

## Public skating and shinny this week

Monday, January 5

Parents and Tots: 10 am to 12 nn  
Noon Hour Shinny: 12 nn to 1 pm

Public Skating: 1 pm to 2 pm

Tuesday, January 6

Parents and Tots: 10 am to 12 nn  
Shinny: 12-1 pm

Public Skating: 1-2 pm

Thursday, January 8

Parents and Tots: 10 am to 12 nn  
Shinny: 12-1 pm

Public Skating: 1-3:30 pm

Friday, January 9

Parents and Tots: 10 am to 12 nn  
Shinny: 12-1 pm

Public Skating: 1-3:30 pm

Please note schedule is subject to change on short notice. Please call ahead to confirm times.

## Minor Hockey Weekend

This upcoming weekend is the Minor Hockey designated weekend with most of our MH teams in action this weekend. With the Senior Rangers and Steelhawks out of town, we have 15 games covering the schedule from Friday to Sunday—enjoy!

## Minor Hockey games

Here is a listing of games scheduled for this week at the Mike Schwean Arena!

Friday

7:30 pm Melville Millionaires @ U15 Easton Autobody Rangers

Saturday

9 am Elkhorn Canadians @ U7 Hebert Grain Ventures

9 am Elkhorn Canadians @ U5 Rangers

10 am U11 GL Apparel Rangers Game

time Ice

12:15 pm U13 Provincial Rangers Game

time Ice

2:15 pm U15 Female Badgers Gametime

Ice

4:30 pm AAA Female Gametime Ice

7:30 pm Fort Knox @ U18 Celebration

Ford Rangers

Sunday

9 am Elkhorn Canadians @ U7 Sports

Excellence Rangers

9 am Whitewood Orioles @ U7 Pharma

save Rangers

10:30 am RME Rangers @ Poelzer Truck

ing Rangers

12:30 pm Melville Millionaires @ U11

Tier 1 Ice Badgers

2:30 pm Balcarres Broncs @ U13 Jeannot

Electric Rangers

4:30 pm Whitewood Orioles @ U13

Dodge Rangers

7 pm Easton's Autobody @ U15 Core

Rangers

## Steelhawks home games

Steelhawks have a couple weeks yet before they return to the friendly confines

of the MS Arena. The team returns with a pair of games on the January 16-17 weekend.

Southern Rebels @ Moosomin Steelhawks: Friday, January 16 at 8 pm

Southern Rebels @ Moosomin Steelhawks: Saturday, January 17 at 8 pm

Devona Putland back at the Sportsplex running Senior Fitness Classes. Devona did an amazing job last year and the registration reflected that. With that in mind I would recommend that if you are interested register ASAP.

For further information please contact Devona direct at 435-9046.

## Skating Club

### Weekly Activities

Monday 6 - 8 pm

Sunday 7:45 to 8:45 am

## Mike Schwean Arena

### Special Events for 2026

We are always busy in the winter with lots of special events. I know our hotel and restaurant business community plan around these weekends, so here is a list of the remaining special events for this winter:

January 17 U7 Rangers Tournament  
Jan 31/ Feb 1 U9 Rangers Tournament

February 13-15 Moosomin Skating

Club Regional Competition

March 15 Skating Club Carnival

March 28 and 29 Carded U9 Hockey

Tournament

April 2-4 Iron Man Tournament 2026

## Curling Special Events

Several special events scheduled for the Curling Rink over the winter. Here is a listing with contact information:

Skins Game: January 10. Contact Jeff Warkinton at jeff@hebertgrainventures.com

Ladies Bonspiel: January 16 and 17. Contact Hayley Mannle at hay.senk@gmail.com

Farmers Bonspiel: January 28-February 1. Contact Hayley Mannle at hay.senk@gmail.com

Minnetoba Curing Club Bonspiel: February 14-15. Contact Angela Thorn at a.thorntownofmoosomin@sasktel.net

## Moosomin Senior Club 2025 Programs!

Moosomin Senior Club meet at the Sportsplex multiple times weekly for a wide range of activities from cards to bowling to shuffleboard and more!

If you would like more information on all their programs and services, please contact Orey at 435-6788.

## Moosomin Community Recreation Plan

Back in 2020 around Covid times our department undertook the task to develop a 10-year Community Recreation plan that would take us from 2020 to 2030. This included administration, programming and facilities. The tasks outlined in the CRP were a direct result of community requests.

As a result of an amazing community we have been able to get the entire plan completed in five years!

Just a sample of tangible results includes:

- Feasibility Study on New Skating Rink

- Feasibility Study on New Curling Rink

- Feasibility Study on New Fieldhouse

- New Outdoor Court Space

- Terry Lynd Basketball Courts

- Bradley Park 2-2 Basketball Courts

- Pickleball Courts

- Fun World

- Dog Park

- Pharmasave Field

- Sharpe's Field

- Upgrades to Ball Diamonds

- Upgrades to Football Field

- Upgrades to Soccer Field

- Bradley Park Lending Shed / with equipment

- Bradley Park Paving Project

So now it is onto a new 10-year plan. With that we will be looking for public input again with what the public would like to see. Questionaries, public and private meetings will make up the meat and potatoes of the plan.

For those interested watch in early 2026 for calls to the public for input!

## Sportsplex Senior Fitness Classes

We are super, super excited to have

# Rocanville Rec Report

Hannah Soroka, Recreation Assistant

## TeleMiracle Fundraiser

Join us for an afternoon of skating, music, and fun—all for a great cause!

Where: Nobe Construction Arena Rocanville

When: Sunday, January 18

Time: 12:4 pm

Sponsored by: Bud & Kendra Fafard

Music provided by All in Event DJ Series

Open to all ages and levels of skaters!

Want to help raise more for TeleMiracle? Sign up as a Skate-A-Thon skater and collect pledges—or just come out, skate, and join the fun. Rink kitchen will be open. Same rules apply as public skating (helmets, mitts, and long sleeves encouraged).

Admission: \$5 per skater. Come support TeleMiracle, enjoy great music, and spend a fun afternoon on the ice with family and friends!

## Noble Construction Skating Rink

Season passes can be purchased at the Rec Office and Town Office. Day passes can be paid for in the drop box at the rink. All skaters must pay public skate/shiny fees to skate, regardless of whether they are in minor hockey or not.

The public skate/shiny schedule is subject to change. Please visit [www.rocanville.ca](http://www.rocanville.ca) for the most up to date schedule.

## Public skate/Shiny/Lessons

January 5: Shiny 3:30-5 pm

January 7: Preschool/Adult Skate 1:30 pm

Shiny 3:30-5 pm

January 8: Parent and Tot Lessons 5-5:30 pm

Youth Skating Lessons 5:30-6:15 pm

January 9: Preschool/Adult Skate 1-3:30 pm

January 11: Public Skate 1-4 pm

## Hockey Games

January 7: U11 Black VS Moosomin 5:30-7:30 pm

January 8: U13 VS Esterhazy 6:30-8 pm

January 10: U13 VS Melville 5-7 pm

## Rocanville Rec Centre

### Play group

A cozy spot for little ones to play, imagine, and explore while parents and caregivers connect. Join us Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 am-12 pm for easygoing fun, socializing, and a great chance to build friendships for both kids and adults.

### Group Walking

Cold weather? We've got you – come walk indoors! Move, meet, and feel great! Meet on Mondays and Wednesdays at 9:00-3:00 PM and Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1:00-3:00 PM for a refreshing group walk and community connection. A great way to stay active and chat with others in the community.

## Rocanville Rec Report

Hannah Soroka, Recreation Assistant

## Puzzle Swap

If you're a puzzle lover, you're in good company! Bring in the puzzles you've completed and trade them for a new one to try. Drop them off at any time – your well-loved puzzles will brighten someone else's day!

## Pickle Ball

Looking for something fun and easy to jump into? Try pickleball! Join us Tuesdays from 7:00-9:00 PM at the Rec Centre. Equipment is available, so no gear needed. Expect good laughs, new friends, and a great workout!

## Sew What!

Love sewing – or always wanted to give it a try? Sew What is the perfect place to start! Whether you're a beginner, a casual hobbyist, or a seasoned pro, you'll enjoy a friendly relaxed space to create, learn and share. This takes place on Wednesday mornings. Contact the Rec Office for more information @ [rocanville.rec@sasktel.net](mailto:rocanville.rec@sasktel.net)

## Universe Satellite Aquatic Centre Schedule

Please note schedule is subject to change, check us out on Facebook and Instagram for updates!

## January 5

Lane Swim 7:30-9:00 AM

AquaFit 9:30-10:30 AM

Senior Swim 11:00-12:00 PM

Family Swim 1:30-3:00 PM

Public Swim 4:00-6:30 PM

Lane Swim 6:30-8:00 PM

## January 6

Lane Swim 7:30-9:30 AM

Family Swim 9:00-10:30 AM

Senior AquaFlex 11:00-12:00 PM

Family Swim 1:30-3:00 PM

Public Swim 4:00-6:30 PM

AquaFit 7:00-8:00 PM

## January 7

Lane Swim 7:30-9:00 AM

AquaFit 9:30-10:30 AM

Senior AquaFlex 11:00-12:00 PM

Family Swim 1:30-3:00 PM

Public Swim 4:00-6:30 PM

Lane Swim 6:30-8:00 PM

## January 8

Public Swim 4:00-7:00 PM

AquaFit 7:00-8:00 PM

## January 9

Lane Swim 7:30-9:00 AM

Senior Swim 11:00-12:00 PM

Family Swim 1:30-3:00 PM

Public Swim 4:00-7:00 PM

## January 10

Public Swim 9:00-12:00 PM

Lane Swim 1:00-2:00 PM

Evening Swim 6:00-9:00 PM

## January 11

Public Swim 9:00-12:00 PM

Lane Swim 1:00-2:00 PM

Evening Swim 6:00-9:00 PM

## Rocanville Dance Club Princess Ball Fundraiser

Princesses and superheroes unite for character meet and greets, dancing, and food and drink fit for a queen or king.

Dress Code: Princess or Prince Attire or superhero!

When: January 25, 2026

Where: Rocanville Nutrien Hall

Time: 2:4 PM

Entry fees: Dance Kids \$2

Kids over 3 \$5

Adult Ticket \$10

Family ticket \$30

## Rocanville Community Centre

### Morning Coffee Social

Begin your day the Rocanville way from 8-9:30 am. Enjoy a warm cup of coffee and even warmer company! Drop by the community centre for a relaxed, friendly atmosphere where great conversations and wonderful people create the perfect blend.

### Cards & Games – Thursday Afternoons

Need a mid-week pick-me-up? Come join us every Thursday from 1-3 pm for an afternoon of cards, games and good company. Enjoy lighthearted competition, share some laughs and add a little extra fun to your Thursdays.

### Senior Supper – Community Potluck

Happening the last Monday of every month! Bring along your favourite dish to share and enjoy a cozy homemade meal with the company of friendly faces. Everyone is welcome around the table!

## Rocanville Library

Discover all that your library has to offer – from books and digital resources to hands-on programming.

- Lego Makerspace Kit – Month of January

- Hide and seek with Zelda – come and find Zelda! She will be moved on a weekly basis, and you can earn prizes weekly, monthly and through the year!

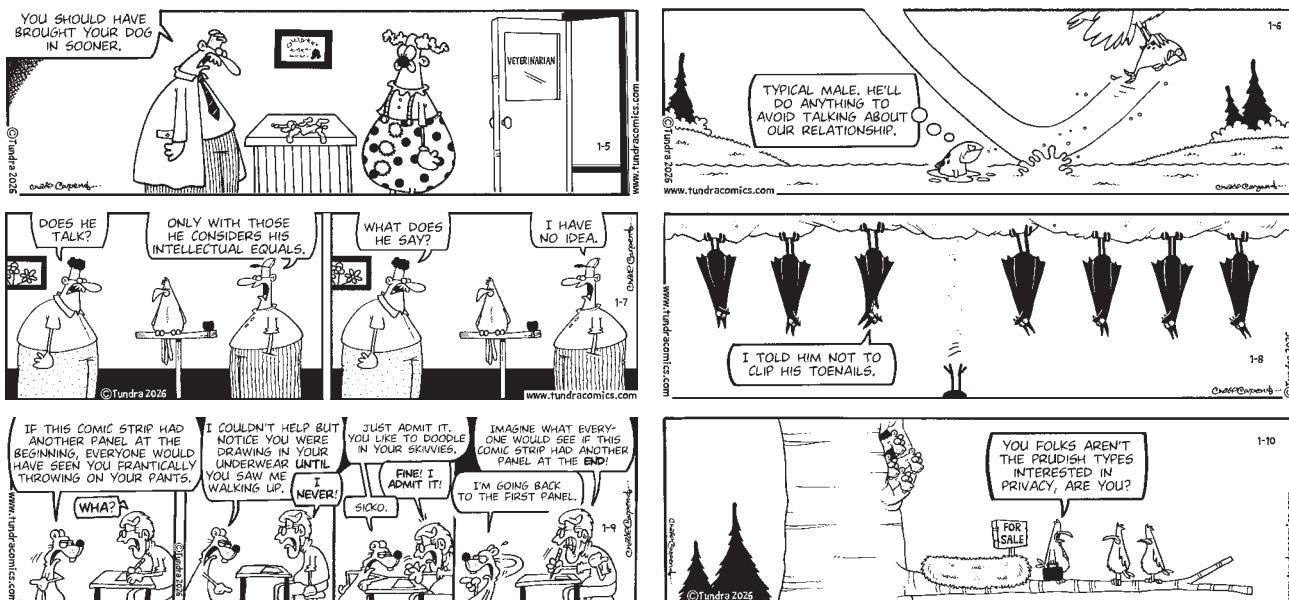
- Kids Crafts: January 21 from 2-3:30 PM – come on out with your kiddo to make a craft!

- Stich 'n' Chat: January 22 from 2-5 PM – come out with a creative project you are working on, and enjoy an afternoon of stitching and great company.

- Bandits of Croaker's Cave TTRPG Gaming Night: January 29 at 6-9 PM. If you like D&D style gaming, this game night is for you! Registration is not mandatory but requested. Please email [@semisinistegm@gmail.com](mailto:@semisinistegm@gmail.com) to register. Walk ins welcome on a first come first served basis.

# Tundra

Chad Carpenter



# Welwyn News

Phyllis Harper

306-733-2155

Get well wishes to Toots Stewart who is spending a few days in the hospital after her fall.

The Welwyn Kids Christmas party took place at the

rink on Friday, December 19. Despite the weather, 32 kids with parents enjoyed the social time, skating, crafts, snacks and drinks.

Thanks to CROW for the drinks, local donators who provided the snacks and Borderland Co-op for the cookie decorating supplies.



Some moments from the Welwyn Kids Christmas Party on December 19.





At Greek Night with Greek consul Dimitrios Skoutas and MLA Jamie Martens.



At the Labor Day Classic.



With Kara at India Night.



Announcing construction on the Grenfell long term care facility.



Announcing the designation of Chief Kahkewistahaw Way.



There were lots of parades over the summer.



With Mosaic CEO Bruce Bodine at an announcement on Mosaic's workforce investment.



With Summer and Mikka Heide at a fundraiser for Ronald McDonald House Charities.



Out in the oilfield.



Premier Scott Moe visited Moosomin-Montmartre.



With Chief Evan Taypotat at his induction as honorary colonel of the Snowbirds.



At the White Bear First Nations 150th anniversary of entering treaty.



At the U of S College of Medicine White Coat ceremony.



**Above:** The crowd at the Moosomin Pinoy Community Christmas party

**Above left:** At the Moosomin Santa parade.

**Right:** Christmas open house at the constituency office.



**Left:** I had lots of people from the riding at the Legislature for the introduction of Compassionate Intervention legislation

**Right:** At the announcement of funding for Caring Hearts to expand their counselling services across the province



## Looking back on an incredible year in 2025

It was a busy Christmas season around the riding. On the weekend before Christmas I hosted an open house in my office Friday, I attended a huge Christmas Party with the local Filipino community on Saturday night, and took part in the Moosomin Santa Claus Parade Sunday night!

It was wonderful to meet with so many people at those three events. It was a busy weekend, and after that I took some time for family, and our celebrations with family went from Christmas Eve into the first weekend of the new year.

I hope everyone had a chance to reconnect with family and friends, recharge, and reflect on the year that was and all the potential ahead of us.

### Lots of accomplishments

As we start a new year, I look back on what we accomplished in our government's first year in office and look forward to what the new year will bring.

During the fall session of the Legislature, our government introduced and passed new measures focused on keeping Saskatchewan's economy strong, our communities safe, and our future secure.

Progress continued as commitments made in the Throne Speech moved forward through several new pieces of legislation.

One of these is the Saskatchewan Internal Trade Promotion Act, which reduces trade barriers between provinces and supports freer trade across Canada.

Another major step was the Response to Illicit Drugs Act, designed to protect families and communities from illegal drugs and to hold those who profit from them accountable.

Work also advanced on laws that support vulnerable people and families. The Compassionate Intervention Act will require individuals whose addictions put themselves

### Report from the Legislature

**KEVIN WEEDMARK**  
MLA for Moosomin-Montmartre



others at risk to receive the care they need. Updates were made to the Interjurisdictional Support Orders Act to ensure child support orders continue to be enforced, even when a parent moves to another province.

Amendments to the Saskatchewan Firearms Act will protect gun owners from financial liability caused by federal firearm bans. The Building Schools Faster Act requires municipalities to secure enough land so new schools can be built quickly.

Several commitments from Throne Speech have already become law. Five bills have received royal assent: The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2025; The Miscellaneous Statutes Repeal Act, 2025; The Statute Law Amendment Act, 2025; The Public Libraries Amendment Act, 2025; and The Cyberstalking and Coercive Control Act.

Important steps were also taken outside of legislation. A five-year extension of the Canada-Saskatchewan Early Learning and Child Care Agreement will keep child care affordable, provide stability for providers, support every child's learning and help families plan for a strong future.

Building on our commitment to education, we continue

to recognize the transformative role post-secondary institutions play in shaping Saskatchewan's future. A new multi-year funding agreement has been signed to support quality education and help keep tuition manageable for students.

Another critical part of building a strong future for Saskatchewan is our commitment to nuclear energy. Through the recently released Saskatchewan First Energy Security Strategy and Supply Plan, we are working to ensure our province's energy remains reliable and affordable for years to come.

Global trade challenges were another key theme this session. Saskatchewan continues to face tariffs and shifting trade relationships with India, China and the United States.

Premier Moe met with officials from all three countries including during a mission to Washington, D.C. and in discussions with India's Minister of External Affairs.

I am proud to have a Premier who strongly defends Saskatchewan's interests, expand export opportunities and help our industries compete successfully in markets across the world. We will keep working with the federal government to remove tariffs while expanding export markets in more than 160 countries.

In the coming months, your Saskatchewan Party government will continue connecting with people and businesses across the province.

It has been a productive session, and many initiatives are now moving forward.

### Reach out

I'm here for you, and my constituency office is your first point of contact if you have an issue. If you need to contact us call 306-435-4005, email office@kevinweedmark.ca, or drop into the office at 622 Main Street in Moosomin.

 <p><b>MAYOR - Murray Gray</b> 306-435-9062 murraygray@sasktel.net</p>	<p><b>COUNCILLORS</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Devin Nosterud 306-421-3000 dnosterud@primec.ca</td> <td>Kyla Fingas 306-434-8656 kyla_fingas@hotmail.com</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Andie Hodgson 306-737-0922 hodgsonandie@gmail.com</td> <td>Garry Towler 306-435-7595 back.amb@sasktel.net</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Victor Santos Cardoza 306-434-0385 cardozavictor21@gmail.com</td> <td>Heather Truman 306-435-9359 sewcreative@sasktel.net</td> </tr> </table>	Devin Nosterud 306-421-3000 dnosterud@primec.ca	Kyla Fingas 306-434-8656 kyla_fingas@hotmail.com	Andie Hodgson 306-737-0922 hodgsonandie@gmail.com	Garry Towler 306-435-7595 back.amb@sasktel.net	Victor Santos Cardoza 306-434-0385 cardozavictor21@gmail.com	Heather Truman 306-435-9359 sewcreative@sasktel.net	<p><b>PUBLIC WORKS</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Mike Stein Manager of Public Works &amp; Utilities</td> <td>306-435-7062 (cell)</td> </tr> </table>	Mike Stein Manager of Public Works & Utilities	306-435-7062 (cell)	<p><b>RECREATION OFFICE</b></p> <p>E-mail: <a href="mailto:msmn.rec.brd@sasktel.net">msmn.rec.brd@sasktel.net</a> Phone: 306.435.3622</p> <p>Mike Schwean - Rec Director 306-435-7578 (cell)</p> <p>Angela Thorn - Assistant Rec Director</p>
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**GARBAGE/RECYCLING CALENDAR**

<b>ROUTE A:</b> Homes West of Main Street: JAN 6 - GARBAGE	<b>ROUTE B:</b> Homes East of Main Street: JAN 12 - RECYCLE
JAN 13 - RECYCLE	JAN 19 - GARBAGE

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MONDAY: 9 AM - 12 PM, 1 PM - 5 PM  
TUESDAY: 9 AM - 12 PM, 1 PM - 5 PM

WEDNESDAY: 9 AM - 12 PM, 1 PM - 5 PM  
THURSDAY: 12 PM - 4 PM, 5 PM - 8 PM

FRIDAY: 9 AM - 12 PM, 1 PM - 5 PM  
SATURDAY & SUNDAY: CLOSED

