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THE WORLD-Spectator

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A hug from Bear Paws

Chad Solomon combined Aboriginal storytelling with puppetry last Thursday during a presentation at MacLeod Elementary School in Moosomin. Solomon interacted with the students in the audience and also involved students in playing the roles of some of the puppet characters as he told a traditional Aboriginal story.

February has been designated Saskatchewan Aboriginal Storytelling Month, with storytelling events taking place across the province.

At right: Solomon with his puppet Bear Paws gives one of the students in the audience a big hug.

Turn to page 10 for more photos.



Kara Kinna photo

2016 Census

Moosomin leads area in growth

Growth rate of 10.4 per cent highest among communities in SE Sask., SW Man.

BY KEVIN WEEDMARK

The 2016 census shows that the town of Moosomin led the region in population growth between the 2011 and 2016 censuses, with 10.4 per cent population growth. According to the census, Moosomin went from 2,484 residents in the 2011 census to 2,743 in the 2016 census. Moosomin had grown by 8.9 per cent between the 2006 and 2011 censuses.

The increase of 10.4 per cent in the last five years is the highest for any community in rural Saskatchewan (those outside the bedroom communities in the Census Metropolitan areas.)

Redvers and Virden are the two other communities in the region showing significant growth, with Redvers up 6.9 per cent and Virden up 6.7 per cent.

The town of Moosomin's growth rate recorded in the census is higher than surrounding communities like Virden, Esterhazy, Kipling, and Carlyle, and is higher than cities in the region like Yorkton, Weyburn and Estevan.

For communities around the province of a similar size to Moosomin, Rosetown grew by 5.8 per cent, growing from 2,317 to 2,451, Outlook grew by 3.4 per cent, growing from 2,204 to 2,279, Tisdale grew by 1.7 per cent,

growing from 3,180 people to 3,235, Esterhazy recorded a growth rate of 1.2 per cent, growing from 2,472 to 2,502, Assiniboia declined by 1.2 per cent, declining from 2,418 to 2,389, Maple Creek declined by 4.2 per cent, declining from 2,176 to 2,084, and Canora declined by 8.8 per cent, declining from 2,219 to 2,024.

While Moosomin itself is growing, some smaller communities and most rural municipalities have seen reductions in population. According to the census, Whitewood lost 9.3 per cent of its population between 2011 and 2016, dropping from 950 to 862 residents.

Continued on page 10

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RCMP Report

BY SGT. SCOTT FEFCHAK, MOOSOMIN RCMP

It was an eventful week, and what I can report on is as follows.

THEFT AT LOCAL BUSINESS

A theft was reported at a local business in Moosomin. The people involved are under the age of 18 so their parents were advised and the situation was dealt with separate from the court system.

Frankly speaking, parents can dish out consequences far more effectively and swiftly than any court system could and for less taxpayer money to boot. Not that a boot is a proper method of punishment unless you happen to be my dad in the 80's.

Anyway, the court system is an option, but not the only option. Parents are still empowered to dish out punishment and in our house the most effective method is reminding the children internet and wifi are a privilege, not a right. Poor attitude = poor online existence.

SEMI HOGGING PASSING LANE

Report of a semi in the passing lane not letting anyone pass on Highway 1. We didn't locate the semi so it's unknown why the left lane was more appealing.

GENERAL IMPOLITENESS AND RUDENESS

Information file created as an individual wanted police to know he and another person were not getting along. General impoliteness and rudeness was afoot, and while we still appreciate being in on the private lives of some, it's not really anything we get involved with.

U-HAUL STRUCK BY SEMI, BEGINS CHAIN REACTION

A vehicle hauling a UHaul was struck from behind by a semi. There were minor injuries from glass shattering. While the Fire Department and EMS were out dealing with that, another accident occurred due to poor visibility.

When a semi passing through the scene slowed down, the rig kicked up a bunch of snow causing whiteout conditions to the vehicles behind and two vehicles struck one another.

There were then yet more accidents at the scene because of the poor visibility. What a mess.

We had a few more incidents with traffic this week due to the snowfall. It was a light dusting, which caused decreased visibility when travelling behind other vehicles. When the weather conditions are like that, turn your lights on so you have taillights as well.

It's as important to be seen as it is to be able to see. Free tip from us to you.

DIRT SOUGHT ON EX

We had an inquiry at our office from an ex spouse wanting some background information on their ex. This is still not something we do so if you're looking for dirt on someone you feel has maligned you, your best option is to either hire a private investigator or accept it as a learning experience and move on. We all took an oath of secrecy so unfortunately we will be of no help to you.

HIT AND RUN

We had another Hit and Run that occurred in our area

but wasn't discovered until the person got back to Weyburn. Again, these hit and runs are really a downer since it's difficult to believe nobody notices when it happens.

SEARCH FOR CHILD AFTER SCHOOL

We had a report of a child who wasn't home from school at the usual time and a search ensued. The child was located safe and sound at a friend's house. Parents, please make sure you have good communication with the kids on what to do if a parent is late picking them up or things don't go as scheduled some days.

REPORT OF OVERDUE SNOWMOBILER

We had a call about an overdue snowmobiler who turned up shortly after. Remember, buddy system and communicate with your family so they aren't worried.

UNFOUNDED REPORT OF PARTY GETTING OUT OF HAND

We had a 911 call from a person at a drinking party who was concerned things were getting out of hand. We attended and quickly ascertained who the caller was. The person the caller was worried about didn't share the concern and the caller wasn't a resident of the house where the party was.

We asked the homeowner if there was a problem and it turned out the only problem was someone calling 911 and asking police to attend for seemingly no reason. The caller was invited to leave the residence if what was going on wasn't appealing.

You'd be surprised how often this type of thing happens. We're happy to report there was absolutely no need for us to be there, but also kinda sad to report it as well, if you can dig that?

TICKETS AND WARNINGS

We had some action in the traffic side this week:

- 2 Warnings for speeding
- A Warning for not wearing a seatbelt
- Several Speeding tickets
- A Warning for no tail lights
- A Warning for using a phone while driving
- A warning for failing to signal a turn

TRAFFIC SERVICES ARE WATCHING

In related news, our traffic services folks have been out and about. They are using an automated licence plate reader which automatically runs plates at an incredible rate. Cst. Wyatt was in the area and within a couple short

hours the unit had read over 300 licence plates. This device will automatically alert police if a vehicle is stolen, unregistered, or if the registered owner is suspended from driving and runs the plates automatically while the officer is out looking for seatbelt use, cell phone use, or other offences. The future is here folks, conduct yourselves accordingly. There are a few unregistered vehicles in our area that were observed but not acted on. Check your insurance folks, we hate having to charge people for forgetting to renew!

MAKE SURE YOU ARE SEEN!

Remember, when driving conditions are sketchy & visibility is poor, light up and be seen. If you have visibility issues, slow the heck down. The cows have been in remission but you never know when they're planning a sneak attack.

See you next week!

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The regular deadline is 12 noon Thursday for all material intended for publication in the World-Spectator issued on the following Monday. Deadline for display career advertising and blanket classified advertising is 4 p.m. Tuesday for the following week's issue. Deadline for the Plain and Valley is 5 p.m. Wednesday for the following week's issue.

We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Periodical Fund (CPF) for our publishing activities.





Derek Gray of Moosomin is presented with his 50/50 prize of \$12,550. Presenting are Moosomin Kinsmen Club president Andrew Stacey and Jonathan Nosterud.



Clara Szafron of Moosomin is presented with a cheque after winning the grand prize of \$52,000 in the Moosomin Kinsmen's Lotto 365. From left are Kinsmen Ryan Thorn, Andrew Daniel, Trevor Garrett, Josh Overand, and president Andrew Stacey presenting the cheque.

Szafron wins Lotto 365 grand prize

BY KARA KINNA

The top prize in the Moosomin Kinsmen Club's Lotto 365 went to Clara Szafron of Moosomin. Clara will receive \$1,000 a week for the next 52 weeks. Winners were drawn Sunday, Feb. 5 at the Moosomin Curling Club.

Derek Gray of Moosomin won \$12,550 in the 50/50 draw as part of Lotto 365.

Szafron says she has supported the lottery every year since it started, and was shocked when she got the call on Feb. 5 telling her she had won the grand prize.

"Pinch me, I still can't believe. I have never won anything, so it's quite a surprise, but a very good surprise," said Szafron.

Szafron says she thought her son-in-law was playing a joke on her when she got the call.

"My son-in-law always teases me a little bit and it sounded just like him and I thought it was him playing a trick on me," she says. "And finally this guy says 'did you not buy a lottery ticket?' And then I said yes and thought 'okay where is this going to.' It was nice."

Szafron says she has always been happy to support Lotto 365.

"Look what it's doing for the children. Somebody has to look out for the school kids and everything else it is sponsoring," she says. "I have no little kids but I have a bunch of grandchildren and I'm sure they will be happy with everything it supports."

Szafron says she plans to share her winnings with her family.

"I have six children, and I'm going to share it with my kids and buy another ticket of course!" she says.

Derek Gray, the 50/50 winner, says it was his first year buying a ticket.

"It was very, very exciting," he says. "It was hard to believe at first. They phoned and told me I had won the 50/50 and I didn't even know how much it was at that point. I was still in a little bit of disbelief. They invited me down to the curling rink to have a picture taken and accept the cheque, so it started to be a little more like reality by the time I got there."

"They presented the cheque and took a few pictures and it started to sink in. It's still a little difficult to believe but it was

very exciting."

Gray says he doesn't know what he will do with the money yet.

"I'd kind of like to hang onto it for a little while first. I don't have any specific plans to spend it on anything in particu-

lar but I'm sure at some point it's going to contribute to some of my car projects and maybe a trip somewhere for a week or so. I might be able to justify a new guitar here or there."

Continued on Page 5



The Moosomin Kinsmen Club's Ryan Thorn, left, and president Andrew Stacey read the name of the grand prize winner after pulling the ticket from the draw drum.

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Guitarist Eric Harper performs in Moosomin

Award winning flamenco guitarist Eric Harper performed at the Moosomin Community Theatre on Tuesday. Harper was the third show in the Moosomin and District Arts Councils' Stars For Saskatchewan Series. The theatre was full for Harper's show, which consisted of himself and his guitar as he entertained the crowd with his soul-stirring guitar and singing.

Gmerek court dates set for March

New trial dates have been set for a former Moosomin resident who had been charged with Theft, Fraud, and Forgery in 2012.

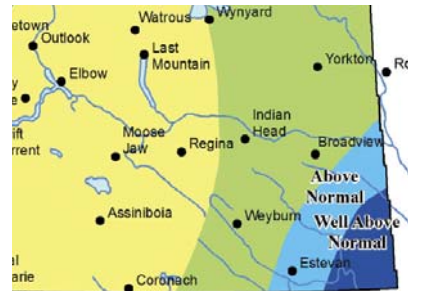
50-year-old Gregor Gmerek will stand trial in Yorkton Court of Queen's Bench from March 13th to the 31st.

The trial was scheduled to begin in November but it was postponed just before it was set to begin.

Gmerek was arrested in December of 2012 for allegedly defrauding his employer, Prairie Livestock, of a substantial amount of money.

Kirk Sinclair of Prairie Livestock says he is hoping there is not another postponement and the trial moves ahead in March.

"It would be nice to have it over and done with," he said. "I've found out that our legal system works at a very slow pace."



Runoff potential above normal in southeast

The latest spring runoff potential map from the Saskatchewan Water Security Agency shows above normal and well above normal runoff potential in southeast Saskatchewan. The projections will be updated in March.

LEGEND

POTENTIAL RUNOFF

- Below Normal
- Near Normal
- Above Normal
- Well Above Normal

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Revenue sharing big topic at SUMA convention

Local council members respond to Wall's announcement

BY KARA KINNA

Reduced revenue sharing from the provincial government was the most weighty topic at this year's SUMA (Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association) convention.

The convention was held Feb. 5-8 in Saskatoon. A number of town councillors from Moosomin went to the convention, as well as Rocanville mayor Daryl Fingas. All of them said the premier's announcement at SUMA of reduced revenue sharing was the topic that left the biggest impact.

"It was when Brad Wall and the cabinet were there. They were stressing about the budget and cutbacks on different things. Everything is on the table for cutbacks. We will probably be looking at a decrease in our allocation," says Moosomin town councillor Ron Fisk. "It's just that much less we have to work with here and we have to make cutbacks somewhere and be more efficient."

"What really stuck out for me was when we heard Brad Wall speak and he was telling us that everything is on the table with regards to budget," says Moosomin town councillor Teddi Taylor. "He couldn't give us details because the budget isn't complete. He was being a realist I guess. He wasn't promising things he wasn't going to be able to deliver."

"Definitely the largest thing was revenue sharing for sure, because all councils are going to be doing their budgets and how much revenue sharing we get from the provincial government is huge," says Moosomin town councillor Murray Gray. "It was a large topic of conversation, along with infrastructure."

"It's a little scary but you can see before even going with the economy of the provincial and federal government it's quite obvious there is not going to be a lot of extra money around. It's not a total surprise by any stretch of the imagination. The



Brad Wall announced at SUMA last week that municipalities would be receiving less in revenue sharing this year.

deficit is a little bigger than they anticipated. Obviously when you don't have any money to spend you can't spend it."

Moosomin councillor Garry Towler says he was struck by how up front Brad Wall was. "He wasn't trying to hide anything and brought everything out. He was very up front that there was going to have to be cuts," he says.

"Obviously nobody wants to see the tax go up and they are talking about putting the provincial tax up. If it takes one or two per cent because of the lost revenue from the oil and potash to make up for our services that they have in place, that's good too."

"The other point he made is that they've also hired 3,000 additional nurses and more doctors but he said that they had to seriously look at the administration. The beds haven't increased but they have increased the administration by around 500

to 600 positions and that has to get looked at."

"So they are looking at everything. Everyone is in the same boat right across the province. They are not just picking on one community, the rural or the urban, it's right across the board."

Rocanville Mayor Daryl Fingas said revenue sharing and carbon tax were the two topics that were of interest to him at the convention.

"Everyone was worried about what the town will be getting for money this year seeing that the economy has been on the downswing," he says. "They told us it will be less than last year. That was the biggest topic. When the premier spoke the first day he told us their deficit now is \$1.2 billion. Everyone pretty well knew what he was going to say about that. I think that was one of the biggest issues just knowing that the economy is in a

downswing and slowly rebounding back. We all have got to be in this together I guess so we will probably take a certain amount of reduction."

Fingas says there was also some discussion about finding an alternative to the carbon tax.

"We are all concerned and we don't want the carbon tax. And we're all concerned we should all work together to find different ways to reduce the carbon instead of the tax. There was a lot of discussion on that and a resolution was passed so that the towns work together to come up with different ideas to reduce it instead of putting a tax on."

New councillors like Ron Fisk and Murray Gray also say the convention was a learning experience.

"There was an awful lot of information sharing between councillors from other areas, different things each are doing that can help the other. And some of the presentations were quite interesting as well," says Fisk.

"For me it was quite a learning curve having never been there and only been on council for a few months," says Gray.

"The other part of it is meeting a lot of people in similar positions and people that you can learn from. It was really good just to be amongst your peers and others facing the same type of learning curve as you. And it was good in order to get to know the other council members that were there. We got to know each other a little better too."

Gray says the convention was larger than he expected.

"There are 800 people in a room talking about issues. It's a little bit of an eye opener," he says.

"It was a good thing. I can't wait until next year. It kind of renews your energy. I can't wait to meet next week because I feel like I did right after the election. It was just a rejuvenating experience."

Gray winner of 50/50 lotto prize

Continued from page 3

"This was my first year buying tickets for it. My parents buy tickets every year and my dad was here helping me rebuild an engine in the garage the day we bought our tickets . . . He got ahold of Johnny Nosterud and he stopped by the garage and sold my dad his tickets, and I thought I'd also like to chip in and contribute a little bit whether I win or lose, so I bought the next ticket after him and I ended up having the winning ticket."

Gray says it felt good to support the Kinsmen.

"The Kinsmen are a great group of people. They have lots of great causes and all of the benefits of everything they do are seen locally around here, so it's something that's always good to contribute to. And you have to appreciate all the time and effort that group of people puts in for the community and surrounding area. It was nice to contribute."

"It's pretty good to have a winning ticket, but I would have felt good either way contributing."

Proceeds of this year's lottery will support Ma-

cleod Elementary School, Play Fair Daycare, the Moosomin Curling Club and Moosomin Golf Club.

There were also smaller cash prizes giving out from the lottery.

Winners of \$1,000 each in Lotto 365 are:

Rick Paul of Elkhorn
Jennifer Werle of Langenburg

Winners of \$500 each are:

Marion Donald of Moosomin
Kevin McRae of Ester-

hazy
Danny and Renee Ismond of Yorkton

Caroline Tochor of Ester-

hazy
Marilyn Robertson of Courtenay, B.C.

Tamara Munv of Theodore

Eden Sinclair of Moosomin

Barb McGonigal of Moosomin

Rolna Pranke of Moosomin

Gerald Lorrie Kaban of Yorkton

Sun Country Regional Health Authority

NOTICE OF MEETING

WHEN: Wednesday, February 22, 2017
WHERE: Conference Room 1, Tatagwa View
808 Souris Valley Road, Weyburn, Sk.
TIME: 1:30 P.M.

- The Regional Health Authority (SCRHA) is the governing body of your Health Region, and conducts its regular business meetings in public.
- Strategic Planning – Wall Walk at 1:30 p.m.
- Individuals or groups of individuals requesting a meeting with SCRHA must send their request in writing 10 days prior to the meeting stating the purpose of the meeting and the time required. Send to Sun Country Regional Health Authority, 808 Souris Valley Rd., Weyburn, SK, S4H 2Z9 or to Lesley.Chapman@SCRH.sk.ca

The public is welcome to attend and observe.

20.1c

WCB'S RATE MODEL Changes Coming January 2018

Changes will impact premiums employers pay

In 2018, the WCB will adopt changes to its Rate Model based on recommendations that came from an external actuary's review in 2016.

The WCB will be hosting industry-specific sessions in Regina and Saskatoon from February 27 to March 8. Learn the potential impact to your industry rate code using current data as an indicator of 2018 rates.

Have your say February 27 to March 8

This is employers' opportunity to give input on the transition to the enhanced Rate Model. (Webinars available for all sessions.)

Regina Sessions (Queensbury Centre)				Saskatoon Sessions (Prairie/land Park)							
DATE	TIME	INDUSTRY	RATE CODE	DATE	TIME	INDUSTRY	RATE CODE				
02/27	8:00 am	Commodities	C12, C32, C33, C41, C51	03/07	8:00 am	Construction	B11, B12, B13, R11				
			11:00 am				Agriculture	A11, A21, A31	11:00 am	Mining	D71, D72, D73, M31**
			2:00 pm				Service	S32, S33	2:00 pm	Food Processing	M41, M42, M72
02/28	8:00 am	Municipalities	G31	03/08	8:00 am	Manufacturing	M33, M62, M81, M91, M92, M94				
			11:00 am				Health Care	G22	11:00 am	Transportation	T42, T51, T61
			2:00 pm				Automotive	C61, C62	2:00 pm	Service & Hospitality	S21, S22, S23
03/01	8:00 am	Oil & Gas	D32, D41, D51, D52	11:00 am	Government & Crown's	U11, U31	G51, M31*, U11, U31				
			11:00 am					Education	G11, G12		
			2:00 pm					Offices	S11, S12, S41		
03/02	8:30 am	Offices	S11, S12, S41	M31* Crown's only M31** Solution potash mining only							

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THE WORLD-Spectator



Kevin Weedmark
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In our opinion:

Regional divisions will continue to deepen without real senate reform

Just when you thought the state of the debate about reforming Canada's Senate couldn't get any sadder, federal Conservative Party leadership hopeful Kevin O'Leary has floated the idea of selling Senate seats.

Serious or not, O'Leary's proposal is in keeping with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's vision of the Senate as little more than a blue-ribbon advisory panel. Trudeau wants the upper house to be filled with admirable Canadians who provide friendly, non-partisan advice to the government. His recent appointments are a step in this direction.

What O'Leary and Trudeau don't seem to understand is that the Senate has a much more important role to play—a role that's vital to the success of our country.

That role is rooted in two facts. First, Canada is an enormously diverse country with deep regional differences and powerful regional strengths. The differences need to be addressed and the strengths need to be harnessed.

There's much that unites us, but the issues, priorities, needs and perspectives of Canadians are not uniform. Where we call home within Canada is one of the reasons for the variation. Place matters. The world looks different from Whitehorse than from Winnipeg, from Halifax than from Toronto, from West Vancouver than from Trois-Rivières, and so on.

These differences need to be understood, respected and integrated into the whole. To the extent that we do this, Canada is stronger and richer—economically and culturally.

Unfortunately, the House of Commons and the federal cabinet aren't particularly good at fighting (representing isn't good enough) for regional interests. Because Canada's population is unevenly distributed, the House is dominated by the heavily-populated central regions of Canada, with smaller regions sometimes managing to play spoiler when the two big kids don't get along.

It's not designed to be otherwise. Yes, the prime minister is careful to include MPs from across the country in the cabinet. But this is largely a symbolic gesture. And yes, provincial premiers can, and do, stand up for the interests of their constituents. But they can't actually vote on federal policy. Premier Brad Wall, for example, can't lead a vote against the federal carbon tax he feels would harm the people of Saskatchewan.

A democratically-elected—and therefore powerful—Senate with a seat distribution designed to give an equal voice to the country's regions would guarantee that regional majorities in the House of Commons could not run roughshod over regional minorities. This doesn't mean that every part of Canada would always get its way. But no part could be ignored with impunity. This brings us to the second fact.

Canada is a liberal democracy and the winner-take-all system we've come to depend on is, slowly but surely, killing the liberal principles we should be taking pains to preserve. It's not supposed to be a system in which one party wins the election and pretty much gets to do what it wants until ousted by another party, which then does what it wants until booted out, and so on.

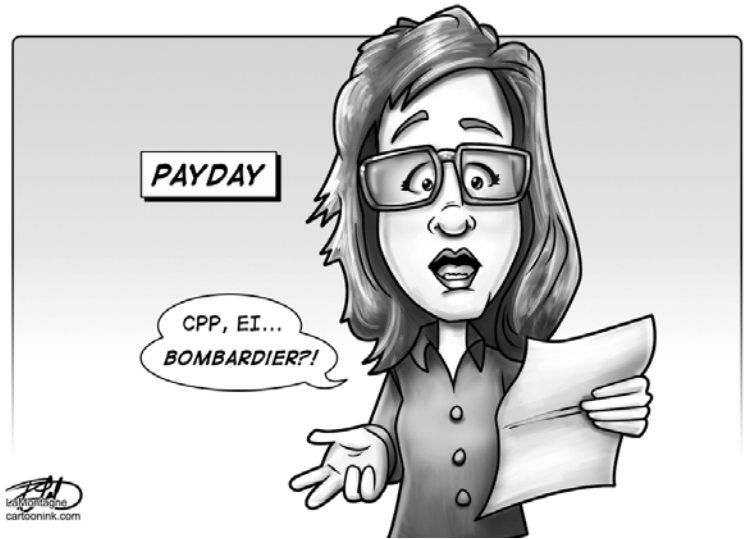
In a true liberal democracy, checks and balances prevent this kind of mob rule. Minorities of all kinds—including territorial-ly-based ones—are protected. This is why, for example, little old North Dakota has the same number of seats (two) as California in the U.S. Senate. Having more people is not the only consideration in a liberal democracy.

We need to design a Senate that's elected and regionally balanced. Getting this right will not be easy. Nonetheless, it's far from impossible.

Taking on the challenge of true Senate reform requires a commitment to a much messier political process in Ottawa. A legitimate Senate, actively defending diverse regional interests, would complicate the passage of legislation. It would require more time, more compromises, more debate—in short, more politics. There's also a real chance it would mean more government rather than better government.

The risks of meaningful Senate reform are real, whereas turning the Senate into a handy focus group or honorary council is a safe option. But liberal democracy and the rich diversity of Canada will not be preserved through safe options.

This editorial was written by Rob Roach, a senior fellow with the Atlantic Institute for Market Studies (AIMS.ca).



Social housing changes will do more harm than good in the long-term

When the provincial government cancelled the affordable housing program on March 1, 2015, it may have seemed like a good idea to some who believe that only extremely low-income families and seniors should be using social housing.

But in the long-term, cancelling the affordable housing program will likely do more harm than good, not just in rural communities, but in our cities as well.

First, if you don't understand how the social housing program works and how it has changed, here is a quick breakdown. Local housing authorities, like the ones in Moosomin, could house people under two programs. Under the "social housing" program, people are charged a percentage of their income. That means a low income person, family or senior pays a low rental rate on the unit they are in. People in the social housing program must also have limited assets in order to qualify for social housing. If their income goes up, so does their rent.

Under the "affordable housing" program—which was cancelled—local housing authorities could house people in properties with a set rental rate. Rent was not based on income at all and anyone could rent an affordable housing unit. The rental rates for affordable housing units were based on market rates, thus providing affordable housing for people with modest incomes or middle incomes. The thought process behind affordable housing was that affordable housing should always be an available option in every community.

In Moosomin, affordable housing units have been rented by everyone from young working professionals getting a start in their careers, to new people moving to town who need a place to settle before eventually purchasing their own homes, to people like RCMP officers who know they are only going to be living in the area for a few years. Units in Moose Mountain Place have hosted medical locums and other professionals who are here for a set term.

So what has changed? On March 1, 2015, the provincial government cancelled the affordable housing program. All affordable housing units became social housing units. Anyone who chose to remain in an affordable housing unit would experience annual rent increases of \$100 a month until March 1, 2018 when they will pay the maximum rent for those properties based on a percentage of their income. In Moosomin, this means higher than market rent.

The result has been an exodus from the former affordable housing units, as most people can rent cheaper on the private market.

The other change came when the government tightened up the qualifications for social housing. Income thresholds have been lowered, as have asset thresholds, meaning that a low-income person may no longer qualify for social housing if they simply own a vehicle, for example, or experience a wage increase at their job. A low income senior may no longer qualify for social housing if they simply have some modest savings banked over their lifetime.

The result has been going from virtually no vacancies to a 20 per cent vacancy rate in housing authority units in Moosomin, as many people simply don't qualify for so-



Kara Kinna

cial housing, or it's too expensive. And we are not the only community feeling the pain across the province. The fear is that housing authorities may need to sell off their units if they continue to sit vacant.

"So?" you may say. "This is great. It drives people to the private market and serves only the poorest of the poor, which was what social housing was meant for regardless."

But here are a few reasons why I think this will do more harm than good.

1. If you believe in a hand up over a hand out, social housing and affordable housing under the old program was doing just that. A low or moderate income person or senior could be housed at an affordable rate and actually improve their life without being forced to find more expensive housing right away if their income situation improved.

2. It's bad for the economy. As I mentioned before, the affordable housing program was often used by new people coming into Moosomin and other communities in this area. Having an abundance of affordable housing is a draw for a community. Having a lack of affordable housing is not. Most communities look to have more housing and more options for people to live in, not less.

3. It allows for no flexibility. During the economic boom in Southeast Saskatchewan, housing authority units were filled to the max due to a shortage of housing everywhere. If units are sold off and the economy improves and more housing is needed, the ability to house additional people will not be there.

4. It could end up being extremely expensive. If units are sold off, and if a future government decides there is a need to build more affordable housing units down the road, those units will be built at a much, much higher price than the ones that were sold.

5. A segment of society is simply not being served. Life is expensive, and housing is extremely expensive. You don't have to be on social assistance to be struggling. Many people struggle daily to make ends meet, yet under the new social housing rules these people either can not afford social housing or don't qualify. People with health issues, social problems, and lower income families and seniors are some of the people who may be harmed by the government's changes.

It's hard to understand why the government has chosen to change the social housing program. Regardless of the reasons, cancelling the affordable housing program and changing the qualifications of the social program is a short sighted solution to social housing. Whatever the government hopes to gain from this, it will most certainly lose in the long term.

The crowd and the law

In Romania, after five straight nights of mass demonstration in Bucharest's main square, the government agreed to withdraw an emergency decree that decriminalized various abuses of political power (on the grounds that the jails were too crowded). If you defrauded the state of less than \$47,500, under the new rules, you might have to pay it back, but you wouldn't go to jail.

More to the point, those already serving sentences or facing charges for stealing, say, \$47,499 would be released from jail or see the charges dismissed—including the leader of the governing Social Democratic Party, Liviu Dragnea, who was convicted of stealing only \$27,000. (That's not necessarily how much he stole; just how much they could prove he stole.)

Romania used to be one of the most corrupt countries in Europe, but since it joined the European Union in 2007 it has been under great pressure from Brussels to clean up its act. There was also huge domestic pressure from ordinary Romanians who are sick of their venal politicians, and the anti-corruption drive was making real progress.

Then last Tuesday Prime Minister Sorin Grindeanu's government issued its decree freeing hundreds of jailed politicians, officials and even judges. It was due to go into effect next Friday, but right away the crowd came pouring out into the streets in Bucharest and all the other big cities.

After five nights of mass demonstrations, the government cancelled its decree on Saturday. The Crowd won, and both justice and democracy were well served.

The other very dodgy decree of recent days was in Washington, where President Trump signed an "executive order" imposing a 90-day ban on citizens of seven Muslim-majority countries seeking to enter the United States (even if they were legal U.S. residents or had been issued visas after vetting by U.S. embassies) and an indefinite ban on Syrian refugees.



Gwynne Dyer

Like the Romanian decree, its legality was doubtful. As in Romania, the protesting crowds came out in large numbers in the United States (though proportionally in much smaller numbers, and certainly not for five successive nights). But what really brought Trump's plan grinding to a halt, at least for the moment, was a judge.

U.S. District Senior Judge James Robarts of Seattle issued an order suspending the Trump ban—and even President Trump obeyed it (although he did refer to Robarts, with typical graciousness, as a "so-called judge"). The whole machinery of government went into reverse, entry visas are being re-validated, and even Syrian immigrants are being admitted to the United States again. The rule of law has prevailed.

Two crises in two democratic countries, and two reasonably satisfactory resolutions. It was the Crowd that did the heavy lifting in Romania, and the Law that did the crucial work in the United States. But they should not be seen as alternatives; sometimes you need them both.

Robarts was not required to make a full legal case for his action at this stage in the proceedings; he simply ordered the ban suspended to avoid serious harm being done to individuals by an executive order that may contravene the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

When the case goes to the appeals court, and possibly then to the Supreme Court, the argument of those opposing the ban will doubtless be that it flouts the First

Amendment requirement that one religious denomination cannot be officially preferred over another.

This may persuade the Ninth Circuit Appeals Court in San Francisco, which is relatively liberal, and even to the Supreme Court, which will continue to be split evenly between liberals and conservatives until Trump's nominee for the ninth seat on the Court is approved by Congress. Or it may not.

Even if the appeal courts ultimately rejects Robarts's argument and reimposes the ban, the Law will have successfully curbed the abuse of executive power. It always has to be curbed, because even with the best of intentions those who hold power will inevitably try to expand it—and sometimes they do not have the best of intentions.

The U.S. Constitution has won the first round of the battle against Trump's authoritarian tendencies. Full marks to James Robarts (who was nominated, by the way, by George W. Bush's Republican administration).

But four years is a long time, and there will be occasions when lawyers won't be enough. The Crowd will be needed as well: demonstrations as large, as disciplined and as patient as those in Romania. And as suspicious of being betrayed once they have gone home.

The night after the Romanian government cancelled its "emergency decree", there was the biggest demonstration of all: half a million people in Victory Square in Bucharest. Why? Because the government had muttered something about addressing the same "issue" of allegedly crowded jails through normal legislation in parliament, which would still really be about getting crooked politicians out of jail.

So they won't go home until Prime Minister Grindeanu promises not to bring the subject up again.

Gwynne Dyer is an independent journalist whose articles are published in 45 countries.

Looking Back

This week in history from the pages of the World-Spectator:

Ten years ago, 2007: *Charlotte's Web* was playing at the Moosomin Theatre; A 21-year-old Kenosee Lake man pleaded guilty to charges of impaired driving causing death and bodily harm; A Rocanville man was charged and fined for dangerous driving.

Twenty years ago, 1997: The total amount raised to build Moosomin's new play structure was just under \$9,000; Members of the Students Against Drinking and Driving group held a 12-hour overnight rally at McNaughton High School to boost morale and share ideas, with other out-of-town groups joining them; Moosomin RCMP reported a case of counterfeit money being passed through Moosomin when RCMP found a counterfeit toonie.

Twenty-five years ago, 1992: The for-

mer Robson United Church built in 1892 in Fleming was demolished; Work on the Elkwood Manor Seniors' Home in Elkhorn progressed quickly. It replaced the old Elkhorn Medical Nursing unit; The Moosomin Lyric Theatre Committee decided to start running classic movies on Sunday afternoons.

Thirty years ago, 1987: Bill Thorn was elected president of the Moosomin Chamber of Commerce; Rick Hansen, who was on the home stretch of a round-the-world tour to raise funds for spinal cord research and to increase awareness about the disabled, crossed the Manitoba-Saskatchewan border and was given a hero's welcome by a crowd of 500 people.

Forty years ago, 1977: The Rocanville Finance Committee had a total of \$48,000 available to construct a new skating rink onto the local skating arena; The final session of Moosomin Recreation Board's Op-

eration Challenge was held and included games, arts and crafts, and athletics.

Fifty years ago, 1967: Funds raised for the Nursing Home Furnishing Fund reached the halfway mark of \$12,007.50; Delbert Ralph Wright of Burns Lake, B.C. was committed to stand trial on a charge of non capital murder at the conclusion of

a preliminary hearing in Moosomin court; Deer in the Pipestone Valley were trapped by the conservation officer to tag them for the department's program to chart the movement of the province's deer population.

Compiled by Emily Weedmark



Maryfield's Brittany Lemon during the 2007 Canadian Junior Women's curling championship—10 years ago this week.

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RCMP jersey donation to Virden Skate Park

The Virden Oil Capitals held their second annual First Responders game Saturday, November 12, 2016, against Portage Terriers featuring special RCMP jerseys. The Capitals trailed past the Portage Terriers in the First Responders game 4-1 with 1,287 fans in the crowd cheering them on.

The RCMP Jerseys went up for auction on eBay.ca for 10 days after the game with a portion of the proceeds going to the Virden Skate Park.

Constable Giannico, member of the Virden RCMP detachment, said, "There were six RCMP members in attendance at Virden Oil Capitals Emergency Services night. Each and every one of us members felt extremely proud to stand at attention in our Red Serges while the Oil Caps team wore the Red Serge jerseys as the national anthem played. The First Responders night showed us RCMP members that we are supported and appreciated by the community and the Virden Oil Capitals organization. The Red Serge jerseys were an amazing touch to the night as RCMP members from all over Canada commented on how amazing the jerseys were and how sharp the players looked in them."

With the total officially in from eBay, a cheque presentation was able to occur, Monday, February 6 at the Tundra Oil and Gas Place. The Capitals proudly donated \$2,500



to the Virden Skate Park, which was the RCMP's organization of choice.

"The Virden skate park committee was chosen as they are trying to build a community skate park for youth of all ages," said Giannico. "The skate park will provide youth a safe place to skateboard and

BMX. Skate parks have many benefits to them.

"Skateboarding and BMXing provide kids with an inexpensive physical activity, which requires an extreme amount of energy and muscle coordination."

"Instead of playing video games while couch

surfing, children get a cardio workout while having fun at the same time. Youth can be involved in a constructive and positive activity, which curbs unlawful behavior, and it has been proven to stop youth from being involved in drugs or alcohol.

"Lastly, the enthusiasm

and motivation shown by the committee members have inspired me to join the group and help them achieve their goal."

The Oil Capitals are very grateful for everyone's support at the game and following with the auction, making the Second Annual First Re-

sponders game a huge success.

"I really appreciated working with Marketing Manager Brandon Crowe and Brandi Pollock who worked extremely hard in making the night as special as it was to all involved. Thank you!" said Constable Giannico.

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Moosomin Housing Authority vacancy rate at 20% since cancellation of affordable housing program

BY KARA KINNA

The Moosomin Housing Authority is experiencing a 20 per cent vacancy rate due to changes by the provincial government that include ending the affordable housing program in Moosomin and in other communities across the province.

As of January 31, the Moosomin Housing Authority had 13 vacant family units and anticipated that by July of 2018 there could be as many as 30 vacant units in Moosomin. Currently there are 16 individuals still living in units under the affordable program and no new applications for the social program. As of March 1, 2018, anyone still living in a unit under the affordable program will pay maximum unit rent which ranges from \$995 to \$1,305 a month, depending on the unit.

Sheilagh Garrett, the manager of the Moosomin Housing Authority, says the cancellation of the affordable housing program means that many people no long qualify for housing authority units, as their income is too high or they have too many assets to qualify under the remaining social housing program. She also points out that it is cheaper for them to simply rent privately, as the maximum rent for a housing authority unit tends to be higher than market rent.

Under the social program there are asset limits of \$50,000 for families and \$250,000 for seniors. There are also income maximums for families and seniors.

While extreme low income people and low income seniors with few or no assets still qualify for units, she says it's people in the low to mid-income range who are being impacted.

"The people impacted by the program changes are those in the lower to mid income range who previously qualified for affordable housing," says Garrett. "Unfortunately many of these individuals do not meet the social housing criteria but struggle with market rents."

"Social housing is designed for people who have low income, in particular families, people with disabilities and seniors. Eligibility is assessed on income, and maximums are impacted by the number of dependents, disability and other extenuating circumstances."

"At this time in Moosomin, the vacancy rate for family housing is approximately 20 per cent. This is higher than it has been for many years. A major reason for this is that on March 1, 2015 the Affordable Housing program was discontinued in many smaller communities throughout Saskatchewan, Moosomin being one of those communities."

"Existing tenants in the affordable program were not required to vacate, and could choose to transition into the Social Housing Program without meeting the limits for income and assets, however, rent was adjusted to 30 per cent of income. For those tenants in the Affordable Rental Pro-



Units like these ones on Moose Mountain Place in Moosomin were once part of the affordable housing program.

gram who choose not to transition to the Social Housing Program, rent increases were set for March 1, 2016, June 1, 2017, and finally to maximum unit rent on March 1, 2018. In Moosomin, this means that the rent for a two- to four-bedroom unit could range from \$1,155 to \$1,305 if a tenant meets or exceeds maximum income limits."

She says many people have simply quit applying for housing authority units as they realize they are no longer eligible and can rent elsewhere for less.

"We have had two or three inquiries and as soon as they hear the rent they say it is too high," she says. "In the past, the Moosomin Housing Authority had low vacancy rates."

"My understanding is that they (affordable housing units) were rented to anyone who could pay the maximum rent. No matter what your income there were no limits on vacant units," she says. "If there was housing available and it wasn't needed for someone on social housing it could be rented to anyone and they would have to pay the maximum rates. But people were required to leave if someone met the criteria and needed it. That is no longer in effect."

When all of the affordable housing units were full, the Moosomin Housing Authority recorded a surplus which was paid to the town of Moosomin and the provincial and federal governments.

Garrett says the Moosomin Housing Authority board is concerned about the high vacancy rate.

"For the Housing Authority, higher vacancy rates equate to reduced revenue, and increased expenses as the Authority must now pay the utilities on vacant units," she says.

"Vacant properties also tend to deteriorate much quicker. In the past, if housing was not required for eligible applicants, others could apply for units and pay the maximum rents applicable with the understanding that they would be required to vacate if eligible applicants applied. This kept the vacancy rate quite low."

"The local board struggles with their role as a steward for publicly owned properties and the rules mandated by Saskatchewan Housing Corporation, the legal owners. Concerns have been raised with Saskatchewan Housing Corporation and Stephen Bonk, the local MLA. We have also apprised the Town of Moosomin as they are shareholders in this project and any financial losses in the project will impact the town."

"And it is likely that vacancy rates will continue to rise. MHA is currently collecting data on private sector rental rates to present to Saskatchewan Housing Corp, but at this time are required to follow the SHC program policies."

What happens if vacancy rates remain high?

"If it is addressed provincially and the government says 'no we are not changing anything' we will continue to have a high vacancy rate, and it will continue to grow," says Garrett. "It is possible that units will be sold. That is not in the plan. There is no suggestion of that at the moment. I need to make that very clear. But that is one of the options. If the lobbying doesn't work or government doesn't change their policies then there is no sense sitting with a large number of units empty. It doesn't make sense if there is a chronic vacancy rate for those houses to sit vacant for years and years."

Garrett says the board would be reluctant to sell off houses.

"Back about five or six years ago there were several housing authority houses sold and that could happen again if nothing changes. Back in 2009-10, back when those houses were sold, almost immediately we had that huge growth in our economy and a huge influx of people who needed accommodation. I think the board would be hesitant to sell the properties knowing that we could see that again."

Garrett says there is also some concern over people who don't meet the low-income thresholds needed to be in the social housing program, but who are still fairly low income.

"The people who fit in the middle are exactly the people we are concerned for, because the people who fit into the social housing criteria will remain, they will be housed," she says. "It is those people that are in the narrow gap where they are at the high end of the low income and the mid income, that range in there. Some of them are hoping to purchase homes but can't afford to pay rent and save money."

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Traditional story told through puppetry

Students at MacLeod Elementary School helped Chad Solomon tell a traditional Aboriginal story through the use of puppets last Thursday. February is Aboriginal Storytelling Month in Saskatchewan.

Right: Solomon, at left, with his puppet Rabbit, and students with puppets of various animals, including a muskrat, eagle, wolf, bear, buffalo, beaver, turtle, and sasquatch.

Below from left: Andrew, Liel, and Hudson use their beaver, turtle and bear puppets to help tell the story.



2016 Census

Moosomin leads area in growth

Continued from front

The village of Spy Hill lost 17.6 per cent of its population in the five years between 2011 and 2016, going from 204 residents to 168.

The village of Tantallon lost 13.3 per cent of its residents, going from 105 to 91 residents, and the village of Kennedy lost 10.4 per cent of its residents, declining from 241 to 216.

Most RMs in the area lost population with the largest decline in the RM of Martin, which declined 13.2 per cent, from 333 to 289.

SASKATCHEWAN POPULATION UP

The 2016 census shows that Saskatchewan grew by 64,971 since the 2011 Census.

Over the past decade, from the 2006 to the 2016 Census, Saskatchewan grew by more than 130,000 people.

That's a complete turnaround from the previous decade—1996 to 2006—when Saskatchewan's population dropped by 22,000 people.

Saskatchewan had the second-highest growth rate among the provinces at 6.3 per cent.

"The new census numbers show how far Saskatchewan has come in the past decade compared to the decade before that, when we were still losing people and some said it would be impossible for Saskatchewan to grow by even 100,000 people in 10 years," Premier Brad Wall said.

"Obviously, given the current fiscal situation, a growing population presents some challenges for our province, but I would much rather be facing the challenges of growth than the challenges of decline."

All 16 Saskatchewan cities saw their populations increase from 2011 to 2016, by a total of 59,189 people or 9.9 per cent.

Saskatchewan towns saw their populations increase by 3,939 people or 2.7 per cent while Saskatchewan villages saw their populations increase slightly by 228 people or 0.5 per cent.

Overall, rural municipalities in Saskatchewan saw their total populations increase by 1,934 people or 1.1 per cent.

MANITOBA GROWTH INCREASING
More than 1.28 million people now live in Manitoba, according to the 2016 census.

The population grew by more than 70,000 since 2011, an increase of 5.8 per cent. The national average was five per cent. This is the first time in several years that Manitoba has grown at a quicker rate than the national average.

Manitoba, like Saskatchewan, has substantially increased its immigration levels over the last five years, leading to the increase.

According to the census, most of the growth was in Winnipeg, Brandon, Steinbach and Winkler. These four cities accounted for 69.4 per cent of Manitoba's total growth between 2011 and 2016.

MORE THAN 35 MILLION CANADIANS

The census counted 35,151,728 people across Canada on May 10, 2016, an increase of 1.7 million for a growth rate of five per cent—slightly lower than the 5.9 per cent reported in the 2006-2011 census period, but still the highest growth rate among all G7 countries.

By comparison, Statistics Canada says the population count in 1871—the first post-Confederation census—was just 3.5 million, and 20 million in 1966.

The highest growth rates according to the latest census are in Western Canada.

Nearly one-third of Canadians (31.6 per cent) live in Western Canada, and the bulk of those are in B.C. (13.2 per cent) and Alberta (11.6 per cent).

Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver, the country's three

largest census metropolitan areas, are home to 12.5 million people—35.5 per cent of the country's population.

POPULATIONS OF LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES

Town/RM/Village	2016 Population	2011 Population	Population % Change (2011-2016)
Town of Moosomin	2,743	2,485	10.4%
Town of Rocanville	863	857	0.7%
Town of Fleming	84	83	1.2%
Town of Wapella	326	333	-2.1%
Town of Whitewood	862	950	-9.3%
Village of Kennedy	216	241	-10.4%
Town of Wawota	543	560	-3.0%
Village of Fairlight	40	40	0.0%
Town of Maryfield	348	365	-4.7%
Town of Redvers	1,042	975	6.9%
Village of Elkhorn	479	471	1.7%
Village of St. Lazare	257	254	1.2%
Village of Spy Hill	168	204	-17.6%
Village of Tantallon	91	105	-13.3%
RM of Ellice-Archie	887	971	-8.7%
RM of Moosomin	2,948	2,857	3.2%
RM of Wallace-Woodworth	323	366	-11.7%
RM of Spy Hill	299	297	0.7%
RM of Willowdale	470	504	-6.7%
RM of Martin	289	333	-13.2%
RM of Silverwood	410	466	-12.0%
RM of Maryfield	324	319	1.6%
RM of Walpole	326	338	-3.6%
RM of Wawken	571	559	2.1%
RM of Antler	523	577	-2.4%
RM of Rocanville	507	533	-4.9%
TOTAL:	15,965	16,017	-0.0%

POPULATIONS OF NEARBY LARGE TOWNS

Town	2016 Population	2011 Population	Population % Change (2011-2016)
Esterhazy	2,502	2,472	1.2%
Carlyle	1,508	1,446	4.3%
Kipling	1,074	1,051	2.2%
Virtden	3,322	3,114	6.7%

Chelsea Sauve singing at Telemiracle

Skate-a-thon and pancake supper fundraiser planned for Feb. 22

BY KARA KINNA

Wapella's Chelsea Sauve has been chosen to sing at Telemiracle this year.

Telemiracle is on March 4 and 5. Sauve will be singing on Sunday, March 5 at 11:40 am.

Sauve, 15, says has been auditioning for Telemiracle for eight years now, but due to the sheer number of other people auditioning, it's tough to get on.

"I'm just into music and helping out others. Plus there's the thrill of being on TV," she says.

"There are about 200 auditions in Regina and 200 in Saskatoon and they only pick about 50 of those people, so it's actually pretty tough to be picked out of 400 people."

After auditioning this year Sauve says she got an email informing her that she was chosen and that they were thrilled to have her as part of their lineup.

"It feels amazing. I was so excited," says Sauve.

Sauve will be singing the song "Rise Up" and playing the piano.

"I just listened to the lyrics and I think it just really suits Telemiracle," she says of the song she chose. "It's about how people fall down but they can always get back up



Chelsea Sauve singing at McNaughton's Got Talent last fall. Sauve will be performing on Telemiracle on March 5.

again."

Sauve will also be helping to raise money for Telemiracle before she goes. A skate-

athon has been planned for Wednesday, Feb. 22 at the Wapella rink, followed by a pancake supper.

"We have the Wapella rink booked for Feb. 22 from 2-5 pm and we are going to be holding a skate-a-thon. We are going to be skating laps and people can collect pledges and that will be part of our fundraiser," says Sauve. "And then we will be having a pancake supper."

Sauve says she is hoping to raise around \$5,000 to donate to Telemiracle.

"My school (McNaughton High School) is also holding fundraisers for me," she adds. "The SRC is helping me out. I'm pretty sure we are going to have a hat day and I think they are planning on having a teacher torture."

Why does Sauve take such an interest in Telemiracle?

"It helps out so many people for so many years and it raises a lot of money," she says. "And I'm just looking forward to the experience. It would be so thrilling and help me grow as a singer as well."

"I was actually on Telemiracle in Spy Hill when I was about six years old and then after that I started auditioning for the real deal."

"I'm just looking forward to the whole experience of it all, meeting new people and helping out people with my donations."

Rocanville Rec Report

Kristy Nelson

CANADA 150 CELEBRATION

Rocanville is celebrating Canada's 150th birthday on Saturday, June 17.

Some of the events planned so far are: Splash and Dash Race at the Rocanville Aquatic Centre, Canada themed parade, and Market at the Museum. Stay tuned for more details.

ROCANVILLE AQUATIC CENTRE

We are still selling passes at our 2016 price until after our meeting on March 6.

2016 Prices

Adult fitness or lane 10 pack-\$50

Family 10 pack-\$100

Adult 10 pack-\$50

Student/Senior public swim-\$35

Family Season Pass-\$750

Passes will be going up in 2017!

If you would like to purchase a pass at 2016 prices please contact us on our Facebook page via private message or call 306-645-2164. Swim passes make great birthday gifts!

Positions for lifeguards and instructors are available! Did you know that you do not have to be a lifeguard to become an instructor to teach swimming lessons! We have full-time, part-time, and casual positions available. Training will be provided, dates to be determined in February or March. If you are interested please send your resume to rocانvillepool@gmail.com or drop it off at the Rec. Office.

ROCANVILLE SKATING RINK

If you are interested in working in the rink kitchen please email your name and cell phone number to rocانville@sasktel.net. You must be 15 years old to be considered.

MINOR HOCKEY HOME SCHEDULE

Monday, February 13: Atoms vs. Whitewood at 6:15 pm; **Monday, February 27:** Novice vs. Moosomin at 6 pm; **Saturday, March 4:** Pre-Novice vs. Langenburg at 10:30 am; **Saturday, March 4:** Atoms vs. Melville at 2:15 pm

MINOR HOCKEY FUNDRAISER

Rocanville Minor Hockey 50/50 tickets. Up to \$2,500 prize (only 500 tickets maximum will be sold). \$10 per ticket. Draw date: March 4, 2017. Tickets only available at: Super Thrifty, Decker's H2O To Go and Borderland Co-op Grocery Store.

PUBLIC SKATE TIMES

Monday 4-6 pm; **Tuesday** 4-5:15 pm; **Wednesday** 4:45-5:15 pm; **Thursday** 4:45-6 pm; **Friday** 5:30-6:45 pm; **Sunday** 2-4:30 pm

Preschool/Adult Skate

Monday and Wednesdays 1:30-3:30 pm

Shiny with Helmets

Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday 3:45-4:45 pm

Please like Rocanville Recreation on Facebook to keep up with daily public skate and shiny times at the rink.

You can also view the rinks schedule at www.rocانville.ca. Just click on the facilities tab at the top of the page and select skating rink and you can view the schedules.

SENIOR TIGERS FEBRUARY PLAYOFF HOME GAMES

First round league playoff game February 15 vs. Langenburg. Be sure to attend all playoff home games for a chance to shoot for \$10,000!

ROCANVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Centre will be open every Thursday afternoon at 1 pm for cards, board games, pool, shuffleboard and all crafts.

Exercise At Senior Community Centre

Monday, Wednesday and Fridays 9-10 am. Cost is \$2. Next potluck supper will be Monday, February 27. All members and non-members of all ages welcome. Come and join us for fun and fellowship.

2017 memberships are \$10. For more information on membership please contact Mel Strong, Irene Norton or Linda Bock or another board member. Everyone is welcome to become a member.

ROCANVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY BRANCH

Story Time will be on Wednesdays at 10 am. Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, March 15 at 6:30 pm at the Library.

Library Hours: Tuesday 1:30-5 pm; Wednesday 9 am-12:30 pm and 2-6:30 pm; Thursday 1:30-5 pm. Phone: 645-2088.

ROCANVILLE CURLING CLUB

Mixed League Curling every Monday night. To enter a team or as an individual call 645-2990 or message us on Facebook. Watch for our biospiel dates! We are also looking for new board members.

Tuesday Afternoon Curling

If you are interested in curling on Tuesdays please contact Dennis Norrie at 306-645-2186 or Marilyn Hickie at 306-645-4553. Tuesday afternoon curling starts at 1 pm. If you are interested in some good exercise and good fun please bring your brooms and come and join us. Everyone is welcome.

ROCANVILLE PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE

We are a group of community members who are raising funds to build a new playground on the Rocanville School grounds. The current wooden play structure is 30-plus years old and is beyond repair. Playground equipment is very costly and we have been working hard but still have a long way to go!

This project will be funded solely by donations and fundraising efforts. Thank you to all who attend our Family Bingo on February 9!

Save the date! Rocanville Playground Committee is pleased to partner up with Universe Satellite to present GX94 Star Search on Saturday, May 27! If you would like to make a donation, please send a cheque made out to Rocanville Playground Committee to: Rocanville Playground Committee, Box 450, Rocanville, SK, S0A 3L0. And a big thank you goes out to everyone who has already contributed!

ROCANVILLE RECREATION OFFICE

Our new location is at PotashCorp Rocanville Community Hall at 808 Frances Ave. Our phone number 306-645-2164 and email address rocانville@sasktel.net will

remain the same.

PCS COMMUNITY HALL

Community Hall Committee: Daryl Pingas, Herb Park, Kevin Kingdon, Murray Reid, Owen Wilson, Steve Fortney, Samantha Seagris and Val Minty. We welcome any others who are interested in joining. Please contact Steve Fortney at s.fortney@sasktel.net for more information.

For PotashCorp Rocanville Community Hall bookings please contact Steve at s.fortney@sasktel.net or 306-435-7703.

Save The Date! Saturday, April 8, 2017 PotashCorp Rocanville Community Hall fundraiser featuring Rory Allen! You won't want to miss being entertained by this Elvis tribute artist accompanied by his 11 piece band.

ROCANVILLE CROSS COUNTRY SKI CLUB

Trails look great and are ready to go! There have been no significant changes to the ski trail this year. Last year there was some major work done to the groomer drive system and we are pleased to say it is now working well. In addition, in 2016 we acquired a new three point finishing mower to help mow the trails. Once again, please note we have a Facebook page. Hit "like" on the Rocanville Cross Country Ski Club page to see photos and trail/club updates, and to add your own comments and pictures.

ROCANVILLE KARATE

Karate in Rocanville is welcoming new members! If you have any questions please call or text 306-434-8712.

DID YOU KNOW.....

Rocanville has a website? Wondering if there is public skating today? Can't remember if it is garbage or recycling day? Wanting to print a map of Webster's Cemetery or maybe you want to view the community calendar online?

Visit www.rocانville.ca! You can find answers to these questions and much, much more!

ROCANVILLE RECREATION SUMMER PROGRAM

We are excited to announce that we will be offering a Pre-Summer Program from February 21-23, 2017 as a "kick-off" for the 2017 Summer Program that runs from July to August. We have prepared lots of fun winter themed crafts and cool outdoor activities. We will also be making and serving our first business lunch of the year on February 22. Order forms will be available for drop off or email on February 7. We will pick up lunch order forms on February 13 after 1 pm. Please email rocانville@rocانville.com if you would like your forms emailed to you. The kids will be preparing taco salad for you dining pleasure!

The hours of this Pre-Summer Program will be:
8:30-9 am - Drop Off Period
5:50-30 pm - Pick Up Period
A bagged lunch is required.
Cost is \$12 per day or \$25 for the full three days. Ages 5-12. Spaces are limited so please pre-register your child by February 15 by emailing rocانville@rocانville.com. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to email us!



Tigers clinch first place in THL

The Rocanville Tigers clinched first place in the Triangle Hockey League regular season standings after back-to-back weekend games on Friday, Feb. 3 and Saturday, Feb. 4 against the Ochapowace Thunder.

The Tigers defeated Ochap 5-1 on Feb. 3, giving them the points they needed to hold the top spot, despite falling to Thunder 11-2 the next night.

The Tigers ended the season with a 14-4 record and 28 points, followed closely by Theodore with a 13-4 record and 27 points.

Owen Wilson opened scoring for the Tigers on a power play in the Feb. 3 game in Ochap, followed by two goals by Brad Hickman to give the Tigers a 3-0 lead coming out of the first period. Ochap answered with a goal early in the second period, followed by a Devin LeBlanc goal and another Brad Hickman goal for the Tigers.

The Thunder turned the tables on the Tigers the following night in Rocanville with an 11-2 victory, reminding the Tigers of just how tough a contender they can be.

Sterling Bear had four goals and three assists for the Thunder, who routed the Tigers, who had just nine skaters. Anthony Kinstino had two goals and three assists. Other goal scorers were Leland Wasacase, Ken Lavallee, Harley Garrioch, Lucas Seeseqasis, and Ron Cote. Valdez Bear had four assists.

Devin LeBlanc and Niko Grosse, on a penalty shot, scored in the third for Rocanville.

The Tigers started into the best-of-five quarterfinal on Wednesday last week against the Esterhazy Flyers. The Tigers blitzed the Esterhazy Flyers 17-1 in game one, scoring five goals in the first period, seven in the second, and five more in the third.

Konrad McKay scored four times and set up three others to account for the biggest night on the scoresheet. Ashley Howie added a hat trick, while Devin LeBlanc scored twice and set up four others. Stephane Fouillard and Ryan Regel also had two, while singles came from Dillon Reavie, Brad Hickman (seven point game), Brett Hope, and Daniel Reid. Tayon Metzler had the lone Flyers goal.

Game two of the quarterfinal is this Wednesday, Feb. 15 in Rocanville at 8 pm. Game three is set for this Saturday in Esterhazy and game four, if needed, will be this Sunday in Esterhazy.

The Tigers also started into provincial B playoffs on the weekend against the Balcarres Broncs. The Tigers met Balcarres in Rocanville on Friday, Feb. 10. then travelled to Balcarres on Sunday. Results of the two-game total-point series were not available at press time.

Rockets end up in first, Flyers in second in Big Six East

Two wins for Redvers on Feb. 3 and 4 gave the Rockets the points they needed to end up in top spot in the Big Six East Division. The Rockets ended the season with 28 points, and a 14-6 record, followed in second place by the Wawota Flyers with 26 points and a record of 12 wins, six losses, and two overtime losses. In close third were the Carnduff Red Devils with 25 points.

The Rockets defeated the West Division Yellowgrass Wheat Kings in a road game on Feb. 3 with a score of 6-3, then beat the Oxbow Huskies 4-1 at home on Feb. 4.

In the game against Yellowgrass, the Rockets trailed 2-0 in the first period, then 3-2 in the second period before shutting the Wheat Kings out from scoring in the third period and potting four goals to give them the 6-3 win. Jordan Miller scored two goals and had two assists. Drew Hoff, Devon Wolensky, and Brady Fiderchuk each had a goal and one assist. Francis Lamotte also scored for the Rockets.

The Rockets dominated the Oxbow game, scoring one goal in each of the first and second period, and two goals in the third period to Oxbow's single goal in the second period. Drew Hoff scored two goals and had

one assist. Jordan Miller had a goal and two assists. Kevin Mann had one goal and one assist.

Big Six playoffs started last week. The Wawota Flyers meet the West Division's Midale Mustangs in the best-of-five quarterfinal with game one taking place on Friday in Wawota, and game two set for this Wednesday in Midale. Game three is set for Wawota on Friday.

The Redvers Rockets are up against the West Division's Carlyle Cougars in the first round of playoffs. Game one was played Wednesday in Redvers. The Rockets trounced the Cougars 7-1, scoring three goals in the first period, three in the second period, and one in the third. The Cougars scored their lone goal in the first period on a power play. Jordan Miller had a hat trick. Kevin Mann, Todder Gervais, Drew Hoff, and Ryan Yates all chipped in with goals.

Game two of the series is this Tuesday in Carlyle, game three is this Thursday in Redvers and game four, if needed, is Sunday in Carlyle.

The Rockets are also due to start into Senior D provincials against Wilcox this Saturday, with game one of the two-game total-point series taking place this Saturday in Radville.

Flyers fall to Theodore in first provincial game

The Wawota Flyers fell 5-1 to the Theodore Buffalos in game one of the provincial Senior C South Quarterfinal on Saturday, Feb. 4. The game was played in Theodore and was game one of the two-game total-point series.

The Flyers struggled, with Theodore scoring their way to a 5-0 lead by early in the third period. Kent Sauter scored for the Flyers at 17:50 of the third period, with Theodore adding one more goal at 6:28.

Game two of the series was played on Saturday, Feb. 11 in Wawota. Watch for results in next week's World-Spectator.

NCHL wrapped up on weekend

The North Central Hockey League regular season wrapped up on the weekend, with the last games finishing up on Sunday.

As of last Thursday, the Miniota-Elkhorn C-Hawks were leading the league in points, with 32 points and a 16-3 record.

The C-Hawks beat the Virden Oil Kings 7-3 on Friday, Feb. 3, and defeated the Foxwarren Falcons 8-5 on Saturday, Feb. 4.

The Moosomin Rangers—sitting second in the South Division with 20 points and fourth in the league—lost to the Rivers Jets 4-2 on Saturday, Feb. 4.

The Rangers and the C-Hawks met for their final regular season game in Moosomin on Friday—also the Rangers' last home game.

The Rangers played their final game of the regular season on Sunday in Russell against the Rams.

Watch for final NCHL results in next week's World-Spectator.

Table with 2 columns: North Division Team and South Division Team, with 5 sub-columns: GP, W, L, T, OL, TP. Lists teams like Swan Valley, Russell, Grandview, Foxwarren, Miniota-Elkhorn, Moosomin, Rivers, and Virden.

FINAL REGULAR SEASON STANDINGS

Table with 2 main sections: EAST DIVISION TEAM and WEST DIVISION TEAM. Each section has columns for GP, W, L, OT, PTS, GF, GA. Also includes TOP SCORERS and TOP GOALIES sections.

TRIANGLE HOCKEY LEAGUE STANDINGS

Table with columns: TEAM, GP, W, L, T, OL, TP. Lists teams: Rocanville, Theodore, Bredenburg, Langenburg, Ochapowace, Whitewood, Kip/Wind, Esterhazy. Also includes TOP SCORERS and TOP GOALIES sections.

Advertisement for 2014 Dodge Ram 1500 Laramie and 2014 Ford F-150 FX4. Includes images of trucks, contact info for Lyle Balogh, and prices: \$38,995 and \$34,995.

Spectator Sports



Tigers top THL, start into playoffs

The Rocanville Tigers ended Triangle Hockey League's regular season at the top of the standings after a win and a loss to Ochap on Feb. 3 and 4. The win on Feb. 3 gave the Tigers the points they needed to lead the league despite the loss to Ochap on home ice the following night.

The Tigers started into the first round of THL playoffs last week, defeating the Esterhazy Flyers 17-1 on Wednesday in the first game in the best-of-five quarter-final.

Above: Ashley Howie scoring a goal against the Esterhazy Flyers in the game last Wednesday.

Kim Poole photos



Above: Niko Grose tries for a goal in the game against Ochap on Feb. 4.



Left: Devin LeBlanc battles for a puck during the playoff game against the Esterhazy Flyers on Wednesday.

Spectator Sports

Moosomin Farmers' bonspiel winners

The Moosomin Farmers' Bonspiel was held from Feb. 1-3. The winners of the A side event were Jeff McMullen, Pat Macdonald, and Evan Barnard, Fenton Martens. Below are all of the winners:



The A Side winners were sponsored by Viterra. Here Wendy Leeds presents the prizes to winners Jeff McMullen, Pat Macdonald, Evan Barnard, Fenton Martens.



The B Side winners were sponsored by Parrish & Heimbecker. Here Cassandra Beutler presents the prizes to winners Ron Frappe, Doug Outwaite, Blaine Gustafson and Gordon Bowey.



The C Side winners were sponsored by Maple Farm Equipment. Here Curtis Meredith presents the prizes to winners Craig Roy, Chris Mannle, Kyran Foy and Mark McCorriston.



The D Side winners were sponsored by Rocky Mountain Equipment. Here Wendy Leeds presents the prizes to winners Barry Roe, Joy Roe, and Devin Barnard. Missing is Jim Adair.

Thank You

The Moosomin Curling Club would like to thank everyone that made the 2017 Farmers' Bonspiel held February 1 - 3, 2017 such a huge success!

THANK YOU TO OUR MANY SPONSORS!

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A HUGE THANK YOU TO THOSE THAT PARTICIPATED IN THE LIVE AUCTION!

THANK YOU TO THE CURLERS & SPECTATORS!

Moosomin Chamber of Commerce

Greetings Package

*Are you new to Moosomin?
Do you have a new baby?*

Local businesses have a package for **YOU** to welcome you to town, or to welcome your new baby!

The package includes: gifts, offers, giftcards and promotional items from local businesses

Contact kelly.pkc@sasktel.net for your Welcome to Moosomin Gift!





Canadian flavor returns to Stanley Cup playoffs

The great Canadian playoff hockey drought looks to be over. It was a one-year blip and now, hockey fans north of the border can prepare to do some flag waving in April once the Stanley Cup playoffs get under way.

Chances that NHL president Gary Bettman will present the Cup in June to a United States-based team for the 23rd year in a row are strong, however, as none of the likely Canadian entries in the 16-team playoff chase should be considered as top-tier clubs.

Perhaps the closest to the top tier—let's just say they're the leaders of the the NHL's Tier II—are the Montreal Canadiens, who would likely have to beat out either the Washington Capitals, the upstart Columbus Blue Jackets or defending Cup champion Pittsburgh Penguins to make it to the Stanley Cup final. Carey Price has shown he can perform the odd miracle or two, but getting past those three clubs this year seems to be even out of his range.

The Ottawa Senators and Toronto Maple Leafs have both been hovering all season among the top eight of the Eastern Conference and an appearance by the rookie-led Leafs (Auston Matthews, Mitch Marner, William Nylander) would almost cause heads to explode in glee within the offices of Toronto-based Sportsnet, which will be Stanley Cup headquarters from April through June.

Out West, the best Canadian bet—albeit unlikely—to make the Cup final are the Edmonton Oilers, who, like the Habs, are the No. 1 team among the Tier II Western Conference entries. Surprising Minnesota, guided by coach-of-the-year candidate Bruce Boudreau, perennial contending Chicago Blackhawks, along with the California duo of Anaheim Ducks and San Jose Sharks could also contend.

Connor McDavid and the Oilers might wind up being the only Canadian team from the Western Conference to make the playoffs. Calgary, Vancouver and Winnipeg are close to the bubble, fighting it out with the L.A. Kings and



Bruce Penton

Dallas for the final couple of spots.

It's too early to determine favorites for the Stanley Cup this year, but it's certainly not too early to see that teams from Canada will be heavily in the playoff mix when the puck drops in April.

• Comedy writer Alex Kaseberg: "An angry Duke coach, Mike Krzyzewski, banned his team from their locker room. Just like the women's high school volleyball coach did to me."

• Brad Dickson of the Omaha World-Herald: "Tim Duncan has a new cereal called Duncan-O's. He's not the most exciting personality. You pour milk on and the cereal goes 'Snap, crackle, zzzzzz.'"

• Scott Ostler of the San Francisco Chronicle, marrying the topics of 'fake news' and the world of sports: "(Oakland A's Billy) Beane announced other 'streamlining' moves, including the elimination of a first-base coach. 'Our guys know how to make that left turn without help,' Beane said."

• Dwight Perry of the Seattle Times: "Margot Robbie has been cast in the role of disgraced figure skater Tonya Harding in the upcoming biopic 'I, Tonya.' Giddy critics are already predicting they'll give it two clubs up."

• Mark Bechtel, in Sports Illustrated, in a feature on Jimmie Johnson being an avid triathlete: "But not the old

school NASCAR triathlon of beer drinkin', fightin' and hell-raisin'."

• Norman Chad of the Washington Post, on Twitter: "Good news: John Lynch no longer is an insufferable NFL TV analyst. Bad news: If you're a 49ers fan—he's now your GM."

• Alex Kaseberg again: "'TMZ' revealed, at practice, Tom Brady mistakenly put apostrophes on the plural words toes and knees on his wristband. With grammar that bad, it is unlikely Tom will ever amount to anything."

• Kaseberg again: "Michigan State recruit, Donovan Wilson, could not sign because he was in jail for stealing a gun. That's why we give all of our recruits their own gun," said Baylor."

• Late-night comedy guy Conan O'Brien: "A top football prospect for Michigan State was unable to sign his letter of intent because he's in jail. Sounds like somebody's ready for the NFL!"

• RJ Currie of sportsdeke.com: "Long-range forecasts say Winnipeg can expect more of this winter's pattern: unusually hot periods to extremely cold stretches. But enough about the Jets."

• TC in BC: "Retired NHL star Chris Pronger pushed Justin Bieber into the boards during the All Star Celebrity Game. When Pronger got home on Monday, he found it strange that someone had peddled his house with eggs."

• Brad Dickson again, on Super Bowl Sunday's annual Poochy Bowl: "My, how the mighty have fallen. Rex Ryan coached the North team."

• Comedy writer Jim Barach, after ex-NBA player Stephen Jackson said he sometimes smoked pot before games: "Which was evident in his career game stats, where he averaged 15.1 points, 3.9 rebounds, 3.1 assists and 4.7 pizzas."

Care to comment? Email brucepenton2003@yahoo.com

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Jason Miller 306-435-6849
Teddi Taylor 306-435-6862
Garry Towler 306-435-7595

RECYCLING CALENDAR
ROUTE A:
Homes NORTH of Broadway Avenue:
February 6 & 20
ROUTE B:
Homes SOUTH of Broadway Avenue:
February 13 & 27
LANDFILL HOURS
January 1 - April 30
Tues. - Sat. 12 noon - 3:45 p.m.
Sun. & Mon. CLOSED

May 1 - May 30
Tues. - Sat. 12 noon - 6:45 p.m.
Sun. 12 noon - 5 p.m.
Mon. CLOSED
June 1 - September 30
Tues. - Sat. 12 noon - 6:45 p.m.
Sun. & Mon. CLOSED
October 1 - October 31
Tues. - Sat. 12 noon - 6:45 p.m.
Sun. 12 noon - 5 p.m.
Mon. CLOSED
November 1 - December 31
Tues. - Sat. 12 noon - 3:45 p.m.
Sun. & Mon. CLOSED

**POTASHCORP SPORTSPLEX
REGULAR WEEKLY TEE TIMES**
We are currently accepting bookings. Both in and out of town groups are welcome. These will be booked on a first come first served basis. Please call before heading down (435-2325).
Monday Open for Walking 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Tuesday Open for Walking 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Wednesday 10 a.m. to close
Thursday 10 a.m. to close
Friday 10 a.m. to close
Saturday 10 a.m. to close
Sunday 10 a.m. to close

**WHAT'S COMING UP AT THE
POTASHCORP SPORTSPLEX:**
Lots of stuff happening all the time at the Sportsplex. Here is a peek at the special events scheduled for this week:
Monday Afternoon: Pickle Ball League
Wednesday Evening: Ladies Golf Night
Thursday Evening: Mens Golf Night
Friday Afternoon: Pickle Ball League
Friday Night: Corporate Golf
(Host: Rocky Mountain Equipment)
This Friday Night is a major evening where point totals double!

IRON MAN - REC HOCKEY/GOLF TOURNAMENT
The Moosomin Moose Present 2017 Iron Man Event. This year the team will combine Hockey at the Communiplex with Golfing at the Sportsplex. Hockey will go Friday and Saturday April 14 and 15th while the golf will be played Saturday and Sunday April 16th and 17th. 8 team limit, phone 306-435-3622 or email mismn.rec.brdr@sasktel.net
Cost for Registration is \$400.00 per team which includes the hockey and golf and refreshment tickets!

**TOWN OF MOOSOMIN EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
FOREMAN**

The Town of Moosomin located in Southeast Saskatchewan, on Highway #1 approximately 225 km. East of Regina, SK.(population 3,200) is now currently accepting resumes/applications, for a PERMANENT FULL-TIME Foreman position for the Public Works Department.

GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS INCLUDE:

- Possessing a minimum Grade 12 (or equivalent)
- Class 3A driver's license (and supply of drivers abstract upon request)
- Experience in supervision and management of employees
- Have thorough and comprehensive knowledge in the areas of:
 - 1) water/sewer utility repair and/or installation
 - 2) water and wastewater treatment
 - 3) street/road maintenance and/or construction, and earth moving
 - 4) landscaping, and lawn care
- Able to read blueprint plans, operate survey equipment, and shoot grades/levels, etc.
- Ability to operate heavy equipment
- Knowledge in mechanical repairs

The Town of Moosomin participates in a Group Insurance program, and provides matching contributions for pension. Resumes/applications complete with references, will be received until March 17th, 2017, at 4:00 p.m., however, this deadline may be extended until a suitable applicant is chosen. For all applicants that receive an interview, you will be subject to providing an R.C.M.P. criminal records check, and should provide a copy of such at the time of the interview.

The Town wishes to thank all persons who apply, however, only those selected for an interview will be notified.
Resumes/applications may be mailed, delivered,
faxed, or e-mailed to the Town of Moosomin at the following address:
TOWN OF MOOSOMIN - 701 MAIN STREET, BOX 730, MOOSOMIN, SASKATCHEWAN S0G 3N0
Phone: (306) 435-2988 • Fax: (306) 435-3343 • e-mail: twn.moosomin@sasktel.net

Moosomin Rec Report

Mike Schwean, Recreation Director

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

ON THE WEB-NEW AND IMPROVED MOOSOMINPARKSANDREC.COM

If you have not had a chance to browse our web page lately we ask you take a second and do so. It is totally refreshed with tons of new pictures and information. In addition we are working on an action pop up video of all our facilities. This is an extensive video which we hope to have on-line sometime later this summer. Aided by the use of a drone and some fantastic high school kids this should be a fabulous "fly-by" and inside peek at the multitude of facilities our community possesses.

We have several pieces of information on the Town of Moosomin Website that may be of interest to you. Obviously information will change depending on the time of year. This information includes, but is not restricted to: Swimming Pool Registration Form, Bradley Park Diamond Allocations, Communiplex Bookings, Conexus Convention Centre Bookings and the Moosomin Bowling Alley.

You can find the Moosomin Parks and Recreation website at www.moosominparksandrec.com or if you are looking for Town of Moosomin information you can find the Town of Moosomin website at www.moosomin.com

WHAT'S COMING UP AT THE POTASHCORP SPORTSPLEX!

Lots of staff happening all the time at the Sportsplex. Here is a peak at the special events scheduled for this week:

Monday Afternoon-Pickle Ball League; Wednesday Morning-Exercise Classes; Wednesday Evening-Ladies Golf Night; Thursday Evening-Men's Golf Night; Friday Afternoon-Pickle Ball League; Friday Morning-Exercise Classes; Friday Night-Corporate Golf (Host Kim Setrum)

TAKE THE TRANS-CANADA CHALLENGE!

The challenge is to walk across Saskatchewan on the Trans-Canada Highway (aka the #1 Highway). This requires you to walk 650 kms or 6500 laps around the PotashCorp Sportsplex track.

The walking track is made up of 320 feet of rubber indoor flooring. Not only is this track safe from ice and snow, but it is also better on joints than pavement and treadmills.

How to participate: Sign up with our friendly staff, keep track of your laps each time you come (make sure to tell the staff so they can write it on your sheet) and each time you hit a new check point our staff will move your name to that check point page (which is located around the track).

Over 50 people already in the challenge. Janet Frondall leads the way as she left the Alberta Border in December and is arriving in Chaplin, Saskatchewan this week!

POTASHCORP SPORTSPLEX REGULAR WEEKLY TIME TIMES

We are currently accepting bookings. Both in and out of town groups are welcome. These will be booked on a first come first serve basis. Please call before heading down (435-2325).

Times are open on: **Monday**-Open for Walking 11 am to 1 pm; **Tuesday**-Open for Walking 11 am to 1 pm; **Wednesday**-10 am to close; **Thursday**-10 am to

close; **Friday**-10 am to close; **Saturday**-10 am to close; **Sunday**-10 am to close

POTASHCORP SPORTSPLEX MEMBERSHIP CARDS NOW AVAILABLE

We are excited to finally be able to offer our PotashCorp Membership Cards to the public. You have choices of General Membership Cards or specific Walking Track Cards. If you would like further information please contact Catherine at 435-36322.

POTASHCORP SPORTSPLEX BEST WESTERN WWW GOLF LEAGUES

Winter men's and ladies Winter Golf Leagues are underway for the season. Your opportunity to golf several world wide course over the course of a long cold winter.

- Nine holes of golf from courses around the world!
- Only \$10 per player per Men's Night (Feel free to use membership cards)
- Players enter individually and we partner you up
- Those registered will be scheduled to play each week
- Walk on weekly players are welcome
- Prizes awarded • Weekly Points

Two ways to accumulate points. 1-We start at 100 then subtract your nightly score and add back your handicap. 2-Handicapped adjusted top score gets 100 pts. Second best 90. All the way down to 10th gets 10 pts.

- On site menu. Order in Red Barn menu and full bar services
- To register please contact Catherine Jaenen at 435-3622 or by email cjaenen@townofmoosomin@sasktel.net

INDOOR WALKING TRACK

Keep in mind our indoor rubber walking track. With all the snow it is a huge hit. You can buy a walking track membership and walk for a buck a day!

CORPORATE GOLF LEAGUE STANDINGS

44 golfers registered through two weeks of our Friday Night League. Twelve more events until seasons end include three majors where point totals double. Top 10 standings to date include:

1. Brandon Banga-38 Points;
2. Jolene Banga-38 Points;
3. Wayne McConigal-38 Points;
4. Arvelle Fisk-38 Points;
5. Josh Overand-37 Points;
6. Jon Nosterud-37 Points;
7. Bryce Lazere-37 Points;
8. Rob Hanson-34 Points;
9. Chad Glasser-34 Points;
10. Colleen Hanson-33 Points

CANADA 150 MOOSOMIN SCHOOL REUNION AND HOMECOMING

Coming up Rodeo Weekend 2017. Should be a fantastic event! If you would be willing to help on the committee or volunteer for weekend work please contact one of our two Co-Chairs: Marg Tomlinson at tomlinson@sasktel.net or Sinc Harrison at sinc.gail@sasktel.net.

CANADA 150 CELEBRATION-THURSDAY NIGHT ICEBREAKER

Our Parks and Recreation Department are excited to have the opportunity to host the Thursday Night Homecoming Weekend Icebreaker/Registration on Thursday, July 6. Making this extra special is that evening will double as the grand opening of our new Tim Hortons Outdoor

Eventplex.

With that in mind we spent considerable time determining and deciding on an act for our Outdoor stage given the crowd we expect in attendance. With that we are thrilled to announce we will be hosting a tribute to perhaps the greatest entertainer of all time The King Elvis Presley. We will have an Elvis Presley tribute act featuring the King along with a four-piece band. They offer three sets including an early "bopping" Elvis, a set of Elvis's later music, and my favorite, a Vegas set with all the one of a kind attire "Viva Las Vegas". Should be just a fantastic way to open the new park!

MAJOR EVENTS LEFT FOR ICE SURFACE THIS SPRING

Lots and lots of major events remain for this spring at the Communiplex. Here is our list along with a contact name if you are interested in further information:

Squirt Hockey Tournament-February 25-Contact Andrew Stacey; **Midget Hockey Tournament**-March 4-Contact Rae Robstad; **Skating Club Test Day**-March 5-Contact Lana McCormac; **Skating Club Carnival Day**-March 12-Contact Lana McCormac; **Skating Club Spring School**-March 13 to April 14-Contact Lana McCormac; **Careded Atom Tournament**-March 31, April 1, 2-Contact Kyle Nagy; **Careded Pee Wee Tournament**-April 7, 8, 9-Contact Jason Wiens; **Iron Man Rec Tournament**-April 14, 15-Contact Mike Schwean; **Skating Club Test Day**-April 16-Contact Lana McCormac

OPEN ICE TIME AT THE COMMUNIPLEX

Ice becomes so tight this time of year as everyone is busy finishing up regular season, planning playoffs and beginning Provincial Playdowns. As such we have the following ice times available for booking on a first come first serve basis: Sunday, February 19-11 am to 7 pm; Saturday, March 11-6 to 8 pm

To book or for further information please contact Mike at 435-3622 or by email at msmn.rec.brd@sasktel.net

COMMUNIPLEX PUBLIC SKATING

/PUBLIC SHINNY TIMES

Tuesday: Parents and Tots 10 am to 12 nn; Public Shiny 12 nn to 1 pm; Public Skating 1 to 3pm
Thursday: Parents and Tots 10 am to 12 nn; Public Shiny 12 nn to 1 pm; Public Skating 1 to 3 pm
Friday: Adult Shiny 12 nn to 1:15 pm

OUTDOOR ARENA

If the public skating times at the Communiplex do not work out for you keep in mind our fantastic outdoor arena is ready to go for the season. Complete with lights and its own Zamboni you can enjoy this facility, free of charge, and time from daybreak to 11 pm.

MINOR HOCKEY NEWS-PLAYOFF SEASON IS HERE!

Quick rundown of our local minor teams as they get ready to hit the road to the second season. Looks like we could have some long local playoff runs!

Midget Rangers

Midgets Rangers sit second in the MHL with 26 points. Just two back of the leading Yorkton Ter-

riers. Rangers Colby Holloway leads the league in goals (22) and points (44).

Bantam Rangers

Bantam Rangers sits sixth in the MHL with 25 points but it is very close from 3-6. Second year draft eligible Monty Driver sits tied for the league lead in goals with 53 and second in league scoring with 72 points through 20 games.

Pee Wee Rangers

Pee Wee Rangers sit in ninth spot in the MHL standings with a 500 winning percentage. Leading the scoring parade for the Rangers is Wyatt Fisk with 23 points through 12 games.

Atom Rangers

Our Atom Rangers sit in third place in the MHL with 16 points. But that is just two points back of the first place Preeceville Pats.

MINOR HOCKEY GAMES FOR THIS WEEK

Well into February of 2017 so things get really busy on the Minor Hockey front in a hurry. If you're looking for your Minor Hockey weekly fix here you go!

Saturday: Rock Lake at Midget Girls 11:30 am; **Saturday:** Melville at Atom Rangers 1:30 pm; **Saturday:** Rock Lake at Midget Girls 3:30 pm; **Saturday:** Estevan at Ice Badgers 6 pm; **Saturday:** Bantam Rangers game time 8 pm; **Sunday:** Whitewood at Novice White 11 am; **Sunday:** Midget Rangers game time 7 pm

MOOSOMIN SKATING CLUB

TIMES FOR THIS WEEK

Monday: 3:45 to 8 pm; **Wednesday:** 3:45 to 8:30 pm; **Friday:** 3:45 to 7 pm

MOOSOMIN SENIOR RANGERS

Sr Rangers have complete their 2016/2017 regular season obligations and are set to host Rivers in their divisional semi final. I can not confirm as of February 8, however I expect game one in this series will go on Friday, February 17 at the Communiplex with an 8 pm puck drop.

REC HOCKEY THIS WEEK

Monday-MHL at 10:10 pm; **Friday**-Noon Hour Shiny at 12-1 pm

IRON MAN-REC HOCKEY/

GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Moosomin Moose are excited about this event. The past few years they have run an April benefit tournament and raised well over \$10,000. This year the team will combine hockey at the Communiplex with golfing at the Sportsplex making it a true iron man weekend. Hockey will go Friday and Saturday, April 14 and 15 while the golf will be played Sunday, April 16.

Should be a blast eight team limit so if you would like to enter a team I suggest you do so quickly. Phone 435-3622 or email msmn.rec.brd@sasktel.net Cost for registration is \$400 per team which includes the hockey and golf and refreshment tickets!

SWIMMING POOL LESSON

DATES/REGISTRATION

Excited to announce the 2017 swimming pool lesson dates:

Set 1-Two Weeks-June 5 to June 16; **Set 2**-One Week-June 26 to June 30; **Set 3**-Two Weeks-July 3 to July 14; **Set 4**-One Week-July 17 to July 21; **Set 5**-Two Weeks-

July 31 to August 11

As a thank you for your participation from 2016 we will freeze rates from 2016 for 2017. All you need to do is register and leave a post dated cheque to June 1, 2017. I am sure you understand these lessons are busy so registrants are accepted on a first come first serve basis. We will guarantee anyone who pre-registers for lessons will be placed in the set they request.

CURLING CLUB BONSPIELS

Moosomin Curling Club held their annual Farmers and Friends Bonselpiel last week. If you are still looking to get into the Bonselpiel action in town you have one chance left as the combo (Men's, Ladies and Mixed) Pardi Gras Bonselpiel goes February 23, 24, and 25.

To register a team you can do any of the following: Sign up on the sign up sheet at the Curling Rink, Phone the Rec office at 435-3622 or Email msmn.rec.brd@sasktel.net

CURLING CLUB SCHEDULE

This week serves as week 2/4 for set three of our regular Club Curling. Here is a list of this week's games:

Monday Night Celebration Ford Ladies: 7 pm Woods vs Leeds; Thorn vs Hebert; Shaw vs Turpie

Tuesday Night Red Barn Men's: 6:45 pm Nixon vs Auchstaeffer; McMullen vs O Frap; Shepherd vs Stanhope; Meredith vs Stewart

9:15 pm Towler vs R Frap; Bye; Thorn has the bye

Wednesday Afternoon Farmers: 1 pm Turpie vs Frap; Bailly vs McMullen; Cuthill vs Thorn; Bye; Taylor

RING A DING DONG

DANDY WEEKEND!

One thing that can be said about our MCC Centre is over a fairly short life span it has seen a ton of varied events. April 28-30 will be another one of a kind. First off on the Convention Centre Side on Friday, April 28 we welcome back CWE Professional Wrestling. Their last event was packed and they promise this one to be even bigger, better and "badder." Then on April 28-30 the Communiplex rolls host to a Western Canadian Plyler Derby Tour Event. Should be one fantastic action packed weekend!

TIM HORTONS

OUTDOOR EVENTPLEX

We are excited to move forward with this venture with the extreme generosity of the Bangas at Tim Hortons. This is the Park that divides Murray Newman Field and the Plex Parking Lot. We have named it the "Eventplex" as included in the plans will be staging and power which will allow outdoor entertainment. Everything from music to speakers to summer movie nights.

As well the Outdoor Eventplex will be a focal point for the 2017 Homecoming Celebrations in July. With that we have a lot of work in May and June in order to get ready. If you would be willing to lend a hand we would very much like to hear from you. Everything from planting grass and trees to getting the entertainment portion of the park in place. If you can offer a few hours or lots of hours we would appreciate the call to 435-3622 or email msmn.rec.brd@sasktel.net.



Kim Poole photo

Canskaters at practice in Moosomin. From left are Mila Janse Van Rensburg, Johanna Holman, Surrie Payette, Megan Hayward, Vanna Haines, Program Assistant Grace Willms, Madelyn Holman, CanSkate Instructor Sydni Wilson and Shayla Nosterud.

Moosomin Skating Club

Lana McCormac

The Moosomin Skating Club has had a busy month or so. Our younger skaters took part in a couple of competitions close by.

On the weekend of January 7-8, some of our skaters competed in the Virden Invitational Competition and then the following weekend (January

14-15) some of them travelled to Carlyle for our Regional Competition. The Moosomin Skating Club was very well represented at both competitions.

Wawota Skating Club hosted a FunSkate on the weekend January 29. Gracy Russell attended this little competition

with her coach Sydni Wilson.

On the evening of Monday, January 30, the Moosomin Skating Club hosted a Solo Night featuring some of our talented Junior and StarSkaters. The public was treated to 20 performances by 17 of our skaters. It was well attended and the kids put on a wonder-

ful show. The people that attended were impressed with the talent that our club has and were very entertained.

Our StarSkaters are busy preparing for a couple of upcoming competitions. Manitoba Open is taking place in Waskada, Manitoba on February 17-19 and the following

weekend on February 24-26 is the Jean Norman/StarSkate Competition taking place at the Co-operators Centre in Regina. Good luck, girls!

We are also looking forward to our upcoming Skating Carnival which will take place on Sunday, March 12 at 1 pm with the theme of Classic Disney.

CATHERINE
ANNE
JANE
ANNE
CATHERINE
KATHERINE



By Kate Hennig
Directed by Anita Rochon

MAR 1-19, 2017



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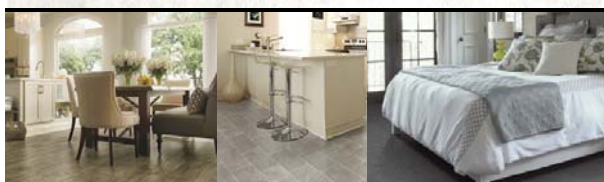
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Financial Planning

The next step for your RRSP is...

The next step for your RRSP is...

You're turning 71 by the end of 2017 and you know you have some important Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP) decisions coming up. Let's look at the best options for preserving your retirement income and your estate.

The background: You established an RRSP back in the day and contributed to it for many years. Good for you—an RRSP is the best tax-saving, income-building investment vehicle for most Canadians and is undoubtedly an important part of your retirement income. But, if you turn 71 this year, you are required by law to wind down your RRSP before 2018. You have three basic conversion options to choose from.

Cash out your plan. Not a good choice—you'll likely be taxed on the total amount right away at your highest marginal rate.

Establish a Registered Retirement Income Fund (RRIF). RRIFs are very much like RRSPs with low exceptions: No further contributions are allowed once you've established a RRIF and you are required to withdraw a minimum



amount each year.

The mandatory minimum withdrawal requirements from RRIFs was reduced in the 2015 federal budget from 7.38% to 5.28% for a 71-year-old and increases as you get older. There is no limit on the

maximum amount you can withdraw although you won't want to deplete your RRIF too soon.

If you find you don't need all the withdrawn funds, you can contribute your RRIF payouts to a Tax-Free Savings Account (TFSA)

or a non-registered investment account.

Purchase an annuity. There are many types of annuities. Here are three:

- A "life annuity" pays you a specified income usually monthly,

for the rest of your life.

- A "term certain annuity" guarantees payments until you turn 90.

- A "joint and last survivor annuity" will continue payments to your spouse after your death. But with this option, your monthly payments will be reduced because the benefits are paying for two lives not one. Your spouse can receive the same amount you receive or a lesser amount of your choice.

The right RRSP conversion option for you depends on your personal situation—that's why you should talk to your professional advisor before you taking the next step.

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Financial Planning

Helping you make the most of your retirement

If you are getting close to retirement, or have just recently retired, there are many financial details that you need to address, such as applying for government benefits and converting your registered plans to provide you with pension income.

This checklist includes a comprehensive listing of many of the financial issues people who are approaching retirement or have already retired typically face.

GOVERNMENT BENEFITS

To avoid delays, ensure your applications for Canada Pension Plan (CPP) or Quebec Pension Plan (QPP) retirement benefits and Old Age Security (OAS) are filed at least six months before the eligibility date.

If you take CPP before age 65 and continue to work, you and your employer are required to contribute to CPP until you are at least age 65. You will be entitled to a post-retirement benefit that will supplement your regular CPP retirement benefits.

Consider applying for CPP/QPP sharing with a lower income spouse to reduce the family tax burden. CPP/QPP sharing is only available when the younger spouse is also eligible to collect CPP/QPP.

If you stayed at home caring for children under age seven during your working years, apply for the Child Rearing Drop-Out provision so you can increase your CPP/QPP benefit.

EMPLOYER PENSION AND BENEFITS

Determine what options you have to receive your employer pension. You may be able to receive the pension as an annuity or transfer the commuted value to a locked-in RRSP.

If you are able to transfer the commuted value of your pension to a locked-in RRSP, some of the lump-sum may be immediately taxable. Speak to your pension adminis-

trator to determine if a portion of the commuted value is taxable.

If you transfer the commuted value out of your pension plan, ask your employer if you are eligible for a Pension Adjustment Reversal (PAR). A PAR increases your unused RRSP deduction room.

Determine what post-retirement health benefits (such as drug and dental) are available, if any, through your employer. Keep in mind that the decision you make regarding your pension option may affect the level of post-retirement health benefits you receive.

If you leave your pension with your employer, ensure that you have designated your desired beneficiary. In many cases, you may be required by legislation to designate your spouse as the beneficiary.

RRSPs, RRIIFs, LOCKED-IN ACCOUNTS AND TFSAs

Ensure that the named beneficiary of your registered plan (RRSP, RRIIF, locked-in account) is correct. Probate tax (negligible in Alberta) can be avoided by naming a beneficiary on the plan.

If you have named a beneficiary in your Will for the assets in your registered plan, make sure the same beneficiary is named directly on your plan to avoid any confusion.

To avoid a full deregistration of your registered assets, you must convert your RRSP and locked-in RRSP to an income vehicle (such as a RRIIF, LIF, LRIF, RLIF, PRIF or annuity) before the end of the year in which you turn age 71.

If you are at least 65, you may be entitled to a \$2,000 non-refundable pension income tax credit on payments from a RRIIF, LIF, LRIF, RLIF, PRIF or annuity. This tax credit is worth about \$300 in annual federal tax savings and additional savings at the provincial tax level.

If you have earned income, consider making spousal RRSP contributions to equalize both spouses' retirement income to minimize the family tax burden.

If you own an incorporated active business, you may be able to boost your retirement savings. Speak to your advisor about contributing to an Individual Pension Plan (IPP) instead of an RRSP. If you have a locked-in RRSP and have to decide whether to convert it to a LIF, LRIF, RLIF, PRIF or annuity, speak to your advisor to determine which is best for you.

If you have a RRIIF, LIF, LRIF, RLIF or PRIF, consider basing the minimum withdrawals on the younger spouse's age to minimize taxable withdrawals and maximize tax deferral.

If you are at least age 65, pension income splitting with your spouse may significantly reduce your tax bill. You or your spouse can allocate up to 50 per cent of eligible pension income such as income from a RRIIF, LIF, LRIF, RLIF, PRIF or annuity to the spouse with the lower tax rate. If your spouse is also at least 65, they may qualify for the \$2,000 pension income tax credit. Speak to your RBC advisor about the appropriate asset allocation of your registered accounts in retirement. In general, from a tax-planning standpoint, your fixed income investments should be held in your registered plans and your equity investments in your non-registered plans.

Consider investing in the Tax-Free Savings Account (TFSA). Investment earnings in a TFSA and funds withdrawn from the plan are tax-exempt and withdrawals or income earned in a TFSA will have no impact on the federal income-tested benefits and credits you may be entitled to (e.g. GIS, GST, CPP, OAS).

To optimize your after-tax retirement income, the rule of thumb is to withdraw from your non-registered accounts before

your registered accounts in order to maximize tax deferral. However, if your income is low, in some cases, you may be better off making early withdrawals from your RRSP/RRIF to minimize your future tax bill.

NON-REGISTERED ASSETS

Speak to your advisor about the appropriate asset allocation for your non-registered assets as you near retirement or during retirement. Ensure you have an adequate equity component given the possibility of long life expectancy.

Based on your risk tolerance, consider investments that earn tax-effective income such as capital gains, Canadian dividends and return of capital.

If you have a low-income spouse, consider setting up a prescribed rate loan for income-splitting purposes.

ESTATE PLANNING

Ensure that your Will and power of attorney are up to date. If you own shares of a private company, speak to your lawyer about having a second Will in order to possibly minimize probate taxes.

If you are in a second marriage, have disabled children and/or have significant assets, speak to your lawyer about having a testamentary trust provision in your Will to ensure the assets are properly managed.

If you or your spouse is at least age 65, speak to your lawyer about the benefits of rolling your non-registered assets into an alter-ego or joint-partner trust for probate avoidance and privacy of affairs.

Speak to a life licensed advisor about getting an insurance needs analysis for estate preservation to ensure that your survivors will have adequate income and assets to meet their needs after your death.

Consider pre-arranging your funeral to reduce the burden on family members.

RBC Dominion Securities Inc.



Welcoming Gord Webster, Investment Advisor

Gord Webster, CFP
Investment Advisor
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gord.webster@rbc.com
2010 11th Avenue, 4th floor
Regina, SK S4P 3M3

Branch Manager Jim Grundy is pleased to welcome Investment Advisor Gord Webster, CFP, to the Regina office of RBC Dominion Securities. Gord has earned the respect of his clients by providing knowledgeable investment advice over the last 25 years. In total, he has over 40 years of experience in the financial services industry.

By joining RBC Dominion Securities, Gord combines his commitment to client satisfaction with the resources of Canada's leading provider of wealth management. This includes professional investment management, as well as financial, retirement and estate planning.

Gord is available for consultations at his new office.



Wealth Management
Dominion Securities

