Property taxes in Morinville may rise higher than the 3% and 13.3% for residential and commercial property originally expected. During budget discussions on Nov. 27 council acknowledged that they were years away from a balanced budget — with preliminary figures showing 2019 having a $707,625 deficit, even after council directed $322,697 in reductions to the preliminary budget figures drafted using the 3 and 13.3% tax hikes in 2019.

Councillor Lawrence Giffin suggested changing the residential increase to 4% (which would have increased commercial taxes by 14.4% under the strategic formula designed to increase the tax share paid by business), noting the impact of compounding the increases should allow the town to balance its budget using the same percentage increase the following year.

Corporate and Financial Services Director Sharnia Jason responded that it is possible that if the budget cuts are carried forward to the 2020 budget and the tax increase is also repeated it is possible the budget could be balanced in two years. However, CAO Stéphane Labonne told council it wasn’t an acceptable practice to try to create a plan on the fly verbally. He suggested that administration bring back a report to council with a scenario that would produce a balanced budget in two years with the budget cuts made to date.

Council delayed considering third reading of the budget until Dec. 11 in anticipation of the report. At the Nov. 27 council meeting, there were two big cuts approved. $150,000 was directed to be cut to unspecified operations by the town administration. The Morinville Community Library dropped by over $100,000 from the figure in the preliminary budget. It was approved for a 5% increase to the town’s current year support of its operating budget. Instead of the $532,140 in operating funds requested, council approved $428,858 for a cut of over $100,000 from the draft budget. The town will continue to provide funds for both the town and library portion of the regional library levy — $51,161 in each case.

The other cuts involved rejecting budgeted reclassification of casual staff rather than adding to the town’s permanent part time positions (with the savings amounting to basically the benefits these people would have received as bona fide employees). None of the actual positions involved were eliminated. There were some false-starts regarding potential small savings to the budget. Council defeated Coun. Nicole Boutestein’s motion to leave the communication assistant position as a contract position rather than becoming a full time employee when the contract expires in the spring of 2019.

After supporting Boutestein’s suggestion to cut $17,000 from the Chamber of Commerce Visitor Information Centre line item, council eliminated the potential saving by holding that amount in abeyance for possible grant partnerships through Economic Development (to support local business). Council had started the session with a step backward regarding the reduction of the budget — they approved an updated projection of the electrical costs to $739,542 due to anticipated hikes to the regulated rate rider delivery and transmission charges. This amounts to $43,042 more than contained in the original budget draft.
Sturgeon County Council was assured the Community Services Advisory Board (CSAB) felt its work is relevant and worth it “but there is always room to do better,” said Division 3 CSAB member Ray Soetaert. He provided Council with the 2018 review of the Board’s work, at their Committee of the Whole meeting Nov. 27.

The CSAB mandate is to make recommendations to Council on matters pertaining to parks and recreation, culture, Family and Community Support Services and library services.

Soetaert cited 10 accomplishments for 2018 including the review and update of the Committee terms of reference, involvement in the Open Space Master Plan development of service levels, evaluation of the volunteer appreciation event, decisions on two grant carryover requests, recommendations for the Community Association grant allocations (awarding grant dollars in the amount of $143,063), Morinville Recreation Centre consultation, Cardinal Park rehabilitation consultation (Open House in June), and consulted on Council committee selection criteria.

He noted the fall Community Hall tour was a “most important day as you see what benefits the communities.”

Collaborating in the Violent Threat Risk Assessment Training with the Sturgeon School Division as a community partner was also a highlight of the year. Soetaert said they recognize how important that piece is, and added they “need to get a few more trained.”

Deep in concentration - 6 year old Alex Bazylewski was placing his candies in just the perfect spot while decorating his gingerbread house at the Town of Morinville’s event at the Community Cultural Centre on November 28th.

---photo by Amy Hibbard-Hiscock
2019 ANIMAL Registry ANNUAL RENewal REQUIREment
Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw 5/2016

2019 REGISTRATION/RENEWAL DEADLINE: JANUARY 31
For more information or to view the complete bylaw please go online to
www.morinville.ca | Search = Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw
New this year:
Provided you receive your renewal notice in the mail on or before January 1, 2019, you will not be required to renew your animal license. Any animal not renewed by January 1, 2019, will be subject to a penalty of $90. The penalty will be in addition to the renewal fee.$50.

Payment for your animal registration renewal must be made in person by cash, cheque, debit or credit card at the Morinville Town Office (10125-100 Avenue). Any new animals or previously unregistered animal will be subject to the fee schedule of Bylaw 5/2016. Please stop by the Town Office to complete necessary paperwork. If you no longer have a previously registered animal please notify us at 780.939.4161 so we can update our records.

Town Reminders
Taxes
All unpaid taxes are due by December 31, 2018. Any taxes that are in arrears as of January 1, 2019 will be subject to a penalty of 5%.

Business Licence Renewal
Business licence renewals are due by January 31, 2019.

Methods to renew:
In-Person | By Mail
Town Hall
10125-100 Avenue
Town of Morinville
10125-100 Avenue
Morinville, AB T8R 1L6

By Email
permits@morinville.ca

Town of Morinville Office Closures
Over the Christmas season, the Town of Morinville Offices will be closed on the following days:
December 24
December 25
December 26
January 1

RCMP Office Closures
Over the Christmas season, the RCMP front counter and administrative lines will be closed on the following days:
December 8 at 2 p.m.
December 24
December 25
December 26
January 1

Snow Removal
With winter upon us, please remember to keep your sidewalks and pathways clear. If you require assistance with snow removal, please contact Community Services at 780.939.7839.

Free Sand
A wood box containing sand is available for residents to assist in controlling the build-up of ice on sidewalks adjacent to their property. These boxes are located outside the fenced area at the Public Works Yard located at 10102-107 Street. Residents must supply their own pails and shovels.

Snow Removal
With winter upon us, please remember to keep your sidewalks and pathways clear. If you require assistance with snow removal, please contact Community Services at 780.939.7839.

Free Sand
A wood box containing sand is available for residents to assist in controlling the build-up of ice on sidewalks adjacent to their property. These boxes are located outside the fenced area at the Public Works Yard located at 10102-107 Street. Residents must supply their own pails and shovels.

Please note: this product is not intended for commercial use.

2019 Winter Guide
Guide available to view online: December 10, 2018
Program registration opens: December 17, 2018

Job Opening
Morinville currently has an opening for the following position:
• Records Technician (Full-time)
For further details, please go to Job Openings at www.morinville.ca.

Upcoming Town Events
The Giving Tree
Monday, November 19 to Friday, December 7, 2018
Location: Morinville Community Cultural Centre (9520-100 Ave)
Stop by the Morinville Community Cultural Centre to take part in this event that makes such a difference for our community’s seniors and adults. Pick an envelope, find the perfect gift, and drop it back off before 4 p.m. on December 7. The limit for the Giving Tree gift is no more than $50.
For more information, call Community Services at 780.939.7839.

Seniors: Learn How to Register Online
Monday, December 3, 2018
Time: 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Cost: FREE, drop in
Location: Morinville Community Cultural Centre (9520-100 Ave)
Try your own device—iPad, Laptop, or any device that has internet connectivity to learn how to register online for programs and how to navigate the Town of Morinville website.

Morinville’s Best Christmas Lights Competition
Deadline: Tuesday, December 4, 2018 | 4 p.m.
Judging: Thursday, December 6, 2018
from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Join Morinville’s festive spirit by decorating your home or business and enter to win prizes. Enter your home or business in this competition by filling out the nomination form at www.morinville.ca or at the Morinville Community Cultural Centre (9520-100 Ave).
For more information, call Community Services at 780.939.7839.

Make Traditional Ukrainian Peregies
Saturday, December 8, 2018
Time: 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Cost: $20/person, includes supplies
Location: Morinville Community Cultural Centre (9520-100 Ave)
Make peregies from scratch and take them home to share with your family or freeze for later. Bring a rice bowl to take home your creations. For more information, call Community Services at 780.939.7839.

Ray McDonald Sports Center Arena Holiday Schedule
Free Programs sponsored by:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Added</th>
<th>Closed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 22</td>
<td>December 21 and 28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Shiny</td>
<td>Adult Shiny</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Family Skate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Skate</td>
<td>10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.</td>
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<td>December 24</td>
<td>Family Skate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Shiny</td>
<td>9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.</td>
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<td>11 a.m. to 1 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 25</td>
<td>Family Shiny</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Skate</td>
<td>Youth Shiny</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 p.m. to 4 p.m.</td>
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</tbody>
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Civic Hall: 10125 - 100 Avenue www.morinville.ca
Council approved the Honourary Naming of a portion of Range Road 265 between Highway 633 and Ferland Drive after Pat and Simonne Sheehan to honour their legacy and recognize their contributions to the community on November 27, 2018.

Snowplow Winter Operations

Sturgeon County has 5 full-time tandem trucks for clearing and plowing snow from oiled/paved roads, roadways are always cleared first followed by paved subdivisions. Following the end of a snow fall event:
- Paved & Oiled roads are cleared within 24 hours.
- Paved & Oiled Subdivisions & Hamlets are cleared within 72 hours.
- Gravel Roads are cleared within 72 hours.
- During snowstorms, roads may take longer to clear and sand.

Please contact Transportation Services at 780-939-8252 or find more information online at www.sturgeoncounty.ca

Come Join us on December 4—Cannabis Information Session

We heard you, but did we get it right?
Earlier this year we connected with residents to talk about Cannabis Legalization through two drop-in sessions and an online survey to gather feedback about consumption, production, distribution, and retail sales. Based on the feedback that was received, and we would like to share the proposed approach to manage the legalization of Cannabis.

When: December 4
Time: 6 to 8 p.m.
Where: Namao Hall
Drop-in for a snack and learn more about:
- Proposed LUB amendments related to the location and regulation of cannabis production, distribution facilities, as well as cannabis retail sales
- Public Consumption, Enforcement;
- Related business opportunities

Supplementary Assessment Complaints

The Assessment Review Board Complaint form can be found on the Sturgeon County website. A complaint must be made within 60 days, December 31, 2018, of Sturgeon County mailing the assessment notice.
If you have questions about the complaint process, contact the Clerk of the Assessment Review Board at legislativeservices@sturgeoncounty.ca

December Meetings Cancelled

| 4 | Municipal Planning Commission (MPC) | 9 a.m. |
| 11 | Regular Council Committee of the Whole | 9 a.m. |
With the perceived risk of losing an $8 million grant from the province if it complicated the development permit process, Morinville town council voted unanimously to approve the development permit for a 48 unit affordable housing project despite some angst by council members.

Council added a condition to those recommended by administration. Coun. Sarah Hall’s motion to require a Traffic Impact Assessment be done as part of the development was unanimously approved by the six council members present.

Because the project is in a Direct Control zoning, council becomes the development authority and its decision cannot be appealed. In response to suggestions that council should have heard the details in public session at a Committee of the Whole meeting, CAO Stephane Labonne advised council as the development authority there are limits on the public discussion and engagement council can be involved in prior to making a decision.

This permit includes provisions for two 8 unit Stacked Townhouse buildings with southern roof exposure and one 32 unit apartment building on a cleared but undeveloped piece of land. The townhouse units bracket the apartment on the east and west end, with the full project directly west of 100 Street on 105 Ave. (north of the cemetery).

Access, however, will not be off of 100 Street due to the town’s Transportation Master Plan’s reference to 100 Street as an Arterial Road with the exception that an emergency access from 100 Street (providing a second route to the complex for fire and police). The access to the development will be from 101A Street, however several councillors were concerned with the width of that street and the volume of traffic now going past the front of a school on the street. Administration noted that 101A is designated as a Collector Street.

The project is a Net Zero development, with Homeland Housing’s Ray Cormier explaining that means the volume of energy consumed by the residences will be matched by the energy produced by the units. This will be achieved through solar panels on the roof slopes, the use of geothermal technology, and the level of insulation and construction methods used.

Minimum parking based on size and composition of the development should be 76 parking stalls with 4 of those stalls being Barrier Free and 7 stalls designated for Visitors. There should be a minimum of four bicycle parking stations and one loading zone provided, according to the town standards. However, the project plans for only 55 stalls. Administration advised that the lower parking spaces reflect the tenants the facility is designed to serve, noting the applicant expects less than 50% of tenants will need access to parking stalls.

The permit also addresses the need for a landscaping plan for trees, shrubs and grass areas to be included.

After granting the permit, council directed administration to investigate a process for enhancing public engagement on the rare occasions that council is the Development Authority (in Direct Control zonings). That topic is to come to council in February.
The first draft of the Town of Gibbons 2019 operational budget showed an increase of eight percent over 2018. Administration will work on lowering that percentage, but a hike in utility rates is not being considered at this point.

“Our utilities are all full cost recovery,” said assistant CAO Debbie Turner during the Nov. 28 budget meeting. “We are not anticipating a rate increase in 2019.” She said a rate increase may be looked at in 2020 to keep the utilities operating at full cost recovery by users.

“Administration is working on some things that might have a positive impact on the budget,” said CAO Farrell O’Malley. “We do well on cost management and are very competitive with our fees. We’ll be getting more information before we have another budget meeting.”

The draft operational budget showed total revenues of nearly $3.9 million and expenditures of $6.7 million, which set the required municipal tax revenue at $2.8 million, up eight percent from tax revenues of $2.6 million in 2018.

Turner said the town has experienced very little assessment growth during the past few years. Because the costs for the basic level of services continually increase due to factors such as increases in insurance premiums, utilities, and carbon tax, the amount available for one-time purchases shrinks.

The draft budget shows Legislative and council with a net cost of $247,700, up from $234,800 in 2018. General administration has revenues of $41,500 and expenditures of $510,000 for a net cost of $577,500 (was $510,000 in 2018). Recreational services is budgeted at a net cost of $877,500 (was $810,000 in 2018).

The Cultural Centre is budgeted to have $300,300 in revenues and $221,200 in expenditures for a net profit of $79,100 (up from $50,200 in 2018). At the arena expected revenues are $358,600 and expenditures $471,500 for net cost of $112,900 (was $101,700 this year).

This draft budget is expected to be amended to reduce the amount of municipal tax required before council approves it. In a later interview mayor Dan Deck said that was council’s first, high-level look at the budget. Future budget meetings (not yet scheduled) will provide more information, particularly on funding sources. Asked if he expects the eight percent increase to remain unchanged, he said, “I would hope not. We really have to take a deep dive and look at our revenue sources.”
Sturgeon County now has a more “robust policy than previously” according to Mayor Alanna Hnatiw as Council approved the updated Investment Policy as amended at their regular Council meeting Nov. 13.

The 2001 Investments County Policy consisted of three paragraphs The new policy covers seven pages.

Senior Accountant - Operations Madisyn Achtymichuk and Controller Sabrina Duquette presented the Request for Decision (RFD) to Council.

“The amended investment policy builds on the requirements of the Municipal Government Act to ensure that Sturgeon County invests prudently to maximize returns on investments while preserving capital. The policy reflects current practices and investment decisions, while providing the governance to ensure those practices continue over time. The policy outlines the purpose, affected persons and areas, statement of definitions, responsibilities and procedures,” the RFD noted.

The policy provided more detail from the 2001 policy such as approved types of investments, institutional limits and credit. Coun. Susan Evans said she supported the updated investment policy “knowing all the work that went behind it.”

Sturgeon County adopts a more robust investment policy

Morinville Community High School Boys Volleyball team wins the Bronze medal at Alberta Schools Athletic Association 3A Boys Volleyball Championships. The Wolves were undefeated in Round Robin play. They received a bye into the semi-final where they met their zone rivals the Barhead Gryphons. Barhead played an almost perfect match as they defeated the North Central Zone Champs in two straight sets. The Wolves were obviously disappointed after beating Barhead in the North Central Zone Final last weekend. However coach Fidler got his team ready to play and they beat Edmonton Christian 25-17, 25-16 to bring home the bronze medals. Barhead went on to win the 3A Boys Provincial Banner for the 2nd straight year.

Morinville Community High School
Student Awards Program 2017-2018

MCHS and the Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools take this opportunity to congratulate all of their Award Recipients as well as their Teachers and their Parents.

School Administration, The School Board, Students, Parents and Staff wish to thank the Morinville and District Business Community, Morinville Service clubs and to our many other Business Partners and families for their most generous and continued support of the MCHS Annual Awards Program.

AB Division Inc.
ABF Auto Electric
Morinville

Alberta Teachers’ Association
Morinville

Benchview Management Inc.
Morinville

Boler’s Survival Inc.
Morinville

Bumper to Bumper/ Home Hardware
Morinville

Capital Vision Care, Morinville

Cooperators Insurance & Financial Services
Morinville

Catholic Women’s League
St. Jean Baptiste

Christ Family & Friends
Morinville

EkramHome.com

Floorsplus Environmental Systems
Morinville

Franz Neuro Memorial Award
Morinville

The Fred Schumann Spirit Award
Froment Chiropractic Center
Morinville

George Sorensen Memorial Award
Morinville

Governor General’s Academic Medal
Morinville

GSACRD Education Foundation
Scholarship for the Future
Morinville

Dr. Lyle F Provincial Corp.
Morinville

J. M. Turner Goldsmith Inc.
Morinville

Jonathan Senger Memorial Scholarship
Morinville

Lifetouch Canada

Knights of Columbus St. Anne Council
Morinville

Merry Contractors Association
Edmonton

Morinville B’nai Brith

Morinville and District AGRICULTURE SOCIETY
Morinville Free Press
Morinville Community Gardens Society
Morinville Auto Body Ltd.
Morinville Historical & Cultural Society Scholarship
Morinville Lions Club
P & D Petroleum Ltd. Morinville
Pezer Construction and Restorations Ltd.
Vancouver

P. W. White Memorial Award
Peterson & Lawton Law Firm
Quinn’s Plumbing & Heating Ltd.

Real Max Real Estate Team, Brent Meunier
Registered Apprenticeship Board

Rogers Champsagne Craftsmanship Award
Mrs. Lorriette Champsagne

Dr. Darren Romanowski
Rotary Club
Morinville

Scottish Rite
Morinville

Service Credit Union
Morinville

Sobey’s
Morinville

St. Jean Baptiste Parish Council

The Denley Family

Alex & Doreen Ralfy Family

Tim Hutton’s
Morinville

Vieira Hair Studio

Wood Shops
Edmonton

Xpert Office Solutions

MCHS students received in excess of $18355.00
(this does not include the Alexander Rutherford Scholarships)

Your support makes this possible!
1.32X2VACANT LOT

Great opportunity here to build to some lots at an
affordable living price. Great location, across the road from the community playground and ball diamond. Glenevis is a quiet hamlet located about 30 min NW of Edmonton close to many lakes. IRP Approved.

3 BEDROOM BUNGALOW

IN NEWBROOK

Affordable living in a small hamlet just about approx. 45 min north of Edmonton in Newbrook, right on Hwy 63, only min to lots of recreation at Long Lake Prov Park. Skiing, boating, hiking & camping. Pride of ownership shows throughout this entire home. Inside has gorgeous laminate flooring and trim, huge windows, spacious living area, huge sunroom, and open concept LR/kitchen. 3 large bedrooms, 2 full baths and a 3 season sunroom. conservation 11.39 AC W/UPDATED HOME

EDMONTON LAKES

Great fishing property with potential for future development. Edmonton Lakes is just 20 min north of Edmonton, with double Acreage with major industry and industrial parks, Farm or rent out the land and grow up developing farming business. $1,905,000. Call Glenn for more information.

DORM SPY LAKE BAKERY

In downtown Spry Lake. Bakery offering rolls, bagels, muffins and bagels. Hours are 6-8 am Mon-Fri and 7-8 am Sat & Sun. $39,900 plus gst. Call Glenn for more information.

2. 2 BUNGALOW WITH GARAGE

THORNHILD

A rare buy in Thorhild with this large 5 bedroom bungalow family home on 158 acres of good grain land

2.2 bdrm bungalow in Thorhild. Dugout style. 2 lots of 19.5 acres each. Great opportunity to own a farm or rent out the property. There is a small stand of native bush on the southeast corner of the property.

CITY BUNGALOW WITH HEATED GARAGE

This is the perfect home for someone with a boat or a deck, it has a huge kitchen with tons of cabinets & large island. 24’x24’ garage is heated & back door leads to a large back deck. Yard is fully fenced with a good wooden high fence which is perfect to keep your dogs or kids safe. There is a large pole shed out back & a good storage shed as well.

158 acres of great grain land (one for each floor) & second FR which has cabinets & sink so has its own separate entrance & there are 2 furnaces for putting an in-law suite in the bsmt or just a great family room. 3 season sunroom & it leads to a large back deck. Yard is fully fenced with a good high wooden fence which is perfect to keep your dogs or kids best. There is a 3 season sunroom just off the kitchen & it leads to a large back deck. Yard is fully fenced with a good high wooden fence which is perfect to keep your dogs or kids safe. Older kitchen & it leads to a large back deck. Yard is fully fenced with a good wooden high fence which is perfect to keep your dogs or kids safe. There is a large pole shed out back & a good storage shed as well.

BROOKS VACANT LOT

While there is a small stand of native bush on the southeast corner of the property.

4.5 Bdrm bungalow in Thorhild. Dugout style. 2 lots of 19.5 acres each. Great opportunity to own a farm or rent out the property. There is a small stand of native bush on the southeast corner of the property.

15.39 AC/UPDATED HOME

Beautiful 11.39 ac with well #1289 sq ft 3 bdrm home located just few miles NW of Thorhild & about 45 min to North Edmonton or Fort Sask. County Home features open beam wood ceilings, lots of space on 1.59 acres of good grain land

3 BEDROOM BUNGALOW

IN NEWBROOK

Affordable living in a small hamlet just about approx. 45 min north of Edmonton in Newbrook, right on Hwy 63, only min to lots of recreation at Long Lake Prov Park. Skiing, boating, hiking & camping. Pride of ownership shows throughout this entire home. Inside has gorgeous laminate flooring and trim, huge windows, spacious living area, huge sunroom, and open concept LR/kitchen. 3 large bedrooms, 2 full baths and a 3 season sunroom. conservation 11.39 AC W/UPDATED HOME

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DORM SPY LAKE BAKERY

In downtown Spry Lake. Bakery offering rolls, bagels, muffins and bagels. Hours are 6-8 am Mon-Fri and 7-8 am Sat & Sun. $39,900 plus gst. Call Glenn for more information.
2.47 ACRES
- 2.47 ac in Sturgeon County
- Out of subdivision
- Utilities near property line
- 1 mile off HWY 44 & minutes to Morinville
- MLS# E4094880 & E4094881
- $299,000

10.25 ACRES
- 10.25 ac ¾km West of RGB
- Out of subdivision
- Municipal water & utilities at property line
- 50x150 metal Quonset on concrete
- MLS# E4094879
- $199,000

WHY RENT WHEN YOU CAN OWN
- 2.47 ac lots
- Located few minutes NW of Morinville
- Out of subdivision
- MLS# E4102580, E4102579 & E4102581
- $299,000

2.47 ACRES
- MLS# E4126580
- 2 powered parking stalls
- Fully finished basement
- $285,000

MAPLE BROOKE VILLAS
- • MLS# E4120297
- • MLS# E4129783
- • MLS# E4112634
- 1215sq.ft 2 storey townhouse condo
- 3 bedrooms / 2.5 baths
- Single garage
- $239,900

EXCELLENT LOCATION
- • MLS# E4116276
- • MLS# E4112634
- • MLS# E4129783
- 1000sq.ft 4 level split
- 3 bedrooms / 2 baths
- Remodeled kitchen
- $270,000

CHARMING 5 STOREY
- • MLS# E4116276
- • MLS# E4129783
- • MLS# E4112634
- 1368sq.ft 3 storey
- 3 bedrooms / 2.5 baths
- Open den w/gazebos doors to balcony
- $280,000

NO CONDO FEES
- • MLS# E4116276
- • MLS# E4129783
- • MLS# E4112634
- 1114sq.ft 2 storey half duplex
- 3 bedrooms / 2.5 baths
- Fully finished basement
- $284,900

WELCOME HOME
- • MLS# E4116276
- • MLS# E4129783
- • MLS# E4112634
- 1362sq.ft bungalow
- 4 bedrooms / 2 baths
- Fully finished basement
- Heated, double detached garage
- $299,900

MODERN & STYLISH
- • MLS# E4134271
- • MLS# E4134989
- • MLS# E4116276
- 1610sq.ft 3 storey
- 3 bedrooms / 2.5 baths
- Bonus room w/ w/d washer & dryer
- $316,900

INVESTMENT PROPERTY
- • MLS# E4121141
- • MLS# E4108361
- • MLS# E4136664
- 817sq.ft bungalow
- 2 bedrooms / 1 bath
- Large backyard
- $177,000

CUTE & COZY
- • MLS# E4134271
- • MLS# E4134989
- • MLS# E4116276
- 843sq.ft renovated bungalow
- 2 bedrooms / 1 bath
- Single detached garage w/ front & back lane access
- Located on main street in Legal
- $154,900

BEAUTIFULLY UPDATED
- • MLS# E4134271
- • MLS# E4134989
- • MLS# E4116276
- 1703sq.ft 2 level split
- 4 bedrooms / 2.5 baths
- Recently updated throughout
- $374,900

ACREAGE MINUTES FROM MORINVILLE
- • MLS# E4134271
- • MLS# E4134989
- • MLS# E4116276
- 1292sq.ft bungalow
- 2 bedrooms / 1 bath
- 3.06 acres 10 mins E. of Morinville
- $374,900

RENOCATED HOME ON 7.29 ACRES
- • MLS# E4134271
- • MLS# E4134989
- • MLS# E4116276
- Completely renovated
- Detached garage, barn & chicken coop
- 20 mins NW of Morinville
- $374,900

NOTRE DAME ESTATES
- • MLS# E4120297
- • MLS# E4134271
- • MLS# E4134989
- 1627sq.ft 2 storey
- 4 bedrooms / 3.5 baths
- Main floor & central air
- Oversized heated garage
- $394,500

WARM & INVITING
- • MLS# E4134271
- • MLS# E4134989
- • MLS# E4116276
- 1627sq.ft 2 storey
- 4 bedrooms / 3 baths
- Fully finished basement
- Oversized & fenced yard w/neighbours behind you
- $394,500

BEAUTIFULLY UPDATED
- • MLS# E4134271
- • MLS# E4134989
- • MLS# E4116276
- 1292sq.ft bungalow
- 2 bedrooms / 1 bath
- 3.06 acres 10 mins E. of Morinville
- $374,900

ACREAGE MINUTES FROM MORINVILLE
- • MLS# E4134271
- • MLS# E4134989
- • MLS# E4116276
- 1292sq.ft bungalow
- 2 bedrooms / 1 bath
- 3.06 acres 10 mins E. of Morinville
- $374,900

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- • MLS# E4134271
- • MLS# E4134989
- • MLS# E4116276
- Completely renovated
- Detached garage, barn & chicken coop
- 20 mins NW of Morinville
- $374,900

NOTRE DAME ESTATES
- • MLS# E4120297
- • MLS# E4134271
- • MLS# E4134989
- 1627sq.ft 2 storey
- 4 bedrooms / 3.5 baths
- Main floor & central air
- Oversized heated garage
- $394,500

WARM & INVITING
- • MLS# E4134271
- • MLS# E4134989
- • MLS# E4116276
- 1627sq.ft 2 storey
- 4 bedrooms / 3 baths
- Fully finished basement
- Oversized & fenced yard w/neighbours behind you
- $394,500
Emotional session of Sturgeon County council renames road in honour of couple

Amid emotional tears on both sides of the chamber, Sturgeon County councilors voted to rename a portion of Range Road #65 to honor the late Pat Sheehan and his wife Simone. The couple was active volunteers for decades and in 2012, while in their 80’s, were recognized by the County as the Volunteer of the Year.

Pat’s volunteer activity included: Villeneuve Community Hall, Villeneuve Athletic Association, Parish Council of St. Peter’s Church, Church maintenance volunteer, coordinating the preparation of the burial site for funerals, Church building committees, active member of the Knights of Columbus, coach of Villeneuve girl’s softball for 15 years, member of Villeneuve Seniors Club serving as president for several years, building props for various musical productions as part of the fundraising for the Aging in Place Foundation and a major volunteer during construction and after of West Country Hearth.

Simonne was cited for volunteering as a long-time active member of the Villeneuve Athletic Association, 4-H volunteer, Board member of St. Peter’s Church, teaching religious education and classes and serving as a funeral coordinator, active member of the Catholic Women’s League and holding all executive positions more than once, member of the Seniors Club, serving as vice-president for several years, building props for various musical productions as part of the fundraising for the Aging in Place Foundation and a major volunteer during construction and after of West Country Hearth.

The Villeneuve Athletic Association letter stated: “The Villeneuve Happy Sixties Club added, “In addition to being actively involved in the community they have always supported the activities of their seven children, 27 grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren” (as of Feb. 2012).

The Free Press has a total audited circulation of over 10,000.
Future of photo radar turns into political game at Morinville council

With one councillor absent, Morinville town council engaged in some political gamesmanship on the issue of the Automated Traffic Enforcement (photo radar) contract with the three-three split defeating votes on a routine extension of the five-year contract that would have had a 30 day termination clause added.

Council was evenly split on a motion by Councillor Stephen Darlow to accept the administration report and refer it to the Feb. 27 meeting, regarding the options regarding the service which is being provided through a contract due to expire on April 21. He was supported by councillors Rebecca Balanko and Lawrence Giffin. They wanted a philosophical discussion regarding the speed enforcement technology to be held before considering renewing the contract.

Mayor Barry Turner and councillors Sarah Hall and Nicole Boutestein wanted to pass the administration recommendation to renew the contract for up to one year, with a 30 day termination clause for both parties. Past practice is to consider votes are considered defeated. A second motion, made by Hall, to negotiate the contract extension for up to one year with the 30 day termination clause was also defeated by the same split vote.

A third motion passed to have administration negotiate the contract extension with the 30 day termination clause but to bring the issue back to council in the first quarter of 2019 with a report containing internal and external options for providing the service.

While the some of the councillors initially opposed to renewing the contract cited the failure to hold discussions on the use of automated traffic enforcement in the town, none of them had moved a resolution during a council meeting to hold a debate on the future of the service.

The supporters of extending the contract noted the 30 day termination meant that whenever council debated the issue in 2019, they had the ability to discontinue the use of it, that the enforcement revenue was being used for traffic and pedestrian safety projects including the extension of solar lighting on the walking trails in 2019, and that it is effective with the number of tickets in take home pay continuing to decline.

The topic had been an issue during the election campaign and the discussion in the first quarter of 2019 will see the topic heat up again. Residents of the town had supported keeping the service during a plebiscite following a petition opposing the use of the technology in town.

Morinville keeps funds available but delays action on council pay

Morinville town council has turned a routine adjustment to council pay into a political football.

After having the issue come to council twice for direction on whether council pay is to be increased or to offset the loss of a one-third tax free perk previously afforded to municipal councilors, council appears far from making a decision.

Commonsense dictates that an adjustment to offset the drop in take-home pay would be accepted by most taxpayers, however the issue became tangled in referring it to an arms-length citizen committee to bring a recommendation to pay rate back to council, and also to include it within the scope of administration’s 2019 biannual compensation review.

The issue was split down the lines of gender, with, count. Scott Richardson absent from the Nov. 27 meeting.

Councillors Nicole Boutestein, Sarah Hall, and Rebecca Balanko supported keeping the $30,000 adjustment in the 2019 budget to offset the loss of the tax free one third of council pay. Mayor Barry Turner wanted the decision to be made after an arms-length recommendation is received from a citizen committee.

While council, Lawrence Giffin stated the low level of pay to councilors will not allow many people to run for elected positions and it contributes to a high turnover, during the decision to add the topic to the administration compensation review, he also voted against offsetting the loss of the tax free portion.

Balanko, Hall and Boutestein argued that the figure is not an increase — just a lateral move to keep councillors with the same take home pay they receive in 2018.

One problem with the $30,000 figure is that it appears to contain space for additional per diem to councillors rather than simply offsetting the loss of a tax free perk due to the change in the income tax structure.

Administration indicates council pay is just over $30,000 annually on average (it varies due to per diem claims for attending specific duties).

Gibbons approves council pay increase to cover loss of tax free perk

Gibbons council will have a salary increase in 2019 to offset the loss of one third tax free income Alberta municipal councillors enjoyed to the end of 2018.

During the Nov. 28 budget meeting assistant CAO Debbie Turner pointed out the draft budget contained $9,120 which would be used to cover the taxes coming into effect in 2019, so the net salary councillors take home will not change.

The base honorarium paid to the mayor is $1,600 per month and to councillors it is $1,000 per month. That determination gets an annual Cost of Living Allowance adjustment.

When attending seminars, conferences or workshops, a per diem rate is paid to the mayor and councillors at the following rates: meetings up to two hours $50, two to four hours $90 and four hours or more $180.

The total legislative and council expenditures in the 2019 draft budget were $247,706, up nearly $12,900 from $234,800 in 2018. Corporate Services director Kausar Khanduker said that includes the above increase to cover additional taxes, a decrease in council training from $4,000 to $3,000, a technology increase of $3,360 from $10,640 to $14,000 and a $2,000 increase in the promotions budget from $8,000 to $10,000.

Members of the Legal community gathered at Citadel Park on the snowy evening of December 1st to enjoy some bonfires, visits with Santa and frozen maple syrup treats during their Park Light Up festivities. --photo by Amy Hibbard-Hiscock

Hockey Legend Glenn “Mr. Goalie” Hall was at the Ray McDonald Sports Centre in November to sign autographs for fans before a scheduled Morinville Jets Hockey Game. Joe Jacob was the first to approach Mr. Hall to autograph two photos he had brought with him - one for himself, and the other for a dear friend. --photo by Amy Hibbard-Hiscock

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**Notice**

This week in Morinville photo enforcement will be conducted in the following areas:

- Cardinal Rd. & Granada Dr.
- Morinville Dr. & Sunnymead Road
- East Boundary Rd. & 96 St. & 100 St.
- 118 St. & 102 Ave.
- 101 Ave. & All School zones
- All Playground zones
- All other areas where speeding is a concern

**PLEASE SLOW DOWN!!**
Medical marijuana processing facility supported and opposed at County public hearing

Pure Selections’ plans for a medical marijuana processing facility in Sturgeon County took another step forward in the process with the public hearing on Bylaw developments - Amend Land Use Bylaw 1385/17 (LUB), at Sturgeon County Council’s regular meeting No. 25. The amendment is for rezoning of a property to a new Direct Control District to facilitate the development.

In 2015 Pure Selections advised the County they were in the process of obtaining a Health Canada License to become a medical marijuana producer. Over the years the site and the plans for the business have been fine tuned, with the current location on lands in the Agricultural District.

Pure Selections plans are for a 10,000 sq. ft. commercial steel building like any other farm shop. Gord Putnam stated behalf of the company, with the object to be innocuous and fit into the farming area. They will not be producing growing onsite, only processing (packaging), distributing and operating a sales centre (no onsite sales).

Putnam said, “they are a small, local company dedicated to growing its business.” He added, there would be minimal impact on infrastructure as there are only five employees and no dangerous chemicals.

County Planning Services Aaron Hare pointed out in July 2017 Council approved the Land Use Bylaw (LUB) that allows Medical Marijuana Processing Facility in the County’s medium and heavy industrial districts.

Putnam responded they looked into options and ProNorth is sold out, Villeneuve is geared to aviation, Sturgeon Industrial Park has limited lots and no small lots (it accepts the smallest and four times what is required) and Legal Crossroads not in a position to provide lots at this time. Changing the location would require Pure Selection having to start the Health Canada License process over again at the back of a very long cue of applications.

He pointed out both Parkland and Strathcona have made medical marijuana production a discretionary use in Agriculture Districts with Strathcona stating it “supports innovation.”

Coun. Wayne Bokenfohr questioned whether the processing facility was considering edibles with Smith during it was out in their plans at this time.

Coun. Neil Comeau asked for details on the foliage lighting (potential light pollution) and smells. Smith said it would be a six foot chain link fence with cameras for enhanced security, night vision lights and motion sensors. He added smell will not be an issue as it is not a grow operation so there would be limited smell and they are required to filter all air in and out under the Health Canada requirements.

Coun. Karen Shaw pointed out the application is based on approval from Health Canada of their location. He asked what the plans were if they don’t get their approval. Smith noted that the security clearance is the main hurdle in the license application and they have made it through that phase.

Area resident Nicole Kaup spoke against the development. She said their family left the bright lights and moved to the country for the peace and quiet and a safe place to raise their family. She contended the facility would be detrimental to their safety, aesthetics and property values. Kaup felt the facility would appeal to the criminal element and would increase the risk of crime to their home. She asked that the County not set the precedent of allowing the facility on agricultural zoned land and concluded that simply approving the facility because one of the developer’s family owned the land was not justification.

Jerry Kaup, another area resident also questioned approving the LUB change. He pointed out he has received notices for different classifications over the years including a country residential proposal, and the concern was the plan was to include a grow op. He felt the road is already maxed out due to residential development. “Why right there?” he questioned, “There are a lot of less populated areas.” Kaup also had concerns about the facility would become “a crime magnet.”

The hearing received one other written submission also against the change to the LUB.

Putnam made the final arguments for Pure Selections, pointing out they will “do everything they can to do to minimize impacts” and reminding Council they have the control in the Direct Control designation to address future concerns.

“There is no other place for these guys to go that makes sense,” Putnam concluded.
Gibbons passes rezoning, but cannabis retail store on hold

The Sunrise Cannabis Dispensary Ltd. in Gibbons is on hold along with all the other proposed Alberta cannabis retail outlets presently going through the licensing process, but owners James and Terry Brinegar don’t plan to abandon their plans for a store.

“We will wait ‘til January and hopefully AGLC (Alberta Gaming, Liquor and Cannabis Commission) will have a better idea of the timeline,” said Sunrise owner and general manager James Brinegar. “For us, this is just a delay. We’re all in. We don’t want to walk away at this point.”

He and his wife, Terry, have been working on this retail development for the past eight months. They completed the list of requirements and had their provincial application ready a month ago, but had to wait for the rezoning of the store site. On Nov. 28 Gibbons council held a public hearing on the rezoning bylaw, passed second and third readings of it, and approved the development permit for the store.

The province had suspended licensing five days earlier.

“It’s on hold for us and several dozen others in the province,” Brinegar said. “The freeze is for six to 18 months.”

He explained that there are two reasons for the freeze on new retail cannabis stores. One is a short supply of product to sell. The other is problems with the labelling on product packaging.

“Labelling is at least 50 percent of the problem,” said Brinegar. “We believe, we hope, the government isn’t going to make dozens of companies sit for 18 months. They’ll have bankruptcies all over.”

Brinegar plans to begin with store hours of 10:00 a.m. to midnight and review them after the first month. He said the store will be competitive with the cannabis retail outlets in Namao and Fort Saskatchewan. Once the store has been open long enough to determine busy times, the hours can be adjusted to accommodate them. Brinegar said the industry is heavily monitored and inspectors will frequently be at the store.

No members of the public submitted comments in support or against rezoning the site for Brinegar’s proposed store. He was the only member of the public to speak during the public hearing, and he spoke in favor of the rezoning.

Council unanimously passed second and third readings of the rezoning bylaw and unanimously granted approval for the development permit. Coun. Darren McCann was absent.

Tighe wants $450,000 enhancement to planned road project

Sturgeon County Council will be looking at additional information and a potential grade change for road improvements to TWP 572 and Lily Lake Road in the 2019 Capital Budget considerations of the 2019 Budget approval.

Coun. Patrick Tighe had put forward a Notice of Motion Nov 13 and at the Nov. 27 regular Council meeting supported the motion to have the grade changed to a 2-3% plateau. He said it was a safety concern argument could apply to any road on a hill and the question was “where are we going to stop.”

He added with the road improvements traffic would increase ten-fold once paved.

Coun. Susan Evans said the project, already under contract, had been designed to the current design standards. She questioned the impacts if they made a change to the standards. The estimated cost to reduce the grade further was $450,000 and she asked where the money would come from and what delays would result. Staff response was the funding would have to come from a service enhancement in the 2019 budget and said paving probably would be done later in the year if the change was approved.

Manager Integrated Growth suggested given projects of scale “it behooves us to engage the public and McCabe to get justification for the change to an enhanced standard on the grade.

Coun. Karen Shaw said the same safety concern argument could apply to any road on a hill and she questioned the impacts if they made a change to the standards. She asked “where are we going to stop.”

She contended the current design standard is there to mitigate the risk.

Coun. Bokenfohr said he could cite examples where a 3% grade was not acceptable in the Cala­houn area and said in the future is not a price we want to pay,” he concluded.

Tighe concluded it was “a unique intersection that will see increased traffic.”

Council was slated for 2019 budget deliberations Nov. 28-30.

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STUMPSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS DIVISION NO. 24

Stumpson Public School Division is currently seeking a Permanent Full-time Caretaker for a work assignment at our Upland School and Dollard School. The location is north of Edmonton. This assignment is subject to change based on operational requirements.

PTF: 3.0 FTE; 1-hr/Day; 5 days a week

Rate of pay: $17.39 - $20.13 per hour, as per the General Employment Conditions.

Assignment: Duties will include but are not limited to maintaining the cleanliness of the school through cleaning of classrooms, sweeping, sweeping and waxing floors, cleaning and removing of garbage as well as cleaning up and handing off necessary and other duties as assigned. Applicants must be able to lift up to 50 lbs. unassisted. Experience using floor scrubbers is an asset.

All new employees to Stumpson Public School Division are required to submit a recent (within six months), cleared Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector included prior to commencement of employment.

Applications for this position will be accepted online ONLY at www.stumperon.ab.ca

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FOR SALE: 48 Acres near Alberta Border with Oil Revenue. 10 year lease with 5.5% return. $728,800.00. Contact Doug @ 306-716-2671 or saalfarms@shaw.ca for details.


REAL ESTATE

FOR SALE. 210 Acre Fairview Srad, 80b St. NW. 4 bdrm home on 2 acres. Phone 922-3463. Marita Walker 780-552-8699.

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FOR SALE

10’x4’ Farm King Mechanical Swing. $6000. 2512 52nd St. S. Sale pending. Phone Lance Walker 1-800-661-1529. Email: lance.walker@hannasseeds.com

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Morneau’s announcements reflect Alberta sending assessment notices
Gibbons council considering building St. Kateri Tekakwitha Academy in Morinville

Alberta Infrastructure and Jen-Col Construction, the successful bidder and General Contractor on the project, held a kick-off meeting with Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools and project staff to review the plans and timelines for St. Kateri Tekakwitha Academy. This new elementary school will be built as part of the Westwinds Development in Morinville and is scheduled to open in 2020.

The school will meet Leed Silver Certification, which includes the use of solar panels to provide energy efficiency. For the certifi- cation to be met, there are numerous construction, system and site requirements as well school infrastructure and features that need to be put in place.

The new school will provide more space and encourage leadership and environmental stewardship for all students who will eventually occupy the school. The building design also boasts green spaces in front of the building designed to provide a social area, including a green amphitheater.

Jen-Col Construction to build St. Kateri Tekakwitha Academy in Morinville

Bicycle parking will be maxi- mized as a way to encourage more active modes of transportation. Board Chair Joe Beigneul commented, “the awarding of our con- struction partner represents a key milestone in this project, and we look forward to a soil turning cer- emony in the New Year. The addi- tion of another elementary school in the community is needed to accommodate the growth of young families in the town.”

This fourth school for the Dis- trict will service the demand for faith-based education in the town and growth in the service area of the Morinville Ward. It will allevi- ate the pressure on École Notre Dame and provide unique pro- grammings opportunities based on community interest gathered through the consultation process. The building will feature modern, learning spaces that support 21st Century Learning and honour its namesake, St. Kateri, affectionate- ly known as the “Lilly of the Mohawks.”

Gibbons council considering sending assessment notices earlier than property tax bill

Gibbons residents may have the opportunity to consider appealing their property assessments before they get their tax bills next year. During the Nov. 28 budget meeting assistant CAO Debbie Turner proposed changing the town’s previous practice of send- ing a combined assessment and tax notice to sending a separate assessment notice in Feb- ruary and the tax notice in May. She said that would make it clear to residents the assessments on which their taxes are calculated and that if they wish to appeal, it is the assessed amounts that can be appealed.

People think appealing assess- ments is appealing their taxes,” agreed mayor Dan Deck. “It’s not.” He pointed out that the assessed value of properties may be higher than those taxes can be.

Turner noted the Municipal Government Act has specific timelines to follow for assessment appeals. Assessment notices must be sent no later than July 1 of each year. Property owners have 60 days to appeal from assessments. If the assessment notices are sent in February, the appeal deadline would be in April before the taxes are calculated.

Council briefly discussed if the assessment notices should include information on how much tax was paid the previous year or an esti- mate of how any change in assess- ment would have impacted the previous year’s taxes. Because the tax calculation is done after coun- cil sets the mill rates in spring, a current year tax estimate could not be provided.

Coun Darren McCann said he has taken the assessment course twice, and he believes putting anything other than the assess- ment value on the notice would confuse people. He pointed out that people already know what they paid in taxes the previous year and because the town will not have information to calculate cur- rent year taxes, any number it comes up with will not be accu- rate. “I agree with Darren,” said Deck. “Keep it simple.”

Tax notices are sent out in May and the tax due date is June 30. Council did not pass a resolu- tion directing administration to send out the assessment notice earlier than the tax notice.

Morneau’s announcements reflect Alberta Industrial Heartland’s calls for action

Federal Minister of Finance Bill Morneau released his Fall economic update recently titled, “Investing in Middle Class Jobs.” Some of the key provisions in the update are consistent with recommendations made to government by Alberta’s Industrial Heartland Association (AIHA), including recommendations that the Government:

1. Make changes to Canada’s tax system, as follows:
   - Allow businesses to immediately write off the full cost of specified clean energy equipment. The immediate expensing will apply to qualifying assets acquired after November 20, 2018, and will be gradually phased out starting in 2024 to 2027.
   - Allow businesses to immediately write off the full cost of specified clean energy equipment. The immediate expensing will apply to qualifying assets acquired after November 20, 2018, and will be gradually phased out starting in 2024 to 2027.
   - Introduce an accelerated capital cost allowance for businesses in the industrial sector. The accelerated capital cost allowance will apply to qualifying assets acquired after November 20, 2018, and will be gradually phased out starting in 2024 to 2027.

2. Enhance the Strategic Innovation Fund, providing an additional $800M over five years that will continue to support innovative investments across the country.

3. Increase the strategic innovation fund, which means that governments how federal departments and agencies craft reg- ulations, with an intent to include “competitive consid- erations” when drawing up rules.

4. Alberta’s Industrial Heartland Association, along with our strategic advocacy partners, worked extensively over the last 12 months to impress upon the federal govern- ment the critical importance of identifying meaningful incentives that enhance Canada’s competitiveness on the world market. We are glad to see the federal government hear our calls for action and included provisions in their Fall Economic Update.”

5. “These steps actioned by the Federal Government, alongside the Provincial Government’s announcement to increase dollars earmarked for the Petrochemicals Diversification Initiative and in Alberta’s Industrial Heartland Infrastructure Program, send a strong signal to investors that the governments of Canada and Alberta are focused on diversifying our energy economy and enhancing our competitiveness. Both the federal and provincial govern- ment announcements over the last two days are expected to have a significant positive impact on investment in Alberta’s Industrial Heartland,” states Plamondon.

Vouth Morniville invited members of the community to create Cards for Veterans in November. Seven year old Luca Fabris focused intensely on a picture he was drawing while mom, Sara looked on. The cards that were created and signed were going to be handed out to the veterans in attendance at the Morinville Remembrance Day Ceremony the following day.

These signs were placed along 100 Street between 99 Avenue and 100 Avenue in Morinville from Nov. 28 to 30 as Public Works completed sanitary service repairs. According to a Town press release, vehicle traffic was limited to two lanes during the repairs and business access was not affected due to the temporary parking ban.
Sturgeon Refinery commended by county on eve of finalizing commissioning

Sturgeon County Mayor Alanna Hnatiw commended North West Redwater Partnership (NWR) for their “remarkable project” and acknowledged the “incredible pressure to do it right.”

NWR presented an update on the Sturgeon Refinery during the regular County Council meeting Nov. 27. President of NWR Kenny Margetts stated, “I really believe in what we are going to do here — refine our own oil.”

NWR, which is stationed 20 km from the value of Alberta’s energy resources; build a refinery with the world’s best environmental performances; keep jobs and value here in Alberta.

Currently NWR is finalizing commissioning activities on the heavy oil units (LC Finer and Gassier). Margetts said they know you experience the gasifier can be a challenge on start up but they expect to put through the first bitumen by the end of the year. Margetts said the first quarter may be bumpy as they get consistent performance; keep jobs and value here in Alberta. Performing; keep jobs and value here in Alberta.

Looking forward construction of Alberta Carbon Trunk Line is beginning to support the improvement projects. Currently they are producing approximately 35,000 barrels per day from synthetic crude oil with design capacity of 41,000. They plan to continue reliable production of diesel, NWR salaries in the tracking of costs).

41,000. They plan to continue reliable production of diesel and other refinery products. Other projects being finished are the final grade, RR220 realignment and ongoing community investment and target-costing projects. In addition $4.4 billion was spent within 100 km of the refinery. Coun. Neal Comeau noted during a presentation in Redwater the numbers were broken down further.

External Relations Manager Vanessa Goodman noted $125 million was spent within 35 km, $6.6 billion of the $7.6 billion construction cost was spent in Alberta (they did not include NWR salaries in the tracking of costs).

In addition to the impact on communities through the construction side the collection of plastic bottles and recycling saw the $50,000 go to communities for over 50 projects. Goodman said they were proud of the fact 90% of the waste on site was recycled.

One project was the “Waste into Worth” challenge which Morinville-School won in their project to take school lunch organic leftovers to feed chickens and then use the eggs the chickens produced for the school lunch program.

Coun. Karen Shaw asked if the challenge would be ongoing with the schools. Goodman said through the project was a one off they were definitely open to suggestions. They plan to monitor the winner’s project for eight months.

“I would love to see the continuation starting with the School Boards,” Goodman said.

Coun. Wayne Bokenfohr asked how they were getting the message out on NWR’s carbon capture revenue stream. Margetts said the biggest opportunity was in lower carbon fuels. He cited another product — green fuel with low sulfur as a marine fuel that will be in demand. By 2020 marine fuels need to reduce the sulfur content from 20% down to 5%.

Margetts concluded, “We will optimize for the best revenues once we are up and running.”

YEAR END BREAK

OUR OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED DEC. 14 TO JAN. 3

FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON.

The Dec. 25 editions are cancelled. Although our front office is closed material for the Jan. 1 editions can be emailed to: newsroom@gibbons.ca or faxed 780-942-2515 and will be handled by production staff.

The Edmonton Chapter Director, Brandi CK LaPerle, a Morinville Community High School alumni who grew up in Morinville, is excited to see support from her home town and a new drop-off point at the library.

Anyone wishing to participate in the Friendship Box Campaign can drop off a shoebox filled with gifts as specified on the website www.ilovefirstpeoples.ca or stop by the library for details.