Families will be paying $1,000 for an annual pass to access the Morinville Recreation Centre. This rate would be for two adults and one child over 6 years of age but allows access for all children in the family. At least two adults will be considered for approval by Morinville town council Dec. 11.

Monthly rates at 10% of the annual rates in each category are also recommended.

Administration is recommending a flat $2 fee for a single admission for Jan. 1.

The recommendations are being submitted by Director of Community and Protective Services David Schaefer for council consideration on Dec. 11.

Schaefer states in his report: “As part of the review and development of the fees structure, the following considerations were made by Administration:

1) Morinville resident and business sector – fair pricing for all with consideration of local sport/fitness business rate consideration.

2) Regional Facility fees and service provisions

3) Administrative judgement with regards to making facility use affordable while encouraging use of the overall facility, and the promotion of healthy mind, body and spirit.

In the report council is being advised that the following seven approaches have been included in the recommended rates.

1) Free access has been developed for ages 5 and under. Most of the comparisons utilize 2 and under, but with limited amenities in the facility, Administration felt increasing the age limit was appropriate.

2) The child age group extends from ages 6 to 12 and that entry fees be established at 50% of the adult rate.

3) The youth age group includes ages 13 to 17 and the fees were established at 75% of the adult rates.

4) Adult rate be established, with all other rates based on a percentage of the adult rate.

5) Family rates and membership pricing were also developed utilizing the three review considerations noted above.

6) A track rate use only fee - This is a very unique service and only the Dow (Fort Saskatchewan) currently utilizes this approach but has seen growth in facility use as a result. Administration believes providing users with access to the track will be well received, and may serve as a promotional conduit to other facility amenities or programs.

7) A track rate use only fee - This is a very unique service and only the Dow (Fort Saskatchewan) currently utilizes this approach but has seen growth in facility use as a result. Administration believes providing users with access to the track will be well received, and may serve as a promotional conduit to other facility amenities or programs.

The Sound of Music
by MCHS cast

Mariye Chvogja played the role of Mother Abbess and Daphne Charano was Maria Rainer during the Morinville Community High School Christmas play ‘The Sound of Music’ on Dec. 5, 6 and 7 at the Morinville Community Cultural Centre. The annual production was an ambitious undertaking for the school as the set, props, rehearsals and performances required a lot of commitment from the staff, students, parents as well as help and support from the community.

–photo by Dolly Bolen

Christmas through the Eyes of a Child

We will again be featuring the work of local school children in Grades 1 to 4 in our annual Christmas Greeting Section.

Don’t miss this section for your annual Christmas Greeting to your friends and customers.

Call Today for Information Sheet!

The local elementary schools are being asked to submit student work suitable for inclusion in this section, giving families of children a place to see the work of their children.

We have a selection of professional copy & developed for the Christmas Section. We can help you utilize in your ad, or we can adapt it to fit a hand-drawn scene by your child, or a photo of your family or staff.
Seven people recommended for appointment to a variety of town boards, committees

Morinville town council will be considering the appointment of seven people to its committees, boards, or commissions on Dec. 11. Administration is recommending that council appoint Barrie Cowie as a Member at Large for a first term to the Municipal Planning Commission to expire October 2021. Administration is recommending the appointment of three Members at Large to the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board. These include Sylvia Duchuk, Leanne Landry and Alan Orway for a first term to expire October 2020, as well as Kristine McDunnell (community organization/group) for a first term, and reappoint Isabelle Cramp (community organization/group) for a second term to the Community Services Advisory Committee to expire October, 2019.

Correction Notice
In the circular beginning Friday, November 30, 2018, we incorrectly stated Christmas Packaging is Closing - It is not. Clearmacs. The BUG 5th off Semur Vern offer also excludes Everyday Value program. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Public Notice

Merry Christmas!
From our Family to Yours!
The Pelletier Brothers 780.974.5800

Thank you from the MORINVILLE LEGION

Remembrance Day is very special to us. It takes many hands to accomplish our goal. Thank you to the many volunteers that helped to make this day a success.

On behalf of the Royal Canadian Legion, Morinville Branch #176, I would like to thank everyone that took the time to parade with us and attend our celebration.

Your support is greatly appreciated.

Thank you to the communities of Morinville, Legal, Riesier Qui Barre and Sturgeon County.

Thanks to Danny Clarke & his team who donated their time to ensure everybody had their wreaths for display within these communities. Special thanks to Ryan McManers for doing a wonderful job with his bugle and also to Pastor Greg Fraser. Also thanks for a great job at our MC to Emmanuel Aloro.

Thanks to 3061 Morinville Army Cadets, 1st Morinville Scouts & Girl Guides of Canada Morinville Branch for their help with Poppy Day. With their help, $3,702.00 in poppy donations was received.

Thank you to the Morinville Alliance Church for giving a warm, comforting place for our youngsters and their families to enjoy a hot drink and goodies which were donated by Shaun Thompson of Morinville Sobeys.

In addition thanks to Fred Mallett for his assistance and also to the great support from the businesses and families in Legal.

Thanks to Ira Austin and his team for preparing a fabulous dinner.

Most importantly, thank you to the businesses, individuals and families for their support through wreath donations and allowing us to put a poppy in your businesses for a very successful 2018 Poppy Campaign.

Marilyne Kuchta, Poppy Chair
Royal Canadian Legion Morinville Branch #176

Please be advised that Sturgeon Public School Division’s Public Board meeting for December 26th has been cancelled. The January Committee of the Whole and Public Board meetings will be held January 16th and 30th, 2019 respectively, at the Division’s Central Office in Morinville, Alberta at 4:30 pm.

For information, call 780.939.4341.

Be sure to check out the 1800 sq ft 2 bedroom 2 storey townhouse on Central Avenue, #106 21st St. This property is move-in ready and for sale.

Centennial Park Drive is a green space to enjoy the city with the trails, pond, playgrounds and a quiet setting.

Several MLS# E4129786

From our Family to Yours!
The Pelletier Brothers 780.974.5800

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For information, call 780.939.4341.
HAPPY HOLIDAYS
from
Life IN THE HEARTLAND
COMMUNICATING WITH COMMUNITY
Morinville Community High School (MCHS) Junior Varsity Basketball Wolves player #5 Cheyenne Hebner raced down the court flanked by #14 Jenna Tolsma during the second game of their home tournament against Victoria Composite High School from Edmonton on Dec. 8. MCHS defeated Victoria Composite by a few points 40 to 38 moving on to the final championship game at 4:00 p.m. –photo by Dolly Bolen

Library board appointments approved

Morinville Public Library chair Jennifer Anheliger was re-appointed as a member at large for a second term as a member of the board and Yvonne Friesen was appointed as a member at large for her first term. The two were appointed by Morinville town council on Nov. 27 as recommended. Their terms will expire in October of 2021.

Christmas Open House
with Dane Lloyd, M.P.

When: December 17, 4:00PM – 6:00PM
Where: Stony Plain Legion (4902 44 Ave)

Come and help us celebrate the Christmas season. Light refreshments and sweet treats will be provided!

Let’s get together for some holiday cheer, for Christmas day is almost here!

Dane Lloyd
Sturgeon River – Parkland
4807 44 Avenue, Suite 102, Stony Plain AB T7Z 1V5
danelloyd@parl.gc.ca • danelloyd.com
1-844-509-6411

Would you like to get your organization’s information and volunteer needs out to more people in the community?

Sturgeon County recognizes that volunteer community associations within our County are vital to the health, wellbeing and social development of our community. Running the second week of each month throughout the year in The Morinville Free Press and Redwater Review newspapers, the Community Bulletin Board highlights non-profit, non-recreational organizations in our community. It will support you in promoting your organization and its mandate, membership benefits, volunteer recruitment, meetings, event times and locations, etc.

This is a great marketing opportunity and is FREE for those groups that qualify. For more information, please contact jstubbs@sturgeoncounty.ca

www.sturgeoncounty.ca
The chip seal surfacing of Highway 642 from Highway 28 through the town of Morinville has been a source of concern from motorists since it was completed this fall and the province has confirmed the surface treatment of the highway has failed and will be corrected.

“All involved are aware that the chip seal project has had significant loss of material and the project did not work as planned. Unfortunately, options to address the situation at this time of year are limited. The buildup of loose chips has been slowing down and it is expected that there will be minimal buildup. During the winter, roadway operations should occur in the typical manner,” Sharie Valentine, Alberta Transportation Ministerial Assistant advised the town of Morinville by email Nov. 13 which was released by the town Nov. 27. “This fall, department staff will continue to monitor the road and will arrange any further sweeping as necessary. An inspection will be scheduled in spring 2019 to review the state of the chip seal and its performance over the winter. This will determine the possible options available for long term solutions. Department staff will invite the Town administration to participate in the inspection, allowing the Town to provide further input as the department develops a long term solution to effectively conclude this project.”

While the province has acknowledged the situation and invited the town to participate in planning the correction, Morinville council appears to want to rub the province’s nose in the problem. At the Nov. 27 meeting council directed town Administration “to engage with our MLA, the Minister of Transportation and Alberta Transportation to: 1. Arrange a meeting with Council to identify final resolution of the road condition of Highway 642; 2. Invite Alberta Transportation to present their solution to Council at a Committee of the Whole Meeting in the first quarter of 2019; and 3. Develop a comprehensive communications plan to communicate Alberta Transportation’s solution to residents of Morinville prior to March 1, 2019.”

The province has acknowledged the practice of using chip seal in urban centres on a broader basis. “In light of the issues experienced with this particular chip seal project, the department will be reviewing chip seal use within communities,” states Valentine.

The town of Morinville removed pedestrian bulbing (sidewalk extensions) on Highway 642 (100 Ave.) in the downtown commercial area from the 2019 budget despite identifying the project as a pedestrian safety measure. The removal of the project from the town budget was attributed to difficulties working with Alberta Transportation to get approval for the project. The safety project is not listed on the three topics identified by council for discussion with Alberta Transportation.

Provincial Highway 642 chip seal project defective and will repair it

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Kyle Winters operates an Ice King Blade master to clear ice in the Morinville Curling Club on Dec. 6. “It’s part of resurfacing the ice,” Winters explained. “After so many games, it helps bring the ice back to the quality that it needs for the next game.” —photo by Grant Cree

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: redwater@shaw.ca or faxed 780-942-2515 and will be handled by the production staff.


Pla your advertising and flyer program now.

Meeting starts early and you are not invited

The town of Morinville has added a closed session of council prior to the regularly scheduled 4 p.m. public portion of the Dec. 11 council meeting ... and it is particularly strange.

According to the agenda the closed session is “2018 Audit Engagement - C. Friesen. FOIP s. 24 (Advice from Officials), and s. 26 (Testing procedures, tests and audits).”

Why would anything in the 2018 audit engagement need to be withheld from the taxpayers supplying the funds that are to be the subject of the audit?

Maybe council will explain itself when it emerges from the closed session on Dec. 11. Or, maybe we will never know.

There is another closed session at the end of the meeting.

Beltone
Helping the world hear better

Serving Alberta since 1964

Hearing Evaluations
Gibbons

Wednesday, December 19th
10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Dew Drop In Centre - Spruce View
4539 - 49 Street, Gibbons, AB T0A 1N0

WALK-INS WELCOME

Attending Practitioner
Alicja Kononowicz, BC - HIS
Registered Hearing Aid Practitioner

We provide:
- Latest Technology – all digital hearing aid models
- Repairs to all models
- 30 day trial period

Edmonton
5530 - 111 STREET, NW, EDMONTON, AB, T6H 3E9
1-888-335-8205

NCIA
Northwest Capital Industry Association

SUCCESS
BUILDING LOCAL AND DIVERSE TALENT.

NCIA’s 22 MEMBER COMPANIES:
- Spend over $1.5B annually to purchase goods and services in the region – not including utilities and feedstock for operations
- Have invested more than $37B into manufacturing plants and infrastructure in the region and an additional $10-$15B is possible in the next 5-10 years
- Contribute more than $96M in yearly municipal taxes and $5.8M in education taxes
- Draw skilled professionals from over 1.2M people living in and around the area
- Collectively employ 6,600 people, which translates into a local payroll of more than $660M
- Provide a boost to local communities with 24,800 indirect job opportunities and counting

THE VOICE OF INDUSTRY IN OUR REGION

ncia.ab.ca  NCIA_Aberta
Residents Talk Cannabis at Namao Hall

Residents came out to Namao Hall on December 4 to talk about Cannabis, and how Sturgeon County proposes to manage the legalization of cannabis in the best interests of our community.

Sturgeon County staff were on hand to discuss:
- Proposed land use bylaw amendments related to the location and regulation of cannabis production and distribution facilities, as well as cannabis retail sales
- Public Consumption of Cannabis
- Related business opportunities
- Enforcement

If you couldn’t attend the meeting, no problem! We have the information boards posted on the website and we encourage residents to participate in a brief survey to provide feedback at sturgeoncounty.ca.

Thank you in advance for your feedback and participation.

Traffic Bylaw 1419/18 – Proposed Changes to Bylaw

The current bylaw in place relating to “Regulating traffic within the boundaries of Sturgeon County” was last reviewed and approved in 2013. As part of regular department activities, reviews of bylaws are undertaken to ensure Sturgeon County’s current bylaw(s) are consistent with recently established Provincial legislation, policies, and procedures.

Council gave first reading to Traffic Bylaw 1419/18 on September 11, 2018 and Administration will bring it to Council on January 8, 2019 for second and third reading. For a copy of the proposed changes information is online at sturgeoncounty.ca.

For additional information please contact Peace Officer Supervisor, Ken Lauinger at 780-939-8418 or Protective Services Manager, Pat Mahoney at 780-939-8411.

Supplementary Assessment Board

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.
RCMP’s traffic safety focus for December will be impaired driving

In December Morinville RCMP and its law enforcement partners will focus on Impaired Driving.

Unfortunately, impaired driving is still prevalent in our communities. Over a 10-year period in Alberta, 934 people were killed as a result of alcohol or drug-impaired driving. There are alternatives to impaired driving, especially during the upcoming holiday season. Plan ahead – use a ride-hail; call a cab, have a sober designated driver, or get a friend or family member to take you home.

Impaired driving facts:

- On average, 6,837 people were convicted of impaired driving in Alberta each year over the last five years.
- Over a 10-year period, from 2007 to 2016, 934 people died in Alberta as a result of alcohol or drug-impaired driving, and more than 14,000 people were injured.
- Mixing alcohol and drugs such as cannabis results in significantly increased impairment.
- In 2014 in Alberta, 19.1 per cent of fatally injured drivers tested positive for lab tests for both alcohol and drugs.
- The number of fatally injured drivers in Canada that test positive for drugs each year is collected and reported in the Traffic Injury Research Foundation’s (TIRF) National Fatality Database. In 2014, for example, 81.9 per cent of fatally injured drivers were tested for drugs; among those tested, 42.4 per cent were positive for drugs (Brown et al. 2017).
- Among those fatally injured drivers who were positive for drugs, 44.7 per cent tested positive for cannabis; 41.2% for CNS depressants; 24.9% for CNS stimulants, and 24.0% for narcotic analgesics.
- In comparison, 87.7% of fatally injured drivers were tested for alcohol in 2014; among those tested, 28.5% tested positive for alcohol.
- Therefore, more fatally injured drivers tested positive for drugs than for alcohol in 2014 in the national statistics. (Source: Traffic Injury Research Foundation)

If you spot an impaired driver, Morinville RCMP are urging you to call them at 780-939-4520 or call 911 immediately.

County refines significant tax growth policy to add new priority area

The Sturgeon County Significant Tax Growth Policy was amended by Council at their regular meeting Nov. 27 to allocate $2 million (7%) annually for five years to a new Priority Area 8 – Off-site infrastructure investment. The funds would be used for the County’s share of off-site infrastructure costs.

A summary of the impact on projects on the 2019-2021 Capital Plan of the new Priority Area 8 showed four detailed design road projects and one construction project deferred from 2019. One detailed design deferred in 2020 and 14 detail design projects deferred in 2021. A chart of the roadwork affected was in the agenda package. Staff noted the deferred projects were those lowest on the priority list and were put forward one year to 2020.

Coun. Patrick Tighe opposed the changes stating past history had not seen investment in off-site levy infrastructure getting a return, citing the Sturgeon Industrial Park as an example.

Coun. Karen Shaw argued “we are really planning for the future so we are not handcuffed if a desirable project comes forward.” Coun. Wayne Bokenfohr noted the money in the reserve would see Council examine priorities. He added grant programs often need shovel ready projects requiring matching funds in a timely manner.

General Manager Integrated Growth Colin Stevens pointed out, “The County is poised for a growth cycle” and further investments are required for growth.

Coun. Susan Evans noted the policy for residents “and we have such a deficit” but said she would support the Priority Area 8. “If we’re going to be operating in business, and going to be nimble here we have to,” she said. She concluded in the long run it would help the County move forward and the return on the infrastructure would help with the roads deficit.

Bokenfohr concurred, adding “It sends the right message. We have our financial house in order.”

Mayor Alanna Hnatiw said it is important to have the reserve, is supported steps in the policy to create jobs. “If we don’t support we are open for business, then the roads just are to drive out of the County,” she concluded.

A Huge Thank You!

Dr. Darren Romanowski & Dr. Katie Wittig General Dentists

We have met the memorial needs of many families and would consider it a privilege to serve you.

Thank you from the Friends of the Santa Store Auction Committee

Doreen Bublitz, Tina Gougeon and Joyce Preeper.

Many Thanks to the following donors from the Santa Store Charity Auction; without your contributions, Christmas would not have been possible for many underprivileged families in Morinville.

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Town Reminders

Town of Morinville and RCMP 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

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
January 1

2019 Winter Program Registration

Program registration opens: December 17, 2018

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 3%.

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.

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.

Natural Christmas Tree Collection

Natural Christmas tree collection will begin on Thursday, December 27, 2018. Please be sure to remove all tinsel and decorations before leaving your tree(s) by the curb.

Upcoming Town Events

Learn How to Register Online - Seniors Event

Friday, January 4, 2019

Time: 10 a.m. - 1:30 a.m.

Cost: FREE, bring your own device that has internet connectivity

Location: Morinville Community Cultural Centre (9502-100 Ave)

We will have programs set up for all to practice. Bring a friend along and enjoy a coffee. For more information, call Community Services at 780.939.7839.

LIVE at the CCC: Family Series - Al Simmons

Saturday, January 26, 2019

Time: 7 p.m.

Cost: Single $5 / Family Pack $15

Location: Morinville Community Cultural Centre (9502-100 Ave)

LIVE at the CCC: Mainstage Series - Nashville Hurricane

Friday, February 1, 2019

Time: Dinner: 6:30 p.m. / Performance: 8 p.m.

Cost: Adult $10 / Senior $5

Location: Morinville Community Cultural Centre (9502-100 Ave)

LIVE at the CCC: Al Simmons

Friday, February 1, 2019

Time: 7 p.m.

Cost: Single $5 / Family Pack $15

Location: Morinville Community Cultural Centre (9502-100 Ave)

![Ticketpro](http://www.ticketpro.ca/index.html)

Snowman Festival - Family Day Weekend

Sunday, January 14 to Monday February 18, 2019

Save the date for more information, call Community Services at 780.939.7839.

3 on 3 Pond Hockey Tournament

Monday, February 18, 2019

Time: 10 a.m.

Cost: 7 a.m. 8 a.m. $40, 8 a.m. 12 p.m. $15, 12 p.m. 5 p.m. $30

Location: Heritage Lake

FOR A FULL LISTING OF COMMUNITY EVENTS GO TO WWW.MORINVILLE.CA

Town Council

Agenda packages for Regular Council and Committee of the Whole Meetings are posted on the Town website at www.morinville.ca by 4:30 p.m. the Friday prior to the meeting date.

Regular Meeting of Council

December 11, 2018 | 8:30 a.m. - closed session

Council Chambers

St. Germain Place 10215-100 Ave.

Committee of the Whole Meeting

December 18, 2018 | 4:00 p.m.

Council Chambers

St. Germain Place 10215-100 Ave.

Regular Meeting of Council

January 8, 2019 | 4:00 p.m.

Council Chambers

St. Germain Place 10215-100 Ave.

![Will be live streamed on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com)
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Main: 780.939.4361 Fax: 780.939.5633 Public Works: 780.939.2590 Community Services: 780.939.7839
Morinville Community High School (MCHS) Junior Varsity Girls Wolves Basketball Team won silver at their home tournament on December 8. Coach Jason Misener, #23 Kaylee Stadnyk, #15 Cassidy Bodcher, #22 Hanna Gibeaut, #21 Victoria Hill, #8 Cadence Foss, #10 Adrianna Jones, #4 Kathy Ioanidis, #11 Mel Misener, #9 Doveina Bolen and #7 Makayla Allfield pose for a photo after their final game. MCHS played a great game against Spruce Grove Composite High School in the first tournament of the season. --photo by Dolly Bolen

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Morinville Community High School (MCHS) students performed Rodgers & Hammerstein’s ‘The Sound of Music’ on Dec. 5, 6 and 7 at the Morinville Community Cultural Centre. In the final scenes Maria Rainer (Daphne Charnois), Captain Georg von Trapp (William Doney) and the von Trapp children; Friedrich von Trapp (Kathy Ioanidis), Brigitta von Trapp (Emily Berard), Gretl von Trapp (Ciera Coughlan), Marta von Trapp (Natalsha Langenfurth), Kurt von Trapp (hidden behind Maria, Cameron Longman), Louisa von Trapp (Sofia Soria) and Liesl von Trapp (Gabrielle Cimon) sang Do-Re-Mi Reprise. The cast, crew, MCHS Alumni, staff and parent volunteers made the production a reality with their commitment and dedication to create a memorable show. --photo by Dolly Bolen

Notley explains reduction ordered to oil production in the province

Premier Rachel Notley announced the temporary measure in response to the historically high oil price differential that is costing the national economy more than $80 million per day. The price gap is caused by the federal government’s decades-long inability to build pipelines. Ottawa’s failure in this area has left Alberta’s energy producers with few options to move their products, resulting in serious risks for the energy industry and Alberta jobs.

The press release announcing the action states that Alberta is currently producing 190,000 raw crude oil and bitumen barrels per day more than can be shipped by pipelines, rail or other means. The amount of oil that is being diverted to storage is at record highs and storage is nearing capacity.

Under the action announced, production of raw crude oil and bitumen will be reduced by 325,000 barrels per day to address the storage glut, representing an 8.7 per cent reduction. Alberta’s current storage is down, the reduction will drop to an estimated average of 95,000 barrels a day until Dec. 31, 2019 when the rules supporting this action end.

Relative to inaction, curtailment is projected to reduce volatility, narrow the differential by at least $4 per barrel relative to where it otherwise would have been and add an estimated $1.1 billion of government revenue in 2019-20 – money used to pay for roads, schools and hospitals.

“Every Albertan owns the energy resources in the ground, and we have a duty to defend those resources. But right now, they’re being sold for pennies on the dollar. We must act immediately, and we must do it together. I can’t promise the coming weeks and months will be easy, but I can promise we will never back down in our fight to protect jobs and the resources owned by all Albertans. I will never stop fighting for Alberta,” stated Notley.

The Alberta Energy Regulator will implement the reductions starting in January 2019. The reduction amount will be reviewed each month to make sure production is in balance with transportation and storage capacity. A 10,000 barrel per day exemption will ensure the smallest oil producers are not unduly affected.

The reduction reflects broad consensus in industry and input gathered by expert envoys appointed in November to work with oil companies on solutions to the oil price differential. Premier Notley’s fight to get top dollar for energy resources includes a made-in-Alberta strategy to build new pipelines, invest in new rail capacity, and add value through more upgrading of oil and gas here at home. Combined, these efforts will create thousands of new jobs and attract tens of billions of dollars in new private investment.
The Gibbons 4-H Sew & Sos Multi Club held their Reorganization meeting Oct. 13 at Bon Accord Community School. We have a membership of 12 4-H members and 2 Cleaver members.

Projects we are offering this year are: Explore 4-H (Foods, Scrapbooking, Woodworking, Beauty Essentials); Canine; Vet Sciences; Horse; Archery; Market Steer; Heifer, and Cleavers.

Club Leaders are: Leona Petherbridge- General Leader, Explore 4-H, Cleavers; Judy Van Hecke - Beef/Heifer; Marina Clark - Canine; Dr. Tammy Nay - Vet Sciences; Craig Petherbridge - Horse; Carman Cornelius - Archery; Communications & Project Books - Sidney Lewis.

Election of officers were as follows: President - Jaden Rigney; Vice - President - Brody O’Donnell; Secretary - Teva Rigney; Treasurer - Annabelle Romanowski; District Representative - Brody O’Donnell.

It was agreed to hold our Businesses Meetings on the 2nd Saturday of the month at 9 am at Bon Accord Community School. Work meetings will be determined by each Project Leader and members.

The Club has again voted to continue with the Tire Recycling Collections and the Electronic Recycling. Contact our Club Leader if you have any to pick up. Other fundraising commitments have been:

- Nov 3/18 - NW Regional Horse Play Lunch for the Bunch!
- Nov 4/18 - Concession at Bon Accord Craft Fair
- Nov 10/18 - lunch for NW Regional Lifeskills & Other Animals Project Book Marking Day
- Nov 17/18 - assisting Gibbons UCW with cleanup at the CNN Spurs Supper Fundraiser

Activities the Club participated in so far are: On October 13/18, the Explore members, Cleavers, and other interested members, made a “Fencepost Scarecrow” Project!! What an assortment of faces! On Nov. 4, the Vet Sciences Project Member had her first meeting at the Onoway Heritage Centre with a demonstration on “artificial insemination in cattle” by Glen Felske. Nov. 11/18 - Remembrance Day Ceremony. Nov. 15/18 - Chocolate Making at Barb’s Kitchen in Edmonton. Nov. 24/18 - Sturgeon 4-H District Awards Night & Dance - a great fun time had by all.

We look forward to another year of fun activities, fundraisers, and workshop projects, learning as we work with each other. For further information, questions or Tire/ Electronic pickup, call Leader Leona Petherbridge 780 257-5099.

—submitted by Gracie Stewart, Club Reporter

Gibbons 4-H Sew & Sos in full swing with a variety of projects

Underneath the starry sky, Rolf Gruber played by Jordan Imgrund-Harvey surprised Liesl von Trapp played by Gabrielle Cimon with a kiss! The audience applauded loudly during the scene in Act One after they sang Sixteen going on Seventeen during “The Sound of Music” Dec. 5, 6 and 7. The annual Morinville Community High School Christmas play was held at the Morinville Community Cultural Centre. —photo by Dolly Bolen
Sturgeon District recognizes outstanding achievements by its 4-H members

On Nov 24, Sturgeon 4-H District held their annual Awards night at Lilian Schick School - Bon Accord. Host Club for the event was the Gibbons 4-H Light Horse Club.

Awards acknowledged this evening included Awards of Excellence sponsored by ATB.

The Awards are a series of four Alberta Awards designed to recognize the achievements of 4-H members. The awards are based on the accumulated total of member’s yearly 4-H Day points. Mrs. Jackie Zinck, a former ATB employee at the Bon Accord Branch presented the Awards to the members.

Bronze Awards: Shawna-Lise Aumais - Namao Trailbusters; Charlene Farnum - Gibbons 4-H; Brooklynn Maslakow - Gibbons Sew & Sox; Amabelle Romanowski - Gibbons Sew & Sox; Cassidy Fenice - Bon Accord 4-H; Lauren Nikiforuk - Bon Accord 4-H; Rye Walsh - Bon Accord 4-H; Celine van der Schaaf - Bon Accord 4-H.

Silver Awards: Jesse Surajeni - Bon Accord 4-H; Brook-Lyne Finney - Bon Accord 4-H; Eric Van Hecke - Belle Valley Explorers; Gabrielle Shank - Gibbons Light Horse; Robyn Young - Bon Accord 4-H.

Gold Awards: Hannah Whitall - Bon Accord 4-H; Travis Nikiforuk - Bon Accord 4-H; Cole Nikiforuk - Bon Accord 4-H; Kianna McGregor - Namao Trailbusters; Nakasta Van Hecke - Belle Valley Explorers; Jordan Ryan Young - Bon Accord 4-H; Robyn Young - Bon Accord 4-H.

Platinum Awards: Ryan Young - Bon Accord 4-H; Lewis - Melvin Clark Legacy; Sidney Lewis - NW Region Pledge/Motto; Shawna McLaughlin - NW Region Record Book.

Regional Awards:

Senior Leadership Awards: a leader acknowledged for commitments and dedication to the 4-H program:

- Robyn Young - Bon Accord 4-H.
- Kasandra McGregor - Namao Trailbusters; Nakasta Van Hecke - Belle Valley Explorers.
- Anne Middleton - 10 years; Jeremy Cooper - 5 years; Sonya Shank - 5 years; Ward Middleton - 10 years; Karen Jackson - 5 years; Kim Sorensen - 10 years.

Leader recognition: Corine Verbeek- 35 years; Joanne Zanoni - 35 years; John Dufour - 40 years; Karen Jackson - 30 years; Peter Jackson - 30 years; Corine Verbeek - 30 years; Dorothy Van Der Gaag - 10 years.

Provincial 2018 4-H Scholarship Winners: Tyler Nikiforuk - Junior 4-H; Mitchell Lumpke - Senior 4-H.

Regional Awards:

- wall of fame Inductee: a leader acknowledged for significant contributions and leadership at the district level:
- Kaitlyn King - Bon Accord 4-H Light Horse Club.

Digital Awards:

- District Digital Awards: pancake breakfast - 1st place; egg toss - 2nd place; 4-H Day Games - 2nd place; Pancake breakfast - 1st place; Egg toss - 2nd place; 4-H Day Games - 2nd place.

WaldNER Awards:

- Senior Livestock - Senior Dairy - Hannah Whitall - Bon Accord 4-H; Senior Beef - Alynne Dostie - Belle Valley; Senior Leather - Tammy Pelton - Bon Accord 4-H; Senior Other Animals - Hayden Clark - Gibbons.
- Junior Livestock - Junior Dairy - Jaden Stieger - Bon Accord 4-H; Junior Beef - Stephanie Gourley - Namao; Junior Other Animals - Jordan Trefz - Bon Accord 4-H.
- Overall Senior Judging - Hannah Whitall - Bon Accord 4-H; Overall Junior Judging - Jada Stieger - Bon Accord 4-H.
- Overall Judging - Jada Stieger - Bon Accord 4-H.
- Overall Market Speech - Jada Stieger - Bon Accord 4-H.
- Overall 2yr old - Hannah Whitall - Bon Accord 4-H.

Other Awards:

- Larger Service Award.
- Region Pledge/Motto; Shawna McLaughlin - NW Region Pledge/Motto; Melvin Clark Legacy; Sidney Lewis - NW Region Pledge/Motto; Shawna McLaughlin - NW Region Safety; Tanysha Van Hecke - Alberta Beef Producers; Sharron McLaughlin - Glen Hodell Memorial; Kianna McGregor - 4-H Canada Hands to Larger Service Award.

District Record Book Winners:

- Lifeskills: Junior - Skyla Marka - ROB Ranchers; Intermediate - Amabelle Romanowski; Gibbons Sew & Sox; Senior- Emily Schneider - Bon Accord 4-H.
- Other Animals: Junior - Hayden Clark - Gibbons Sew & Sox; Senior - Leah Breitkreuz - ROB Ranchers.
- Horse: Junior - Alyne Dostie - ROB Ranchers; Intermediate - Charlene Ference - Gibbons; Senior - Gabrielle Shank - Gibbons.
- Beef: Senior 3yr old cow/calf - Hannah Whitall - Bon Accord 4-H; Senior 2yr old cow/calf - Carlee McLaughlin - Bon Accord 4-H; Junior Heifer - Cassidy Farnum - Bon Accord 4-H; Senior Heifer - Carlee McLaughlin - Bon Accord 4-H; Junior Market Steer - Colton Fenke - Bon Accord 4-H; Intermediate Market Steer - Nakasta Van Hecke - Belle Valley; Senior Market Steer - James Surajeni - Bon Accord 4-H.
- Regional Awards:
- Senior Speeches: Kianna McGregor, Namao Trailbusters; Junior Overall Judging: Alyne Dostie, ROB Ranchers; Senior Multi-judging - Carlee Nikiforuk - Bon Accord 4-H; Junior Horse Book - Alyne Dostie, ROB Ranchers; Junior Lifeskills Book - Skyla Marka, ROB Ranchers; Senior Lifeskills Book - Emily Schneider - Bon Accord 4-H; Junior Other Animals Book - Hayden Clark - Gibbons Sew & Sox.
- Provincial Awards: 3rd Senior Speeches - Kianna McGregor, Namao Trailbusters; 10th Overall Judging - Carlee Nikiforuk - Bon Accord 4-H; 1st Western Canadian Judging - Sarah Whitall - Bon Accord 4-H; 4th Overall Western Canadian Judging - Bon Accord 4-H Club.

Bon Accord & District AG Society Scholarships: Bob Purum Memorial - Sarah Whitall - Bon Accord 4-H; General Volunteer - Sharron McLaughlin - Gibbons Sew & Sox; Lakeland College - Tyler Young - Bon Accord 4-H.

We congratulate all of these young 4-H members in Morinville/Gibbons.
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Community Aggregate Payment on gravel, sand extraction seen as win-win-win situation by industry representative

The Community Aggregate Payment (CAP) on sand and gravel extraction is much more than the greater community organization, says County Coun. Bill Gowdy. The County Council was reminded during an update on the Calahoo Villeneuve Sand and Gravel Advisory Committee that the County Council has been recommending grant dollars in the amount of $160,673. The CAP levy was raised from 3 cents to 25 cents a tonne effective July 1, 2018 and it is expected to bring in $175,000 to $280,000 in funds to the County this year, Gowdy indicated.

The Calahoo Villeneuve Sand and Gravel Advisory Committee is made up of three public members (Wayne Bullock, Raymond Soetaert, Lyle Quaintal - Chair), Council members Wayne Boleniker and Neal Comeau and three industry members (Bill Gowdy - Lafarge, Dale Soetaert - Island, Lauren Greenough - Sureway). Gowdy said the committee gives the industry feedback and brings issues forward. It mandate is: “To make recommendations to Council on matters pertaining to sand and gravel extraction and processing within the Calahoo-Villeneuve area. The goal of the committee is to use the expertise of the public and industry to develop a valuable resource efficiently and in an environmentally responsible manner while minimizing the impact to community.”

2018 saw the Committee Terms of Reference review, consulted on name for Quick Extraction Area Policy area. Gowdy pointed out “quick” was a hard word for public and was viewed as a bit of a misnomer. “We are pushing as fast as we can,” he concluded, get the resource extracted.

The Committee is also empowered to make recommendations regarding the Dale MacMillan Scholarship. Gowdy said 32 scholarships have already been awarded and it is expected two $2,000 scholarships to be awarded annually. Coun. Susan Evans questioned the sustainability of the scholarships (given recent years’ low interest rates). Gowdy said the funds had been set aside and invested in term deposits. At the current interest rates and maintaining the size of the scholarships the funding should last to 2048, Gowdy noted. He added they review the program every two years.

Coun. Patrick Tighe inquired on discussions on setbacks for extraction developments. Gowdy acknowledged it can be a challenge as they want to maximize the resource but balance impact to public lands.

In conclusion Gowdy noted the Committee is one of the most functional he has been on. “It helps us operate in a more sustainable fashion, addresses issues” and sees it as a Win-Win for all.

If Council approves the recommendation, Morinville will be calling for expressions of interest from business on three separate food services in the new Recreation Centre expected to open this spring.

The package being recommended by administration include two separate concessions on the main floor (separate with dedicated seating) and a vending machine area on the second floor. One of the main floor concessions is classified as “food and concessions” while the second is to be a “retil food and concession.”

A business may bid for any or all of the sites, but has to first be found the Expression of Interest for each of the three must be in by Jan. 11. Each of the food services will be a five year contract. Council will be seeking approval of the process to call for expressions of interest to the regular meeting Dec. 11. The package wording to potential business interest states: “The Morinville Community Recreation Facility (MCRF) which is expected to commence operations in May 2019. The Facility will have a full sized hockey rink, sports field, exercise space and other recreational components.

Do you want to operate concessions or vending machines in new rec centre?

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Do you want to operate concessions or vending machines in new rec centre?
MacGregor confident that Sturgeon Refinery will prove its value

With Phase I of the Sturgeon Refinery nearing full operations, North West Refining president Ian MacGregor feels its value to the industry, Albertans and the province is being proven.

"Given what’s happening with transportation and the value of bitumen, it’s very obvious this was the right thing to do," he said. "We’re going to prove the revenue generation of what we’ve built. I think it will be obvious.

The current differential on Canadian oil compared to United States oil is about $35 per barrel because of the lack of transportation for shipping it and an over supply of product. Not only does the refinery make high value products that can be marketed around the world (not just to U.S. refiners), it helps free up shipping space.

"It’s important to remember, every barrel of diesel we produce from the refinery opens three to four barrels of space for dil-bit in pipelines," said MacGregor.

Given the limited transportation capacity, it makes sense to use it for the highest value products.

"We have to send the most economically dense thing we can through what transportation we have," MacGregor said. "I think everyone knew that, we were just more annoyingly persistent than others.

Of the nine upgraders and refineries announced in the mid 2000s for construction in Alberta’s industrial heartland, the Sturgeon Refinery is the only one that was built. For the past year it has been producing about 35,000 barrels per day (bpd) of diesel refined from synthetic crude. By the end of this year it has been producing about 35,000 barrels per day (bpd) of ultra low sulphur diesel plus 40,000 bpd of other products such as diluent, natural gas liquids and vacuum gas oil.

Commissioning of the final two refinery units, the LC Finer and the Gasifier, which process bitumen is taking longer than originally estimated. It is not untried technology, but there have been some equipment failures and some things that needed fixing.

"When you do these jobs, that’s what you sign up for," said MacGregor, explaining that when building such a large facility with so many parts, they know not all of the pieces will work just right from the beginning.

"Most of us like fixing problems," he added. "If you like solving problems, it’s all okay.

One-by-one the problems are being solved, and step-by-step the refinery is closer to becoming fully operational.

"It’s amusing, I’m frustrated, excited, and I’m a little sad," said MacGregor. "It’s the end of a long journey, working with Albertans on a milestone project that will benefit the entire province.

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"All fuel burned in ships is now high sulfur," said MacGregor. "That is changing, and it takes a heavy, complex refinery to take the sulphur out. That means we’ll be short of refining capacity again in 2020. The way we can protect ourselves is we need more complex refining in Alberta. I believe that with all my heart.”

In the good news department, construction has begun on the Alberta Carbon Trunk line, and it should be operational in about one year.

"All the pipe was made in Alberta," said MacGregor. "The people working on it are Albertans.

That pipeline will take carbon dioxide (CO2) captured at the Sturgeon Refinery—it is the first refinery in the world to have built-in carbon capture—and pipeline it to south-central Alberta to be used in enhanced oil recovery. Until the trunk line is operating, Sturgeon Refinery will vent the CO2 it produces, just like other refineries.

The Sturgeon Refinery is a $9.5 billion project, with $7.6 billion of that used for construction. One billion of the construction expenses were spent outside the province with the remaining $6.6 billion spent within Alberta. During construction more than $500,000 was raised through recycling construction materials and beverage containers. Those funds were distributed throughout the region through a community investment program.

The Sturgeon Refinery is a partnership between North West Refining and Canadian Natural Resources Ltd. (CNRL). Its feedstock bitumen will be 25 percent owned by CNRL and 75 percent owned by the Alberta government.

MacGregor calculated that if the refinery was processing 79,000 bpd of dil-bit at current oil prices, the province’s bitumen would have added value of $120 million per month. From that amount the refining costs, which are a fraction of the added value, would be paid.

Gibbons mayor Dan Deck (L-R) talks about emergency preparedness with Sturgeon deputy fire chief of administration and training Glenn Innis and Sturgeon Bylaw Officer Ken Lauinger during the Life in the Heartland community information evening in Gibbons this fall.