Pedestrian bulbing on 100 Ave deleted from Morinville budget, Parras Park cancelled, held wringing by council over staff positions and library request

The town of Morinville is one step closer to having a budget in place for 2019 — however second reading passed on Nov. 13 provided little insight into the final figures, with the two largest proposed cuts put on hold until third reading for discussion.

With a proposed budget that will see a 3% residential tax hike, and over 15% for commercial and industrial assessment council wavered between petty cuts and huge cuts to the budget bar in the end made only a few changes.

Council killed the Parras Place Park development, cutting $45,000 from the 2019 budget and $35,000 from 2020 (the second stage of the park development). Coun. Nicole Boutilier proposed the deletion, noting the site beside the town administration office where a small historic home had been demolished by the town was not a priority for developing into a park.

Coun. Lawrence Griffin agreed, noting the future of the existing town administration building has not been determined. The town needs additional office space and he felt the library may also want to expand in the future.

Coun. Scott Richmond had a $45,000 line item for an engineering study to determine the generator needed to power an emergency reception area at the Morinville Recreation Centre (which is now under construction). He felt the information could be accessed through electrical journeymen and suppliers. The deletion carried with Mayor Barry Turner and coun. Sarah Hall opposed.

The two biggest items were both put on hold. Hall proposed removing the $74,548 incurred to the Morinville Library container in the budget and holding the funding at the 2018 level (the town was given regional library cost on behalf of the library). CAO Stephane Labonte pointed out the library board chair had been invited and confirmed attendance at the Nov. 20 Committee of the Whole meeting, so it would be proper to hear the presentation before taking action on that item.

Boutilier proposed cancelling funding for the 9.21 full time equivalent new positions proposed by administration. She felt that individual positions could be added back into the budget of appropriate departments if they were necessary. Labonte objected strongly to that action, pointing out the town would be opening the new Recreation Centre in 2019 — the largest capital project ever undertaken by the town — and that adequate time would be spent on the library board chair. He called the proposed staffing level for library “bare bones” stating there would be only one operator and one clerk on site.

She withdrew the motion, but her motion that administration bring forward a business case for each new position passed with only the Mayor and Griffin opposed.

Boutilier’s motion is only concerning the new positions rather than looking at town management levels and each department’s staff growth pattern, so there can be little change expected to result in the budget as a result of the new staff information.

Council also approved taking the funding away from pedestrian bulbing planned at intersections on 100 Avenue and using it to put solar lighting on the walking trail from 100 Street to the stormwater lift station. Coun. Stephen Dalice proposed the transfer of project funding saying that he supported the 100 Ave project but it was on hold while dealing with the province (100 Ave is provincial highway 642). Turner opposed, noting the 100 Ave pedestrian bulbing extension is an identified safety issue and the solar fundings could come from the walking trail.

Hall agreed that safety on the street is a higher priority, but in the end supported the transfer of funding to the trail lighting only the Mayor opposed.

The town had an online resident survey regarding the budget and the results will be presented to council before third reading is passed to establish the bylaw.

Even if the council makes substantial cuts to the budget it cannot be assumed that the anticipated hike in taxes will be erased. With the $36.5 million rec centre project being complet ed any budget savings are needed in the town’s reserve accounts to address infrastructure issues into the future while its major grants go toward paying the rec centre financing.

Kevin Longman of Morinville was very happy to have two photos autographed and an opportunity to speak and have a photo with Hockey Legend Glenn "Mr. Goalie" Hall at Ray McDonald Sports Centre on November 17. Longman informed Hall that his dad, at age 14, attended a hockey school in Winnipeg where Hall instructed. The autographed photo for Longman’s dad read “You had great potential.” — photo by Amy Hibbards-Hiscock

Bob Leonard of Morinville was very happy to have two photos autographed and an opportunity to speak and have a photo with Hockey Legend Glenn "Mr. Goalie" Hall at Ray McDonald Sports Centre on November 17. Leonard informed Hall that his dad, at age 14, attended a hockey school in Winnipeg where Hall instructed. The autographed photo for Leonard’s dad read “You had great potential.” — photo by Amy Hibbards-Hiscock

Three day margin for townies to get free tickets

Three day margin for townies to get free tickets
It was a good news/bad news story Sturgeon County Council received with the economic update Nov. 13 from Hobson Chahal Advisory Group and CBIC Wood Gundy. Bottom line was they didn’t see a recession coming and anticipate the economy to still be growing but slowing down.

On the good side James Hobson, Portfolio Manager cited forecasts that Alberta and B.C. are expected to top economic growth in 2019 with the biggest boost coming from growth in oil production. All provinces are expected to continue expanding through 2020,” with Alberta leading the pack, he noted.

The strength of business activity along with firmer oil prices played a significant role in improving corporate profits in 2018. Oil production and demand was stronger than the market originally assumed.

On the bad news side, “transportation bottlenecks of Canadian crude remain a challenge for new investment.” Hobson noted labour shortages are emerging and pushing wages higher. “It is harder for employers to find good quality labour therefore they have to pay more,” Hobson said.

Building permit activity in Sturgeon County showed growth led by industrial and institutional. “This is a positive indicator of future industrial activity in the County,” Hobson continued.

Inflation is forecast at 2.4% for 2018 and is expected to remain firmly around the Bank of Canada “inflation target of 2% for 2019, consistent with an economy operating near capacity,” Interest rates are expected to level out to 2 to 2.5%.

Coun. Susan Evans noted shortages in the labour market and how they impact municipalities and taxes “we can’t afford.” She asked for thoughts on how to address the issue as they compete with the private sector for labour.

Hobson admitted it is a force to reckon with that makes it tough to cut or even hold levels. “You need to be cognizant of this though we are not seeing it as crazy as previously,” he concluded. Evans also queried on impacts of partial upgrading. Hobson pointed out “you still need to get the product to global markets.”

Hugh Allen (left), President of the Bon Accord & District Agricultural Society, presents a Long Service Award to Donald Bland (right) for his 45 years of volunteering with the Agricultural Society during their awards night on Nov. 17 at the Jewel Box in Bon Accord. - photo by Grant Cree

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**Thursday, November 22**

**An Old Fashioned Christmas**  
Where: Musée Morinville Museum  
Time: 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

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**Friday, November 23**

**Fill-a-Bus**  
Where: Morinville No Frills from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and at Morinville Sobeys from 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
**An Old Fashioned Christmas**  
Where: Musée Morinville Museum  
Time: 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

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**Saturday, November 24**

**Lions’ Pancake Breakfast with Santa**  
Where: Rendez-Vous Centre  
Time: 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.  
Cost: $5.00/person OR $10.00/family (max 4)  
(Additional $2.00 per person for families of more than 4)  
**Children and Youth Festival**  
Hot Dog lunch sponsored by Putnam & Lawson  
Where: Morinville Community Cultural Centre  
Time: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
**An Old Fashioned Christmas**  
Where: Musée Morinville Museum  
Time: 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.  
**Craft Fair**  
Where: Morinville Community High School  
Time: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Cost: Ages 12+ are $2.00 for each person. Ages 11 and under are free

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**Sunday, November 25**

**Dot to Dot in the Sky with Joan Marie Gala**  
Where: Morinville Community Library  
Time: 2 p.m.  
**Skate with Santa**  
Where: Ray McDonald Sports Center  
Time: 12:45 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.

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**Sturgeon Victim Services Toy Drive**
Sturgeon Victim Services volunteers will be walking the parade route to collect new unwrapped toys/teddy bears. After the parade collections will continue in front of Town Hall.
These toys/teddy bears are given to children that the Morinville RCMP, Peace Officers, and Fire Hall interact with throughout the year.
Coeur de Morinville, Hwy 642 plans to be reviewed by Morinville

The town will be undertaking a review of the Coeur de Morinville Area Structure Plan (ASP) and the Highway 642 Functional Plan in 2019 despite warning from Mayor Barry Turner that it may be a larger “chunk of work” than what council may think it is. He didn’t want to commit to the project without reviewing priorities.

Coun. Stephen Dafoe moved that the action be taken, as recommended within the original 2013 ASP. The resolution was passed 6-1, despite the Mayor pointing out that council had just passed second reading of the 2019 budget and no funding for the project was included.

The Coeur de Morinville requires new commercial developments in the downtown to be multi-storey and meet architectural standards. There are also architectural standards for residential property within the ASP being redeveloped. Since the ASP was passed new commercial projects — other than two already in discussion at that time — have failed to materialize, with 100 Street commercial development south of the CN rail line enjoying steady growth. It does not have the requirement for multi-storey projects.

Deputy Mayor Rebecca Balanko noted that an updated Highway 642 Functional Plan in conjunction with the ASP would assist the town in its dealings with Alberta Transportation over issues related to the provincial highway (known as 100 Ave. in town).
Community Information

Town Reminders

Community Grants
Submission Deadline: November 30, 2018
If you are a not-for-profit organization, community group, team, or association of Morinville and have projects that benefit our community, you may qualify for assistance through the Community Grant Program. To apply, download the application at www.morinville.ca, or for more information please call 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 101062-107 Street. Residents must supply their own pails and shovels. Please note: this product is not intended for commercial use.

Organics Collection
From November to April, organics will be collected monthly (3rd week of the month). For detailed information, download the waste collection schedule at www.morinville.ca.

Taxes & Utilities
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 9%. Utility payments are due by December 31, 2018.

Upcoming Town Events

Photos with Santa
Wednesday, November 21, 2018
5 p.m. to 8 p.m. public
Thursday, November 22, 2018
5 p.m. to 6 p.m., children who require special attention
7 p.m. to 8 p.m., public
Cost: first 5" x 7" photo is FREE
Additional photos $5 each
Location: Morinville Community Cultural Centre (9050-100 Ave)
Join us in the foyer and get your professional photo opportunity with Santa Claus himself. Photos by Heather of Capture & Design. For more information contact Community Services at 780.939.7839.

Community Tree Decorating
Wednesday, November 21, 2018
Time: 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. (sleigh supplies last)
Cost: FREE, with a donation to our local Santa Tree program (new, unwrapped children/youth toys)
Location: Morinville Community Cultural Centre (9050-100 Ave)
Help us decorate our Community Christmas Tree. This is a drop in program, however, we will only run as supplies last. For more information contact Community Services at 780.939.7839.

Lite Up the Nite Christmas Festival 2018
Friday, November 23, 2018 to Sunday, November 25, 2018
Celebrate the season with a fun, festive weekend! Enjoy a variety of events including a few family festival featuring crafts and entertainment. The fun continues throughout the weekend with the Town Christmas Parade and Lite Up St. John Baptiste Park. For more information, call Community Services at 780.939.7839.

Gingerbread House Making
Wednesday, November 28, 2018
Time: 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Cost: $10/child & parent, pre-registration is required
Location: Morinville Community Cultural Centre (9050-100 Ave)
For more information, call Community Services at 780.939.7839.

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

Lite Up the Nite Film Crew
There will be a film crew in Morinville during the Lite Up the Nite Festival. They will be shooting footage for the movie, "A Very, Very, Very, Very, Merry Christmas". If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Tim McKort, producer/director at westendirectives@shaw.ca.

Lite Up the Nite Parade
Have you registered your float or walking group for Saturday’s parade?
Entering the parade is FREE.
The applications can be downloaded at www.morinville.ca or at www.morinvillechambers.com.

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

Business Licence Renewal
Deadline: January 31, 2019

Lite Up the Nite - Film Crew

November 22, 2018 – Business/School Pick Up
November 23, 2018 - Community Pick Up
On Thursday, November 22 between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. we will be making the rounds and gathering donations from area schools and businesses that have signed up to be collection points.
On Friday, November 23 the Morinville Community Bus will be at Morinville High School from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Selwyn from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.
If you would like to register your business as a collection point contact Community Services at 780.939.7839.

Community 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.

Committee of the Whole Meeting
November 20, 2018 | 4 p.m.
Council Chambers
St. Germain Place 10125-100 Ave.

Regular Meeting of Council
November 27, 2018 | 4 p.m.
Council Chambers
St. Germain Place 10125-100 Ave.

Regular Meeting of Council
December 11, 2018 | 4 p.m.
Council Chambers
St. Germain Place 10125-100 Ave.
**Sturgeon County Mayor Alanna Hnatiw signs the proclamation for “Go Purple Day”**

During the last regular council meeting, Council proclaimed November 23, 2018 to be “Go Purple Day”, part of Family Violence Prevention Month in Sturgeon County. The Jessica Martel Memorial Foundation and Sturgeon Victim Services work to create communities who do not tolerate domestic violence and bring safety and hope to vulnerable individuals and families. The colour purple, signified by a purple ribbon, has been widely adopted as the unifying symbol of courage, survival, honor and dedication to ending family violence.

Share your purple on November 23 at #GoPurpleAB

**Cannabis Public Information Session December 4**

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 and distribution, and retail sales.

Sturgeon County is working to manage the legalization of cannabis in the best interests of our community and based on the feedback that was received, and we would like to share the proposed approach to manage the legalization of Cannabis.

We invite you to attend another drop-in session to learn more.

**When:** December 4

**Time:** 6 to 8 p.m.

**Where:** Namao Hall

**Snacks will be served**

**Do you have a question? Sturgeonbudgettalk.ca**

Sturgeon County wants your input into the 2019 Budget. Your involvement helps Council make informed decisions during the budget process, and to determine priorities.

We invite residents to ask budget related questions about priorities for the upcoming year.

Head to our sturgeonbudgettalk.ca section to ask your question until November 26.
As the Centennial come to a close we would like to share a few more gems from our rich part of history.

In 2008, brothers, John and Bill Bocock graciously donated 777 acres of land to the University of Alberta which allowed for the establishment of the St. Albert Research Station for the Faculty of Agriculture, Life and Environmental Sciences and preservation of agricultural land. And as part of the Centennial, John Bocock and his family created their own “How Do You 100?” challenge by organizing a history book on their family, over the last 100 years. The book is rich with anecdotes about not only his family and their property, but also paints a beautiful picture of Sturgeon County through the years.

Training Exercise at Sturgeon Refinery

On October 30, Firefighters from the industry and Sturgeon County joined forces took part in a training exercise held at the Sturgeon Refinery. The exercise simulated a tank farm fire at the refinery and involved activating the Emergency Operations Centre, Crisis Management Team, and Emergency Response Team. Crews from both North West Redwater Partnership and Sturgeon County Emergency Services were on hand to combat the simulated fire together utilizing common tactics, procedures, apparatus, and equipment from both organizations. The exercise provided an exceptional learning opportunity for all involved, reinforcing strategic partnerships founded on the goal of protecting both the community and the environment. Other agencies who actively participated included the Alberta Energy Regulator, Alberta Health Services, Alberta Environment and Parks, and local RCMP. This collaborative event was part of a series of training exercises held regularly involving Sturgeon County Emergency Services at the Sturgeon Refinery to ensure emergency response procedures, equipment, and personnel are prepared for all types of incidents.

Bring Your Kid to Work Day

Sturgeon County hosted “Bring Your Kid to Work Day” on November 14 at Sturgeon County Offices. The day was filled with creative fun, learning and interactive activities to ensure the annual event was a positive and enriching experience for all. The Engineering Services department engaged the students in a fun competition called the “Leaning Tower of Pasta”. This activity challenged the students to create the strongest tower possible using only marshmallows and spaghetti. These towers were then tested with coin weights to determine their strength. The winning team used an innovative tower design consisting of several triangular cross supports.

Deadline Extended for Advisory Boards

Apply before November 30, 2018

Application forms and information about the various boards are available online at www.sturgeoncounty.ca on the Legislative Services page or call 780-939-8277.

We are celebrating half a million dollars of community investment from recycling revenue. Now it’s your chance to turn Waste into Worth. We have $10,000 in funding available for the most creative plans. Details at www.nwrsturgeonrefinery.com.
2.47 ACRES | $99,000
- 2.47 ac in Sturgeon County
- Out of subdivision
- Utilities near property line
- 1 mile off HWY 44 & minutes to Morinville
- MLS# E4105281 & E4104879

LOTS NW of MORINVILLE | $109,900
- 2.47 ac lots
- Located few minutes NW of Morinville
- Out of subdivision
- MLS# E4102580, E4102579 & E4102581

10.25 ACRES | $299,000
- 10.25 ac /1km West of RQB
- Utilities near property line
- 2.47 ac in Sturgeon County
- MLS# E4094879

DOWNTOWN CONDO | $124,900
- 716 sq.ft 2nd floor condo
- Front veranda
- Renovated, 1 bdrm, 1 bath
- MLS# E4116276

INVESTMENT PROPERTY | $177,000
- 817 sq.ft bung
- 2 bdrms / 1 bath
- Large backyard
- Recently updated throughout
- MLS# E4122578

MODERN & STYLISH | $314,900
- 1610 sq.ft, 3 storey
- 3 bdrms / 2.5 baths
- Bonus room w/ wet bar
- Double detached garage w/back lane access
- No condo fees
- MLS# E4114083

RENOVATED HOME ON 7.29 ACRES | $374,900
- 1290 sq.ft bungalow
- 2 bdrms / 1 bath
- Recently updated throughout
- MLS# E4128309

NEW

LOCATION! LOCATION! | $189,900
- 782 sq.ft 1 1/2 storey
- 1 bdrm / 1 bath
- Large backyard
- MLS# E4126578

NEW

GETZ YOU MOVING!

BEAUTIFULLY UPDATED | $374,900
- 170 sq.ft 4 level split
- 4 bdrms / 2.5 baths
- Recently updated throughout
- MLS# E4116276

NEW

NOTRE DAME ESTATES | $409,900
- 1500 sq.ft 2 storey
- 3 bdrms / 2.5 baths
- MLS# E4112634

NEW

WARM & INVITING | $394,500
- 1627 sq.ft, 2 storey
- 4 bdrms / 3.5 baths
- Newly finished basement
- MLS# E4133664

NEW

ACREAGE W/ SHOP | $695,000
- 1200 sq.ft bungalow
- 3 bdrms / 2 baths
- 2.64 Acres only 8 mins W. of Morinville
- Single att'd & triple det'd garage PLUS shop
- MLS# E4130677

NEW

CUT & COZY | $154,900
- 844 sq.ft renovated bungalow
- 2 bdrms / 1 bath
- Single det' garage w/front & back lane access
- Located on main street in Local
- MLS# E4134167

WELCOME HOME | $299,900
- 1382 sq.ft bungalow
- 4 bdrms / 2 baths
- Fully finished basement
- Heated, double detached garage
- MLS# E4108361

INVESTMENT PROPERTY | $177,000
- 817 sq.ft bung
- 2 bdrms / 1 bath
- Large backyard
- MLS# E4121141

LOCATION! | $189,900
- 782 sq.ft, 1 1/2 storey
- MLS# E4126578

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Residents and businesses in the town of Morinville can expect to see an increase in water, sewer, garbage, and stormwater rates in 2019. The utility rates will see an increase to the average homeowner of $96.60 next year, or 6.8%. The major factor in the hike is the creation of the stormwater utility at $5 per month for residential (higher for business). It was previously included in the tax supported services provided by the town — like snow removal or street sweeping.

On Nov. 13 council didn’t bother to debate the four utility rate bylaws individually — just lumping them together in a consent agenda and unanimously passing second reading of all four bylaws with a single motion.

Final reading to enact the changes in time for the 2019 billing is expected on Nov. 27.
Knights of Columbus coordinating Christmas hamper project

The Knights of Columbus St. Anne Council, on behalf of St. Jean Baptiste Catholic Parish, the Midstream Society and the Morinville Food Bank, are pleased to announce that they will be coordinating the Christmas Hamper Project for Morinville and District once again this year. Last year over 110 hampers containing food and numerous children’s toys and gifts were distributed to needy families in the community. The success of this project relies on the generosity and co-operation of the churches, service groups, businesses, and countless individuals in our communities.

The Knights of Columbus welcome your support through donations of food and children’s toys and gifts to the following drop-off sites: Bumper-to-Bumper, Home Hardware, Town of Morinville FCSS (Cultural Centre), Morinville Sobeys, Scotia Bank, Royal Bank, Servus Credit Union, and the No Frills store. Residents are reminded to donate foods that are nutritious and children’s gifts that are new or in excellent condition (unwrapped please). Financial contributions may be directed to the office of St. Jean Baptiste Church or Bumper-to-Bumper. Cheques should be made out to St. Jean Baptiste Parish (income tax receipts will be issued), and the monies will be used to purchase potatoes, rice, fresh fruit, and other staples for the hampers. Any surplus funds are distributed between all local schools for their lunch programs.

Individuals and families who are eligible to receive Christmas Hampers are contacted by Social Services. Anyone who requires assistance should phone 780-939-3953 (Midstream Store) or 780-939-4361 (Town of Morinville). Residents of Morinville who are aware of individuals or families in need of assistance should not hesitate to phone on their behalf. Those who are eligible to receive Christmas Hampers and / or gifts should phone one of the numbers listed above no later than Friday, Dec. 14.

The distribution of hampers is planned for Wednesday, Dec. 19, 2018, at the Rendez-Vous Centre between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Keeping Christ in Christmas
Pat Earles
Project Coordinator

Go Purple in Sturgeon County on Nov. 23

Get your purple on November 23 as part of Family Violence Prevention month in Sturgeon County. County Council proclaimed the day “Go Purple Day” to make a difference “by creating a culture of support for those affected by family violence.”

Manager of Corporate Communications Sheila Moore noted “the colour purple, signified by a purple ribbon, has been widely adopted as the unifying symbol of courage, survival, honor and dedication to ending family violence.”

“Jessica Martel Memorial Foundation and Sturgeon Victim Services are called to Reach Out, Speak Out and work to create communities who do not tolerate domestic violence and bring safety and hope to vulnerable individuals and families,” Moore noted.

As Mayor Alanna Hnatiw read out the proclamation at the Nov. 13 Council meeting she called upon the community to “make a difference by creating a culture of support for those affected by family violence.”

“And I call upon you to encourage neighbours to make our province violence free in 2018 and beyond,” she concluded.

First call your friends. Then call Dryden.

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Drayden.com
Morinville approves zoning for 20 to 25 unit multi-family development

Morinville finalized the rezoning of land south of the CN rail line and west of 100 Street to medium density residential which will allow Landex to develop 20 to 25 housing units according to town staff.

After a public hearing in which no written or verbal presentations were received from residents council gave the final two readings on Nov. 13 to enact the change in zoning from Urban Reserve.

Administration advised council the rezoning of the 2.36 acres of site is consistent with the Westwinds Area Structure Plan development concept. It was noted that a significant grade difference exists between the site and 100 Street and that site grading and drainage plans will be required to support development.

East of the site will be future commercial development, while south of it is urban reserve land a future school park development.

The only concern voiced came from coum. Nicole Boutestein who noted that duplexes and triplex units are being developed in several areas of town and she questioned whether Morinville will have the variety of residential options needed to attract the spectrum of residents.

Charity Christmas Sale planned

A Morinville group will again be hosting a charity Christmas Sale.

“A Bright Christmas Sale” will be held on Dec. 10 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Morinville United Church (corner of Grandin Dr. & Morinville Dr.).

Gently-used Christmas Decorations, a variety of Christmas Baking, a Christmas Silent Auction, and a delicious hot lunch will be available — sponsored by the Morinville & District Grandmothers’ group (HANTS) Hands Across The Sea.

All proceeds go to support African grandmothers through the Stephen Lewis Foundation.
Bon Accord 4H projects vary from beef to donkey to photography

by Club Reporter Lilly Nonay

Hi, my name is Lilly Nonay and I am the club reporter for our Bon Accord 4H club. The year has officially started with our first meeting on Oct. 4th. We have 36 members participating in the 2018-2019 year.

This year’s Leaders are: Colleen Whittal – General Leader, Maureen Young - Beef Leader, Blair Niki-fork and Shaun Walsh - Carcass Project Leaders, Karl Storshild - Donkey Project Leader, Bob Schnei-der - Photography Project Leader, Betty Kushak - Pheasant Project Leader, Assistant Leaders - Melissa and Shane Sanderson and Mike Fennety.

This year’s Executive Positions: Hannah Whittal – President, Celine Van Der Schaaf – Vice President, Brooke-Lynn Fennerty – Secretary, Jesse Suranyi – Treasurer, Shane Sanderson and Mike Fennerty.

This year’s Leaders are: Colleen Whittal – General Leader, Maureen Young - Beef Leader, Blair Niki-fork and Shaun Walsh - Carcass Project Leaders, Karl Storshild - Donkey Project Leader, Bob Schnei-der - Photography Project Leader, Betty Kushak - Pheasant Project Leader, Assistant Leaders - Melissa and Shane Sanderson and Mike Fennerty.

We have started to plan ideas for Club Field trips and Fun Days for our year.

Members have all chosen their Steer Projects and weigh in day for the Club was on Nov. 3 at the Cardiff Agriplex. Members had the choice of vacci- nation and insurance for their beloved steers. The day went smoothly with the steers being cooperative and remaining mostly calm. Weighing started at 9am, with all member projects weighed within approximately one and a half hours. We had soup and chili with snacks afterwards for all members to enjoy as a Club.

The Photography members attended an Edmonton photographic trade show in October. We are going bowling for our December Meeting for our Christ-mas party and will be having a gift exchange there. Everyone is excited for the year and hoping to all get to know each other better!
Morinville could host three Olympics as Calgary rejects cost

The town of Morinville can be held up as a model of spending efficiency in a world of municipalities inconvenienced by public input into public spending. Morinville town council cancelled a referendum into the $30.5 million recreation centre and made the decision to approve this project and financing without bothering taxpayers with a public poll on the issue. The cost is about $3,000 per resident ($12,000 for a family of four).

In Calgary with 1.239 million population, City council could have spent $3.7 Billion on hosting the Winter Olympics without inconveniencing residents of the city with a vote, if that council had used the $3,000 per capita Morinville threshold. Instead Calgary residents were faced with the stress of a non-binding referendum over a commitment of less than a billion dollars. They rejected the project. That’s less than one third of the per resident cost that Morinville council approved after canceling the referendum over the issue.

If Morinville can just find about 1.229 million more residents, the Olympics are a sure thing here.

Namao 4H includes projects ranging from archery to foods

The Namao Trailblaster 4-H club has kicked off another year. This year the club has 22 club members including 2 Cleaver Kids (members under the age of ten) and 8 projects that members take part in. These projects are creative options, archery /shooting sports, photography, crafts, foods, woodworking, field crops and leadership.

In the October meeting members voted on executive positions. Here are the results President-Chayne Kinniburgh; Vice President-Braydon Gerlinsky; Secretary-Jordyn Thimer; Treasurer-Kianna McGregor; Kinniburgh; Vice President-Braydon Gerlinsky; Secretary-Jordyn Thimer; Treasurer-Kianna McGregor; Kinniburgh; Virtual President-Alexis Capuli and Claire Williams.

Coming up in the months ahead members have field crops and leadership. —Rory Milligan Fox club reporter

Coach’s Corner

owners Kal McDonald and his wife Carmen enjoyed a busy evening on Nov. 17 during the 21stannual Morinville Santa Store Charity Auction. The popular local sports bar was at maximum capacity as more than 150 people gathered for the auction that helps local kids receive a Christmas gift. “I’m so pleased that the community continues to come to Coach’s Corner for these types of events,” said Kal. “We will continue to host them in the future with great success.”

—photo by Grant Cree
Sturgeon Public School Division is currently seeking Casual Caretakers for all their schools. This assignment is subject to change based on operational requirements.

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

Assignment: Duties will include but are not limited to: maintaining the cleanliness of the school thorough cleaning of washrooms, mopping, sweeping and waxing floors, washing windows/lockers and removal of garbage as well as vacuuming when necessary and other duties as assigned. Applicants must be able to lift up to 25 lbs. unassisted. Experience using floor scrubbers & polishers is an asset.

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

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

All completed applications received by the deadline will be considered.

Please email applications, in the form of a cover letter and resume, to:

Tyra Liliputian
Sturgeon Public School Division
Town of Gibbons
Box 68
Morinville, AB T0A 1N0

Town Manager by 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 27, 2018 in order to ensure that each member of Council has a copy of the written submission for the Public Hearing.

Farrell O'Malley, Town Manager
Town of Gibbons
Box 68
Gibbons, AB T0A 1N0

Dated at Gibbons this 7th day of November, 2018
Sarah Whittal (left) receives the Bob Putnam Memorial Community Service Scholarship from Gord Putnam (centre) and Hugh Allen (right), President of the Bon Accord & District Agricultural Society. The presentation took place during the Ag Society’s awards night on Nov. 17 at the Jewel Box in Bon Accord. —photo by Grant Cree

Hugh Allen, President of the Bon Accord & District Agricultural Society, presents a scholarship award to Shawna McLaughlin during the Ag Society’s awards night on Nov. 17 at the Jewel Box in Bon Accord. —photo by Grant Cree

Tyler Young (left), receives a scholarship award from Donald Bland (right) of the Bon Accord & District Agricultural Society during the Ag Society’s awards night on Nov. 17 at the Jewel Box in Bon Accord. —photo by Grant Cree
While thanking Sturgeon County Council for the completion of upgrades and paving on RR 233 and Twp 570 and 572 on one hand, on the other Don Levers, representing residents of Hillsborough Subdivision reminded Council of the need for paving the subdivision road.

At the Committee of the Whole meeting Nov. 13, Levers reviewed the community’s past history with County staff and Council on the paving issue going back to 2014, “When I approached Council in 2014, our request had been to get the subdivision roads paved as promised when we hit the 75% infill in the subdivision,” he said.

“At that time we had an infill of 74% and we are now over 95%. The goal posts have been moved over the years. Many of the original property owners were told anywhere from 65% to 75%,” he noted.

“The latest information we have been given is that paving for our subdivision roads will be done in 2021 with work to be performed in 2022. We feel this is unacceptable,” Levers said.

“We the residents of the Hillsborough Subdivision respectfully request that this Council keep its commitment to the residents and we do support this subdivision now, rather than put us on a never, never timetable,” he concluded.

He contended doing the paving while the asphalt plant is located within six kilometers of the subdivision when the paving of 572 takes place next year could see a 15% saving to pave the subdivision. “This would work out to a possible saving of $390,000 dollars,” he said. “Not exactly chump change.”

Coun. Wayne Bokenfohr said the same comments applied in his division (with paving on Campsite Road) and where there are subdivisions with 90% plus infill, some for over ten years.

Levers also noted a petition was circulated and had been presented with 48 signatures so he told it did not meet the requirements for a petition. He added it was very frustrating as it had taken a lot of work for this “non-petition” that was signed in good faith by the residents, all who signed willingly.

Mayor Alanna Hnatiw noted the rules and requirements are outlined in the Municipal Government Act and suggested residents considering a petition go to the CAO for input. “It is best to do the work on the front end,” she said as she acknowledged their voices would still be “heard to a degree” on the submission.

When Bokenfohr asked if there was an appetite among the residents for a levy for the paving, Levers said he thought the general consensus was no.

Levers ended the discussion saying, “I do ask you not wait eight months to give us some sort of answer.”