During the first three quarters of 2018, Morinville has issued the fewest total permits for residential, commercial and industrial, institutional building in town in 13 years, and one councillor thinks the community should celebrate one element of the statistic.

In total the town has issued only 96 permits — the figures for the previous 12 years were all triple digit — ranging from a low of 157 in 2016 to a high of 386 in 2007.

Only the development of the Sturgeon School Division’s Kindergarten to Grade 9 school kept the total value of permits from being the lowest in 13 years.

The total building materials value of all categories this year was $27,063,000 well above the low water mark set in 2016 at $14,967,000. However, 2018 includes the school permit value of $13,578,000. Schools do not pay property tax so excluding that permit from the total would put 2018 as the lowest value in the last 13 years.

Coun. Stephen Dafoe asked that the Town’s 3rd Quarter Report be pulled from a Consent Agenda on Nov. 13 (which would have seen it accepted with several other items under a single housekeeping resolution). He pointed to the $21,014,006 in permit value shown under the Commercial/Industrial chart and bemoaned that “we” wouldn’t get “credit” for the statistic.

The category in the chart actually reflected non-residential permits and almost two thirds of the figure was the school permit. Still, the $7.5 million in commercial and industrial permits is far greater than 2017’s level of $1,255 million.

Commercial and industrial assessment accounted for only a total of $143,109,060 in assessment in that category in the 2018 tax bylaw. Residential assessment is responsible for over 85% of tax revenue to the town. By the end of the third quarter the total $7.5 million in commercial and industrial permits was $1,149,569,010.

The 2019 budget contains an assumption of 2.5% new assessment in all categories of taxable assessment so the target was to grow over $3.5 million in new industrial and commercial development in 2018 and over $26 million in residential growth. The total permits value in taxable categories is less than half the target new assessment contained in the budget.

Recognizing there is not a one-to-one relationship between permit value and assessment, the new growth is still expected to be well short of the total assessment value being used in the preparation of the 2019 budget — unless the town manages to inflate the assessment of 2017’s existing residential property. However, assessment is market-based and it may be difficult to claim housing prices have been rising.

Rather than drawing attention to the shortfall in development Dafoe’s interpretation is that the report is positive.

“Morinville has long had a very high residential and very low commercial breakdown. We have long wanted to change that,” he highlighted. “What I highlighted was that we are starting to see more commercial development, which is a positive thing. We saw in last term and are seeing it this term continuing. We have also had several years of exceptional residential growth and it stands to reason that every year may not be a boom year. I am pleased that companies are investing in our community for a number of reasons, including jobs and moving us toward a greater balance.”

As to who and what credit he was referring to at council, “The comment about ‘getting credit’ for that was a reference to how easy it would be to overlook a positive. ‘We’ being the collective we of the community. The credit being let’s take it five seconds and accept that new business investing in the community is something to celebrate. I have had an ongoing discussion in this community and with this council that this community does not celebrate its successes well,” states Dafoe in response to press questions.
The local physical therapy business was the setting for a dramatic hospital scene where the star Billy Dombrowski visits his ill grandfather. "We’ve got our main characters and we’ve added a few new characters,” said McKort. “It’s a very family driven story, and that mentality is already built in.”

According to McKort, the movie will include plenty of local talent. “We now have lots of hockey players. That’s one thing I really wanted in abundance because obviously hockey is a big part of this movie.” He noted that some players are members of the Morinville Jets who will be skating with high school students during the hockey scenes that will be filmed at the Ray McDonald Sports Center.

“TV is the main audience. We’re going to release it in October 2019 and we’ll show the premiere here in Morinville,” said McKort. “We’ll have a red carpet premiere here first, and then have it go to TV.”

**The cast and crew film a scene in the locally produced movie ‘A Very Merry Sure Shot Dombrowski Christmas’. This hospital setting was filmed on Nov. 18 in the Morinville Physical Therapy & Sports Injury Clinic. --photo by Grant Cree**
Sturgeon County

FYI

Centennial Connection
November 27th, 2018
47th Edition

Connect With Us
@sturgeonproud100
@sturgeonfyi
@sturgeonfyi
@sturgeoncounty

Quick Reference Numbers
Ph: 780-939-4321
Fax: 780-939-3003
Toll Free: 1-866-939-9303

County Centre
9613 100 Street
Morinville, AB T8R 1L9

Emergency after hours:
780-939-4321

Dog License:
780-939-4321

Transportation/Roads:
780-939-8252

Current Planning & Development:
780-939-8275

www.sturgeoncounty.ca

Municipal Right of Ways during Winter Operations

As part of our operations, operators strive to reduce the impact of snow removal operations on landscaping effects. In order to do this we need the help of landowners. If you have landscaping items close to municipal right of ways, we ask that you please move them.

Important Information:
- During snow plowing, snow and ice is removed from the roads onto the municipal right of ways;
- Operators diligently try to prevent affecting landscaping in the municipal right of ways;
- Sometimes weather and snow accumulation create an environment where landscaping may be affected; and
- Pushing snow further onto the municipal right of way (commonly termed ‘winging back’) is part of ongoing maintenance activities after a snow fall and is in preparation for the next accumulation of snow.

Generally, five meters on a tape measure from beyond the edge of the paved and/or gravel roadway gives an indication of where the municipal right of ways extend to. Please contact Transportation Services at 780-939-8252 or find more information online at www.sturgeoncounty.ca

Public Information Session – Cannabis

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; and
- Related business opportunities

Do you have a question about the 2019 budget?

Connect with us! Let’s talk Budget.

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!

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Ten new projects across Sturgeon County earned funding through North West Redwater Partnership’s (NWR) Waste into Worth Challenge held this fall. The winners were chosen based on creativity, impact to the community, and ability to turn waste into something of value. Funding was awarded Nov. 21.

“Our region will get a bit greener and cleaner as 10 new local projects receive funding to help reduce waste in our communities,” said NWR External Relations manager Vanessa Goodman. “It is encouraging to see the ingenuity in our local community and the dedication to reducing our environmental footprint. Our Community Investment Team was very pleased with the quality of applications and creative ideas.”

The Challenge’s $3,000 grand prize went to the Morinville Public Learning Farm which used wasted outdoor space for a self sustaining chicken coop. Scrap food from student lunches will feed the laying hens, who in turn provide eggs for the Morinville Public School’s Food for Thought program.

Black Gold, a project to compost lunch scraps and other organic materials to enrich the soil in Redwater School’s vegetable garden, placed second overall and received $2,000 in funding.

The two $1,000 honorable mention projects were the Frankenstein Project and Meaningful Making. Landing Trail School in Gibbons and Lilian Schick School in Bon Accord will gather electronic waste and use it for valuable hands-on learning in science, technology, and engineering education.

The six $500 finalists were the Raised Garden Boxes to enhance space for mobility challenged at Morinville Community Gardens, Big Belly Compost Bins for waste and organics at Cardiff Park, Redwater School’s Grow Your Own project for food production with an aeroponic food tower in the school’s Wellness Hub, Endless Opportunities Outdoor Spaces to create enhanced outdoor space and play at Landing Trail School, Food For Thought food preparation and composting program at the Sturgeon Learning Centre and Redwater School’s Reduce, Reuse, Recycle project which set out 3-in-one bins for separating waste at the school.

“The most obvious impact of these projects is a physical reduction in waste hitting landfills, in addition to a better use of space in the cases of enhanced outdoor areas,” Goodman said.

“The added bonus of awareness, education, and involvement in environmental sustainability is also notable. One of the funding recipients for their electronics recycling project describes that true success is ‘found on the faces and proud smiles of the students when they realize they have engineered and built something with their own hands’.”

The challenge was part of NWR’s celebration of contributing half a million dollars of community investment funded by recycling waste during construction of the Sturgeon Refinery. Just as scrap metal and empty beverage containers were returned for valuable cash that was invested back into the community, groups from across Sturgeon County were encouraged to find a use for their waste.

“It’s incredible to think that five cent beverage containers and scrap metal refunds can add up to over a million dollars of investment in the region we call home,” said Goodman. “In an effort to celebrate this, we invited local organizations to join us in reducing waste in our communities.”

She said the winning projects utilize a variety of waste: organics and scrap food, paper, electronics and space. Some projects will use school food scraps as fertilizer, others are upcycling old electronics as part of hands on learning, and two will convert wasted outdoor space into more productive areas. In many of the applications, students or youth from the community play a big role in the project. This not only teaches environmental awareness at a young age but also encourages youth to take an active role in bettering their community and school.

The funding from NWR’s Waste into Worth Challenge helped the groups put their plans into action.

“We will create worth every day on a pretty grand scale once the Sturgeon Refinery is fully operational,” added Goodman. “Bitumen can’t be used for much as is, but it can be turned into much higher value diesel that helps get our kids to school, our food to grocery stores, our roads plowed, and our fire trucks on scene. We’re proud of all the community projects that will do their part in turning waste into valuable worth.”

This garden plot is part of the Morinville Public Learning Farm which won the $3,000 grand prize in the North West Redwater Partnership’s Waste into Worth Challenge.
McDONALD’S® UNVEILS A NEW RESTAURANT!

McDonald’s in Morinville

McDonald’s enduring appeal is rooted in the ability to meet the ever-changing needs of our guests and this new restaurant in Morinville is simply the latest chapter in the evolution of the brand. McDonald’s is excited to have unveiled another new restaurant located at 9184 – 100 Street.

Restaurant Design

McDonald’s new restaurant design is fresh, modern, relevant and inviting. Features include leather chairs, modern lighting and contemporary artwork. We are also featuring the new McCafe® Bakery offerings and Self-Order Kiosks. The interior layout of the new restaurants have been designed to meet the diverse needs of today’s guest with specific areas such as a high-traffic zone for people on-the-go and seating for guest looking to relax in a comfortable and casual setting.

“We are excited to have unveiled another new restaurant, and we welcome you to stop by and enjoy $1 Any size McCafe® Brewed Coffee until December 16th

Open when you want!

The new Morinville location will be open 24 hours and serving breakfast daily all day. To find out more about the restaurant visit McDonalds.ca or download the My McD app.

Mobile Ordering

Now you can order McDonald’s online, through our new mobile app, you choose how you want to pick up your food and it’s as simple as that. To try it out, download and activate it now!

Local Community Support

At McDonald’s Canada, we are committed to doing what is right; to being a good neighbour and a valued partner in every one of our communities. For us, giving back is more than simply a commitment – it’s the foundation of our company.

“Through involvement in youth sports, community programs and sponsorships, giving back is an essential part of the way we operate every day,” said Owner Operator Suki Sangha.

Employment

At McDonald’s Canada, we value each and every employee, their growth and their contribution. There are a lot of great benefits that come with working at McDonald’s, including flexible shifts, competitive compensation and amazing growth opportunities. For more information on working with McDonald’s, please visit www.mcdonalds.ca/careers.
Business Licence Renewal

Attention Town of Morinville Business Owners:
Business licence renewals are due by January 31, 2019.

Methods to renew:

- In-Person
  Town Hall
  10125-100 Avenue
  Morinville, AB T8R 1L6

- By Mail
  Town of Morinville
  10125-100 Avenue
  Morinville, AB T8R 1L6

- By Email
  permits@morinville.ca

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 9%.

Animal Licence Registration/Renewals
Deadline: January 31, 2019
The Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw 5/2016 requires animal registration for both dogs & cats. Licencing is lifetime — with an annual renewal requirement.
Pet owners can pick up their registration tags or renew their animals’ registration for 2019 at Civic Hall (10125-100 Ave.)

New this year: Provide us with your email and receive future animal licence renewal reminders straight to your inbox!
More information on the bylaw can be found at www.morinville.ca.

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 10103-107 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.

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.

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.

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

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

Upcoming Town Events

The Giving Tree
Monday, November 19 to Friday, December 7, 2018
Location: Morinville Community Cultural Centre (9530-100 Ave)
Shop at the Morinville Community Cultural Centre to participate in this event that makes a difference for our community’s seniors and adults. Pick an envelope, find the perfect gift, and drop it off before 4 p.m. on December 3. The first for the Giving Tree gift box is no later than 5 p.m.
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: $10.00 per family, pro-registration is required
Location: Morinville Community Cultural Centre (9530-100 Ave)
For more information, call Community Services at 780.939.7839.

Seniors: Learn How to Register Online
Monday, December 3, 2018
Time: 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Cost: FREE, drop in
Location: Morinville Community Cultural Centre (9530-100 Ave)
Bring your own device – tablet, 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 in Morinville’s festive spirit by decorating your home or business and enter to win prizes. Enter your home or business in the competition by filing out the nomination form at www.morinville.ca or at the Morinville Community Cultural Centre (9530-100 Ave)
For more information, call Community Services at 780.939.7839.

Make Traditional Ukrainian Perogies
Saturday, December 8, 2018
Time: 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Cost: $25 per person, includes supplies
Location: Morinville Community Cultural Centre (9530-100 Ave)
Make perogies from scratch and take them home to share with your family or friends for the holidays. Bring a cookie sheet to take home your creations.
For more information, call Community Services at 780.939.7839.

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
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.

Committee of the Whole Meeting
December 18, 2018 | 4 p.m.
Council Chambers
St. Germain Place 10125-100 Ave.
“In my view, this position is all about people and I certainly believe that building relationships and maintaining those relationships is absolutely foundational to this position,” said Reegan McCullough, the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) for Sturgeon County on Nov. 19 during an interview with the Free Press.

McCullough started his new job on Nov. 5 and is busy with a variety of tasks, which includes learning the ropes. “As the CAO, I support council in terms of their overall direction for the county, and essentially run the operations on behalf of council to make sure we’ve got the right services in place and that we are operating in a cost effective way as well,” he said.

When asked about his priorities as the CAO, McCullough replied: “In our goal to support council, our operations need to be customer focused. We’ve got to do the right kind of planning, capital construction and financial accountability on behalf of the council and the ratepayers in this county.”

The CAO will work in accordance with council’s direction to help grow the municipality in the energy and agricultural sectors, while staying on top of planning for future residential construction. “All of those have challenges and opportunities,” said McCullough. “So I’ve been touring around and trying to get a lot of first-hand knowledge in terms of getting suggestions and input.”

Working in Sturgeon County is like returning home for McCullough, who was raised in northern Alberta, then educated at SAIT and NAIT. His experience includes employment in the private sector (designing and building homes) and the Alberta government in Municipal Affairs and Housing. He served as Assistant Deputy Minister, Disability Services in the Ministry of Seniors and Community Supports, and developed initiatives at Alberta Tourism to diversify Alberta’s economy.

McCullough was in a leadership role with the Oil Sands Community Alliance, and was the CEO of the Niagara Parks Commission prior to being hired as CAO for Sturgeon County. “My goal is to get out there and meet people and see the county first hand,” he said. “I’m really excited about the opportunity and looking forward to getting to meet as many people as possible.”
Participants in the Soldier On program enjoyed a curling day on Nov. 20 at the Edmonton Garrison Memorial Golf & Curling Club. Soldier On is a Canadian Armed Forces program that supports serving members and veterans to overcome physical or mental health illness or injury through physical activity and sport. –photo by Grant Cree

Liam McDonnell, age 4, sparring for his first time ever in competition and below with his little sister Marcy. He faces a competitor from Fort McMurray in the Tiger Challenge Tae Kwon Do tournament held at the Edmonton Garrison on Nov. 24. The tournament had 250 competitors ranging from first timers all the way up to national competitors. –photos courtesy Kim Thomaser

Sturgeon works on setting priorities for handling of significant tax

Despite Administration recommending Council approve the amended Significant Tax Revenue Growth Policy to add Off-site Infrastructure as Priority Area 8, Council opted to have administration report on the impact to Priority Areas 2 and 3 of allocating $2 million annually for five years to the new area.

Coun. Susan Evans said it was “one of the puzzle pieces we have to be aware of” and noted in making the motion at the Nov. 13 regular Council meeting they “have to be open and transparent with residents.”

The tax revenue projected under the significant tax revenue is about $30 million per year, administration reported, adding it was fully allocated to the seven priority areas under the Significant Tax Revenue Growth Policy for the next five years.

“In a competitive market, off-site infrastructure can be useful to spurring development and attracting developers,” stated the background information reported to Council. “Under proposed Priority Area 8 — off-site infrastructure — a significant tax revenue growth of $2 million per year is allocated to funding the County’s share of off-site infrastructure costs. Administration proposed funding Area 8 from Priority Area 2 and 3 — Road Network projects.

Mayor Alanna Hnatiw concluded the County has “no need for business” — a message she is prepared to take responsibility for. “I am cautiously optimistic on our future,” Administration was directed to report back on the impacts at the Nov. 27 regular Council meeting.
2 BED BUNGALOW WITH DOUBLE GARAGE

A very affordable 2+2 bdrm detached garage. This bungalow features original mahogany cupboards & trim in great condition. A few features worth noting are the large double garage with gasline, gorgeous landscaping with large garden, pond with waterfall, 10,000 sq ft of living space, layout would be perfect for an RV, large lot is 75'x 126' so there is still plenty of lawn in back & includes newer laminate flooring, interior doors & some windows. Features large eat in kitchen & large windows & has an open concept LR/kitchen with lots of cabinets & large windows & has an open concept LR/kitchen with lots of cabinets & large windows. This home is move in ready! Call Heather to view. $329,900. Call Heather to view.
Family & Cosmetic Dentistry

Dr. Darren Romanowski & Dr. Katie Wittig

General Dentists

Box 3010
10407 - 100 Ave.
Morinville, Alberta T8R 1S1

Office: 780-939-1288
Cell: 780-916-5845
Res: 780-921-3114

Gibbons first Parade of Lights

Psst ... Want to know about the rec centre sponsorship? How about the affordable housing deal?

Morinville town council’s commitment to transparency in handling public funds by making decisions in public, is hitting a new low.

Council voted unanimously to keep its sponsorship structure for the Morinville Community Recreation Facility secret from the owners of the facility — the residents of the town. The action was taken after a closed session of council on Nov. 13.

Consistent with that action after the same closed session, the seven members of town council also voted unanimously to “enter into the donation agreement and restrictive covenant with Homeland Housing as presented in Closed Session.” Immediately after this action Coun. Nicole Boutestein “moved that the Homeland Housing update and the details of the agreements remain private pursuant to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.”

So the residents of the town not only do not know the value and terms of the land donated to the project, but have no idea of what their elected officials agreed to in a restrictive covenant.

As with the Morinville Recreation Centre, town taxpayers are responsible for whatever financial commitments the council has made. Without public disclosure of the value or risk involved in the decisions, all taxpayers in the town will still have to pick up the cost for any fall-out from the council’s secret dealings.
Alberta making more on lotteries than oil -- Gibbons councilor feels MLAs should stick their necks out to get their job done

The provincial government presently makes more revenue on lotteries than on oil. That’s what Alberta’s provincial secretariat for transporte said at a recent meeting. Coun. Colin Piquette told Gibbons council during a Nov. 14 discussion on oil prices, pipelines and royalties.

Coun. Darren McCann said a lot of the provincial oil royalty revenue comes from external sales. He referenced the hugely discounted price Canadian oil is receiving compared to oil sold by other countries (at one point Canada received $10/barrel while United States oil sold for nearly $60) and asked if there was any movement to get more for local product.

“The low cost feedstocks are good for our industries, but not royalties,” said McCann, adding that transportation costs by rail and truck eat up the product value. He asked if the province could purchase any pipelines and have control of them to get product out of the country or purchase oil rail cars as it once bought grain cars.

“We make more on lotteries,” Piquette said of the current oil royalties situation. As for buying a pipeline, he would not comment beyond saying, “I agree we have a problem with too much waste, but I don’t know that transportation is the answer.”

Piquette pointed out that this is not a simple problem and referred to the Keystone pipeline, for which an American judge threw out approvals.

“Is the current NDP government in support of pipelines?” asked Coun. Amber Harris.

“Yes,” declared Piquette. “And the more value added, the more refining we can do in Alberta, the better.” He said he is “a big fan” of North West Redwater Partnership’s Sturgeon Refinery and the planned propane processing facility south of it at Pembina.

Piquette said the province needs to show it has a sustainable energy industry because many decisions had been made with no real conception of how big an impact the shale oil production in the United States would be. Alberta now has a Minister of Economic Development and is strongly committed to doing everything it can to diversify the economy.

CAO Farrell O’Malley said he has been talking to companies about new ways of doing things and warn the province to say, “We’re ready to entertain any idea that makes sense.”

O’Malley asked, “Are you ready to do something different on a global level, challenge the discussion on oil prices, pipelines and royalties.

“I agree we have a problem with too much waste, but I don’t know that transportation is the answer.”

Pembina Pipeline Corporation donated $10,000 to support the Gibbons Curling Club president Angela Buisman and board member Melanie Zademersky Nov. 20. The grant will be used to purchase rocks and equipment for Junior curling.

Pembina invests in organizations that improve access to education, promote safety, create community space, and encourage recreation and a healthy lifestyle.

“Any member interested in giving curling a try, should contact the club.”

Pembina Pipeline Corporation presented a $10,000 Pembina donation to Gibbons Curling Club president Angela Buisman and board member Melanie Zademersky Nov. 20. The grant will be used to purchase rocks and equipment for Junior curling.

Shouting is generally frowned upon, but when it comes to curling, yelling encouragement such as ‘Hurry Hard’ is very acceptable, encouraged even. Thanks to Pembina it’s a phrase that will soon be shouted out by even more players at the Gibbons curling arena.

Pembina recently donated $10,000 to the Gibbons Curling Club to help purchase much-needed equipment for the Junior program. That included two sheets of junior rocks (32 rocks), plus brooms, sliders and grippers for new curlers to use. The junior rocks are particularly important to the club, as they will help to grow the game in Gibbons and the surrounding area. Club members are very appreciative of the donation.

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Pembina Pipeline Corporation donated $10,000 to support the Gibbons Curling Club president Angela Buisman and board member Melanie Zademersky Nov. 20. The grant will be used to purchase rocks and equipment for Junior curling.

Shouting is generally frowned upon, but when it comes to curling, yelling encouragement such as ‘Hurry Hard’ is very acceptable, encouraged even. Thanks to Pembina it’s a phrase that will soon be shouted out by even more players at the Gibbons curling arena.

Pembina recently donated $10,000 to the Gibbons Curling Club to help purchase much-needed equipment for the Junior program. That included two sheets of junior rocks (32 rocks), plus brooms, sliders and grippers for new curlers to use. The junior rocks are particularly important to the club, as they will help to grow the game in Gibbons and the surrounding area. Club members are very appreciative of the donation.

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Kaylee Reed was presented with two awards from Mr. Jeff Borle during the Sturgeon Composite Collegiate High School Awards Ceremony at the Morinville Community Cultural Centre on November 20th. She was presented with the Merit Construction Award - meant to encourage students to achieve excellence in construction related courses offered in Alberta, and the Merit Award - meant to recognize outstanding achievements in community, leadership, community service and volunteer work.

Gender equality in politics a concern for Gibbons councillor

When Gibbons council met with Athabasca-Sturgeon-Redwater MLA Colin Piquette Nov. 14 the first question was from coun. Darren McCann who asked if the provincial government has any plans to work on having more municipalities with equal gender representation on their councils. He suggested some form of assistance to make getting into politics easier.

“I know of a female councillor who had to step down because council didn’t pay enough to cover child care for evening meetings,” said McCann.

Hungarian author Krisztina Szabo during a reading about her novel, Gender equality at the Morinville Community Cultural Centre on November 20th. She was presented with the Premier’s Citizenship Award which the Morinville Community Cultural Centre on November 20th. She was presented with the Premier’s Citizenship Award which recognizes outstanding achievements in community, leadership, community service and volunteer work.

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If cannabis increases demand on town for services, province will look at supports

Legalized recreational cannabis might not create new issues for communities, but if it causes an increased demand for services, the province will look at supporting them, Athabasca-Sturgeon-Redwater MLA Colin Piquette told Gibbons council.

Social supports and costs to municipalities related to recreational cannabis were among the concerns Gibbons councillors shared with Piquette Nov. 14.

Coun. Norm Sandahl said he would like to see some of the tax revenue from cannabis sales shared with communities with populations of under 5,000 residents.

Piquette explained 5,000 was selected as the cut off because that is the point at which communities pay for policing. He advised that the initial income communities are receiving is not as large as expected because the province had a lot of up-front expenses such as ensuring robust RCMP enforcement and working on reliable roadside testing for cannabis impairment.

“What about social issues that come as a result of cannabis?” asked CAO Farrell O’Malley. “Is there a commitment to scale up support to agencies that work with families?”

Piquette said if proponents of legalized cannabis are right, removing the stigma of illegal cannabis use because people will be more likely to seek help before their usage becomes a ‘really big issue.’ He also noted there have been big increases of people who overdose on cannabis at emergency departments.

“That’s partly because edibles are not being sold,” said Piquette. “It’s easier to OD on edibles.”

Mayor Dan Deck argued there is always a social issue with communities with populations of under 5,000 people provide the soft services to deal with communities.

“Look at the lineups at retail shops. Many of them have been no big increases of people who overdose on cannabis at emergency departments. There was already an impact,” noted Piquette. “We’ll look at it. We don’t know what’s going to happen.”

Recreational cannabis was legalized Oct. 17. Gibbons is presently processing an application to open a retail cannabis store. A public hearing on the rezoning bylaw for the proposed store will be held Nov. 28.

Legal Servus Credit Union financial advisor Jacqueline Rioux talks with Smoky Lake mayor Hank Holowaychuk at the November Redwater Business Mixer.
Variations granted to allow 4plex planned in Gibbons

Construction of a new, two storey four-plex will begin soon in downtown Gibbons. During its Nov. 14 meeting council granted variances for side yard setbacks and site coverage for the site.

“If approved, they will start construction almost immediately,” said CAO Farrell O’Malley. “This development with double car garages, which covers the requirement for onsite parking, makes this an attractive, affordable housing option within the Town of Gibbons.”

The four-plex is planned for 5031 to 5035 - 50 Street, immediately south of Gibbons Legion Hall. The house area of each unit is 84 square meters (907 square feet). Attached deck area is 11 sq. m, (125 sq. feet). Each unit will have a detached rear garage to be accessed from the back lane. Council unanimously approved allowing side yard setbacks of 2.4 meters instead of the three meters required by the Land Use Bylaw (LUB) and allowing site coverage of 25 percent instead of the 25 percent limit in the LUB. Coun. Loraine Berry was absent.

Tim Baker of 1149514 Alberta Ltd., who applied for the development permit, did not respond to requests for comment.

EMPLOYMENT


FIREWOOD

- Small square
- $130, full cord $260. 780-719-5240
- Splited, baled dry. Call 780-961-5240

GREAT FOR ALL

SOLAR PANELS

- 1 kW - $7,500, 2 kW - $13,000, 3 kW - $18,000
- Grid tie or off grid system, ground or roof installation. Economic, reliable - no maintenance! 

FARM MACHINERY

FOR SALE - 10" x 60' Farm King Mechanical Swather, $6000. 10 x 35" 21 ft Double Disk Wing. $14,000. Morinville. 780-939-4230.

FREE

WANTED CANDOLA, peas, wheat, barley & oats. Dry, wet or heated. 1-866-269-3885.

EMPLOYMENT

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EMPLOYMENT


FIREWOOD

SPRUCE UNSPLIT - 1/2 cord $130, full cord $260. 780-719-0344.

FLYERS

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Parks and Facility Operator

Full-Time Term Position until March 31, 2019 with the possibility of extension.

The Town of Redwater is a progressive and action-oriented municipality that is poised for significant growth. Please visit our website to learn more about our great community: www.redwater.ca.

Our team is seeking a Parks and Facility Operator. This position reports to the Recreational Facilities and Parks Operations Supervisor. The Parks and Facility Operator is responsible for assisting with all parks, green space maintenance and facility maintenance/operations.

Qualifications:

- Knowledge and/or experience in parks and recreational equipment and facility operations (including but not limited to bombdisposal operation) is preferable.
- AARPP certification related to arena, parks, and/or recreational facility operations is desirable.
- Ability to lift/carry up to 50 pounds and enjoy working outdoors.
- Must have a valid class 5 Alberta Motor Vehicle Operators License.
- Valid First Aid and CPR or be willing to complete certification.
- Current WHMIS certification (within 3 years) or be willing to complete certification.
- Criminal Record Check and Driver's Abstract is required.

The salary for this position will be based on qualifications and experience. This is a full time, term position consisting of a 40 hour work week. Evening and weekend work is required. The Town offers very competitive wages.

Please forward a cover letter, résumé, salary expectations and three work related references to:

Jodi Brown, Community Services Manager
Town of Redwater, Box 397, Redwater, AB, T0A 2W0
Email: jbrown@redwater.ca
Phone: (780) 942-4101 Fax: (780) 942-4415

Deadline for submissions of resumes is December 4th, 2018. The Town of Redwater thanks all applicants for their interest, however only those who have been selected for an interview will be contacted.

FOR SALE

MORINVILLE – 1979, 14 x 70 Moduline mobile home. Located in Morinville on leased lot. $10,000.00 (needs renovations). Offers will be accepted until December 16th. Call 780-427-4982

TRASH BUILDING CLEARANCE. “Pay Savings Event-All Models Priced to Clear” 20x21 $5,051, 25x21 $6,692, 30x21 $7,775, 30x33 $9,912, 32x31 $9,680. End Wall included. Pioneer Steel 1-855-212-7036; www.pioneersteel.ca.

SAWMILLS FROM ONLY $4,397. Make Money - Cut your own home - you qualify. Pioneer Steel 1-855-212-7036; www.pioneersteel.ca, info@neighbourstree.ca

FREE Info & DVD: LEARN TO SPLIT YOUR OWN WOOD!冬 husbandry info including the full name and mailing address of the filer. 

Deadline: Thursday 2 p.m.

Mail to: Free Press, Box 3055, Morinville, AB T8R 1R9
Phone: 780-939-3309 email: morinville@shaw.ca

PUBLIC NOTICE

NRGREEN POWER LTD.
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT ACT

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

In accordance with the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act, NRGreen Power Ltd. has applied to Alberta Environment and Parks to cancel the approval for the Morinville Power Plant Project. The Morinville Power Plant project was proposed to be constructed in the Legal Land Description of SW-12-056-25 W4M with the planned generating capacity of 8 MW; however, this project was never proceeded and hence the proposed land is undisturbed.

A directly affected person may provide input into certain regulatory decisions, as allowed by the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act (section 73). Specifically, any person who is directly affected by this application may submit a written statement of concern within 30 days of the date of this notice to:

Environment and Parks
Regulatory Approvals Center
5th Floor, South Petroleum Plaza
9915 – 108 Street
Edmonton, AB T5K 2G8
Fax: (780) 422-0154
E-mail: aep.epapplications@gov.ab.ca

The written statement of concern should include the following:
- describe concerns that are relevant to matters regulated by the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act;
- explain how the filer of the concern will be directly affected by the activities proposed in the application;
- provide the legal land location of the land owned or used by the filer where the concerns described are believed to be applicable;
- state the distance between the land owned or used by the filer and the site in the application;
- contact information including the full name and mailing address of the filer.

Please provide a telephone number and/or email address for ease of contact.

Environment and Parks will review each written statement of concern, seek more information if needed, and notify each filer by letter of the decision to accept or reject their written submission as a valid statement of concern. The Public Notice of this application will be posted on the Department’s website at https://ave.alberta.ca/PublicNoticesViewer.aspx.

Statements of concern submitted regarding this application are public records which are accessible by the public and the applicant. Failure to file a statement of concern may affect the right to file a Notice of Appeal with the Environmental Appeals Board.

Copies of the application and additional information can be obtained from:
NRGreen Power Ltd. c/o Enbridge Inc.
Attention: Rob Power
200, 425 1 Street SW
CALGARY, AB T2P 3L8
Telephone: 403-718-3538
E-mail: rob.power@enbridge.com

TENDERS

North Parkland Power is offering the following for sale by public tender on a "where is" basis.

Reel Trailer - 1981 Sherman Reel Trailer (tension stringer)
- Truck - 2008 White Dodge 3500 Crew Cab 4x4 diesel long box 298,965 kM
- Trailer - 2010 Trailtech T220-266 Pintle Air Brake

All bids must be sealed and delivered to:
North Parkland Power REA
Box 501, 602 1st Ave
Thorhild, AB T0A 3J0

Tender closes at 4:30 pm, December 10, 2018.

For further information & payment options go to www.npprea.ca or contact Mark Hamer 780-777-8222

No warranty or guarantee is either implied or inferred
An emotional award presentation of the night was the Zac Drolet Memorial Scholarship during the Sturgeon Composite High School Awards Ceremony on November 20th at the Morinville Community Cultural Centre. The award has been set up in memory of former student, Zac Drolet who lost his life in a motor vehicle accident in early 2016. It is awarded to a student in the High School Music Program who emulates Zac’s persona – spontaneous, optimistic, outgoing, helpful, generous and someone who pursues life and school with a passion and was presented to Hannah Pinault by: (L-R) Mr. Darwin Krips, Ms. Jan Faucher (Zac’s mother) and Gerald Faucher. –photo by Amy Hibbard-Hiscock

Declan Berg was the proud recipient of the Maisie Metrunec Scholarship Award presented by Mayor of Gibbons, Dan Deck and Mr. Jackson Percy during the Sturgeon Composite High School Awards Ceremony on November 20th at the Morinville Community Cultural Centre. The award was presented to Berg for being the resident of Gibbons who in his grade 12 year, achieved the highest academic average in a minimum of 25 credits at the 30 level.

Mr. Jordan Maruschak and his team were present at the Sturgeon Composite High School Awards Night on November 20th at the Morinville Community Cultural Centre to announce the Nothing But Tires Scholarship. The scholarship will be awarded to a student of the 2020 Graduating Class and will provide funds for tuition and books for a complete degree or diploma program in any post secondary institution within Alberta. The award will be presented to a student based on criteria as follows: Grade 12 course grades at 80% and above, and Grade 11 marks will be looked at for growth; Community Involvement, Leadership Skills and Extracurricular Activities. Applicants will be required to write an essay to be reviewed by the School Administration who will then provide a short list to the donor and those applicants will be called for a 1-1 interview. Following this announcement, teaching staff may see some grade 11 students pulling their socks up a bit higher. –photo by Amy Hibbard-Hiscock

The Governor General’s Academic Medal is a very prestigious award. It was first awarded in 1873 by the Earl of Dufferin, and has since been held in high honour that is awarded to a grade 12 student who earned the highest overall average during his or her grade 11 and 12 years. Mr. Ken Stanski was pleased to name the recipient of the award- Megan Bleau, however due to attending University, her mother, Connie Bleau accepted on her behalf. –photo by Amy Hibbard-Hiscock