$9.5 billion
Sturgeon Refinery still on target to refine bitumen by year end

A few weeks into the Sturgeon Refinery gasifier test run and maintenance shutdown the time line set in July remains unchanged: bitumen processing is expected by the end of 2019 with a ramp-up in operations in 2020.

North West Redwater Partnership (NWR) Exter-

d null Relations manager Vanessa Goodman said the gasifier is online, and the test run is underway. The team is continuing to collect and analyze data and make adjustments as necessary.

“Once the gasifier test run and the maintenance shutdown are complete later this fall, our best esti-

mate remains that we will be running bitumen through the refinery by the end of this year,” said Goodman. “This date assumes that any additional unexpected challenges are overcome without causing further delays.”

The majority of units in the refinery are involved in a shutdown, so there is currently no production of ultra-low sulphur diesel. The focus remains on safety as units are taken offline and undergo maintenance work, repairs, and inspections. The maintenance shutdown is approximately one third complete.

Several dozen local companies are involved, employing 700 people. Over 75 percent of shutdown spending on goods and services is staying in the Cap-

tial Region, supporting the local economy.

Sturgeon Refinery began producing ultra-low sul-

phur diesel from synthetic crude oil in December 2017. That process uses about 80 percent of the refinery facility to produce 40,000 barrels per day of diesel.

Operation of the remaining 20 percent of the refin-

ey was planned to start at the end of 2018, but work on it continues to be ongoing. The reactor burners in the gasifier had to be redesigned because they were not standing up to the high temperatures in which they operate. Because the gasifier processes the heaviest bottoms of the bitumen barrel, this prevent-

ed the refinery from processing bitumen feedstocks.

The Sturgeon Refinery is a $9.5 billion project, with $7.6 billion of that invested in construction. Only $1 billion of the construction costs were spent outside of Alberta. The Refinery is in the Heartland Industrial area of Sturgeon County near Redwater.

NWR is a partnership between North West Refin-

ing and Canadian Natural Resources Ltd. (CNRL). Its feedstock bitumen will be 25 percent owned by CNRL and 75 percent owned by the Alberta govern-

ment. They retain ownership of their products and pay the refinery a processing fee.

The refinery facility to produce 40,000 barrels per day of diesel.

Kay Rushko will be 90 years old

October 25, 2019

Kay’s family would like to extend an invitation to celebrate her special day

at an Open House

at the

Thorphild Drop In Center

October 26, 2019

1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

No Gifts Please

Redwater councillor Dave McRae (left) kneels with Dean Kennedy of the Strathcona County Robotics Association as they watch a robot pick up things from the floor by the Dow booth at the Oct. 16 Life in The Heartland information evening held in Redwater. Stories and photos inside.
The Life in the Heartland (LITH) partnership organization representatives posed with 10 year anniversary cakes at the LITH community information evening held in Redwater Oct. 16. In the photo are Northeast Region Community Awareness and Emergency Response (NR CAER) executive director Brenda Grenier (L-R), Northeast Capital Industrial Association executive director (NCA) Laurie Danielson, Alberta Industrial Heartland Association (AIHA) executive director Mark Plamondon and Fort Air Partnership (FAP) executive director Nadine Blaney.

LIFE IN THE HEARTLAND

**FOR LEASE • REDWATER ALBERTA**

**10,000 SQ FT COMMERCIAL BUILDING**

6905 sq. ft. Concrete Block & Brick

Central Air Conditioning

Loading Dock with Power Ramp,

Lows of Power. Lease space can be divided.

Tenton Improvized Wood Available

GARY SHANTZ REAL ESTATE INC.

Ph: 780-743-5522 Fax: 780-743-5523

**FOR LEASE • REDWATER ALBERTA**

**4907 - 48 STREET VACANT OFFICE**

**COMMERCIAL BUILDING**

6095 sq. ft. Concrete Block & Brick

Central Air Conditioning

Loading Dock with Power Ramp,

Lows of Power. Lease space can be divided.

Tenton Improvized Wood Available

GARY SHANTZ REAL ESTATE INC.

Ph: 780-743-5522 Fax: 780-743-5523

**UPGRADED WASKATENAU BUNGALOW**

PRICE REDUCED 1999,000

4 bdrm 2 bath bungalow home with windows, furnace, HWIT, metal roof electrical & drain all replaced in about 2005 to 2006. There is original hardwood floor in the LR & bdrms. A little paint & refinishing of the hardwood floor will make this a great home. Full unfinished basement offers lots of storage space. There is storage shed which could be a small detached garage & lots of room for a garden, pork or ffly or build a new garage. Good location in the Hamlet of Thorhild, close to shopping, for this very affordable home.

**ONLY 56400 IN THORHILD**

Very cute 2 bdrm, 2 bth bedroom manufactured home on its own lot in Thorhild. No lot rental fees. Upgrades in the past few years include furnace, HWIT, a/shingles & some flooring. The private fenced yard is at the end of a cul-de-sac so there's very little traffic. A greenhouse & two storage sheds, well, septic system all make use of the property. This is in an old river water, hot water tank, & vinyl siding. Bmt is finished with a huge family room, large room w/ closed door, laundry room & 3 pce bath. Used to be a pool but is no longer. Full house is in very good condition. A must see.

**THE STRY UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC PARISH**

**SUNDAY NOVEMBER 2, 2019**

AT THE PARISH HALL

7:50 p.m.

Adults: $20.00
Children: 6 -10 years $10.00
5 & under FREE

**GORGEOUS THORHILD ACREAGE**

Built in 1950 with major upgrades & addition. A huge lot with much of its original character. New siding, windows, electrical, furnace, softi, jascia, HWIT & complete water system at that time. New flooring, paint & system recently done. Main floor has huge back entry with laundry area & pantry, kitchen, formal DR, LR & bedroom. Large LR has new windows, open beam & features a wood stove & patio doors. Everything is wired & wired. 16'x13' addition with metal roof over both. Addition is open beam & features a wood stove & patio doors. Everything is wired for hook up to a generator. Complete with 2 seawalls, storage shed, outhouse, coopil, & fenced dog run. Mouse is often seen on this property, with even occasional the black bear sighting. Extremely private property at the end of a dead end road & border by crown land. Great weekend getaway or place to build your dream home approximately 1 hour north of Redwater, just a few minutes north of Thorhild. $199,900. Call Heather to view.

**AN AIRPORT IN YOUR BACK YARD**

$13,900

4 bdrm/2 bthrm mobile home lot in Thorhild. Lot is 13,425 sq.$ 10,000 sq ft commercial lot in Legal – $74,900. 18 Ac just a few mins North of Edmonton – $499,000. 550 sq ft Power and Gas near Thorhild – $79,900.

**LAND OF ALL SIZES**

• 135+/-2 acres serviced mobile homesite lot in Thorhild – $13,900.

• 10,000 sq ft commercial lot in Legal – $74,900.

• 18 Ac just a few mins North of Edmonton – $499,000.

• 550 sq ft Power and Gas near Thorhild – $79,900.

• 160 Ac on gristmill between Morinville & St Albert – $799,900.

Call Heather or Glenn for more info on any of these.

**REDUCED PRICE**

$1,399,000. Call Glenn to view.

**THE HEARTLAND**

over looking lots of privacy. Great location, only 6 miles north of Redwater. This popular event was held twice each year and offers part participants and attendees the opportunity to engage directly with industries and businesses operating in the Industrial Heartland region. The evening included presentations from leading industrial companies, including Pembina Pipelines, North West Redwater Partnership (NWRP), Dow Chemical and the Capital Industrial Association (NCA). In addition to formal presentations, representatives from local industries shared information about their booths, highlighting their future plans and activities. With 16 organizations hosting booths, attendees had the opportunity to receive a wealth of relevant community information to encourage transparency and community outreach in the region.

Plant a Seed photo contest winner Parker Grant was awarded a prize bag, including a tin of seeds. The photo contest was held to celebrate LITH’s 10th anniversary, and it ran throughout the summer. Contestants were encouraged to post on social media a photo of themselves planting seeds in support of community and activities. LITH partnership organizations are Northeast Region Community Awareness and Emergency Response (NR CAER), Northeast Capital Industrial Association executive director (NCA), Alberta Industrial Heartland Association (AIHA) and Fort Air Partnership (FAP).
Working Well Workshop

There is still time to register for the Working Well Workshop! Learn about the risks to your groundwater and ways to protect your water well at this workshop covering a variety of well construction and maintenance topics.

Date: Wednesday, November 13, 2019
Place: Morinville Rendez-Vous Centre
9913 104 St., Morinville
Time: 5:30 p.m. incl. light supper, presentation to follow
Cost: $10 per person
Register online or please call 780-939-8349 or email agricultursservices@sturgeoncounty.ca before November 7.

Presented by the Working Well Program. More resources and program information at www.workingwell.alberta.ca.

Weekly FYI is digital at sturgeoncounty.ca

Check out your Weekly FYI online every Tuesday at sturgeoncounty.ca

Starting this year, the “printed edition” will only be available bi-weekly in the Morinville Free Press and Redwater Review.

Next print edition: October 29, 2019

Small Business Week October 21-25

As part of Small Business Week, Sturgeon County is hosting two events with our regional partners:

- The Business Link Presentation, Oct. 24
- Mighty Business Breakfast Bash, Oct. 25

“The Business Link Presentation features Dale Schwab, who will be speaking to ‘Startup Steps,’ a session geared to people who are considering starting their own business,’ said Leanne McBean, Business Development Specialist.

“Dale’s presentation will provide attendees with information and the steps needed for people to start their own business and what supports are available to them.”

The Mighty Business Breakfast Bash takes place Oct. 25, 7:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., at the Gibbons Community Cultural Centre. Tickets are $10. Visit startinstiturgeon.ca for more information and registration for both events.

“Budget Portal” Launch October 28

The “Let’s Talk Budget” online tool provides residents an opportunity to ask questions, get answers and learn more about the 2020 Budget. The 2020 Budget meetings will be held November 27, 28 and 29 and are open to the public. Can’t make it? Watch live at sturgeoncounty.ca.legistar.com

Annual Property Inspections

In accordance with the Municipal Government Act Part 9, Division 1, Sturgeon County Assessment Services will be conducting annual assessment inspections at various properties in regard to new construction, progressive construction, sold property and development permit applications.

These onsite inspections will commence from October 2019 until year end on weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. All inspecting assessors will be driving marked Sturgeon County vehicles and will carry current Sturgeon County identification.

Any questions regarding these inspections can be directed to Assessment Services at 780-939-0601.

Reporting a Road Concern is Easy!

Winter is on its way, whether we like it or not. Our transportation crews are always working to maintain and improve County roads, but we rely on residents to let us know about any road issues. Simply log onto www.sturgeoncounty.ca/roadconcerns and fill out the online form.

You don’t have to register to log a concern, but if you give us your contact info, a Transportation Department rep will be happy to follow up with you.

To reach the department by phone, call 780-939-8252 during office hours or 780-939-4321 after hours.

Sturgeon County offices will be closed on Monday, November 11, for Remembrance Day.
NCIA regional noise management plan is first of its kind in the world

The Northeast Capital Industrial Association’s (NCIA) regional noise management plan was the first of its kind in the world. It is a best practices approach to managing environmental noise from industry (not roads or rail).

NCIA is also the voice of industry in Alberta’s Industrial Heartland, said executive director Laurie Danielson during the Oct. 16 Life In The Heartland (LITH) information evening held in Redwater. NCIA members spend 10,000 hours per year working with the provincial government on industry policy, regulations and issues that impact the Heartland and Edmonton region.

The noise monitoring data is collected with 12 monitors over a 24 hour period once per year. Danielson said that was challenging during these last two years because the data gathering needs to be done in relatively warm weather (not during winter) when it is not raining.

He noted the field monitoring data and the data predictions match well. The different layers of noise generation can be viewed on the NCIA website.

NCIA is a not-for-profit cooperative with 22 members representing industry in Sturgeon, Strathcona and Lamont counties and the City of Fort Saskatchewan.

Author Debbie Waldman shares her book ‘A Sack Full of Feathers’ with the students and staff from Thorhild Central School. Debbie shared a few of her many published books as well the steps it takes to become a published author with the students.
When regular natural gas supply returns, Thorhild County will post an update.

Due to the use of grain dryers and industrial dryers being avoided during the duration of the outage, please LIMIT the amount of gas consumed during this time. Also, the County asks that stoves, and bar-b-ques. However, the County would like to ask these customers to cease the use of these equipment during the duration of the outage.

Natural gas will still be available for appliances such as furnaces, hot water tanks, and supper.

If you are unsure if this affects your property, you can call the office at 780-398-2811 or Carolyn 780-398-2810 or Rebecca 780-398-2804.

This is a TransCanada outage for maintenance on the Thorhild lateral natural gas supply line for this tap. This natural gas restriction will only affect the gas customers who reside within the Hamlet of Thorhild, and the gas outage will be for all grain dryers and bar-b-ques.

If you have any questions, please contact the utilities department at 780-398-2811 or locate your utility account number from your County Gas Bill.

You may have noticed the gas will still be available for appliances such as furnaces, hot water tanks, stoves, and bar-b-ques. However, the County would like to ask these customers to please LIMIT the amount of gas consumed during this time. Also, the County asks that the use of grain dryers and industrial dryers be avoided during the duration of the outage.

When regular natural gas supply returns, Thorhild County will post an update.

COFFEE TALK

A one-hour discussion exploring the everyday joys and struggles of parenting. Different topics will be explored throughout the sessions and may include the review of blogs, videos and news articles. Participants will be encouraged to share “must see and must reads.”

Location: Thorhild Library

Time: 2-3pm

Date: November 20

Instructors: Kathy Pasay, Tammy Kuefler, and Rebecca Hansen

*Please contact Rebecca 780-398-2804 for more information or to register for a program!

THORHILD COUNTY FAMILY MEDICAL CLINIC

Cold and flu season is around the corner. Cover your cough and wash your hands to help prevent getting sick.

**FLU CLINIC**

October 22 & Oct 29, 2019, 4:00 – 6:00 pm

Hours: Monday/Thursday/Friday 9am-3:30pm

Tuesday 11am-7pm

Wednesday 10am-5:30pm

Call 780-398-4MED (4633)

The clinic will be closed October 25 & October 30, 2019.

HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

Eat a healthy dinner! With a full belly, your little ones will not be as tempted to snack on all the goodies and candy they will be getting throughout the night.

Make sure your costumes are safe!
• Be sure that shoes fit to avoid tripping.
• Use make-up instead of masks so children can see where they are going.
• Use reflective tape on costumes, and have kids carry a flashlight or glow stick so they are seen more easily. And brighter costumes are a good idea as well.
• Plan your route ahead of time. Talk to your kids. Let them know the expectation is always for everyone to stay together.
• Call your crew! Make plans to go out with a handful of adults.

WHILE YOU'RE OUT

Stay on sidewalks and cross streets at the corners or crosswalks. Don’t let kids run ahead or separate from the group.

Don’t let your kids swap wigs or hats. (Avoid the scariest Halloween goblin of all - lice!)

ONCE YOU'RE HOME

Inspect candy. Don’t let your children eat homemade treats unless you know who gave them to you.

**PARENT INTEREST BOOK CLUB**

Join in on the discussion of “Bringing Up Bebe: One American Mother Discovers the Wisdom of French Parenting”. This book club will focus on goal setting, reading techniques and exploring how the French raise their children. Pre-reading required. Pick up your book from the Thorhild Library.

Location: Thorhild Library

Time: 12pm-2pm

Dates: October 29, November 26, and January 7

Instructors: Tammy Kuefler, Kathy Pasay, and Rebecca Hansen

**MUSICAL MUNCHKINS**

Parents learn rhymes, finger plays, songs and simple movement games to enjoy with their infants and toddlers in a supportive peer group. This is an oral language development program that promotes interactive playtime.

Location: Radway Library

Time: 10:11am

Date: November 27, December 4, and 11

Instructor: Rebecca Hansen

**COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULES**

All meetings held in Thorhild County Council Chambers beginning at 9:30am.

Regular council Meetings & Cancellations

November 12 Council meeting cancelled

November 26, Council meeting cancelled

December 24, Council meeting cancelled

Special Council Meetings

October 23, 2019
• Budget Planning

October 30, 2019
• Budget Planning

November 22, 2019
• Budget Presentation

THORHILD & DISTRICT COMMUNITY ADULT LEARNING COUNCIL

Are you interested in helping to plan programs that are offered in our community? All interested individuals are invited to attend our 2019 Annual General meeting. We look forward to hearing your ideas.

Monday November 4, 2019 at 12 noon

(Lunch will be supplied)

Location: Thorhild County Administration Building (Council Chambers)

Let us know if you plan to attend so we have enough lunch for everyone.

For more information or to register call Carolyn 780-398-2810 or Rebecca 780-398-2804.

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**CPTED assessments requests can be made via**

Carolyn 780-398-2810 or Rebecca 780-398-2804.

**ADULT LEARNING COUNCIL**

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Monday November 4, 2019 at 12 noon

(Lunch will be supplied)

Location: Thorhild County Administration Building (Council Chambers)

Let us know if you plan to attend so we have enough lunch for everyone.

For more information or to register call Carolyn 780-398-2810 or Rebecca 780-398-2804.

**HANK & DISTRICT COMMUNITY ADULT LEARNING COUNCIL**

Are you interested in helping to plan programs that are offered in our community? All interested individuals are invited to attend our 2019 Annual General meeting. We look forward to hearing your ideas.

Monday November 4, 2019 at 12 noon

(Lunch will be supplied)

Location: Thorhild County Administration Building (Council Chambers)

Let us know if you plan to attend so we have enough lunch for everyone.

For more information or to register call Carolyn 780-398-2810 or Rebecca 780-398-2804.

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Thorhild Central School Junior High students work on their team building skills by completing a task in which they had to pass a volleyball from foot to hand and then from hand to foot, and so on down the line while laying down. The first team to make their way across the length of the team was declared the winning team. Great fun was had and teamwork was the key to success.

H. A. Kostash School in Smoky Lake principal Dick Richards and Murray Lalonde thanked Lorraine Ponich for her years of service and dedication to their school when Alberta Teachers’ Association Local 67 acknowledged retirees Oct. 10. In the photo Ponich stands with Lalonde, who was also the piper for the evening.

Brad Lazowski
June 11, 1972 - Oct 24, 2010
We do not need a special day to bring you to our minds, The days we do not think of you are very hard to find, Our thoughts are always with you, your place no one can fill, in life we loved you dearly, In death we love you still,
A precious memory of the days when we were together.
We hold you close within our hearts, and there you will remain.
To walk with us throughout our lives, I used to meet again.
Love Mom & Family

In loving memory of
Mona Attwood
It has been a year since you had to leave us, If only we could be with you one last time, to hear you laugh, and to see you smile.
You are always in our thoughts and in our hearts but it’s just not the same.
We miss you so much, so until we meet again, our memories will remain.

Love forever & always
Deborah, Patricia, Cindy & Families

In loving memory of
Bria Chemiwich
Sadly missed along life’s way... Lovingly remembered every day... No longer in our lives to share...
But in our hearts, you’re always there.
Forever loved and remembered by
Penny & Aaron, family & Friends

In loving memory of
HARRYNUCK & ASSOCIATES INC.
CORPORATE FINANCIAL FILING, INCOME TAX PREPARATION, FARM TAX, AGRI STABILITY & GST REPORTING
Tel: 780-942-2049
Fax: 780-942-2040
4918 - 49th Street
Box 799, Redwater, AB
T0A 2W0
Email: kwh@shaw.ca

Meet your Market!

80% of those surveyed said that they get the local news from their local paper. Locals care more about issues and events that are local. Different from any other eye, it will build for your market to create, control and perfect your news and advertising.*

Our Readers Are Your Customers.
Do you know your readers?
Get to know your customers. Get them to see you. Get them to know you.
Our readers are your customers. They are the future of your business.
https://www.pamphletmamas.com
*source: sjw media, sportslive, 2019
Redwater council revved up to support 13th Ride for Hunger

The 13th annual Redwater Ride For Hunger will take place June 7, 2020. This event raises funds and food for the Redwater Fellowship of Churches Food Bank which serves Redwater, Thorhild County and the eastern portion of Sturgeon County. The Ride is organized by volunteers with the food bank and the Redwater & District Chamber of Commerce.

Food bank president Mechtild Brennen and Chamber president Nicole Krill requested support from the Town of Redwater for next year’s ride, stating they would welcome the same support given to the 2019 Ride.

“It was a great day for the food bank,” Brennen said during the Oct. 15 council meeting. “An amazing event. It was definitely a very good town event.” She thanked everyone who contributed to the Ride’s success and said it was “an outstanding success for a revitalization year.” This year’s ride brought in nearly $10,000 plus about 650 lbs of food.

Council unanimously voted to provide the same in-kind and non-budgetary items for the 2020 Ride as in 2019, and to consider the financial requests during the 2020 budget deliberations. This year the town provided six Porta Potties (at $150 each), recycling and garbage bins, cigarette cans, tables and chairs, barricades and event advertising. As well, it closed 50 Avenue between 48 and 50 Streets and closed 49 St. from 50 Ave. to the alley north of 49 Ave. for the event.

Mayor Mel Smith said it may take a while for the Ride to get as large as it was in 2013 (he estimated 1,300 bikes at 2013 and 500 this year). He added that he knows the food bank needs what the ride brings in because it “is really being used.”

“The town people pull together,” said coun. Dwayne Spicer. “It’s really great to see.”

Town manager Larry Davidson suggested challenging Thorhild and Sturgeon counties to match Redwater’s contributions to the Ride. Coun. Dave McRae said if that is done, the town should include the value of its in-kind contributions in the total.

The Ride for Hunger was held from 2003 to 2013 during which it annually brought 1,500 to 2,000 people into town. It returned in 2019. Brennen advised that during the 12 years it was held, the Ride raised over $110,000 plus many thousands of pounds of food to help families in need. Hamper requests have increased 30 percent per year for several years.

In addition to the Town of Redwater’s support of the Ride, it provides the food bank with space and utilities in Pembina Place.

In 2019 Thorhild County provided $7,000 to the food bank. None of the funds were specifically allocated to the Ride. Sturgeon County did not respond to an inquiry regarding food bank funding before press time.

In 2018 the food bank provided 560 regular monthly hampers to area clients while Thorhild County holds a Christmas hamper campaign to serve the clients within that municipality.

New teachers welcomed

The Alberta Teachers’ Association Aspen View Local #7 inducts new teachers into the profession Oct. 10. H. A. Kostash School (HAK) in Smoky Lake principal Dick Richards (L-R) welcomed HAK’s new teachers Kendra Jenkins, Keeley Thompson, Sarah Feledichuk, Shelby Kapach and Tanysha Van Hecke.

Smoky Lake County councillor Lorne Halisky (L-R) visits with Terry and Linda Skolaski at the Life In The Heartland information evening held in Redwater Oct. 16.

2019 ABP FALL PRODUCER MEETINGS

ZONE 7

ALL MEETINGS START AT 7 p.m.
FREE SUPPER 6 p.m.

NOVEMBER 5 HAZEL BLUFF, HALL
NOVEMBER 6 ANSELMO, HALL

Join us at a meeting in your area to hear about the work ABP has done this year, and to help set direction for the year to come.

ZONE 7 INCLUDES:
Thorhild County No. 7, Barrhead County No. 11, Athabasca County, Lac Ste. Anne County, Woodlands County, Opportunity No. 17, Sturgeon County, McLeod County, Yellowhead County, Lesser Slave River No. 124, L.D. No. 12 - Jasper Park, Municipality of Jasper.

www.albertabeefproducers.ca
403.275.4400

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2019 ABP FALL PRODUCER MEETINGS

ZONE 7

ALL MEETINGS START AT 7 p.m.
FREE SUPPER 6 p.m.

NOVEMBER 5 HAZEL BLUFF, HALL
NOVEMBER 6 ANSELMO, HALL

Join us at a meeting in your area to hear about the work ABP has done this year, and to help set direction for the year to come.
Metis Crossing hall expected to be finished in November

Construction of the Cultural Gathering Centre at Metis Crossing will be completed by the end of November. The 18 month build will be finished only a couple weeks later than its original mid-November completion date.

While it will be open for rentals immediately—the first event will be an Aspen View Public Schools retreat at the end of November—the formal grand opening will be held June 24, 2020. That is the 150th anniversary of the date Manitoba’s provisional government’s Metis leader Louis Riel signed the Manitoba Act and brought Manitoba into Canada.

Metis were a mobile people who travelled across the lands that became western Canada. When Metis Crossing opened in 2005 (Alberta’s centennial) a wagon train travelled from Manitoba to Metis Crossing and a Voyageur brigade paddled from Edmonton to Metis Crossing. An even larger wagon train and Voyageur brigade are planned for June 2020.

Metis Crossing development manager Juanita Marois said the Metis Nation of Alberta (MNA) board is pleased with the progress of the gathering hall project, considering construction crews worked through the coldest February in 40 years and the wettest May and also expanded the expansion of the hall from 10,000 to 11,000 sq. ft.

MNA said that on a recent tour MNA board members were filled with pleasure and awe at the building and what it means to Metis people and everyone they hope to share their culture with. Marois said having a gathering centre is very near and dear to the members and leadership of the MNA. It is something they have dreamed of building for more than 25 years.

Because it is so important, they envisaged the structure’s design included elements of a Metis family’s home and the surrounding site design facilitates sharing and learning experiences. The cultural gathering hall will change into the natural environment. Metis Crossing development manager Juanita Marois stands by the posts of a climbing structure.

The under-construction playground at Metis Crossing features elements made of wood instead of metal, so they fit into the natural environment. Metis Crossing development manager Juanita Marois stands by the posts of a climbing structure.

The large wood burning fireplace is one of primary features in Metis Crossing’s Cultural Gathering Centre. Metis Crossing development manager Juanita Marois, who is seated beside the fireplace, explained that it and the open kitchen are elements of original Metis homes that were incorporated into the hall.

The under-construction playground at Metis Crossing features elements made of wood instead of metal, so they fit into the natural environment. Metis Crossing development manager Juanita Marois stands by the posts of a climbing structure.

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Pembina Pipeline Corporation takes pride in its safety record and its relationship with area communities and neighboring industries.

During the Oct. 16 Life In The Heartland information evening held in Redwater, Pembina Technical Training and Emergency Response supervisor Wayne Rose summarized some company highlights.

Pembina operates 18,000 km of pipelines, enough to cross Canada three times, plus accompanying storage and terminaling facilities for rail and truck transport and natural gas liquids (NGL) fractionation plants. Its facilities in the Heartland include the Namao Hub, the Canadian Diluent Hub and the Redwater fractionation complex. “It is the largest ethane and propane plant in Canada,” said Rose.

He reported his company has a zero by choice safety culture for staff and for the safety and integrity of its non-human assets. “Pembina prides itself on safety,” said Rose, “but we keep an on-site paramedic and have a heli-pad in case STARS is needed.”

He said something many people may not know is that Pembina has an on-site Emergency Response team and its own fire truck, boats and helicopter for use by emergency and spill response staff. They train to national fire protection standards and for possible company specific events, including rope rescue and spill response. As part of their excellent community relationships, they have mutual aid arrangements for emergencies.

Pembina Community Investment program supports local schools, the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) and local emergency responders.

Maycee Brett drives the school bus as Ochre Park School in Redwater Kindergarten and Head Start students learn bus safety through the Safety On Board program.
The North West Redwater Partnership (NWR) is proud of its Sturgeon Refinery, which has been in operation since 1984, and is the only refinery in southern Alberta for enhanced oil recovery, said Goodman. “I believe this will be a flagship environmental project. This is something we’re incredibly proud of.”

As the first new greenfield refinery in Canada since 1984, it is designed to produce ultra-low sulphur diesel fuel and is the only refinery with built-in technology to capture carbon dioxide (CO2).

“We’re going to capture CO2 to send to the world’s biggest things, including its biggest CO2 pipeline,” said Goodman. “I believe this will be a flagship environmental project. This is something we’re incredibly proud of.”

She thanked the people who work at the refinery site, saying they are among the most important assets NWR has. During the present maintenance shut down and facility testing there are 180-400 staff plus approximately the same number of contractors working at the refinery. The shutdown will generate $25 million in wages to direct and indirect labor from capital region contractors.

Goodman’s next thank you was to the refinery’s neighboring towns. “That’s our head office, in rural Sturgeon County,” said Goodman. “We really appreciate being your neighbor.”

Finally, she thanked the communities in which NWR operates, Sturgeon County and the refinery’s neighboring towns. “That’s our head office, in rural Sturgeon County,” said Goodman. “We really appreciate being your neighbor.”

The Sturgeon Refinery was designed to add value to Alberta’s bitumen. When it is fully operational (expected to be by year end) it will process 70,000 barrels per day (bpd) of dilut- ed bitumen and produce 40,000 bpd of diesel plus 40,000 bpd of other products such as diluent, vacuum gas oil and natural gas liquids.

For nearly two years it has been producing 40,000 bpd of diesel from synthetic crude. It gets sold mostly in western Canada. Goodman said the refinery’s partnerships with neighbor- ing industries is appreciated.

NWR’s community investment program was funded with $650,000 raised through recycling beverage containers and construc- tion scrap materials. In addition to providing local organizations with funding from that program, NWR staff took up a collection of personal protective gear and donated it to the United Way.
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