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## Remembering Brad

EXPRESS PHOTO BY RCMP CPL. MICHAEL GARTON

Peguis First Nation friends and family gathered and walked to the memorial site of Brad Flett this past Monday on the one-year anniversary of the night he was tragically struck and killed. See story on pg. 10.

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# Gimli's skating trail on Lake Winnipeg pulls the crowds

By Patricia Barrett

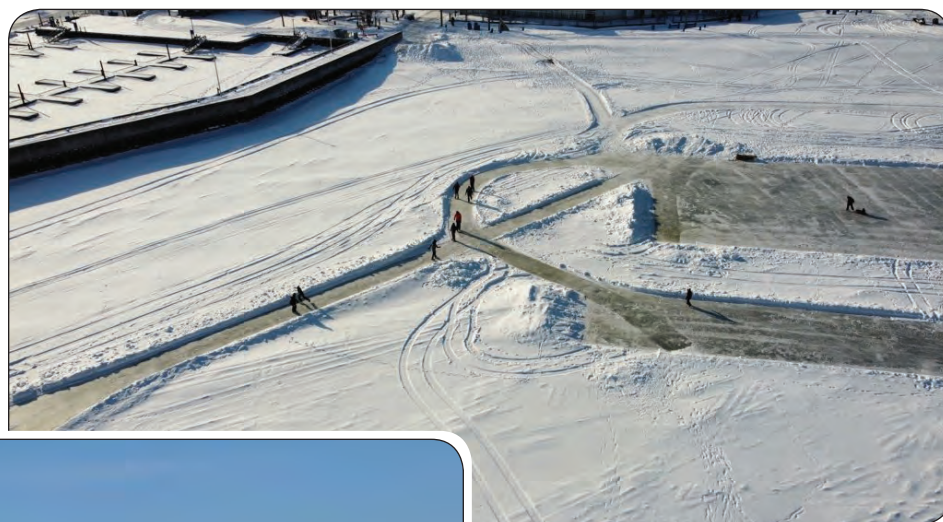
Gimli pulled in skaters from near and far last weekend after the opening of a skating trail on Lake Winnipeg.

"It's been very successful," said Brittany Isfeld, who is the municipality of Gimli's economic development and tourism clerk and staff member of Gimli Community Development Corporation, a self-sustaining entity affiliated with the municipality. "At one time on Saturday, we had 17 people

using the trail and today (Sunday) we had 31."

The lake trail was funded by the CDC (the *Express* had incorrectly attributed the skating trail to the municipality in its Jan. 28 edition story on ice carvers building benches along the trail). The corporation received some extra funding from Travel Manitoba this year to build the trail, said Isfeld.

"The amount of people out there was wonderful to see," she said. "Everyone was smiling."



**EXPRESS PHOTO BY MARK DANN**  
An aerial view of Gimli's skating trail.



A group of young skaters, outside the Gimli harbour wall, enjoyed the new trail on Lake Winnipeg last weekend.



**EXPRESS PHOTOS BY BRITANNY ISFELD**  
People got their skates on and tried out the trail on Lake Winnipeg.



The skating trail snakes along the harbour wall.

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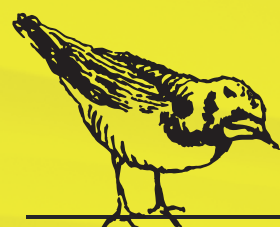
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# arts&culture

## MB Arts Network launching wealth of online programming

By Lorne Stelmach

A provincial arts organization is aiming to help fill the void left for artists and performers in Manitoba left without venues and galleries thanks to the pandemic shutdown.

From now until at least the end of March, the Manitoba Arts Network is rolling out online programming that will feature Manitoban artists and performers.

Funding from the Safe at Home MB program and working in partnership with 50 rural arts organizations throughout Manitoba is helping them offer a new free online event every week.

The plan includes 12 livestream performances and 10 visual arts classes that are still being finalized, but there are also five interactive online art exhibitions that have already been unveiled.

"Without the lockdown, we likely wouldn't have considered putting our exhibitions online, so it's pushing us all to embrace new business models," said director Rose-Anne Harder.

Harder said they recognized that there was an important role for the arts network under the circumstances in the province.

"With the lockdown, galleries throughout the province had to close. We usually tour exhibitions throughout the province, so that had to come to a halt," she said.

"We felt if no one can go in person, let's put our exhibitions online for free to give people something to do and enjoy during the lockdown," Harder said, noting the provincial funding is covering the artist fees. "With the lockdown, they can't even teach classes, so they have had to pivot to doing everything online."

She recognized that there are unfortunately some challenges that come with online content.

"For rural Manitoba, the internet is spotty, so it unfortunately doesn't always work well for everybody," she said.

However, she added that more and more people have become more accustomed to doing things online, and artists as well have had to embrace the technology.

"People are getting more tech savvy, getting into doing Zoom calls and

classes," she said.

She also sees this online content as providing valuable exposure for the artists and performers, particularly in terms of being able to reach some more remote and northern communities in Manitoba.

"They have very limited access ... so more online activities create more exchange with different communities in the province," said Harder.

Four of the exhibitions feature rural artists with galleries by Jan Jenkins, Mary Lowe, Heather Martens Rempel, and a group exhibition titled *Manitoba Moments* by the Textile and Fibre Artists of Manitoba. A fifth exhibition features Winnipeg artist Sarah Fuller.

Visitors to the virtual gallery are encouraged to take part in the exhibitions — not only are they able to view the artwork, but there is also a guestbook to leave your name and comments and a gift shop where many of the artworks displayed are available to purchase.

Harder noted they anticipate continuing to do online programming even once things return more to normal.

"This online gallery will be with us beyond COVID. We're now developing policies to use it throughout the year," she said. "It's very exciting. To be able to sell the artwork online creates another marketplace for artists."

### Creativity amidst a pandemic

The exhibition *Art in the Time of COVID-19* by Martens Rempel was borne from her trying to rationalize "what is

Continued on page 4



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Fish ladder to Hades by Mary Lowe is among the art on display online as part of the Manitoba Arts Network's online exhibition. The network is hosting a series of free online exhibitions, classes and concerts over the next couple of months.



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## Deputy mayor of Winnipeg Beach steps down after nearly two terms of service

By Patricia Barrett

The Town of Winnipeg Beach's Deputy Mayor Pat Green announced last week she decided to step down from her position to focus on a family health matter, but she intends to remain active in the community and contribute to its overall well-being.

Green said juggling travel to and from Winnipeg for the past few years to accompany her family member to medical appointments and attending to the demands of her job as councillor and deputy mayor led her to the decision to step down.

"It was getting to the point where something had to give and I decided to step down from council," said Green by phone last week. "I wouldn't have stepped down otherwise, but you've got to focus on priorities."

Green was first elected to council in 2014. She was re-elected in 2018 and appointed deputy mayor.

Serving on council is a very demanding job, she said. There is a lot to learn about procedure and process in

keeping with the provincial Municipal Act and town bylaws. Councillors have to learn to work as a team even if they disagree on particular issues. They have to judge difficult matter at times, be fiscally responsible, respond to and investigate ratepayer concerns and, most importantly, make decisions with the best interests of the entire community in mind.

Green said she enjoyed the challenges and serving her community.

"When I commit to something, I really commit to it. I think it's only fair to be 100 per cent attentive to council matters and it's difficult when you're having to attend to health issues and being torn in different directions," said Green.

There were a lot of positive things council was hoping to finish that got delayed because of COVID-19, she said, and she's "very disappointed" she won't be around to finish them.

"We have a good council and I enjoyed working with the team," said Green. "I felt we were becoming more

cohesive as a team, and we had a lot of positive things we were working on together to accomplish for the town. I hope our community continues to support council."

Green was a regular and positive presence at community and town-sponsored events, including annual Halloween and Christmas parties thrown for Winnipeg Beach and area kids and summer festivals. She's also a dedicated member of the Lakeside Lions Club, which fundraises to support worthy community causes.

Although no longer on council, she said she plans to pitch in as a community volunteer.

"I'm not going anywhere and there's always something to do," said Green. "I expect to be doing volunteer work in the community."

The town posted a notice on its website last week thanking Green for her years of service as both councillor and deputy mayor.

"You have served your community with honesty and distinction," states



EXPRESS FILE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Lakeside Lions member and Coun. Pat Green at a community Christmas party in 2017.

the notice from Mayor Tony Pimentel, councillors and staff.

The town, which holds its elections in July, will have to call a by-election to replace Green.

## Province announces 89 new COVID-19 cases, three more deaths

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Public health officials announced three additional deaths in Manitoba due to COVID-19 on Monday, bringing the total to 832.

The province began the work week with total of 3,466 active case of the virus and 25,353 recoveries.

The bulk of new cases in recent days have been in the Northern health region, which reported 42 additional cases on Monday compared to 22 in Interlake-Eastern, 18 in Winnipeg, four in Southern Health-Santé Sud, and three in Prairie Mountain.

There were 255 people in hospital due to COVID-19 at press time, including 104 still considered infectious and 151 no longer contagious but still requiring care.

Manitoba's intensive care units were caring for 38 patients, 27 with active

COVID-19 infections.

The Interlake-Eastern total case breakdown by district as of Monday, was as follows: A total of 2,243 cases, up 107 cases from Feb. 1 with 453 active cases, 1,755 recovered, 15 currently in the hospital with two of those in ICU and 35 deaths.

Arborg/Riverton 66 recovered cases; Beausejour 134 recovered; Eriksdale/Ashern 69 active cases, 87 recovered and 7 deaths; Fisher/Peguis 77 active cases and 273 recovered, 3 deaths; Gimli 29 recovered; Northern Remote 188 active cases, 201 recovered and 4 deaths; Pinawa/Lac du Bonnet 52 recovered; Powerview/Pine Falls 92 active cases and 61 recovered and one death; Selkirk 91 recovered and 2 deaths; Springfield 161 recovered and 11 deaths; St. Clements 8 active cases and 82 recovered and 1 death;

St. Laurent 17 recovered; Stonewall/Teulon 144 recovered and 4 deaths; Unknown District 5 active cases and 194 recovered and 1 death; Whiteshell 25 recovered and Winnipeg Beach/St. Andrews 138 recovered and 1 death.

The current five-day COVID-19 test positivity rate was 7.9 per cent provincially and 4.2 per cent in Winnipeg

### New travel restrictions

Manitoba Premier Brian Pallister last week announced amendments to the public health orders in connection to interprovincial travel.

Starting Jan. 29, anyone entering Manitoba from anywhere in Canada is required to self-isolate for 14 days. This includes those entering from northern and Western Canada and from west of Terrace Bay in Ontario, which under previous health orders

did not require self-isolation.

Pallister pointed to the increasing variant COVID-19 strain cases popping up around the world and right here in Canada as the reasoning behind this change.

"This is being done out of an abundance of caution to protect Manitobans," he stressed. "We do not want these variants ... in Manitoba."

"Now is not the time for non-essential travel. We all need to do our part to keep each other safe."

There are some exemptions to the new self-isolation measures, including for those traveling for essential interprovincial work or medical purposes and individuals who regularly travel to and from communities near the borders for essential purposes. Complete details are available online at [manitoba.ca/covid19](https://manitoba.ca/covid19).

### > MB ARTS NETWORK, FROM PG. 3

the point of making art when people are struggling for their lives and sanity? Why indulge in this solitary activity? To what end?"

She creates not only because she is driven to but because the world looks different when she does, and that is what she feels is asked of her in return for receiving the inspiration.

"It has been a real gift to be involved with the Manitoba Arts Network. They have really lived up to their mandate during this COVID-19 time in finding ways to promote artists," said Martens

Rempel.

"While it most definitely does not replace a real gallery experience, having my work online provides an opportunity for more people to see my work than if it were in one geographical space. Viewing art online does not give one a sense of scale or even texture, but it does give someone a sense of the subject matter and make one curious to want to see the art in real life. I am also excited to have my work on view with other great artists in many different mediums."

Martens Rempel has also been invited to be part of the creative digital swap where she will be paired with Calgary musician Jenn Beaupre.

"This was a very exciting and new idea," she said. "I learned so much from this process and met a new artist through the process."

Cathie Ugrin of the Textile and Fibre Artists of Manitoba observed being an artist during a global pandemic has certainly been a unique experience. Despite the isolation, being an active member of the group has kept her feeling engaged, supported and inspired. She said they were thrilled and honoured their exhibit *Manitoba*

*Moments* was included in the online show.

"Their hard work and dedication to the artistic community of Manitoba is very much appreciated," she said. "Sit back and enjoy the unique art in this fabulous gallery, safe and comfortable in your own home until we can all gather together again."

The Manitoba Arts Network's plans include a livestream discussion featuring the artists and interactive art classes on a variety of mediums. Details on these events are still being finalized. For more info, follow the organization on Facebook or YouTube.



# Fisher Branch RCMP still looking for driver in fatal pedestrian collision

Submitted by RCMP

It was one year ago today that Albert Bradley Flett, known to everyone as Brad, was walking to a friend's place in his home community of Peguis First Nation.

It was a cold but clear evening on Feb. 1, 2020, and a snowmobile poker derby taking place in the community created a hub of activity. People, cars and snowmobiles were everywhere.

Brad was walking on West Road, only a short distance behind his group of friends when, at around 6 p.m., he was struck by what police believe to be an all-terrain vehicle. As he was behind them, Brad's friends did not see the collision happen, but when they heard it and realized that Brad was struck, they began administer-

ing first aid right away. Fisher Branch RCMP received the frantic 911 call at 6:05 p.m. and immediately responded. When RCMP and emergency services arrived at scene, Brad had already died.

Brad was 52 years old when he died. He was a dad to a teenage boy. He came from a large, loving family and was one of nine siblings.

"Brad loved to travel and embraced the traditional way of life. He was kind and gentle and would give the shirt off his back if someone else was in need. He was a loving father to his son Philip, and we all miss him dearly," said Brad's sister Rose.

One act on one roadway on one fateful night ripped Brad away from his family, and since that moment, RCMP

has been actively investigating Brad's death. Investigators have interviewed dozens of people, reviewed video surveillance, followed up on every tip and have been working with the criminal collision investigation team.

Rose organized a Walk for Justice/Memorial for Brad, on Feb. 1, 2021, in Peguis First Nation to mark the one-year anniversary of her brother's death.

"We don't want Brad to be forgotten and will continue to bring attention to his death until we get answers. Someone knows something. Please, if you have any information, call police."

If you have information on Brad's death, call Fisher Branch RCMP at 204-372-8484, Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-8477 or secure tip



Bradley Flett

online at [www.manitobacrimestoppers.com](http://www.manitobacrimestoppers.com).

## Manitoba outlines its vaccine rollout plans

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Province of Manitoba provided details of its COVID-19 vaccine rollout strategy last week.

On Jan. 27, Dr. Joss Reimer, medical lead of Manitoba's Vaccine Implementation Task Force, joined Health Minister Heather Stefanson in outlining the four-stage plan.

"Right now we have a very limited supply of vaccine, but assuming supply issues resolve ... we understand that Manitobans will want to know who's next and when it might be their turn," said Reimer.

The plan breaks people into four priority groups: health-care workers and congregate living staff, residents of congregate living facilities, residents of First Nations communities, and Manitobans based on age.

The most vulnerable people within the first three groups have already started to be eligible for immunization in the first stage of the plan.

"We've made progress here, but we still have more people to immunize in this stage," said Reimer.

Future stages continue to broaden the vaccination criteria for health-care workers and congregate living staff and residents (including homeless shelters and correctional facilities) not covered in Stage 1.

The general population will begin to be vaccinated in Stage 2, starting with Manitobans over the age of 95 and then working down by one-year increments until reaching age 80. This stage could start as early as April, assuming the vaccine supply allows it.

Stage 3 will work down from Manitobans over age 75 to those over age 60.

The broadest rollout for the general public will be in Stage 4, which will work down from Manitobans age 55-plus to those 18 years old or older.

"There will be a vaccine for everyone who wants it in Manitoba, but depending on your situation you may need to be patient," Reimer said.

The plan notes that essential workers could be added at any stage as additional vaccine products are approved for use in Canada. The province has not yet outlined who, exactly, will be considered an essential worker.

Manitoba's under-18 population is also not in the plan, as the current vaccines are not approved for their use. As more vaccines are approved, assuming they are safe for children and youth, that may change.

How fast Manitoba will work through the various stages of vaccination depends greatly on vaccine supply.

Under the projected low-supply scenario, which does not include any vaccines not yet approved, it's expected all Manitobans who want it will have the chance to get the vaccine by the end of 2021.

If supplies increase with the inclusion of new vaccines in development, that date could be moved up to the end of August.

In both cases, public health officials are estimating 70 per cent of qualified Manitobans will choose to get the vaccine.

Reimer noted the province is working on ensuring Manitobans have easy access to the vaccine when their time to get it comes up.

"That's our goal, that all Manitobans have access," she said. "Whether you live in the cities, whether you live in a remote setting, we're going to be working hard to have sites available that any Manitoban can access, within reasonable distance from their home."

Vaccination supersites are in the works for the Interlake-Eastern and Southern Health-Santé Sud health regions for March. Additional supersites are planned for all health regions through the spring and summer months as more vaccine becomes available.

### First nations rollout

Details of the First Nations vaccine strategy were released Monday by members of the First Nations Pandemic Response Co-ordination Team and Manitoba's Vaccine Implementation Task Force.

Thousands of doses of the Moderna vaccine have already been shipped to 63 First Nations in Manitoba to vaccinate health-care workers in remote/isolated communities, residents and staff in personal care homes or elder care facilities.

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ties, individuals 60 years and over in remote communities, and individuals 70+ in non-remote communities.

Moving forward, Manitoba's Indigenous communities plan to prioritize health-care workers in non-remote areas, workers at alternative isolation accommodations, and traditional healers/knowledge keepers as part of the health workforce.

When the province at large begins offering vaccines to Manitobans over the age of 80 in Stage 2, First Nations people over 60 will also be able to be vaccinated.

"Life expectancy for First Nations people is lower than for other Manitobans and the median age of severe outcomes is also much lower for First Nations people. And right now, First Nations people make up 50 per cent of all COVID-19 hospitalizations and 40 per cent of intensive care unit admissions," explained Dr. Marcia Anderson, vice-dean, Indigenous health and public health lead for Manitoba First Nation PRCT. "We will address this by ensuring younger First Nations people have access to the vaccine sooner to address the higher risk to First Nations people."

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## Straw man COVID debates

By Evan Matthews

COVID-19 numbers continue to surge across North America, yet some people still deny its severity, suggesting its prevalence in our lives is some kind of government and/or media conspiracy.

Many of us have heard community members say things like: "The total number of deaths is almost the same as it was before, so 'they' must be categorizing every death as COVID-related."

Or "Annual flu numbers are down. I guess people with the flu are being categorized as COVID-positive now, too."

These opinions, these thoughts, are nothing more than false equivalences.

Does it make sense that annual flu numbers are down, while COVID numbers continue to run rampant? Is this a recording error? What's the reason for this?

Experts have started to speak out.

A professor of family medicine in Alberta, while speaking with media this past week, said there are a number of reasons why annual flu numbers are down in this country, including:

1. International travel being down, there are fewer people bringing the flu across borders;
2. Many Canadians received flu shots this year. The number of flu shots administered was almost 25 per cent higher in some provinces this year;
3. Public Health orders designed to combat and prevent COVID — social distancing, hand washing and mask wearing — inherently provide proactive protection against the flu, too.

In regards to annual death tolls worldwide, this is a hard topic to quantify and should be waded into carefully. Even this discussion is surface level, at best.

At the very least, it is seemingly accepted in the world of medicine that the worldwide death toll in 2020 was consistent with that of 2019. But that doesn't mean COVID-19 didn't have an impact or didn't potentially account for more deaths than any other cause.

Experts have said it's not at all out of the question for other categorical deaths decreasing as a result of COVID-19 taking hold of our society.

In the same way the public health orders are helping to prevent flu transmission as well as they are the dreaded coronavirus, is it safe to assume there are fewer people dying from accidental vehicle collisions (as an example) because people are staying home more?

Experts are saying, yes, it's likely there are fewer people dying "traditional" deaths because of the way our society has changed dating back to March 2020.

Keeping in mind, annual worldwide death tolls have steadily increased dating back to the mid-1960s, according to UN numbers. This can be attributed (at least in part) to a growing — and aging — population.

But to say the COVID death toll worldwide isn't as advertised would be untrue. In fact, many well-respected publications and experts are suggesting pandemic-related fatalities may be even higher than what the reported numbers suggest.

Two main reasons for this, according

to *The Economist*, are that:

1. Many countries' official COVID death stats exclude victims who hadn't tested positive for the coronavirus prior to death, and;

2. Doctors are having a more difficult time treating other conditions, and patients have been discouraged from going to medical facilities.

While it's also a bit of a leap to suggest the COVID-related death toll is higher than what we understand, it's not out of the realm of possibility to think how the pandemic has affected people's health negatively in other ways (including mental health and suicide).

It seems the numbers balance to some degree. Just as an example: Maybe fewer people died in car accidents because they're staying home, but more people may have committed suicide due to languishing mental health. Fewer people died of the flu, but more people died of COVID-19.

This conversation must also acknowledge the financial aspect of the conversation, which could mean in some cases medical facilities inflating COVID numbers — perhaps in a privatized system — to have more access to relief funding.

While this is possible to some degree, experts have again stated to think this would be the majority of situations would be highly unlikely and untrue.

All to say, the conversations about "COVID not being as bad as the numbers show, are unfounded. This virus has impacted our society for far too long to continue with straw man arguments.

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EXPRESS PHOTO BY MONA JOSEPHSON

Mona Josephson's view of her front window at her home near Gimli. Readers are encouraged to submit weather photos of the Interlake's fantastic weather throughout the year. Blizzards, rainbows, lightning storms, beach photos, snow and more — email to [weather@expressweeklynews.ca](mailto:weather@expressweeklynews.ca)

## Seniors care, mental health, and chronic and complex care prioritized in Shared Health agreement

Submitted by Manitoba government

Seniors care, mental health, and care for chronic and complex conditions have been identified as shared priority areas of focus for Manitoba physicians and the provincial government in an agreement reached on the allocation of increased funding for medical services, as announced today by Health and Seniors Care Minister Heather Stefanson, Mental Health, Wellness and Recovery Minister Audrey Gordon and Dr. Cory Baillie, president, Doctors Manitoba.

The agreement is the result of ongoing collaborative discussions and sets out the allocation of a 0.75 per cent increase to medical remuneration, as part of the 2019-2023 Master Agreement between the Manitoba government and Doctors Manitoba. The allocation — and the identified priority areas of focus — have been endorsed by the Master Agreement Governance Committee and will take effect April 1, 2021.

"We are very pleased to have reached an agreement on the allocation of these funds as part of our mutual commitment to modern-

izing health-care delivery to support better health care for all Manitobans," said Stefanson. "Working with our physician partners, we will continue to improve care for our most vulnerable patients including seniors and those requiring care for complex and chronic conditions."

Gordon said this agreement also acknowledges the importance of ongoing support and enhancement of mental health services, priorities for both our government and providers working across the province and those who access these vital services.

Baillie said increased funding for medical remuneration this year will help doctors with increasing overhead costs, such as personal protective equipment.

"This collaborative process has allowed us to address physician and patient priorities as part of a larger Master Agreement, in which the provincial government has committed to keeping remuneration competitive with other provinces," Baillie said.

Collaborative discussions to achieve ongoing improvements in

patient care and health-care delivery through necessary modernization and alignment are continuing under the oversight of the Master Agreement Governance Committee, a joint advisory group with representatives from the provincial government and Doctors Manitoba.

Highlights of the allocation include:

- enhanced focus on care of the elderly;
- support for complex care;
- support for chronic care provided within long-term care settings; and
- increased support for mental health including support for psychotherapy, hospital care, consultation and care specific to geriatric patients.

Monday's agreement is the latest collaborative effort between the Province of Manitoba and Doctors Manitoba and builds upon earlier agreements reached to support Manitoba's COVID-19 pandemic efforts including tariffs for virtual care and isolation supports for physicians.

## Government announces agreement to support essential air access

Submitted by Manitoba government

The COVID-19 pandemic is having a significant impact on remote communities that depend on small air carriers for essential goods, services and for access in and out of the community.

As the pandemic continues to evolve, the Government of Canada is working with partners, including provincial and territorial governments, Indigenous partners and the air industry to address the unique needs of these communities.

Monday, the Minister of Transport, the Honourable Omar Alghabra, the Minister of Northern Affairs, the Honourable Daniel Vandal, and the Manitoba Minister of Economic Development and Jobs, the Honourable Ralph Eichler, announced a new agreement with the government of Manitoba to support essential air access to remote communities.

"While we continue to work together to limit the spread of COVID-19, we must also ensure remote communities continue to have the air connectivity they need for essential goods and services, travel and business. This agreement with the Government of Manitoba will allow for reliable air services to keep remote communities in Manitoba connected to the rest of the country," said Alghabra.

The Government of Canada is contributing up to \$12,031,000 for air services to remote communities to address losses from the period of July 1 to Dec. 31, 2020.

Under this agreement, the government of Manitoba will allocate funding to air operators to maintain scheduled service to ensure the continued supply of food, medical supplies, and other essential goods and services to these communities.

"Protecting Manitobans is critical and remote communities need to continue to receive goods and services that they rely on. This program will help communities which depend on scheduled air service for the supply of food, medical supplies, and other essential items will get the support they need," said the Honourable Ralph Eichler, Minister of Economic Development and Jobs, Government of Manitoba.

### Quick Facts

- Additional funding will depend on the needs of communities and the pace of recovery of air travel into remote communities.

- Remote communities are those which rely on air service as the only year-round mode of transportation.

- Some communities may have limited access to seasonal ice roads or long and unreliable gravel roads.

- In addition to this initiative, Indigenous Services Canada has been flying health care professionals to and from fly-in First Nations communities in Manitoba since April 22, 2020.



# Steep Rock cabins raising concern amongst residents

By Evan Matthews

A pair of proposed cabins and guest cabins in Steep Rock have caused a stir among residents, with concerns ranging from parking to illegal business activity.

At its Nov. 26 meeting, the RM of Grahamdale approved a conditional use application for Srabani Das, who has proposed construction of a cabin and guest cabin on two separate lots, totalling four buildings.

"These (guest) cabins will be for our guests, like friends and family," said Das.

"We don't believe having these guest cabins will be disturbing others. Our family and friends are good people and well established."

However, at an Oct. 1 public hearing, the RM had documented four objections to the proposed construction, which would be located on lots 39 and 40 at 232 Cottage Rd.

The conditional use application outlines Das proposing a main building and a guest cabin on each lot, respectively, with a combined 16 rooms including 12 bathrooms available.

Assuming that there are 14 bedrooms with double occupancy (two people) per room, the total number of guests could climb as high as 28 people on the adjoining lots at a given time.

**Concerns about commercial activity**  
Grahamdale council expressed concern related to whether or not the two properties would be used as rental properties; however, the Das family did not at any point state the buildings would be constructed as rental properties.

"The majority of council voted to approve the application, as it was only for constructing a guest cottage on each lot," said RM of Grahamdale Reeve Craig Howse.

He emphasized that the main cabins meets all building regulations and planning bylaws and that after council has voted and decided, the expectation is for a council to then stand unified in its decision.

"But it is expected all property owners are aware of and follow the by-laws, rules and regulations that apply to seasonal recreation properties," he said. "There are numerous short-term rental properties in the area right

now. Council is exploring different ways to regulate all short-term rental properties ... in the future."

## The opposition

At the time of the public hearing, there was quite a contingency of people in opposition. Area resident Jim Shannon said a petition circulated locally received 88 signatures.

Cal Turner, a Steep Rock resident of 28 years, said while the application for guest cabins is good for tax assessment, it doesn't fit within the zoning bylaws. He said it is his belief the application is more of a business endeavour and therefore should be in the general development zone.

"If you feel obliged to approve these guest cabins, please issue a development agreement to go along with the building permit," pleaded Turner, who then spoke to potential issues the community would like to see proactively managed.

"Examples would be parking shall be within the lot and off of the street; single housekeeping unit and no singular room rentals; random checks to be done by the RM, etc. If this goes through, the RM will be plagued with complaints. It will be chaos."

Regardless, if the Das family begins to operate a commercial enterprise in the form of a motel or an Airbnb, and the RM has reason to suspect illegal commercial activity, the RM's development officer is able to complete an inspection and collect evidence.

If the development officer were to find a breach of the RM's zoning bylaw at that time, the RM would reiterate compliance. But in the worst-case scenario, the RM would have to contact its lawyers in order to issue a cease and desist, prior to levying fines.

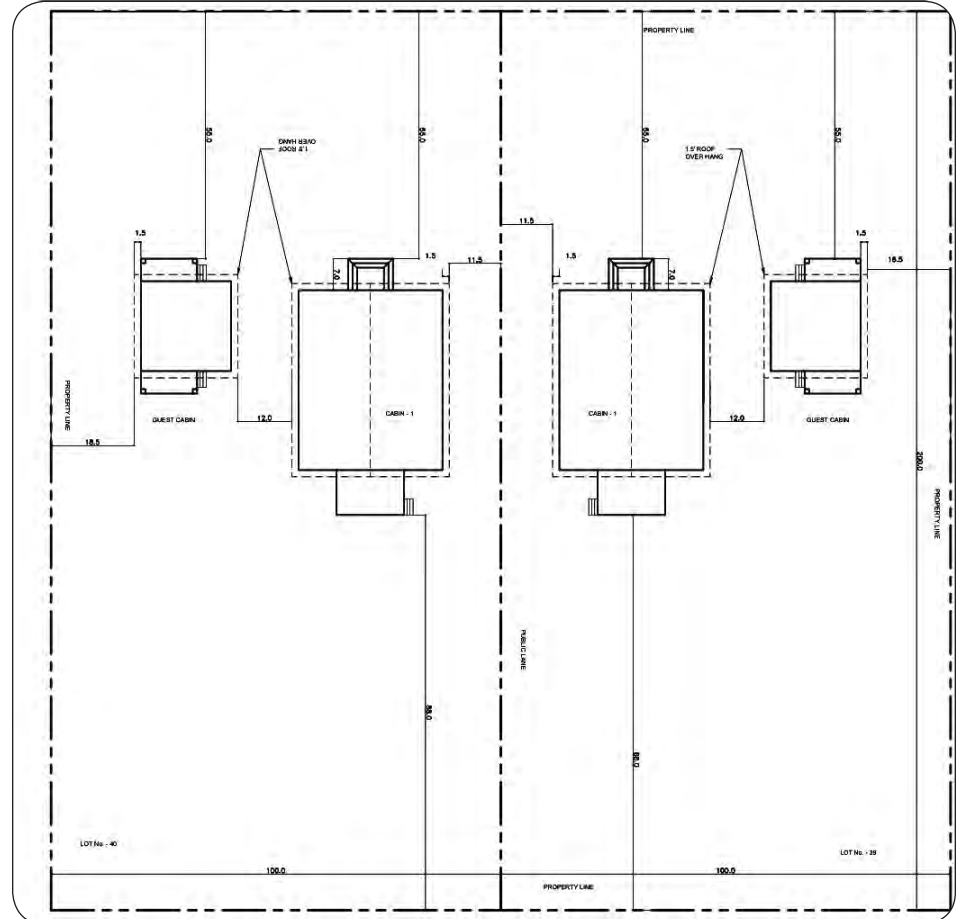
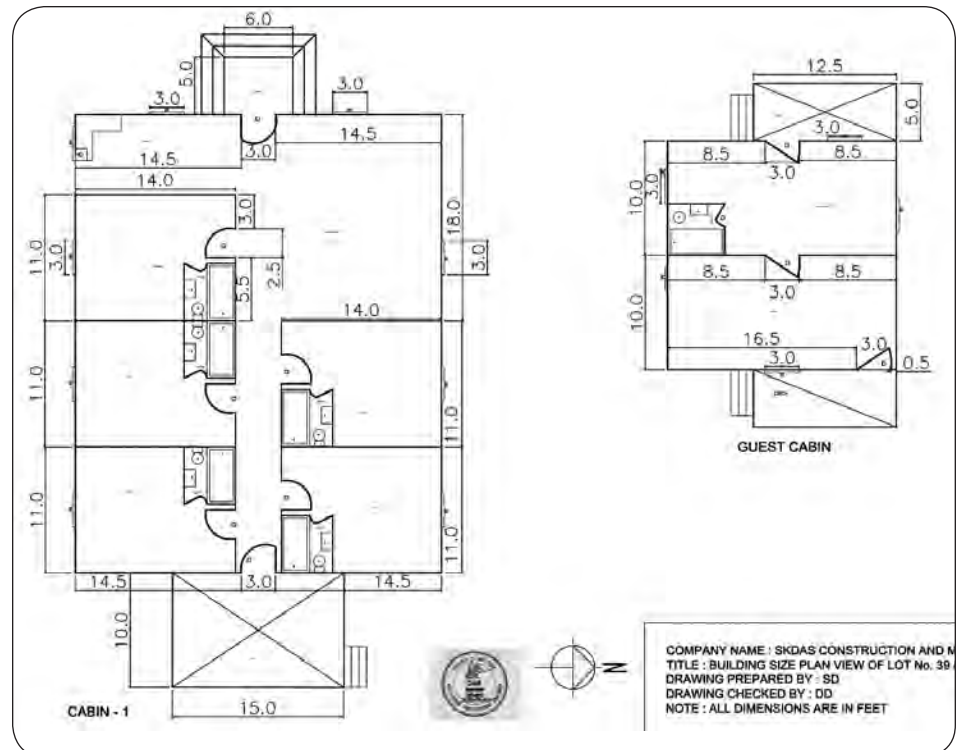
## Steep Rock underrepresented?

Locals like Shannon made mention of the fact that the Steep Rock community provides roughly 60 per cent of the RM's revenue and is the most populous of the RM's five wards.

Shannon said factoring that in, he feels the Steep Rock community is under-represented on council.

"Instead of looking at the area as a place to be nurtured with a long-term vision, and turn it into something like a Westhawk Lake or Falcon Lake kind

**"WE DON'T BELIEVE HAVING THESE GUEST CABINS WILL BE DISTURBING OTHERS. OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS ARE GOOD PEOPLE AND WELL ESTABLISHED."**



**EXPRESS PHOTO FROM CONDITIONAL USE APPLICATION**

The application shows two main buildings and two guest cabins on lots 39 and 40 that will mirror one another. There are a total of 16 rooms and 12 bathrooms.

of area, I liken the mentality to that of strip mining," said Shannon.

"It's more about 'How much money can we get out of here in the shortest amount of time, in the most efficient manner?' Regardless of what it does to the area," he said, referring to the council's treatment of the Steep Rock community.

However, the aforementioned Nov. 26 meeting saw council approve the request of the Das family.

Reeve Howse and the councillors connected to the Steep Rock community voted against the Das proposal, while the four remaining councillors — who Shannon said have no connection to the Steep Rock community — voted in favour.

The RM is unaware of construction start dates, as Reeve Howse stated it is up to the property owners.

Das could not be reached for comment by press time.



# Health Canada encouraging Interlakers to test homes for radon

By Patricia Barrett

The Interlake has geological processes to thank for its bountiful supply of radioactive uranium in the soil and rock. And when that uranium starts to decay, it releases a gas called radon that's no friend to human lungs.

That's why Health Canada is encouraging Canadians to test their homes for radon gas in order to lower their chances of developing lung cancer.

The health agency conducts an annual campaign in November, known as Radon Action Month, and launches follow-up campaigns in subsequent months to ensure Canadians understand how common exposure to radon gas is and why it's so dangerous.

"The only known health impact of radon exposure is an increased risk of lung cancer, which is serious and something we can try to prevent," said Sandy Hutchison, Health Canada's regional radiation specialist for Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

Hutchison, who's based in southern Manitoba, said the national radon program has been running since 2007 when the guideline was lowered to 200 Bq/m3 (becquerels per cubic metre) for indoor air.

But a reading at or below that level doesn't mean you'll be fine and won't have to take remedial measures to remove the gas from your home. Hutchison said "there's no safe level of radon."

Long-term exposure to high levels of the radioactive gas damages lung tissue over time which can lead to the development of cancer. Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers, killing over 3,200 Canadians each year, according to Health Canada.

Since 1988, radon has been designated a Class 1 carcinogen by the International Agency for Research in Cancer, said Hutchison, and it is "known" to cause cancer.

"Radon is radioactive so it will decay. If that decay occurs in your lungs, it creates alpha particles which are like bowling balls of radiation hitting anything in their path and potentially damaging it," said Hutchison. "That could be DNA. If cells repair themselves incorrectly, you'll get a mutation and that can lead to lung cancer."

Not only are humans at risk from radon, but so are household pets, he said, although there is not a lot of research at present to determine how high the risk is for animals.

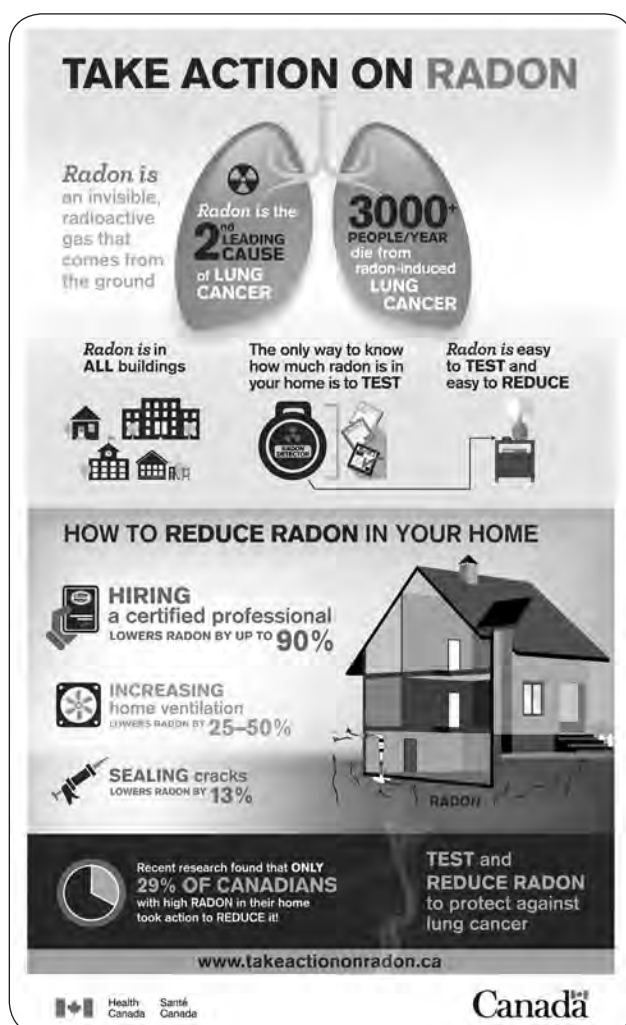
"Physiologically speaking, animals are also at risk. Their breeding rate and their proximity to the source can in fact increase the risk," he said.

Radon stages break-and-enters in a number of clever ways and with such stealth (it's colourless, odorless and tasteless), that you'll never know it's decided to move in with you until you get your air tested.

It enters homes and other buildings though any point that has ground contact, including cracks in foundations or walls, gaps around pipes, foundation posts, sump pumps and floor drains.

Buildings such as personal care homes, businesses and apartment buildings — whether a three-storey walk-up or a highrise — can also contain radon.

"Based on a federal building survey completed about a decade ago, we didn't often find elevated levels of radon on higher floors; however, the recommended approach is to test rooms closest to ground contact first," said Hutchison, "then determine if a follow-up survey is warranted."



INFOGRAPHIC COURTESY OF HEALTH CANADA

According to Health Canada's radon webpage, radon can be found in virtually every home in Canada, but concentrations vary from one home to another as they do across provinces and territories. Radon is more prevalent in places that have higher amounts of uranium in underlying rock and soil.

And Hutchison said that's Manitoba. A survey conducted about a decade ago showed about 19 per cent of Manitoba homes have radon levels above the guideline (it's seven per cent nationally).

"Geology is one reason Manitoba is radon-prone. We have just enough uranium left behind from the glaciers [that moved across Manitoba], and it's in the surface soils left behind by ancient Lake Agassiz," said Hutchison. "The escarpment that extends from Morden through Brandon and up to the Dauphin region is some of the most radon-prone areas in the entire country."

Radon is literally pulled into homes through a vacuum effect, which is the second reason Manitoba homes are radon-prone, said Hutchison. For about half the year, we heat our homes. Warm air rises and escapes from the top of a house and that causes air to be pulled from the beneath the house to replace it. The third factor is we have a lot of sump pumps.

Hutchinson said ventilation to get rid of radon is a solution, but it's "often not sufficient enough to reduce radon to below the guideline." And in winter-time it's difficult to throw open windows and doors.

The best way to tackle radon is through depressurization.

"Depressurization creates a bypass for the radon to get from the soil underneath your home and out to the atmosphere," said Hutchison. "It uses a pipe and a fan to draw the gas from under your build-

ing and exhausts it outside so it won't accumulate in your home."

To help keep it out, homeowners should also seal pathways where radon is entering — although it's difficult to find all the openings and floor-to wall joints may be inaccessible. Remediation also includes putting an airtight lid over a sump pump.

Depending on how well an HVAC system in a commercial building works, ventilation alone may mitigate radon gas.

The cost of having a depressurization installed in a basement floor is roughly \$2,500 and Hutchison recommends that homeowners get multiple quotes from certified professionals.

But the first thing homeowners should do is test their home for radon.

Hutchison recommends purchasing a long-term (90 days) certified radon test kit which costs about \$60. The kit comes with instructions as where to place the device in the home (bedrooms or living rooms) and includes the cost of postage and a lab analysis and report.

The Take Action on Radon website is the best resource to find radon detectors that use accredited laboratories. It lists retailers in Manitoba that sell accredited devices.

Hutchison said he cautions consumers from purchasing digital radon test kits from big box retailers because the devices are likely not certified and only provide a short-term test.

"If it looks like a smoke detector, chances are it's a digital monitor," he said. "They're widely available but not quite as accurate as certified kits."

The other alternative is to hire a certified radon professional to test your home. To find one, visit Health Canada's radon webpage and use its search feature to find a professional by region.

Health Canada dispenses free radon advice and information to Manitobans through its regional radiation specialists. For Manitoba, that's Sandy Hutchison himself.

He said the public can call him or email him with any questions they have about radon gas, how to test their homes and where to find a professional to test for them or carry out remedial work. He can be reached at (204) 898-0640 or by email: radon\_mbsk@hc-sc.gc.ca.

Additional information about radon is available from Canadian National Radon Proficiency Program (C-NRPP) website or the Take Action on Radon website.

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THE **EXPRESS**  
WEEKLY NEWS



# Justice walk for Brad Flett who was tragically killed one year ago

By Evan Matthews

Now a year to the day since Brad Flett's death, neither his family nor the community nor the police have forgotten.

On Feb. 1, roughly 100 people gathered at Peguis First Nation and participated in a commemorative walk in memory of Brad, who passed away at 52 years old.

"We all miss him dearly. We don't want Brad to be forgotten and will continue to bring attention to his death until we get answers," said Brad's sister, Mona.

"Someone knows something. Please, if you have any information, call police."

Brad was the father to a teenage boy, Philip. Brad was the sibling to eight brothers and sisters. He came from a loving family and loved to travel and embrace the traditional way of life.

His family said he was a kind and gentle soul and would have given the shirt off his back to anyone in need.

## What happened?

On Feb. 1, 2020, Brad Flett was participating in a snowmobile poker derby in his home community of Peguis First Nation. It was a cold but clear



EXPRESS PHOTO BY RCMP CPL. MICHAEL GARTON

The memorial walk for Brad Flett started at 1 p.m. on Monday and travelled along the West Road in Peguis, near the accident site.

evening, and the community was busy with people, cars and snowmobiles everywhere.

Brad was walking on West Road, just a short distance behind a group of his friends, when he was struck by what police believe to be an ATV around 6 p.m.

Brad's friends didn't see the collision happen, but when they heard it and realized Brad had been hit, they began administering first aid immediately.

Fisher Branch RCMP said they received the "frantic" 911 call at 6:05 p.m. and responded immediately, but by the time emergency services arrived at the scene, Brad had already passed away.

One act on one roadway on one fateful night ripped Brad away from his family, according to RCMP, who are still actively investigating Brad's death.

Investigators have interviewed dozens of people, reviewed video surveil-

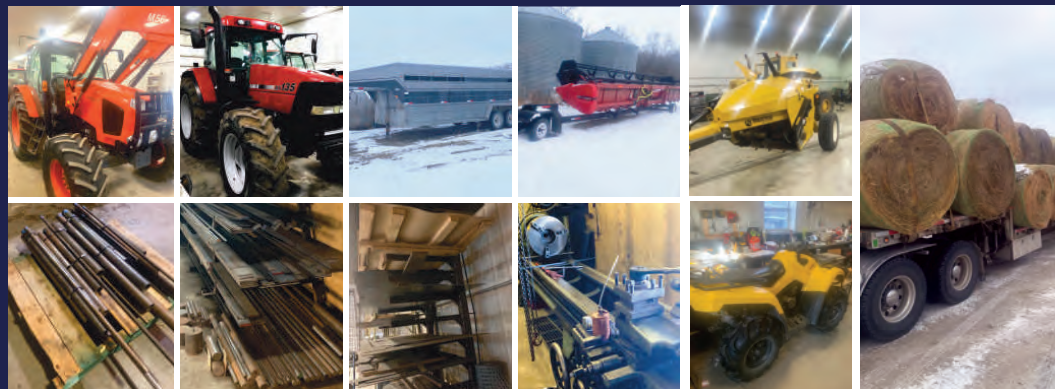
lance, followed up on every tip and have been working with the criminal collision investigation team.

If anyone has information on Brad's death, Fisher Branch RCMP are encouraging community members to call RCMP at 204-372-8484, or Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-8477, or in the form of a secure tip online at [www.manitobacrimestoppers.com](http://www.manitobacrimestoppers.com).

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# The ice is becoming a dangerous road to be on

Submitted by Selkirk RCMP

With health restrictions still in place, and COVID-19 still affecting every aspect of life, Manitobans are using the great outdoors to gather and try to regain some semblance of normalcy.

Ice fishing has seen a noticeable rise in popularity this year in southern Manitoba. The lakes and waterways are covered with ice fishing shacks, both permanent and temporary. In many places, the ice is a colourful cacophony of shacks, snowmobiles and people. We are lucky to have our natural resources to help us escape the very real pressures of the pandemic and the monotony that can arise in winter.

With the increase of people in these areas has come an increase in illegal consumption of alcohol and cannabis.

Those climbing numbers lead directly to more people driving to and from their fishing shacks while impaired.

"With all sorts of vehicles out and about, no determined roadway, people skiing, walking and skating, and places where there is open water, the ice can be a challenge to drive on at the best of times," said S/Sgt. Kyle McFadyen of Manitoba RCMP Traffic Services. "When a driver is impaired, that challenge becomes downright dangerous."

So everyone can safely enjoy our surroundings, the RCMP is reminding Manitobans that it is illegal to consume alcohol or cannabis while on the ice or inside either a temporary or permanent ice fishing shelter. The fine for having open alcohol on the ice is \$672. For impaired driving,



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

RCMP are reminding fishers and snowmobilers that it is illegal to consume alcohol or cannabis while on the ice or inside a temporary or permanent ice fishing shelter. The fine for open alcohol on the ice is \$672.

the same rules apply as if a driver was driving impaired on a roadway. Suspension, loss of licence, even jail time could result, depending on the severity of the occurrence.

With the current public health or-

ders, it is also imperative that people continue to practise social distancing and not gather in large groups. We're in this together. Let's work together so everyone can enjoy their time outdoors and get home safely.



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# Province's proposed regulation on nutrient targets for Lake Winnipeg misses the mark

By Patricia Barrett

A commercial fisher who has been sidelined several times by algal blooms and by swirling masses of fecal material in Lake Winnipeg says the provincial government's proposed regulation on nutrient targets for the lake and select waterways will change virtually nothing.

Bill Buckels, who lives in Gimli, said he analyzed the regulation, spoke with provincial government staff and consulted independent scientists to determine whether the proposed targets will stop the damage being done to the lake. He determined they won't as they've been set too high.

"The targets for the lake fall well into the eutrophic range," said Buckels, who began full-time commercial fishing over a decade ago after he retired as an analyst and computer engineer. "Essentially, the Manitoba government hasn't set any targets and penalties or even given us a plan."

Eutrophication is a serious environ-

mental problem, affecting freshwater lakes and oceans. Lake Winnipeg is enriched with excessive amounts of nutrients such as phosphorus and nitrogen, which impair the ecosystem and kill life. Agricultural fertilizers, cattle and hog waste and municipal wastewater all contribute nutrients to the lake. Phosphorus, in particular, encourages the growth of algae, including poisonous blue-green algae.

When algal blooms decay, they use up oxygen. That creates dead zones in the water and kills fish. The Lake Winnipeg Stewardship Board said in its 2006 report that it was necessary to reduce phosphorus and nitrogen to pre-1970

levels. Beset by large, lasting blooms in the 1990s, commercial fishers began pressing the province to address the issue.

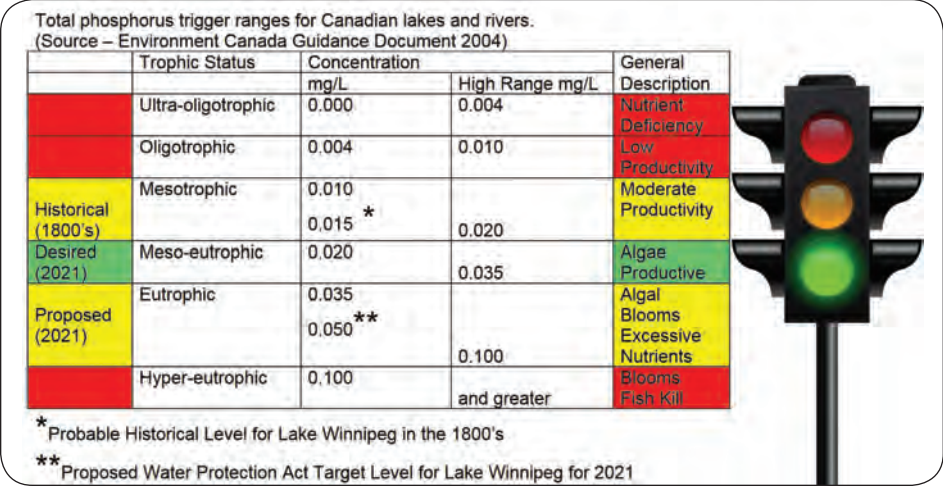
The provincial government announced its proposed regulation (under the Water Protection Act) in

"THE TARGETS FOR THE LAKE FALL WELL INTO THE EUTROPHIC RANGE."



EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

In addition to algae caused by too much phosphorus in the lake, fisher Bill Buckels was inundated with excrement when he pulled up nets off Hecla Island in 2018. He paid a lab to analyze and confirm the matter was fecal.



GRAPH BY BILL BUCKELS

Buckels created a graph, based on Environment Canada guidance, to show where the province's proposed phosphorus targets fall within the trophic index. The .05 mg/L target will keep the lake within the damaging eutrophic range.

December 2020, calling Lake Winnipeg one of the province's "greatest treasures." It's inviting the public to provide feedback on the regulation, which sets a phosphorus target of .05 mg/L (milligrams per litre) and a nitrogen target of .75 mg/L for the lake. The targets are "expected to help Manitoba's collective nutrient reduction efforts."

Without the public understanding what the target numbers actually mean in terms of how they marry up with a healthy lake ecosystem, the process is meaningless, said Buckels.

"We're currently at .10 mg/L of phosphorus in the lake, on the border of eutrophic and hypereutrophic. The government's .05 mg/L target means the lake will continue to experience algal blooms and will still be oversaturated with nutrients. Fish will even die at times," he said. "The government needs to set targets within the desired meso-eutrophic range, which corresponds to a moderate amount of

nutrients in the water that allows life to recover."

Nutrients flow from America, Ontario, Alberta and Saskatchewan via major rivers. Those jurisdictions represent about half of the nutrients flowing into Lake Winnipeg, according to the province, while Manitoba sources make up the remainder.

Politics has played a role in the setting of the targets, which are based on recommendations from the International Joint Commission, a Canada-U.S. commission that resolves disputes over waterways shared by both countries, said Buckels. The targets pander to America.

"Manitoba has offered America a compromise. These targets represent what Washington says it's prepared to do and meet levels that are acceptable to American farmers and other polluters," he said. "The U.S. is really not interested in cleaning up Lake Winni-

Continued on page 16

## Call for Board Directors!

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If interested email your resume and your expression of interest to the Westshore Community Foundation [westshorefdn@hotmail.ca](mailto:westshorefdn@hotmail.ca)

For more information, or if you have questions please contact Tristin Tergesen at 204-642-4969 or email [lilterg@yahoo.com](mailto:lilterg@yahoo.com)

Closing date **February 28, 2021.**

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**Manitoba**  
CANADA'S HEART BEATS



# Financial assistance available to cattle farmers

By Evan Matthews

The Province of Manitoba is trying to help cattle farmers through a new program providing financial assistance.

The provincial government unveiled a new program called the 2020 Canada-Manitoba Finished Cattle Feed Assistance Program, which is said to assist Manitoba cattle producers affected by COVID-19 related closures of slaughter plants and capacity reductions.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has had an effect on finished cattle market prices, which can affect cash flows and net incomes," said a spokesperson for the Department of Agriculture and Resource Development.

"The financial assistance to intend to offset extraordinary feed cost incurred due to delay in marketing cattle."

The province said individuals, partnerships, corporations, co-operatives, First Nation communities and any other "association of persons" owning and responsible for associated feed costs of eligible animals between April 15, 2020, and Dec. 31, 2020, may apply.

The province said applications must



EXPRESS PHOTO BY BONNIE MCRAE

The financial assistance deadline for cattle farmers to submit applications is Feb. 15.

be received by Feb. 15.

The program will pay daily support for the period during which cattle were ready for market and slaughter but could not be sold due to reduced capacity at the major Alberta beef processors, according to the province.

This period, referred to as the "Extraordinary Feeding Period," includes the time needed to address cattle supply backlog in Western Canada, according to the province.

For those who intend to apply, the province stated:

slaughter date of the cattle, whichever is earlier;

- The Extraordinary Feed Period for these cattle must have been greater than 14 days

- Applicants must have owned the cattle for a minimum of 60 days prior to slaughter and must have missed the intended marketing date due to COVID-19 related slaughter interruptions;

- The cattle slaughter date must be between April 29, 2020 and Dec. 31, 2020.

Eligible applicants will receive \$1.20 per eligible animal for each day in the Extraordinary Feeding Period, according to the province, to a maximum of 63 days. The maximum payment is \$75.60 per head.

To apply, or for more information, the province said to visit <https://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/financial-assistance/cattle-feed-assistance.html>.

- The Extraordinary Feed Period began April 15, 2020, or when cattle reached the minimum weight for eligibility, which is 1,400 lbs. for steers or 1,300 lbs. for heifers, whichever is later;

- The Extraordinary Feed Period ends Dec. 31, 2020, or on the actual

## Manitoba rivers and lakes basin conditions update

Submitted by Manitoba government

Future snow and spring rain will determine Manitoba's 2021 spring runoff and potential for high water situations across many of the province's watersheds, Infrastructure Minister Ron Schuler announced Friday.

The Manitoba Hydrologic Forecast Centre's mid-January basin conditions assessment indicates drier than normal conditions for much of the southern and central Manitoba basins. The Red, Souris and Assiniboine river basins continue to receive below average precipitation since August 2020. However, northern Manitoba basins, including the Churchill and Saskatchewan river basins, continue to receive average to above-average precipitation since July 2020.

"Our government continues to strengthen its efforts to protect Manitobans in response to high water events; to achieve that, we must always be prepared," said Schuler.

"We will monitor watershed conditions closely despite low levels of precipitation last fall and this winter. We continue to maintain our inventory of flood-fighting equipment and we have several procurement measures in place for equipment and supplies so we are able to respond quickly and

effectively in the event of high water activities."

The province maintains an inventory of flood-fighting equipment, which includes over two million sandbags, six sandbag-making machines, 18,000 super sandbags and 43 kilometres of cage barriers into which sand or other heavy material is placed. In addition, 65 kilometres of water-filled barriers, and 59 mobile pumps and heavy-duty steamers to open clogged drains are in reserve.

Through an open tendering process, the province has five standing agreements for the purchase of materials such as sand, gravel, riprap, sandbags and pumps. It also has eight standing agreements for rental of various types of equipment to supplement existing resources such as water pumps, generators, mobile lighting plants, heavy equipment and other support machinery.

Last spring the province introduced new safe work procedures for sandbagging and water-filled barrier operations that municipalities can implement to ensure the safety of high water response workers during the COVID 19 pandemic. A high water

Continued on page 15

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# Riverton and Gimli ice rinks go into meltdown

By Patricia Barrett

Curling and skating rinks in Riverton and Gimli are going into meltdown in order to eliminate the cost of maintaining them while provincial public health orders keep sports facilities closed.

The Riverton Memorial Arena (skating rink) on Main Street and the curling rink on Reggie Leach Drive, which are owned by the municipality of Bifrost-Riverton, have been off limits to the public for months after COVID-19 infections rose across Manitoba and the provincial government ordered recreation facilities to close. The province will review the order on Feb. 12.

"The volunteer board of directors decided to shut down the skating rink," said municipality of Bifrost-Riverton Deputy Reeve Colin Bjarnason by phone last week. "If the province decides to lift the order, and we have to maintain ice in March and April when it's warmer, it would kill us. We don't have an insulated building and the Hydro costs [to keep it cool] would kill us."

The volunteer curling rink board had already decided to pull its ice a few weeks before the arena, said Bjarnason.

It wouldn't be too costly to have the facilities operating now when it's cold, he said, but as soon as the weather warms up, the cost skyrockets. The municipality began providing funding assistance for Hydro for the River-



EXPRESS FILE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

The Gimli Recreation Centre pulled its two ice surfaces after the province extended COVID-19 restrictions and prohibited sports facilities from opening.

ton facilities about six years ago when Bifrost and Riverton were amalgamated into one municipality. Before that, volunteers had to fundraise to pay the Hydro bill.

With Interlake Minor Hockey having recently cancelled its season, Bjarnason said "why take a chance" waiting to see whether the province will allow people to gather in indoor sports arenas.

"We should work on solving the problem of COVID and come back next year and have a good year," said Bjarnason.

The same scenario unfolded at the Gimli Recreation Centre where the recreation manager and the municipality of Gimli council decided to pull

the curling and skating rink ice surfaces.

Manager of parks and recreation Tyler Yellowega said it "broke his heart" to see the ice go because it's a big part of winter recreation, but it was necessary.

"The longer we go keeping ice in a building sitting empty, the more it's costing us money," said Yellowega last week. "At this point we have no idea when things are going to start to open up. If we are allowed to open, a lot of

work would be needed to get the ice back up to playing shape and with the timelines we're looking at now, it just didn't make sense to hold out."

The decision by Interlake Minor Hockey — a primary user of the recreation centre — to cancel its season also played a role in Gimli's decision to decommission the ice, he said.

Should the province allow sports facilities to re-open when the current public health orders expire, Yellowega said the recreation centre is looking at offering different programs on the former rink surfaces.

"With open floor space, we've got options if some of the restrictions loosen again. And we've been contacted by a few groups that have asked if they could use the space," said Yellowega. "So there is a possibility of us getting some use out of our space."

For people wanting to skate, the recreation centre has an outdoor rink that has seen some use, in keeping with public health orders for limited gathering sizes.

"We're getting some pretty consistent use out there, which is nice," said Yellowega. "It gives people an option to get out and play."

## Berens River RCMP arrest male for aggravated assault

Submitted by RCMP

Berens River RCMP were patrolling in the community when they observed an injured male walking on the roadway at approximately 9:40 p.m. on Jan. 21.

The 32-year-old male was covered in blood and told officers he had been assaulted. He was transported to the nursing station.

Officers attended the residence where the assault had occurred, but there was no answer at the door. When they looked through the win-

dow they saw a male lying in a pool of blood and another male on top of him. Immediately they kicked in the front door and entered. A 25-year-old male was arrested, and a 29-year-old male was taken to the nursing station with very serious injuries.

Both victims were flown out of the community for further treatment.

Nathan McKay, 25, of Berens River First Nation, has been charged with Aggravated Assault x2 and Fail to Comply. Berens River RCMP continue to investigate.

### > UPDATE, FROM PG. 14

response activity document was created, which provides a clear and concise process on sandbag production, the construction of two types of sandbag dikes, as well as the installation of water-filled barriers.

"We will continue to monitor condi-

tions and will release the first spring thaw outlook in late February," noted Schuler.

To view the province's safe sandbagging procedures, visit [www.gov.mb.ca/emo/](http://www.gov.mb.ca/emo/).



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# Keystone Ag needs farmer engagement

By Evan Matthews

Local representatives of Keystone Agricultural Producers are asking for farmers in the Interlake to engage with the Canadian Roundtable for Sustainable Crops consultation.

Paul Gregory, who lives in the Fisher area and represents KAP for District 10, said he believes many producers are unaware of what's going on as it relates to the Canadian Roundtable for Sustainable Crops' (CRSC) Code of Practice, known as Responsible Grain.

"They've surveyed 500 farmers, which isn't a heck of a lot when you think about all the farmers in Canada," said Gregory, adding that Responsible Grain is a national, voluntary code of practice, allowing Canadian grain farmers to demonstrate care

and commitment to the environment.

The goal is to help Canadian farms preserve land, air and water, according to the Responsible Grain website. However, previous media reports have suggested some farmers are unclear whether the code will help or hurt their operations.

"We need more input. Get involved, look at what's happening, and fill out the survey. If we don't have input, there will be some things down the line that happen, that will be very unkind to their operations," he said.

The code is said to cover modules including nutrient management, pest and pesticide management, soil and water management, and health and well-being. By getting involved, Responsible Grain's website states it can help farmers understand what is rec-

ommended (in the code) and what is required (by legislation).

The consultation process began in November 2020 and, according to CRSC, is expected to end mid-February. The Responsible Grain website states the code of practice could be implemented as early as May 2021.

Farmers' concerns, as reported by an array of media outlets and on social media, have included (but are not limited to) premiums and financial

reward for adhering to the voluntary code, who will benefit from farmer adherence, the involvement of Ducks Unlimited, tone and language used in the code, whether the code will remain voluntary or at some point become mandatory, as well as property rights and freedoms.

"I think more regulation is coming down," said Gregory.

For more information, visit <https://responsiblegrain.ca>.

**"THEY'VE SURVEYED 500 FARMERS, WHICH ISN'T A HECK OF A LOT WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT ALL THE FARMERS IN CANADA."**

## > NUTRIENT TARGETS, FROM PG. 12

peg; the lake is in Canada. They want to continue to use our waterways as their phosphorus sewers."

In addition to targets that are too high, the regulation doesn't address how Manitoba will get co-operation from its upstream polluters, he said. And notably absent are a system of monitoring nutrient flows, a means of enforcement and a schedule of fines.

"These targets are useless without a monitoring system, without installing stations at 20-mile intervals throughout tributaries so that you can identify phosphorus leaks, zero in on them and fix them," said Buckels. "There's also no enforcement or remedial action or reparation set out in this regulation. It's just, 'Here are some goals.'"

He said a company in Pinawa called Aquatic Life Ltd. supplies real-time water monitoring instruments as part of a remote-control system complete with a data collection command centre. If the province agrees that it has "got to do better," this is something in which it could invest.

"Let's not try to clean up the lake until we get rid of the real problem here — and that's apathy," said Buckels. "There's just no political will to stop the damage. Scientific organizations monitoring water quality and professing to protect our environment cannot act independently because they're provincially funded and must remain neutral."

The *Express* reached out to the province's water scientist who sits on the IJC's International Red River Board for comment on the nutrient targets, but received comment from a provincial spokesperson.

John Neufeld said the .05 target for Lake Winnipeg will "return concentrations to those that existed in the 1990s while reducing the frequency and severity of algal blooms in the lake."

When asked why the phosphorus target couldn't have been set at .02 mg/L, he said lake studies suggest that phosphorus concentrations haven't been in that range since the 1800s.

"Given the amount of development that has occurred in the Lake Winnipeg watershed, it seems unlikely that nutrient concentrations could be reduced to such an extent that we could return to the conditions of the 1800s," said Neufeld. "The proposed targets are ambitious but are expected to be achievable."

Reducing nutrients is not as simple as "turning off a tap," he said in response to a question about why Manitoba's IJC board representative could not have told the commission that Manitoba will no longer accept American pollutants. And it will take time to implement mitigation measures such as upgrading wastewater treatment facilities and changing agricultural practices.

The International Red River Board and the IJC have approved the targets and objectives and the Canadian and American governments will review them, said Neufeld. The province has also been very pleased with "leadership" from Minnesota and "support" from North Dakota, both of which provided letters of support for nutrient load targets for the Red River at the border, he added.

The government is also "keen to im-

prove efficiencies" in water quality monitoring and is currently investigating remote sensing technologies for sample collection, he said. It will continue to follow developments in real-time monitoring.

"Like many other provinces and the federal government, our long-term water quality monitoring program includes collecting periodic grab-samples from rivers, including for estimating nutrient concentrations," said Neufeld. "Real-time technologies have historically had some challenges, including the need to regularly service the equipment (as often as weekly) for issues such as fouling of the sensors. This is particularly an issue in relatively turbid waters such as the Red River."

In a plain language document accompanying the proposed regulation, the province said one of the tools it's considering to reduce nutrients and improve water quality is "water quality trading" for wastewater treatment facilities.

A facility that exceeds its nutrient discharge limit can "purchase environmentally equivalent (or superior) pollution reductions from an alternate source," states the document.

Manitoba Liberal Party Leader Dougald Lamont (St. Boniface MLA) calls that a loophole.

"If you're a polluter, you'll be able to keep polluting. Water quality trading is like cap-and-trade and it actually doesn't solve the nutrient problem," said Lamont by phone last week. "It's a way of letting people avoid driving down nutrients. The government calls it a market-based mechanism, but it's a loophole to let polluters weasel out of their obligations."

The regulation itself has several problematic areas, he said. Essentially, it has "no teeth" because there are no timelines, no commitment to action, no enforcement provisions and no money behind it. It's just an "empty gesture."

"If you're going to have regulations, you need a watchdog with bark and bite. If somebody is breaking the rules, you need to intervene to fix that and there's none of that here," said Lamont. "There aren't even timelines on this."

Over 20 years have passed since the provincial Liberals began pressing successive governments to protect Lake Winnipeg, which includes stopping hundreds of tonnes of phosphorus from being emitted by the North End Wastewater Treatment Plant and from the city's 1,000-kilometre stretch of combined sewer outlets, he said.

There's no excuse today for delaying that action, he said. While the current government under Premier Brian Pallister has said it wants to reduce phosphorus, it's actually on its way to "ramping up" made-in-Manitoba phosphorus by "massively" increasing the numbers of hogs and cattle and by changing regulations that used to protect water.

"This government doesn't take [nutrient loading] seriously. We've seen with the COVID-19 pandemic that it takes a massive crisis before they to start to pay attention to things," said Lamont. "And that's the worst possible way to manage."

The public can comment on the regulation until Feb. 26. Visit the Manitoba Regulatory Consultation Portal at <https://reg.gov.mb.ca>.



# sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

## Former MJHL players lead Minot State to another win

Staff

The Minot State Beavers improved their record to 12-2-0-1 after skating to a 5-2 win over Dakota College-Bon-tineau last Friday.

The Beavers scored three unanswered goals in the third period.

Former Selkirk Steelers' forwards Rhett Lough and Carter Barley each had a goal and an assist for Minot State. Wayde Johannesson, another former Steeler, chipped in with two assists.

On Jan. 22-23, Minot swept the Midland University Warriors in a pair of home games.

The Beavers opened the series with a 7-4 victory and then crushed Midland 14-4 the next night.

In the 10-goal win, Minot was led by



Brayden Pawluk



Carter Barley



Wayde Johannesson



Rhett Lough

a four-goal performance from freshman Nick Doyle and a hat trick from Landyn Cochrane. Both players also had an assist.

St. Andrews' Barley scored a goal while Johannesson, a Gimli product, had three assists.

Barley is second on the Beavers with 19 points (seven goals, 12 assists) in 15 games.

Teulon's Brayden Pawluk, who played in the MJHL with the Virden Oil Capitals and Dauphin Kings, also had an assist in the game.

None of the former MJHL players recorded points in Minot State's win on Jan. 22.

The Beavers will continue on the road to play games against Midland this Friday and Saturday.

## Manitoba offers free provincial park entry for February

### Protecting Manitobans with free access to outdoor activities

Submitted by Manitoba Conservation

Manitoba Conservation and Climate will again offer free entry to provincial parks throughout the month of February so Manitobans and visitors can take advantage of the many winter activities available in the parks.

Vehicle permits are not required in any provincial park in February, but Snopasses are still required for snowmobiles using groomed trails in the parks. As well, entrance fees still apply in national parks. There are groomed trails in provincial parks across Manitoba for a variety of activities including cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, fat biking, snowshoeing and hiking. Paint Lake, Spruce Woods and Turtle Mountain provincial parks also offer outdoor skating areas, hockey rinks and toboggan hills.

Trail grooming reports are updated online every Thursday throughout the winter. Manitobans are encouraged to check trail conditions and weather forecasts to plan their outdoor adventures before visiting parks. Maps of winter trails and updated reports can be found at [www.manitobaparks.com](http://www.manitobaparks.com). Trail users are reminded to use only the trails designated for their ac-

tivities, to keep dogs on leashes and to practise "Leave No Trace."

Provincial parks have seen a significant increase in use this winter as safe outdoor places for Manitobans to get physical exercise and fresh air. While being outdoors and active in nature is important for physical and mental health, COVID-19 public health orders must be followed including steps such as physical distancing from anyone not in your household. Crowds and busy trails can be avoided by visiting parks during non-peak times such as early weekend mornings and weekdays. Information on COVID-19 restrictions in provincial parks is available at [www.manitobaparks.com](http://www.manitobaparks.com).

Park interpreters are offering weekly online events and webinars this winter for Manitobans to learn and discover provincial parks safely at home. Highlights for the month of February include:

- learn cross-country ski techniques Wednesday, Feb. 3;
- a Parks After Dark presentation on eclipses with the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada Sunday, Feb. 7;
- skijoring and kick-sledding demonstrations Wednesday, Feb. 17;



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Manitoba's provincial parks will have free park entry for the entire month of February.

- a presentation on the owls of Manitoba Saturday, Feb. 20; and
- a behind-the-scenes tour of the Whiteshell Fish Hatchery Saturday, Feb. 27.

More information on these events and other upcoming programs can be found under the events tab on the Manitoba Parks Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/MBGovParks](http://www.facebook.com/MBGovParks) and online at [www.manitobaparks.com](http://www.manitobaparks.com).

Teachers can also book free virtual

school programs throughout the winter season to bring parks into their classrooms. For more information on winter activities and interpretive programs in provincial parks, email [parkinterpretation@gov.mb.ca](mailto:parkinterpretation@gov.mb.ca) or visit [www.manitobaparks.com](http://www.manitobaparks.com).

Manitobans can also stay up to date with provincial park news, activities and events by following the Twitter channel at [www.twitter.com/MBGovParks](http://www.twitter.com/MBGovParks) and liking the Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/MBGovParks](http://www.facebook.com/MBGovParks).



# 35-team field to compete for mixed curling national title

From the Curling Canada website

With Canada's Olympic hopes potentially riding on the winning team, an elite field of 35 teams will be in the bubble in Calgary for the 2021 Home Hardware Canadian Mixed Doubles Curling Championship, presented by Nature's Bounty.

Those teams will be chasing not only their share of the unprecedented \$150,000 purse that will be on the line from March 18 to 25 at the Markin MacPhail Centre at WinSport's Canada Olympic Park in Calgary, they also will be aiming to represent Canada at the 2021 World Mixed Doubles Championship (dates, location, to be confirmed by the World Curling Federation).

There, seven of the 10 countries that will qualify to send teams to the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing will be

determined, making it the most important international mixed doubles event of this quadrennial, outside of the Olympics themselves.

With those kind of stakes on the line, as well as safety considerations during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic to keep athletes and the host city of Calgary safe, an emphasis is being placed on players participating in the 2021 Scotties Tournament of Hearts and 2021 Tim Hortons Brier, presented by AGI — the two events that will directly precede the Home Hardware Canadian Mixed Doubles Championship.

The 35 teams will be determined by the following criteria: 14 provincial/territorial championship teams, 14 teams from the Canadian Mixed Doubles Rankings based on results between March 15, 2019, and March 15,

2020, (teams must have played a minimum of two mixed doubles events during the season), seven teams who were unable to compete this season due to the COVID-19 pandemic but had committed to play mixed doubles together. Rankings are based on each player's best three CTRS point events from the 2019-2020 season combined with their partners. All players must be part of Curling Canada's National Team program.

A waiting list of teams also has been established should teams that qualify not attend, or if a team has a player on the Scotties Tournament of Hearts championship team that will be competing at the World Women's Championship in Switzerland, which is running the same week as the Home Hardware Canadian Mixed Doubles Championship.

The 35 teams will be split into five pools of seven for round-robin play. From there, 12 teams will advance to the playoffs.

The winning team will take home a \$50,000 payout, while \$30,000 goes to the runner-up; \$20,000 to third place and \$10,000 to fourth place. Fifth through eighth place earns \$6,500 while ninth through 12th takes home \$3,500.

TSN/RDS will be providing extensive live coverage of the 2021 Home Hardware Canadian Mixed Doubles Championship.

Qualifying teams are being notified this week, and the field will be announced at a later date once teams have formally confirmed their participation.

# Junior development golf teams announced for 2021 season

Submitted by Golf Manitoba

Golf Manitoba recently announced the rosters for the 2021 Junior Development Teams, which feature many of the best young golfers in the province.

Thirty-one U18 boys' and 14 U18 girls have been selected based on their performance during the 2020 golf season and will receive athlete and coaching support to help develop their talents on and off the golf course.

These are the 2021 Junior Boys' Development teams:

Gold Team: Ryan Blair – Pine Ridge Golf Club, Winnipeg, Grady Chuback – St. Charles CC, Winnipeg, Noah Fiks – Pine Ridge GC, Winnipeg, Adam Ingram – Elmhurst G & CC, Winnipeg, Braxton Kuntz – Breezy Bend CC, Winnipeg, Jordan McDonald – Breezy Bend CC, Winnipeg, Scott Miner – St. Charles CC, Winnipeg, Jack Moro – Whitewater CC, Thunder Bay, Trey Ross – Rossmere Country Club, Winnipeg, Jack Taylor – St. Charles CC, Winnipeg, and Nolan Watson – St.

Charles CC, Winnipeg.

Black Team: Haydon Chaloner – Pine Ridge GC, Winnipeg, Hayden Delaloye – Neepawa CC, Neepawa, Kaleb Lambert – Elmhurst G & CC, Winnipeg, Ryan Orchard – Carman G & CC, Carman, Eric Reid – Golf Manitoba Public Player, Virden, Declan Robertson – Niakwa CC, Winnipeg, Jack Rudick – St. Charles CC, Winnipeg, Thomas Scott – St. Charles CC, Winnipeg, Jacob Taweel – Elmhurst G & CC, Winnipeg, and Payne Wood – St. Boniface GC, Winnipeg.

Blue Team: Austin Boge – Pine Ridge GC, Winnipeg, Brayden Boge – Pine Ridge GC, Winnipeg, Jackson Delaurier – Dauphin Lake GC, Dauphin, Zostrianos Giordani-Gross – Shilo CC, Shilo, Carson Inman – Portage GC, Portage, Nathan Lepore – Golf Manitoba Public Player, Thunder Bay, Cameron McDonald – Breezy Bend CC, Winnipeg, Cashe McNabb – Pine Ridge GC, Winnipeg, Ryan Tuck – St. Boniface GC, Winnipeg, and Terrence

Rafferty – Southwood G & CC, Winnipeg.

The 2021 Junior Girls' Development team features: Armaan Dhillon – Elmhurst G & CC, Winnipeg, Cala Korman – Killarney GC, Killarney, Jeri Lafleche – Clear Lake GC, Clear Lake, Sarah Farmer – St. Charles CC, Winnipeg, Mackenzie Forsythe – Elmhurst G & CC, Winnipeg, Addison Kartusch – St. Charles CC, Winnipeg, Jenna King – Niakwa CC, Winnipeg, Jewel Lafleche – Clear Lake GC, Winnipeg, Gracie McMillan – Pine Ridge GC, Winnipeg, Payten Oakden – Glendale G & CC, Brandon, Clara Peake – Binscarth, Annika Russell – St. Boniface GC, Winnipeg, Elle Wood – St. Boniface GC, Winnipeg, and Crystal Zamzow – Swan River GC, Swan River.

The Junior Girls' Development Team will be led by PGA of Canada professional Bri-ann Tokariwski and the Junior Boys' Team by PGA of Canada professional Derrik Goodwin. With a focus on the team's vision, mission,

and values aimed at inspiring excellence, both Tokariwski and Goodwin will work to help team members grow as golfers while also instilling habits that will lead to success throughout life.

With a strong focus on training and athlete development, the Junior Development Team program has been built to help foster the success of these athletes. The nine-month program includes winter team training at the Golf Dome, club competition in the Nassau and Mundie Putter leagues, spring and summer training camps, weekly practices, strength and fitness coaching, nutrition, and sports psychology and coaching observation at championships. Both Tokariwski and Goodwin will also be accompanying both inter-provincial junior teams to Golf Canada national championships. Funding for this program has been generously provided by the Alex & Peggy Colonello Foundation.

# Hockey Winnipeg cancels regular season, playoffs

Staff

The board of directors and executive members of Hockey Winnipeg made the decision to cancel the remainder of the 2020-21 regular season and playoffs. The decision was announced last Saturday.

This directive excludes teams that participate in provincially run leagues.

"It has always been the hope of Hockey Winnipeg to return to scheduled league play; however, the current restrictions, timelines and ice avail-

ability does not make that feasible," read a statement on Hockey Winnipeg's website. "This decision is not closing the door on hockey this year, just Hockey Winnipeg regular season and playoff games. This will allow for area associations within Hockey Winnipeg to provide local programming for the balance of the season as public health restrictions may allow."

Hockey Winnipeg and its area associations said they will be working to provide fair refunds to their members

over the next few months.

The refunds will be prorated based upon the amount of activity that has taken place and what activity can be offered at the local level once restrictions allow. Some fees are not recoverable (such as tryout fees where tryouts have taken place, player insurance, etc.) and those fees will not be refunded. Should refunds be provided, they will be distributed to members by the end date of a typical hockey season which is April 30.

"The board of directors and executive members of Hockey Winnipeg did not take this decision lightly and it is with heavy hearts and after lengthy discussion that we share this directive," read the statement. "We would like to thank our members for being patient throughout this trying season and we regret the premature end of the 2020-21 hockey season. We plan to support our area associations as much as possible with locally run programming."



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204-573-5396

Catharina Carels  
204-720-4779

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## MUNICIPALITY OF BIFROST-RIVERTON

### PUBLIC NOTICE

CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW RIVERTON-BIFROST FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE HALL  
PROPOSED BY-LAW NO. 1-2021

The Council of the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton has scheduled a public hearing in the Council Chambers at 329 River Road, Arborg on the 11th day of February, 2021 at 5:00PM to present the following general borrowing proposal:

Council is proposing to construct a new Riverton-Bifrost Fire Department Fire Hall next to the Riverton Community Hall. The total estimated cost of the new fire hall is \$1,000,000.00. The entire cost of the fire hall project in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 is to be borrowed over a 15-year period at an estimated interest rate of 5.0%. The annual debt payment (principal and interest) of \$96,342.29 is to be recovered by a special mill rate on all taxable and grant-in-lieu properties within the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton. Based on the 2021 Assessment roll, an estimated mill rate of 0.452 mills will be required.

Further information/inquiries/copies of the proposal are available at the municipal office located at 329 River Road in Arborg, MB. COVID-19 Protocol: Should you wish to attend the hearing, you must pre-register no later than 3:00 PM on the day of the hearing with the Municipal Office at 204-376-2391.

Dated at the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton this 22nd day of January, 2021, and issued pursuant to Section 169(6) of *The Municipal Act*.

Jordan Willner, CMMA

Chief Administrative Officer  
Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton

## CARETAKER WANTED:

Isfeld Villa is hiring for its 32 unit apartment building for 55+/Seniors in Winnipeg Beach.

This is part time - 15-20 hours/week @ \$17/hour.

Duties include cleaning, minor maintenance, snow shovelling.

Please submit a resume to [dennis@lifelease.ca](mailto:dennis@lifelease.ca).  
Start date: Feb 22nd.

## RONA

Gimli Rona is seeking a  
**Building Materials Sales Associate**

### Responsibilities include:

- Assess customers needs and provide expert advice on products
- Prepare estimates/quotes using store system
- Up-to-date knowledge of construction products and their functions
- Direct ordering from suppliers and maintenance of accurate product pricing
- Building and developing professional relationships with customers

\*Building and construction knowledge are assets

\*Ability to read and interpret blueprints is an asset

\*Building code knowledge is an asset  
The successful candidate must be able to work independently and within a team.

Please submit your resume in person or email to

[laura@ronagimli.ca](mailto:laura@ronagimli.ca)

**RONA GIMLI**

100-7TH Avenue | Gimli, Manitoba R0C 1B0



## Vidir Solutions Inc., Elevating Careers and Community

If you're looking for a chance to foster a deep sense of purpose in your work and the opportunity to elevate as a leader both in your career and in your community, exciting possibilities are waiting for you with Vidir!

Working at Vidir is about more than just being an employee; it's about being part of a growing family making a positive impact both globally and in your community.

From our operations in Arborg and Teulon to our work with communities, everything we do is with the future firmly in mind. We are always looking for innovative ways to do our business, deliver results and build a great work environment.

Our mission is to "Make the world's products safely accessible". We continue to innovate, implement best practices and adopt new technologies in all areas.

## The Opportunity:

For our Arborg, MANITOBA facility, we are seeking a:  
**Welder**

### Summary:

The welder is responsible for welding a variety of Vidir products within a team environment according to the Production schedule. Information will be provided by the team leader, job orders, and weld drawings, and be expected to weld according to CWB regulation and specifications. The welder will be ensure that the products or welded to meet a high standard of quality that we offer to our customers

### Responsibilities:

- Weld all products consistently according to weld drawings, compliant to CWB standards and regulations. Maintain up to date CWB certification.
- Monitor parts inventory in respective areas of work and ensures parts are available to meet production requirements.
- Identify and communicate opportunities for continuous improvement and safety to Team Lead to provide safer operations, higher quality, lower cost, and reduction of waste.
- Coordinate work with other team members and teams to provide a steady flow of product
- Identify potential safety hazards. Communicate to the team lead when a hazard is spotted. Ensures the safety of both themselves and all people throughout Vidir.
- Demonstrate the accountabilities under Vidir's Safety Management System and Continuous Improvement Programs and lead by example.

### Qualifications:

- Grade 12 or GED
- Welding trades certification would be considered an asset
- 1-2 years industrial experience
- Strong Math skills
- Spatial reasoning ability
- Use of hand/power tools
- Basic literacy skills

### Working at Vidir:

Vidir offers a competitive salary and benefits package; as well as incentives and promotes a culture of recognition. We support professional growth, development and success!

Please submit your resume, outlining your experience and qualifications to [hr@vidir.com](mailto:hr@vidir.com) Explore our company and products at [www.storevertical.com](http://www.storevertical.com).

**Job Posting Closes: 8-February-2021**

We thank all candidates for their interest, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



## Second Notice of Tax Sale Auction

Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton

Pursuant to subsection 367(2) of The Municipal Act (MA), notice is hereby given that unless the tax arrears for the designated year and costs shown below in respect of the hereinafter described property are paid in full or an agreement under Section 369(1)(b) MA to pay the arrears and costs has been made prior to the commencement of the auction, the said property will be sold by public auction at following date, time and place:

Date and Time: **March 17, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.**  
Where: **329 River Road, Arborg, Manitoba**

Registered Owner: KARA-DAWN MARIE BOURGEOIS				
Roll #	Civic Address	2018 Arrears	Costs	Total
405500	49 THORVALDSON STREET, RIVERTON	\$393.17	\$3,342.00	\$3,735.17

Legal Description:  
LOTS 5, 6, 7 AND 8 BLOCK 2 PLAN 2389 WLTO IN RL 5 WEST IN SECTION 20-23-4 EPM

- The tax arrears amount shown above includes penalties calculated to the day of the sale.
- Costs **will continue** to be incurred to the tax sale date and added to the amount required to redeem.
- The property may be sold at the auction for less than the amount of the tax arrears and if this is the case, the balance of the arrears and costs owing is deemed to be cancelled.
- Contact the number below for verification of costs. Any overpayment will be applied to payment of subsequent tax arrears. Payment must be made by **cash, certified cheque, debit card (where available)** or any other form of guaranteed payment.
- For any inquiries regarding the tax sale process or auction, contact TAXservice at 204-734-6381.
- **IF THE PROPERTY IS SOLD, THE SALE IS FINAL AND ANY INTEREST YOU HAD IN THE PROPERTY BEFORE THE SALE WILL BE EXTINGUISHED.**
- There will not be an opportunity to redeem this property from tax sale and a property transfer application will proceed immediately after the auction.

Dated this 4th day of February, 2021

Jordan Willner  
Chief Administrative Officer  
(204) 376-2391



This Notice is published for the purpose of effecting substitutional service thereof upon Kara-Dawn Marie Bourgeois as set out in the Notice pursuant to Order of the District Registrar dated May 15, 2020.



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## Notice of Nominations By-Election R.M. of West Interlake

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on the following days:

**February 15th, 2021 thru to February 21st, 2021**  
I will receive nominations for the offices of:  
**Councillor Ward 3**  
**LUD committee member**

For term - March 2021 to October 2022

During Covid19 code red restrictions nominations will be accepted by appointment only.

**The nomination deadline is February 21st, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.**  
Nominations cannot be accepted after this day.

All nominations shall be made in writing and shall be signed by at least twenty-five voters, or NOT less than 1% of the voters (whichever is the lesser) of the ward, but in all cases by at least two voters. Each nomination shall also be accompanied by the candidate's declaration of qualification.

Nominations may be filed in person, by an agent, or by fax or email. To obtain a nomination paper, and/ or candidate's declaration of qualification, contact the SEO at the telephone numbers listed below.

Nomination papers not accompanied by the required documents and not properly filed shall be rejected.

Myrna Little  
SEO R.M. of West Interlake  
Box 370, #38 Main Street, Ashern, Manitoba R0C 0E0  
Cell: 1-204-941-0156  
Office: 204-768-2641  
Fax: 204-768-2301  
Email: [tanbeca@mts.net](mailto:tanbeca@mts.net)  
Dated at Ashern, MB this 22nd day of January 2021

### HEALTH

Are you suffering from joint or arthritic pain? If so, you owe it to yourself to try elk velvet antler capsules. Hundreds have found relief. Benefits humans and pets. EVA is composed of proteins, amino acids, minerals, lipids and water. Key compounds that work to stimulate red blood cell production & cartilage cell regeneration & development. Stonewood Elk Ranch Ltd., 204-467-8884 or e-mail [stonewoodelkranch@mymts.net](mailto:stonewoodelkranch@mymts.net)

## FARMLAND FOR SALE BY TENDER

Property in the Municipality of Grahamdale  
2 miles north of Moosehorn on Hwy. 6

Total acres: 299.73

- NW18-27-7W (140.52 acres approximately 30 acres west side of Hwy. 6. 110 acres east side) 70 acres hayland and 70 acres pasture.
- SW19-27-7W (159.21 acres) pastureland, hydro at yard site, 2 dugouts and older buildings.

Both quarters adjoining.

### Conditions of tender:

1. Interested parties must rely on their own inspections and knowledge of the property
2. Tenders must be received on or before March 8, 2021
3. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted

### Terms and conditions:

1. The bidder whose tender is accepted will be required to complete an agreement covering the terms and conditions of the sale.

### Submit tender to:

Wes Huston, Box 78,  
Stephenfield, MB, R0G 2R0

Call 204-828-3633 for more information.

### APARTMENT FOR RENT

Tollak Place has 1 & 2 bedroom suites, located at 40 Eveline Street. Spacious suites, with F/S, A/C, storage areas and large balconies; utilities are included, parking is extra. Tollak 2 is a 55 plus bldg., river view apts. with central air, F/S, DW & microwave; large storage area off the kitchen and a balcony; utilities and parking extra. Call the onsite office 204-482-2751 for AVAILABILITY.

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### NOTICES

Urgent press releases or media advisories service. Have something to announce? A cancellation? A change in operations? Though we cannot guarantee publication, MCNA will get the information into the right hands for ONLY \$35 + GST/HST. Call MCNA 204-947-1691 for more information, or email [classified@mcna.com](mailto:classified@mcna.com) for details. [www.mcna.com](http://www.mcna.com)

### WANTED

Interlake Freshwater Fisheries is looking to purchase fish quota. Call 204-999-6248.

## FARMLAND FOR SALE BY TENDER

The following parcels of farmland are hereby offered for sale by tender:

- The SE ¼ of Section 32-22-3 EPM (approx. 150.90 Acres)
- The SW ¼ of Section 32-22-3 EPM (approx. 153.91 Acres)

The parcels include approx. 270 acres of cultivated land in the RM of Bifrost-Riverton 2 miles N and 2 miles E of Arborg.

Sealed written tenders for any or all of the property described above will be received by:

D'Arcy & Deacon LLP  
2200 - One Lombard Place  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 0X7  
Attn: Tomas Masi

### CONDITIONS OF TENDER

1. Bidders may tender on all or any of the above parcels and must rely on their own inspection/knowledge of said property.
2. Tenders must be delivered to D'Arcy & Deacon LLP by 4:00 p.m. on March 1, 2021. Please mark package "Attn: T. Masi".
3. Tenders must be accompanied by a \$20,000.00 deposit by way of a certified cheque payable to "D'Arcy & Deacon LLP in Trust". Deposit cheques accompanying unaccepted bids will be returned.
4. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

1. The bidder whose tender is accepted will be required to enter into an agreement covering the terms/conditions of the sale.
2. The closing of the sale and transfer of possession of the property shall be on April 1, 2021 or earlier by mutual agreement. In addition to the deposit, the balance of the accepted tender shall be paid by April 1, 2021, or evidence that said funds will be available under conditions acceptable to the Vendor. If the balance of the accepted tender is not paid in accordance with said terms, the deposit paid shall be forfeited as liquidated damages and not as a penalty.
3. The successful bidder will be responsible for payment of GST and all realty taxes following December 31, 2020.

For further information contact Tomas Masi at:  
PH: (204) 977-0321 Email: [tmasi@darcydeacon.com](mailto:tmasi@darcydeacon.com)

## RONA EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Join one of Canada's largest home improvement companies! Gimli Rona is now accepting applications for a sales team member. If you are committed to providing exceptional customer service, we want to meet you.

### Qualifications:

- Retail customer service experience
- Excellent communication skills
- Computer literate, able to learn new software and processes
- Mature and responsible with sound decision-making and problem-solving skills
- Proven leadership capabilities
- Ability to learn fast and work independently

This position requires any day of the week availability. Applicants must have the physical ability to perform tasks that may require prolonged standing, sitting, or other activities necessary to perform job duties.

Drop off your resume in store at  
Rona Gimli 100-7th Ave. or submit by  
email to [laura@ronagimli.ca](mailto:laura@ronagimli.ca)



## Rural Municipality of Armstrong

### PUBLIC NOTICE / LONG TERM FORAGE LEASES

THE RM OF ARMSTRONG IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR LONG TERM FORAGE LEASES. APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL FEBRUARY 19, 2021 BY 4:30 PM TO BE REVIEWED AT THE MARCH REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING.

LEASE TERMS ARE TO THE AGE OF 65, WITH 5 YEAR RENEWAL OPTIONS AFTER AGE 65.

APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE MUNICIPAL OFFICE 204-278-3377 OR EMAIL [CAO@RMOFARMSTRONG.COM](mailto:CAO@RMOFARMSTRONG.COM). FORMS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE [WWW.RMOFARMSTRONG.COM](http://WWW.RMOFARMSTRONG.COM).

THE RM OF ARMSTRONG IS NOT OBLIGATED TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO THE LEASED LANDS.

APPLICANTS ARE RESPONSIBLE TO VIEW THE LANDS PRIOR TO SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION.

LEASE RATE WILL BE A PERCENTAGE OF THE CURRENT YEARS ASSESSMENT AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE PENDING BUDGET REQUIREMENTS.

Land Location	Roll	Assessment	Acres
NW 26-18-1E	11800	9,800	160.00
NE 29-18-3E	44600	62,800	156.96
NW 29-18-3E	44700	53,900	160.00
SE 13-20-1E	99300	23,200	157.46
SW 5-20-2E	110900	41,600	160.00
NW 8-20-2E	111900	36,800	160.00
SE 8-20-2E	112000	36,800	160.00
SW 9-20-2E	112500	36,800	160.00
SW 17-20-2E	117000	41,600	160.00
SE 30-20-2E	123100	34,300	152.06
SW 30-20-2E	123200	22,900	155.80
SE 5-20-3E	127000	51,200	128.00
NE 31-20-3E E 1/2	134200	32,000	80.00
SE 30-21-1E	148000	56,300	159.00
SW 30-21-1E	148100	56,000	159.00
SE 32-21-2E	165600	41,600	160.00
NE 5-21-3E	169500	64,400	161.00
SW 17-21-3E	172300	60,700	160.26
NW 19-17-1W	184300	26,300	159.00
SE 1-19-2W	254000	36,200	156.00
SE 9-19-2W	258000	41,300	149.00
SE 30-19-2W	266500	39,800	160.00
NE 13-21-2W	326800	39,700	152.78
SW 25-21-2W	331900	41,600	160.00
NE 26-21-2W	332000	32,500	159.00
NW 26-21-2W	332100	30,300	159.00
SE 26-21-2W	332200	32,800	160.00
NE 16-21-3W	342500	14,500	160.00

Corlie Larsen, CMMA, Chief Administrative Officer  
RM of Armstrong



## The Aurora 1648 SqFt RTM

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@ 7:00 PM

## Estate & Moving

Closes Wed February 17  
@ 7:00 PM

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## University of Manitoba

## Invitation to participate in Research Study

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We are seeking participants  
for our research study. You  
would be asked questions  
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coffee gift card to thank you  
for your time.

Call: 204-474-9476

or email:  
umgrah00@myumanitoba.ca



## Rural Municipality of FISHER

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION SALE OF LANDS FOR ARREARS OF TAXES RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF FISHER

Pursuant to subsection 367(7) of The Municipal Act, notice is hereby given that unless the tax arrears for the designated year and costs in respect of the hereinafter described properties are paid in full to the Municipality prior to the commencement of the auction, the Municipality will on the 1st day of March, 2021, at the hour of 2:00 PM, at Rural Municipality of Fisher, 30 Tache Street, Fisher Branch, Manitoba, proceed to sell by public auction the following described properties:

Roll Number	Description	Assessed Value	Amount of Arrears & Costs for Which Property May be Offered for Sale
378600	NW 1/4 36-24-3 WPM SUBJECT TO THE RESERVATIONS CONTAINED IN THE CROWN LANDS ACT	L -\$210,900	\$11,771.63
414400	ALL THAT PORTION OF NE 1/4 7-25-2 WPM WHICH LIES SE OF PUBLIC ROAD PLAN 16574 WLTO EXC ALL MINES AND MINERALS AS SET FORTH IN TRANSFER 701672 WLTO	L -\$149,100	\$8,737.82
414600	SE 1/4 OF 7-25-2 WPM SUBJECT TO THE RESERVATIONS AND PROVISOS CONTAINED IN THE GRANT FROM THE CROWN	L -\$175,200	\$9,808.06
427200	SE 1/4 1-25-3 WPM EXC THE SLY 165 FEET PERP OF THE ELY 264 FEET PERP SUBJECT TO THE RESERVATIONS AND PROVISOS CONTAINED IN THE GRANT FROM THE CROWN	L -\$68,200 B -\$6,600	\$5,666.93
457000	SW 1/4 35-26-3 WPM SUBJECT TO THE RESERVATIONS AND PROVISOS CONTAINED IN THE GRANT FROM THE CROWN	L -\$127,100	\$6,906.20

The tax sale is subject to the following terms and conditions with respect to each property:

- The purchaser of the property will be responsible for any property taxes not yet due.
- The Municipality may exercise its right to set a reserve bid in the amount of the arrears and costs.
- If the purchaser intends to bid by proxy, a letter of authorization form must be presented prior to the start of the auction.
- The Municipality makes no representations or warranties whatsoever concerning the properties being sold.
- The successful purchaser must, at the time of the sale, make payment in cash, certified cheque or bank draft to the Rural Municipality of Fisher as follows:
  - i) The full purchase price if it is \$10,000 or less; OR
  - ii) If the purchase price is greater than \$10,000, the purchaser must provide a non-refundable deposit in the amount of \$10,000 and the balance of the purchase price must be paid within 20 days of the sale; AND
  - iii) A fee in the amount \$309.75 (\$295 plus GST) for preparation of the transfer of title documents. The purchaser will be responsible for registering the transfer of title documents in the land titles office, including the registration costs.
- The risk for the property lies with the purchaser immediately following the auction.
- The purchaser is responsible for obtaining vacant possession.
- If the property is non-residential property, the purchaser must pay GST to the Municipality or, if a GST registrant, provide a GST Declaration.

Dated this 15<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2021.

Managed by:



Kelly Marykuca  
Chief Administrative Officer  
Rural Municipality of Fisher  
Phone: (204) 372-6393  
Fax: (204) 372-8470

## Rural Municipality of Woodlands EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



The Rural Municipality of Woodlands invites applications for the position of Office Clerk. As a member of our team, you will perform a variety of tasks, including processing payments, greeting customers, typing council meeting minutes, filing, updating website, assisting with municipal elections.

As the successful candidate, you will possess the following:

- Excellent oral and written communication skills, computer skills, organization skills, customer service.
- Attention to accuracy and detail.
- Ability to deal with people in a tactful and diplomatic manner.
- Valid Class 5 Drivers License.

This is a full-time position, non-unionized position, consisting of 37.5 hours per week, and offers a comprehensive benefits package.

A full job description is available by contacting the RM Office at (204)383-5679 or on our website at www.rmwoodlands.info

Please send resume with references by 2:00 P.M. on February 17, 2021 to the following:

R.M. of Woodlands  
Box 10, Woodlands, MB, R0C 3H0  
Attention: CAO  
or to finance@rmwoodlands.ca



## RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GIMLI

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Please be advised that the Public Utilities Board has approved the following Order No. 5/21, varied by Order No. 6/21.

RE: Rural Municipality of Gimli – Gimli Urban Centre, Gimli Business Park, Aspen Park and Pelican Beach Water Utilities – Amalgamation of Water Utilities and Surcharge to Recover Debenture Servicing Costs Water Treatment Plant and Distribution System Upgrade

Surcharge to Recover Debenture Servicing Costs for the Water Treatment Plant and Distribution System Upgrade

The board grants approval of utility debenture surcharges to recover debenture servicing costs for the Gimli Amalgamated Water Utility water treatment plant and distribution system upgrades at a rate of \$0.43 per cubic meter, to be charged on actual consumption on metered customers and based on estimated consumption of 118.15 cubic meters per year for unmetered customers.

The debenture surcharge is effective January 1, 2021.

Gimli Urban Centre, Gimli Business Park, Aspen Park and Pelican Beach Water Utilities – Amalgamation of Water Utilities

The board grants approval of the application for the amalgamation of the Rural Municipality of Gimli (RM), Gimli Urban Centre, Gimli Business Park, Aspen Park and Pelican Beach Water Utilities, to be known as the Gimli Amalgamated Water Utility. The amalgamation and revised rates are effective April 1, 2021. (Amalgamation varied by Order No. 6/21 to be effective January 1, 2021)

The Board varies the RM's application for revised rates for all customers of the Gimli Amalgamated Water Utility and grants approval of the rates as follows:

Amalgamated Water Utility	
Quarterly Service Charge	\$ 25.07
Water (per cubic meter)	\$ 1.85
Minimum Quarterly Charge*	\$ 50.05
Fiat Rate per REU**	\$ 100.36
Minimum Quarterly Charge - Fiat Rate	\$ 125.43
Bulk Water (per cubic meter)	\$ 2.64
Bulk Water (per 1,000 gallons)	\$ 12.02

\*Based on 13.5 cubic meters

\*\*One Residential Equivalency Unit (REU) based on 217 cubic meters per year

Please visit www.gimli.ca for a full copy of Board Orders 5/21 & 6/21.

## TOWN OF WINNIPEG BEACH



## 2019 AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, pursuant to Section 194 of The Municipal Act, that the auditor's financial report for the 2019 fiscal year has been received by the office of the Chief Administrative Officer of the Town of Winnipeg Beach located at 29 Robinson Ave, Winnipeg Beach, Manitoba.

Due to the current COVID-19 Critical Provincial Response Level assignment, the Town of Winnipeg Beach Municipal Office is closed to the public.

Persons wishing to view the report and the municipality's financial statements may view the documents on our website at www.winnipegbeach.ca, request a copy by email to info@winnipegbeach.ca or by calling our office at 204-389-2698 to make alternative arrangements.

Dated in Winnipeg Beach, Manitoba this 28th day of January, 2021.

Roger A. Bouvier  
Chief Administrative Officer  
Town of Winnipeg Beach



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## IN MEMORIAM



**Eyjolfson, Nadine**  
In Loving Memory of  
**Nadine Eyjolfson (McNabb)**  
taken from us February 5, 2015

We know you soar with angels now  
And that your heart has wings,  
We know you're watching over us  
For whatever this world brings.  
We know you were a gift from God  
And that you're safe above,  
We know (for sure) we will meet again  
And once more feel your love.  
We know you live in heaven now  
And that we must go on,  
We know our hearts will ache for you  
Until our time on earth is done.

-Miss you forever,  
Love your family

## IN MEMORIAM



**David Brian Joss**  
March 20, 1954 - February 5, 2018  
Remembering you,  
Missing you,  
Loving you always.  
-Mom, Donna, Bill, Betty and Bob

## IN MEMORIAM

**Carol Marilyn Chartrand**  
1948 - 2009

It's been 12 years since you left us  
I thought of you with love today,  
But that's nothing new;  
I thought of you yesterday,  
And the days before that too.  
I think of you in silence,  
I often speak your name;  
All I have are memories,  
And a picture in a frame.  
Your memory is a keepsake,  
With which I'll never part;  
God has you in His keeping,  
I have you in my heart.  
Love and missing you every day,  
Dave, Cory and Suzie, Myrna

## IN MEMORIAM



**Derek Chudyk**  
April 24, 1954 - January 23, 2020

Have you ever had a son,  
Who meant so much to you  
With a heart of gold  
And a smile that could light up a room?  
Have you ever had the heartache,  
Or felt the dreaded pain  
Or shed the tears of sadness  
That fall like evening rain?  
If you've never had these feelings  
And I hope you never do  
For when you lose a child  
You lose a part of you.  
-Forever loved and deeply missed  
Mom and family

## OBITUARY

**Margaret "Peggy" Morton**  
January 28, 1935 - January 30, 2021  
Margaret "Peggy" Morton, beloved wife of Stewart, peacefully passed away at the Eriksdale Personal Care Home on January 30, 2021.  
She will be lovingly missed by all her family.  
In keeping with Peggy's wishes, cremation has taken place and no service will be held.  
Arrangements by:  
**ARNASON FUNERAL HOME**  
Ashern - Lundar  
1.204.768.2072  
1.866.323.3593

## OBITUARY

**Shannon Tricia Jacobsen**  
Unexpectedly, on Tuesday, January 26th, 2021 at her residence, Shannon Jacobsen, aged 51 years of Gimli, beloved wife of Perry passed away.  
In keeping with her wishes, cremation has taken place and a private family service will be held at a later date.  
In lieu of flowers donation's in Shannon's memory can be made to Evergreen Basic Needs in Gimli, Manitoba.  
Condolences may be left on her tribute wall at [www.gilbartfuneralhome.com](http://www.gilbartfuneralhome.com)



Gilbart Funeral Home,  
Gimli in care of arrangements.

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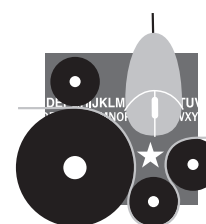
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## OBITUARY



**Irene Evelina Drewlo**  
March 11, 1925 – January 30, 2021

With sorrow in our hearts, we announce the passing of Irene Drewlo (nee Reder) on January 30, 2021 at the Lakeshore General Hospital, Ashern, MB at the age of 95. She passed away peacefully with family by her side and is now reunited with her husband and siblings.

Irene was born on March 11, 1925 and married Albert Drewlo on November 6, 1945. They farmed in the Moosehorn area for 33 years, before semi-retiring in 1978. Irene babysat for many years during which she was an inside caretaker of the Moosehorn Heritage Villa, before ultimately calling it her home for the last 12 years.

Irene attended church regularly for as long as she was able. She was actively involved in the church and sang in the choir for 65 years. She enjoyed playing games and visiting with neighbours and friends. Irene loved to create. She spun her own wool and she knit mittens, crocheted afghans and sewed quilts for her loved ones. She had a fondness for baking and her love for the art continued until shortly before her death. Irene had a green thumb. She could make anything grow (even a stray leaf), and loved gardening, canning and sharing her harvest.

Remaining to cherish her memory are her children Raymond (Brenda), grandson Kevin (Sally), great-grandchildren Lucien and Zayden; Marlene, grandson Leroy (Holly), great-grandchildren Draven and Decklen, granddaughter Rhonda (Shawn), great-grandchild Amelia; Judy (Lloyd), granddaughter Samantha, great-grandchildren Austin, Meyka and Bella, granddaughter Nicole (Dylan); and sister-in-law Ruth Reder.

Irene was predeceased by her husband Albert in 1988; her parents Emil and Pauline (nee Lochter); her siblings Christine (John), Amanda (Reinhold), Otto (Edna) and Paul along with numerous nieces and nephews, including brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law and her son-in-law Larry.

The family would like to thank all the doctors, nurses and staff at the Health Sciences Centre as well as the Lakeshore General Hospital. Also thanks to the Home Care staff for the care they provided.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, a private family service will be held at St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery in Moosehorn, MB with Dawn Tober officiating.

A donation in Irene's memory can be made to the Peace Lutheran Church Memorial Fund, Box 68, Moosehorn, MB R0C 2E0 or to the Heart and Stroke Foundation, 1379 Kenaston Blvd, Winnipeg, MB, R3P 2T5.

Arrangements by:  
ARNASON FUNERAL HOME  
Ashern - Lunder  
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## OBITUARY



**Allan William Broadhurst**  
February 20, 1934 - January 30, 2021

It's with heavy hearts that we have to let you know that my Dad passed away peacefully on Saturday night January 30 at the Gimli Community Health Centre.

He leaves behind his wife Anna, they were married for almost 66 years. Also left to mourn are his sons Steve (Karin), Craig (Liz), Kevin (Renee), Scott (Daphne) and his grandkids Adam (Sarah), Erin (Micheal), Lauren, Evan, Sean, Shannon, Cassie and great-grandkids Landen, Keldyn, Liam, Sophie; brother Doug (Betty); sister Pat (Irv) many nieces and nephews.

Dad was born and raised in Winnipeg and ended up working in General Insurance for some 45 years. He travelled all over SK, MB and Northern ON. When he retired they moved to Gimli, MB where he spent many hours volunteering for Evergreen Basic Needs. He

helped them move into their new building and built many bird feeders, trellises, benches. He always had something on the go.

We'd like to thank from the bottom of our hearts Leanne and her staff at the Gimli Hospital. You folks took great care of my Mom and Dad. A special Thank You to Betty and Loretta who were there that night.

So good bye Dad keep making sawdust.

Condolences may be left on his tribute wall at [www.gilbartfuneralhome.com](http://www.gilbartfuneralhome.com).

Gilbart Funeral Home, Gimli in care of arrangements.



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