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VOLUME 5 EDITION 9 THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 2018

WEEKLY NEWS

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EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Gimli Ice Festival organizers and volunteers, from left Susan Holfeuer, Carol and Bill Szewaga and Peter Holfeuer shovel the walkway at Cooley's Ice Park in preparation of this weekend's activities.

news > sports > opinion > community > people > entertainment > events > classifieds > careers > everything you need to know



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Gimlites brainstorm for Smart Cities \$5 million grant money

By Patricia Barrett

Gimli residents put their heads together last Sunday to come up with ideas on how to win a federal government sponsored grant worth \$5 mil-

The Smart Cities Challenge offers millions of dollars of grant money to cities and towns of various sizes that can come up with innovative solutions to community problems using technology.

Staff from the Riverton-based Community Futures East Interlake moderated the event at the Recreation Centre, along with the RM of Gimli's economic development and tourism/ CDC clerk Brittany Isfeld and parks and recreation manager Chris Horn-

by.
"They want to be able to measure
"and sav we did this," said Hornby, "and say we did this project that resulted in this happening, which improved the lives of people. They're looking for innovation."

About 15 participants, including Gimli Coun. Richard Petrowski and former mayors Lynn Greenberg and Bill Barlow, formed small working groups, and came up with answers to a number of questions that the organizers put together, including what

the best small town in Canada looks like in terms of services, infrastructure and environment, challenges the area currently faces and possible solutions.

Participants cited a need for greater diversity in industry and employment, affordable housing for young and old, clean transportation, a robust information communications system for residents and visitors, enhanced recreational opportunities, access to Internet services in rural dead zones, environmental monitoring, and a way for municipal and service organizations to work together more efficient-

Riverton Collegiate teacher Rob Jantz said there's a need to develop a "process" whereby different groups, such as the RM and the chamber of commerce, can work better together. "We're not connected. How do we get everybody working together? Working apart from each other creates animosity, at times, and we need a sense that we're on the same team here."

Emergency management expert Robert Munroe said GIS (geographic information system) could help people find information on what amenities exist in an area. And using technologies such as electric charging



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Coun. Richard Petrowski (left) and Robert Munroe.



Tammy Dziadek from Community Futures East Interlake facilitated the brainstorming session.

stations throughout the Interlake for vehicles and school buses could bring more people to work, live and play in the region.

"We could have cleaner air if we brought electric cars to Gimli," said

Organizers will assess all the ideas and investigate possible technological solutions before submitting an application to the Smart Cities competition, which closes April 24. The federal government will announce the finalists sometime this summer and the winners in the spring of 2019.

In the meantime, residents can submit their ideas to the Gimli Community Development Corporation at Gimlicdc@rmgimli.com



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Health facilities to receive provincial funding

The Manitoba government has approved more than 120 projects across the province with funding totalling nearly \$30 million to ensure healthcare facilities are properly maintained, Health, Seniors and Active Living Minister Kelvin Goertzen announced Monday.

"It's important that we regularly invest in the maintenance of our healthcare system to make sure repairs are done and the most up-to-date equipment is used to support quality care," said Goertzen. "These investments will ensure that sites continue to meet provincial, national and international standards and keep facilities in good repair."

Projects include but are not limited to: roof replacements at both the Seven Oaks General Hospital and Pan Am Clinic in Winnipeg; mould remediation in the medical records archive room at the Thompson General Hospital, plus roof replacement, vacuum pump upgrades/replacement and Phase 2 of a water booster upgrade; sprinkler installation at the Whitemouth District Health Centre/Personal Care Home; and dining room heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) upgrades and associated building controls system modernization and flooring replacement in the dining hall and main public areas at the Rest Haven Nursing Home in Steinbach.

"We continually work to make sure our nursing home is maintained properly," said David Driedger, CEO of HavenGroup, which operates the Rest Haven Nursing Home in Steinbach. "We're pleased that these important projects will go forward this year to ensure we continue to provide the best care to our personal care home residents and ensure our facility is safe for visiting friends and family."

Safety and security projects do not require a community contribution. Project requests are submitted each year by the regional health authorities, CancerCare Manitoba, Diagnostic Services Manitoba and the Addictions Foundation.

This year, there are 44 projects estimated to cost more than \$150,000 each for a total of \$21.8 million. An additional \$6.8 million will address 80 projects estimated to cost less than \$150,000. The remaining \$1.4 million will be held in reserve in case of any emergent project needs.

Other projects that will begin later this year include the installation of sprinkler systems, upgrades to fire safety equipment and roof replacements at sites across Manitoba.

Projects estimated to cost more than \$150,000

Interlake Eastern Regional Health **Authority:** Hunter Memorial Hospital (Teulon) and Goodwin Lodge (Teulon) – primary electrical distribution upgrades; Rosewood Lodge (Stonewall) – air conditioning upgrades; Stonewall District Health Centre -

boiler replacement; Beausejour EMS Station - new crew quarters; Lac du Bonnet Personal Care Home and Whitemouth District Health Centre -Phase 2 of fire alarm upgrades; Pinawa Hospital – roof repairs; Pine Falls Health Complex; Pine Falls Health Complex - Phase 2 of back service entrance upgrades; Betel Home (Selkirk) - roof replacement; Whitemouth

Continued on page 9





EXPRESS FILE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

The Arborg and District Health Centre and Arborg Personal Care Home will both be receiving provincial funding to complete several projects.



Gimli firefighters and RCMP to go head-to-head at this weekend

Gimli Ice Festival kicks off this Saturday

By Patricia Barrett

The 7th Annual Gimli Ice Festival this Saturday and Sunday will have dozens of fun-filled wintery events, including a shoot-out between Gimli firefighters and the RCMP.

This year's skating rink and warming shack are located on the harbour where a pond hockey demonstration will be held Saturday afternoon. Organizers and volunteers are in the process of building a 50-by-100-foot skating rink with a berm.

"We got involved with parent council from the high school because they want to introduce pond hockey tournaments on the lake in the future," said festival co-chair Susan Holfeuer. "So we're introducing the demo here and there are four games scheduled. One is the firefighters and the RCMP, another game is men-on-men, then women-on-women and a co-ed."

The festival's theme is arts and agriculture, which is reflected in the massive snow sculpture friezes that Stonewall artist Ralph Tanchak created for the ice park near the Visitor's Centre.

"To promote the agricultural part of

the festival, we've added some country music events," said co-chair Peter Holfeuer.

The Lakeview Resort will be hosting a line-up of four different country acts, including local musician Tracy Martin, on Saturday night.

Earlier in the day, craft vendors from across the province will be at the Lakeview showcasing their wares.

"The Arts & Craft show is all 'Made in Manitoba' and will an interesting collection," said Susan. "We've got people coming from an alpaca farm and things like that. And we're having an 'art-freeze' exhibit where the kids from the local schools will do an outdoor exhibition on bees to raise awareness that bees are endangered."

The festival will also be showcasing an ice-sculpture mould invention that a couple of entrepreneurs pitched on the television program *Dragon's Den*.

"They'll be setting up 12 snowman ice sculptures at the Rotary Pond," said Susan.

With a festival pass, visitors will be treated to a lot of free stuff, including a pancakes, beans and wieners, bannock and tea, face painting and an



EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Ice Festival chairs Peter and Susan Holfeuer (left) with volunteers Carol and Bill Szewaga at the harbour skating rink.

indoor playground for the kids at the Lakeview.

"The kids play a variety of different games and win coins," said Susan.
"They then take those coins and purchase their own prizes, such as books, stuffed animals, balls and candy."

The festival has attracted the support of over 40 sponsors, including the RM of Gimli, which donated \$1,500.

"Evergreen Basic Needs has also made some donations to the GIF, as well, for Cooley's Playground," said Susan.

Festival favourites include the Fire on Ice car racing and Ice Man motorcycle racing on Lake Winnipeg, SnoBear excursions, kids' ice fishing, snow sculpting competitions and Viking combat demonstrations.

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Travelling trunks on display at Manitoba Museum

Interlake treasures are now on display at the Manitoba Museum, where the travelling trunk exhibit was set up

Unlocked: Stories of the Interlake is a collaborative project by 10 Interlake museums: the Arborg and District Multicultural Heritage Village, Teulon and District Museum, the New Iceland Heritage Museum, Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre, Stonewall Quarry Park Heritage Arts Centre, the Ashern Museum, the Eriksdale Museum Heritage Site, Woodlands Pioneer Museum, the Marine Museum of Manitoba and the St. Andrews Heri-

The travelling exhibit showcases Interlake stories that are important but not necessarily well known.

Providing a glimpse into Interlake

life from the pioneer days to the mid-1930s, these stories come to life in nine custom-built trunks plus one display that is housed in an antique writing

The goal of the exhibit was to bring people into the Interlake region to see its many museums and heritage sites while also educating local people on their own history.

The exhibit includes one story about a girl who became the first female bus driver in Canada. Another story provides details about the last bank robbery on horseback. Yet another looks at a family of shipbuilders who built vessels that traversed the Red and Assiniboine rivers, including the Paddlewheel Queen and the River Rouge.

Unlocked: Stories of the Interlake won the 2014 Award of Distinction from the Association of Manitoba Museums and the 2015 Interlake Tourism Association Partnership Award. It was also a finalist for the 2015 Travel Manitoba Partnership Award.

The exhibit will be on display at the Manitoba Museum at 190 Rupert Ave. in Winnipeg until Oct. 8.



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Unlocked: Stories of the Interlake travelling trunk exhibit will be on display at the Manitoba Museum in Winnipeg until Oct. 8.

Correction

In the story "Trucking company may sue fish sheds for freight cost" in the Feb. 22 edition of the Express,

we referred to the Manitoba Metis Federation as the MFF when we should have written MMF. We apologize for the misspelling.

North Interlake Chamber of Commerce elects its board

The newly formed North Interlake Chamber of Commerce met last week in Arborg to elect its first board, which consists of eight members.

The Arborg Chamber of Commerce and the Riverton Chamber of Commerce voted last November to dissolve their respective organizations and create the new entity to provide collective economic clout across the north Interlake.

The regional chamber will offer business-to-business mentorship opportunities, network building and a unified voice on common economic concerns, such as infrastructure support, housing and taxation.

"Yesterday's meeting was an open call to all membership to see who wanted to step up," said Mark Myrowich, who was elected vice-chair on Feb. 21. "We had eight people step up."

The board has a number of tasks ahead before it can start holding membership meetings.



"Now that the board is elected, we have to register our name, get incorporated and have our first meeting to see what our membership structure is going to look like and set our fees and dues," said Myrowich.

Myrowich, who's CEO of Erosion Control Blanket near Riverton, said he wants to hire an administrator to deal with all the tasks that come with operating a chamber of

The board will hold a meeting this week to discuss incorporation.

The board is as follows: Chair: Owen Eyolfson Vice-Chair: Mark Myrowich

Draw to be held Saturday, April 7th, 2018 12:00 noon at Smitty's Family Restaurant, 168 Main St., Selkirk, MB Rapala Cyclone 33cc Eskimo Quickfish 3 Pop-up Shelter Tickets: \$2.00 each

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Set RED RIVER > CHALET BEACH > LAKE WINNIPEG > ARNIE WEIDL Spring is just around corner

Greetings, my fishing brothers and sisters. How was your week?

Well, spring must be just around the corner. I was over at Breezy Point and the Red River ice cutting gang is back at it. They've knocked the ice apart from the lake upstream to Netley Creek sending all our angling friends scrambling toward Selkirk ahead of them or over to the Lake Winnipeg south basin.

The ice on Netley Creek by Petersfield, however, remains thick and safe, which is where I found local Rick Zolinski, fishing in a very large comfortable shack on a cool, grey day with his family.

"We were just talking about you," someone in the shack said as I entered.

"Something just happened that might interest you," Rick, sitting trim and fit on one side of the open "trench" floor, exclaimed. He continued explaining how he caught a jackfish, and as he was pulling it up the hole, it slipped the hook but kept on swimming up, coming right out and landing on the ice between the ice holes. It flopped about for a second, and then with a mighty swing of its tail, it slid head-first into an adjoining hole, swimming down out of sight. It happened so fast they sat there motionless until somebody observed how supper had just escaped.

A few days after my visit with Rick and his gang, I wound up on the Red River by the blue bridge and ran into Rui Machado, Ray Maglian and Carlos Olideira, who didn't have a story for us, although they had caught a few fish, as you can see. That's OK, fellas. Maybe next time! Upstream of the guys I came across a chap sitting in a folding chair working two fish holes while his little son played close by. He seemed very friendly with a broad smile framed in a dark, short beard and sunglasses watching me pull up in Old Red. I got out and as I came around the front of the truck, he called out, "How's it going?"

"Great. Boy, that sun's bright," I exclaimed.

"Yeah, you can feel the sun's strength. Spring's coming," he responded.

I could see he hadn't caught any fish, so I asked if he had a fish story for us. His head bent down for a moment, thinking, then came back up smiling at me, saying, "Yes, I do have something.'

Brightly coloured sleds screamed past us along the shoreline and the smell of smoke from the chimneys of nearby hard wall ice shacks floated in the air as our new friend, Tony Toews, gathered his thoughts. He began. Last summer he was boat fishing with his young son David on the Winnipeg River on the high side of the Pinawa Dam. It was a beautiful warm, still,



EXPRESS PHOTO BY ARNIE WEIDL

Left to right: Rui Machado, Ray Maglian and Carlos Olideira with some of their catch on the Red River.

sunny morning and Tony was trolling with David sitting behind him. After a while, Tony heard an almost imperceptible lip-smacking sound. He turned and was shocked to see David had gotten a minnow from the bait tub and was fingering and eating the salt off it. Dad shouted at his son to stop. He helped the boy wash his hands off in the river water then took up his rod and started fishing again. As an afterthought, Tony looked at his son in a man-to-man kind of way and said, "Now, we're not going to tell mom about this, are we?"

David, still not feeling he had done anything wrong, innocently inquired, "Dad, how come fish like salt?"

A while back, I was driving around on the ice on the south end of Lake Winnipeg and noticed two men starting to drill ice holes for fishing. I pulled up beside them and struck up a conversation with the older chap, Fred Koster, as his son, Ed, continued drilling.

They were farmers from Beausejour, and Fred, standing slightly bent from years of hard work, peering from under grey eyebrows, began a story. He said they liked to fish in Bird Lake and once, about this time of year, he caught a large, long jackfish. He tried to pull it up through the ice hole but he could see it wasn't going to be easy. He got down on his stomach and, using both hands in the icy water, tried to get it up until he could see in the clear water it was a female and some of the eggs were coming out of her. He stopped and rolled over, looking up at his son, saying, "We can't keep her. She's full of eggs."

So they let it back down the hole to give it a chance to spawn. I guess we can say that sometimes losing a fish, like Rick or the Koster boys did, can be just as interesting as landing one. So long, friends.



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Riverton and Arborg senior band students dazzle at Optimist Band Festival

By Patricia Barrett

Riverton and Arborg music students received a 5-star Superior Achievement award at the 43rd Annual Optimist International Band Festival that was held in Winnipeg Feb. 20-23, and have been invited to perform at MusicFest in Toronto.

The Senior Band, composed of 19 Riverton and Arborg students in grades 9-12, performed Psalm 42 by Samuel Hazo and Swahili Folk Hymn by Kevin Mixon, earning them accolades from the adjudicators.

"The adjudicator said it was 'one of the most musical performances he had heard all day,' [and] that they played very maturely," said music director Lauren Dobko, referring to the Psalm. "This was reflected in their five-star ratings from two of the three adjudicators. The other adjudicator gave them all four stars, which is still great."

The Psalm is based on a melody taken from a popular Scottish folk song called The Water is Wide.

"It's a song of hope in times of pain, grief or strife," said Dobko. "It's technically easy but musically challeng-

The Swahili Folk Hymn is an upbeat, rhythmic African-inspired piece that's "undeniably groovy," she said. Its rhythm, articulation and syncopated entrances presented the students with more technical challenges.

"I was smiling ear to ear at the end of each piece. They performed extremely well, I think due in part to a focused

warm up and great focus and courage during the performance," said Dobko. "We're a band of 19 players, which is basically one person per part. It takes a lot of independence, courage and guts to be the only person playing your part all of the time, and I'm very proud of the maturity and courage with which they performed."

The Senior Band has earned a Superior Achievement in the past, she said, and they now have a total of four plaques.

The students have been invited to perform at MusicFest Canada's Nationals, which will be held May 14-19 in Toronto. The festival showcases the talents of 10,000 young musicians from across the country.

Dobko said she's also thinking of having the students perform at other festivals, such as Banff's Rocky Mountain Festival, Edmonton's Cantando and Whistler's Con Brio Festival. Those festivals would allow her choir and vocal jazz students an opportunity to compete.

"Even if we don't go this year, it is awesome to say that we were invited to the National MusicFest," she said. "Being recognized in this way is an eve-opener to the students. With the right mindset, they are capable of authentic, high-quality music making, and capable of creating musical-emotional experiences for their audience."

The band will be performing the Psalm at its spring concert, May 24 at the Arborg Hall.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY LAUREN DOBKO

The combined Arborg and Riverton Senior Band received a 5-star Superior Achievement award at the 43rd Annual Optimist International Band Festival in Winnipeg on Feb. 20-23.

Ashern to have new cell placed at lagoon site later this year

RM of West Interlake council entered into an agreement during its regular meeting with a local landowner to subdivide land and make it the future site for the upcoming expansion of Ashern's lagoon last week.

CAO Larissa Love explained that the planning is in the preliminary stages right now and that the RM has applied for federal and provincial funding to help cover the cost of the expansion. The project will be tendered out later this year so the budget is not being shared publicly at this time.

Reeve Randy Helgason said that, like the landfill expansion also taking place this year, the lagoon is another big infrastructure project that will work to future proof the area. Helgason said that the current site, which is three cells, isn't in danger of overflowing like the landfill is, but if the RM goes through another flood or sustained periods of heavy rain, that

could change.

"In most cases, the lagoon has enough capacity, but say we have a high water event or a lot of spring runoff or rain, then you have an issue," said Helgason.

"You have to look at the situation and prepare for the worst case scenarios. When we had the flood years ago, council did discuss it, but the actual expansion of the lagoon has evolved since this council took office in 2015."

The lagoon sits just west of town at the end of Main Street and is an openair design. It handles all of the sewage produced by the town of Ashern and uses the sun and the air to create bacteria that break down the sewage as water evaporates from it. Lagoons are also sometimes called effluent ponds. The preliminary plans, which Love said can and likely will change, calls for a 20-acre expansion area needed for the construction of the project.

Like the landfill project, Helgason

said he wants this one completed before the election in October.

"You don't want to hand something like off to whoever a new council may be. You'd like them to start with a clean slate," he said.

If funding is secured and a tender is accepted quick enough, Helgason said the project could start as early as the summer. Love said that once the RM acquires the land, it won't have to be rezoned but it will need to be subdivided onto the existing lagoon space.

New Doctor Accepting Patients in Gimli



Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority and its community partners are pleased to welcome Dr. Jonah Fulmore to the Gimli Community Health Centre. He completed his medical studies at the University of Manitoba with a focus on urgent and emergent care as well as addictions. Dr. Fulmore is currently accepting new patients.

To make an appointment please call 204-642-1618.



Lakeside Sno-Drifters set record attendance at annual poker derby

By Jeff Ward

A record high 90 snowmobilers took to the trails for the Lakeside Sno-Drifters annual poker derby to celebrate the 40th anniversary.

The annual fundraiser brought in approximately \$2,000 for the club, which will be used to maintain the 210 kilometres of trails each season.

Club president Jason Bittner said he was thrilled to see so many people come out to support the club and ride the trails. Participants did a 100-kilometre loop in the RM of Grahamdale and stopped in at a few warming cabins to collect an envelope with a card inside. Once finished, the riders opened their envelopes and created the best poker hand they could to win prize money.

Marlene Meisner won first place with her full house, aces full of sevens,

and cashed in for \$510. Mike Tritthart took home \$306 with his full house, kings full of fours, and Eileen Ashley won \$204 with her full house, sevens full of fives.

"It's not a huge money maker for us to be honest, but it's just a really fun event and a great reason to get out on the trails," said Bittner.

"Last year we didn't have a lot of snow for this, but this year we've gotten a good amount to make some great trails. It was a huge success and for this to also be the 40th anniversary of the club is pretty special."

Bittner said that many club members volunteer their time to help groom the trails in the late fall of each season to get it ready after the first snowfall. A lot of work and volunteer hours go into putting in the signs, cutting deadfall and debris out of the



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED BY JASON BITTNER

Dozens of snowmobiles packed the trails in Grahamdale a few weeks ago for the Lakeside Sno-Drifters annual poker derby.

way and making sure farmers fields are passable.

"We always check to make sure that farmers are done with their fields before we open the trail up," said Bittner. All told, the 210-kilometre trail is a labour of love and Bittner said he was really happy to see so much support for their annual event.

Grahamdale farmer fighting against rising bear and timberwolf attacks

By Jeff Ward

Another story in a series of predator related issues for producers around the Interlake is taking shape as Grahamdale cattle producer Darren Cook raises concerns with a spike in bear attacks and the ongoing fight against timberwolves.

Cook said he lost at least 40 calves to bear and timberwolf attacks last year out a field of 400. His issues aren't uncommon and are becoming the norm as more and more producers fight against a wolf and bear population that continues to move south. Cook said that he took a number of bears last year on his property north of Steep Rock and that during a stretch last June, he had three calves taken and the carcasses of two more were never found. Cook said that since he's been more active in his pasture, keeping a watchful eye on bears he's seen no new bear attacks and has shifted his focus to the new onslaught of timberwolves.

"I was sitting up in my field all night waiting for those bears because I

knew they were out there," said Cook.

"After killing the three, it ended, so I knew I got the ones that were doing it. I shot a few bears early that spring as well and I've honestly never seen this kind of a problem before. Over the last 35 years, I'd say there's been between three and five calves killed by bears in that time but nothing like this."

Cook said his concern now is the timberwolf problem, which is one he's been actively fighting against for the last few years. These predators are continuing to make their way farther south in the Interlake and producers are bearing the brunt of those attacks. Cook said, like many other producers *The Express* has spoke with have, that you simply can't watch a field of this many animals and be able to know the moment one goes missing.

In Grahamdale, his pasture is dotted with a lot of wooded areas and sometimes his cows won't come out of there for a few days. It's hard for him to do the daily duties on the field and keep a perfect headcount of 400 ani-

mals at the same time.

"When we're busy in the summer haying the field there's just no time. I might head out and find a carcass all torn up, but I might need to spend all day looking for it. Maybe one out of every five carcasses you find, but these are big pastures with lots of brush. Most of the time you can only find them if you've seen the birds coming off of them," said Cook.

He conceded that producers are going to lose some animals every year to sickness and natural death, but the numbers he and other producers are seeing are representing a much large pattern of predator movement.

Eriksdale trapper Neil Brandstrom said that bears are becoming more common and the problems that Cook faced last summer aren't an anomaly.

"If it's a real dry year and there isn't a lot of berries or nuts, bears will find food somewhere else. Bears need to put on weight before hibernation and they'll travel up to 300 miles to do it. If there is a field with easy food, they will eat it," said Brandstrom.

Steven Tindall is the president of the Interlake Fur Council and added that producers should find and bury their killed livestock as fast as possible so that the carcasses don't attract more predators. He said that he understands that it's very difficult to do that given the demand on producers' time.

"The good thing is the bear problem is easy to control in comparison to the wolves. Wolves are more elusive but bears are easier to locate. You just have to put the time in," said Cook.

Time is the issue because it's the most fleeting resource any producer has. There are only so many hours in a day and to have to spend time hunting bears or trapping wolves, while also operating a 400-cow pasture is making a difficult job much harder.

"This is something that's been on the increase for four to five years now and the wolves are for some reason moving south to farmland they haven't been. This was not an issue 10 years ago. Now they're everywhere. Hopefully things will change," said Cook.

Grahamdale council reviewing public works submissions from public before budget

By Jeff Ward

RM of Grahamdale council reviewed submissions of public works requests from residents during last week's regular meeting of council and are encouraging residents to fill out submission forms before the budget is set.

CAO Shelley Schwitek explained that council would continue to review submissions up until budget time

later this year to get a better understanding of priority areas. Schwitek said that the submissions so far have been requests for new culverts, drainage cleaning and new approaches. Residents can request a submission form at the RM office in Moosehorn.

Other council news in brief

• Council anticipates June of

this year to be when contractors Fast Brothers Ltd. can put the finishing touches on the Moosehorn Flood Protection project.

- Council will send municipal emergency co-ordinator Nyla Klatt to Selkirk for a flood preparedness seminar on March 14.
- Council approved the attendance of both Coun. Dan Meisner and

Coun. Perry Ewasiuk for the Manitoba Weed Supervisory Association meeting in Carberry on March 21. The meeting will update municipalities to the changes to the Noxious Weeds Act.

• Council approved a \$100 donation to the Moosehorn Baptist Church for their annual Teacher Appreciate Luncheon.

Ashern woman wins big at 2017 Celebration of Champions

Ashern veterinarian Keri Hudson-Reykdal and her horse SLR Won Smart Wolf took home some big accolades a few weeks ago following the 2017 Celebration of Champions in Forth Worth, Texas.

The eight-day event (Feb. 9-17) is a series of competitions in multiple categories that pit some of the best riders and horses in the world against each other. Hudson-Reykdal was able to ride her horse to a sixth place spot in the finals of the Non-Pro Two Rein competition with a score of 285.5, only 9.5 points behind the first place winner. Her horse was also ridden by her trainer, John C. Swales, to a first place victory in the Open Two Rein finals with a score of 295 points.

Hudson-Reykdal said that the event and the competition was a lot of fun and the outcomes were fantastic. She explained that she was really happy to make the finals in the event she rode in and knew the competition was going to be fierce.

"We were very happy to make the finals," said Hudson-Reykdal.

"We had a really good run and I'm thrilled with the finish. To have a horse that can compete at this level four days in a row is amazing. But Wolf gives you 100 per cent every day. He doesn't know how to do anything

As for Swales' finish, Hudson-Reykdal said she was ecstatic, as having a World Championship horse is a pretty rare thing and that having the same horse in another Top 10 in the world is even more special. She and Wolf also finished second in the national standings in the Non Pro Two Reign event and Swales finished first place in the national standings in the Open Two

Hudson-Reykdal said that much of the credit goes to her horse, Wolf, who has been and continues to be an exceptional animal. Wolf was also honoured with the Supreme Reined Cow Horse Award, which is only presented to a few horses each year. She explained that horses as young as Wolf, six years old, aren't typically even eligible for this award as they need to meet certain winnings requirements each year and need to have a career earnings of at least \$25,000. According to the National Reined Cow Horse Association (NRCHA), these horses also need to have won in all divisions.

"These are some of the best trained horses in the world and because they can do so many different things they are highly sought after," she said.

Hudson-Reykdal has no plans to sell her horse but said his value has gone up considerably as he's established a pattern of winning. These horses that compete in this event are essentially the Olympic athletes of the horse world. Very strenuous, highly physical competition over many days is tough on both the rider and the horse. There needs to be a strong link between the rider and the horse, said Hudson-Reykdal, and it's the peak of competi-

Owners dump massive amounts of cash into their attempt to win this competition each year. Hudson-Reykdal said that Linda Mars, part of the Mars family that owns the candy bar company, is one of those people.

"Winning a World Championship is kind of a once-in-a-lifetime deal and you're competing with people who have more money than God," she

Wolf's riding season was in jeopar-



EXPRESS PHOTO BY HD2

Keri Hudson-Reykdal and her horse Wolf placed 6th at the 2017 Celebration of Champions in Forth Worth, Texas, last month. Hudson-Reykdal is seen here riding at a different event earlier this year.

dy last summer when he fractured a splint bone but fortunately was able to recover quickly without the need for surgery and is as strong as ever.

"He's coming home next week with a saddle, some awards and a World Championship," said a very proud Hudson-Reykdal.



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Home (Eriksdale) – fire panel repairs, kitchen and walk-in freezer repair; Ashern Hospital and Personal Care Home - exit pad replacements; Hunter Memorial Hospital (Teulon) and Goodwin Lodge (Teulon) - exit pad replacements; Stonewall District Hospital – design consultations for boiler Beausejour Health replacement; Centre - controls software upgrades, nurse call system upgrades; East Gate Lodge (Beausejour) - controls software upgrades, air handling control unit replacement; Kinplace Personal Care Home (Oakbank) - controls software upgrades; Betel Home (Selkirk) - air conditioning replacements, and kitchen air conditioner and heater replacement.

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Anglers jig for grand prize in Gimli fish derby

By Patricia Barrett

Gimli's Colder Than Ice Fishing Derby brought about 40 anglers to the harbour last Saturday to vie for a \$1,000 grand prize for the heaviest fish.

Peter Klym from Gimli netted the first catch of the day 10 minutes after the competition got underway and eventually won the grand prize. Using liver as bait and a "legal homemade rig," Klym pulled up a northern pike.

The 59-year-old angler has been fishing since he was seven and said the secret to landing a fish is "watching your line."

Landon Lewis put his secret — patience — into practice. He brought his sons Sol and Jude to the harbour in the morning but drove them home when the fish refused to bite. Although a fish took a chunk out of a minnow Lewis was using as bait, he wasn't able to reel it in.

"Me and the boys can catch about 20 fish in three hours in the same depth at South Beach," said Lewis, who's from Gimli and has relatives that fish commercially. "But I've been out here for four hours."

Despite the dry run, Lewis said the derby's location — in seven feet of



From left: Peter Klym and his sons Taze and Colby. Klym caught the first fish of the day using liver as bait and also won the competition

water with about 3.5 feet of ice — was good for catching fish.

Fishers brought their catch in a pail of water to the warming hut for a weigh-in, and then organizers released the fish back into the lake.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT

The RM of Gimli's economic development and tourism clerk Brittany Isfeld and her team of derby volunteers ensured the event went off without a snag. Back row from left: Melanie Johnson, Elin Johnson, Brittany Isfeld and Angela Collins. Front from left: Dylan, Peyton and Taylor.

The RM's economic development and tourism clerk Brittany Isfeld organized the derby and rounded up a team of volunteers to help her with everything from rules to fish weighins. Part of the derby's proceeds were donated to the fire department.

Randy Acton finished second, taking home \$750, and Joe Wilkinson placed third, earning \$500.

Among the sponsors of the event were the Gimli Lakeview Resort and Kamooki Lures.

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7th Anniversary Edition March 3-4, 2018

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festival

Saturday, March 3

EVENTS ON THE LAKE

9:00am - 3:00pm Fire on Ice Car Racing

Practice from 9am - 11am Racing 12pm - 3pm

10:00am - 3:00pm ICEBOUND EXCURSIONS SnoBear Rides

\$2 per ride – purchase ride tickets at festival

headquarters

12:00pm - 3:00pm ICE MAN Motorcycle Ice Racing Demo

EVENTS LISTED ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. HAVE FUN EVERYONE!

EVENTS AT THE HARBOUF

11:00am – 12pm Frozen Fish Toss – Kiss the fish if you dare!

1:00pm - 2:00pm

11:00am - 3:00pm Kids Fun-Time Ice Fishing

Free Kubota ride to ice fishing location

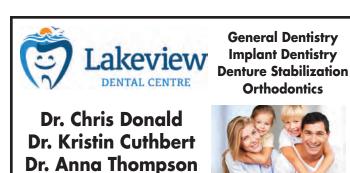
11:00am – 3:00pm Cross Country Skiing Workshop & Demo

Free Kubota ride to skiing location

1:00pm - 4:00pm Inaugural Gimli Falcons "4 on 4"

Demonstration Pond Hockey Games

1:30pm – 2:00pm Live Viking Combat



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Saturday, March 3

EVENTS AT OTHER LOCATIONS

10:00am - 3:00pm Viking Indoor Village Life Display

At the New Iceland Heritage Museum

10:00am – 4:00pm The Freeze Outdoor Art Exhibit

Next to festival headquarters – Vote on your People's Choice!

10:00am - 4:00pm Arts & Crafts Show - At the Lakeview Resort - Ballrooms A-C

11:00am - 11:45am Kids Story Telling - At the New Iceland Heritage Museum

11:00am - 2:00pm Mini Snow Sculpting Competition

Info and registration at festival headquarters

11:00am - 3:00pm Bannock & Tea on Open Fire - Near the harbour bandstand

11:00am - 3:00pm Gimli Art Club Family Fun Activities

At the Art Club ... face painting, arts & crafts and more!

12:00pm - 2:30pm Chili Cook-Off

At the Gimli Rec Centre Upstairs – sampler \$1 while supplies last

4:00pm - 6:00pm Meat Draw Madness - Gimli Legion

Meat draws at 4pm, 5pm, 6pm

7:30pm – 11:00pm Variety Entertainment Night

At the Lakeview Resort \$10 admission or \$5 with festival pass













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7th Anniversary Edition March 3-4, 2018

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festival

Sunday, March 4

EVENTS ON THE LAKE

9:00am - 3:00pm Fire on Ice Car Racing

Practice from 9am - 11am Racing 12pm - 3pm

10:00am - 3:00pm ICEBOUND EXCURSIONS SnoBear Rides

\$2 per ride – purchase ride tickets at festival headquarters

12:00pm - 3:00pm ICE MAN Motorcycle Ice Racing Demo

EVENTS AT THE HARBOUR

11:00am – 12pm Frozen Fish Toss – Kiss the fish if you dare!

1:00pm - 2:00pm

11:00am - 2:00pm Kids Fun-Time Ice Fishing

Free Kubota ride to ice fishing location

11:00am - 2:30pm Cross Country Skiing Workshop & Demo

Free Kubota ride to skiing location

1:00pm - 1:30pm Live Viking Combat

2:00pm - 2:30pm Frozen T-Shirt Competition

Info and registration at festival headquarters

Info and registration at festival headquarters

EVENTS AT OTHER LOCATIONS

9:00am - 11:00am Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast

At the Gimli Rec Centre \$5 or Free with Festival Pass

10:00am - 3:00pm Viking Indoor Village Life Display

At the New Iceland Heritage Museum

10:30am - 11:15am Kids Story Telling

At the New Iceland Heritage Museum

11:00am - 1:30pm Borscht Cook-Off

At Lighthouse Mall, 41 Centre St - sampler \$1 while supplies last

11:30am - 2:00pm Cooley's Indoor Playground - At the Lakeview Resort

11:00am - 2:30pm Bannock & Tea on Open Fire

Near the harbour bandstand

11:00am – 2:30pm Gimli Art Club Family Fun Activities

At the Art Club ... face painting, arts & crafts and more!







et inspired > MEALIDEAS Manhatala



- 1 sheet frozen puff pastry, thawed 2 cups Jarlsberg Cheese, shredded
- 1 pound asparagus
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 tablespoon fresh thyme leaves

pepper

Heat oven to 400 F. Prepare baking sheet with parchment paper.

Roll out puff pastry into 16-by-10-

Asparagus Tart

inch rectangle; trim uneven edges. Place on baking sheet. Using knife, lightly score pastry dough 1 inch from edges. Using fork, pierce dough inside markings at 1/2-inch intervals. Bake until golden, about 15 minutes.

Remove pastry shell from oven and sprinkle with shredded cheese. Trim bottoms of asparagus spears to fit crosswise inside pastry shell; arrange in single layer over cheese, alternating ends and tips. Brush with oil, sprinkle with thyme leaves and season with salt and pepper. Bake until spears are tender, about 20 minutes.



2 cans (16 ounces each) red salmon or tuna, drained and flaked

1 package (10 ounces) frozen chopped spinach, thawed and well drained

2 1/2 cups shredded Jarlsberg Cheese, divided

- 1 cup fresh bread crumbs
- 2 lightly beaten eggs
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1/2 cup minced onion
- 1/2 cup parsley

Festive Salmon Cake

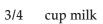
2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil 1 package (16 ounces) frozen mixed vegetables, cooked and drained or 2 cups fresh, chopped mixed vegetables, steamed

Heat oven to 350 F.

In large bowl, combine canned fish, spinach, 11/2 cups cheese, bread crumbs, eggs and lemon juice; blend well. In skillet, saute onion and parsley in olive oil until onion is translucent. Add to fish mixture. Spread mixture into well-oiled 8-inch springform pan and bake 30 minutes. Top with remaining cheese.

To serve, remove from pan. Place on serving platter or low pedestal and arrange mixed vegetables on top.

Corn Muffins



2 eggs

1/4 cup plain flour

cups cornmeal 11/4

tablespoon sugar

3 teaspoons baking powder

tablespoons softened butter

1/2 cup Jarlsberg Cheese, plus additional

cured ham, thinly sliced (optional) **Nut Pesto:**

tablespoons olive oil

pack fresh, flat-leaf parsley 1

garlic clove 1

1/2 cup walnuts

1/4 cup cashews

pepper



Have you ever considered keeping a journal? A journal is like a diary, but with a difference. In journal writing, there can be a variety of different purposes that the writer might have. It is much more than a running record of what you did each day. Keeping a journal is a way of getting to know yourself better, it is an opportunity to share your innermost thoughts with someone you can trust: you.

In our busy lives we can get caught up in doing things and talking to others, with little time left for selfreflection. It is easy to become alienated from ourselves. In many cases, life has been a series of responses to others, including parents, teachers, friends, and the true self is buried under many layers.

The prospect of beginning a psychological archeological dig can be a little bit scary. Sometimes it feels like turning over a rock in the woods, and you're hesitant because you're not sure if you really want to see what's been hiding there. But journal writing does not always make things quite that obvious. Herein lies an important purpose of the process. By writing daily about your feelings and reflections relating to whatever is happening in your life, you may notice, in time, certain patterns that emerge that

A Journal is a Place for **Processing Our Feelings**

you just don't see on the surface.

Sometimes, in the beginning at least, your journal may be the only place where you feel you can express your honest feelings. If you are not being honest in your journal, then you are not being honest with yourself, but that too is an interesting pattern that might emerge and is a very important insight. As you begin to learn more and more about who you really are, you can begin to live your life in an increasingly congruent way. If you are spending your time in certain ways, and your journal reveals that it is not really satisfying, you can begin to shift your priorities. If there are difficult relationships in your life, a journal can be an excellent place to process your feelings so that you are less reactive in your interactions.

You can vent a lot of your strong emotions in writing, and decide then what you want to do about these feelings. You may tone done the message that you want to give to the other person, and be clearer about the outcome you wish to achieve. The most important person in the world for you to know well is yourself. The quality of your life depends upon that knowledge. Give journal writing a try.

Gwen Randall-Young is an author and award-winning Psychotherapist. For permission to reprint this article, or to obtain books, cds or MP3's, visit www.gwen.ca. Follow Gwen on Face-Book for daily inspiration.

Corn Muffins cont.

Heat oven to 375 F. Whisk together milk and eggs.

In separate bowl, mix flour, cornmeal, sugar, baking powder and butter. Add milk-egg mixture and stir. Spoon mixture into muffin cases.

Cut cheese into cubes and press down into mixture. Bake in center of oven about 15 minutes.

To make Nut Pesto: In blender or using hand blender, combine olive oil, parsley, garlic, walnuts, cashews, salt and pepper. Pulse or blend until coarsely chopped.

Serve corn muffins with additional cheese, Nut Pesto and thin slices of cured ham, if desired.

Notes: If possible, use stiff paper cups, so muffins stand up better. Cornbread can also be baked in large, round baking pan, about 20 centimeters in diameter; adjust baking time as needed until done.





Stephanie 204-896-3980

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Fisher Branch Early Years students focus on literacy based events

By Jeff Ward

Fisher Branch Early Years School (FBEYS) has been focusing on a slew of unique and engaging literacy-based activities throughout the month of February designed to challenge students and provide a fun way to celebrate reading.

The FBEYS events last month created fun ways for students to get in their daily allotment of reading while also pushing themselves to read more often on their own time.

Principal Roger McCulley said that the overall goal for students in February was to read a total of 50,000 minutes. Every student was challenged to read 20 minutes a day, five nights a week, to reach that goal and McCulley said that the students did reach their goal.

"We always want our students to read all the time, but during the month, we heighten the awareness and do more special activities," said McCulley.

"Students design posters for a contest. They have book trivia every Tuesday. We did a campout and PJ day in the gym, where they got to read in tents we set up. We want to give them that added encouragement to explore reading and writing."

Students also brought in newspaper articles they found interesting to share with their classmates, dressed up as their favourite book character and wrote poetry, read aloud to their peers and more.



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED BY ROGER MCCULLEY Makayla Sydenham relaxes in the gym in her pyjamas for one of FBEYS's I Love to Read events.

Every day in February had a new activity associated with it and McCulley said the students responded favourably to those and were genuinely excited to come to school and participate.

Students also completed a reading bingo card.

Students who filled in their entire card were entered into a draw to become principal for a day.

February is I Love to Read month, but it's also very important, McCulley said, that students are doing an equal share of writing as well.

"It's so important to match up the amount of reading they do with the same amount of writing. And we want them to be writing for authentic purposes. This is a big thing in literacy to achieve that certain balance between the two because the skills develop together," he said.

McCulley also encouraged students to read to their parents and vice-versa as those interactions foster good learning environments that he said are very important.

"There is a strong link between leisure reading and reading with their parents and how they're developing their literacy," said McCulley.

I Love to Read month might be over, but schools aren't putting their books away. McCulley said one of the best things about the month is that teachers are able to celebrate these small victories and reading moments with more vigour because of the attention the month brings.

"Students are always really happy to share what they've read and we want them to be excited about sharing that with us all year," McCulley said.

Temperature fluctuations wreak havoc in Gimli

By Patricia Barrett

The RM of Gimli's Public Works department was on the scene of a water main break at the intersection of Centre Street and Third Avenue on Feb. 22. The alternating cycle of warm and cold temperatures over the past few weeks likely facilitated the rupture. The primary cause of water main breaks is pipe corrosion, and breaks can occur at any time of the year. Temperature fluctuations make the ground swell and contract like a piece of wood, and that can put pressure on underground pipes nearing the end of their lifecycle. Public Works barricaded the busy intersection while they dealt with foot-deep water and cleared layers of ice and slush from both roads.



A water main break on Centre and Third closed the streets in both directions.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Public Works clears a pipe at the intersection of Centre and Third with its portable steamer.



Snow and slush line Third Avenue after the water main break.

Earl Seymour honoured for 35 years of volunteering

By Jeff Ward

Eriksdale referee Earl Seymour was surprised with a plaque honouring him for his 35 years of involvement in Lakeside Minor Hockey during the Eriksdale Winter Carnival a few

Seymour said he was not expecting the plaque or to be recognized for his service. He has been refereeing games in the Interlake for more than 30 years and spent some of his early years coaching Squirts and Midget teams in Eriksdale.

Seymour was the local referee-in-

chief for 18 years, a job that is now being done by Amber Monk. He said that being part of minor hockey has been a very enjoyable experience and he's watched the game change, the technology of coaching, the playing and the fans change over three decades.

explained Seymour that when he was given, the plaque it was quite a shock for him.

"I was really taken aback because I didn't

know what was going on," said Seymour.

"They handed me this wooden plaque and thanked me for my service for the last 35 years. It was a very nice honour and was a nice moment."

Seymour is humble about his involvement and said that he enjoyed being out on the ice reffing games. But having a full-time job working at the E.M. Crowe Memorial Hospital meant that after committing time to officiating games, he would be home pretty late.

Seymour became a referee because Lakeside Minor Hockey was is dire need of officiators on the ice and

made an adult from every team take up the job to keep the league moving forward. Seymour was one of those volunteers and would end up seeing a full generation of hockey players skate around him.

When he started, Seymour said it was like the Wild West out on the ice. These were the days before "respect the ref" rules were implemented and that meant he bore the brunt of a lot of abuse.

"It's not an easy job especially when you get to the older brackets of players and you got coaches and fans that

"NOWADAYS,

RESPECT ME.

THE COACHES

AND PLAYERS

THE FANS

DO TOO."

know the game. Twenty years ago, it was getting bad with parents swearing at you, but after the respect the ref program, it all got cleaned up," said Seymour.

He said he knew it wasn't personal out on the ice and it's easy to get caught up in the game, but it didn't make it any easier to deal with. He said that those days are a thing of the past and things

now are a much more pleasant situation.

"Nowadays, the fans respect me. The coaches and players do too. I'll blow the whistle to stop the play and there are lots of kids who bend over and grab the puck and bring it me," said Seymour.

Seymour said that part of the fun for him on the ice is being able to anticipate the play and stay ahead of the action. He enjoys the strategy of visualizing where the players are going to be and then being in a good position to oversee that action. He said that teaching a younger generation of referees has also been rewarding



EXPRESS PHOTO TAKEN BY CHERYL LAW

Current referee-in-chief, Amber Monk, left, presents former refereein-chief Earl Seymour centre with a wooden plague honouring him for his 35 years of involvement in Lakeside Minor Hockey. Also pictured is referee Ethan Spalding.

and that he's shadowed rookie refs on the ice in recent years and provided insight into how to better themselves.

Interestingly, for as much time as Seymour spends officiating the game, he doesn't really watch it at all. He doesn't come home and watch the Winnipeg Jets unless they're in the playoffs. His enjoyment is about being on the ice, and as a spectator, it's just not for him.

"Both my boys really like watching it, and I like the sport. I just don't really want to watch it," he said.

Seymour is retired from the hospital

now and drives a school bus during the week which he enjoys. Seymour is 64 years old and he still gets out there every week and refs hockey games because he still enjoys it. Keeping up with the play, being ahead of the players and getting exercise have kept him loving what he does even 35 years

"I thought that maybe I would stop soon, but my daughter told me I can't stop because I have to ref my grandchildren, so I guess I'm sticking around a bit longer," joked Seymour.



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Lakers win MHSAA boys' curling championship

By Brian Bowman

Josh Maisey has a great future in curling.

And the present is treating him real well right now, too.

Maisey and his Gimli Lakers rink captured the MHSAA boys' curling championship after defeating Garden Valley Collegiate 6-2 in the final on Saturday.

"It feels pretty great (to win)," said an excited Maisey Sunday evening. "We've been in high school the past two years and we got third last year and came out with the win this year. It's a pretty great feeling, that's for sure."

Gimli led by one late in the final but picked up a huge steal of one as Garden Valley had a chance to score two.

"They ended up missing their shot and we stole one, which basically closed the game and they weren't able to win," Maisey recalled. "We were up by two and that was kind of the turning point."

Maisey's rink, which includes third Oliver De Meyer, second Sean Giesbrecht, and lead Tyler Giesbrecht, finished with a perfect 6-0 record at provincials.

"We all curled well," Maisey said. "It was a whole team effort. We all put in the work and strived for it all and pulled out the big win."

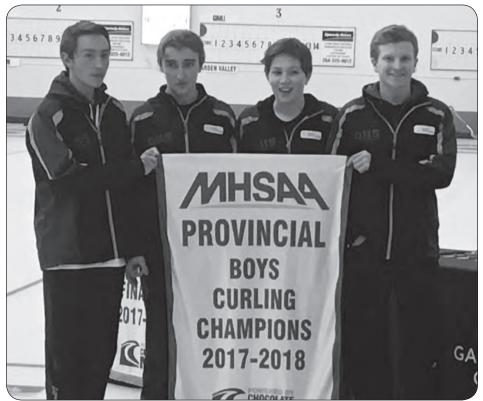


The Gimli Lakers' Oliver De Meyer was named the boys' curling provincial MVP.

He insisted that their rink's coaches — Dale Lott and Dayna Ford — had a lot to do with their success this season.

Maisey, currently in Grade 10, felt last year's appearance at the high school provincials benefited his rink this time around.

"It helped for sure," he said. "It got rid of the nerves of a whole provincial event and it helped with knowing the teams and seeing how well we did last year. It made us strive for bigger and



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

The Gimli Lakers rink captured the MHSAA boys' curling championship in Winkler this past weekend. Pictured left to right: lead Tyler Giesbrecht, second Sean Giesbrecht, third Oliver De Meyer and skip Josh Maisey.

better this year."

Maisey would love to win a provincial title two more times before he closes out his high school career.

"It would be something else to get

three in a row," Maisey said. "I don't think it's ever been done for a high school and it would be a very major achievement for us."

Lightning 1-2 at Bantam AAA Rural Provincials

By Brian Bowman

The Interlake Lightning finished with a 1-2 record at the Bantam AAA Rural Hockey Provincials last

weekend.

Interlake started the provincials off strong with a dominating 8-2 triumph over the Norman Wolves on

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Friday.

The Lightning, which held period leads of 2-0 and 6-2, received a great three-goal and two-assist effort from Cole Emberly.

Brett Tataryn added two goals while Colby Bear and Ashton Fisher each notched a goal and two helpers.

Zachary Halldorson scored Interlake's other goal.

Carter Anderson and Justin Lies replied for Norman.

Jackson Kummen posted the win in

The Lightning had a tougher time on Saturday, losing both of their games.

Interlake started the day with a 4-1 loss to the Eastman Selects. Logan Resch scored the Lightning's lone goal

in the first period.

Cabrel Labossiere led Eastman with three goals while the other tally was scored by Rachonne Henry.

Later that day, Interlake was defeated 7-4 by the Yellowhead Chiefs.

Yellowhead scored four first-period goals and then led 6-2 after two periods.

Karson King paced Interlake with a goal and three assists while Michael Crave chipped in with a goal and two helpers.

Bear added a goal and an assist. Kaden Stewart scored the Lightning's other goal.

Briley Wood (two), Sloan Stanick (two), Benjamin Saunderson, Conor Geekie and Colby Wotton scored for Yellowhead.

Cobras crowned provincial girls' curling champions

By Brian Bowman

For the first time in 28 years, the Ashern Central School Cobras have won a MHSAA provincial curling championship.

Talyia Tober and her rink of third Tansy Tober, second Kira Tritthart and lead Alyssa Tritthart defeated Dauphin 7-2 in the final game Saturday.

"We started off really close and then we got a steal in the fourth end and that kind of swung it around and then we kept stealing, stealing," said Talyia Tober on Sunday evening. "We got that steal and it kind of changed everything. We were really excited when we got the steal — we were amped up then."

Earlier, Dauphin defeated Ashern 5-2 to force the final game.

"It was really close," Taylia Tober recalled. "We were down one in seven and I had a shot for four and, unfortunately, my stone picked and we gave up the steal."

The Cobras finished the provincials with an impressive 6-1 record.

The Ashern rink is real proud to be crowned the high school girls' curling champions for this season.

"Going into the provincials, we knew we had one goal and our goal was to come home with a banner," Talyia Tober said. "It's been 28 years



Ashern's Talyia Tober was selected as the 2018 girls' curling provincial MVP.

since Ashern won and we wanted to come home with a banner that said 'champions.'

"That was the goal and we did it. I couldn't ask for more."

For Talyia and Kira, this is their last season of high school curling. Their



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

The Ashern Central School Cobras won a MHSAA provincial curling championship. Pictured left to right: coach Deb Popovic, lead Alyssa Tritthart, second Kira Tritthart, third Tansy Tober, skip Talyia Tober and coach Terri Otto.

foursome competed at the provincials a season ago, placing third.

Tober's rink is a competitive team that has been competing on the Manitoba Junior Curling Tour.

"We had that experience going in," Talyia Tober said. "Last year (at provincials), we didn't know what to expect and coming out third we thought we had a really good shot (this) year.

"This year we were really high in the rankings and we knew we could do it. We just had to put together a good performance for three days."

Close friends to enjoy Manitoba Winter Games experience

By Brian Bowman

It's always a great experience to compete at a Manitoba Winter Games.

But that experience becomes even more memorable when a good friend is also competing there at the same time.

That's the case for Arborg's Brenna Barvlski and Olivia Orbanski, who will be representing Team East. Barylski is on the women's hockey team while Orbanski is a figure skater.

"I'm hoping to see her there and cheer her on," Barylski said of Orbanski."I want to go watch her if I

Both athletes are looking forward to competing at the Games.

"I'm super excited and I'm just trying to keep everything calm during my practices," said Orbanski. "I'm just making sure that I'm ready for (the Games)."

Orbanski, 15, feels it's pretty cool to have a close friend also competing at the Manitoba Winter Games.

"I'm actually kind of excited that

we're both going together," she said, noting she will be skating in the pre-novice category."If (I could watch her play) that would be super cool but I don't think I will be able to because we'll be at separate rinks and the schedules will be dif-

"But, if I could actually watch a game, that would be super cool."

For Orbanski, this will be her second time competing at the Manitoba Winter Games. She also participated in the Games back in 2014.

"I was only in Grade 6," she recalled."I remember the experience last time being so much fun. The last competition, I finished third and fourth so I'm hoping to stay in around that area for this competition and maybe, hopefully, medal.

"But if I could finish top seven, that would be amazing."

Barylski, meanwhile, is looking forward to playing with teammates from other areas.

"I'm excited to play with girls from other regions just to see what they can do," said Barylski last Saturday afternoon. "Our goalies are really strong and I'm excited to see a higher level of intensity (on the

Team East's hockey roster is made up of players from several different locales. The team had practiced three times as of last Saturday, so they will have to get used to playing together very quickly when action begins next week.

Barylski, a right winger, is considered a quick forward who makes smart plays with the puck. She finished third overall in points with the Interlake Lightning Midget female team this past season.

She will be competing at her first Winter Games. She has, however, competed at the Summer Games in 2016 as a track and field athlete. Barylski also excels in baseball, softball and volleyball.

Other local members of Team East's hockey team include Arborg's Nori Sigvaldason, Teulon's Jacey Ledochowski and Warren's Emma Stewart.



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Olivia Orbanski, left, and Brenna Barylski will both be representing the Interlake next week at the Manitoba Winter Games in Thompson.

Lightning wrap up regular season with pair of losses

By Brian Bowman

The Interlake Lightning wrapped up their Manitoba AAA Midget Hockey League regular season with a pair of

On Sunday afternoon, the Yellowhead Chiefs ended the Lightning's season on a sour note with a 5-1 victory in Teulon.

"From a game's perspective, Yellowhead has a very talented squad," said Lightning head coach Dwayne Swanson. "And we felt that we played right with them. The difference in the game was that they had guys that can score goals and we have guys that have trouble scoring goals.

"We had opportunities to score and we just didn't put it in."

Swanson liked the fact that his guys played hard with really nothing to play for but pride.

Interlake's Marcus Dewey started Interlake off the right way with a goal midway in the first period, assisted by Eric Krywy.

But Yellowhead took a 2-1 lead after 20 minutes as Chad Nychuk and Parker Johnson tallied.

Brian Mentuck potted a power-play goal in the middle of the second period and then Brody Wilson tallied late in the frame to make it 4-1.

Wilson extended that advantage to four goals early in the third.

On Saturday afternoon, Interlake lost 7-2 to the Winnipeg Thrashers at Gateway Arena.

Winnipeg's Chad Smithson scored

the lone goal of the first period on the power play at 11:08.

The Thrashers' Reid Robertson netted a shorthanded goal early in the second and then Smithson made it

Interlake got on the board at 16:37 of the second as Hunter Halcrow netted a shorthanded goal.

Levi Thiessen and Robertson then added goals late in the second period to put the Thrashers up 6-1 after 40 minutes.

"It was the story of our year," Swanson said of the second-period struggles."We had a great first period and then went out in the second period and thought we had our jobs done. We paid the price for not competing hard and in the third period we were right with them step for step again."

In the third, Interlake closed the gap to 6-2 as Jordan Wood struck on the power play, assisted by Emmitt Fare-

The Thrashers' Riley Barrosa answered that goal less than two minutes later, however.

Interlake finished its regular season with a 11-32-0-3-2 record and 27 points to place 12th in the 13-team

The Lightning did not qualify for the playoffs.

Swanson admitted that he was disappointed with the Lightning's record this season.

"I'm a competitive guy and I judge this season, and any other season that

EXPRESS PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

The Lightning's Marcus Dewey scored Interlake's first goal this past Sunday against the Yellowhead Chiefs.

I coach, on wins and losses," he said. "I'm disappointed with regards to the wins and losses. That being said, over the years I have accepted that we're kind of behind the eight-ball a little bit with regards to numbers.

"It's difficult to get the wins that we want to get. We do send kids off to the next level, which is something that I'm trying to hang my hat on."

Despite the poor record, Swanson was proud of the effort his players gave throughout the season.

"Our guys gave everything that they

had," he stressed. "It's just a matter that we lost some goal scoring this year to the MJHL, which hurt us.

"At the end of the day, we are very proud of the efforts they gave forth. We had only 14 guys come out for our training camp and we had some Interlake guys that really improved over the winter.

"I have nothing but great things to say about every kid in that dressing room. They gave us everything that they had."

Novice 'C' champions



EXPRESS PHOTO BY NIKKI HALLDORSON

The Lakeside Falcons won the Interlake Novice 'C' South Division banner. All the extra traveling this winter paid off for these young kids who are very excited to have their banner hung in the new arena next year.

Manitoba Hockey Standings

MANITOBA JUNIOR Hockey League	GP	w	L	01	L	PTS	GF GA	
Steinbach Pistons	58	46	8	2	96	290	128	
Portage Terriers	57	37	15	2	79	245	157	
Virden Oil Capitals	58	38	17	2	79	256	177	
OCN Blizzard	58	31	19	5	70	204	185	
Winkler Flyers	59	35	24	0	70	203	171	
Winnipeg Blues	57	29	22	4	64	208	214	
Selkirk Steelers	57	29	24	3	62	186	201	
Swan Valley Stampeders	56	25	24	6	57	183	195	
Neepawa Natives	58	25	29	3	54	211	241	
Dauphin Kings	57	13	42	1	28	138	271	
Waywayseecappo Wolver	ines	57	8	45	3	20	124 308	

KEYSTONE HOCKEY LEAGUE

Lundar Falcons vs Arborg Ice Dawgs Game 1 - Falcons 4 - Ice Dawgs 1 Game 2 - Ice Dawgs 8 - Falcons 1 Game 3 - Thurs. Mar 1 - Arborg 7:45pm Game 4 - Fri. Mar 2 - Warren 8pm Game 5 - Sun Mar 4 - Arborg 2:30pm Cross Lake Islanders vs Selkirk Fisher

Game 1 - Fishermen 11- Islanders 3 Game 2 - Fishermen 6 - Islanders 1 Game 3 - Sat. Mar 3 - Cross Lake 8pm

Game 4 - Sun, Mar 4 - Cross Lake 4pm Game 5 - Tues, Mar 6 - Selkirk 7:30pn North Winnipeg Satelites vs Peguis Juniors

Game 2 - Tues. Feb 27 - Billy Mosienko 8pm

Game 4 - Sat. Mar 3 - Billy Mosienko 8pm Game 5 - Sun. Mar 4 - Peguis 2:30pm St. Malo Warriors vs OCN Storm Game 1 - Storm 6 - Warriors 5

Game 2 - Warriors 5 - Storm 3

Game 5 - Sun Mar 4 - OCN - TRA AAA MIDGET HOCKEY LEAGUE

Winnipeg Wild (1) vs Central Plains Capitals (8) Brandon Wheat Kings (2) vs Southwest Cougars (7) Winnipeg Bruins (3) vs Yellowhead Chiefs (6) Winnipeg Thrashers (4) vs Eastman Selects (5)

MANITOBA FEMALE MIDGET AAA HOCKEY LEAGUE

Semi finals - Eastman vs Winnipeg Game 1 Feb. 28 @ Seven Oaks 7pm Game 2 Mar 3 @ Ste. Anne 8:15pm Game 3 Mar 4 @ Seven Oaks 1:00pm Game 4 Mar 14 @ Ste. Anne 7:30pm Game 5 Mar 17 @ Ice Plex - TBA Semi finals - Westman vs Pembina Valley Game 1 Feb. 28 @ Morden 7:30pm Game 2 Mar 2 @ hartney 7:30pm Game 3 Mar 4 @ Morden 2:30pm Game 4 Mar 14 @ Hartney 7:30pm

Game 5 Mar 17 @ Morden - 7:30pm

STATS AS OF TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Arborg, Lundar tied at 1-1 in KJHL playoff series

By Brian Bowman

The Arborg Ice Dawgs needed a win on Saturday to tie their Keystone Junior Hockey League playoff series against the Lundar Falcons.

And Arborg picked up that win in a huge way, trouncing Lundar 8-1 in Warren.

Arborg's Jordan Kristjanson and Lundar's Derek Benson traded firstperiod goals but the Ice Dawgs took over the game with four second-period markers.

Cal Finnson scored two of those goals (one was a shorthanded tally) while Clint Torfason and Theoren Sumner added singles.

Kristjanson, Tristan Hudson and Torfason closed out the scoring in the third. Arborg's final two goals of the game were scored while the Ice Dawgs were shorthanded.

Arborg outshot Lundar 46-16. Travis Rigden earned the win in goal.

Lundar took a 1-0 series lead after a 4-1 road win last Friday in Arborg.

The Ice Dawgs' Aaron Kristjanson gave the home side a 1-0 lead with a first-period goal.

But Lundar responded with second-period goals from Braden Paulic

(shorthanded), Benson (power play) and Landon Gray.

Gray's goal came with just 10 seconds remaining in the second period. Gray then closed out the game's scoring midway in the third.

Christopher Lesage made 31 saves for the win.

Game 3 of the series will be played tonight at 7:45 p.m. in Arborg while Game 4 is set for Friday (8 p.m.) in

If needed, Game 5 will return to Arborg on Sunday (2:30 p.m.).

In the other KJHL opening-round series involving a local team, the Peguis Juniors defeated the North Winnipeg Satelites 5-4 on Saturday night.

Peguis took a 3-0 first-period lead on two goals from Keevan Daniels-Webb (the second coming on a penalty shot) and another by Tyrome Spence-Bair.

North Winnipeg's Brett Williams responded with a goal late in the first period and then the Satelites' Nico Lisi netted a penalty-shot goal midway in the second.

Darian Murdock and Dalen Schulz scored late in the second period to give the Juniors a 5-2 lead but the Satelites made things interesting as Braden



EXPRESS PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

The Ice Dawgs' Clint Torfason (24) scored twice against the Falcons in Arborg's 8-1 victory last Saturday in Warren.

Zamrykut and Conner Grunsten tallied power-play goals late in the third. Luke Penner made 25 saves for the

Game 2 of their series was played Tuesday in Winnipeg while Game 3

returns to Peguis on Friday at 8:30 p.m. If necessary, Game 4 will be played at Billy Mosienko Arena on Saturday (8 p.m.) while Game 5 would return to Peguis Sunday (2:30 p.m.).

Heading to the Games



EXPRESS PHOTO BY MARLENE BODNARUS

The Teulon Ski Club has a number of athletes who are competing at the Manitoba Winter Games in Thompson beginning on Sunday, March 4. Representing the Interlake Eastman team in cross country skiing are Bryce Bodnarus of Arborg, Shannon Bodnarus of Arborg, Liam Tinker of Teulon, Mary Tinker of Teulon, Nicholas Palmer of Stonewall, Tyler Persoage of Stonewall, Cole Turner of Stonewall, Hayden Turner of Stonewall and Marilee Moss of Stonewall (coach). Pictured left to right: Bryce Bodnarus, Tyler Persoage, Marilee Moss (coach), Hayden Turner, Cole Turner, James Moss (wax support), Liam Tinker and Shannon Bodnarus. Missing from the photo is Mary Tinker, Nicholas Palmer and Ryan Persoage (team manager).

Zone 5 champions



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Gimli Lakers won the Zone 5 varsity boys' basketball banner last week after defeating the Warren Collegiate Wildcats 88-50. Cimli, which led by 18 points at the half, earlier defeated Peguis 83-34 in a semifinal game.

The Lakers will now be competing at the regionals this Saturday with a chance to advance to the provincials that will be held March 16-18 in Gretna.



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ANNOUNCEMENT

BIRTHDAY



Wishing this girl (Bonnie) a Happy 65th Birthday! Join us for coffee on Saturday, March 3 at the Riverton Lutheran Church from 1-3 p.m.

-Love. your family

Tom McCabe June 8, 1943 - February 20, 2018

OBITUARY

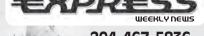
Tom passed away peacefully in Prince George, BC, with his partner Lil by his side. He is survived by Lil and her extended family; siblings Peter (Suzanne); Susie (Richie); Sally (Dana), and their families.

Tom worked a number of years for Manitoba Hydro, then learned the trade of pipe fitter in the mine at Lynn Lake. He continued in that trade when he moved to Prince George. He loved sports, music and living on the edge.

We will miss him for his quick wit, great sense of humour, and encyclopedic knowledge of just about anything.

Rest in peace.

Don't forget to send your special wishes to your friends and family.





Thank God it's Friday Morning! (TGIFM)

coffee/tea and a muffin at Arborg Christian Fellowship. We are opening our doors on Friday mornings to anyone in the community who wants to drop in. There are no strings attached. Doors will be open from 10:00 a.m. until noon.

For more information please contact Linda Gerritsen at 204-376-2484.

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We thank all applicants in advance for their interest in the position. Only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

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- -Operating forklift and/or skidsteer equipment in the above duties;
- -Backup delivery and pick-up driver;
- -Backup Hardware Salesperson in the retail store, during non-peak periods; -Training towards the L.B.M. Manager position.

Requirements:

- -Minimum 5 years experience at a Lumber and Building Material sales outlet in a sales role; or, minimum 10 years experience as a construction contractor with a strong preference for Journeyman/ Red Seal certification; or, a minimum 3 years experience in a retail management role and must complete our comprehensive training program within the first 2 years of employment.
- Valid Class 5 Drivers License.
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Deadline for application: March 10, 2018.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION SALE OF LANDS FOR ARREARS OF TAXES MUNICIPALITY OF WEST INTERLAKE

nt 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 22nd day of March, 2018, at the hour of 10:00 AM, at Municipality of West Interlake, 10 Main Street, Eriksdale, 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
58200	THE S 1/2 AND THE NW 1/4 OF LEGAL SUBDIVISION 2 OF SECTION 1-24-10 WPM EXC ALL MINES AND MINERALS AND SPECIAL RESERVATIONS AS RESERVED IN THE GRANT FROM THE CROWN	L -\$1,900	\$1,397.63
329410	ALL THAT PORTION OF SLY 417 FEET PERP OF SW 1/4 27-21-5 WPM WHICH LIES BETWEEN 2 LINES DRAWN NLY AT RIGHT ANGLES TO THE SOUTHERN LIMIT OF SAID 1/4 SECTION FROM POINTS IN THE SAME DISTANT ELY THEREON 2107.5 FEET AND 2316 FEET FROM THE WESTERN LIMIT OF SAID 1/4 SECTION SUBJECT TO THE RESERVATIONS AND PROVISOES CONTAINED IN THE GRANT FROM THE CROWN	L -\$3,600 B -\$59,300	\$2,398.60
442500	LOTS 4 AND 5 BLOCK 3 PLAN 408 WLTO (P DIV) EXC OUT OF SAID LOT 5 ALL MINES AND MIRERALS AND SPECIAL RESERVATIONS AS RESERVED IN THE GRANT FROM THE CROWN IN SW 1/4 SECTION 422-5 WPM - 5 MAIN ST	L -\$5,800 B -\$14,500	\$4,922.56
445500	LOTS 4, 5 AND 6 BLOCK 5 PLAN 492 WLTO (P DIV) SUBJECT TO THE RESERVATIONS AND PROVISOES CONTAINED IN THE ORIGINAL GRANT FROM THE CROWN. IN SW 1/4 OF 4-22-5 WPM 16 MAIN ST	L -\$4,400 B -\$43,900	\$3,199.49

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
- If the purchaser intends to bid by proxy, a letter of authorization form must be presented prior to
- The Municipality makes no representations or warranties whatsoever concerning the properties
- 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 Municipality of West Interlake as follows:

 1) 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 prich within 20 does of the sole. be paid within 20 days of the sale.

- 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.

The purchaser will be responsible for registering the transfer of title in the land titles office, including the registration costs.

Managed by:

OMervice

Dated this 7th day of February, 2018.

Larissa Love Chief Administrative Officer Municipality of West Interlake Phone: (204) 768-2641

Classifieds



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The Manitoba Youth Job Centre (MYJC) program is accepting resumes for the summer position as Youth Engagement Leader for the Town of **Arborg** and surrounding area. This position provides 15 weeks of full-time employment (early May to mid-August) at \$12.77/hour

Working for the MYJC, you will:

- Establish a local youth employment office in your community;
- Promote the MYJC program and services through community visits, advertising and
- Operate an employment referral program for students and youth and local employers;
- Deliver hands-on, dynamic information sessions on job search, career development and employability skills through classroom presentations and in-person sessions;
- Provide information and access to other government and community programs;
- Organize and operate youth first-work experience programs in the community.

All applicants must:

- be available to start employment the second week of May in order to attend a paid, three-day training session in Winnipeg (accommodations, meals, and mileage/travel expenses are provided);
- be a student currently attending a post-secondary institution and planning to return to studies in the fall of 2018;
- be a resident of Manitoba:
- have a valid driver's licence and access to a vehicle;
- be registered with STEP Services.

Please note, offers of employment will be contingent upon submission of satisfactory Criminal Record and Child Abuse Registry Checks

> Please submit your cover letter and resume to: Youth Engagement Leader Position Town of Arborg PO Box 159, Arborg MB ROC 0A0 FAX (204) 376-5379 EMAIL townofarborg@mymts.net

Application Deadline: March 9, 2018

The Government of Manitoba is committed to Employment Equity in order to create a civil service that is representative at all levels of four designated groups: women, persons with disabilities, Aboriginal persons and visible minorities. Applicants are encouraged to indicate if they are from one or more of these groups so that government can gather data to monitor the effectiveness of its Employment Equity Program.



Evergreen School Division

PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING

2018 / 2019 BUDGET March 7, 2018 7:00 p.m.

Evergreen School Division Board Office 140 Centre Avenue West, Gimli

The Board of Trustees of Evergreen School Division invites all parents, taxpayers and interested community members to an information and consultation meeting regarding the 2018-2019 Operating Budget.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, the budget presentation and feedback mechanism will be available on the ESD website at (www.esd.ca) after March 5.

Classified booking deadline is Monday at 4 p.m. prior to Thursday's publication.

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