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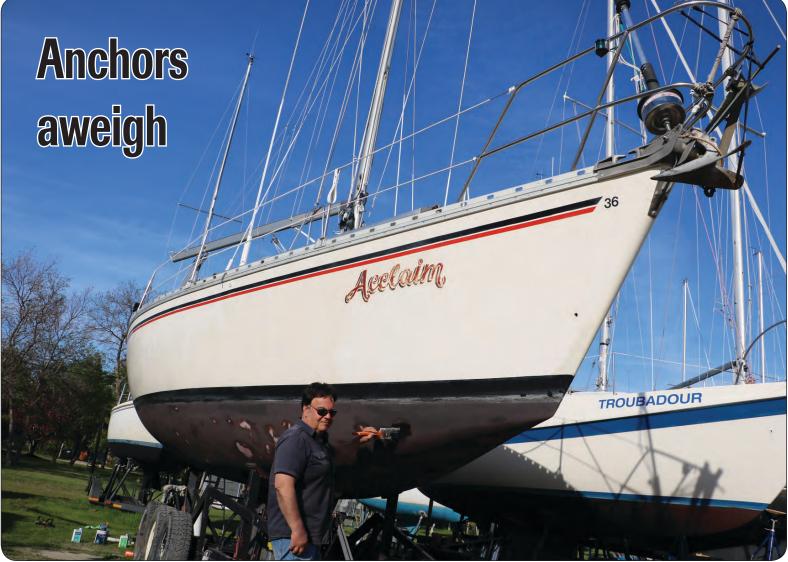
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**EXPRESS PHOTO BY BRETT MITCHELL** 

Retired engineer Kam Ansari from Winnipeg is seen here applying antifouling to the bottom of his sailboat in Silver Harbour. Ansari is getting ready to set sail next month and plans to spend a few months on Lake Winnipeg sailing north past Swampy Manitoba.

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# The Acclaim is ready to set sail

#### By Nicole Brownlee

A Manitoban hopes to set sail in July to continue an over-a-decade-long tradition.

Kam Ansari, 61, first boarded a sailboat at Matlock beach almost 40 years ago. He had only been on the four-person boat for an hour, and knew instantly that he wanted to get back out.

"From then on, I sort of learned at different opportunities in different places," said Ansari.

After practicing for years, Ansari bought his first boat 23 years ago in Vancouver. He has been sailing on his current boat ,The Acclaim, a 36 ft 1984 Jeanneau, for over 15 years.

For the past 13 years, Ansari has sailed from Silver Harbour up to George Island on Lake Winnipeg, a previous rest stop for the MS Lord Selkirk II, Lake Winnipeg's last cruise ship.

"It's untouched wilderness," said Ansari, explaining why he favours sailing north.

"There are all kinds of wildlife you'll see unexpectedly," said Ansari. "A bear jumped in the water right beside my boat and started swimming to the other side."

Navigating the turbulent weather and water without a motor also attracted Ansari to the sport.

"The lake always throws all kinds of storms and lightning, and God knows what else," said Ansari.

Harnessing the wind to cross the tricky tides is like a science, said Ansari.

"The challenges make it more fun than just the regular cottage."

Usually accompanied by three or four friends on his mid-July excursion, Ansari is waiting for COV-ID-19 restrictions to allow the trip, since the cohort sleeps, cooks and eats in close quarters on the boat with double bunk cabins, a small galley and seating area for six.

"It's much nicer to go with a group," said Ansari, but he warns with a laugh that sailing isn't for everyone.

"Some people come on the boat to have a leisurely afternoon, but as soon as things get exciting, they want to get off and never come back," said Ansari.

Waves can reach higher than three metres in the north basin at times, said Ansari.

"It's like a roller coaster ride that doesn't end until you get somewhere."

Several boats travel together across the lake and stop at harbours and government wharves when they set sail for three to four weeks, going with the flow.

"It's also a support group," said Ansari. "If you have any issues, we help each other out."

Despite sailing in separate boats, the sailors are very social, communicating over VHF radios and meeting on shore to explore the land and local businesses.

Ansari's experience navigating Canadian lakes also helped him dip his toe into larger waters. Around 2015, he travelled to the Caribbean to explore sailing in larger boats in a new environment.

"There's more boats, more people and more tourists, but a similar idea as cruising," said Ansari. "You just go from one place to the next... a hideaway beach to a lively harbour."

Ansari said he semi-retired from engineering four years ago and hopes to try sailing in the Mediterranean next.

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#### **EXPRESS PHOTO BY BRETT MITCHELL**

Kam Ansari, 61, has sailed up to George Island on Lake Winnipeg every summer for over a decade. Ansari enjoys the challenge and excitement of sailing compared to using a motorized boat.

"Once you learn [to sail], then [there are] all kinds of possibilities."

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# Public health orders ease gathering restrictions slightly

#### By Ashleigh Viveiros

Public health officials eased restrictions slightly with the latest public health orders.

Starting last Saturday, Manitobans are now able to gather in small groups outdoors.

In public outdoor spaces, up to five people are permitted to gather. In private outdoor spaces, up to five visitors from no more than two other house-

Continued on page 3



# Gibbs, the fun-filled principal retiring after 16 years

By Jules Stevenson

"I hope when kids left here, they could think, 'Hey, we did lots of fun things and people were happy," said Jim Gibbs, who is retiring after being principal of Dr. George Johnson Middle School for 16 years.

Throughout Gibbs career as an educator, he has taught every grade from two to twelve and being a resource teacher, technology coordinator, vice-principal, and principal.

"Education is a journey, so where you start out and who you are and what you think is important, changes over time," says Gibbs.

After many years as a teacher and vice-principal, Gibbs decided he needed to become a principal to help students and teachers in the way he

Gibbs says he recognized early on that people need to work together, and once he got teachers working together, student success started to rise even more.

He said the school wasn't always fun for him, so he wanted to make sure he created an atmosphere of happiness, education, and fun at Dr. George Johnson Middle School.

At the beginning of each school year, Gibbs ad-

dresses the students and staff by telling them he's there to help them and keep them safe.

"All that anyone ever expected from you here is to do your best, and I know that wasn't going to be every day, but more days than not. If you do that, things are going to work out," says Gibbs.

Retiring, Gibbs believes he's leaving Dr. George Johnson Middle School a better place.

"Kids spending time here is a really important part of their life. Even if we do a small part to make a kid's lives better, we make the world better," said Gibbs.

Gibbs was born and raised in Nova Scotia in 1964 and moved to Manitoba in 1990. Initially, he wanted to be a journalist or a lawyer.

"At some point, I thought, I really want to work with people and work with kids and help them understand things," says Gibbs.

Gibbs has been married for 31 years and has two daughters, Caleigh, 27, and Sinead, 21. Gibbs hopes to spend his retirement with his dogs, learning French, guitar, and coding, and creating

He will be spending as much time as he cann with his daughter and granddaughter in the next few months.



**EXPRESS FILE PHOTO** 

Dr. George Johnson Middle School principal Jim Gibbs will be retiring after this school year.

#### > EASE GATHERING RESTRICTIONS, FROM PG. 2

holds are allowed, in addition to the people who reside at the hosting household.

All other restrictions, including those banning indoor private gatherings and restricting capacity limits in retail businesses, remain in place.

"As our case numbers and test positivity rates start to drop, our vaccine rates continue to rise, however we still have significant demands on our health care system," said Dr. Brent Roussin, chief provincial public health officer, in announcing the new orders. "So we're not in a position to open everything at once, certainly, but we are in a position to slowly ease, very minimally, some of our restrictions."

Roussin urges Manitobans to remain cautious in their interactions with others outside their household, even outdoors.

"While the risk of transmitting the virus is certainly diminished in an outdoor setting, it's not zero," he said, stressing that the fundamentals are still important: stay home when you're ill, maintain physical distancing, wear a mask, reduce contacts outside your household.

Roussin also encouraged people to continue booking not only their first but second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. A second dose is required for full vaccination.

"It continues to be up to us to make a

difference, to bring down these numbers, to bring down the strain on the acute care system," Roussin said.

The new orders will be in effect until Saturday, June 26.





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# Teepee raises awareness about Indigenous culture

By Nicole Brownlee

Lundar School explored Indigenous culture through engaging activities to learn more about Canadian history leading up to National Indigenous History Month.

"We're always looking for new things," said Heather Lambert, a Grade two teacher at Lundar School. "We figured for the early years it would be nice to have a hands-on experience with a teepee."

On May 31, Joe Lanceley, also known as Tipi Joe, visited the school to share lessons like the seven teachings, the significance of teepees and soap carving with the kindergarten to Grade four classes.

Lanceley has been an Indigenous educator in schools for almost 25 years.

"The reason that I do what I do is because I'm trying to offer something to the students and the staff, something that wasn't offered to me when I was a student going to school," said Lanceley.

"We try to teach some of the history and things from an Indigenous person's perspective, you know, some things that are not easy to find in textbooks."

The goal is also to instill pride and a sense of ownership with the Indigenous students, which can be empowering, said Lanceley.

The demonstration came mere days after the remains of 215 children were found at the residential school in Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc, also known as the Kamloops Indian Residential School near Kamloops, B.C.

"It was a very special day to be with the students there at the school, you know, to see them learning about residential schools in a different way," said Lanceley. "We have a chance to change the cycle and to start something in a different direction."

Lanceley raised the teepee with the help of staff and students. He later ex-



Joe Lanceley taught the kindergarten to Grade four students at Lundar School about the significance and history of the teepee on May 31.

plained the history of the teepee, the importance of the direction of the teepee and highlighted features like the opening for smoke to escape.

The kindergarten to Grade two classes were given a tour of the teepee and learned about the seven teachings, the medicine wheel and other teachings. Grades two to four also got to learn about the history of Inuit culture and tried soap carving.

"The [kids] get so much more out of the [lessons] by seeing it in real life than me talking about it in a class," said Lambert

"Indigenous education has always been a passion to me to learn more about it," said Lambert. "It's not only just for Indigenous people, [but] it's [also] good for all people to learn about it, you know. Especially with reconciliation."

Days after the demonstration, all staff and students from the daycare, early years school and high school in Lundar also contributed to creating a heart garden in memory of the 215 children.



The students learned about the seven teachings, the medicine wheel and other Indigenous lessons from "Tipi Joe."



**EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED** 

The Lundar School community arranged paper hearts on the school's fence to honour the 215 children from the Kamloops Residential School.

Led by Baillie Sinclair and Suzy Brown, two educational assistants at Lundar School, staff and students designed and cut out paper hearts, arranged as "215" on the school's fence.

# Gimli High School plans for self-distancing graduation ceremony

By Jules Stevenson

Gimli High School students will be receiving their diplomas over three days this year due to COVID restrictions still in place. GHS will have five graduation ceremonies, each with about a dozen students on June 23, 24, and 25 for the 65 students graduating.

The school is following the COV-ID-19 protocols on group gatherings and families will be required drive in with their graduates.

"Although we have to do it differently, we want it to still have a positive

impact on the kids," said GHS principal Leona Groot.

Groot said it is similar to what they did last year, except this time parents have to remain in their vehicles during the entirety of the outdoor graduation. Only one vehicle is allowed per student.

The students will stand outside, six feet apart as per COVID-19 protocol, in their cap and gowns. A photographer and videographer will be there to capture the graduation, and the entire event will be livestreamed.

"It's been challenging but we definitely have to do something for our kids, because my goodness, they've had the whole year in COVID," said Groot.

The staff are working to create speeches about each of the students. Groot said last year, the speeches and the small graduation size made the ceremony very personal.

"Grad is important because it's a culmination of 13 years of school together, with friends they've created such strong bonds with," says Groot.

She said the community continues to support the students with scholarships and other post-secondary finances.

They're hoping for the best with the weather. They have a plan set in place in case of rain, like tents and rain coverage for the equipment, staff, and students. Students can also attend the ceremony from their vehicles.

Anyone will be able to watch the graduation ceremony by searching Gimli High School Grad 2021 on You-Tube.

# Gimli creates reconciliation committee after grassroots petition to rename roads

**By Patricia Barrett** 

Gimli council has agreed to create a reconciliation committee that will look into changing the names of colonization roads within municipal boundaries and other Indigenousrelated issues after a local grassroots campaign pressed for name changes.

The move to rename colonization roads was a collective initiative from the owner and staff of the Ship & Plough Tavern in Gimli, said Scott Carman a few weeks ago by phone. They had sent a letter to the RM, sent out messages on social media and hosted an online petition, which at that time had received about 900 signatures.

"Renaming colonization roads is something we had talked about as a team before we even initiated the petition. We have a few staff members who identify as Indigenous," said Carman, who owns the popular Centre Street pub. "In light of the mass graves found in British Columbia, I was thinking about what we could do locally even if it's a small step towards change and reconciliation."

Last month the remains of 215 children were found buried on the grounds of the Kamloops Indian Residential School in British Columbia, a reminder of the Canadian government's systematic attempt to assimilate Indigenous people and prevent them from speaking their own language and practising their culture.

Gimli has at least four roads with the name colonization. Three are in the town of Gimli - North and South Colonization Road and a Colonization Close near Loni Beach. Another road runs between Arnes and Silver Harbour.

Carman said he had spoken to a couple of people who live on one of the roads; they said they were "embarrassed to live on a street with that name."

One of the roads, he was told, had at some point in time been changed from Gimli Road to Colonization Road and he doesn't know how anyone would have thought that a "good idea."

"Colonization roads exist across the country. It was quite commonplace for settlers to name their roads that way," said Carman. "Other cities and towns across Canada have already renamed their colonization roads. I feel now is the time for us to do so too."

Gimli councillor Cody Magnusson agrees with that sentiment and presented a resolution for the committee at council's regular meeting June 9.

He had broached the issue about changing the roads' names with council about two years ago, he said, and had also at that time talked to Dr.

Cary Miller, head of the Department of Native Studies at the University of Manitoba, for guidance and local historical context.

"It's not just that changing the name is important, it's necessary. Colonization is such an incredibly negative and damaging word," said Magnusson by email, a day after council's meeting. "The reprehensible acts that were committed against Indigenous peoples by early settlers/colonizers, the land theft and displacement of those peoples, the forced loss of language and culture, and the horrific abuse and death that occurred in the residential school system, all done in the name of European Colonization."

Roads, schools, building and monuments across Canada have been named to reflect conquest, but Indigenous peoples have been suffering from that fallout to this day, said Magnusson.

"The Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report tells us that 'In order for that (reconciliation) to happen, there has to be an awareness of the past, an acknowledgment of the harm that has been inflicted, atonement for the causes, and action to change behaviour.' Our nation can't hope to begin to heal without making changes like this," he said.

Council has received support from current and former residents for renaming the roads, he said. And the Ship & Plough petition had "just shy of 1,110 signatures" when he last checked on June 9.

There's also been some pushback from"a very small minority compared to the overwhelming support we've seen," mostly on social media but two direct communiques.

The resolution to create a municipal reconciliation committee, which will work not only on road name changes but other acts of reconciliation, was passed unanimously by council, said Magnusson.

The Colonization Road between Arnes and Silver Harbour falls within his council liaison area, and it contin-



ues into the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton. Magnusson said he'll be "engaging with them to hopefully involve them and their community in this process as well."

Gimli resident Cameron Adams said people likely get accustomed to seeing names such as Colonization Road and may not think it's offensive. But digging deeper into the past can reshape perspectives.

"When you learn the history of a particular area and the history of Canada, I think such names can make people feel disgusted by what this country has done to its Indigenous peoples and what it still does because it's not just past tense; the process of colonization is still happening," said Adams, whose family members are from Norway House First Nation and Berens River First Nation. "When you have hundreds of roads across the country reflecting that process, it becomes more vivid."

Adams will be going into his fourth year of education, with a major in history and a minor in indigenous studies, at the University of Winnipeg and also plans to earn an Indigenous language degree. He's currently in the process of developing a Swampy Cree language app, he said. He grew up in Gimli where Indigenous history was practically unknown. Most people assume it's an Icelandic and Ukrainian

While grassroots advocacy for change is commendable, Adams said he's also in favour of an appointed committee that can consider a number of aspects of reconciliation.

"We can have a committee that has some teeth in it, which can say, 'Okay, we think this should be done and this is important and this name is good,"" he said."We usually have a lack of Indigenous representation on planning and other matters."

He's heard a number of ideas to rename the RM's colonization roads, including some Indigenous-related names, he said. One of names that has come up is John Ramsay, who was a member of the Sandy Bar reserve near Riverton. Ramsay helped the first Icelandic settlers to the area stay alive during the winter.

"I hope we can collectively decide on a name. It doesn't necessarily have to be an Indigenous name. Maybe it could be a tree or an animal or something pertaining to the landscape," said Adams. "Ramsay is a good suggestion, but if the committee doesn't want a person's name, it could be a traditional name of this area or a specific economy this area was known for. Fishing would reflect our Indigenous and non-Indigenous collective history. Pickerel is our common fish. It's okaw in Cree."



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# Op-ed: Why we're taking the Trudeau government to task

By Jamie Irving, VP of Brunswick News Inc. and Chair of News Media Canada

The hundreds of publications that belong to News Media Canada are in the business of reporting the news not making it.

But this week, we're breaking that rule by bringing together our disparate, cross-Canada member publications to speak in one united voice - in both official languages - in an unprecedented open letter to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, which has been given prominent place (in print and online) in our member publications.

We wish it didn't have to come to this. It wouldn't have if the Prime Minister and his government had kept their word. But when the future of local news is at stake in Canada, we won't hesitate to put aside our usual differences and take a strong public stance to hold the government to ac-

For months now, the Prime Minister and his Minister of Canadian Heritage, Steven Guilbeault, have promised legislation to rein in the monopoly abuses of Google and Facebook and their attack on local news in Canada.

It's part of a relentless onslaught by the two web giants around the world. They exploit their position as de facto gatekeepers of the Internet to hoover up the lion's share of online advertising and distribute the work of hardworking, professional journalists without compensation. News media are choked off from the financial resources they need to report the news. And the news media eco-system is shattered.

All the while, Google and Facebook use these syphoned-off revenues to increase their own wealth and consolidate their power. It's a vicious cycle that results in shuttered newsrooms and the silencing of credible local news.

Canada is one of the countries where the web giants' stranglehold is the tightest – they divert 80% of online advertising revenues in Canada into their own coffers.

Last fall, we issued a comprehensive report on the crisis, titled Levelling the Digital Playing Field. We called on the government to follow Australia's example, which is standing up to Google and Facebook, requiring them to negotiate collectively with that country's media over fair compensation. And they're backed up with tough, effective enforcement. In effect just a few months, it's already having a significant positive impact in Australia, reversing the two behemoths' control and financing precious local journalism jobs across the country, in media large and small.

Importantly, none of this requires new government funds, or fees, or taxes for the general public. Nor does it require government to step in and regulate news content - something we, like most Canadians, vehemently oppose.

In talks with the government, over the subsequent months, we were promised similar action in Canada. The government made the same commitments publicly, with Mr. Guilbeault promising - several times – legislation this spring. We've also been talking to all the opposition parties in Ottawa – and they have all expressed support for reining in the web monopoly.

Well, spring has come and (almost) gone, with no legislation. Not even the hint of it.

The government's clear commit-

ments of recent weeks have given way to silence. A deeply disturbing silence.

We're not the only ones who have noticed it. Facebook recently pressed their advantage. Late last month, they signed short-term commercial arrangements with a few Canadian media outlets. Until all news media in this country can negotiate collectively with Google and Facebook, the two multinationals will continue to use their power and market dominance to drive terms that are in their interests. Far from contributing to the resolution of the problem, this approach only deepens it.

And as long as there is a vacuum of government action, Google and Facebook won't let up.

Parliament will be rising for its long summer break in a matter of days. Less than two years into its mandate, the air is filled with talk of a snap fall election. Meanwhile, the day-to-day struggle against the monopoly abuses of the two U.S.-based multinationals will go on in newsrooms across Canada. How long it can go on without the government doing its job is an open question.

The COVID pandemic has proven once again how vital local news media is in keeping the public informed and in holding governments at all levels accountable. It's literally made the difference between life and death.

Now we must face another life and death struggle – for the survival of local news. We're fighting it with everything we've got. But in order to push back foes this big and powerful, we need the government in our - and Canadians' – corner.

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# letter to the editor

#### Letters to the Editor: letters@expressweeklynews.ca

#### Let's work together to create the commercial fishing equivalent of the FWEF

As the newly elected President of the Manitoba Wildlife Federation (MWF), I would like to respond to the accusations directed at the MWF by the Pioneer Commercial Fishers of Manitoba (PCFM) and Liberal leader Dougald Lamont in the May 27, 2021, issue of the Express Weekly News. I found Mr. Lamont's comments puzzling and distressing since one of the rules to effectively manage a shared resource is to have a complete understanding of the issue and a willingness to listen to all involved. Mr. Lamont chose to ignore that rule and to aggressively take sides against the 150,000 Manitobans who purchase angling licences not to mention the additional 40,000 non-residents who enjoy Manitoba's angling and pour millions into our economy.

The MWF is Manitoba's largest hunting, angling and sport shooting organization and our 15,000 members reside in all parts of Manitoba. The MWF has a long and storied history of advocating for sustainable use of Manitoba's fish and wildlife resources. Mr. Lamont and the PCFM take issue with the fact that the MWF advocates to government on behalf of our members and for our natural resources. We make no apology for that. Fish and wildlife in Manitoba are governed under what is referred to as"the North American Model" whereby fish and wildlife are publicly owned resources and are managed by government agencies. Therefore, the MWF continues to have on-going conversations with all governments regardless of political party to build relationships and to further fish and wildlife conservation. Although COVID has limited our ability to meet in person, we welcome the opportunity to sit down with Mr. Lamont to discuss this further when restrictions allow.

The article states that the value of

Manitoba's commercial fishery is estimated to be \$90 million. We certainly respect and support those who choose to make a living by commercial fishing; these are highly skilled individuals who work hard. We would also point out that those involved in the "business" of recreational fishing work just as hard as commercial fishermen, be they lodge owners, motels and hotels operators, guides, boat dealers, fishing equipment suppliers, truck dealers, and many more. These businesses largely or partly exist to provide services to the almost 190,000 anglers (residents and non-residents) who purchase licences in Manitoba. In 2019 Travel Manitoba conducted a major study on the value of hunting and angling in Manitoba and here is a quick summary of the results. Manitoba's 190,000 anglers spent \$268 million on their angling But, this does not include the untold thousands of dollars of capital spending on boats, snowmobiles, quads, and vehicles! Furthermore, angling supported just under 3,000 full time jobs and sent \$56 million directly into provincial coffers via provincial sales tax. The impact on Manitoba's GDP was an additional \$215 million for a grand total contribution via direct spending to the Manitoba economy of \$601 million. And angling license sales are increasing every year. Ice fishing especially is booming, centred largely on Lake Winnipeg.

In terms of conservation, angling has proven to be one of the most sustainable outdoor activities there is. On Lake Winnipeg, for example, thousands of walleyes are released by anglers every year and according to creel census studies, anglers take less than 5 per cent of the walleye harvested on Lake Winnipeg. A 2018 Probe Research study of the value of the Lake Winnipeg recreational fishery was estimated to be \$221 million with many of the fish caught being

Commercial fishermen have every incentive to harvest as much as they can as fast as they can; again, no blame intended as their livelihoods depend on it. A study by the University of Winnipeg showed that after the 2011 collapse of walleye stocks that commercial fishermen switched to small mesh nets. The result was a

great increase in the harvest of prespawn walleye which went from 10 per cent of the catch in 2012 to 50 per cent of the catch in 2018. A central rule of sound fisheries management is that you protect fish until they have a chance to spawn. Implementing a minimum mesh net size has allowed smaller fish to be unharvested and left to spawn, as well assisting female walleye in reaching maturity. Once a walleye reaches maturity, energy is put more towards spawning and less towards growing. Larger mesh sizes also benefit other fish such as Goldeye and Sauger that are harvested both commercially and recreationally. I would note that on many recreational fisheries, large walleye, the valuable spawners, must be released, and that the MWF alongside our many partners advocated for the recently announced proposal by the Government to ban killing any large mature females.

All that said, Mr. Lamont's comments about MWF's supposed"focus on trophy angling and not the preservation of fish stocks" betray a fundamental lack of knowledge about sound fisheries management. It is a principle of fisheries science that the presence of large fish is a very strong indicator of a healthy fish stock. These large fish are the best breeders and stocks with large fish have many other younger fish of different ages "coming up" to ensure stable and thriving fish stocks. I might add, as well, that very few anglers these days kill large fish and only take home a few "eaters" to enjoy.

A central rule of the management of a public resource, is that governments undertake management towards the "highest and best use" for society. Or to use a colloquialism; getting the "best bang for the buck." MWF sees a parallel relationship between the fisheries economy and the science that supports its sustainability. We must trust the science, support regulation changes (both recreational and commercial), advocate for funding and resources to be put towards the Fisheries Branch to do their jobs and adhere to one management plan that will support a sustainable fishery for all. The loss of our valued fishery would be a blow to all Manitobans. It is clear for Lake Winnipeg that the allocation of fish

stocks has been evolving given the tremendous increase in the quality of angling. Does this mean that commercial fishing should be eliminated or that we should close the access to recreational fishers? Absolutely not. It means we should trust the experts and a sound management plan that will benefit all fish harvesters.

So, with all these facts at hand, the MWF makes no apologies for communicating aggressively on behalf of the sustainable use of fish and wildlife resources. And funnily enough, hunters and anglers are always asking to be taxed more and have the proceeds directed to better fish and wildlife management. The Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Fund (FWEF) was created by hunter, angler, and trapper dollars to invest in fish and wildlife conservation. In fact, let me pose a challenge to the PCFM and Mr. Lamont. Let's work together to create the commercial fishing equivalent of the FWEF. This fund could be supported by a royalty on commercially caught fish and the funds directed by the industry to ensure the sustainability of commercial fish stocks. I await your views on this, Mr. Lamont.

Regarding Mr. Lamont's comment on the Wildlife Management Area (WMA) project, it must be noted that the M in WMA stands for "management." While these designated lands provide the benefits of public use and wildlife habitat protection, over time, without land management, the landscape begins to change and what was once a productive mosaic of species slowly transforms into a monoculture of brush. Without the natural management processes that once maintained these grassland habitats persisting on the landscape (i.e., grazing bison and wildfire activity), aspen stands and woody vegetation slowly encroach on areas of native prairie, reducing grassland habitats, resulting in a loss of biodiversity.

So, Mr. Lamont's comment regarding Crown land that, according to him, is being taken away from ranchers and I quote, "they are giving it to the MWF so it can turn (WMAs) into pastures." Controlled grazing is accepted wildlife management tool and if this management tool is suited

Continued on page 8

<sup>&</sup>gt; Got something you want to get off your chest? How about an act of kindness to share?

Send your letters to the editor or acts of kindness to news@expressweeklynews.ca. Please include your name, address, and phone number for confirmation purposes.

# Province maps out Manitoba's reopening plans

By Lorne Stelmach

The Manitoba government last week announced its plan for reopening the province, but Premier Brian Pallister stressed fewer restrictions for Manitobans beginning by Canada Day is very much connected to vaccination and following the rules.

Pallister said their aim with the 4-3-2-One Great Summer Reopening Path is to reward Manitobans with greater freedoms as more people continue to get vaccinated.

"It sets out a clear path for more openings and fewer restrictions as more and more Manitobans roll up their sleeves and get fully vaccinated," he said. "The key to reopening safely and staying open is you getting vaccinated, not once but twice, to get your

"For the past few months, we have been in a race between variants and vaccines, and the variants have been winning. But thanks to the efforts of Manitobans to roll up their sleeves, the vaccines are starting to make a difference."

Chief provincial public health officer Dr. Brent Roussin echoed that message.

"As vaccinations increase, we can start moving towards a post pandemic

Manitoba ... a post pandemic Manitoba is not post COVID Manitoba. COVID is likely to be with us for the years to come," he warned.

"Public health supports this phased in approach to reopening. It strikes a good balance between where we are now and where we want to and need to be. This plan also gives some flexibility so we can monitor the situation and make the best decisions based on the data at that time."

The reopening plan focused on four reopening categories: gathering and socializing, travel and tourism, shopping and services, and dining out and entertainment. As well, it sets out three summer holiday milestones for phasing out restrictions: Canada Day, August long weekend and Labour

Key to reopening safely is Manitoba's collective progress in getting vaccinated and reducing COVID-19 spread in communities and hospitals, Roussin stressed,

"Reopening activity levels will be tied to the first and second immunization dose targets," he continued. "The plan is built on two key principles: higher vaccination rates and the need for Manitobans to keep following the public health orders ... these will be

Each holiday milestone for reopening will have a one-dose and two-dose immunization goal to guide progress in keeping Manitobans safe, the province says. The goals include:

- Over 70 per cent of all Manitobans aged 12 and over to have received their first dose and over 25 per cent to have received their second dose by Canada Day.
- 75 per cent or greater of all Manitobans aged 12 and over to have received their first dose and over 50 per cent to have received their second dose by the August long weekend.
- 80 per cent or greater of all Manitobans aged 12 and over to have received their first dose and over 75 per cent to have received their second dose by Labour Day.

Reopening activity levels will be tied to the first and second dose immunization targets, including:

- Meeting vaccine targets by Canada Day means businesses, services, and facilities can open at 25 per cent capacity or greater levels.
- Meeting vaccine targets by the August long weekend means businesses, services, and facilities can open at 50 per cent capacity or greater levels.
- Meeting vaccine targets by Labour

Day means businesses, services, and facilities can open with limited restrictions.

Manitoba NDP Opposition Leader Wab Kinew criticized the plan and announcement for being too short on

"Many Manitobans right now are asking questions like is my kid going to be able to go back to school this year? Are they going to be able to play sports? When will I be able to go to the gym? Can we have a family barbecue this summer?" said Kinew.

"Really, this announcement today didn't answer any of those questions. It's so vague that what we actually saw was not a plan but just a graphic and a press release. There's so many important details that Manitobans should have been told,"he said."What is the test positivity rate? What is the ICU number? What are the hospitalization numbers that are going to have to be cleared in order for us to move forward with a reopening here in Manitoba."

For more information on the 4-3-2-One Great Summer Reopening Path, you can go online to www.manitoba. ca/covid19/prs/reopening/index.

#### > LETTERS, FROM PG. 7

for a WMA, it could provide Manitoba ranchers with more grazing opportunities and garner another partner in con-

In summary, MWF would welcome the opportunity to work with both Mr. Lamont and the PCFM together, to support a sound management plan for all fisheries and all Manitobans. We would all benefit in the end.

> Yours truly, Brian Brownlie, President Manitoba Wildlife Federation

# Condolences and

As it has become clear that the local graduating grade 12

congratulations to 2021 grads

#### **FACT:**

Bill 64 eliminates the requirement for bus rides of 1 hour or less.



students will not have a usual graduation, it caused me to reflect on the past year and all the challenges the kids faced.

You have all faced a whole year plus of adversity and obstacles. To keep everyone safe, you were divided into cohorts, many times separating friends you've had since you started kindergarten. You had to figure out how to learn and study using remote learning technology and do your schoolwork in new and challenging ways. Many of you were looking forward to your final year of sports; you were excited by the potential and filled with optimism (many of us in the community felt the same way) but those too,

During the various lockdowns, you were not allowed to gather normally with your friends and peers outside of school. Life as you knew it was turned upside down. Now your parents, family, friends, and your whole community will not have the opportunity to celebrate all your accomplishments in the usual way. I know that everyone feels for you and wishes it all could have been a more normal

Without the usual Grad ceremony, you also won't get



unsolicited advice from someone on how to think about your next chapter of life and the adventures to come so I'll offer a shortened pandemic version of a grad address here. When you think about all the challenges that you have overcome this year, you should be very proud. Your family, friends, teachers and community are also very proud.

It is hard to imagine a graduating class that faced more obstacles and curveballs in their final year. Despite the struggles, you made it! Whether you recognize it or not, you have developed resilience and gri,t which will serve you well in whatever you do moving forward. With the past year in your rearview mirror, the next challenge that you face will not seem quite as daunting (and other challenges will come). You have all proven that you are stronger and more persistent than you believed you could be.

- Scott Stephens

The Express Weekly News Classified booking deadline is Monday at 4 p.m. prior to Thursday's publication Please Call 204-467-5836

# Vaccinated Manitobans have the chance to win big

#### Province unveils prize lottery for those who get their COVID-19 shots

#### By Ashleigh Viveiros

Vaccinated Manitobans will have a chance to win cash and scholarships in exchange for getting their COV-ID-19 shots.

The Manitoba government has launched a provincewide lottery with nearly \$2 million in prizes to encourage people to get fully vaccinated.

"As a government we're doing everything we can to equip Manitobans with the information and support while respecting their right to make their decision about their body," Premier Brian Pallister said. "But we believe the right decision is to protect yourself and to protect our community, our loved ones."

Some people require further incentives to get vaccinated, the premier acknowledged, and other jurisdictions have found great success in upping vaccination rates by offering highvalue rewards. Manitoba is following suit by holding two lottery draws this

All Manitobans aged 12 and up who have received at least one dose of vaccine on or before Aug. 2 will be eligible for the first draw. All Manitobans aged 12 and up who have received two doses on or before Sept. 6 will be eligible for the second draw.

Each draw will award three priz-

es of \$100,000 in the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (excluding Churchill), one prize of \$100,000 in each of the remaining RHAs (including Churchill), and 10 draws for \$25,000 scholarships for youth aged 12 to 17 across the province.

Manitobans who receive their shots will be automatically entered into the draws. Those who would prefer not to be part of the lottery will be able to

People who received their shots outside of Manitoba will be eligible as well by reporting their vaccination to a public health office.

People directly working with the ad-

ministration and implementation of the lottery and their immediate family members are not eligible to win. All members of the legislative assembly are also excluded.

Manitoba Liquor & Lotteries will be responsible for conducting the lotteries. A third-party auditor will provide additional oversight.

"We need Manitobans to get vaccinated. The sooner we get vaccinated the sooner we get our lives back," Pallister said. "This lottery gives Manitobans a reason to move faster to roll up their sleeves not once but twice."

# Province rolls out COVID immunization card

#### By Ashleigh Viveiros

Manitobans who are fully immunized against COVID-19 won't have to self-isolate after travelling to other provinces, Premier Brian Pallister announced last week.

The province is rolling out a new immunization card as proof of vaccination for people who are 14 days past their second shot (the time it takes for the vaccine to take full effect).

Not having to self-isolate upon return to Manitoba from another province is just one of the first benefits to being fully immunized, Pallister said.

"Until all public health restrictions are lifted, Manitobans will get cer-

tain benefits with this card," he said, noting the hope is this is a temporary measure until enough Manitobans are vaccinated and the risk of COV-ID-19 spread so low that such a card is no longer necessary.

In addition to the freedom to travel inter-provincially, fully vaccinated Manitobans will also no longer have to self-isolate if they are found to be a close contact of someone with CO-

Manitoba health-care facilities, including hospitals and personal care homes, will also be permitting expanded visitations if both the patient/ resident and their visitor are fully vac-

"As we move forward with our reopening plans and as more Manitobans get fully vaccinated, there may be more items or privileges available to those who have an immunization card, based on the advice of Public Health," Pallister said.

Manitobans can order their cards securely online at immunizationcard. manitoba.ca. If you do not have internet access you can call 1-800-392-1207 to request a card, though the province asks you to seek assistance in using the online method from family and friends first.

A digital card will be provided im-

mediately online, but people can also order a physical card to be delivered to them within 14 days.

The premier noted that both forms of the cards contain no personal health information. They show only a person's first and last name and a QR code that, when scanned, shows you have been fully vaccinated.

"Why does this immunization card matter? Because vaccines are the way out of this pandemic, that's why," Pallister stressed. "And because vaccines are how we get our lives back in the short-term and in the long-term."

# Ashern to construct new fire hall and grader garage

#### By Nicole Brownlee

A public hearing regarding the planned construction of a new fire hall and grader garage in Ashern is set for June 29 at 11 a.m.

Ken Falk, Ashern fire chief, said a new fire hall would allow the firefighters to store all of their equipment in one place instead of scattered in three locations around the community.

The equipment is currently stored in the fire hall, a municipal public works building on the outskirts of town and a compound behind the building.

Keeping the equipment in one location will allow the firefighters to respond quickly to calls and boost firefighters' morale, said Falk.

"As things evolve, we would like to get better, more equipment as well, and we have no place to house it," said Falk. "We're kind of stuck where we are."

"The fire department's role has increased as time goes on as well," he added.

Falk has been fire chief of the Ashern department for around five years and involved with the department for over 30 years.

The Ashern fire department is one of two fire departments in the RM of West Interlake. The other department is in Eriksdale.

"Currently, the fire hall is planned to be milled out at large so all taxable, otherwise exempt, and grant-in lieu properties in the municipality would be taxed for the new fire hall," said Courtney Roehl, chief administrative officer for the RM of West Interlake.

The RM estimates they will borrow \$1.3 million from the province and withdraw \$75,200 from the W2 fire department reserve to construct the hall and garage. The yearly payment for the buildings will be approximately \$90,000 for 20 years, said Roehl.

The public hearing will provide more information about the construction cost, impact on taxpayers and bids.

The hearing will take place at the Ashern Municipal Office on 38 Main Street in Ashern. Any potential taxpayers who want to ask questions or register an objection to the plan need to register for the hearing with the Ashern (204-768-2641) or Eriksdale (204-739-2666) Municipal Office before attending.



Bill 64 will create combined school regions larger than previous divisions, with the express purpose of improving education by saving money. Bill 64 also eliminates 1 hr max bussing for students. How well can teachers instruct a child with a daily commute in excess of 2 hrs?

-Jay Ewert, President - ETA

# Restrictions having desired effect: Roussin

#### Case numbers beginning to trend downward

to 1,102.

#### By Lorne Stelmach

Case numbers continued to trend in the right direction this past week as the province edged closer towards further easing restrictions.

"The restrictions that have been in place have had that beneficial effect on our case counts, and that's why we have been able to just slowly ease some of those restrictions," chief provincial public health officer Dr. Brent Roussin said at his Monday update. "We need to continue to bring these numbers down, we need to bring the vaccines up, and that's going to help

us be in a position to start to reopen."

There were two new deaths reported Monday bringing the total number of deaths in Manitoba due to COVID-19

The current five-day test positivity rate was 10.7 per cent provincially with 124 new cases of the virus identified, including four new cases in the

Interlake-Eastern health region.

The active case counts included four in Arborg/Riverton, 14 Beausejour, 89 Eriksdale/Ashern, 25 Fisher/Peguis, two Gimli, 25 Northern Remote, four Pinawa/LacduBonnet, 42 Powerview/

Pine Falls, 14 Sellkirk, seven Springfield, 15 St. Clements, five St. Laurent, eight Stonewall/Teulon, 12 Unknown District, one Whiteshell and 12 in the Winnipeg Beach/St. Andrews district.

The total number of lab-confirmed cases in Manitoba was at 54,481 with 3,111 active cases and 50,268 recoveries, while 297 Manitobans remained hospitalized with COVID-19 in Manitoba and neighbouring provinces

Meanwhile, eligibility for second doses expanded to include individuals who received their first dose on or before May 10. Only those eligible to book appointments based on the date of their first dose or other criteria should book second-dose appointments at this time.

Additionally, all Indigenous people in Manitoba and individuals with specific health conditions are also eligible to book their second dose as long as they meet the minimum time interval between doses.

All people aged 12 and up are eligible to book first-dose appointments.

You can book online at https://protectmb.ca or by calling toll-free 1-844-MAN-VACC (1-844-626-8222).

# Manitoba Conservation officer resource enforcement update

#### **Submitted by Manitoba government**

Manitoba Agriculture and Resource Development advises that conservation officers are continuing enforcement to protect Manitoba's natural resources including compliance checks for fisheries, addressing illegal hunting, and supporting wildfire prevention and suppression.

Conservation officers have been busy with the high number of spring fires conducting wildfire investigations of human caused fires. In total, there have been 14 fires investigated with the following results:

- Fire 205-001 (Camp Hughes) deemed to be accidental from target shooting, not ATV use as originally reported in some media;
- Fire 304-005 (Gypsumville) determined to be deliberately set, investigation ongoing;
- Fire 304-012 (Gypsumville) originated from landowner debris burn-

ing and landowner charged under the Wildfires Act for burning without a permit;

- Fire 302-020 (North Whiteshell) determined to be railway caused, with metal fragments from a passing train determined to be the cause;
- Fire 302-029 (Lac du Bonnet) determined to have been caused by a military exercise;
- Fire 303-033 (Marchand) under investigation;
- Fire 304-038 (Gypsumville) deemed to have originated from private land:
- Fire 304-042 (Gypsumville) determined to be deliberately set and charges of set fire likely to burn out of control and set fire without a permit were laid against a suspect under the Wildfires Act;
- Fire 302-043 (south Whiteshell) under investigation;
- Fire 304-044 (Gypsumville) deter-

mined to be a restart from earlier debris burning and landowner charged with failure to take precautions to keep a fire under control under the Wildfire Act;

- Fire 302-056 (North Whiteshell) under investigation;
- Fire 302-059 (North Whiteshell) determined to be railway caused;
- Fire 205-011 (Swan River) deemed to have been started from unattended brush piles that were not properly extinguished, investigation ongoing; and
- Fire 304-047 (Gypsumville) cause undetermined.

From April 1 to June 9, a total of 30 charges and 39 warnings have been issued under the Wildfires Act. During the burning permit season, April 1 to Nov.15, burning permits are required for any burning, with exception of fires in an approved fire pit. Any person lighting a fire that requires sup-

pression, may be liable for suppression costs and or fines. Call 911 or the toll-free TIP line at 1-800-782-0076 to report any forest fires or any resource offences.

Conservation officers work closely with their colleagues at the Manitoba Wildfire Service. This includes enforcement of fire bans, travel restrictions, fire investigations and assistance on fire suppression. For information on the status of fires, maps, travel restrictions, burning permit cancellations or other restrictions go to www.gov.mb.ca/wildfire/ or follow the Twitter account at https://twitter.com/mbgovnews.

Manitoba's recreational angling and hunting regulations can be found in both the Anglers' Guide and Hunting Guide. Both documents can be found at www.gov.mb.ca/fish-wildlife/.

# Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors must be certified

#### By Nicole Brownlee

Officials urge Canadians to look for certified symbols when purchasing smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

"Smoke and CO detectors in the home are critical," said Dennis Kim, consumer product safety officer for Health Canada. "They are life-saving devices."

COVID-19 restrictions have led to more Canadians shopping online, said Kim.

"With the emergence of these online shopping platforms, Health Canada takes action to advise consumers of safety hazards with these types of products," said Kim.

When purchasing detectors, con-

sumers should look for Health Canada's certification mark that shows the product meets design and safety requirements. Approved products will have CSA, cUL, ULC or cETL on both the product and the packaging.

"The main function of these alarms is to alert [residents] in their homes when an adverse event is happening, like a fire or a carbon monoxide leak," said Kim. "The major issue, of course, is by having an uncertified product in the home, they might fail or operate incorrectly."

"Failure in this type of product with a certain adverse event going on could pose a major risk to the Canadians living there," said Kim.

All living residences such as homes,

ice fishing shacks, cottages and campers must have detectors installed.

"We remind Canadians that whatever living space you have, that the manufacturer's instructions are followed for both hard-wired and battery-operated alarms," said Kim.

Building codes dictate where to place detectors throughout residences, and local fire departments can help ensure the devices are properly installed and operating.

"Questions about any requirements, where they should be in a living space, can be directed to your fire departments," said Kim.

Residents should also note the life expectancy of the detector listed on the packaging, said Kim.

For more information, visit Health Canada's Consumer Product Safety page at https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/consumer-product-safety.html or contact your local fire department.

"SMOKE AND CO DETECTORS IN THE HOME ARE CRITICAL,"

#### Documentary focuses on successes, challenges to Lake Winnipeg Indigenous communities

By Patricia Barrett

The National Film Board (NFB) will be releasing a documentary next week that focuses on Anishinaabe, Cree and Métis communities along Lake Winnipeg, highlighting their successes and the steps they've taken in the face of challenges to their economic, social and cultural wellbeing.

Indigenous writer and director Kevin Settee's four-part documentary series is titled "The Lake Winnipeg Project." Broken into 10-to-15-minute segments, it features stories from Fisher River Cree Nation, Matheson Island, Camp Morningstar (on Hollow Water First Nation) and Poplar River.

"The series highlights their responses to various challenges and factors such as a shifting climate, industrial encroachment, government policy, and the COVID-19 pandemic, among others," states a NFB release. "Anishinaabe/Cree director Kevin Settee takes an 'own-voices' approach to storytelling that gives Lake Winnipeg communities and peoples the opportunity to tell their own stories, in their own voices, and to speak to the challenges and successes experienced within their communities."

The segment on Matheson Island features the Whiteway family, whose generations have sustained themselves through commercial fishing.

"The Whiteways share their devo-



A bombardier used by fishers from Matheson Island.

tion to their fishing lifestyle and the fulfillment and freedom it provides, as well as various challenges that arise due to factors such as health, government policy and the threatened future of the fishing industry," states the re-

The segment on Fisher River Cree Nation focuses on the community's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its challenges to not only their fishery, but also to other fisheries.

Fisher River's decision to purchase and distribute surplus fish to Indigenous communities across the province, as well as to those in Saskatchewan and the North, allowed over 1,500 Indigenous commercial fishers to continue fishing during the pandemic, states the release.



**EXPRESS PHOTOS COURTESY OF KEVIN SETTEE** Fisher River Cree Nation commercial fishers, Sharon McKay and William Whiteway, are featured in The Lake Winnipeg Project.

"The film also calls attention to the stories of community members Sharon McKay and Kailey Arthurson, mothers who experienced unique challenges of their own due to the pandemic while continuing to provide support and care to their families and communities," the release says.

The Camp Morningstar segment highlights the power of collective action against a mining company. The sacred camp was set up on Hollow Water First Nation to protect the area from Canadian Premium Sand (CPS), which proposes to extract silica sand that's used by the fracking industry. The segment on Poplar River focuses on the "intergenerational responsibility" of protecting land and water.

The NFB is implementing an action plan that will see a minimum of 15 per cent of its overall production spending go towards Indigenous-led productions. It will also make the films more accessible through its Indigenous Cinema arm, states the release. Since 1968, the NFB has produced over 300 works by First Nations, Métis and Inuit filmmakers.

The Lake Winnipeg Project will launch on June 21. Visit nfb.ca

# **Protection and additional dollars for** safe schools as pandemic continues

**Submitted by Manitoba government** 

The province is allocating \$58 million in new funding for the 2021-22 school year to ensure continued pandemic protection for schools and toward resources to support the mental health and well-being of students and staff, Education Minister Cliff Cullen announced last Thursday.

"We want to ensure the classroom environment continues to be as safe as possible while making focused investments to address the learning impacts of the pandemic," said Cullen.

Investments for next school year in-

- \$40 million for the per pupil allocation to school divisions and independent schools for additional staffing, learning and technology, and health and safety;
- \$6 million for potential costs for PPE;
- \$5 million for the Kindergarten to Grade 8 Remote Learning Support Centre for students who are medically compromised; and

• \$7 million in contingency including a \$5-million recovery learning fund.

The recovery learning contingency fund will be used to address the impacts of the pandemic on student learning. It will support several streams including:

- mental health and wellness,
- literacy and numeracy,
- planning and assessment,
- student engagement, and
- professional learning.

The Kindergarten to Grade 8 Remote Learning Support Centre will support students requiring medical accommodations and not able to return to in-person classes. The centre, operated by St. James Assiniboia and Pembina Trails school divisions, will employ teachers, clinical staff and technical support to provide remote learning for 1,000 students.

For the current school year, the province is projected to invest up to \$170 million by the end of June including

#### **COVID-19 VACCINE**

manitoba.ca/vaccine

# Vaccinated while away? Report your vaccine today.

If you received a COVID-19 vaccine anywhere outside of Manitoba, it's now time to update that information with your local public health office. This will:

- help make sure you get your next dose without delay,
- keep your personal health information up to date,
- ensure Manitoba's immunization statistics are accurate, and
- support the ongoing vaccine campaign and Manitoba's reopening plans.

Visit manitoba.ca/vaccine for more details or call your local public health office.

Manitoba 500

#### One dose of COVID-19 vaccines less effective against variants, especially delta (B16172)

By Patricia Barrett

British researchers are stressing the importance of getting both doses of two-shot COVID-19 vaccines as one dose has been found to be less effective against the alpha (B117) variant and "notably lower" in effectiveness against the delta (B16172) variant.

Those findings were released in an observational study titled "Effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines against the B.1.617.2 variant," which was issued as a preprint but has yet to be validated by peer review.

It's the first study the researchers say they're aware of that reports on the effectiveness of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID vaccine and the AstraZeneca COVID vaccine against the delta variant.

"After two doses of either vaccine there were only modest differences in vaccine effectiveness with the B.1.617.2 [delta] variant," the researchers wrote. "Absolute differences in vaccine effectiveness were more marked with dose one. This would support maximising vaccine uptake with two doses among vulnerable groups."

The study analyzed 12,675 cases of which 11,621 had the alpha variant

reaches 165°F (74°C).

and 1,054 had the delta variant.

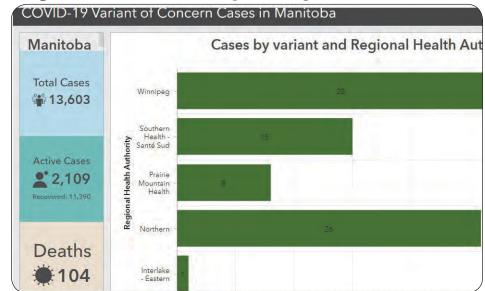
One dose of Pfizer was found to be 49.2 per cent effective against the alpha (B117) variant, and 33.2 per cent effective against the delta (B.1.617.2) variant. One dose of AstraZeneca was found to be 51.4 per cent effective against the alpha variant, and 32.9 per cent effective against the delta variant.

Two doses of Pfizer were found to be 93.4 per cent effective against the alpha variant, and 87.9 per cent effective against the delta variant. Two doses of AstraZeneca were found to be 66.1 against the alpha variant, and 59.8 per cent effective against the delta variant.

"In the 'any vaccine' analysis, effectiveness was notably lower after one dose of vaccine with B.1.617.2 cases 33.5% (95%CI: 20.6 to 44.3) compared to B.1.1.7 cases 51.1% (95%CI: 47.3 to 54.7)," the researchers wrote.

The delta variant caused infections to skyrocket in India in March, they wrote, and within a few months the country was experiencing around 4,000 deaths a day.

Delta has spread across the world, primarily to the United Kingdom,



**EXPRESS PROVINCE OF MANITOBA** 

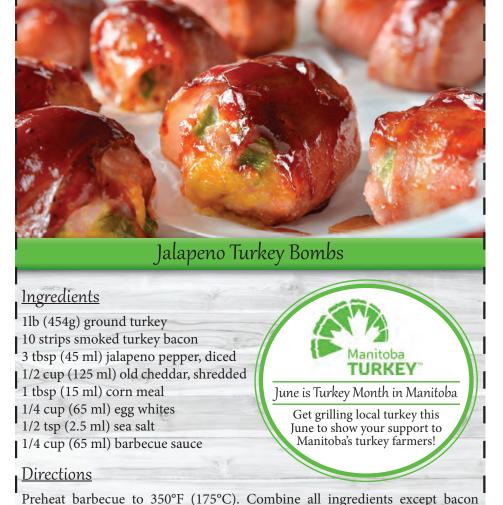
There have been 78 cases of the delta variant (B16172) in Manitoba as of June 12, according to the province's COVID-19 variant dashboard.

whose government as of early last Sunday had yet to decide on whether to delay its imminent summer reopening plan.

Delta, which has been classed as a variant of concern, has also been detected in Manitoba with some experts predicting a fourth wave should full vaccinations (two doses) fail to keep pace with the variant's high transmissibility.

The Winnipeg health region has had

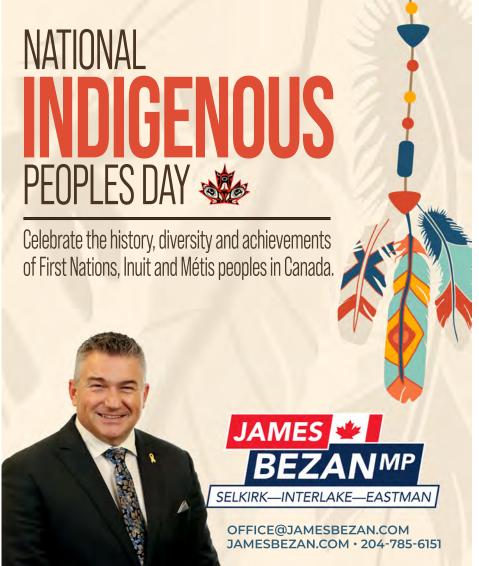
28 delta variant cases, Southern region (15), Prairie Mountain (8), Northern (26) and the Interlake-Eastern (1) for a total of 78 cases, according to the province's dashboard showing cases by variant and regional health authority as of Saturday, June 12. The related kappa variant (B16171), currently considered a variant of interest, has also been detected in Manitoba with 13 cases in the Winnipeg region and one in Southern health.



and mix well. Cut bacon strips in half lengthwise. Place a heaping tablespoon of mixture on each piece of bacon and roll into bombs. Grill over direct heat for about 10 minutes on one side. Turn and brush generously with barbecue

sauce and then grill for an additional 10 minutes or until a digital thermometer

Find more recipes & cooking tips at turkey.mb.ca



### The life-long risks of sexting for young people

By Jennifer McFee

Explicit photos and messages can come back to haunt you at any age.

For teens, they're now growing up surrounded by the reality of sexting, which involves nude or sexual photos or videos of any individual.

Joy Smith, a former MLA and MP, continues to tackle sensitive topics — including human trafficking, sexting and sextortion — through her organization called The Joy Smith Foundation.

Thanks to the Equity Fund provided by the Interlake Community Foundation in partnership with the Community Foundation of Canada, Smith has been providing virtual presentations to schools throughout the Interlake.

When it comes to sexting among teens, it usually starts very innocently, she said.

"Sexting is one of the most dangerous things for young people to do. Often underage boyfriends and girlfriends use less discretion than they should. They might innocently start exploring their sexuality and eventually start to innocently send indiscreet pictures online," Smith said.

"Let's say they break up, but they've both sent sexually explicit photos. If one is mad at the other, they might share those photos with their buddies, who say they'll never share them. But sooner or later, those photos get out even further."

Once the photo is released in the cyber world, it will likely be out there forever, she adds.

"The kids need to know that if they ever send a photo in any way, shape or form over the internet, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, whatever, it's out there never to be brought back in again,"

"Cyber people say they have the means to take them down, but that doesn't always work. In some cases it does work, but it's a long and drawn out process — and usually after the damage is done."

This type of damage can be far-reaching and life-altering.

"Any nude or sexual photo or video of any individual under the age of 18 is considered child pornography by law. Sending, keeping or distributing a nude or sexual photo or video of anyone under the age of 18 are offences that can lead up to charges under the Canadian Criminal Code," Smith said.

"A lot of these kids don't understand that they're actually breaking the law doing this. If an image or a video of anyone is online and they've lost control of it, it's critical they notify the local police department. There's also a website they can report it to at www.cybertip.ca."

Human traffickers are using a new sextortion, or blackmail, tactic that involves taking photos of youth and superimposing their faces onto explicit images, she added.

"Everybody should always turn off their video if they get a video call from an unknown source. That unknown source randomly calls these numbers to see if they can get some kid to answer. Then they take a picture and superimpose it onto videos to make it appear that they're nude or engaging in a sex act," she said.

"It's a new tactic that they're using now that everybody has to be warned about because it's



Joy Smith

getting more and more public."

At a school level, sexual bullying can occur.

"I had a case in a school where a girl had taken a picture of herself with her bare top showing. The photo went around the school she was attending. She was so ridiculed, harassed and picked on that she had to change schools," Smith said."It's very serious."

Branching out even further, cyber bullies can share the photo to embarrass and humiliate a particular person.

"They also use the photo to impersonate the person. There's no way to control who sees the photo once the teen sends it," she said. "There are countless cases where a teen discovers a private photo has been passed around and sometimes even shared online. There's a big risk for blackmail."

Often bullied teens are too embarrassed to tell anybody about it, she added.

"The photo was supposed to be sent in secret. There's no such secret. And a lot of them don't know that more than their friends can see it, so even sending sexually explicit messages to another person is never a good idea," she said.

"What they don't know is that this can absolutely destroy their reputation — and it can happen to adults too. It can lead to bullying or name-calling, and the emotional consequences are absolutely horrendous. When you look further down the road, it can also prevent teens from getting into university or a post secondary institution of their choice later on."

Teens need to know that anything they post or share today could impact the rest of their lives and even lead to trouble with the law.

"The teens taking or sharing the photo could be charged with disseminating child porn. The teens receiving the photo could be charged with possession of child porn, even if they don't request a copy of the photo," Smith said.

"What's more, teens could be labelled sex offenders for sending or possessing sexually explicit photos of other teens."

Smith has been sharing straight-forward information on these topics with the higher grades in a number of local schools.

"In the human trafficking world, there are experts — and a lot of them are very well educated," she said. "They don't look like the sleazebags or bad guys you see on TV. It's also women, not only men."

For her, there's no point in sugar-coating these topics or avoiding terms such as "human trafficking."

"It's a dark subject but I have worked on it for over 25 years. The average age of entering into the sex trade in Canada is 12 to 14 years old," said Smith, whose organization is preparing to launch the National Human Trafficking Education Centre.

"Teens need to be aware of all these variables, including exposure to sexual predators, sexual bullying that can occur, the risk for blackmail and the risk for a bad reputation. Why put yourself in that position?"

For more information about the Joy Smith Foundation, visit www.joysmithfoundation.com, call 204-691-2455 or email info@joysmithfoundation.com.



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# **Dairy Queen coming to Gimli**

By Patricia Barrett

Dairy Queen will be setting up a dine-in and drive-through restaurant in Gimli after council unanimously approved the proposal last week.

The franchise will be built on an empty lot at the corner of Fifth Avenue and Centre Street, across from the post office.

Gimli Mayor Lynn Greenberg said representatives from Dairy Queen presented their proposal, along with architectural drawings, at council's regular meeting June 9.

"Gimli is open for business," said the mayor by phone last Thursday. "We're fortunate that the RM will be seeing more tax revenues from the development and that there will be jobs created for local youth. There might also be some management positions available."

Council received an objection letter signed by about 20 residents, who said a restaurant and drive-through would be "detrimental" to their quality of life as restaurants generate substantial noise from ventilation and traffic. Refuse and waste odours could also draw vermin and other animals to the site. They had concerns about traffic flows on streets and in the back lane.

Greenberg said vehicles using the drive-through will be exiting towards Fifth and Centre – there won't be back lane access – where there is a four-



**EXPRESS PHOTO RM GIMLI** 

A Dairy Queen with a drive-through will be built at the corner of Fifth Avenue and Centre Street in Gimli.

way stop.

The bylaw stipulates that a fence must be built on the north side of the restaurant to serve as a buffer between it and residential housing.

Greenberg didn't have the exact date as to when the restaurant will open.

Other council news:

Despite public health rules and messages on social media, the public are allowed to attend public hearings that are held during regular council meetings provided they register first with the municipal office so that social distancing requirements can be meet.

Council has temporarily suspended delegations, said the mayor, but business and development issues, such as the Dairy Queen proposal, continue to be heard and open to the public.

"The only thing people can attend is planning hearings," said Greenberg. "It is mostly people from affected areas that attend but others can come. Everyone has to register."

-Council adopted a resolution to have the Association of Manitoba Municipalities ask both the federal and provincial governments for a "plan of action" to deal with the zebra mussel infestation in Lake Winnipeg.

Resolution No. 2021 315 states "there does not appear to be a federal or provincial plan in place to mitigate the reproduction of zebra mussels and the deleterious effects they have on Lake Winnipeg."

The mussels, which accumulate on shorelines and beaches, are having a "significant and negative" impact on the condition of the lake, it states, and are a serious impediment to recreational users.

#### > SAFE SCHOOLS, FROM PG. 11

\$85 million in federal contributions, the minister said.

"The funding provided during the last school year was effective in protecting students and teachers by keeping schools as safe as possible and open for in-class learning," said Cullen. "This round of funding builds on that success to ensure schools are safe next school year and will support costs associated with meeting any public health measures."

Manitoba Education is working with education stakeholders and public health officials to ensure teachers and students are supported as they continue to teach and learn during this global pandemic. It is anticipated there will be some level of public health measures for fall 2021 and the types of measures in the fall will be dependent upon vaccination rollout, the minister added.

A strong vaccination campaign for 12 years and older is underway designed to prepare students to return to full-time, in-class learning. For more information on young people and vaccinations visit www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/vaccine/young-people.html.

# LOCAL FAMILY BUSINESS POWERING UP THE INTERLAKE FOR A SHOCKING 24 YEARS



Left to right: Jonathan, George, Laura, Chris and Kaitlyn

The Calisto Family from Winnipeg Beach is celebrating 24 years of George's Auto Electric, a milestone any family owned small business would strive for. The Calistos have reached that 24 years and are still going strong, serving Selkirk and the Interlake.

George's Auto Electric was initially an idea in the back of George Calisto's mind when he was working for Merit Auto Electric in Selkirk. In 1997 Merit was bought out by UAP/NAPA, and the opportunity to purchase the machinery from Merit was just the push that George needed to get his idea off the ground. With the support of George's wife Laura and his son Chris, he took the leap into small business ownership.

While this change was taking place in George and Laura's lives, George had a conversation with the late Peter Unik, the proprietor of the Petro Canada Service Station in Selkirk at the time. Peter told George about the Triple S Community Futures Development Corporation, and was there to support him by enrolling him in the program, which helped with the organization of their financial records, billing and inventory. George has said that if it wasn't for Peter, the business would not be here today.

In the 24 years since its inception, George's Auto Electric has gone from renting a 1000 square foot shop on Morris Avenue, to purchasing land and building their own 2000 square foot shop at 505 Mercy Street. They started their first year with \$150,000 in sales and have grown beyond what they thought possible when they first started out. In addition to George, Laura and Chris they have added another employee to their ranks, George & Laura's son Shawn. Their shop includes a bay & hoist, which allows them to easily install starters, alternators and batteries into any vehicle (shop rate \$69.98/hr), and if you're looking to purchase or fix a motor, they are what you are looking for, farm duty, furnace, sump pump, pressure systems, etc.

George believes a big part of their success is due to their customer service and product knowledge. If you know what you are selling and treat the customer right, you will succeed. In today's fast paced world, customer service is sometimes lost, but George keeps that value of business alive every day.

George's Auto Electric would like to extend their thanks to all customers, past, present and future. Without you this wouldn't be possible. They are proud to be celebrating 24 years as part of the Interlake community. With the growth of the Calisto family, they are looking forward to 24 years more!! Visit them at 505 Mercy Street in Selkirk, or call 204-482-6423.

# **Little Elska provides** comfort to campers at **Camp Stepping Stones**

#### Submitted by Pamela McCallum

Every year, Camp Stepping Stones, Interlake-Eastern Regional health Authority's children's grief camp, provides youth who recently experienced the death of someone significant in their lives a safe environment led by compassionate volunteers, to explore their feelings of grief. Because of the pandemic, the camp has moved online this year to keep campers, staff and volunteers safe and physically distanced. For the third year in a row, we celebrate Little Elska, an Arborg-based business for donating security blankets for all the campers!

Little Elska is owned and operated by Jackie Horvat out of Arborg. Her business specializes in hand-made products such as personalized blankets, backpacks, stuffed animals and a wide assortment of items that can be customized for each customer in a special way, such as with a child's name or birth-date.

"It's so important for us to continue our yearly donation to Camp Stepping Stones, even during a pandemic. This camp is so important to those who attend, we are just thankful to be part of it" says Jackie.

Camp Stepping Stone's volunteer liaison, Amanda Morrison says even though camp will be virtual this year, Little Elska still found a way to give the campers a special gift in their camp packages.

"The security blankets Little Elska donated will help to comfort the campers at home. This gift will also give them something to cherish and remember this year's camp. We are so thankful for Jackie at Little Elska, her generosity and her kindness," says Morrison.

Pamela McCallum, executive director of the Interlake Eastern Health Foundation says the donation is another great example of community giving coordinated through the Interlake Eastern Health Foundation (IEHF).

"We are so lucky to have caring and generous people

like Jackie in our region," said Mc-Callum. "For three without vears. hesitation she has supported the kids at camp by donating her amazing bears and blankets, giving the kids a sense of security and care while going through a difficult time. We cannot thank Jackie enough."

To find out more about Little Elska and their amazing products visit https://littleelska.com/ to learn more about Camp Stepping Stones visit www.is.gd/ steppingstone.



**EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED** Amanda Morrison, Camp Stepping Stone's volunteer coordinator, shows off security blankets generously donated to all campers by Little Elska.







#### GAAC Children's Summer Camps: Ages 5-11

#### Sewing & More July 5-9

Learn to sew a Pillow as well as your very own Superhero! Campers will learn a variety of basic stitches and can look forward to embroidering, crafts and outdoor activities!

#### Dance Camp /w Ms Alycia and Ms Elena

#### July 12-16 & August 16-20

Each week features new dances to learn! Whether you're looking to try dance or work on your technique over the summer, there's something for everyone. We'll do some Jazz, Ballet, Lyrical, Hip Hop, Musical Theatre, Jazz Funk and Tap (no shoes required). Along with days full of dance, campers can look forward to some crafts and outdoor activities too!

#### Sports Camp

#### July 12-16 & August 16-20

Our summer sports camp will be filled with fun, fitness and friendship! Each day includes an introduction to a variety of sports, games, and physical literacy including tennis, badminton, volleyball, basketball, soccer, floor curling and ultimate frisbee!

#### July 19-23

Reader's Theatre Camp

Campers will take a look at the world of Robert Munch and Fairy Tales through Reader's Theatre. Campers will play theatre games, choose characters, create and design props, and perform a variety of short plays!

#### Flights & Fossils

#### July 26-30

Campers will learn to build and test different types of flight as well as create and examine various fossils. Some examples of activities campers can look forward to are competing in the 'Egg Drop Experiment', building paper airplanes and kites as well as making fossils using salt dough!

#### Games Camp

#### August 3-6

Campers will participate in a fun-filled, games packed week! Campers will create and compete in a variety of age-appropriate games including Jeopardy, Bingo, Minute-To-Win-It, Spelling Bees, scavenger hunts and outdoor Laser Tag!

#### Woodworking Camp

August 9-13 Campers will be provided a piece of plywood to create and design their very own nail art project and board game. They will also add their own creative touches to a pre-assembled bird house.

#### Children's Camp Info

Ages 5-11, Monday to Friday, 9am-4pm. Drop-off 8:30am Pickup 4:30 pm daily. \$150/ week + \$5 membership fee OR register for more than one week and only pay \$100/week per child. Minimum and maximum numbers are in effect. Email gaacevents@mymts.net or call 204-886-3192 for more info.

#### Sports Camps

#### July 5-9 & August 9-13

Our sports camp will be filled with fun, fitness and games! Each day includes an introduction to a variety of sports, games, and physical literacy including tennis, badminton, volleyball, basketball, soccer, football, baseball, ultimate frisbee, floor curling and golf!

#### Creative Drama Camp

#### July 12-16 & July 19-23

Campers will transform a short play or create their own. Camps will focus around acting, set building, filming, prop making, script writing and more. There will be opportunities for acting and backstage work.

#### Games Camp

#### July 26-30 & August 16-20

Campers will participate in a fun-filled, games packed week! Campers will create and compete in a variety of age-appropriate games including Jeopardy, Bingo, Minute-To-Win-It, Spelling Bees, scavenger hunts and outdoor Archery and Laser

#### Fun & Friends Camp

#### August 3-6

Campers will enjoy a fun-filled week of activities, crafts, games and sports. Campers are encouraged to invite their friend(s) and are guaranteed to make new ones throughout the week. Share your passions and interests with us to make this week unique!

#### Teen Camp Info

Ages 11-17. Monday- Wednesday, 12pm-6pm. \$60/ week + \$5 membership fee. Minimum and maximum numbers are in effect.

#### Registration

Email gaacevents@mymts.net or visit our website at greenacresartcentre.ca for forms. Want more information? Call 204-886-3192 or check out our Facebook page Gaac Teulon.

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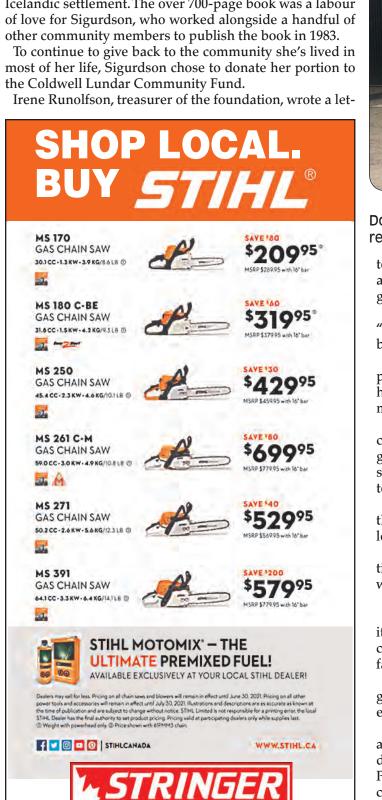
# Manitoba 150 donations help Interlake communities

#### By Nicole Brownlee

Two Manitoba 150 honourees are giving back to the Interlake with \$500 donations.

Helga Sigurdson from Lundar and Donald Halldorson from Oak Point received the Honour 150 recognition in 2020 for their contributions to community work and volunteering. In addition to receiving a commemorative medal created by Takashi Iwasaki, the recipients also chose a charity organization to receive a \$500 donation from Canada Life.

Sigurdson, who will celebrate her 101-birthday on July 7, is known for writing Lundar's history book, *Wagons to Wings*, which chronicles the community's history since Icelandic settlement. The over 700-page book was a labour of love for Sigurdson, who worked alongside a handful of other community members to publish the book in 1983.



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**EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED** 

Donald Halldorson, 75, worked alongside the Oak Point community to fundraise and rebuild their community hall that burned down in October 2019.

ter of recommendation for Sigurdson to win the award and was honoured Sigurdson chose to donate to the organization.

"I was very humbled that she did that," said Runolfson. "Helga is very giving, and she knows how the foundation benefits the community forever."

The foundation deposited Sigurdson's donation to their permanent endowment fund, which would usually cause her \$500 to grow and continue to contribute to the community.

"The interest from the investments comes back to the community every year, and so her donation is going to give forever because it forms part of this pool of money," said Runolfson. "As it grows, the more comes back in interest."

But, Sigurdson chose to donate \$500 specifically when the foundation was running its 24-hour Giving Challenge event in November 2020.

The provincial government and The Winnipeg Foundation agreed to donate \$1 for every \$5 raised by the event, which turned Sigurdson's \$500 into \$750.

"That's how giving she [is]," said Runolfson.

The endowment fund helps support several non-profits and organizations within Lundar, including personal care homes, the community's skatepark and recreational facilities and donates around \$25,000 per year.

"From birth to infinity, the foundation helps all the groups," said Runolfson. "We try and help out each and every group that applies as long as they qualify."

Halldorson, 75, has lived in Oak Point for over 50 years and is known for always extending a helping hand. Halldorson chose to donate his Honour 150 award to the Oak Point Community Club to help rebuild the Oak Point community hall, which burned down in October 2019.

"I figured, well, we're doing a bunch of fundraising... so I think they're a good place to donate it," said Halldorson, vice-president of the community club.

Construction started in June 2020, and the newly rebuilt hall stands tall in the Oak Point community.



Helga Sigurdson celebrated her 100 birthday last July. She received an Honour 150 award for her outstanding community work in Lundar.

"It's a good feeling that I think [the donation has] gone to a good cause," said Halldorson. "That's, kind of, the only building in Oak Point, and it's used for everything... From weddings to baby showers."

The community hall will reopen as soon as they receive the occupancy permit, said Halldorson.

# Lakeshore School Division graduates step up to the plate

With COVID-19 restrictions constantly changing, Grade 12 graduates are wondering what to expect at the end of June.

Several schools in the Lakeshore School Division have discussed several possible ceremonies to celebrate their graduating students while keeping the

Bobby Ellis, principal at Ashern Central School (ASC), said his staff and grad committee have been working hard organizing numerous plans just in case health orders change.

"There are lots of things in motion right now," said

Last year, ACS organized a drive-in graduation, where students could sit together on the school's baseball field. At the time, gatherings of 100 people were allowed in outdoor public spaces.

The committee wants to create a similar event this year but, because restrictions could prohibit separate households from interacting, the 17 graduating students and their families may need to sit near their cars distanced from other families.

To create a mock stage, the school plans to set up a trailer in the baseball field with a large LED screen above it, supplied by community member Ben Kinkead. The screen will feature pre-recorded speeches, awards and the list of graduates in a slideshow.

The school, field and stands will also be decorated with banners and streamers like last year, said Ellis. Depending on the public health orders, graduates



Ashern Central School celebrated their 2020 in the school's baseball diamond shown here. The school hopes to celebrate this years graduates in a similar way, but with a few changes.

may walk across the stage to pick up their diploma from a table as their name is called.

"Our staff is playing very diligently around this," said Ellis. "It's very much up to the guidelines provided by public health."

"It's not the most ideal situation, but with saying that, we would definitely like to make this a memorable moment for our students."

ASC plans to host the grad on July 23 at 1:30 p.m. Joel Matheson, principal at Fisher Branch Collegiate (FBC), said their school has similar plans to ASC.

"We plan for drive-up ceremonies where graduates will arrive by car, they'll sit with their families, and the ceremony will run," said Matheson.

FBC plans to host their 16-student graduation in front of the school. They will also have a large LED

screen to present a slide show and pre-recorded speeches, transmitted over FM radio and livestreamed on FBC's website.

"Our staff is trying to put together, you know, the best presentation of ceremonies we can possibly do for the students here," said Matheson.

The staff started planning the 2021 graduation last June to prepare the best they could, he added.

"This whole school year has been a state of change, right, so the grad has gone along like that just as well," said Matheson.

The FBC grad is slated for June 26, but banners feature the graduating students plan to be hung throughout the community over the next week.

Lundar School will release their graduation plans closer to the date to monitor changing public health



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# GHS students create Tree of Orange Hearts to honour children of residential school system

#### By Patricia Barrett

Students at Gimli High School are honouring all children who attended Canada's Indian residential schools by creating on school grounds a Tree of Orange Hearts, along with messages of support and reminders about Canada's treatment of Aboriginal people.

Using the colour orange, which marks Orange Shirt Day every year and is used promote awareness of how residential schools operated, the students' tribute comes after the discovery last month of the remains of 215 children buried on the grounds of the Kamloops Indian Residential School in British Columbia.

Corey Demarchuk, who teaches metals and power mechanics at Gimli High School, and his students cut and shaped metal hearts in the school's shop room and painted them orange, said administrative assistant Wendy Selkirk by email. Students were then given an opportunity to write a message on the hearts.

Some of the messages said, "Every child matters," I hope you all find justice," and "215" for the remains of the 215 children.

Students were given orange ribbons, which Selkirk said symbolize the bonds of healthy communities and ties of friendship between people, and hung their hearts from trees on school property on June 7.

The school's guidance counsellor Rachelle Bauer said the installation symbolizes strength and rebirth in the face of Canada's dark history of destruction.

"A tree bends, breaks, and sometimes endures a complete beatdown, yet will remain fully rooted. A tree is resilient, weathering many storms. When a forest burns, we call this restoration – it sheds its dead parts in hopes to enrich the soil with minerals that help new plants grow. Canada is in a restoration period," said Bauer by email.

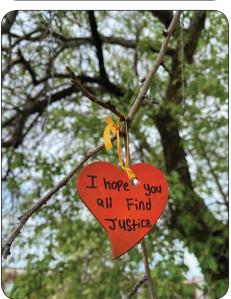
"This is a dark history that must be shed, but through this process a necessary truth-gathering discussion takes place. These conversations are the minerals in the soil of that burnt forest. And this is what we need to help that new life grow and flourish. A new Canada. An inclusive Canada. A Canada we can all be proud to live in."

















**EXPRESS PHOTOS COURTESY OF GIMLI HIGH SCHOOL** 

Gimli High School students are honouring all children who attended Canada's Indian residential schools by creating on school grounds a Tree of Orange Hearts, along with messages of support and reminders about Canada's treatment of Aboriginal people.

# Gimli council approves Hinterland campground in Glen Bay subdivision

By Patricia Barrett

A majority of Gimli council approved a proposal to build a new 18acre campground called Hinterland in the Glen Bay subdivision, north of Gimli.

The owner(s) sought a conditional use and a variance for the currently zoned agricultural limited (AL) parcel at NW 28-20-4E (Roll No. 225250) as campgrounds, travel trailer parks and summer camps are not permitted in AL zones under the Gimli Zoning Bylaw.

After a public hearing June 9, Mayor Lynn Greenberg said he and Coun. Peter Holfeuer voted against the proposal while councillors Richard Petrowski, Cody Magnusson and Thora Palson voted in favour of it.

The campground will include a farm garden, mini cabins, campsites with fire pits and a communal area consisting of a market stand, an outdoor cooking area, a dining tent, a toilet and a water station, according to an amended proposal submitted by the proponents.

Council had given Jamie Vann approval in May to set up a temporary Hinterland campground at NE 1-21-3E (Roll No. 261200) and noted then that he was seeking a permanent site.

Council received a letter of support from Ute Vann for the new campground, which is located at 20029 Glen Bay Road.

"Establishing a summer camp for the use of supervised youths and families at a limited number is something that should be made available more often in our beautiful and bountiful

countryside," said Vann. "Teaching children to appreciate and care about nature, learn to observe local birds and wildlife, learn to recognize local plants and give them the opportunity to grow their own vegetables and being proud of it, is nothing to object about in my opinion."

Council received almost 20 letters of objection to the campground from residents, who raised concerns about noise, parties, fireworks, fire pits and the potential for fire in the heavily forested area, lack of wastewater facilities and the raising of chickens.

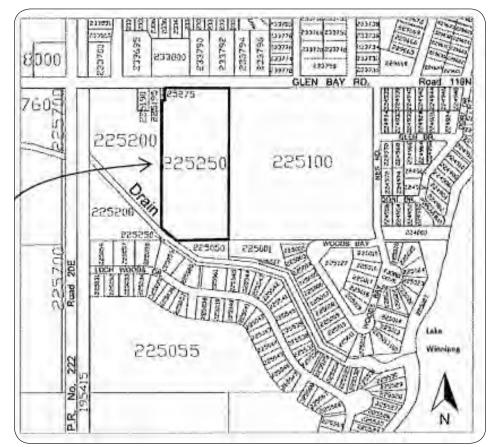
"His proposed tenting area is also a large concern," wrote Dean and June Wilcox in their letter. "He wants to have fire pits at each site. This is a very densely wooded area backing on to many expensive and lovely permanent homes on Glen Bay and Lochwoods Estate. The fire risk is enormous. There is presently no water source on the property."

Residents also raised concerns about increased traffic and a lack of parking that could push campers to park near

"We are a residential area and it was one of the factors in purchasing our property," wrote Ralph Thompson and Shawna Harkness-Thompson. "This would be a huge increase in traffic in the area and it will be adding extra costs for road maintenance and repairs ... and ... parking on the road."

The Wilcox's and other residents raised concerns about raising chick-

"We object to the above mentioned applications on the grounds that it is



**EXPRESS PHOTO BY RM OF GIMLI** 

A new campground called Hinterland will be built in the Glen Bay residential area.

inappropriate to have a campground and summer camp, along with livestock and a farm garden site, with a market stand, on approximately 18 acres in what is a Residential Area," wrote Beverley Bean, Dan Olafson, Edie and Ted Schoen and Thomas and Daniella Retzlaff in joint letter. "The owners have proposed that they be allowed to raise chickens ...,"

Mayor Greenberg said by phone a

day later he wasn't sure how many chickens will be raised on the site. As for wastewater handling, he said the owner(s) will have to "follow provincial guidelines" for both grey and black water.

The Express reached out to the municipality for more information, but did not receive a response by dead-

# Human Rights commission monitoring government on vaccine identification

**Submitted by Manitoba Human Rights** Commission

The Manitoba Human Rights commission is monitoring the Government of Manitoba's release of the secure Vaccination Card, which will allow third parties to identify the vaccination status of cardholders. The Commission reminds governments, employers, service and housing providers of their obligation to respect human rights when imposing vaccination requirements / requiring proof of vaccine.

Requiring individuals to produce proof of COVID-19 vaccination in order to access employment, public services or housing could result in discrimination based on the following Code-protected grounds:

- Disability;
- Religious Belief;
- Political Belief;

- Social Disadvantage; and
- Age

Requiring individuals to be vaccinated and produce proof of vaccine may also negatively impact individuals who cannot equitably access vaccination and other public health resources for reasons related to disadvantage, including houselessness and poverty. Existing identification schemes present significant barriers in equitable access to health care services for unsheltered populations, as documented in the 2018 Winnipeg Street Health Survey Final Report.1 Moreover, where individuals are required to produce valid photo identification along with proof of vaccine, barriers to access may be magnified due to challenges in accessing photo identification.2

The Commission is also mindful that imposing identification requirements

can result in adverse effects for communities that are more disproportionately impacted by carding, profiling or other identification requirements, such as Black, Indigenous and people of colour and people with disabilities.

Where mandatory vaccine and vaccine identification requirements are put in place, these requirements must be justifiable

To be permissible under human rights law, mandatory vaccination requirements, or the use of vaccination identification, must satisfy the standard set out by the Supreme Court of Canada in British Columbia (Public Service Employee Relations Commission) v. BCGSEU, 1999 CanLII 652 (SCC), [1999] 3 SCR 3 ("Meoirin") and British Columbia (Superintendent of Motor Vehicles) v. British Columbia (Council of Human Rights), 1999 CanLII 646 (SCC), [1999] 3 SCR 868

("Grismer"). The three-part standard requires that

1. The requirement for vaccination has a rational connection to the employment or provision of the service;

Therequirement for vaccinationbeadopted

Continued on page 20



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#### > HUMAN RIGHTS, FROM PG. 19

3. The requirement for vaccination is reasonably necessary for the purpose of service provision. This requires evidence that the requirement was imposed on the basis of real evidence, not speculation; that the requirement is designed to minimize the burden on employees or service users; that the requirement does not treat one particular group more harshly than others without justification; and that alternatives approaches to the vaccine requirement were investigated and considered but could not be adopted without incurring undue hardship. In other words, the requirement for vaccination / vaccination identification must "incorporate every possible accommodation to the point of undue hardship, whether that hardship takes the form of impossibility, serious risk or excessive cost".

Undue hardship must be established on the basis of real evidence, and is fact dependent. Certain contexts may present varying degrees of risk, which must be considered when establishing whether a requirement for mandatory vaccination is justified under human rights law in accordance with the standard set out above.

Governments, employers, service

and housing providers must also be mindful of the emerging data related to vaccination, including varying rates of effectiveness amongst vaccine products, the complexities presented by COVID-19 variants, the delay of second dosage and its implications for vaccine efficacy, and broader vaccine uptake.

This information will be relevant to the determination of whether the implementation of a vaccine requirement would be deemed reasonably necessary to accomplish its broader employment or service related objectives.

Moreover, the specific context of implementation (i.e. personal care homes, hospitals, etc.) will impact whether the requirement for vaccination can be justified under human rights law. In other words, governments, employers, service and housing providers will need to consider the particular and distinct risks presented in specific contexts to determine whether a mandatory vaccination requirement / vaccination identification requirement is bona fide and reasonable in accordance with the standard set out above.

Reasonable accommodation

#### Must be provided

Should a government, employer, service or housing provider proceed with the implementation of a vaccination requirement, reasonable accommodation must be provided to the point of undue hardship. Existing mandatory vaccination schemes in the context of educational systems or for health care workers provide exemption clauses for medical, religious or conscientious objection in accordance with human rights related obligations.5 Due consideration will need to be given to how rights to reasonable accommodation will be upheld when imposing this requirement. In accordance with the requirement to provide reasonable accommodation, the Commission cautions against the implementation of blanket policies requiring vaccination that do not provide for accommodation.

#### **Vaccine Incentives**

The Code's protected characteristics of disability, social disadvantage, religious belief, age and political belief may need to be considered when governments, employers, service or housing providers incentivize vaccination. Under The Code, organizations cannot deny someone access to a good, benefit or program for reasons related to a Code-protected ground, unless

that denial can be reasonably justified. Therefore, governments, employers, service or housing providers must ensure that vaccination incentive programs do not limit the equality rights of Code-protected groups.

#### Summary

The requirement for mandatory vaccination, or the imposition of vaccination identification or incentives has implications for both direct and indirect forms of discrimination for Code-protected groups. Such a requirement could result in denials of service or employment for individuals who for Code-related reasons cannot participate in vaccination and the exacerbation of barriers to equity for individuals who experience structural disadvantage. Governments, employers, service and housing providers should exercise extreme caution in imposing any requirements or programs. In doing so, careful consideration will need to be given to how the program would be bona fide and reasonable under the three part standard set out by the Supreme Court of Canada in Meoirin and Grismer.

For more information on COVID-19 and discrimination, please visit www.manitobahumanrights.ca

# SDOPTS&recreation INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

# U18 'AAA' baseball hoping to start season July 4

Staff

The Winnipeg Amateur Baseball Association has set an objective to start the U18 "AAA" season on July 4 if approval is given by the provincial government.

Coaches were sent an email outlining the league's plans on Sunday mornino

The league hopes to have a six-week schedule with games finishing on Aug. 15 followed immediately by playoffs with an end date of Aug. 22.

The exact details of how the playoffs would be structured to accommodate both Zone 1 and Zone 2 teams has yet

to be finalized

All teams who originally had a 28-game schedule would now play 18 games, with doubleheaders every weekend and a single game during the week.

Brandon and Pembina Hills would of being drafted.

be allotted a 12-game schedule with doubleheaders every weekend. South Central is invited to join the league and would play a 12-game schedule with weekend doubleheaders.

The new schedule is in the process of being drafted.

# 2021 Manitoba Open cancelled

Staff

The 2021 Manitoba Open, part of the Mackenzie Tour-PGA Tour Canada - has been cancelled.

The announcement was made last Thursday.

The four-day event was scheduled to be played at the Southwood Golf and Country Club in support of the True North Youth Foundation.

"Unfortunately, we are sad that with so much uncertainty this spring

and summer around the COVID pandemic, we are unable to move forward with our tournament this year," the host committee said in a media release.

"The tournament volunteers, Southwood members and staff, and our friends at True North Youth Foundation look forward to seeing you all at our championship layout on the banks of the La Salle River in St. Norbert next August."

# Volleyball Canada cancels 2021 Beach National Championships

Staff

Volleyball Canada's 2021 Beach National Championships, originally scheduled for Aug. 20-22 in Toronto, have been cancelled.

This decision, made in consultation with the event co-host, the Ontario Volleyball Association, comes after Volleyball Canada announced the cancellation of the 2021 Indoor Na-

tionals, originally scheduled for May 2021 across Canada.

This marks the second straight year that the Indoor and Beach events have been cancelled due to restrictions surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic.

The annual competition was expected to bring close to 500 athletes, officials and volunteers to the beach at Ashbridges Bay.

# Sportste > OUTSIDE > OUTSI

# Manitoba announces mission staff for the 2022 Canada Games

Manitoba recently announced its mission staff for the 2022 Canada Games, which will take place in Niagara Falls, Ont. from Aug. 6-21.

Here is a list of the staff:

#### Chris Cara - Tennis & Volleyball (F)

Chris has been involved in youth sports for over 20 years. He's passionate about athlete development and watching athletes succeed while enjoying what they do.

#### Alisha Kaegi -Wrestling

Alisha is a recent university graduate and a new teacher in rural Manitoba. As a young athlete, she competed in Canada Games in both judo and wrestling and continues now as a coach for young judo athletes. She is so excited to be mission staff for wrestling at the 2021 Canada Games so she can experience the Games on the other side, as well as have the opportunity to ensure that athletes and coaches have everything they need to be successful.

#### Pat Kirby -**Chef de Mission**

Pat grew up in Souris, Manitoba and played as many sports as he could. Hockey and baseball were his two favourites. Pat has over 35 years of experience working in sport and recreation and is currently employed with Sport Manitoba as the Senior Games Manager. When he's not working you can catch him at his cottage at Nutimik Lake, in Whiteshell Provincial

#### Marcie Halls-Stronciski -Assistant Chef de Mission

Marcie was born and raised in Thompson, MB, moved to Winnipeg in 1998 and has been here ever since. She got married in 2005 in Victoria, BC and has two kids, a daughter Taylor (softball and ringette player) and son Brandyn (golfer, baseball and hockey player). She also has two boxers, Khan and Simone. If you know her, you know they are her fur kids.

#### Kelly Babb -**Assistant Chef de Mission**

Kelly is one of Sport Manitoba's Games Specialists. She has worked at various sporting events over the past seven years, including the 2017 Canada Summer Games and the 2018 Commonwealth Games in Gold Coast, Australia. Kelly grew up playing every sport available, with a focus on soccer. She gardens and takes tons of photos of her cat, who thinks he's a dog, Harvey.

#### Pete Conway -**Assistant Chef de Mission**

Pete's worked at Sport Manitoba for the past 22 years. When not at work, he enjoys coaching volleyball and golfing a few rounds. His first experience at the Canada Games was in 2001 in London, ON.

#### Peter Nicholls -**Athletics & Mountain Bike**

Peter is a retired educator who taught physical education for many years before moving into school administration. Sport has been a huge part of his life, - competing, coaching, officiating, and volunteering. He is very excited to be part of the 2021 mission staff for the Canada Summer Games. Go Team Toba!

#### Glen Hunter - Baseball

Glen works in marketing for the Birchwood Automotive Group and after 20 years of working there, will retire at the end of this year. He played baseball from age 8 to 34. Once he stopped playing, he started working with players at skill and development camps. He also started coaching with his first role on a provincial team during the 1990 WCSG hosted in Winnipeg. Since then, he has coached in the WCSG in 2015 and two CSG (2009 and 2017). My first experience as mission staff was in 2019.

#### Stephanie Trimble -Soccer (F) & Basketball (F)

Stephanie has lived in Winnipeg for the past 12 years. She's played sports all her life, and loves trying new ones now as an adult. Steph enjoys all things outdoors, camping, hiking, canoeing, and spending time with familv at the lake.

#### Terry Skarban -Basketball (M) & Rowing

I'm back for my second Canada Games and I am looking forward to the comradery and the competition! It will be a nice break from my day job as a Junior High Vice-Principal.

#### Sarah Mitchell -Canoe Kayak & Triathlon

Sarah is a French Immersion teacher who recently graduated from l'Université de Saint-Boniface. She has been involved with sport her whole life, participating in the 2013 and 2017 Canada Games as an athlete with Canoe/Kayak, and in the 2019 Western Canada Summer Games as mission staff. Sarah has also worked as a coach at the Manitoba Canoe Kayak Center for 3 years. Sarah is excited to spend the summer sharing her passion for sport with amateur

athletes from all over Manitoba!

#### Tara Funke -Cycling & Softball (F)

This is Tara's fourth Canada Games as a volunteer with Team Manitoba. She competed at the 1995 Canada Games and has enjoyed giving back to sport ever since. She lives and works in Altona and is a proud grandma to six cuties.

#### Rochelle Dziadekwich -Diving & Soccer (M)

They say to do what you love, and for Rochelle that's all things sports! Rochelle grew up playing multiple sports, and her love of the Games brought her to working in the industry. She is currently the Programs Manager with the Manitoba Soccer Association, as well as a Canada Soccer C-License Coach. She is also currently working towards her Master of Science in Sport Administration.

#### Evan Andrew -Golf

Evan was born and raised in rural MB, schooled in Toronto, lived in Montreal, London ON and Winnipeg. He can watch SportsCentre on loop in the mornings and is a father of three

#### Scott Kirk -**Lacrosse (M) & Swimming**

Scott is currently the Director of Acute Care at the Brandon Regional Health Centre. He has been involved in sport in various roles for many years as an athlete, coach and volunteer. Scott was one of the sport chairs for swimming at the 2017 Canada Games in Winnipeg and mission staff for swimming at the 2019 Western Canada Summer Games in Swift Current. He is looking forward to the 2022 Canada Games and making it a memorable experience for the athletes.

#### Kylo Harris -Lacrosse (F) & Softball (M)

Kylo is a self-declared Games junkie. He's been involved in Manitoba Games, North American Indigenous Games, Western Canada Games and Canada Games in both Summer and Winter. He's married to Donna, a former Canada Games athlete, coach and mission staff member, and they have two daughters, Abby and Clara. Gabby Desrochers - Rugby

Gabrielle is a graduate of the Faculty of Kinesiology at the University of Manitoba. She has been involved in sport her entire life, both as a participant and coach. Hockey was the main sport she played growing up, and she started coaching and instructing during her final year of high school. To this day, her involvement in sport as a participant and coach is a big part of who she is, and it's helped her choose to pursue a career in recreation and sport development.

#### Pat Alexander - Volleyball (M) & Beach Volleyball

Currently, Pat is a PHE instructor at Northlands Parkway Collegiate in Winkler, MB. He is actively involved in coaching volleyball at both school and club levels. He also helps out at the UofW when time allows. And he LOVES anything to do with Team Toba and the Games!

Sarah Tone - Communications Lead Sarah is Team Manitoba's Communications Lead. She's worked for Sport Manitoba in Communications for the past seven years and spent some of that time as the Communications Manager for the 2017 Canada Games. She's Jackson's mom, she's always got concert tickets, and she loves roller coasters.

#### Sam Cortes -**Communications Assistant**

A couple of fast facts about Sam: she loves trying new food and getting outdoors, and one sport she loves and is determined to get better at is golf! Sam is Sport Manitoba's Content Coordinator.

#### Amber Doyle -**Communications Assistant**

Amber is joining mission staff as a volunteer for communications support, but her day job is Sport Manitoba's marketing coordinator. She's originally from the middle of nowhere just outside Souris, Manitoba. After completing her undergrad at Brandon University, she spent a summer living in Toronto working as a story editor for SportsCentre on TSN. After that, she came to Winnipeg to go back to school, and she's been loving it here ever since! A few other things about Amber: she's the play-by-play announcer for the U of M Bisons volleyball, she's an animal lover with two rescue pets at home, she has a foam finger collection, and she's so excited for the 2022 Canada Summer Games!

#### Mandy Los - Medical Liaison

Mandy is a travel junkie with a never-ending bucket list of adventures. She spends her spare time walking her dog and playing slo-pitch in the Summer. She's too busy watching sports in the Winter to do much else. She's been to too many Canada Games to count - but she can't get enough of them.

# MJHL implements new Anti-Racism Player Education Program

From the MJHL website

The Manitoba Junior Hockey League announced the implementation of a new Anti-Racism Player Education Program which will strengthen our league policies regarding verbal taunts, insults, and intimidation actions based on discriminatory behaviours.

The MJHL continues to enhance our current Policies and Code of Conduct in support of our indigenous and racialized community athletes, staff, families and communities.

Anti-Racism Player Education Seminars

Beginning in the 2021-22 season, anti-racism education seminars targeted for MJHL players, coaches, and support staff will be provided to each member team covering a range of Indigenous topics and issues, sensitivity and cultural awareness training in anti-discrimination and anti-oppression education.

The goals of the anti-discrimination education seminars are to:

Provide players/staff with language and terminology concerning anti-discrimination and anti-oppression.

Assist players/staff in recognizing and identifying problematic behaviours in themselves and others.

Involve players/staff to actively engage and commit to promoting a respectful and supportive hockey culture.

Topics that will be covered during the education seminars will lay the foundation for learning about racism and discrimination:

Positionality and Intersectionality, Culture and Socialization, Prejudice and Stereotypes and Discrimination and Racism.

The seminars will be led by MJHL alumni Wade Houle. Houle graduated from the Faculty of Education at the University of Manitoba in 2006 and also completed his Education Graduate Diploma from Brandon University

in 2018. He grew up in the Metis community of Vogar, MB. His mother is from the Lake Manitoba First Nation and his father is from the Ebb & Flow First Nation, from which Houle is a band member.

Presently, Houle is a high school teacher in Dauphin, has been an educator for the past 15 years, and is currently completing his Master's Degree Thesis in the Faculty of Graduate Studies at Brandon University.

In February of 2020, he started a small business called Bright Sky Consulting where he works with a variety of businesses and organizations with the implementation of their in-house discrimination and racial sensitivity training.

"I am excited about the opportunity to work with the Manitoba Junior Hockey League and contributing to players and personnel on becoming anti-racist and anti-oppressive," Houle said. "This shows not only a commitment to the teams, but a commitment to creating contributing and caring citizens in the Manitoba community."

"Through internal discussions as a league over the course of the past season, it became apparent that there is much more that the MJHL could and should be doing to address racism and discrimination in our sport while also providing important and necessary anti-racism education for our players/staff," said Kevin Saurette, MJHL Commissioner.

"We know that discrimination unfortunately still exists in our society and this type of education is required for change to take place. This program will play an important role in the MJHL being part of the solution going forward."

The MJHL Board of Governors passed a motion during the 2021 MJHL AGM to strengthen MJHL policies and review procedures regarding verbal taunts, insults or intimidation

actions or behaviors based on discriminatory grounds (race, religion, color, sexual orientation, etc.).

Going forward, any player, team official, executive member, or any other Hockey Canada member who is found, to have acted contrary to our Anti-Discrimination Policy, will be assessed the following minimum automatic penalties:

First Infraction–Minimum three Game Suspension

Second Infraction–Minimum five Game Suspension

Third Infraction – Indefinite Suspension

Any party failing to cooperate with the fact-finding process may be subject to suspension as determined by the MJHL.

Currently, if any of the above are reported in the on-ice officials post game report, following investigation, it is an automatic minimum suspension following the above suspension guidelines.

"The MJHL is committed to providing a positive, respectful and inclusive hockey experience for all participants in a safe sporting environment, free of discrimination," said Saurette.

Hundreds of young athletes of all backgrounds from across North America have taken to the ice in the MJHL over the years and continue to greatly contribute to the success of the league. The MJHL prides itself on working to ensure an inclusive atmosphere for all players, staff and their families.

"Through this balanced approach of both educating players and strengthening our review and sanction policies, we aim to raise awareness within our players and staff, to contribute positively to society and nurture an inclusive Hockey Culture within our league," Saurette concluded.

Murray Clearsky

"It's been ongoing for many years but it's now time to try and do something about it, it affects everybody. To experience it first hand, it really pisses you off. Every non-treaty person in this country should be educated. We are all equal and it doesn't matter what colour you are," Waywayseecappo First Nation Chief, Murray Clearsky said.

**Taylor Harnett** 

"This is exactly what the game of hockey and other sports need, is education. Educating our players is the first step in eliminating this from our game. Understanding what a negative impact racism and discrimination has on people, will make a difference. This by any means is not an epidemic in our game, but it is present. The changes implemented to the MJHL's policy regarding discipline and suspensions will hopefully be a last resort. It is our mission to eliminate this from Society and we are hopeful other leagues in sport take notice," shared Taylor Harnett, Wolverines Head Coach and General Manager.

Morley Watson

"The MJHL has become truly diverse not only on the ice but in the stands and with corporate sponsorship as well. It is for these reasons the MJHL is standing up to racism so our great product can be enjoyed by all in an inclusive atmosphere," Wolverines Governor, Morley Watson said.

MJHL APTN Hockey Hopes Program

The MJHL and APTN teamed up last season to help share the importance of inclusivity in the game of hockey through the APTN Hockey Hopes Program and look forward to making visits in person this coming season.

APTN Hockey Hopes has each MJHL team making two school visits to First Nations and non-First Nations schools in their region, where players will read to a classroom, share the importance of inclusivity in hockey and answer questions from the curious students.

# Province announces changes for golfers

From Golf Manitoba's website

The Province of Manitoba announced last Wednesday a new public health order that into effect June 12 at 12:01 a.m.:

Guidelines specific to the golf industry include:

Golf is allowed with a maximum of five participants per group.

Pro Shops will remain open at 10 per cent capacity, to a maximum of 100 people.

Under the retail guidelines, individual one-on-one club fittings by appointment only can be conducted indoors and outdoors.

Individual (one-on-one) golf lessons are permitted at this time, group lessons remain prohibited at this time.

Restaurants, bars and patios remain closed to in-person dining but can still provide take-out and delivery services.

If an appropriate barrier is in place,

such as a plastic shield between the driver and passenger, two people from separate households can share a golf cart.

The prohibition of "organized team games" does not apply to men's or ladies nights, league play and other team games or competitions such as Ladies Nassau and Mundie Putter, if the participants come to the course, play their round of golf and then leave the premises when they have finished

their round of golf. The golf course is responsible to take steps to ensure that the golf teams are not more than 5 persons and that the teams are well spaced from each other and that separate teams are not gathering together on the course as the outdoor gathering limit of 5 would apply.

Please note that this public health order is in effect until June 26 at 12:01 am.

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#### **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 AVAILABIL-

#### HELP WANTED

The Window Factory located at 605 Mercy St. Selkirk is now hiring installer assistant manufacturer and assembly personal. Please apply in person to the office Monday - Friday. Valid driver's licence required for installer assistant.

Growing pump repair company requires shop helper. New facility we are COR Certified. Duties: cleaning organizing shop, washing & cleaning of vehicles and equipment, parts pick ups, grass cutting, some out of shop work on job sites when required. Qualifications: able to work unsupervised, Class 5 license (class 3 asset willing to send right candidate to school to obtain), basic mechanical skills, basic carpentry skills. Possible apprenticeship in future. Flexible hours.

CONT. ON NEXT COL.

#### HELP WANTED

Summer employment seekers welcome to apply. Wage based on experience. Please 204-757-7219 call or email: Matthew@ pumptechplumbing. com

> Graphics 467-5836

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#### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY** SARAH PROGRAM COUNSELLOR

Survivor's Hope Crisis Centre (SHCC) works to offer hope and healing through support and education for those impacted by sexual violence in the Interlake Eastern region of Manitoba.

Currently, SHCC is seeking individuals for the following: SARAH Program Counsellor - deliver SARAH Counselling programming including one-on-one counselling, support groups, and workshops; support the SARAH Crisis Program; and participate in program development and expanding and enhancing SHCC services within the region. Closing date June 30, 2021. For more information see: survivors-hope.ca/get-involved/

#### Rural Municipality of Armstrong **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

#### Assistant CAO and Office Clerk

The Rural Municipality of Armstrong is inviting applications for the positions of full-time Assistant Chief Administrative Officer (ACAO) and casual Office Clerk.

#### **Assistant CAO**

The ACAO will assist in the management and implementation of all aspects of daily municipal finance and administration. We are seeking an individual that has advanced skills in accounting, and has the ability to lead, oversee and implement organizational administration, assisting, reporting to and taking direction from the CAO. A high level of ability to communicate and assist staff, council, and the public will also be expected from the successful candidate and excellent human resource skills will be required.

The ACAO may be expected to assume the authority and duties of the CAO in an acting capacity when appointed to the role in the CAO's absence.

ACAO Assets considered: CMMA course certificate or extensive experience in local government/public sector environment, highlevel accounting and managerial skills/background; knowledge of federal, provincial and municipal legislation; extensive computer and software experience (accounting, Microsoft Word and Excel, Asvst).

#### **Office Clerk**

The Officer Clerk will be responsible for providing administrative and clerical support and receptionist services to the municipal full time administrative staff. This casual on-call position will be scheduled to replace full-time administrative staff during periods of vacation and/or illness or during busy workloads. This position requires a highly motivated and resourceful individual with a strong focus on customer service with a pleasant phone manner. Applicants must have well developed organizational and time management skills and the ability to communicate effectively.

The successful candidate must have exceptional interpersonal skills to effectively interact with the public, staff, council and external agencies. Post-Secondary education in office administration and/or related field combined with office administration experience.

Salary is negotiable depending upon qualifications and experience. Interested individuals may submit a cover letter and resume with three references to:

Corlie Larsen, CMMA Chief Administrative Officer RM of Armstrong Box 69, Inwood, MB R0C 1P0 Phone: (204) 278-3377 Fax (204) 278-3437 Email: cao@rmofarmstrong.com (preferred)

A complete job description is available upon request. The deadline for submitting your Resume is Monday, June 28, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. however this posting will remain open until a suitable candidate is fund. The positions are to commence as soon as possible. We thank all that apply; only those selected for interview will be contacted.

#### Farm Land For Sale By Tender

Sealed bids for the purchase of the following parcel of land, located in the RM of Bifrost-Riverton, Manitoba and currently owned by Bradley Sigvaldason and Morley Sigvaldason as Administrators of the Estate of Gerald Arnold Sigvaldason, will be received up to 4:00 pm on July 30, 2021 at the offices of: Grantham Law Offices, Box 1400, 1-278 Main Street, Stonewall MB., ROC 2ZO Attn: Karen @ (204) 467-5527

Part of the NW 1/4 of Section 15-22-3 EPM being approximately 150.84 acres (145 acres cultivated) including a 1063 sq foot single family dwelling. The land is prime agricultural land located along Hwy 68 just East of Arborg, Manitoba.

For more information on the house including photos, please contact Karen at Grantham Law Offices for an emailed package, or to make an appointment for viewing, please contact Morley Sigvaldason directly at 204-376-5175.

The land will be sold free and clear of all liens and charges except Caveat No. 252974/1

#### The following will apply to all tenders:

The vendor reserves the right to reject any or all bids and the highest bid or tender may not necessarily be the successful bid.

All tenders are to be submitted in sealed envelopes accompanied by a certified cheque or bank draft payable to "Grantham Law Offices in Trust" for 10% of the tendered amount. Cheques will be returned in respect to tenders that are not accepted.

All bidders will be advised within two working days of July 30, 2021 if their bid was successful. Successful bidders will be asked to enter into a formal Offer to Purchase with a possession date of August 31, 2021, or sooner or later by mutual consent.

Tenders will be held in confidence and not be released to the public.

If any purchaser has any questions concerning the bidding process, please contact Grantham Law Offices

Any questions regarding details or history of the land can be directed to Morley Sigvaldason at 204-376-5175



TAKE NOTICE THAT the Rural Municipality of Armstrong intends to dispose of surplus equipment in "as is" condition.

List of public works items:

- 1980 GMC Light Pickup 8 Cvl. Grav
- 1994 Bush Hog Side Mount Rotary Cutter

List of fire department items:

- 1999 ARGO Conquest, Green
- Over-head Doors 10ft x 10ft and 12ft x 10ft with hardware (selling as set only)
- 1990 International Cab and Chassis 6 Cyl, Red

More details available on the RM of Armstrong website www. rmofarmstrong.com or by emailing cao@rmofarmstrong.com

Viewing of equipment is available on Tuesday, June 22, 2021 between the hours of 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the public works yard located beside the municipal office at Lot 55 Highway 17, Inwood, Manitoba.

Bids will be reviewed at a meeting of council after closing date. Successful bid accepted by council must be paid in full within 48 hours of notification and item removed within one week. Please note: GST will be added to the successful bid.

Bids are to be submitted in written form (including contact information) and sealed, not later than Friday, July 2, 2021, 4:30 p.m. to:

RM of Armstrong 2021 Surplus Equipment Sale Box 69, Inwood, MB, R0C 1P0

The RM of Armstrong reserves the right to reject any or all offers. The equipment is offered in "as is" condition and the municipality makes no warranties whatsoever.

# THE TRUES



ook Your Classified Ad Today - Call 467-5836 or Email classifieds@expressweeklynews.ca

#### **Shorepointe Village Green Team Position**

We are looking for someone between the ages of 16-29 to help with yard maintenance and painting during the summer months.

> Submit resume to village@mymts.net.

#### **EVERGREEN BASIC NEEDS** IS HIRING IMMEDIATELY!

#### **Maintenance Worker:**

- Permanent, Full Time, Year-Round Position.
- 30-40 hours a week including Saturdays.
- Must be able to lift 50 lbs minimum.
- · Valid driver's licence would be an asset.
- Benefit Package available.

Please submit resumé to Karen Bowman at

ebnoffice@mymts.net or drop off in person at 71 4th Ave in Gimli. Deadline for applications: June 22, 2021

#### HELP WANTED

#### Wpg. Beach Tiny Tots requires a ECE II worker for a permanent full time position.

Applicants must enjoy working with children of all ages, be reliable, mature and be willing to take direction as well as work independently. Must submit to a Criminal Record, Vulnerable Sector Search, Child Abuse Registry Search and must have or be willing to obtain First Aid and CPR. Submit resume to wpgbeachtt@ msn.com. Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

#### SUMMER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

#### **SUMMER STUDENT**

Riverdale Place Workshop Inc. requires a summer student to assist in the recycling department. Help to sort and bale the recycling products. Also to cut the yard site grass and minor ground maintenance. Criminal record check and Adult Abuse check required. Hours 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Position to start July 2nd to August 27th, 2021.

Please send resume to Alex Janower, Manager Riverdale Place Workshop Inc. Box 609 Arborg MB. ROC OAO

Tele-1-204-376-5584

Fax-1-204-376-5584 e-mail riverdalew@mymts.net



#### **EVERGREEN SCHOOL DIVISION**

Has a number of temporary and regular Bus Driver vacancies available, effective September 7, 2021:

Bus Driver (approx. 4hr/day):

Arborg, Gimli, Riverton, Winnipeg Beach areas

No experience required. Training and assistance with bus certificate provided.

See website for further details and application procedures: http://www.esd.ca/Employment under Support Staff.

#### CLOSING DATE: June 22, 2021 (3:30 pm)

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

Employment will be subject to satisfactory criminal record and child abuse registry checks. Evergreen School Division may contact former employers.



#### **NOTICE OF BY-ELECTION MUNICIPALITY OF BIFROST-RIVERTON**

Notice is hereby given that a vote of the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton - Ward 3 will be taken to elect a Councillor from the following duly nominated candidates:

Foster, Bryan Stadnek, Ken

#### **VOTING PLACE**

The Voting Place will be open for voting on Wednesday, July 14th, 2021 between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. at the Arborg & District Multicultural Heritage Village Hall, 10135 PTH 68.

Identification may be required before being allowed to vote. A person may be required to produce one piece of government issued photo identification (for example - driver's license or passport) or at least two other documents that provide proof of identity.

#### **ADVANCE VOTING**

For the purpose of accommodating persons who are qualified to vote, but who have reason to believe that they will be absent or otherwise unable to attend their proper voting place on byelection day, an advance voting opportunity will be located at the Arborg & District Multicultural Heritage Village Hall, 10135 PTH 68, on Saturday, July 3rd, 2021 between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

#### **APPLICATION TO VOTE BY SEALED ENVELOPE**

A voter who is unable to go in person to the voting place or vote in advance, may apply in person, in writing, or by fax to the Senior Election Official at 329 River Road, P.O. Box 70, Arborg, MB, R0C 0A0 or 204-376-2742. Voters may apply between June 16, 2021 and July 11, 2021.

A voter applying in person may pick up a sealed envelope ballot package at the time of application. A voter applying by mail or fax will receive a sealed envelope ballot package by regular post, or by making alternative delivery arrangements. After July 3, 2021 a voter must make their own arrangements for delivery.

#### **VOTING DURING COVID-19**

All voters will be required to review a symptom and exposure screening questionnaire. Should an eligible voter be denied entry, alternate arrangements will be in place to make the vote available outside the voting station.

Masks are required to be worn at the Voting Place, and voters should prepare for the potential of having to queue outdoors due to building capacity limits.

Jeannette Nickols, SEO Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton 204-378-0542

#### NOTICES

Urgent Press Releases - Have a newsworthy item to announce? Having an event? An exciting 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. See www.mcna. com under the "Types of Advertising" tab or Email classified@ mcna.com for more

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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. Kev compounds that work to stimulate red blood cell production & cartilage cell regeneration & development. Stonewood Elk Ranch Ltd.. 204-467-8884 or e-mail stonewood elkranch@mymts.net

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#### **Whispering Pines** Independent Living

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Call Kirt 204-886-7717 to get your chance to view your next home!

#### WATER TREATMENT

Waterite dealer. Water softeners 30,000 grain \$598. All sizes. Five stage reverse osmosis systems \$246. Filter sediment and 10" carbon \$6.40. Greensand iron/odour/ manganese removal filters \$780. All Seasons Furnishings 204-661-8581.

#### MISCELLANEOUS PLANNING FOR SLIC-

CE\$\$ THIS SUMMER? What are you waiting for? Advertise in our blanket classifieds in MCNA's 37 weekly Manitoba community newspapers and GET SEEN! Traditional advertising works and it's affordable! Doing curbside pick-up, online ordering, or hosting an on-line seminar or meeting during COVID? Let people in Manitoba know. Each week our blanket classifieds could be helping your organization get noticed in over 352,000+ homes! Get your message out for as little as \$189 + GST! To learn more, Call 204-467-5836 or email classified@mcna.com for details. MCNA -Manitoba Community Newspapers Association - Phone: 204-947-1691. www.mcna.com

#### WESTERN INTERLAKE PLANNING DISTRICT UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE PLANNING ACT

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On the date and at the time and location shown below, a PUBLIC HEARING will be held to receive representations from any person(s) who wish to make them in respect to the following matter:

THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF WEST INTERLAKE BY-LAW NO. 11-2021 Being an amendment to the Rural Municipality of Siglunes Zoning By-law No. 6/05 and the Rural Municipality of Eriksdale Zoning Bylaw No. 7/05, as amended.

**HEARING LOCATION:** VIA CONFERENCE CALL (please call the WIPD office to register)

DATE & TIME:

June 29th, 2021 @ 10:30 am

GENERAL INTENT: 1) To amend "Part 8, Recreation, Parks, Open Space and Institutional Zones" in the RM of Siglunes zoning bylaw 6/05 and "Part 7, Recreation, Parks, Open Space and Institutional Zones" in the RM of Eriksdale zoning bylaw 7/05 by amending "Table 8 – 1 Recreation, Parks, Open Space and Institutional Use Table" in the RM of Siglunes zoning bylaw 6/05 and "Table 7 - 1 Recreation, Parks, Open Space and Institutional Use Table" in the RM of Eriksdale zoning bylaw 7/05 by changing "-" for not permitted to "P' for permitted for mobile homes in all "SR-C" zones.

AREA AFFECTED:

FOR INFORMATION **CONTACT:** 

Cherie Millar, Office Administrator, Western Interlake Planning District, Box 269, St. Laurent, MB ROC 2S0, (204) 646-2615, Fax: (204) 646-4150,

All lands zoned "SR-C", in the Rural Municipality

Email: wipd@mymts.net

of West Interlake

A copy of the proposal and supporting material may be inspected at the location noted above during normal office hours, Monday to Friday. Copies may be made and extracts taken there from upon request. Note: Property owners are responsible for notifying lessee.

# Classifieds Announcements



Book Your Classified Ad Today - Call 204-467-5836 or Email classifieds@expressweeklynews.ca





Kate LeTexier **Bachelor of Science** (Human Nutritional Sciences) **University of Manitoba** June 17, 2021

Lieutenant-Governor's Gold Medal Congratulations on achieving this milestone. Wishing you much success as you pursue your dreams and goals of becoming a Home Economics teacher. We are very proud of you! Love.

Dad. Mum. Lauren, and Nathan

#### **GRADUATION**



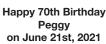
Nathan Bradley Harding **Bachelor of Arts** (Geography/Biological Studies) **University of Manitoba** June 17, 2021 **Dean's Honour List** 

Congratulations on achieving your degree. We are so proud of you and all of your hard work. Wishing you all the best as you begin vour Education Degree at the University of Manitoba.

> -Love, Mom. Dad. Grandma, Pop and Kate

#### BIRTHDAY





-Love Dennis, Pam and Graham, Mathew and Pam

#### IN MEMORIAM

**Terry Dubchak** February 14, 1957 - June 18, 1987 Always loved, Always remembered, Without farewell, You left us all.

> -Lovingly remembered and sadly missed, by Mom and family



If you see Sylvia Yablonski on June 22nd wish her a very Happy Birthday. You are the kindest, hardest working, most caring person. We love you so much! -From David, Alicia, Jason, Xavier, Victoria, Ryan, Zachary, Mason, Rebecca, Steven and Olivia!

# **Remember Your Loved Ones** with an Announcement in the Call 467-5836 or classifieds@expressweeklynews.ca

#### IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Axel Helgason who passed away June 20, 2014 Husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather

The years slip by And time doesn't stand still But we will always have our memories Always remembered

-Muriel and families

**Interlake Co-op** 

Ofoure at home here

# Career Opportunity



#### Interlake Co-op is presently recruiting for a **GROCERY SUPERVISOR - Full Time** at Our Food Store located in Arborg, MB

Reporting directly to the Grocery Manager, the successful candidate will be responsible for assisting the grocery manager in all aspects of our grocery department including but not limited to; financial results, marketing, inventory control, merchandising, administrative duties, guest relations, along with talent development and performance management of our grocery team.

#### Qualifications/Competencies:

- High standards in marketing and merchandising
   Desire to work in a team setting, and networking skills.
- Exemplary guest service Strong leadership, and interpersonal skills.
- Knowledgable in Microsoft Office (excel/word),
- Administration responsibilities including cashups, lotteries, till operations
- Excellent supervisory, planning and organizational skills
- Strong work ethic with a positive and ambitious attitude. Possess sound leadership and decision making abilities.
- Ability to operate a forklift (training will be available) Previous leadership experience
- Must be available to work a variety of shifts including days, evenings and weekends.

  We offer career advancement opportunities, competitive compensation, benefits package, company contributed pension plan and learning/development opportunities.

If you would like to work in a business who strives to make a positive difference in our members' lives, please complete an application form at our Administration Office/ Website or send a cover letter and resume to:

Attention: Jessica McCutcheon - Grocery Manager 204-376-5271 Email: grocery@interlakecoop.com Or mail to: Interlake Co-op, Box 40, Arborg MB, R0C 0A0 www.interlakeco-op.crs

WE THANK ALL CANDIDATES FOR THEIR INTEREST, HOWEVER, ONLY THOSE SELECTED TO CONTINUE IN THE SELECTION PROCESS WILL BE CONTACTED

Join Our Team!

**NOW HIRING: Arborg Location Grocery Supervisor Grocery Cashier Grocery Clerk Cashier** 

Our Team Members receive competitive salaries, a comprehensive benefits package, staff purchase incentive Program and an employercontributed pension plan. We encourage our Team Members to take advantage of learning opportunities, to grow and develop and to foster a culture of teamwork and innovation.

Part time/Full time clerks

For further information or job description Submit applications to: Grocery@Interlakecoop.com Phone: 204-376-5245

Book Your Classified Ad Today - Call 204-467-5836

#### **OBITUARY**



Joseph (Joe) Sorokowski

Peacefully on June 9, 2021, after a courageous battle with prostate cancer, our beloved husband, dad, and grandpa passed away at the Gimli Community Health Centre. His devoted wife, Jennie, of nearly 59 years was by his side to the end.

Joe was born in Meleb on February 4, 1940 to Ludwig and Olga (Trakalo). Life on the farm was always full of adventure, imagination, and perhaps a little mischief. He attended Normal school (Teachers' College) to become a teacher at a young age. He met the love of his life at a wedding at Farmers Community Hall on August 13, 1960, becoming engaged on August 12, 1961. Mom and Dad were married on August 11, 1962 at St. Benedict's Church in Camp Morton.

As a truly devoted teacher for 37 years, his career took him from Cumming School to Finns, Steep Rock, Vidir, and finally Gimli

which became the family home. He worked hard to earn two university degrees through evening and summer school studies, all while teaching full time, having an additional part-time job, and raising a family. He was a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus. After retiring from teaching, Joe continued to work as manager of Fisher Repair in Gimli.

Dad was a family man through and through. There wasn't anything he wouldn't do for his children and grandchildren. He found the greatest joy in having as many of us over for a meal as he could. "Maybe we could get together and take some steaks out of the freezer?" were some of his favourite words. He enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren, taking them on numerous outings and celebrating their many accomplishments. He was truly their greatest encourager.

Joe enjoyed hunting with Tony and Bob, and fishing with Don. He kept busy with his hands and was always eager to fix anything broken. He loved restoring old vehicles, with his Toyota Land Cruiser being his pride and joy. It was driven in the Icelandic Festival parade for several years, and caught the attention of many, even an eventual buyer from Alaska. Dad was passionate about his garden, flowers, and Christmas lights. Dad and Mom spent many winters in South Padre Island and Weslaco, Texas, meeting new friends along the way, especially Mel and Lil.

He is survived by his wife Jennie and children Debbie Dickson (Mark), Connie Townsend (Reid), and Brad (Belinda). He will be lovingly remembered by his grandchildren Jennica (Ethan), Ashleigh (Griffin), Kayley, Katrina (Chris), Gianna, Brendan, and Kendall, and step-grandson Ben (Josée, Bauer, and Boden). He will also be dearly missed by his siblings Tony (Irene), Walter, Diane (Don), Julia (Bob), and Virginia; in-laws Wally, Mary, Peter, and Mary; as well as many nieces and nephews. We cannot forget to mention his long-time friends Ed (deceased), Audrey, Don, Diane, Joe, and Alice.

He was predeceased by his parents, in-laws Fred and Annie Samorodny, sister and brother-inlaw Eleanor and Ernie, and sister-in-law Elaine.

Cremation has taken place with a private service to follow. There will be a Celebration of Life at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to St. Michael's Church parking lot fund (Box 266, Gimli), CancerCare Manitoba, or Heart and Stroke Manitoba.

Condolences may be left on his tribute wall at www.gilbartfuneralhome.com

Gilbart Funeral Home, Gimli in care of arrangements.



#### INVITATION **TO TENDER**

**Noventis Credit Union Limited Moosehorn Janitorial Contract** (36 month term)

You are invited to tender for the above-mentioned Janitorial Contract.

#### Forward to:

J Collins; AVP, Operations Email: icollins@noventis.ca

Subject line: Moosehorn Janitorial Contract

Deadline: June 30, 2021 by 4PM

Any questions regarding this tender may be referred to:

Adrienne Halkowich: Manager, Branch Experience

Email: ahalkowich@noventis.ca Phone: 204.302.1289

noventis.ca



#### **OBITUARY**

#### Carol Stoyanowski



With sadness, the family announces the passing of Carol Mildred Stoyanowski, on June 6, 2021.

Predeceased by father George Burgett, mother Dorothy Porter; step-father Art Porter, husband Mike Stoyanowski; granddaughter Sadie Stoyanowski; sister Marion, brothers-in-law Vilburg Paulson, Mike Gulay, Kazimir Stoyanowski (Gladys), Joe Stoyanowski (Lena), John Stanowski, Eugene Wach; sisters-in-law Bernice Ewacha (Nick), Mary Bjornson (Tom), Rose Gushuliak (Bill) and Helen Caron.

Survived by children Bev Thompson (Bob), Christine Abuda (Roger), Dean (Penny); sisters Hazel Gulay, Margaret Durrant (Robert); sisters-in-law Sophia Wach and Sophia Stanowski; grandchildren Brock Thompson (Christine), Creyton Thompson

(Taylor), Dwight Thompson (Teagan), Reece Thompson (Jen), Parker Abuda (Kyla), Carter Abuda (Rebecca), Kiah Bobbee (Scott), Sage Stoyanowski; great-grandchildren Joshua, Lucas, Maia, Brandtley, Dawson and Sylvan.

Carol was born in West Central Saskatchewan. Her family moved to the Arborg area in the mid 1950's, where she met her soon to be husband. She married Mike in 1958 making their lifelong home on the family farm. In 1970, she became the first female school bus driver in Manitoba which would become a 20-plus year driving career with the Evergreen School Division.

Carol was active in the community sitting on various committees and led the local Girl Guides, Brownies and Weight Watchers. She loved baseball, playing for the Framnes Fireballs ladies team back in the 70's, and more recently watching her grandsons play slow pitch. She would drive the school bus for swimming lessons both during school and in summer. Through this she was able to complete her swimming levels and continued until completing her Life Saving Water Safety certificate. She was then allowed to assist with instructing swimming lessons that she carried the students to and from. Mom fell in love with curling becoming a regular at ladies and mixed square draws as well as playing in many bonspiels around the Interlake.

Mom and Dad took great pride in their garden, spending many hours tending to the weeds and plants and joking and pranking with each other.

Summers were a time that extended family would arrive at different intervals to spend their vacations with us on the farm. They were always welcome and Mom would happily host the gatherings. These always filled the house with food, laughter and music.

Mom was very close to her sisters. They would regularly get together to play cards or any game someone could think of. They were known for their silliness, laughter and high-pitched screams.

Family would like to thank Dr. Donnelly and the staff at the Arborg and District Health Centre for their outstanding care and compassion for mom during her hospital stay.

If so desired, donations in Carol's memory can be made to a charity of your choice.

MACKENZIE FUNERAL HOME ARBORG (204) 467-0024 • info@mackenziefh.com





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For optimum performance and safety, please read your owner's manual carefully before operating your Honda Power Equipment

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