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## Backyard fun

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Bruce and Jo-Anne Johnson, who run Bruce's Marine, enjoy the super-sized rink they built for the community on a bay in Siglavik. The Johnsons cleared and re-flooded the rink last Friday, enticing skaters out for a sunset skate. See story pg. 10.

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# Cattle farmers call for province to 'step up'

By Nicole Brownlee

There's always a cost to producers accessing alternate needs.

Provincial supports are falling short for Interlake cattle farmers struggling to feed their herds.

After several years of moderately dry conditions, the 2021 drought left Manitoba farmers with grim decisions.

Forced to choose between feeding herds scraps from whatever producers could scrape together, selling livestock or culling, farmers looked to the province for any assistance they could get.

"I think (the government) came (to the plate), but they didn't come as wholeheartedly as well all wanted," said Arvid Nottveit, a beef producer from Peonan Point.

The province released three programs to help producers in August and November 2021. The federal government is sharing the cost of the three programs, covering 60 per cent, while the province picks up the rest of the tab.

The programs offer livestock producers help with the cost of replacing breeding animals culled because of winter-feed shortages and buying, transporting and testing feed.

Nottveit applied for all three programs.

The 2011 flood destroyed acres of Nottveit's Tribar Ranch, forcing him to sell half of his cattle. Nottveit's reduced cattle numbers from the 2011 disaster helped him in 2021, and he did not have to sell any of his herd.

The producer supplemented his hay to feed his over 400 cattle with cattails and edible cull beans from North Dakota.

In a normal year, Nottveit would book one load of grain from North Dakota for his calves, but this year he's requested seven to feed the herd. Nottveit also booked extra grain in August to feed his cows, even though they've always been fed hay.

"I don't particularly like what I'm doing," said Nottveit.

Producers are accessing any support they can, he said, but there's always a cost to accessing alternate needs, and it's not covered by any programs.

In a herd of cattle, there are varying ages, which require different quantities of feed, nutrients and minerals. When producers only have one type of feed and an average quantity they need to give to every animal, the cattle will react differently.

"Not every cow will adjust to a new



EXPRESS FILE PHOTO

Cattle farmers are trying desperately to save their herds with federal and provincial ag funding.

ration the same," said Nottveit.

For example, if the cattle are fed corn, producers need to ensure the cows have enough calcium to calve properly.

"One of the biggest reasons for calving issues is inadequate body condition of your cattle," said Nottveit.

The government added feed additives and premixes like molasses-based products, vitamins, minerals, oils and fats to be eligible for financial assistance as of June 1, 2021.

The province will make payments to producers based on the head count of the livestock but will only cover up to 75 per cent of the purchased cost of feed and feed testing. The max the province will pay for each cattle, bison, elk or horse is \$250, and \$50 per sheep or goat.

"Just because I didn't make my full

complement of bales doesn't mean I didn't expend the same amount of fuel that I do every summer," said Nottveit.

Potential amendments the province could make to the program could be issuing assistance as soon as the weather indicates drought conditions in areas of Manitoba.

"We've had a number of dry years ... but the areas that were in a drought situation were not as extensive as they were this year."

Producers who needed financial assistance with their crops in previous years didn't receive help from the province, said Nottveit.

"If you want help from the government, you sure hope the whole province needs it."

Continued on page 4

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# Lake Manitoba property owners skeptical of settlement

By Nicole Brownlee

Victims of a 2011 flood that displaced thousands of residents around Lake St. Martin have the chance to receive a portion of an \$85.5 million settlement from the provincial government.

Manitoba's Court of Queen's Bench Justice Joan McKelvey ruled on Jan. 13 that the province of Manitoba intentionally flooded Lake Manitoba 10 years ago, which caused severe damage to the land.

"It is only reasonable to conclude that the inflow of 4.7 million acre-feet of water into Lake Manitoba, which significantly raised the lake level, served to create the scenario of destruction that transpired," said McKelvey in her ruling.

People who owned property or businesses within 30 kilometres of Lake Manitoba in 2011 have until April 14, 2022, to file a claim.

"This settlement amount is a fair outcome for the damages cottage owners and others suffered as a result of the province's negligence," said Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Grand Chief Arlen Dumas in a statement.

Despite her acceptance of the province's settlement, Dumas stressed that First Nations communities continue to suffer from the displacement caused by the government's decision.

"The government policy allowed (First Nations) reserve lands and ancestral territories to be flooded and allowed their citizens to languish in hotel rooms in Winnipeg and elsewhere for a decade where, tragically, many died and never had a chance to return home."

Dumas added that without progress to outlet channel projects, the Interlake could flood again in spring 2022.

The 2011 flood was caused by above-average precipitation in 2010 and the

use of the Portage Diversion and the Fairford River water control structure. The province operated the Portage Diversion and Fairford control structure to discourage flooding Southern Manitoba.

The Fairford control structure caused water levels on Lake St. Martin to reach a maximum of 246 metres in July 2011, around 0.6 metres higher than the maximum desired water level.

Lake St. Martin First Nation was forced to move to new reserve land because of the extensive damage caused by the flood.

In May 2021, the federal government said 3,000 residents have returned to First Nations communities around Lake St. Martin, including Lake St. Martin First Nation, Pinaymootang and Peguis; however, 91 people remain evacuated from Peguis First Nation.

Jason Bittner, who co-owns property south of Lake St. Martin, says the 2011 flood wasn't the beginning of the province risking Interlake land.

"Back in 1961, (the province) did have plans to build an outlet on the other side of Lake St. Martin going into Lake Winnipeg ... but they never completed it," said Bittner.

He remembers his grandfather Walter Bittner telling him stories growing up about the family land flooding over the decades.

"We were always faced with flood issues, but the greatest was in 2011."

Walter bought the property in 1947 and passed down the land to his son Ron Bittner.

The 2011 flood took 100 acres of farmable land, fences and shelterbelts from the Bittner family.

"Just this year ... 10 years later, we finally got this land back worked up to



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

The 2011 flood devastated the Bittner family farm causing them to lose 100 acres of farmable land, fencing and shelterbelts.

crop again," said Bittner.

Bittner and his father Ron are working together to create a claim measuring how much the family lost over the years because of the 2011 flood, but they aren't optimistic.

"I'm not going to hold my breath," said Bittner.

"We've been let down by the government so much."

The father and son are concerned

that if the land floods again, it will take the province another decade to support the community.

"I don't feel hopeful at all," said Ron.

Whatever money the family can collect from the settlement will be invested into the property to try to restore as much as they can, said Bittner.

"We're not looking to get rich and retire. In a way, we're just trying to get back to the status quo."



The flooding was so extensive that the water was mere feet away from the house, said property owner Jason Bittner.

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# COVID outbreak declared at Eriksdale PCH

By Patricia Barrett

Residents and staff at the Eriksdale Personal Care Home have been infected with COVID-19 and visiting has been restricted.

The Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority said the medical officer of health declared the outbreak on Jan. 24 and that residents and their primary contacts were notified of the outbreak, as well as all staff working at the home.

"Five residents have tested positive," said IERHA spokesperson last Friday. "Three staff have tested positive and have been cleared to return to work."

An outbreak is declared when at least two staff members or residents receive a positive result on a COVID test and the infection was determined to have been acquired in the facility, according to an IERHA situation report shared with media.

The spokesperson said the health authority hasn't received confirma-

tion of the COVID strain responsible for the outbreak, but the medical officer states the dominant strain in Manitoba is the omicron variant.

All the residents at the PCH are vaccinated. All direct-care workers are required by the province to be fully vaccinated or undergo regular testing, said the spokesperson. The option to be regularly tested for COVID rather than be vaccinated against the virus came into effect on Oct. 18, 2021, under provincial public health orders.

"More than 95 per cent of health-care workers in the province are fully vaccinated," said the spokesperson.

As of last Friday, 1,543 Manitobans have died from COVID, and 715 have been hospitalized, according to provincial data.

Staffing levels at the Eriksdale PCH are currently "appropriate for the level of care needed," according to the situation report, but if care needs escalate the IERHA will deploy addi-

tional resources.

"The RHA would utilize agency nurses and look at shifting resources within the region to accommodate any urgent staffing needs that arise at the facility," said the spokesperson.

PCH visits are restricted although fully vaccinated designated family caregivers can attend the facility.

Health-care services (as of Jan. 24) at the E.M. Crowe Hospital, which is attached to the PCH, remain unaffected.

Primary contacts seeking information on residents can call the PCH at 204-739-4416. People with other inquiries can call the IERHA's toll-free line 1-855-347-8500.

Eriksdale has a COVID testing site offering PCR tests and rapid antigen test pick-up at 35 Railway Ave. It's open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

COVID outbreaks were also declared at three Selkirk personal care homes earlier in January. An outbreak at Tudor House PCH, an affiliate site

of the IERHA, was declared on Jan. 7. An outbreak was declared on Jan. 11 at the Selkirk Betel PCH. And an outbreak was declared Jan. 13 at Red River Place PCH, an affiliate site of the IERHA.

The facilities remain in outbreak status until 14 days have passed without any new facility-acquired infections occurring, according to the IERHA's website.

Eighty-six per cent of Manitobans have received one dose of a COVID vaccine, with 79 per cent having received two doses and 40 per cent having received a third dose, according to the province's vaccine dashboard (numbers rounded; viewed Jan. 29).

To book a COVID vaccine appointment or find a walk-in site, clinic or pharmacy where a shot is available, visit the province's online vaccine-finder map or call the booking line at 1-844-626-8222.

# Access CU to merge with Noventis, Sunova

By Lorne Stelmach

Another financial institution merger will take effect this summer, with members last week voting in favour of the amalgamation of the Access, Noventis and Sunova credit unions.

Each one held special meetings of members last Thursday where all three achieved more than the two-thirds majority voting in favour to approve the merger.

Access members who voted were 76 per cent in favour, while Sunova had 74 per cent and Noventis had 86 per cent in support of the merger.

The new entity will remain known as Access Credit Union when it is cre-

ated July 1.

"All three credit unions are very happy that the membership supported the recommendation by all three boards," said Larry Davey, CEO of Access Credit Union.

"For our Access members, I think they realized the benefits of the latest merger and understood that this is just probably part of the landscape in the credit union system these days," he said.

Davey further suggested that members recognized the benefits of "the alignment of the three credit unions as far as there's rural roots in all three. The new geographic footprint provides greater convenience to the membership."

In promoting the merger, Davey had cited two key factors that they said in the near-future would require credit

unions to invest millions of dollars in financial technology to meet new government-mandated standards.

As a larger credit union, they maintain they can save money on these investments and that those savings will allow them to continue to offer competitive rates, lower fees, cash rewards and better account packages as well as increase the funds available to invest in communities.

One key change is the move to open banking or consumer-directed finance, while another is a move to payment modernization.

Open banking will allow people to more easily move money from one institution to another, and that will require a significant and costly change in technology. Payment modernization basically involves speeding up the time it takes for payments to go

through the system. Right now, it allows three days for payments to reach their destination. The government has mandated that to be reduced to three hours and eventually to be instantaneous.

"I think the membership certainly understood the cost of technology these days and how the scale helps us reduce that cost per member," suggested Davey, who also cited other advantages ranging from being able to continue offering competitive rates, charges and patronage refunds to seeing no impact on local branches and services while in fact expanding on the insurance and wealth management divisions.

The new credit union will have over 169,700 members and \$9.5 billion in assets with about 800 employees in 52 branches.

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## > STEP UP, FROM PG. 2

On Jan. 25, the province announced that AgriInsurance premium rates have increased by around 10 per cent because of record payments in 2021. The estimated average coverage for 2022 is \$463 per acre, a 44 per cent increase from 2021.

"Our government knows the importance of creating the environment for businesses to succeed," said Derek Johnson, Minister of Agriculture.

Agriculture contributes 11.5 per cent of Manitoba's GDP and supports around 50,000 jobs.

"It's important to ensure that farmers not only survive in Manitoba but thrive."

Producers are starting to apply for the herd replacement and management program, which was released in November 2021, said Johnson.

The feed assistance and transporta-

tion programs have been popular, but Johnson could not provide statistics on how many farmers have accessed the programs so far.

"Those (applications) are rolling in by the day," said Johnson.

The province is working with farmers to revise the program as needs are acknowledged, added the minister.

"It's adapted and been very well received by the industry."

# Tergesen putting a lot of heart into Manitoba Heart & Stroke fundraiser

By Patricia Barrett

A Gimli business owner who suffered a heart attack a few years ago is lending his time and support to the Manitoba Heart & Stroke Foundation's "ice hearts" February fundraiser.

Stefan Tergesen of H.P. Tergesen & Sons general store is encouraging the public to increase their physical activity by using the trail system around Gimli, Winnipeg Beach and other parts of the province, as well as to make a donation to the Manitoba Heart & Stroke organization. With the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, door-to-door canvassing isn't being undertaken.

People can upload to social media a photo of themselves taking part in the campaign. Heart & Stroke volunteers will be putting up signs at trailheads across the province and decorating the trails with ice hearts where people can stop and pose. The signs will have a QR code providing a link to the Manitoba Heart & Stroke donor site.

Tergesen is stepping up for the second year in a row to help decorate trails around Gimli and promote the campaign.

"I will again be personally going out to decorate a number of locations with signage encouraging people to donate and to share [photos] on their social media," said Tergesen. "We'll be decorating with ice hearts and asking people to take selfies to post on their pages. I will be setting up selfie stations and signage at both of the Camp Morton trails staging areas, at the Gimli Harbour and Boardwalk and in a to-be-determined location in Winnipeg Beach."

People living near Gimli can use one of the Gimli Cross-country Ski Club's groomed trails in Camp Morton Provincial Park, on both sides of PR 222. Some are multi-use and others are designated for skiing, snowshoeing or hiking. Winnipeg Beach has a number of trails as well.

With the blessing of Trails Manitoba, an organization that helps develop recreational trails and receives funding from the federal and provincial

governments, Tergesen said volunteers are looking at promoting the campaign along trails in Brandon, Thompson, Neepawa, Lac du Bonnet and Winnipeg.

Tergesen "dropped dead" from cardiac arrest at Toronto's Pearson Airport in January 2020. He had been running across the airport to make a connecting flight and collapsed at the departure gate. Luckily, passersby knew how to perform CPR and use an AED machine (defibrillator) and were able to restart his heart.

"With the aid of an AED machine and CPR training, I was brought back. Shortly thereafter I received three angioplasties and a stent to repair the damage — all of which can trace their development and promotion to Canada's Heart & Stroke Foundation," said Tergesen. "I have had the great fortune of benefitting from years of research and advancement in science, a lot of which was supported by the foundation."

Since his heart attack, Tergesen said he has met many people who told him their own story. It made him realize how many lives have been touched by the behind-the-scenes work of the foundation.

Having had a brush with death and feeling it was "the right thing to do," Tergesen said he joined the board of Heart & Stroke's Manitoba organization and is working alongside an old classmate and friend, Olive McDonald, who accepted the role of chairperson.

Last year's "ice heart" fundraiser raised \$15,000, a good chunk of research money that got bumped up by CP Rail, which donated \$2 for every \$1 raised for a total of \$45,000, said Tergesen. All the money goes to research carried out in Manitoba. They're aiming to raise even more this year.

The pandemic's effect on Manitoba's health-care system has underscored the importance of taking part in regular activity to prevent illness. Last year Heart & Stroke carried out a national survey to gauge the impact of the pandemic on heart and brain health after delays in diagnostic tests and sur-



FILE PHOTO BY STEFAN TERGESEN

Stefan Tergesen helped decorate trails in Camp Morton and in Gimli last February with ice hearts in support of the Manitoba Heart & Stroke Foundation's February fundraiser.

geries ballooned in Manitoba as patients with COVID filled hospitals and critical care units.

"Nine in 10 of the health professionals and researchers who responded to the survey are worried that the health of people living with heart disease or stroke has gotten worse because they were not always able to access the care they needed during the pandemic," states an Oct. 19 news release.

The money the foundation raises for research goes towards finding solutions for heart failure, which include new treatments, preventing damage and improving diagnostics. For more information on the Heart & Stroke Foundation, visit [www.heartand-stroke.ca](http://www.heartand-stroke.ca)

## Petition for highway improvements sparked by death count

By Nicole Brownlee

T.D., R.U. and H.D. are three initials found on a petition to Premier Heather Stefanson to improve the safety conditions of Highway 6, the most direct route from Winnipeg to Thompson.

The initials were added by participants signing the petition in memory of three people who died from collisions and accidents while driving on the highway.

Countless names and tragic stories accompany signatures on the petition created by a group of volunteers in Thompson.

"You watch (the petition) grow day by day in the comments," said Brenda Redman, a volunteer.

"My heart breaks for the families."

Volker Beckmann, one of the petition's lead organizers, reached out to Redman in December 2021 to join the effort to make the stretch of highway safer.

Redman lived in Thompson for over 50 years before moving over 750 kilometres away to Winnipeg to be closer to family. Before relocating three years ago, Redman would often make the seven-and-a-half-hour drive from Thompson to Winnipeg.

"There's been lots and lots of near misses," said Redman.

"What makes it really dangerous is the number of semis in the winter."



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

A group of community members from Thompson are urging the provincial government to improve the condition and safety of Highway 6.

The death of Thompson MLA Danielle Adams on Dec. 9 motivated Beckmann to push for change.

"Danielle Adam's death was a terrible tragedy; a loss that never should have happened," said Beckmann in a statement.

"The death of this young MLA has now brought the issue to top of mind."

Adams, 38, was heading south on Highway 6 around 11:20

a.m., 50 kilometres south of Ponton when her SUV crashed with a north-bound semi-truck. Road conditions were poor at the time of the crash, said RCMP.

"There are many people who have

Continued on page 10

THE

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## Government to assist with costs incurred by transferred hospital patients

By Patricia Barrett

The Manitoba government said last Friday it will cover some of the costs of food, transportation and accommodation incurred by the designated support person of hospital patients who are subjected to mandatory transfers to medical facilities in other health regions.

Last October, the governing Conservatives made patient transfers mandatory in order to prioritize care for COVID-19 patients and free up hospital beds for them. Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority patients were at times transferred to hospitals in other regions hundreds of kilometres away from their home communities and their families and friends.

"We are putting a new program in place that will provide financial assistance for meals, transportation and accommodations or link to community support resources when a person is relocated to a facility outside of their region for ongoing inpatient care," said health minister Audrey Gordon in a Jan. 28 news release.

The government said it will cover up to eight visits a month by a patient's "designated support person," by providing meal vouchers so that the support person can dine with the patient when on-site meal service is available or cover a maximum of \$8 for breakfast, \$10 for lunch and \$15 for dinner when on-site meal service is unavailable.

The program will also provide return bus fare or gas expenses and accommodation up to a maximum of \$70 a night plus taxes.

The government also said it will "work with" about 250 patients that

had been transferred prior to its announcement, but didn't say what that will entail.

"The program is effective today and the province will work with the approximately 250 transfers that occurred prior to today to ensure these situations are also addressed," said Gordon.

Additional patients may have to be relocated outside of their home region to manage hospitalizations and ICU capacity, states the release.

Current public health orders are being extended until Feb. 8 as the government determines the impact of omicron.

"Manitoba has imposed restrictions earlier and for a longer period of time compared to most other Canadian jurisdictions," said Gordon. "As we all learn to live with the virus, it is still critical that we stay the course over the next week. There are signs of stabilization but we need more data to fully assess our next steps and implement initiatives that support our pandemic response."

The release says "severe outcomes" from omicron may have "peaked" while at the same time stating that the viral count may be increasing based on Winnipeg wastewater surveillance data.

Although omicron was touted as being mild, it put hundreds of Manitobans in hospital over the space of three weeks. On Jan. 7 there were 297 people reported in hospital with COVID. By Jan. 28 there were 715 people in hospital.

The government restricted access to PCR testing as new infections overwhelmed testing capacity. New case

Call Patricia Barrett  
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EXPRESS FILE PHOTO

NDP leader Wab Kinew said last Friday at the legislature that the government should commit to retroactively covering the costs of patients and their families who were subjected to the government's mandatory patient-transfer protocol.

data has been lost by people deterred from getting tested or who were able to acquire rapid antigen tests, the results of which aren't reported to public health.

As far as government's provision of data goes, NDP leader Wab Kinew said Manitobans should have a clear picture of the extent of COVID infections in order to assess health risks and make informed decisions.

And the government, furthermore, has provided only a "description" of wastewater surveillance data rather

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# getinformed

NEWS > VIEWS > GIMLI > ARBORG > LUNDAR > SURROUNDING AREAS



EXPRESS PHOTO BY BRIAN JONASSON

This fisherman was trying his luck ice fishing hoping to catch his supper following the wind storm Sunday evening in Valhalla Beach. Help the *Express* record the weather of the week and send in your photos of friends or family enjoying the outdoors. Email: [weather@expressweeklynews.ca](mailto:weather@expressweeklynews.ca).

## Survey finds majority of Canadians in favour of mandatory COVID vaccination

By Patricia Barrett

A national survey released last month by Maru Public Opinion shows 66 per cent of Canadians in favour of mandatory vaccination against COVID-19 for people five years of age and older.

And 61 per cent of Canadians think the unvaccinated should pay the full medical cost of their hospital or ICU stay should they contract the virus.

Maru measured Canadian attitudes towards the unvaccinated and examined some of the reasons as to why they refuse to get jabbed.

One in 10 Canadians have refused a COVID vaccine, states Maru's Jan. 19 news release. Alberta and Quebec have the highest number of people refusing a vaccine (12 per cent) followed by Ontario (11 per cent), Atlantic Canada and British Columbia (five per cent), and Saskatchewan and Manitoba (three per cent).

A majority of Canadians say they have no sympathy for the unvaccinated who get ill or die from COVID.

"A majority (54 per cent) of Canadians don't have sympathy for an unvaccinated person if they become seriously ill or die as a result of contracting COVID — offset by the remainder that do (46 per cent)," states the release.

The survey also found that Canadians view the unvaccinated as responsible for overwhelming the health-care system (48 per cent), holding Canadians back from having a normal life (40 per cent), endangering society (36 per cent), being misguided conspiracy theorists (36 per cent), being good people with legitimate reasons/concerns (27 per cent), being reckless (26 per cent), being super-spreaders of the virus (17 per cent), and being heroes for free speech/choice (12 per cent).

In varying degrees, Canadians agreed there were a number of acceptable ways to encourage the unvaccinated to get jabbed, including banning them from public spaces such as restaurants, theatres, liquor and cannabis stores (77 per cent), forcing them to pay the full medical cost of their hospital or ICU stay should they fall ill with COVID (61 per cent), forcing them to pay a health-care surcharge on their taxes of up to \$150 per month (61 per cent) and refusing them access to any publicly funded hospital/medical services (37 per cent).

Although Maru found two-thirds of Canadians in favour of mandatory vaccination, a majority of those people (82 per cent) were "open to some exemptions," which include a person

having a diagnosed medical condition which disqualifies them from getting vaccinated.

The survey examined the reasons why a minority of Canadians refuse to get vaccinated against COVID. Their reasons include defending their civil liberties (45 per cent), waiting for more data to determine if vaccines are safe (42 per cent), believing their immune system can "beat" COVID (32 per cent), fearing how the vaccine could affect them (28 per cent), not wanting the government telling them what to do (22 per cent), believing COVID is a bad flu, not a deadly virus (9 per cent), and stating that vaccination is against their religion (1 per cent).

The survey was conducted Jan. 14-15, 2022, with 1,506 randomly selected Canadian adults. It has an estimated error margin of +/- 2.5 per cent, 19 times out of 20. Maru states that it does not do any work for any political party. Survey data and the news release are available online.

Worldwide, there have been over 364 million confirmed cases of COVID and more than 5.6 million deaths, according to the World Health Organization's COVID dashboard (viewed Jan. 28).

## > TRANSFERRED HOSPITAL PATIENTS, FROM PG. 6

than details, he said.

"We haven't actually seen a lot in terms of the concrete facts right now. It's so important to equip Manitobans with this information because more public information can only support public health," said Kinew last Friday. "Let's arm the public with this data. Let's arm the public with information about what's going on with COVID right now and let's ensure Manitobans can have the full lay of the land and the full picture of what's going on."

Kinew also said the government should have committed to cover the retroactive costs of the 250 or so patients who were transferred to other health regions prior to the announcement of the new program.

"It [has had] a very dramatic impact on the families affected. The fact that this is not being made retroactive is very disappointing," he said. "We know that hundreds of patients have been moved so far. That means hundreds of loved ones also who've had their lives affected. So the government really does need to make this program retroactive immediately. Many folks have already incurred these expenses and they should not be left out of consideration at this time."

Meanwhile, on Monday Manitoba hit a high of 735 hospitalizations due to COVID-19. Fifty-six patients were in ICU because of the virus.

The 19 new COVID-19 deaths reported over the weekend brought the death toll to 1,562.

While vaccinated individuals can still catch and spread COVID-19, especially the more contagious omicron variant, there continues to be a correlation between severe outcomes (winding up in hospital, in ICU, or dead due to the virus) and vaccination status.

According to data collected in Manitoba up to Jan. 10, an unvaccinated person who contracts the virus is three times more likely to land in the ICU than someone with one dose of vaccine, 19 times more likely than someone with two doses, and 139 times more likely than someone with three doses.

Vaccinations are available at immunization clinics and medical centres throughout the province. Head to [protectmb.ca](http://protectmb.ca) for details.

# Manitoba Beef Producers' virtual AGM set for Feb. 10

By Jennifer McFee

A local agriculture industry organization aims to beef up interest in its upcoming annual general meeting.

Manitoba Beef Producers will host the 43rd annual general meeting on Feb. 10 via Zoom, and all are welcome to register for the free event.

General manager Carson Callum explained that the organization represents approximately 6,300 beef producers across the province.

"We represent them through a variety of avenues such as communication, advocacy efforts, research and education," he said.

"That all takes place within industry, to different levels of government and to end consumers to try to drive forward the beef industry in the province. That's the main focus of our staff and our board."

Callum will launch the AGM in the

morning with introductory remarks, followed by a knowledge sessions about business risk management.

"In light of all the recent weather challenges we've had in the last number of years, it's just a reminder of what programs are available. It's important to put this information in front of them so they know they have options to mitigate some of their risk," he said.

"There will also be a market update, some updates from industry partners such as the National Cattle Feeders Association, and then we'll be going through our usual business component. There will be a report from myself, from the president, from the finance chair and a couple small updates to our bylaws, as well as the resolutions debate that take places during our AGM every year."

Another highlight will be a presen-

tation by Dickson Delorme of Tuffnell, Sask., who is better known by the moniker "Quick Dick McDick."

"We're going to end it off with a keynote presentation by the YouTube sensation Quick Dick McDick from Saskatchewan," Callum said.

"He's going to be doing a presentation about the importance of mental health in the sector and trying to get some smiles and laughter out of producers after the last several months being so stressful."

Members are encouraged to attend the virtual event, particularly for the business component, and others are welcome to tune in too.

To register for the Feb. 10 virtual annual general meeting — and to view the draft agenda and proposed bylaw amendments — visit the Manitoba Beef Producers website at [www.mb-beef.ca](http://www.mb-beef.ca).



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Carson Callum, general manager of Manitoba Beef Producers, encourages everyone to attend this year's AGM and be in the know.

# MPS hosting free seminars for Psychology Month

By Ashleigh Viveiros

February is Psychology Month in Canada and the Manitoba Psychological Society (MPS) is celebrating by offering a series of free online workshops.

"It's an opportunity for psychologists to give back to the community," says society president Dr. Jo Ann Unger, a clinical psychologist with a practice in Winnipeg.

It's also, she adds, a chance to "engage with the community around psychology and the use of psychological practices and science in our lives."

To that end, the workshops run the gamut in terms of topics — everything from managing anxiety and stress to surviving chronic pain to dealing with children's temper tantrums. A complete list of topics and workshop links are available online at [www.mps.ca](http://www.mps.ca).

All of the sessions are free and only one requires pre-registration. For the others, you need only click on the talk's link via Zoom to tune in. The first workshop — *Understanding and*

*Managing Anxiety in the Pregnancy and Postpartum Periods* — is next Monday over the lunch hour. Other sessions are held during the afternoon and evening hours.

"Folks are welcome and encouraged to attend one or as many as they would like to get some really useful information, particularly now during COVID when our mental health is really important to pay attention to," notes Unger.

Psychology Month has been observed in Canada since 2005 and MPS has hosted these workshops annually for years, though usually they're done in person.

Due to the pandemic they've shifted things online, which has come with a silver lining.

"One of the things we're really pleased about is the ability for them to be more accessible to people across the province," Unger says. "One of the things as MPS we're always looking at and trying to help with is to improve accessibility for psychologists and psychological services in the province."

Unger is leading

a workshop herself, tackling the topic of stress management. It's an area of expertise she's been asked to weigh in on a lot over the past couple of years.

"We're really in a state, for many of us, of chronic stress at this point with all of the different changes that people have to adapt to, the pressures that living in a pandemic have on people's lives," she observes. "I'm hoping to focus on helping us overcome some of the obstacles of doing some of the things that we know are good for our health and our mental health."

Self-care is incredibly important for one's mental health, but many people shrug it off or downplay the struggles they may be facing. It can also be difficult for people to ask for help when they need it, Unger says.

"There's a bit of stigma still around mental health and just folks really understanding that our wellness is a whole package — it's not just physical," she says.

In the same way that we all have a certain level of physical health that affects how we go about our lives, so too does our mental health have an impact.

"We often think about mental health



Dr. Jo Ann Unger, MPS president

as being about mental illness," Unger says. "But we all have mental health — how well are we doing emotionally, socially, behaviorally and in our thinking? It's just a little bit less visible."

"So it's really important that just as we take care of our physical health by going and exercising regularly or eating good foods, there's certain practices that we can do for our mental health that help in times of stress, that help us manage and be resilient."

Head to [www.mps.ca](http://www.mps.ca) for more details on MPS' Psychology Month sessions.

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# Betty White Challenge raises almost \$2,000 for Gimli Humane Society

By Patricia Barrett

Supporters of the Gimli Humane Society raised close to \$2,000 for the shelter after being inspired by American entertainer Betty White and her dedication to animal welfare.

The so-named "Betty White Challenge" started on social media after White's death in December. The movement encouraged people to donate money to animal shelters. White was a supporter of animal welfare causes.

Animal shelters across Canada were the recipients of local fundraising drives, including the Gimli Humane Society.

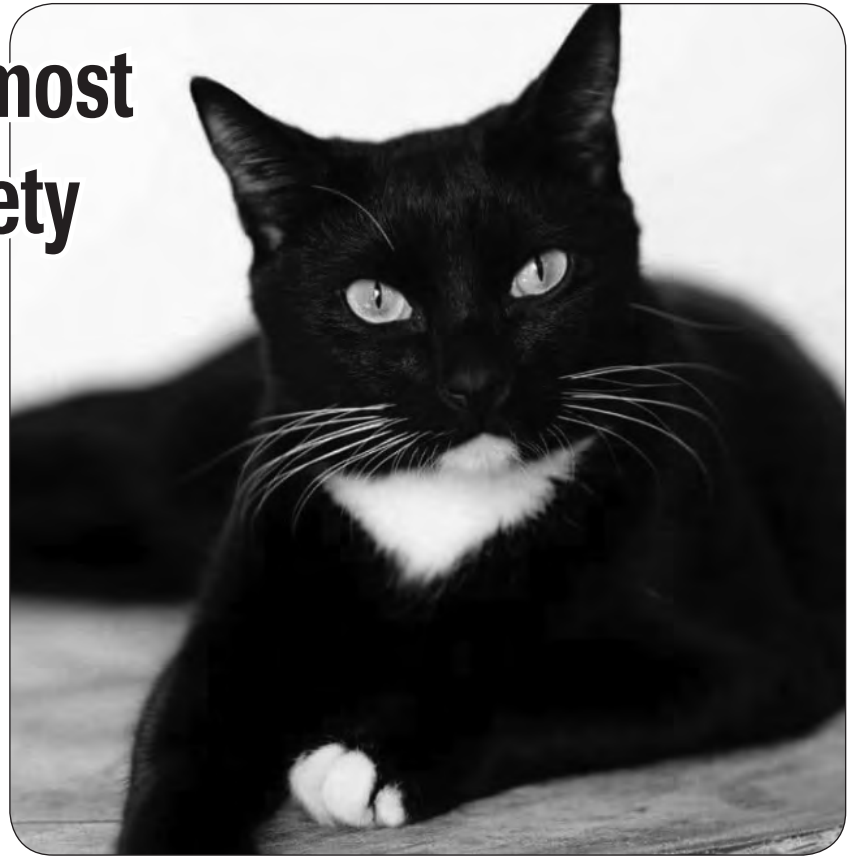
"The Betty White Challenge was an amazing example of legacy giving. Just shy of \$2,000 was raised [for the Gimli Hu-

mane Society]," said animal control officer Cindy Salamandyk last week. "We're absolutely thrilled with the funds that were raised for us. It was an unexpected but welcome financial support. We are so impressed with the people who helped our animals in care."

People from the local area and from "far and wide" helped raised money for the shelter, said Salamandyk.

It will go towards helping the shelter pay for the cost of veterinary care and food.

"We're so incredibly grateful for everything. Every dollar counts and makes a huge difference," said Salamandyk. "We're so appreciative of everyone who supported us from far and wide."



GIMLI HUMANE SOCIETY FACEBOOK

## Manitoba RCMP make arrest in dangerous U.S. swatting incidents

Submitted by RCMP

On Jan. 26, 2022, as a result of the ongoing investigation, the Manitoba RCMP East District Crime Reduction Enforcement Support Team (CREST) re-arrested 18-year-old Sean Murdock, from Fisher River, as he faces an additional six counts of public mischief in relation to other swatting calls.

The examination of the electronic devices seized from Murdock's home determined that he had made an additional six swatting calls to various police departments located in the United States.

These police departments included;

- Bridgman Police Department (Bridgman, Michigan)
- Appleton Police Department (Appleton, Wisconsin)
- Lane County Sheriff's Office (Lane County, Oregon)
- Indianapolis Police Department and the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office (Indianapolis, Indiana)
- Colonial Police Department (Bethlehem, Pennsylvania)
- Collinsville Police Department and Madison County Sheriff's Office (Collinsville, Illinois)

These calls ranged from threats made in relation to an active shooter to bomb threats involving large facilities. As a result of these phone calls, numerous law enforcement personnel were dispatched to these locations, which were all determined to be false.

Sean Murdock is scheduled to appear in court on March 8, 2022, in Pe-

guis First Nation, Manitoba.

### Manitoba RCMP make arrest in dangerous US swatting incidents

On Aug. 17, 2021, the Manitoba RCMP East District Crime Reduction Enforcement Support Team (CREST) received a request to assist law enforcement agencies in the United States. These agencies included the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation and Homeland Security Investigations.

The request for assistance was in relation to two "swatting" incidents that occurred in Tennessee and two that occurred in North Carolina.

"Swatting" is the practice of making a phone call falsely describing a life-threatening situation in order to provoke an armed police response.

The police departments reported receiving a 911 call, on separate dates, from a male advising he was inside a school with a firearm and was going to start shooting. In both cases, the schools were placed on lockdown and a large number of police officers, including SWAT officers, attended.

These situations created dangerous circumstances for the public and responding emergency response personnel. The calls were later found to be false.

The initial investigation by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation determined that the phone calls originated from a number registered to a residence in Manitoba.

Further investigation by the RCMP

and Winnipeg Police Service determined that the residence was located on the Fisher River Cree Nation.

On Aug. 30, 2021, officers attended to the residence and executed a search warrant. A number of electronic items

were seized.

Officers arrested an 18-year-old male at the residence who was taken into custody and later released for court scheduled Dec. 7, 2021, on Peguis First Nation.



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# Move over NHL, Bruce's Marine has a far bigger rink in Siglavik

By Patricia Barrett

The NHL has nothing on a skating rink that was recently built in Siglavik, just south of Gimli.

Bruce and Jo-Anne Johnson and their family, who run Bruce's Marine Sales & Service, built an outdoor rink they estimate is three times the size of a National Hockey League rink on one of the bays in Siglavik, a residential subdivision about five kilometres south of Gimli.

Their son-in-law, Clint, who helped build the rink, said it "isn't a small rink by any means." They built it because there are only so many people who can access indoor skating rinks under COVID-19 precautions. The Johnsons wanted to make it safe for multiple skaters — or dog walkers — to get out on the ice for some fun and exercise.

The rink takes up about half the size of the bay along Mallard Drive, said Clint. They built it for families living in Siglavik, but non-residents are welcome to get their skates on and enjoy the bay.

"Because there are so many families in Siglavik that have small children,

and some older people that want to get out and do something in the winter, me and my father-in-law decided what better way to help than to make a big rink," he said. "We're really happy to give back to the community we've been living in for the past 50-60 years."

They had initially built a small rink just for his own kids, said Clint. Then they saw a neighbour getting into the rink-building game and they literally linked up by clearing a path between their rinks. Then another neighbour caught the vibe and started building a third rink.

"We joined all three rinks together, and this past year we decided to make one big rink," said Clint. "Bruce and I started it as soon as it was safe to get on the ice."

Bruce's Marine Sales & Service is a family-run business that was established in 1979 in a small garage that's now grown to a 10-acre facility located just south of Gimli on Highway 9. The company repairs boats and motors (outboard, inboard or sterndrives). They also repair boat upholstery and canvas.

"There's nothing on a boat that we



The Johnson family built a dock that people can use to access the ice.

don't fix," said Clint.

There's no ice surface they can't fix, either, by the look of it. The family has assumed responsibility for snow-clearing and flooding the super-sized rink to ensure it remains as crack-free as possible.

Clint said he has a skid steer, a small tractor-like machine with arms that can be outfitted with different at-

tachments such as a "scoop pusher" to clear snow and a broom that can sweep the ice's surface. They've also got a "tractor-Zamboni" to flood the ice.

"It's quite the process. For us to clean it all off and flood it, it probably takes four or five hours," said Clint. "Several people have come over with hot cocoa

Continued on page 13



The Johnson family built a dock that people can use to access the ice.



EXPRESS PHOTOS COURTESY OF BRUCE'S MARINE

Cleaning the rink takes about 4-5 hours of work.

## > HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS, FROM PG. 5

commented (on the petition), who have been through the same, and their families are suffering," said Redman.

The group is appealing to the provincial government to add passing lanes every 50 kilometres on Highway 6, rumble strips, widened shoulders and lay-bys for rest stops over the next three years.

They're also requesting the province implement 2+1 roads, which are three-lane roads, with two lanes in one direction and one opposing, alternating every few kilometres and

usually separated by a barrier, and faster emergency response times for highway accidents.

Devan McCoubrey drives on Highway 6 at least twice a day, five times a week.

"I drive up to Ashern two times a day, and then I'm in the city way more often than I should be," said the RM of Grahamdale administrator.

"It's a very dangerous highway."

Additional safety measures for Highway 6 would be money well spent, said McCoubrey.

"There are a lot of suggestions with-

in that petition that our elected officials should be considering."

While McCoubrey doesn't know anyone personally who has had an accident on Highway 6, she said most people you ask from the Interlake would.

Lori Schellekens, RM of Woodlands' reeve, said she agreed with the proposed improvements to the highway but also suggests a review of the current passing lanes along the stretch.

"They need to address where they have some of these pathways where they're starting and ending."

Northern drivers are also often exhausted when they reach Woodlands,

making the community more at risk for accidents.

Someone close to Schellekens died in a collision on Highway 6 several years ago.

The group is reaching out to First Nations, mayors and chambers of commerce along Highway 6 to join their fight for a safer highway.

Over 3,500 people have signed the "Improvements Needed to Stop Deaths on Highway 6" petition found on change.org.

To learn more about the petition, email [manitobahighway6@gmail.com](mailto:manitobahighway6@gmail.com).





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# Gimli Kiwanis club's Kosy Sock project helps the community stay warm



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY CINDY ANDERSON

People have generously donated socks to the Kiwanis project at a number of participating businesses in Gimli and Winnipeg Beach.

The Kiwanis Club of Gimli & District is collecting new socks for community organizations until the end of March.

By Patricia Barrett

The Kiwanis Club of Gimli & District has embarked on a four-month community service project to collect and distribute new socks to a number of local organizations that work with children, seniors and people with disabilities.

The 1st Annual Kiwanis Kosy Sock project was launched Dec. 1 and will run until the end of March. Kiwanians are inviting the public to drop off new socks for children, youth, women and men at one of several participating businesses in Gimli and Winnipeg Beach.

Club members got together to discuss what kind of project they could carry out and decided on a winter-themed

sock-raising project, said club member Cindy Anderson.

Anderson and fellow club member Pat Newbury volunteered to act as co-chairs for the project.

"We went to businesses and asked if they would be interested," said Anderson last week. "All the businesses were so supportive. They're always so supportive of Kiwanis."

In Gimli, Johnson's Fashion and Footwear, Gimli Home Hardware, Pharmasave, Guardian-Taylor Pharmacy, H.P. Tergesen & Sons, and Red Apple have collection boxes set up in their stores where people can drop off socks. In Winnipeg Beach, people can drop off socks at Park Place Meats & Grocery and the Peacepipe Family Wellness Centre.

"We hit the whole spectrum of age groups and we've got

a really nice selection of socks so far," she said. "Kiwanis members themselves were each asked to donate socks, and we ended up with a large tub of socks just from our members."

Anderson said club members determined what community-oriented organizations could best utilize the socks. They chose the Gimli Children's Centre, Interlake Women's Resource Centre, Heima Er Best / Cornerstone, Gimli Seniors Resource Council, Winnipeg Beach Tiny Tots and the Peacepipe Family Wellness Centre.

Anderson and another Kiwanis member, Fran, periodically check the collection boxes and picked up some donated socks after Christmas, she said.

"The socks were sorted and we just distributed them last week [week of Jan. 17]," said Anderson. "All the recipients were very grateful, saying it was so nice of Kiwanis to do this."

Kiwanis will be making Kosy Socks an annual event, said Anderson. The club will launch its second Kosy Sock project this November to give people more time to donate.

In the meantime, the collection boxes will be at participating businesses until March 31.

For more information about the Gimli & District Kiwanis Club, visit its Facebook site.

"ALL THE RECIPIENTS WERE VERY GRATEFUL."



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# Ashern Skating Club laces up in Eriksdale

By Nicole Brownlee

Ashern welcomes burgeoning skaters to lessons at the Eriksdale Memorial Arena.

"The Ashern Skating Club has been around for years and years before I was even a kid," said Nancy Tindall, president of the skating club.

The Ashern Skating Club's lessons were delayed because of public health restrictions and repairs to the Ashern Arena, which has left the facility closed for the season.

The club usually holds 12 weeks of lessons from November to February. While waiting for the Ashern Arena to open, the club reached out to the Eriksdale Arena to secure ice time for interested families looking for skating lessons.

"Eriksdale was more than willing to offer us whatever ice time we needed," said Tindall.

"We really appreciate the Eriksdale

Recreation Centre for their help."

Skate Canada is working with the Skating Club to offer CanSkate and StarSkate lessons with local Jodi Thorkelsson, a certified coach, and trained on-ice helpers.

"We're hoping that some of our older girls at a higher level will take over the position in years to come to keep it in the community," said Tindall.

The CanSkate program teaches beginners basic skating skills. StarSkate focuses on teaching the fundamentals of figure skating, including ice dance, skating skills, free skate and interpretive skating.

As of Jan. 25, there were 25 children enrolled in the skating lessons. The club is still accepting additional students.

"We're pretty flexible," said Tindall.

Skating is a popular pastime in the rural community, and after not being able to offer the program last year



EXPRESS PHOTO BY NANCY TINDALL

Ashern welcomes new skaters to join their skating lessons at the Eriksdale Memorial Arena. Participants will learn foundational skating skills and figure skating basics.

because of public health restrictions during the COVID-19 pandemic, Tindall said she's happy to see lessons returning.

"I'm really glad that there are people

still interested in enrolling their kids."

To learn more about the Ashern Skating Club, email ashernskating-club@gmail.com.

## > RINK, FROM PG. 10

or cookies for Bruce and Jo-Anne to show their appreciation."

Because Siglavik is a residential subdivision, there's no natural access to the bay, said Clint. But people can park their cars on Mallard Drive, and a homeowner on the street (at 14 Mal-

lard Dr.) is graciously allowing them to cut through his yard, which leads to a dock the Johnson family built to access the ice surface.

"We've got benches on the ice so people can put their skates on down there, and we're getting some skating aids for people who can't skate well," said Clint. "A lot of neighbours,

including my father-in-law, have put outdoor lights by the rink. If they see anyone out there at sunset or at night, they'll turn the lights on for them."

It would be a bit of a stretch to get the Johnsons to clear a trail all the way to Lake Winnipeg, but they're up for a slightly scaled-down challenge.

"For me to get the trail out to the

lake would be a good mile and a half," said Clint, laughing.

"But next year we were thinking of building the skating trail all around Siglavik bay. Then people could stop at their neighbours for a visit while they're out skating."

## Dentures are staying in place, thanks to the Vandor team

BY ELISHA VANDOR

As I'm writing this, I'm thinking about the person who is struggling to keep their dentures in their mouth. The lower denture can pop out with a flick of the tongue and the upper has lost its once cement-like suction. If your tongue is doing more work keeping your dentures in your mouth than helping chew your food for digestion, then we can help. Most importantly, how would you like to adjust the tightness of your denture like you adjust the laces on your shoes? Those laces give your feet the ability to stay in place and grip the sidewalk. Imagine if your foot was slipping out of your shoe with every step you took? You probably wouldn't walk as confidently as if your laces were tight and your foot secure in your shoe. Coincidentally, your ability to chew and eat with confidence is affected by your denture's ability to stay in place.

There are different ways we can get your denture to grip better. Yes, I do suggest Polygrip, but Polygrip's effectiveness is determined by how well your denture fits. So first, your denture

needs to fit as tight as possible. If you've had your denture for more than 3 years and it's never been refitted (also called relined), then that's a good start. A reline will refit your current denture to the way your gums are right now. It's very beneficial as it will prevent the denture from prematurely cracking and give you some improved tightness. If you experience extreme bone loss from years of wearing dentures, then mixing Polygrip with a reline can benefit you too. Alternatively, improving the grip of your dentures is best done by getting new dentures altogether. Over time, teeth become worn and the material of the denture can become thin. A new denture will correct these issues and simultaneously give you the best fit possible. So how do you adjust the tightness like a shoe lace? For that we will need a couple more denture components...

Some like to call them buttons, and others say magnets, but the word for adjusting how tight your dentures grips is called "O-rings". O-rings are

tiny rubber-like clips that hold your denture onto a dental implant, and there are different options for how tight you want your denture to be. Some want them just tight enough to chew that morning toast, but still be easy to clip out. Others want them so tight that they can eat well-done steak, so we simply clip in tighter O-rings. We can actually adjust the tightness of people's dentures with dental implants and the matching O-rings that go into the denture; it is quite amazing! Recent patient Gilbert just had his denture gripped onto 2 lower dental implants and he says, "The denture isn't moving around now. Before, when I was eating they popped out all the time, but now they're a lot better and stay in place. I'm able to eat a lot better. In fact, I could even have them a bit tighter at my next appointment." - January 12, 2022

If you would like to know if your dentures could be made tighter too, just give us a call for a free consultation!



- supplied photo -

Happy patient Gail poses with Brock after receiving her new dentures. **SENIOR PRICING**

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# Truck convoy through Arborg gains Interlake support

Staff

A convoy of over 60 vehicles protesting federal vaccine requirements for cross-border essential workers streamed through Arborg on Jan. 24 on route to Winnipeg.

Owner of Roseridge Trucking Inc., Elmer Penner, said the 60 vehicles trailing in the Arborg convoy were met with zealous community support.

"People waving at us and cheering us on," said Penner.

"We had guys in tears when they (saw) the amount of support."

Enforcing the mandatory vaccinations will cut Roseridge Trucking's yearly earnings in half, said Penner. The company currently makes \$5 million a year with 18 drivers.

"We know that our freedoms are being taken away from us," said Penner.

"Our business is now being put in jeopardy because of the madness that Justin Trudeau has put in place."

As of Jan. 15, 2022, the federal government is enforcing that essential service providers, like truckers, are only allowed into Canada if they are fully vaccinated. Otherwise, truckers will have to quarantine for 14 days when returning from the U.S.



Roseridge Trucking Inc. owner Elmer Penner said the convoy is protesting against the federal mandate requiring all essential workers crossing the Canadian border to be fully vaccinated.

The U.S. announced a similar mandate in October 2021, requiring all foreign national travellers for essential or non-essential travel be fully vaccinated.

Continued on page 18



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Over 60 truckers and supporters joined the truck convoy through the Town of Arborg on Jan. 24.

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# Snowmobile sales increase as socializing decreases

By Nicole Brownlee

Snowmobilers are cruising through the prairies with another successful year of recruits.

With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in May 2020, Canadians purchased over 50,000 snowmobiles from 2020 to 2021, which was the highest rate of sled sales since 2000.

Snoman, an organization of snowmobilers in Manitoba, noticed an increase in fellow hobbyists over the past two years.

"People can't go anywhere travel-wise," said Yvonne Rideout, executive director of Snoman, theorizing why the sport became more popular.

Snowmobile registrations increased by almost 2,000 in Manitoba this year, said Rideout.

"Last year, it was very difficult finding a snowmobile anywhere. I would expect the same thing this season too."

Randy Gudmundson, owner of Randy's Tire & Sport in Lundar, said shipments can't keep up with the demand for snowmobiles.

"If you could get product then (sales) would be great," said Gudmundson.

Snowmobile inventory is low across the country because of supply chain issues caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

After three years of minimal snowfall, Snoman is ecstatic to see the fresh powder on trails throughout the province.

The majority of Snoman's 12,000 kilometres of trails are open this winter, except for a trail winding around Athapapuskow Lake leading to Flin Flon and most of a trail following Highway 6 from Reed Lake to Gillam.

The Snoman trails are groomed by 53 clubs throughout the province.

Clubs operate on membership fees to help pay for the cost of maintenance.

"The clubs weren't able to do any fundraising activity due to the pandemic," said Rideout.

"Things like derbies were all cancelled."

The Interlake Snow Trackers groom 600 kilometres of trails around Arborg, Hecla, Grindstone, Riverton, Gimli, Winnipeg Beach, Narcisse and Petersfield.

"Last year, because of COVID, there was a tremendous amount of Sno-



passes sold," said Les Thordarson, president of the Interlake Snow Trackers.

Snopasses are \$150 snowmobile passes needed to travel on Snoman trails.

"There are lots of snowmobilers out there, that's for sure."

The Snow Trackers have around 90 members this year, with several volunteers who help maintain the trails and warming shelters.

Warming shelters are also open this year at 25 per cent capacity. Last year, the shacks were closed because of public health restrictions.

While he's happy the shelters have reopened for the 2022 season, Thordarson said the COVID-19 pandemic has changed how snowmobilers interact.

"We have warmup shelters that can only have two or three people in them," said Thordarson.

"You don't really get to talk to too many people that are out there."

Thordarson has been a member of the Snow Trackers for over 30 years and annually marks trails in Arborg, Riverton and Hecla to be cleared with his son.

"The trail has to be marked before we can both enjoy it."

Two operators are paid by the Snow Trackers to maintain the trails throughout the Interlake.

To check the maintenance status of trails, visit [snoman.mb.ca](http://snoman.mb.ca).



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

The Interlake Snow Trackers are one of 53 snowmobile clubs that groom 12,000 kilometres of trails throughout the province.

"LAST YEAR, IT WAS VERY DIFFICULT FINDING A SNOWMOBILE ANYWHERE."



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# Province offers free provincial park entry for February

Submitted by Manitoba government

The Manitoba government will again allow free entry to provincial parks for the entire month of February so Manitobans and visitors can take advantage of the many winter activities they offer, Environment, Climate and Parks Minister Jeff Wharton announced Monday.

"Free park entry gives everyone more opportunities to enjoy nature and the great outdoors," said Wharton. "People across our province love Manitoba's parks and our government is pleased to make it easier to explore them and to experience all that they offer."

Vehicle permits will not be required at any provincial park in Manitoba in February, though Snopasses will be needed for snowmobilers using groomed trails in parks. Entrance fees will continue to apply at national parks.

Provincial parks have groomed trails for a variety of activities, including cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, fat biking, snowshoeing and hiking. Paint Lake, Spruce Woods and Turtle Mountain provincial parks also offer outdoor skating areas, hockey rinks and toboggan hills. Trails province-wide are in excellent condition with a good snow base, the minister noted.

Manitobans are encouraged to check trail conditions and weather forecasts before visiting parks to properly plan their outdoor adventures. An online interactive trails map is updated regularly with grooming and condition reports at [www.manitobaparks.com](http://www.manitobaparks.com). Trail users are reminded to use only

trails that are designated for their activities, to keep dogs on leashes and to practise the principles of Leave No Trace by not littering.

While being outdoors and active in nature is important for physical and mental health, COVID-19 public health orders must be followed, including for physical distancing and group size restrictions. Warming shelters are open with reduced capacity limits and masks are required indoors. Park visitors are reminded to observe capacity signs and to kindly limit their time in shelters to share with others. Information on COVID-19 guidelines in provincial parks is available at [www.manitobaparks.com](http://www.manitobaparks.com).

Park interpreters offer numerous guided experiences to help Manitobans learn and discover natural and cultural heritage at Birds Hill, Spruce Woods and Whiteshell provincial parks. Highlights in February will include wolf howl hikes, snowshoe treks, quinzhee building and ice fishing. Event details and registration information can be found under the events tab on the Manitoba Parks Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/MBGovParks](http://www.facebook.com/MBGovParks) and at [www.manitobaparks.com](http://www.manitobaparks.com).

Teachers can also book free guided field trips to Birds Hill, Spruce Woods and Whiteshell provincial parks, along with virtual programs to bring park interpreters into their classrooms.

For more information on winter activities and interpretive programs in provincial parks, email [ParkInterpre-tation@gov.mb.ca](mailto:ParkInterpre-tation@gov.mb.ca) or visit [www.manitobaparks.com](http://www.manitobaparks.com).



EXPRESS PHOTO BY LEANNE CORBETT

The province announced free entry to provincial parks for the entire month of February to encourage Manitobans and visitors to take advantage of the excellent trail conditions.

tation@gov.mb.ca or visit [www.manitobaparks.com](http://www.manitobaparks.com).

Annual park vehicle permits will be available for purchase beginning on March 1.

Manitobans can stay up to date with

provincial parks news, activities and events by following Manitoba Parks on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/MBGovParks](http://www.facebook.com/MBGovParks) and on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/MBGovParks](http://www.twitter.com/MBGovParks).

## 2022 marks the birth of the Gimli International Film Festival!

Submitted by GIFF executive director Alan Wong

With the expanded reach of virtual offerings these past two pandemic summers, the newly branded Gimli International Film Festival (GIFF) has truly tapped into a global audience. This change signifies a new era for Manitoba's premiere film festival, which is also proudly the largest film festival in Canada to be set in a rural community.

Gimli's natural beauty as a lakeside community has drawn visitors from all over the world. The festival's main attraction, the RBC Sunset Beach Screenings held nightly on Gimli Beach, with its towering screen rising out of the waters of Lake Winnipeg, makes it a wholly unique Manitoba summer experience.

The name change is representative



**Gimli International  
FILM FESTIVAL  
July 20-24, 2022**

of the reach and scope that the annual multi-day event has grown to encompass and sets the stage for a broader reach of creation, collaboration and expression while continuing to highlight and support the local film and media arts community.

As in recent years, the festival will continue to feature the best in independent cinema from Manitoba, across Canada and around the world, highlighting films from Iceland and

other circumpolar countries, paying tribute to the history of the festival and the community of Gimli.

It will also continue to showcase leading-edge, thought-provoking contemporary cinema that is grounded in social justice, Indigenous narrative, environmental protection, equality and human rights; stories of the human experience that seek to inspire, educate, entertain and empower a new generation of movie-lovers

and emerging filmmakers.

This year, our festival will take place from Thursday, July 20 to Sunday, July 24. We intend to return to in-person screenings and events while meeting all government health regulations and protocols, with a curated selection of films offered online and on-demand starting Monday, July 25 and ending Sunday, Aug. 7. As the COVID situation remains consistently dynamic, we will be keeping a close eye on the situation and will do our best to bring the festival back to Gimli, safely and responsibly.

Film submissions to the 2022 Gimli International Film Festival are now open on Film Freeway.

For more information on the festival, go to [gimlifilm.com](http://gimlifilm.com).



# sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

## Einarson hoping for a three-peat at 2022 Scotties

By Ty Dilello

The 2022 Scotties Tournament of Hearts is officially underway from the Fort William Gardens in Thunder Bay, Ont.

The event is currently being played with increased health measures because of COVID-19, with no spectators, strict protocols, and testing to keep players and officials safe.

This year's betting favourite at the Scotties is none other than Gimli's Kerri Einarson (Team Canada), the two-time defending Scotties champion. Einarson, who won the Scotties last year with no fans, says that playing without spectators has advantages.

"It's definitely different," said Einarson. "It's a lot more quiet, so it kind of makes it a little easier because you can actually hear your teammates and not have to yell over the crowd or those other distractions."

Einarson and her rink of third Val Sweeting, second Shannon Birchard, lead Briane Meilleur and alternate Krysten Karwacki play in Pool 'B', against teams such as Alberta's Laura Walker, the 2021 Scotties bronze medalist, and Altona's Mackenzie Zacharias, the 2020 world junior champion.

Einarson will be looking to become the first skip to pull off a Scotties three-peat since St. Vital's Jennifer Jones accomplished the feat in 2008, 2009 and 2010. However, no matter the results this year, Einarson is most excited just to get back out there and compete again at the national level.

"At least we're getting a chance to play, and we're grateful for that," said Einarson. "I had a feeling it would (go ahead). It was touch and go there for a little bit. But it was a big relief when we finally learned it was a go."

In this event, the other top team also hails from Manitoba in East St. Paul's Tracy Fleury, who is recently coming off losing the Olympic Trials final to Jennifer Jones in heartbreaking fashion. Fleury is competing in Pool A against Emma Miskew (Team Homan), two-time Scotties champ Chelsea Carey, and Northern Ontario's Krista McCarville.

Team Fleury (Wild Card #1) of East St. Paul was hit with a bombshell to start the week as its skip, Tracy Fleury, tested positive for COVID-19 prior to the team's opening game and has been unable to play through the event's opening weekend. Team Fleury's third Selena Njegovan has now



EXPRESS PHOTO CURLING CANADA

Gimli's Kerri Einarson is hoping to win her third straight Scotties Tournament of Hearts.

moved up to take over the skipping reigns, while fifth Robyn Njegovan has moved up to play third.

This year's Scotties format splits 18 teams into two pools of nine and, from there, they will play a complete eight-game round-robin. The top three teams in each pool advance to the playoffs, where it will be further reduced to a final four and a page

playoff system.

Fans can follow the action by tuning in to TSN throughout the week, with the championship final going down on Sunday night. This year's Scotties champion will represent Canada at the 2022 Women's Curling Championship in Prince George, B.C., from March 19 to 27.

## U17 Lightning double Thrashers

Staff

The Interlake Lightning doubled the Winnipeg Thrashers 4-2 in U17 "AAA" action last Sunday in Warren.

No goal scorers were available at press time.

On Friday, Interlake lost 5-1 to the Wheat Kings in Brandon.

After a scoreless first-period, Brandon's Quinn Schutte, on the power play, Andre Balcaen and Ethan Gerdis scored in the middle frame.

Interlake's Adam Vigfusson scored a power-play goal in the third but Brandon came back with goals from Balcaen and Henry Van Vuuren.

Lightning netminder Alex Myers made 54 saves.

Last Wednesday, the Lightning lost 6-5 in overtime to the Eastman Selects in Ste. Anne.

Avery Laliberte scored the game winner in OT.

Interlake stormed out of the gate, taking a 4-0 first-period lead on goals by Ian Buors (two), Morgan Mantik, on the power play, and Vigfusson.

Eastman cut the deficit in half with second-period goals from Jeremy Warkentine and Easton Gaffray.

Warkentine pulled the Selects to within a goal when he scored 51 seconds into the third.

Buors completed his hat trick 1:19 later but Eastman tied the score at 5-5 with goals by Logan Dearborne and Warkentine.

Myers made 49 saves in the loss.

Interlake will host the Winnipeg Bruins this Friday in Warren. Game time is 7:30 p.m.

In U15 "AAA" action, Interlake was

beaten 4-3 by the Winnipeg Thrashers White on Sunday.

Winnipeg's Nolan Fielding and Interlake's Gavin Holod traded power-play goals in the first period.

Noah Oughton gave the Lightning a 2-1 lead with a shorthanded goal in the second.

The Thrashers started the third with goals from Gavin Ulrich (two) and Ariel Shuhtin-Poushkarirov to go ahead 4-2.

Blake Farthing pulled Interlake to within a goal at 17:41.

Braedan Cormack stopped 24 Winnipeg shots.

Last Saturday, the Lightning was defeated 7-2 by the Winnipeg Wild Green.

Cole Swanson scored a second-period goal for Interlake and then Holod

struck on the power play in the third.

Winnipeg, which built period leads of 3-0 and 6-1, Quinn Parker (two), Drew Russell, Cole Babych, Lucas Spencer, Cameron McDonald and Carter Kjartanson.

Cormack stopped 33 Winnipeg shots.

On Jan. 26, Interlake lost 7-2 to the Winnipeg Bruins Brown in Stonewall. No goal scorers from the game were posted on the league website at press time.

The Lightning will host the Thrashers White this Friday (7:30 p.m.) in Stonewall and then the Eastman Selects on Saturday (4:30 p.m.) in Warren.

On Sunday, Interlake will battle the Brandon Wheat Kings in Warren. Puck drop is 2:30 p.m.



# sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

## U18 Lightning blanked by Bruins

By Brian Bowman

The Interlake Lightning were shut out 6-0 by the Winnipeg Bruins in Manitoba U18 AAA Hockey League action Sunday afternoon.

After a scoreless opening period, the Bruins grabbed a 4-0 lead after two periods with goals from Jonas Woo (on the power play), Lucas Gillson, with a pair, and Nathan Brown.

Brown and Hayden Moore then tallied in the third.

Last Saturday, the Lightning were beaten 7-1 by the Eastman Selects in Teulon.

Trailing 5-0 late in the second period, Hayden Wheddon scored Interlake's lone goal.

Eastman's Isaac Gordon, Merik Boles, Bryce Warkentine, Loch Stefanyshyn and Carter Johannesson scored in the second period. Trey Sellen and Johannesson tallied in the third.

Interlake will play the Yellowhead Chiefs Saturday (7:30 p.m.) and Sunday (1:30 p.m.) in Shoal Lake.

In U18 "AAA" female action, Interlake lost 3-2 to the Central Plains Capitals on Sunday.

Kenady Christensen and Seanna Price scored second-period goals for the Lightning.

Taylor Bell, Danika Botterill and Izzy Colatruglio replied for the Capitals.

Katelyn Dorsch stopped 37 Central Plains' shots.

Last Saturday, the Lightning were edged 2-1 by the Capitals.

Veronica Smarz scored Interlake's goal in the second period.

Central Plains' goals came from Botterill and Madison Haliuk.

Lightning goaltender Rachel Hall-dorson stopped 33 Central Plains' shots.

shots.

On Jan. 27, the Lightning were defeated 10-3 by the Winnipeg Avros in Stonewall.

Kylee Emms-Finnson, Sarah Shewchuk and Mackenzie Waddell scored for Interlake.

Winnipeg goals were tallied by Kahlen Wisener (four), Norah Collins (two), Raya Hrankowski (two), Elizabeth Bird and Kyleigh Johnson.

The Lightning will host the Eastman Selects on Saturday (2:30 p.m.) in Lundar and then will play Yellowhead on Sunday (4:30 p.m.) in Shoal Lake.

## Falcons, Ice Dawgs each earn a victory

By Brian Bowman

The Selkirk Fishermen erased a 5-2 deficit with five unanswered goals in a 7-5 victory over the Lundar Falcons in Capital Region Junior Hockey League action last Saturday at the Recreation Complex.

Reece Tessier led Selkirk with a hat trick while Matt Brooks, Nick Magwood, Nolan Milgaard and Jordan Donald also tallied.

Lundar goals were scored by Jayden Timlick, Ryan Gleich, Nicholas Fer-

nandes, Cody Procter and Aiden Prystupa.

Graeme Edmund stopped 34 shots in the losing cause.

Last Friday, Lundar defeated the Warriors 6-3 in St. Malo.

Colby Choken led Lundar with three goals while Gleich added a pair. Bryce Allary scored the Falcons' other goal.

Zachary Halldorson had two assists in the game.

St. Malo goals were scored by Jaden Gosselin, Evan Wuerch and Levi

Penner.

Dillon Rapinchuk made 28 saves for the win.

The Falcons will not play again until Feb. 11 when they battle the Warriors again in St. Malo.

The Arborg Ice Dawgs, meanwhile, dumped the North Winnipeg Satellites 6-1 last Saturday.

After a scoreless first period, Arborg took a 3-0 lead after two periods with goals from Dixon Moneas, Daytona Moneas and Riley Huston.

The Ice Dawgs went up 6-0 with a pair of power-play goals by Kalen Guimond and another from Jack Ein-arson.

North Winnipeg's Nicolas Andrews closed out the scoring with a late goal to ruin Brandon Kowalchuk's shutout bid.

The two teams hooked up again this past Tuesday but no score was available.

Arborg will host Selkirk this Friday (8 p.m.) and St. Malo (Sunday 3 p.m.).

### > CONVOY, FROM PG. 14

nated and provide proof of vaccine by January 2022.

The majority of truckers are fully vaccinated, with roughly 10 to 15 per cent of truckers who travel between Canada and the U.S. potentially being unvaccinated, said the Canadian Trucking Alliance.

Penner, who has been a trucker for 30 years, disagrees with CTA's claims, refuting that it might be closer to 50 per cent who won't be able to cross the border.

"The government and media have been lying to us in the last two years," said Penner.

"Most of my information is either from direct friends (and) some on social media."

Though he expects around half of his drivers are vaccinated, Penner said all his employees support the convoy.

"We're standing up for all the unheard voices."

The convoy also stands with unvaccinated workers who are losing their jobs because of vaccine mandates across the country, said Penner.

Vaccine guidelines close to home include the provincial mandate that all Manitoba employees who work with vulnerable populations, like children, had to be fully vaccinated by Oct. 31, 2021, or agree to undergo regular testing.

Similar rules have been adopted by the City of Winnipeg, Winnipeg Police Service and Manitoba health-care professionals.

Tamara Lich, a supporter of the trucking convoy and secretary of the Western separatist Maverick Party, started a GoFundMe page on Jan. 14 to raise money to pay for the truckers' fuel, food and lodgings during their journey to Ottawa. The fundraiser has collected over \$6 million from almost 80,000 donors.

GoFundMe froze the fundraising page on Jan. 25 because the fundraisers need to prove how the funds will be distributed.

The same day, truck drivers and supporters slowly trekked through the outskirts of Winnipeg. Supporters waved and cheered, parked in a one-kilometre line as the convoy passed.

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The Express Weekly News connects people through stories to build stronger communities. Do you know someone who has a unique hobby? Will be recognized by a local organization for volunteer service? A teacher that goes above and beyond? A hometown hero? A sports star? A business celebrating a milestone or expansion? A senior celebrating their 100th birthday? A young entrepreneur starting out?

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## SCRAP METAL

BUYING SCRAP METAL, CARS, TRACTORS, COMBINES, FARM SCRAP, ANY METAL MATERIAL, ANY FARM MACHINERY. PH LONNIE AT 204-886-3407 LVE. MESSAGE OR CELL AT 204-861-2031.

Buyer for all farmyard scrap, machinery and autos. NO ITEM TOO LARGE! Best prices paid, cash in hand. Phone Alf at 204-461-1649.

## MACHINERY

For sale: 220 Case IH tractor, 40C, complete with loader & bucket, 3 PTH, mechanical front wheel drive, factory cab. Mint condition. Call 204-768-9789.

## PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Do you own rental property in Winnipeg? Are you tired of dealing with long term renters and the mess they can leave? We can provide you with a different option to earn a rental income. Pawluk Realty 204-890-8141.

## HOUSE WANTED

House WANTED - Looking to buy a 3 bdrm. home in Aspen Park Gimli. Phone 204-642-7870.

## APARTMENT FOR RENT

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

## BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

Profitable Business-Gas station- Convenience Store- Restaurant for sale in Gilbert Plains, MB. Perfect location with 4 lots serious inquiries only. Call 204-548-2508 or 204-638-2643.

## WANTED

Firearms wanted. Looking for all unwanted firearms. Fully licensed for both non-restricted and restricted. Anywhere from individual items to estates. Cash buyer, paying top dollar. Please call or text Adam at 204-795-2850.

## WANTED

WANTED/BUYING 1950's-70's Scandinavian, Danish, Canadian Mid-Century modern furniture (Teak, Walnut, Rosewood), lighting, ceramics, textiles, stereo or design. Contact Daniel at text/phone: 204-918-1607.

## NOTICES

URGENT PRESS RELEASES - Have a newsworthy item to announce? Having a Winter or Christmas 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](http://www.mcna.com) under the "Types of Advertising" tab for more details.

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## NOTICES

Worried about COVID impacting your business? Advertise in the 32 Weekly Manitoba Community Newspapers to get your messaging out. Selling something? Have an on-line store to shop at, doing curbside pickup/deliveries? Let people know in the Blanket Classifieds! Start the year off right. Don't let COVID get you down. We are now booking Classified Advertising for 2022. Call 204-467-5836 or MCNA at 204-947-1691 for details or to book ads. MCNA - Manitoba Community Newspapers Association. [www.mcna.com](http://www.mcna.com)



## RM OF COLDWELL SENIOR ELECTION OFFICER POSITION

Seeking an individual interested in being the Senior Election Official for our October 2022 Municipal Election

This is not a full time or permanent position. Wage is negotiable.

Individual would receive provincial training and receive Provincial and Municipal supports.

Responsible for the implementation of the whole election process, RM staff available to assist.

Interested persons can contact Nicole at the RM office (204-762-5421) for a more detailed description

Application **Deadline is February 10, 2022.** (drop off at office)

## MORTGAGE SALE ADVERTISEMENT

The land and building known as 310 Gimli Road, Winnipeg Beach, Manitoba as described in Certificate of Title No. 3108985/1 will be sold at auction on Wednesday, the 2nd day of March 2022, at 11:00 a.m. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the auction sale will be held by way of video or teleconference. There will be no in-person attendees at the auction.

**In order to participate in the auction sale, you must pre-register at least 24 hours prior to the auction by contacting Sonia at 204-957-6437 or by email at [sruppel@ltglc.ca](mailto:sruppel@ltglc.ca).**

The Vendor is informed that there is situated on the property a single family cottage of approximately 1,050 square feet with a detached single garage. The Vendor does not have any more information on the property as it is still occupied.

TERMS: Deposit of \$10,000.00 by certified cheque, bank/credit union draft or solicitor's trust cheque to Levene Tadman Golub Law Corporation, or cash (the cash component of the deposit not to exceed \$7,500.00) to be provided within 24 hours of the date and time of auction and the balance in accordance with the conditions to be announced at sale.

The Property is sold subject to a RESERVE BID of \$67,178.79 plus such other additional and incidental costs which may be incurred by the Lender from the 20th day of January, 2022 to the date of auction and which costs will be announced prior to the commencement of the Sale.

Property Taxes are paid to December 31, 2021.

Purchaser to be responsible for payment of any outstanding water accounts owing by the Mortgagor.

Property is subject to nil.

The auction sale will be conducted pursuant to an Order for Sale issued by the District Registrar. Certain parties may be prohibited from purchasing the property, including but not limited to, parties who by virtue of their employment or relationship to a person involved in the sale process would have special knowledge of the circumstances pertaining to the sale. For more information and a list of prohibited purchasers please visit: [www.teranetmanitoba.ca](http://www.teranetmanitoba.ca)

**Further information and copies of Conditions of Sale may be obtained from:**

**LEVEENE TADMAN GOLUB LAW CORPORATION**  
Barristers & Solicitors  
700 - 330 St. Mary Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB. R3C 3Z5  
Attention: Mara Koven-Lapointe/Sonia  
File No. 118877  
Phone No. 957-6437

## MUNICIPALITY OF BIFROST-RIVERTON CALL FOR COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES ON COMMITTEES 2022

The Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton is seeking community members with interest in being appointed to the following non-profit boards and committees:

- East & West Municipal Drainage Committees (Two each)
- B.A.R. Waste Authority Co-op Inc. Board (One)
- EIWD Icelandic River/Willow Creek Subdistrict Board (One)
- EIWD Fisher River/Washow Bay Creek Subdistrict Board (One)
- Evergreen Regional Library Board (Two)
- Riverton-Bifrost Parks and Recreation Committee (Three)

More detailed information on the organizations can be received by emailing [bifrostriverton@mymts.net](mailto:bifrostriverton@mymts.net). Appointments may not be immediate, but the municipality would also like to keep a database on file of interested parties for future vacancies. Please submit an expression of interest by February 25, 2022 to be considered.



## WE'RE HIRING!

**Are you interested in becoming a health care hero and caring for people close to home?**

Interlake-Eastern RHA has  
full-time, part-time and casual positions  
Available in the following health-care facilities:

- Arborg Hospital/Personal Care Home
- Ashern Hospital/Personal Care Home
- Beausejour Hospital
- East Gate Lodge Personal Care Home
- Eriksdale Hospital/Personal Care Home
- Fisher Branch Personal Care Home
- Gimli Johnson Memorial Hospital
- Hodgson Renal Health Centre
- Kin Place Personal Care Home
- Lac du Bonnet Personal Care Home
- Lundar Personal Care Home
- Pinawa Hospital
- Pine Falls Health Complex
- Rosewood Lodge Personal Care Home
- Selkirk Regional Health Centre
- Stonewall & District Health Centre
- Teulon Hunter Memorial Hospital/Goodwin Lodge Personal Care Home
- Whitemouth Personal Care Home

## AVAILABLE POSITIONS

- Cook / Assistant Cook • Dietary Aide
- Housekeeping Aide • Laundry Aide

As a condition of employment, all successful applicants will be required to provide a satisfactory criminal record check (with vulnerable sector screening), adult abuse and child abuse registry checks prior to commencing employment.

To learn more about these and other available positions, please visit [ierha.ca](http://ierha.ca) and click on the careers tab. Search under "support services." Online applications only. Student applications welcome!

We value and support employment equity and workplace diversity and encourage all qualified individuals to apply. Accessibility accommodations are available on request for candidates taking part in all aspects of the selection process. All health-care workers are required to be immunized as a condition of employment.

Eddie's Gravel Supply Ltd. is Hiring

## HEAVY EQUIPMENT MECHANICS

Competitive wages  
Benefits, Full Time  
Training

[info@eddiesgravel.com](mailto:info@eddiesgravel.com)  
204-389-2023

102086 Hwy #9, Wpg Beach, MB

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

### Turkey Insemination Technician Silver Turkey Breeders Inc Arborg, MB

Silver Turkey Breeders Inc. is looking for a Turkey Insemination Technician. Job duties include handling and chasing turkeys Arborg, MB area. Weekend work required. Experience an asset but not required. Starting wage \$13.00 - \$20.00 per hour, plus benefits. Please forward all resumes to Leroy at [silverturkeybreeders@gmail.com](mailto:silverturkeybreeders@gmail.com) or mail to Box 4051 Arborg, MB R0C 0A0.

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



# Classifieds

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## HEALTH

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

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- Annual bonus
- Reset at home
- Weekend home time
- Paid training
- Referral program

**Derek (204) 793-7465**  
CENTENNIAL TRANSPORT & LEASING LTD.

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**IN THE MATTER OF:** The Estate of Edwin Loewen Brandt, late of the Postal District of Arborg, in Manitoba, deceased.

All claims against the above estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be filed with the undersigned at their offices, P.O. Box 1400, Stonewall, Manitoba, R0C 2Z0 on or before the 2nd day of March, 2022.

DATED at Stonewall, Manitoba this 27th day of January, 2022.

**GRANTHAM LAW OFFICES**

Solicitor for the Executor

THE **EXPRESS**  
WEEKLY NEWS  
**204-467-5836**

**Maintenance/Caretaker Couple or Person Required**  
Relocate to SLIMS CABINS NE Saskatchewan Full Time. Year Round.

Main camp road access plus boat in & fly in outposts. Large, heated, well equipped shop to repair or fabricate almost anything. Troubleshooting, mechanical, heavy equipment operation, plumbing, electrical, carpentry, welding, etc.

If you possess a lot of skills, enjoy a rural location, are motivated, responsible, independent and respectful, this may be your dream lifestyle/employment.

Any excessive alcohol consumption (beyond social) or substance abuse is not welcome at our fishing/hunting camp.

Call 204 937 4007

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

**IN THE MATTER of the** Estate of Numi Benjaminson, late of the Postal District of Mele, in Manitoba, deceased.

All claims against the above Estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be filed with the undersigned at: 374A Main Street, Selkirk, Manitoba R1A 1T8 within 30 days of the date of this publication.

DATED at the City of Selkirk, in Manitoba this 31th day of January, 2022.

**Hnatiuk Law**

Attention:  
**Andrew Hnatiuk**  
Solicitor for the Executrix

Everything you need to promote your business  
Call Today! **467-5836**



## OFFICIAL NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that the Interlake Weed Control District (comprised of the Rural Municipalities of Armstrong, Bifrost-Riverton, Fisher, and Gimli, the Town of Arborg, and the LUD of Fisher) intends to conduct the following Pesticide Control Programs during 2022.

1. To control noxious weeds and brush, as well as vegetation causing a safety hazard, on rights-of-way, school grounds, and public areas within the Interlake Weed Control District, the Rural Municipalities of Grahamdale, Coldwell, St. Laurent, and West Interlake, and the LUD of Lunder. School grounds include all Evergreen and Lakeshore School Division properties. The projected dates of application will be from April 11 to December 31, 2022. The herbicides to be used in the program may include:

- 2,4-D Amine	- Diuron	- Picloram
- 2,4-D Ester	- Diflufenzopyr	- Saflufenacil
- 2,4-D choline salt	- Diquat	- Simazine
- Aminocyclopyrachlor	- Flumioxazin	- Triclopyr
- Aminopyralid	- Fluroxypyr	- Gateway adjuvant
- Bromacil	- Glyphosate	- Hasten NT adjuvant
- Chlorsulfuron	- Imazapyr	- Excel 70 surfactant
- Clopyralid	- Indaziflam	- LI700 surfactant
- Dicamba	- Mecoprop	- nonionic surfactant
- Dichlorprop	- Metsulfuron methyl	
- as well as products in the allowable list as per MB Regulation 286/2014		

2. To control insect pests including mosquitoes, forest tent caterpillars, cankerworms, elm bark beetles, spruce bud worm, etc. in public areas within the Interlake Weed Control District. The projected dates of application will be from April 11 to October 31, 2022. The insecticides to be used may include:

- Bti	- Btk	- Chlorpyrifos	- Deltamethrin	- Dimethoate	- Malathion
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The public may, within 15 days of the publication of this notice, send a written submission to the department below, regarding the advertised control programs, or to register with the department their written objection to the SPECIFIC control program(s) next to their properties for the 2022 season.

Environmental Approvals Branch  
Manitoba Conservation and Climate  
1007 Century Street  
Winnipeg, MB R3H 0W4

Fred Paulson, Weed Supervisor  
Interlake Weed Control District

## 204 PALLET AND PACKAGING

Like working with wood and working close to home?

204 Pallet & Packaging in Stony Mountain is looking for full time production workers. Wage depending on experience, and health benefits after 3 months. Please call 204-344-5404 for more details.

## BATTERIES FOR EVERYTHING!

50,000 BATTERIES IN STOCK

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## THE BATTERY MAN

1390 St. James St., WPG  
**1-877-775-8271**  
[www.batteryman.ca](http://www.batteryman.ca)

## FULL TIME HEAVY DUTY MECHANIC

- Benefits Package (full time only)
- Competitive wages
- Willingness to work overtime
- Valid driver's license
- Class 3 an asset
- Ability to perform MGI Safety an asset

**Derek (204) 793-7465**

CENTENNIAL TRANSPORT & LEASING LTD.



**ASHERN DENTAL CENTRE** #5 STEENSON DR., ASHERN

**(204) 768-2730**

## RECEPTIONIST REQUIRED

We are looking for a full time office receptionist at Ashern Dental Centre. Full training will be provided. Starting wage \$22/hr. Kindly send resume to: [Audichad@yahoo.ca](mailto:Audichad@yahoo.ca) For further information call: **204-768-2730**



## EVERGREEN SCHOOL DIVISION

is searching for  
**Divisional Substitute Teachers**  
on indefinite temporary contracts, effective ASAP.

Divisional Substitute Teachers will be assigned to all schools in the division and will provide support as needed. Evergreen schools are located in Arborg, Gimli, Riverton and Winnipeg Beach. Pay is as per the Collective Agreement.

See website for details and application procedures:  
<http://www.esd.ca/Employment under Professional Staff>

**CLOSING DATE: Open Until Filled**



## RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GIMLI TERM CONTRACT EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY ASSET MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

The Rural Municipality of Gimli invites qualified individuals to apply for the one year term contract position of Asset Management Coordinator.

Under the general direction of the CAO, the Asset Management Coordinator will be responsible for assisting in establishing and implementing the asset management plan for the municipality as well as expanding its use and understanding throughout the organization.

The preferred applicant will have the following qualifications:

- A Diploma or Degree in Civil Engineering Technology or Geographic Information Systems Technology or equivalent in related education and experience
- Five years' experience in developing, analyzing and maintaining GIS data and other GIS output products including use of software and use of GPS units for data collection
- Three years' experience in the development, maintenance and application of asset management plans within the operation of an organization

Municipal experience would be considered an asset.

All inquiries or requests for complete job description can be obtained by contacting Rural Municipality of Gimli CAO **Kelly Cosgrove** at [kcogrove@rmgimli.com](mailto:kcogrove@rmgimli.com) or 204-642-6650.

## Procedure for Applying:

Qualified Applicants are invited to submit a cover letter summarizing relevant experience, a resume, plus three (3) references to: Rural Municipality of Gimli  
Attn: Kelly Cosgrove  
E-mail: [kcogrove@rmgimli.com](mailto:kcogrove@rmgimli.com)

## SUBJECT: ASSET MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

Box 1246, Gimli, MB R0C 1B0

**Deadline for applications:** 4:00 PM on Friday, February 28th, 2022

**Start date:** as soon as possible

## Gimli Seniors Resource Council Inc. is seeking a full time Resource Coordinator

We are looking for a reliable, self-motivated person to join our team in coordinating and supplying support services to seniors in our communities. Programs include Meals on Wheels, Transportation, Lifeline, Housecleaning and others.

This position reports to the Manager. Requirements include good administrative skills, interpersonal skills, commitment to seniors' health and well-being, being a team player, the ability to work independently, and willingness to take on other duties as assigned.

College credentials an asset, however a combination of education and related experience will be highly considered, along with a valid driver's license, a vehicle, and all pre-employment checks. We offer a competitive starting wage which includes pension and benefits package.

Deadline for applications is: February 11, 2022  
Please submit a resume including 3 references to: [gsrc@mymts.net](mailto:gsrc@mymts.net)  
Or Gimli Seniors Resource Council Inc.  
Box 1928 Gimli, Mb. R0C 1B0



# Classifieds



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**467-5836**



## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



Is seeking additional staff for the following positions:

- **Officer/Administration**
- **Service Technician**
- **Parts/Counter Person**

Experience not necessary but a definite asset. Benefit plan available.

Apply in person, fax, mail or e-mail resume to:

276 Ardal St., Box 190,  
Arborg, MB R0C 0A0  
shachtays@hotmail.com

Ph: (204) 376-5233

Fax: (204) 376-5234

Locally owned and operated.  
Serving the Interlake for 55 years.

## Trucks, Trailers, Truckbeds & Tires

- Full Repair & Safeties
- Vehicle Parts, Tires & Wheels
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- Sales, Financing, Leasing & Rentals

### EBY Aluminum:

- Gooseneck and Bumper Pull Cattle & Equipment Trailers
- Truck & Service Bodies
- Generation Grain Trailers

**KALDECK TRUCK & TRAILER INC.**

Hwy #1, MacGregor, MB

**1-888-685-3127**

www.kaldecktrailers.com

## McSherry Auctions

12 Patterson Dr.,  
Stonewall, MB

**Online Timed Auctions**  
@ iCollector.com

### Estate & Moving

Closes Wed Feb 16@ 7:00PM

### Estate & Moving

Featuring Guns & Ammo  
Closes Wed Feb 23@ 7:00PM

Consignments Welcome!

(204) 467-1858 or

(204) 886-7027

www.mcsherryauction.com



**204-467-5836**

## Employment Opportunity

### Direct Support Workers Riverdale Place Homes Inc.

We have openings for full-time and part-time workers to provide support to adults living with an intellectual disability in our community residences. If you enjoy working with others, are compassionate and willing to learn, we will train you on the job for this interesting and rewarding work, no formal education necessary. Experience providing care to others in a variety of settings is an asset, but not a requirement.

We offer full benefits and pension and a flexible schedule with options for day, evening, night or weekend shifts. If hired you will be asked to pass criminal record and adult abuse registry checks.

#### Please apply in writing to:

Executive Director  
Riverdale Place Homes Inc.  
Box 968, Arborg MB R0C 0A0  
Or email: kfinnson\_rph@outlook.com

**Application Deadline: Feb. 15, 2022**

For more info contact:

Kathy Finnson, Exec. Director 204-376-2940, ext. 1

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

**TDM SPORTS**  
is currently seeking

**1 FULL-TIME POSITION**

Responsibilities include retail sales of sporting goods and Bell MTS services

Duties include scheduling, daily cashouts, inventories, ordering and paperwork for Bell MTS Services

Must be energetic, self-motivated, an effective problem solver & have good communication skills

Send resume to:

Box 38, Arborg, MB R0C 0A0

Fax to: 204-376-5836 or

Email to: tdmports@hotmail.com or

Apply in person at 279 Main St., Arborg



## Town of Winnipeg Beach

### NOTICE OF REGISTRATION OF PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES FOR THE 2022 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Please be advised that a municipal election will be held on **Friday, July 22, 2022.**

Prospective candidates must register with the Senior Election Official (SEO) during the registration period before they may begin to accept contributions, incur expenses, fundraise, or borrow money for their campaign.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that, **by appointment only**, I will be receiving candidate registrations:

For the office of Mayor.

Between February 1 and June 16, 2022

For the office of Councillor:

Between March 31 and June 16, 2022

At the Town of Winnipeg Beach office, 29 Robinson Avenue, Winnipeg Beach during regular office hours.

To schedule an appointment to receive a registration form, please contact me at the telephone number below or by e-mail at: seo@winnipegbeach.ca

Kerry Swanson, Senior Election Official (SEO), 204-389-2698



## Town of Winnipeg Beach

### NOTICE OF VOTERS LIST / VOTING AS A NON-RESIDENT VOTER / PERSONAL SECURITY PROTECTION

In accordance with Section 36 of *The Municipal Councils and School Board Election Act*, notice is hereby given that a copy of the VOTERS LIST may be reviewed, by appointment with the SEO, at the Town of Winnipeg Beach Office, 29 Robinson Avenue, Winnipeg Beach. Updates to the Voters List can be made until June 16, 2022.

#### Updating of the Voters List including:

- adding names of voters who are entitled to have their names on the list;
- deleting the names of persons who are not entitled to have their names on the list; and
- making such other corrections of errors to the list, as required.

#### VOTER ELIGIBILITY:

A person is eligible to have their name added to the Voters List if they are:

- 1) a Canadian Citizen and at least 18 years of age on election day; and
- 2) a resident of the local authority for at least six months prior to election day; or a registered owner of land in the municipality for at least six months prior to Election Day.

#### VOTING AS A NON-RESIDENT VOTER:

**A maximum of two non-resident property owners per property are permitted to vote in a municipal election, Subsection 22(2).** Where there are more than two non-resident property owners, each of the two votes must receive written consent from the majority of the registered property owners and this is to be filed with the SEO prior to June 16, 2022 for inclusion to the voters list.

**Note:** When voting, you may be required to provide proof of ownership to the voting official.

When voting, proof of identity may be requested by the voting official.

**A voter's name must not appear on the voters list more than once.**

#### APPLICATION FOR PERSONAL SECURITY PROTECTION:

A voter may apply in writing to the SEO (at the address below) no later than June 16, 2022 to have their name and other personal information omitted or obscured from the voters list in order to protect the voter's personal security. The application may be submitted in person, by mail or fax and must include your name, address and include proof of identity (an official document issued by a federal, provincial or municipal government). Any photocopies must be legible.

All changes to the voters list are to be completed by the close of business (16:30) on Thursday June 16, 2022, in preparation for the municipal election to be held on **Friday, July 22, 2022**

Kerry Swanson, Senior Election Official (SEO)  
for the Town of Winnipeg Beach.

Box 160, Winnipeg Beach, MB R0C 3G0,

Phone: 204-389-2698 Fax: 204-389-2019

E-mail: seo@winnipegbeach.ca



## Town of Winnipeg Beach

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL- JANITORIAL SERVICES

The Town of Winnipeg Beach is accepting proposals to provide weekly Janitorial Services at its Town Offices, Council Chambers and Public Works Offices/Lunchroom on a year-round basis for a term of two years; with the option to renew for a third. Proposals will be accepted in a sealed envelope at the town office up to 4:30 PM on Feb. 22, 2022. For more information contact the town office at: Ph: 204-389-2698, Email: cao@winnipegbeach.ca



**GIMLI**  
**Home**  
hardware

## Help Wanted Full - Part Time Positions

**Cashiers, stock shelves, customer service**  
**Must be able to carry 50 lbs and able to do stairs**  
**willing to work weekends**  
**(typically every 2nd weekend)**

Must have a valid driver's license

#### What we offer:

Health/Dental Benefits  
Friendly work environment

**Please drop off resume in person to:**  
**75 Centre St. Gimli, MB**



## Evergreen Basic Needs would like to acknowledge the following for their support in 2021:



## A Note from Evergreen Basic Needs

2021 continued the struggle that began in 2020. As the Pandemic circled the globe in wave after wave, the local, provincial and federal governments continued to support our organization. Individuals and businesses, going through their own struggles, continued to support our organization. Private and Community Foundations, always responsive to our requests, continued to support our organization. We look back with thanks to everyone that has assisted us throughout this time of uncertainty. We look forward with hope that 2022 will see brighter days ahead.

The challenges persist on many fronts, whether it is the increased costs of food, housing and fuel or supply chain issues. Through it all the EBN Food Bank maintains its ability to provide relief from food insecurity with healthy and nutritious food to those who need our services. Whether it is a one-time need or ongoing assistance to get through a rough patch of job loss or health concerns, EBN will be there.

The support that we have received will allow us to confidently continue with our mandate to help those who need help.

*Thank You*

### IN MEMORIAM



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

Right now I'm in a different place,  
And though we seem apart;  
I'm closer than I ever was...  
I'm there inside your heart.  
I'm with you when you greet each day,  
And while the sun shines bright;  
I'm there to share the sunsets too...  
I'm with you every night.  
I'm with you when the times are good,  
To share a laugh or two;  
And if a tear should start to fall...  
I'll still be there for you.  
And when that joyous day arrives,  
That we no longer are apart;  
I'll smile and hold you close to me...  
Forever in my heart.

-Miss you forever,  
Love your family

### IN MEMORIAM



Derek Chudyk  
1957 - 2020

You never said I'm leaving  
You never said goodbye  
You were gone before we knew it  
And only God knows why.  
In life we loved you dearly  
In death we love you still  
In our hearts we hold a place  
That only you can fill.  
It broke our hearts to lose you  
But you didn't go alone  
A part of us went with you  
The day God took you home.  
Always in our hearts and missed everyday  
-Love Mom and family

### RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GIMLI

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(s):

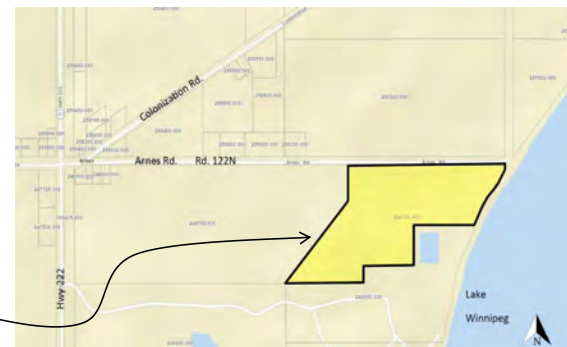
**THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GIMLI BY-LAW NO. 22-0001**  
Being an amendment to the Gimli Zoning By-law No. 11-0013, as amended.

**HEARING LOCATION:** RM of Gimli Council Chambers  
62 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
Gimli, MB

**DATE & TIME:** February 23, 2022  
6:35 pm

**APPLICATION:** RMG-21-03R

**AFFECTED AREA:** Pt. NE 9-21-4E  
being Parcels B & C, Plan 55782 WLTO  
Roll No.: 248750



**GENERAL INTENT:** To rezone an area in the RM of Gimli from "O" Open Space Zone to "SRG" Recreation Resort General Zone.

**FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:** Nancy Thom, CAO/Development Officer, Eastern Interlake Planning District  
62 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Box 1758 Gimli MB R0C 1B0 - Ph: 204-642-5478 Fax: 204-642-4061  
Email: [ejpd@mymts.net](mailto:ejpd@mymts.net) website: [www.interlakeplanning.com](http://www.interlakeplanning.com)

**COVID-19 PROTOCOL:** Should you wish to attend the hearing, you must PRE-REGISTER NO LATER THAN 5:00 p.m. ON THE DAY OF THE HEARING with the RM of Gimli office at 204-642-6650.

A copy of the proposal and supporting material may be provided upon request to the contact person as mentioned above.

**Please Note:** E.I.P.D. recommends that property owner's notify lessee/renter if applicable.



OBITUARY



**Elma Fierback**

April 13, 1918 – January 19, 2022

Elma Fierback (nee Semler) passed away peacefully on January 19, 2022 at the Ashern Personal Care Home.

Elma was born on April 13, 1918 to parents Ewald and Emma Semler near Moosehorn and she lived most of her life in the Moosehorn area. As a young woman, she helped out on the family farm and with the gardening.

On May 1, 1941, she married Edward Fierback and they began their life together. They first lived in Winnipeg but soon returned to the Moosehorn area. In 1943 they moved on to a vacant farm east of Moosehorn, and then after getting settled, Ed went to the town to buy the farm. They lived on that farm for the next 52 years, raising their four children there.

Elma is survived by her children, Diana (Ken) May of Moosehorn, Dennis (Janet) Fierbach of Vancouver, Reg (Doris) Fierback of Winnipeg and daughter-in-law Lyl Fierbach of Kelowna. She also leaves behind 12 grandchildren, Kevin (Jackie) Fierbach, Carrie (David) Vroege, Mark (Beth) May, Trent May, Andrea (Les) Nichol, Jason May, Scott (Brianna) Fierbach, Todd (Carissa) Fierbach, Jenny (Sam) Adams, Ryan (Lauren) Fierbach, Kirk Fierbach (Lisa Craigen) and Kimberly (Gregg) Streuber as well as 15 great-grandchildren. Elma is also survived by sisters-in-law Edeltraut Semler and Edna Simpson and numerous nieces and nephews.

Elma was predeceased by her husband Edward, son Ron and great-grandchild Neil Vroege as well as her parents and all 10 of her siblings.

Mom always had a big garden and grew enough vegetables to last most of the year. She also worked on the farm raising chickens, milking cows and helping out in too many ways to mention. She was an avid knitter and would knit socks and mittens for our family which we remember fondly. Mom was an amazing cook and to this day we reminisce about the great family meals we had together. Mom was also an excellent baker and we remember coming home from school to the homemade snacks.

Mom was a member of the Moosehorn Baptist Church where she sang in the choir and joined the ladies group. She enjoyed having family visits and especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Private Funeral Service was held on Friday, January 28, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at the Moosehorn Baptist Church, Moosehorn, Manitoba with Pastor Luke Tully officiating. Interment followed at the Moosehorn Baptist Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Moosehorn Baptist Church Memorial Fund, Box 63, Moosehorn MB, R0C 2E0 or the Lakeshore Hospital Guild, Ashern MB

Arrangements Entrusted To

ANDERSON FAMILY FUNERAL HOME  
Ashern, Manitoba  
204-768-3606

OBITUARY



**Major Hubert Nelson Osborne**

February 20, 1931 – January 20, 2022

Major Hubert Nelson Osborne passed away at Arborg Hospital with his wife and daughter at his side.

Left to cherish his memories are his wife Vera and soul mate of 31 years, his two daughters Laurie (Dave), Linda (Brian), David (Jacqueline), daughter-in-law Sally; nine grandchildren: Rhea, Dayn, Dan, Lyle, Laura, Simone, Corbin, Finn, Madeline and spouses; four great-grandchildren Elska, Archer, Ozie and Brigitte.

Predeceased by his parents Elwood and Edith, one brother, three sisters, his first wife, numerous nieces and nephews.

Also missing him are step family, Wayne (Kathy), Lorraine (Perry) and Allan; five grandchildren: Sheila, Blair, Shannon, Paige, Mackenzie and their spouses; nine great-grandchildren: Chaya, Tierney, Kynley, Ayden, Dawson, Samia, Amari, Lillith and Oliver.

Bert was a very loving husband, father and grampa. We spent 31 happy years together. We did everything together whether it

be building, gardening or travelling. There was never a dull moment as he had a pocket full of jokes at every turn and roars of laughter from his friends. He had a great love for children, a great conversation with older ones and play silly games to the younger one's delight.

He was meticulous in everything he did, it had to be done right. His Air Force training came out in so many ways. He enjoyed his chosen career of 32 years in the RCAP. He would relate interesting details in many of his AIR Crew Maintenance jobs, also of holiday travel with his young family in Europe. He was very dedicated to his career. He was stationed in different parts of Europe, England, Germany and Canada as well.

In the years that followed, he moved up in the ranks, teaching young airmen the tricks of the trade, cpl and retired as MAJOR.

Bert, you were a great guy, a friend to anyone who knew you, loved by family and especially your wife and deeply missed by all.

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OBITUARY

**Shirley Pawluk**

Peacefully, on January 6, 2022 at the Arborg Personal Care Home, Shirley passed away at the age of 91.

We would like to thank the staff of the Arborg PCH for the kindness and care Shirley received. Also, thank you to Dr. Donnelly for his care and visits to Shirley.

In accordance with Shirley's wishes, cremation has taken place and no formal service will be held. Thank you to Rick Kotaska and the staff at Interlake Cremation for their help and assistance.

Friends and acquaintances are invited to visit Shirley's memorial page at [interlakecremation.ca](http://interlakecremation.ca), where memories and condolences may be shared.

Arrangements entrusted to:



OBITUARY

**Keith Lawrence Cook**

October 3, 1961 - January 26, 2022

Suddenly, while on the job at Muskrat Dam in NW Ontario, Keith passed away at the age of 60.

He is survived by his loving wife of 42 years, Lois (nee Benedictson), whom he took great joy in reminding that she was older than he was - and he made sure everyone knew it. He is also survived by his daughters, of whom he was immensely proud: Melissa (Barry) Hopman, Christy (Adam) Putz, Rachelle (Jim) Manness and Megan Hnatiuk; grandchildren, his pride and joy: Sebastian, Caleb and Charollette Hnatiuk; his sisters Lois Matis (Rod Boles), Lorine (David) Waters and Beryl (Rudy) Singbiel; Lois's family and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his parents, Clifford and Rosella Cook, his brother-in-law Steve Matis and niece Shelley Matis.

Keith grew up in the Komarno area where he farmed with his parents, married and raised his family. His spontaneous adventures with his family made many wonderful memories, from going to hotels with waterslides, often including extended family, a spur of the moment midnight trip to Winnipeg to a Garth Brooks CD release, camping trips, adventures to BC because "it rained too much to make hay", taking the whole family on a Caribbean cruise to a last-minute trip to Disney World that included the grandkids, just to name a few.

He learned to operate Cat dozers as a teenager and continued to work in the construction industry in Manitoba as an equipment operator, in Saskatchewan as a Consultant and on the Husky Sunrise Project in Fort McMurray, Alberta, as a Supervisor. About 10 years ago he and Lois decided to start their own construction company, K & L Contracting Ltd., completing many projects across Manitoba. Keith took great pride in putting a pushpin on the map where each project was located. He had a knack for estimating a job, the logistics to complete the job efficiently and establishing a congenial rapport with employees, clients and engineers alike.

He was so looking forward to retirement this fall, was excited to tour in their RV, and spend their winters at their newly purchased condo in Texas, that had his favourite, "a pool within walking distance!" He wasn't one to shy away from sharing his opinion but he had a heart of gold, helped family and friends whenever he could, especially if it involved something with more than 100 horse power! He took co-workers and employees under his wing, mentoring them in both work and life skills. He always had everyone laughing and was the life of every party. His competitive spirit was evident when playing Scrabble, Chess or any game where it was "boys against the girls". He will be sorely missed by everyone who had the privilege to know him.

Thanks to JoAnne and Sandra and everyone for your prayers, condolences, food, etc. and for your offers of meals, support and assistance. A special thanks to Clayton who went above and beyond when we couldn't be there.

A private memorial will be held at a later date.

John 11:25 "... I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live."



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