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**Voice**

VOLUME 13 EDITION 1

THURSDAY,  
JANUARY 6, 2022

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Hitting  
the trails

PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Snow and cold didn't keep these steadfast cyclists off the trails. Front to back: Scott Voth, Craig Doell, Cole Hildebrand, and James Friesen enjoy some winter biking around Lake Minnewasta Monday.

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# Hundreds of Cards for Care delivered over the holidays

By Lorne Stelmach

The region came through again to support the efforts of two local women to share season's greetings with others in the community.

The Cards for Care program spearheaded by Shannon Vaughan and Tara Routhier surpassed their goal to at least match the 600 Christmas cards they collected and distributed the previous year.

As they set out to deliver cards before Christmas, they had at least 600 cards between the two of them but with many more also being distributed directly by schools that got involved in it.

"The schools kind of took it into their own hands and delivered their own cards and ornaments to some local groups," said Vaughan, who was de-

lighted to see it become a class project for many students.

"I know they also delivered to some retailers in Morden," she noted. "I think that was really awesome that they took this on and turned it into their own effort."

Last year's campaign focused on spreading some holiday cheer to seniors during the pandemic lockdown. This year they expanded things to distribute cards as well to health care workers, grocery store cashiers, firefighters and police in the Morden, Winkler, and Carman areas.

The involvement of students and local schools became a big part of the effort with the help of Routhier, who is a teacher at Maple Leaf School in Morden.

"The schools taking it upon themselves was amazing to see," said Vaughan.

She also appreciated getting the

**"THE SCHOOLS TAKING IT UPON THEMSELVES WAS AMAZING TO SEE."**



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Shannon Vaughan preparing to deliver some of the cards the 2021 Cards for Care campaign collected for seniors and frontline workers throughout the region before the holidays.

support of businesses like Rendezvous Brewery and Taproom.

that was awesome. I think they collected for me at least a hundred," she

"They reached out to me and offered to be a collection point for cards, so

Continued on page 4

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**NEW YEAR**  
2022



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MORDEN – WINKLER

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|---|----------|-----------------------------|---------------|----------|----------|-----|
| Sun   | Mon      | Tue                         | Wed           | Thu      | Fri      | Sat |
| Dec26/21  | Dec27/21 | Dec28/21                    | Dec29/21      | Dec30/21 | Dec31/21 | 1   |
|   |          | 1                           | 2             | 2        | 3        |     |
| 2   | 3        | 4                           | 5             | 6        | 7        | 8   |
|   |          | 1                           | 2             | 3        | 3        |     |
| 9   | 10       | 11                          | 12            | 13       | 14       | 15  |
|   |          | CHRISTMAS TREE PICK UP WEEK | 1             | 2        | 1        | 3   |
| 16  | 17       | 18                          | 19            | 20       | 21       | 22  |
|   |          | 1                           | 2             | 2        | 3        |     |
| 23  | 24       | 25                          | 26            | 27       | 28       | 29  |
|   |          | 1                           | 2             | 3        | 3        |     |
| 30  | 31       |                             |               |          |          |     |
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Download the full calendar at: [mymorden.ca/curbside-waste-pickup](http://mymorden.ca/curbside-waste-pickup)

# BTHC Foundation 50/50 raises over \$58,000

By Lorne Stelmach

Two local health care workers are sharing the winnings from a fundraiser that is supporting the Boundary Trails Health Centre.

The winning ticket was drawn last week for the BTHC Foundation 50/50 raffle, and it belonged to Caitlin Wiebe, who purchased it with co-worker Shannon Klassen.

Wiebe, who is from St. Leon and works in the emergency department at BTHC, is sharing \$29,190 with Klassen, who is based in the dialysis department but also works casually in the emergency department and intensive care unit.

"I was just kind of shocked," said Wiebe when reached on Monday. "I'm not generally one to win things. A co-worker and I were talking about how it's kind of fun to think you might win even though you likely won't, but you at least hope it's someone you know."

She had no specific plans for her share of the money at this point.

"I'm still thinking about that; I haven't decided on something yet," said Wiebe.

"My first thought was no way, this can't be happening," said Klassen. "It was a total shock ... but an extremely nice surprise to win and to be able to share it with a co-worker made it extra special."

The 50/50 raffle proved to be a popular

draw, and it came with the added benefit that people purchasing tickets knew they would be giving something back to support the regional hospital.

Done for the first time last year, the jackpot then saw the winner take home over \$19,000, so this year's tally far exceeded expectations.

"We were all kind of thinking if we could reach \$40,000, that would be fantastic," said foundation chairperson Ben Friesen.

It was a fun bonus that two health care workers ended up sharing the prize, he added.

"It is kind of nice it ended up in the hospital with two health care workers. They all have put in so much extra time over the last two years, so for two of them to share the prize is really nice."

"It represents about 10 per cent of our base budget for palliative care and spiritual care," Friesen noted of the \$29,120 that will support local health care, which also received a major boost from the very successful Donation Conversation fundraiser which reached over \$230,000 for palliative care, spiritual care, and equipment needs at the hospital.

"We started the Donation Conversation because we weren't able to hold our fundraising events, and this was another idea that we came up with," said Friesen. "So it all turned out fantastic."



BTHC Foundation 50/50 winning ticket holders and co-workers Caitlin Wiebe (left) and Shannon Klassen took home \$29,190.

BTHC FOUNDATION PHOTO

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# “We’re going to blow the doors off” in 2022: Harder

## Mayor has high hopes for the year ahead



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Winkler Mayor Martin Harder says that while 2021 certainly had its fair share of challenges, a lot of great community projects still got done. He expects 2022 will be an equally successful year for the city.

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The pandemic has caused everyone to put a lot of stuff on hold for the past two years, and the City of Winkler is certainly no exception.

In a year-end interview last month, Mayor Martin Harder summed up 2021 as being, in some ways, the year of waiting.

Waiting for the pandemic to end, waiting for restrictions to ease, waiting for it to be safe to gather together once again as a community to celebrate accomplishments like the Meridian Exhibition Centre opening or traditions like the Harvest Festival.

But while patience has become a required virtue on some fronts over the past 12 months, in others things have very much been moving forward full speed ahead.

“When we look at 2021 and we look at the amount of stuff that’s been accomplished ... we still got a lot done this year,” Harder says. “It’s been a challenging year but it’s been a very rewarding year.”

The reworking of 15th St. comes to mind, he says, pointing to the instal-

lation of the city’s first roundabout (which, Harder adds, Winkler drivers have gotten the hang off pretty well, despite what naysayers thought would happen when it was first announced) and the reworking of the rest of the road to make it safer for people to cross into the Parkland area, as there is now a median and a crosswalk from the western soccer pitch parking lot to the baseball diamonds and Storm soccer field.

A few blocks away, work continues through the winter on the Greg Ens Memorial Park—a project Harder says came together in record time and is typical of the way this community rallies behind great ideas.

“There wasn’t even a thought of that thing happening there until 2021 and now the shelter’s up and the oval is being iced up for skating,” he says.

“And you see those sculptures,” Harder continues, referring to the three giant hockey player art pieces unveiled this fall. “Every time I go by there they shine more. It’s going to be a beautiful space.”

Continued on page 5



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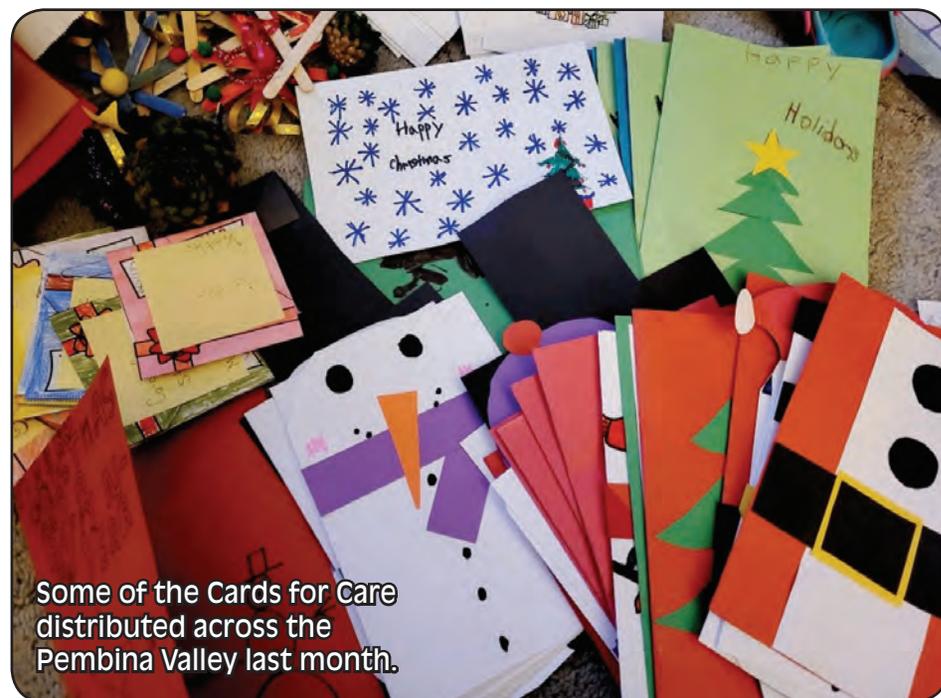
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Some of the Cards for Care distributed across the Pembina Valley last month.

## > CARDS FOR CARE, FROM PG. 2

said. “That was really awesome ... having a local business get involved like that was really helpful.”

Vaughan said what makes it work is that it is a simple but meaningful gesture to send greetings or messages of kindness to let people know others are thinking of them.

“I think it was just a good idea, and people see the value in showing others that they’re thinking about them. It’s all about community spirit and

support ... and especially during COVID, it’s gone on so long, much longer than anyone had though,” said Vaughan.

“I have a feeling that the schools will continue on with this ... it’s an easy thing but it’s a fun thing that the kids can do,” she concluded. “I will definitely keep initiating it as long as I keep getting support back from the community to make it happen.”

# “It’s been a challenging year, but it’s been a very rewarding year”

From Pg. 4

Across town, Harder points to the Emerado Park skating rink as another project in which community members came together to turn dream into reality. A group of local businesses joined forces with the City of Winkler to install a cement pad at the rink, making it easier to create ice there in the winter while also turning the site into a space that can be used for sports all year round.

Speaking of local businesses, while some have certainly suffered through the pandemic, Harder is pleased to see many have flourished in spite of the challenges the past few years have brought.

“Manufacturing is booming. In the last number of months there’s a few of them that have experienced shortages of materials ... but even in spite of all of those things, the majority of the Winkler industries have grown. I think what it has done for some of them is it has proven that there are opportunities that they never realized before.”

The city’s building permits for the year bear that out, reaching over \$50 million in construction by the end of November.

“There’s very little of it or maybe none of it that’s City related. It’s all taxpayer projects,” Harder says, noting that homegrown companies like Valley Fiber, to name one, are in a major growth mode and there’s no sign that’s going to change in the months ahead. “I’ll tell you, nothing has slowed down there because of the pandemic.”

When it comes to large-scale City projects, the

**“MANUFACTURING IS BOOMING ... THE MAJORITY OF WINKLER INDUSTRIES HAVE GROWN.”**

regional wastewater treatment facility—which has been on council’s plate for the better part of the past decade—finally received funding commitments and approvals from the other levels of government in 2021, paving the way to see that project come to fruition in the months and years ahead.

“That’s approved and the design and engineering is done and the tenders are going out,” Harder says. “We should be building in 2022.”

## GOOD OUTWEIGHS THE BAD

“When I look back at the year, yeah, we’ve had a lot of negative publicity, but yet at the same time you take a look at all of these things and they certainly outweigh the negativity that has been there,” Harder says.

He acknowledges the community’s reputation has taken a hit in recent months due to low vaccination rates and public health order compliance, but he feels it can and will be rebuilt.

“When I see the accomplishments that have been made, when you take a look at the contributions that have been made from the community ... I’m not in the least bit discouraged,” he says. “There’s so many great things that are happening here.”

“We are going to blow the doors off with projects that are going to happen in 2022,” Harder promises, pointing to known undertakings like the wastewater plant and the long-awaited Southland Mall renovations and other in-the-works community improvement projects set to be announced soon.

Will he stick around to see those initiatives to fruition? The next municipal election is this fall and Harder isn’t sure just yet what his plans are.

“The last term I ran I said it was going to be my last term, and then ...” he trails off. “The final decision hasn’t been made.”

That decision will hinge on who throws their hat in the ring for both the mayor’s job and council this fall.

“I will look at the slate of people who are running,” Harder says. “If I’m confident the City of Winkler won’t be sitting back on its heels, then

I am content with what I have accomplished over the last 16 years.

“But if there’s a wholesale change of council, where you would lose the credibility and the consistency that we have been able to establish, that would be a different situation.”

Whatever the months ahead bring, Harder has a very clear message he’d like to send out to the community:

“In light of the last few years, community unity has never been more important than it has been today,” he says, stressing that it is going to take time to heal the rifts the pandemic had wrought.

Work has already begun on that front, he says, pointing to the advertising campaign that has been encouraging Winklerites to get back to kindness, grace, and understanding.

But it can’t stop there.

“You can’t do it all with advertising. It has to be by personal experience,” Harder stresses. “I think when we can start hosting community events again, that certainly will help. When we quit just hearing doom and gloom and panic, that’ll help.”

“We haven’t had any of the major events at the concert hall, the Meridian Exhibition Centre. We haven’t had the festival,” he continues. “When you think of healing, when some of those things can start happening again we might be able to achieve a little better understanding of what the community is really all about.”

## Manitoba Advises of Public Consultation on Regulated Health Professions Act

Counselling therapists in the province have requested self-regulation under The Regulated Health Professions Act (RHPA), and Manitoba Health and Seniors Care would like to advise Manitobans they have an opportunity to provide feedback on this application.

The application for self-regulation was submitted by the Federation of Associations of Counselling Therapists in Manitoba earlier this year. Individuals can provide written submissions to the Health Professions Advisory Council no later than Monday, Jan. 31, 2022.

The Health Professions Advisory Council is responsible for advising the Minister of Health and Seniors Care on matters relating to the Act, including the regulation of health professions. To do this, the council seeks information from and consults with members of the public, health organizations and regulatory colleges and conducts research to determine if it is in the public interest to regulate a health profession.

For further information on the consultation process and to participate, please visit <https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/rhpa/hpac.html>.

Alternatively, if you do not have access to a computer or internet service, you may mail your request to participate in the consultation to:

Health Professions Advisory Council c/o  
Legislative Unit, Manitoba Health and Seniors Care  
300 Carlton Street  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 3M9



## Omicron continues to drive COVID-19 cases up

### Nearly 5,400 new cases over the weekend, Monday

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Manitoba saw thousands of new COVID-19 cases reported over the weekend, bringing the number of active cases to 15,318—way up from the 9,924 reported on Friday.

Public health officials were expected to release an official post-holiday report on Tuesday, but the updated online dashboard at press time showed the trend of increasing daily case counts continues, with Monday alone seeing 1,721.

A total of 228 people were hospitalized due to COVID-19 at the start of the week (up 36 from the number reported in the last news release on Friday), including 32 in intensive care (up two

over the weekend).

The weekend also saw six more deaths due to the virus, bringing the total to 1,398.

Manitoba’s test positivity rate has hit 37.9 per cent.

With the more contagious omicron variant of the virus taking hold in Manitoba, officials took a number of steps last week to try and stem the tide and protect the health care system.

The province’s public health orders were updated Dec. 28 to further reduce gathering sizes and limit the potential for community transmission.

Continued on page 7



**PUBLISHER**  
Lana Meier



**MARKETING & PROMOTIONS**  
Brett Mitchell



**EDITOR**  
Ashleigh Viveiros



**REPORTER**  
Lorne Stelmach



**SALES**  
Gwen Dyck



**DISTRIBUTION**  
Christy Brown



**PRODUCTION**  
Tara Gionet



**PRODUCTION**  
Nicole Kapusta

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Advertising

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# Living in a remote world

**M**an, I love to travel. For a guy who never stepped on a plane until he was 21 years old, I have always loved seeing the world. Heck, it wasn't until I was 23 that I even left the country. Late bloomer, I suppose.



**By Peter Cantelon**

The travel bug bit hard after I started working at a small software company in Ottawa. Being part of the booming IT industry in a marketing and PR role meant travel, and lots of it.

In the 10 years between the ages of 24-34 I managed to land on every continent multiple times, except for

Antarctica and Africa. Those were the days when money flowed like water in the tech industry and if you couldn't do it face-to-face it wasn't worth doing.

One of the companies I worked for used to host a large global conference called ITEXpo/Symposium. Every year we would take over the Dolphin and Swan hotels at Disney and play host to thousands of C-level executives from all over the world to talk about technology. It was the best of times, so to speak.

Travelling for business was part of the job—meetings, conferences, training opportunities, etc. You were always on the road or in the air. Rent a car in Italy and drive to Geneva to pick up European coworkers and then head to Munich for meetings. I could not imagine doing business any other way.

But the times are changing. COVID-19 has ushered in and accelerated adoption of remote conferencing technologies in a way that no one would have predicted.

Gone are the days of flying to Japan for a conference or meeting executives in Lima. They have been re-

placed with sitting in your living room dressed from the waist up participating in videoconferences all day long.

It is a sad replacement but a necessary one, I must grudgingly admit. Even then, in the heart of it all, most of us knew these sorts of trips were an enormous waste of money. Sure, there was value, but the cost of eking it out was huge. Heck, I had a colleague at Microsoft who told me how he would plan conferences based on the weather and where he wanted to be—South America in the winter and Europe in the summer.

According to the David Suzuki Foundation the carbon footprint of skipping just one flight can be the equivalent of going car free for an entire year. I easily flew 50 times a year ... minimum.

Another stat from Suzuki: "One return flight from Montreal to London emits as much carbon emissions as heating a European home for an entire year."

That is incredible. Between the environmental costs and the real costs to businesses (not

Continued on page 7

## • GUEST COMMENTARY

# Breaking down utility bill increases

**I**n response to "Merry Christmas, here's your bill" by Peter Cantelon, published on Dec. 16, 2021, I'd like to offer a few clarifying points.

The City of Morden bills utilities on an at cost basis—the provincial government requires this. The rate charged also includes a portion to contribute to our utility reserve, which is used for future, long-term replacement expenses, and are not accessed to subsidize water rates. This is a responsible and required means

of doing business. We are not permitted to mix General Taxation Revenues and Utility Revenues, they are strictly separate.

Our Utility Reserve is not a means of paying cash for things (like wastewater facilities) up front. It's used as a tool for absorbing capital improvements and repairs throughout the lifetime of our utility facilities. It is responsible to ensure that we are not saddling the cost of growth on



**By Mayor Brandon Burley**

current rate-payers as often as possible, and as a result debt instruments are used to ensure that we are not front-loading utility costs for the next 40 years exclusively on today's rate-payers, because none of us are guaranteed to be around to see a return on our investment. So yes, wastewater will require borrowing, and the cost of that borrowing will flow-thru on an annual basis, just like it does presently for the mortgage on the water treatment facility.

Any rate change, even if it is for annual inflation requires an application to the Public Utilities Board, replete

Continued on page 7

All columns and letters published on our Get Heard pages are the personal opinions of the submitting writers. They are not objective news articles, nor are they necessarily the viewpoint of the Winkler Morden Voice.

## > BURLEY, FROM PG. 6

with public hearings and substantial rate reviews. Due to the complexity of doing this on an annual basis, I know of no municipality outside of Winnipeg that engages in an annual increase for inflation. Instead, they tend to take a measured approach with a declining contribution to their utility reserve over the lifetime of their current rate.

As an example, the City of Morden's last review was in 2017, and previously it was 2013. As costs to produce and deliver water increase our operating cost goes up and our utility reserve contribution declines accordingly. If we engaged in an annual rate review

application, our utility costs would go up because of that process.

Had it not been for a drought and the requirement to implement short term security measures, we probably had another year before a rate review was necessary. However, the increased cost of purchasing guaranteed volume from the Pembina Valley Water Co-op was not a cost we could absorb under our current rate without dipping into Utility Reserves. This increase is strictly a flow-thru rate from our now purchasing water and is not a reserve contribution.

Water was a primary concern before the drought, and we were ac-

tively seeking to source more water—whether treated or untreated. In this region access to water will become an ever-increasing challenge. Our engagement with the Province over the past nine months allowed us to resolve our short and mid-term goals for water security, and see us able to begin addressing long term goals.

Taxes however are different. It does not require an extensive and costly review to annually increase revenues and have been increased over time to reflect the increasing cost of doing business. However, thanks to efficient administration we've been able to reduce our long term operating costs in

a number of departments, which has resulted in a taxation rate increase below the cost of inflation in budgets from 2019-2021.

It is advisable to ensure that the City is financially prepared to meet its upcoming challenges. But, effective capital planning, proper financial management and reporting, and being prudent about maintaining our debt load gives us confidence to face the future with certainty, instead of dipping into rate-payers pockets prematurely as a contingency.

*Brandon Burley is mayor of the City of Morden.*

## > PUBLIC HEALTH ORDERS, FROM PG. 5

While the previous orders had already put capacity limits on gatherings that included unvaccinated individuals, the new updates further limit gatherings of fully immunized individuals and those under the age of 12 to 50 per cent of a space's usual capacity or 250 people, whichever is less. This also applies for outdoor gatherings in public spaces.

Restaurants, fitness centres, museums and galleries, sporting and performing arts events, movie theatres, and religious gatherings are also all limited to the 50 per cent capacity/250 person limit.

Liquor sales have also been curtailed to end at 10 p.m. daily.

The revised orders are in effect until Jan. 11.

The province last week also made some changes to the self-isolation rules for those with COVID-19.

The changes include:

- requiring all people who have tested positive for COVID-19 to isolate, including those who completed a rapid antigen test;
- changing isolation requirements to five days from 10 days since the date of the test for fully-vaccinated people who are not showing symptoms;
- changing isolation requirements to five days from 10 days since the date symptoms started appearing or the date of the test, whichever is later, for fully-vaccinated people as

long as their symptoms are improving and they do not have a fever;

- requiring individuals who have only isolated for five days due to the changes above to wear medical-grade mask while in a public setting for the five days immediately following their self-isolation; and

- requiring isolation for people who have tested positive who are not fully vaccinated for 10 days after the date of their test as long as their symptoms are improving and they do not have a fever.

Public health officials also advise that people leaving isolation must avoid any non-essential visits to high-risk settings or non-essential contact with individuals at high risk for severe disease for an additional five days.

Close contacts who are not exempt from self-isolation requirements still need to self-isolate for 10 days.

"We need to ensure we take steps to protect our health-care system and other critical services during this surge of COVID-19 cases, many linked to the omicron variant," said Health Minister Audrey Gordon in a statement on Friday. "These changes will help ensure everyone who should self-isolate does, regardless of how they tested, and will reduce the strain on the health-system workforce as well as other key sectors as more workers report they have contracted COVID-19."

## > CANTELON, FROM PG. 6

to mention time away from families) the cost of business travel is enormous and the ROI is questionable and difficult to measure at the best of times.

So I have a conflicted relationship with our new era. I am thrilled by the prospect that the pandemic has accelerated a more remotely connected world. A place where conferences, training sessions and meetings can be held digitally instead of in-person. The environmental, relational and monetary savings are phenomenal.

I mourn the loss of the intangibles however. I have some great memories

from business trips. Taking the train from the Tokyo Bay Hilton to Shinjuku District on a day off; climbing an actual Aztec pyramid in Lima; discovering the Valley of Fire outside of Vegas or just wandering across London from the tower to Harrods. All of this was done on business trips alone and with colleagues.

Today I would estimate that 80 per cent of my trips could have been done remotely with current technology and this is a good thing.

I hope it continues long after COVID-19 is a memory.



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# Burley full of optimism for Morden in 2022



VOICE FILE PHOTO

Morden Mayor Brandon Burley is proud of how the community weathered the challenges of 2021 and he's taking an optimistic look at what's to come in the year ahead.

By Lorne Stelmach

The City of Morden has faced many challenges through the first three years of the four-year term of council, and there could be more to come, but Mayor Brandon Burley remains optimistic.

In fact, he sees the year ahead as perhaps holding great potential for the city to emerge from those challenges and really move forward.

"We still have our work cut out for us in terms of infrastructure, in terms of things like housing and development, but we believe that we can rise to that challenge," Burley said in a year-end interview.

"We expect a substantial year of growth in Morden, and financial and economic growth as well," he suggested. "We think there's a real opportunity to improve the financial prospects of households in our region, and we're excited to deliver on what we have promised."

A review of the past year of course would reflect on the challenges presented by the global pandemic. Burley noted that "learning how to live with it was a real challenge.

"In 2020, the narrative was everything shut down. In 2021, people started to look at this and say there has to be some operational capacity inside this pandemic, and how can we do that safely and how can we do it effectively?"

"We did have the luxury of the supersite operating here in Morden, which defrayed our operating losses on community services, so we didn't have a major deficit," he noted.

Despite being in a region of the province that has been much maligned for having the lowest vaccination uptake and high resistance to public health restrictions, Morden has been a brighter light, the mayor suggested.

"I will always remember what this community did in terms of its buy-in on COVID best practices and the way it pulled together for each other," said Burley, who, as an adopted son of Morden, is impressed with the perseverance of the community.

"We have each other to be proud of and to thank ... I do recognize the fact we did lose lives ... but I think Morden can be very proud of itself. Our residents can be very proud of the way we pulled together and the way we went to bat for one another at this moment."

Despite the circumstances and especially the impact the pandemic had on some businesses sectors, Burley said it was exciting to see new development still happening in the city.

"We did manage to see a substantial amount of growth both economically and jobs-wise despite the pandemic.

"There are sectors of the economy that have been hurt ... but a lot of sectors are doing well. In terms of job creation, I think we've added a lot of jobs, and now we're ensuring that we have

the capacity in our infrastructure to see that growth continue."

The mayor suggested the city is in a much more solid and stable position now than it was a few years ago, especially in terms of staffing, which saw significant turnover early on in the council term.

"We believe we have the team to move the city forward," said Burley, who also cited recent organizational changes.

"There have been minor changes in the organizational structure," he said, describing it as moving back to departmental directors rather than the deputy city manager approach. "We just think that it provides more ability for the organization to understand itself, and it doesn't create a bottleneck in senior city management."

He also noted the city had fully caught up on its financial reporting.

"We got our financials a hundred per cent caught up, and we were months ahead of our commitment. We made a commitment in 2019

as to when we would get the city's books caught up, and we exceeded that by eight months. So we're starting 2022 knowing where every nickel in the city is, where it should go, and where it has gone.

"I understand we have a ways to go yet in terms of our responsiveness, but step by step we're going the right way," Burley continued. "We know we have to be competitive in this region, both for business and for tax dollars, and we're committed to delivering value."

Burley emphasized water and wastewater as key priorities

for council in the year ahead. They continue working on both short and long term strategies particularly around water supply and drought management, and they also anticipate making significant progress in 2022 on wastewater treatment.

"The province has offered assurances as soon as we have a satisfactory design in hand, funding will be there," he said. "Our perhaps ambitious goal would be to have shovels in the ground in 2022. That may not happen, but at a minimum, we need to ensure that we are ready to go as soon as possible."

For the time being, he noted, they have been assured that the city has sufficient lagoon capacity for about a three-year window.

Burley also touched on a couple other priorities including the development of an airport authority. Moving away from it being administered directly by the city would be more efficient and open up more opportunities, he suggested.

Burley as well cited affordable housing as a priority, with discussions and planning underway for Morden to take the oversight role away from the province. He sees the new 500 Stephen

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- Roland School**  
Melissa Benner, Principal (204) 343-2023
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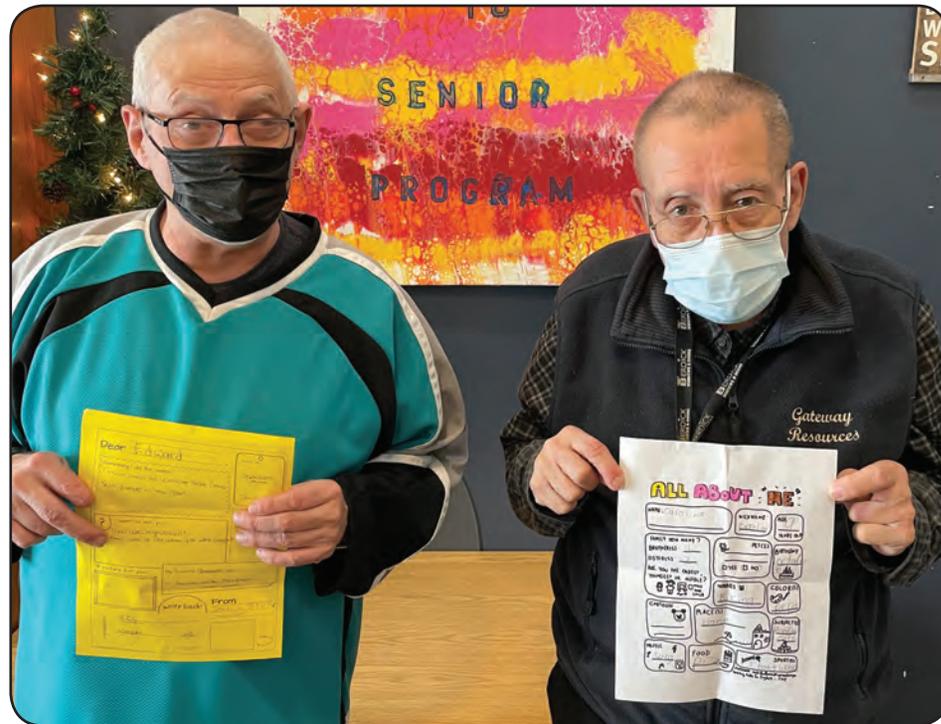
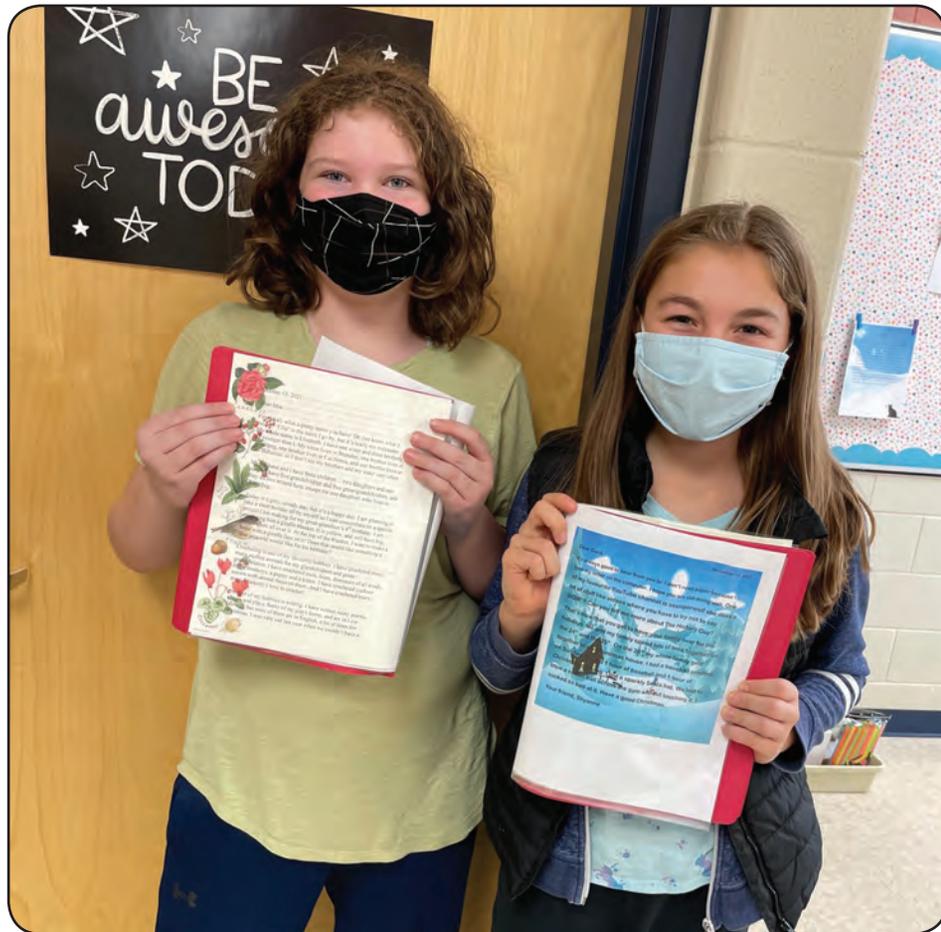
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SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Left: Students Shyanne Goertzen and Mia Falk with some of the letters they've received from their partners in the Winkler Senior Centre's Intergenerational Pen Pal Program. Above: Gateway Resources senior program participants Edward Harder and Trevor King have had a blast learning about the younger generation.

# Intergenerational pen pal program forging connections

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A series of unique relationships have been built in Winkler over the past few months, one letter at a time.

The Winkler Senior Centre's Intergenerational Pen Pal Program has teamed up students from Emerado Centennial School with older adults in the community.

They've been exchanging letters—some typed, some handwritten—on a monthly basis since September.

For over half of the 15 students in teacher Tasha Roberts' Gr. 5/6 class, this is their very first pen pal.

Having it be a senior has proven to

be an eye-opening experience for the kids, who had some, let's say, antiquated views of what the lives of older adults are like.

"My pen pal in his free time likes to go on Youtube, Facebook, and Netflix," shares student Shyanne Goertzen. "He said those are his favourite things to do. I was very surprised ... I thought they sat around and read books all the time."

Reagan Krahn chimes in that his pen pal plays floor curling with his friends every week. Another senior shared their love of polka dancing.

The kids have also been enjoying reading stories of life "way back

when" as well as in the here and now.

"What I like about pen pals is you get to know about what they have done when they were in their childhood," says Austin Banman.

"I like how we get to write to each other and hear what's going on where they are," adds Jordan Peters.

Some interesting personal connections have also been found.

Aryana Elias was surprised to find out her pen pal works at Triple E, just like her father does.

"My pen pal likes to travel and I like to travel the same," shares Karlyn Roberts, adding she's looking forward to hearing more about where her newfound friend has been in the world.

Roberts says the kids wait eagerly each month to receive their letters and write back.

The class is using the program as part of their English Language Arts course, honing their reading and writing skills with every letter.

"It's been neat to see how even though they're seniors and these kids are quite young, they still have lots of things in common," Roberts says.

It's also been a fun way to get the kids more involved in the community during a time where that can most certainly be a challenge.

"Given COVID and the fact there were probably seniors that weren't able to be visiting with as many people as they might normally get to, it just seemed like a great opportunity

for us to get to know seniors in the community while also doing a good service," Roberts says.

As far as the older participants in this program are concerned, it's been a blast getting to know the kids.

Edward Harder and Trevor King are both part of the seniors program at Gateway Resources. Like the kids, they've enjoyed seeing the similarities that cross generational lines.

"[We have] lots in common. I like eating pizza," Harder shares. This is Harder's second year being pen pals with a student. He enjoyed it so much last year he didn't have to think twice about doing it again.

"They're our future," says King when asked why he wanted to get involved for the first time.

Mary Ann Sawatzky found out about the program through the senior centre. The 10-year-old girl she's been paired up with is her first official pen pal in decades.

"It's a very new and exciting part of my life right now," Sawatzky says. "I enjoy writing and I always am interested in what younger people are doing, so I thought this would be a great opportunity to interact with a younger person."

The two have been swapping travel stories, sharing Christmas memories, and asking lots of questions about each other in their handwritten letters.

"It's the old-fashioned letter and I



Emerado Centennial School Gr. 5/6 students with letters from their pen pals.

> PEN PALS, FROM PG. 10

think that's a wonderful thing because I think it's so important that people get the experience to put their thoughts down on paper," Sawatzky says. "The email thing is a wonderful thing to do, but I think the younger people just don't have the opportunity to write letters a lot anymore."

Ellie Reimer was encouraged to get involved by a friend. Like Sawatzky, she hasn't had a pen pal since she was in elementary school herself.

"I like kids, I like interacting with them, so this was a possibility to do something I hadn't ever done before ... to keep connected with the younger generation that lives quite differently from the way I did when I was that age and even when my kids were that age," she said.

That said, after she signed up she did find herself thinking, "Oh my goodness, what am I going to write to a stranger?"

She and her younger counterpart quickly established some common ground, though, including a love of fantasy literature.

"She sounds like a really fun kid," Reimer says, noting she's been impressed at how well her young friend expresses herself. "It's turning out to be much more of an adventure than I was anticipating just simply because of the way she's responding to the way I write, and then I can respond to the way she writes."

Both Reimer and Sawatzky enjoy this glimpse into how the younger generation sees the world, but they also hope they're teaching the kids a valuable lesson.

"I hope she walks away with a sense that old people aren't boring," laughs Reimer.

"I think it's a wonderful opportunity of them to experience that seniors ... are still interesting people, hopefully, and they have something to contribute," says Sawatzky.

"I really commend the senior centre for organizing this," she continues, urging her peers to consider signing up for the 2022-2023 session this summer. "It is a really good opportunity to have relationships with younger people and listen to their ideas, because we can always learn from younger people."

The program participants had hoped to meet each other in person before Christmas, but those plans fell through. Now they're hoping to perhaps get together closer to the end of the school year.

In the meantime, the letters will keep on coming.

# Strikes for Strays set to return Jan. 18

By Lorne Stelmach

The Pembina Valley Humane Society is bringing back a fundraiser that had to be cancelled last year due to pandemic restrictions.

Strikes for Strays 2022 is slated to take place at Valley Bowl in Winkler on Tuesday, Jan. 18.

Strikes for Strays was first held in 2020, and it was a success in raising just over \$4,500 to help with the ongoing needs of the animals and the shelter.

"The response was really great for the first time around," said Caitlin Parr, fundraising chairperson for the humane society. "There were a lot of people in attendance, and there were some great costumes ... everybody had a really great time."

The fundraiser will provide participants two hours of bowling from 6-8 p.m., with 18 lanes available.

Teams can be up to five people at a cost of \$125 per team. Proceeds go to the humane society, which will also raise money through a 50/50 draw and silent auction.



PVHS PHOTO

After a year's break thanks to the pandemic, Strikes for Strays returns Jan. 18. Funds raised support the Pembina Valley Humane Society.

You can find registration information online at [www.pvhsociety.ca](http://www.pvhsociety.ca).

Parr noted events like this are vital as fundraisers, but they are equally important in terms of raising awareness and getting the community involved and engaged with the humane society.

"We just finished up a massive supply drive, so we have almost all of the materials we will require for the year

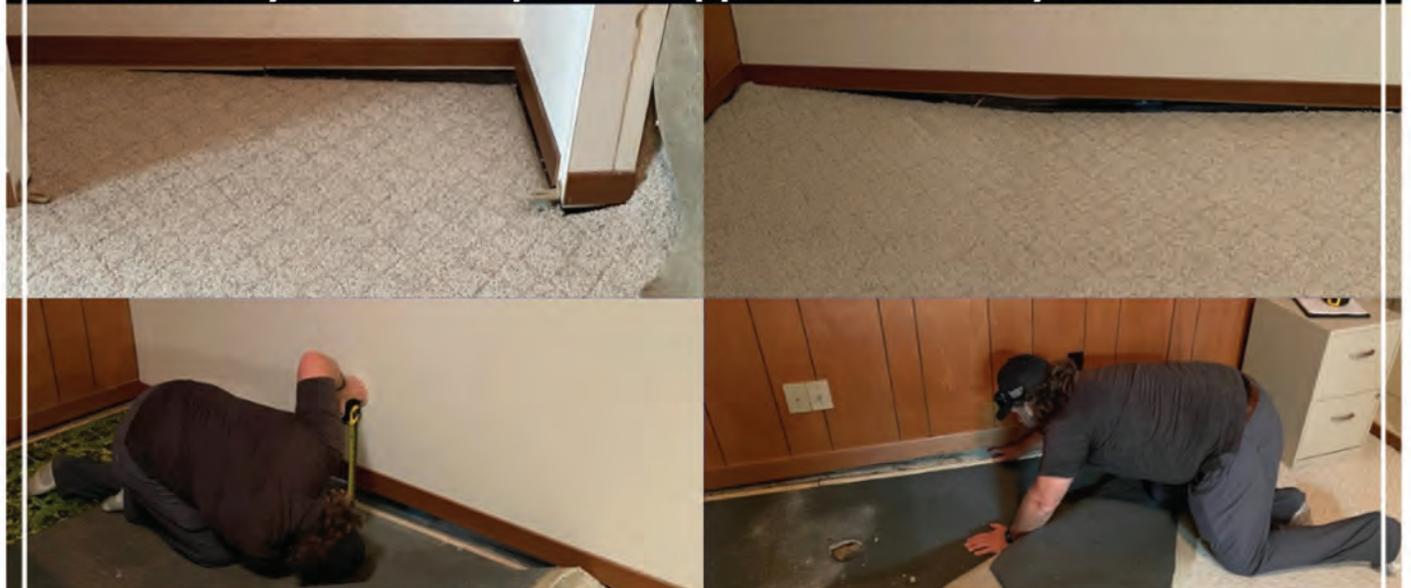
... so that's pretty exciting," she said.

"We need people to know we are here, but we're also excited to work out in the community and offer opportunities for entertainment for the community. We really appreciate the support of the community ... so we love to be able to give back then as well."

The Winkler Morden **Voice**

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# “We are a busy place” 2021 brought challenges but also lots of accomplishments for RM of Stanley

By Lorne Stelmach

There's no denying that the RM of Stanley earned headlines this past year for the wrong reasons, but there is also a lot of good that has been overlooked, says Reeve Morris Olafson.

Strong growth has continued in the region, Olafson noted in a recent year-end interview, but he acknowledges much has been superseded by the challenges posed by the pandemic, especially in relation to the region having the lowest vaccination uptake in the entire province.

“There's been pros and cons ... good and bad ... but, yes, it has created issues,” said Olafson, who is now in the final year of his second four-year term as reeve.

“My fondest wish is that everybody works together. We can get through this ... if everyone does their part,” he continued. “We want to be as safe as we can ... and in my mind, vaccinations are a good idea. For the next person, they don't think it's a good idea. They've got to make up their own minds. I would just hope that everyone takes an-



SUPPLIED PHOTO

RM of Stanley Reeve Morris Olafson has great optimism for the year ahead in the region.

other look at what's really going on out there ... it would be so nice to get back to normal.”

Olafson said COVID-19 had thrown a wrench into everything, but the RM of Stanley was fortunate that it could largely keep operating and that the region could keep growing.

“We are a busy place,” he said. “When I look at our municipality, I see there's confidence out there yet ... look at our MSTW building permit reports—we're at about \$20 million to date this year ... which is well above last year.

“It makes me feel good in the sense that people still want to build here, people want to live here yet. That is all still there.”

The other major challenge for the region aside from the pandemic was the impact of the drought conditions.

“The agriculture sector struggled. For the most part, I think everybody kind of got a half a crop; that's average, some did better, some did worse ... but with the prices, I think the income level is kind of stable,” Olafson suggested.

“With the drought came some extreme water usage in the spring,” he noted. “When that occurred, we've never seen so many water tankers coming from our bulk wells to supplement people's gardens and lawns and all of that kind of thing ... filling pools.

“It was all very taxing for awhile, but we got through it,” said Olafson, who cited particularly the need for them to be concerned about the Massey water system as a major water source for many people.

“It's a fairly major water source, and I think it has held up very well. We test that on a regular basis, and it's holding its own,” he suggested. “We're confident that we're going to make it over the winter and into next year.”

Olafson said there were a number of other significant developments in the municipality, including the introduction of recycling collection.

“It's been very well received. I think there's been about 1,400 blue bins went out, so good uptake, and that has worked out really, really well.

“And in part because we had such a dry summer, we're also enhancing our tree planting program,” he continued. “We're offering incentives for the trees to start with and possibly ongoing maintenance of them for a couple years, so hopefully that will re-

structure our shelterbelts throughout the municipality.

“Another thing we're really happy with now are the recreation agreements we have with Morden and Winkler,” said Olafson. “We're making annual contributions to both cities on a per capita basis because we recognize that a lot of the major sporting events and recreation stuff are in Winkler and Morden.

“We need to be in partnership with them, so this is a good thing for the region. It's going to help.”

Olafson moved on to highlight continued progress on their road work and paving program, including having finished the latter off in the village of Hochfeld.

“We're down to about two, three villages that will need some paving along the way. We have plans in place for this coming year ... that's getting closer to done, so that's a positive thing.

“As well, we changed our gravelling program ... the quality of the gravel is hopefully up ... and we did three rounds of dust proofing instead of two in a lot of centres, and we rerouted a lot of the gravel trucks so they have to take the provincial roads ... that has helped safety-wise.”

Significant steps for overall development also include the completion of the secondary plan for the village of Reinfeld with a similar plan for Schanzenfeld to help guide future growth.

“That's the planning for five, 10, 15 years ahead,” Olafson said. “We want to be ready for when the wastewater plants get built and set up so that we are ready for new lots. That's been the hold up with development. We know that we have a shortage of lots ... we're trying to remedy that, and we're trying our utmost to make that happen.

“I think we have a lot of good things happening here,” the reeve concluded, citing also for example the coming expansion of the Boundary Trails Health Centre.

As for his political career, he was very much uncertain if it would continue further.

“It's going to be a difficult decision whether to run again or not,” Olafson said. “I'm leaning toward maybe not running again just because I'm getting older, and I will have done eight years.

“It's been enjoyable, and it's been exciting to see what's been happening and see the growth ... I am optimistic because we are in a great area.”

## > BURLEY, FROM PG. 8

Street community centre as playing a vital role on that front.

“There's an opportunity now to work with 500 Stephen Street and take over housing stock and have a community-run housing initiative,” he said. “We think that we can provide better quality housing, more responsively than the province is able to right now.

“We want to make sure it is done the right way. We want to make sure that sustainability is there long term,” Burley said. “There's a huge upside to

500 Stephen. It's the first time we've had this kind of consolidated delivery of community services. It's an incredible opportunity for us to come together and support people.”

Overall, Burley stressed that the city and council would continue aiming “to ensure that growth is sustainable and it is responsible.

“We've been able to begin the steps of ensuring that growth is responsible, but in particular we've always had an appetite to ensure that costs are not front-loaded on ratepayers right now for our fu-

ture growth.

“Whether it be water, wastewater or infrastructure, we've always wanted to ensure that growth was self sustaining and self-carrying rather than being front loaded to ratepayers.”

He ended with some words of praise for his council members.

“I couldn't be prouder of the work that they have done for the city,” said Burley. “We know that while we disagree, we all are on the same side, and we want the best for Morden.”

# Elsa and Olaf visit Morden



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

A special public skate Sunday afternoon in Morden featured two very popular guests in Elsa and Olaf, characters from the Disney movie Frozen. Attendees were also able to skate to some of their favourite Disney songs. Families looking for more winter fun can next take in the City of Morden's winter fun sampler Saturday, Jan. 15 from 1-4 p.m. at Lake Minnewasta. Registered activities include crokicurl, broomball, pond hockey, a guided snowshoe hike, and Try it: Snowfeet with additional open activities that include skating and tobogganing as well as a chance to try a new ice bike.

# Morden council passes interim operating budget

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden city council has an interim budget in place while it works to finalize its financial plan for 2022.

Council approved the interim operating budget at its final meeting of 2021 on Dec. 21.

Municipalities are required to have an interim budget in place until the financial plan is approved. It can be up to 50 per cent of last year's tax revenue, so for Morden it came to just over \$8.3 million.

Council is now at work on its final operating and capital budgets for 2022, though it awaits getting assessment numbers from the province before the city can finalize the mill rate.

"We have our final review of the capital budget and the operating budget Jan. 6," Mayor Brandon Burley noted. "We'll then hold the public hearing, and we're anticipating that will be at the end of February.

"We have worked off of last year's budget numbers ... the majority of the budget is in place," said Burley, who suggested there won't be any major changes or surprises in the budget going into the final year of this council's term before elections in the fall. "There won't be anything there that will be surprising to anybody ...

the most important piece for us is to make sure we're budgeting for our own term."

Meanwhile, council is also considering financial assistance for the Morden Community Handivan.

Representatives have requested \$10,000 in financial support, and council put off a decision until January pending further financial and capital plan information.

"We just want to make sure we have all the information before we approve our funding ... but they do need an answer fairly quickly because they are reliant on our approval in order to access provincial funding."

Council also gave its approval to the regional emergency plan, which

needs to be reviewed and approved annually by the local municipalities that are part of the Southern Emergency Response Committee (SERC).

In addition, the city is contributing towards establishing a SERC reserve fund in conjunction with the City of Winkler and RM of Stanley with the three municipalities jointly setting aside \$3,000 annually.

"It is administered by Morden as we host the emergency response site," noted Burley. "The funds will be used for replacement of capital emergency response items."

Council also agreed to adopt a policy presented to them by the Pembina Valley Local Immigration Partnership (PVLIP).

The Welcoming and Inclusive Communities Policy Framework lays out a mission for municipalities to work together to create more welcoming and inclusive communities while improving settlement and integration outcomes for newcomers in the Pembina Valley.

The policy further sets out such principles as upholding the Manitoba Human Rights Code and embracing all cultures and peoples. It calls for understanding that personal and community wellness is made up of many parts collectively; and that if we invest in each other, helping all residents grow deep roots in our communities and flourish.

# MPI announces rebate cheques for ratepayers

By Voice staff

Ratepayers will be getting another rebate cheque in the mail from Manitoba Public Insurance next month.

The agency announced a rebate of \$312 million last week, which works out to about \$328 per average private passenger policy.

MPI estimates about 578,000 cheques will be issued in mid-February. Cus-

tomers planning a change of address should notify MPI no later than Jan. 12 to ensure they receive their rebate cheque. Rebate amounts of \$10 or less will be credited to one's account.

This is the third MPI COVID-19 rebate in less than two years. In total, MPI will have provided rebates of nearly \$500 million to its policy holders: \$110 million in May 2020 and \$69 million in December 2020.

The agency notes this latest rebate was made possible due to a combination of fewer claims during the COVID-19 period and continued strong financial results.

The rebate is calculated on the Basic Autopac premiums paid between Nov. 22, 2020 and Dec. 9, 2021 and is expected to be about 27 per cent of the customer's annual Basic Autopac premium.

# getinformed

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## PVLIP launches Pembina Valley Service Map

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Pembina Valley Local Immigration Partnership has created a new digital resource to help newcomers to the region more easily find all the services available to them.

The Pembina Valley Service Map went live on PVLIP's web page (pvlip.ca) just before Christmas, with staff spending the past few weeks fine-tuning it ahead of the official launch this month.

The map features "pin drops" that direct users to a variety of resources: childcare, social activities, education, employment, health centres, and volunteer opportunities, to name just a few.

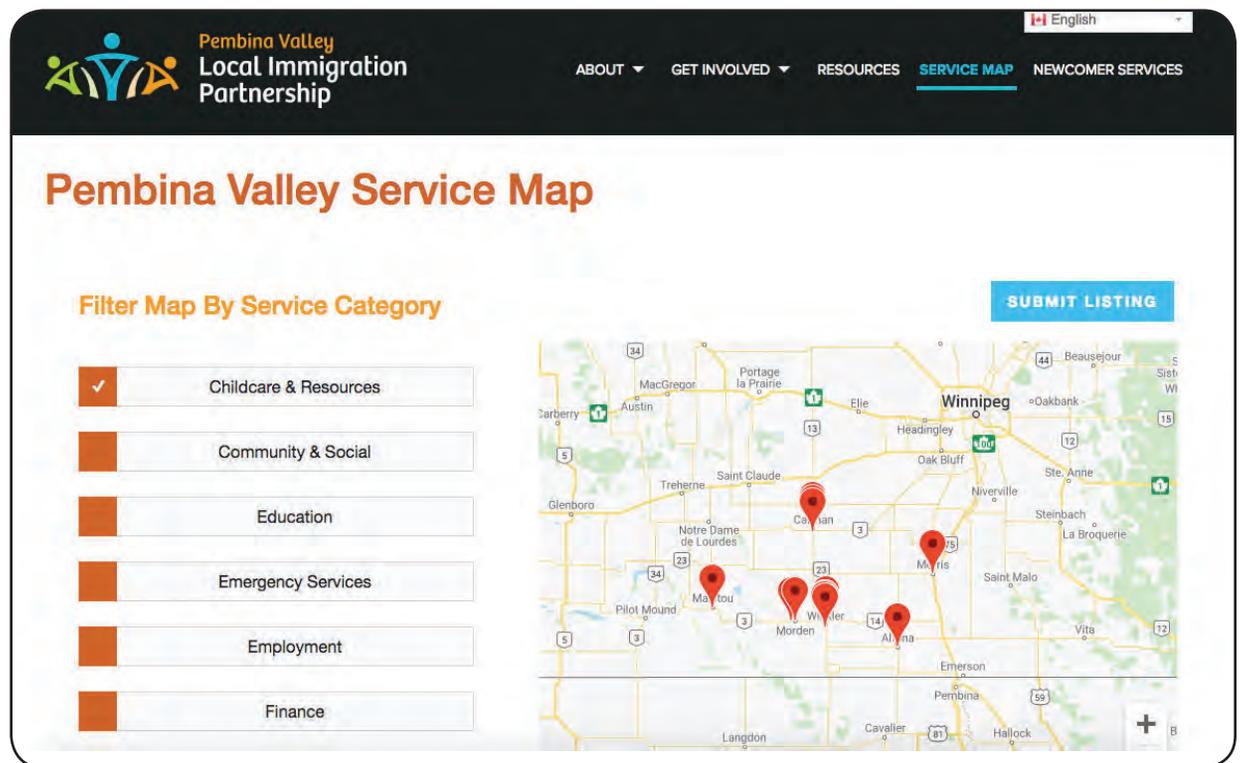
All told, there are hundreds of "pins" on the map, all clearly accessible under a dozen service category headings.

"This has been a big dream of mine ever since I started this program," said PVLIP coordinator Elaine Burton Saindon, explaining such a resource is a part of the mandate of local immigration partnerships across the country.

While similar guides exist for specific communities in the area, this service map spans the entire Pembina Valley and is much less text-based.

With the pin drops, "it's visually easier to identify locations than it is to do a lot of reading," Burton Saindon explained. "For most of our listings you could do a Google search and it's all there in written words, but it's hard for some newcomers with language barriers to navigate that sort of access to information."

"So the intention of this is to provide a visual map with the pin drops so they can generally get a sense of, oh yeah, this is available in my town. Or, I live half an hour away but I know I can go there or there and get



WWW.PVLIP.CA

this item or find that service or resource."

The service map also has options to add listings for missing services or sites or let PVLIP know if there are any errors in existing listings.

"We're just a very small staff, so we're hoping we have the support of the community to know it's not perfect and that we're also focusing on the main services," Burton Saindon said, explaining why some locations might not be on the map—major

stores, for example, which are easily findable in other ways. "But we will look for those things that are most essential for a newcomer arriving in the area."

"We're certainly hoping that as people maybe view it they'll use the 'submit listing' button as needed so we can get everything in one location."

## Manitoba Public Insurance releases top five frauds of 2021

### Auto insurance fraud costs ratepayers \$50M a year

By Voice staff

Manitoba Public Insurance wrapped up 2021 with a rundown of the top five frauds busted by their Special Investigation Unit (SIU).

The annual list is meant to raise awareness about the costs related to auto insurance fraud, which costs MPI ratepayers an estimated \$50 million yearly, said Satvir Jatana, MPI's chief customer officer.

"The list is compiled based on the unique circumstances of each fraud, financial savings to MPI ratepayers, and the investigative techniques used in confirming fraudulent activity," he noted.

Last year the SIU closed about 1,000 investigations, resulting in a claims savings of about \$14 million.

Anyone with information about auto insurance fraud is encouraged to call the Manitoba Public Insurance TIPS Line toll-free at 1-877-985-8477. All calls are anonymous.

Here are the top five frauds of 2021:

#### No. 1: Phony Kidnapping

After her badly damaged vehicle was recovered by police, the Winnipeg woman told MPI her vehicle had been stolen out of her garage.

She said the thieves messaged her via Facebook, demanding payment for returning the car. The woman admitted she did not call police, but agreed to meet the thieves, who she stated then kidnapped her, speeding around the city for hours and eventually crashing the vehicle.

Due to many gaps in the story, MPI's SIU launched an investigation. An examination of the vehicle's ignition and immobilizer system conducted by MPI's Research and Training Department revealed that the vehicle would not run without a key inserted into the ignition. In her statement the owner confirmed that she had all keys in her possession.

When presented with the findings of the investigation, the vehicle owner admitted she had lied about the kidnapping. Truth was, she was in the vehicle driving around with a group of "friends" drinking and speeding around the city. They eventually crashed into another vehicle and immediately ran from the scene.

The theft claim was denied, saving MPI an estimated \$68,000.

Continued on page 19

Check out the Winkler Morden Voice online at [www.winklermordenvoice.ca](http://www.winklermordenvoice.ca)

• A LOOK BACK

# Respect or indifference

*This is the fifth and final part of a look at one local family's journey to and settlement in the area—and their final resting place in the Neu-Reinland Mennonite Cemetery.*

In the previous four parts of the series, an attempt was made to give you an appreciation for the work of pioneers, our forefathers, in developing, maintaining, promoting, and nurturing a way of life that we now enjoy today, a lifestyle that our pioneers could never possibly have envisioned.

The scope of advancements in air travel, in communication, and in technology, as they exist today, are just a few areas that would never have been in their mindset in their time.

It is these pioneers that have often been buried in lonely fields not officially designated as cemeteries. Because of economics, they were often buried in backyard graves, their final resting places not formally marked, as headstones were often not affordable.

It is these pioneers that have given of themselves through sweat and tears, to develop a better life style for their off spring.

It is these pioneers that now tend to be treated, intentionally and often unintentionally, with disrespect and indifference by providing little or no care for their resting places.

It is Ernie Doell's and my desire and motive to provide an organized approach to the provision of perpetual care and attention to the Franz Enns Cemetery.

We are looking for people to volunteer to serve on a perpetual care committee that would meet on a regular basis to oversee issues related to the cemetery. These volunteers would most likely be descendants of the Franz Enns family that have a strong commitment to the preservation of the cemetery.

We are also searching for local people to get involved with the care of the site; descendants who would be committed to providing regular maintenance as required to control weed growth, to mow grass, and to perform other care tasks as required. At present, Ernie and I are bringing equipment from Carman and Winnipeg, respectively, as necessary, to attend to these maintenance issues.

The Neu-Reinland Mennonite Cemetery committee may also, once formed, be seeking donations to help offset any potential expenses, now and in the future, related to the upkeep of the cemetery.

After the restoration of the cemetery during the spring of 2020, care giving to the cemetery during the summer of 2020 was very trying at best.

Although the cemetery was overseeded with grass after the restoration, weeds quickly infested the area during the active growing season of June, July, and August. The healthy crop of corn grew to a height of more than 10 feet. To navigate to the cemetery, armed with materials needed for weed control and as not to interfere with the well-being of the crop, was indeed impossible.

However, the crop eventually matured, was harvested, and made navigation to the cemetery once again possible. Armed with necessary materials and equipment, we were now able to tackle the weeds, some of which had grown to a height of six to eight feet over the summer months. With the help of a chainsaw, a weed whacker, and a lawn mowing tractor, we were able to bring the cemetery back to respectability.

It became increasingly obvious that not having a form of access to the cemetery during the summer months was unacceptable. The cemetery required more than just spring and fall seasonal care if such vegetation growth was to be controlled. At one time there was access to the cemetery via a lane to the farmyard and then on to the cemetery site.

When the land was sold by the Enns family in 1952 (as per title information), the new owner, David A. Friesen, completely razed the farmyard site, and with it any year-round access to the cemetery was terminated.

The present owner of the land, Adela (Friesen) Wedler, and the renter, John Klassen, have both formally indicated that they will only permit access before seeding in the spring and after harvest in the fall, even though we have suggested that a six to eight foot strip of land be made available to us from the north/south Reinfeld road, eastward to the cemetery, less than half an acre in total size, for access to the cemetery. Cemetery care giving is of greatest priority during the active growing season of summer.

We are also encouraging descendants of other family cemeteries to take active interests in the preserva-



**SUBMITTED PHOTOS**

Above: The overgrown cemetery. Right: Working on clearing the site. Below: Finally cleared of overgrowth.



**By Henry A. Wiebe**

tion of such isolated remote burial sites. Our pioneers deserve that respect.

Many of these cemeteries have gone unlicensed and therefore are now not experiencing that official and more formal protection as given to licensed cemeteries. We are, therefore, also in the process of encouraging the government of Manitoba to amend The Cemeteries Act to include unlicensed cemeteries as well as licensed cemeteries, especially in terms of easement for access.

We are hopeful that the provincial government will be able to address the issue of unlicensed cemeteries in its review of the Cemetery Act later this year. Do contact your MLA and give him your support.

Again, as mentioned earlier, we need and are soliciting your support and

dedicated involvement in developing an approach for regular and continued care and maintenance of the Franz Enns Cemetery so that it does not again fall into gross neglect. As a descendent of the family, you may volunteer to serve on a perpetual care committee or offer your active support in providing care to the cemetery. We as descendants do owe our ancestors that respect.

Do take a moment and contact us: Henry A Wiebe (204-612-2898 or henryada@q.com) or Ernie Doell (204-750-1606 or ejdoell1@gmail.com)

Trusting you have enjoyed the series on the Franz Enns family.

*Henry A. Wiebe is a retired educator, part-time farmer, and the great-grandson of Franz and Maria Ens.*

# sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

## Hawks ready to push hard in season's final months

By Lorne Stelmach

The season so far has had some ups and downs for the female U18 Pembina Valley Hawks, but coach Dana Bell thinks they are well positioned to make a real push in the final few months to come.

The Hawks went into the Christmas break in fifth place in the eight team league on a record of 8-9-0 for 16 points, which had them five up on both Eastman and Central Plains while sitting six back of the Winnipeg Ice.

Although they were further back of the league leaders with Yellowhead at 28, Westman at 26, and Winnipeg Avros at 25, the Hawks have been competitive against all three of those teams.

They earned a 5-0 shutout of Westman at a December tournament and managed a win in four games so far against Yellowhead, so Bell was optimistic as they closed out play before the break with a 6-1 win over Central Plains.

"We went to those to tournaments in Brampton and Wilcox where we faced some very good competition and fast teams," said Bell. "We knew that would be good for us to bring that fast paced style of game back to regular schedule.

"We had a couple weeks off then over Christmas, and I think we will come back hungry to climb the ranks. We are in a good spot and having fun."

What Bell always looks for from the team is simply to see that consistent effort each time out on the ice whether at practice or in games.

"As coaches, we have been very happy with the teams performance so far," he said. "The girls have been buying into the systems and working hard. As a team, we all know that we need to play a full 60 minutes in this to have successful outcomes."

The Hawks have been led by assistant captain Abbey Bourdeaud'hui, who went into the break as the league leader in both goals and points with 17 and 26 respectively. Other top contributors include Anika Braun with



VOICE FILE PHOTO

The female Pembina Valley Hawks U18 team headed into the holiday break in fifth place out of eight teams with a record of 8-9-0. The team are scheduled to play the Avros and Selects this weekend.

seven goals and 13 points, Caitlin Anderson and Cambree Martens with five goals and 11 points, and Jessica Anderson with six goals and 10 points.

In goal, Tria Enns had a 2.75 goals against average and .911 save percentage with one shutout, while Kaylee Franz had a 3.33 goals against average and .888 save percentage.

Bell said he will just be looking for more of the same level of effort from the team the rest of the way.

"The biggest thing right now for us,

as a team, is to continue to play 60 minutes and really forecheck hard and put pucks to the net," he said. "Every girl on the team is contributing, and when that happens, good things happen."

The Hawks' game against the Winnipeg Ice on Sunday was postponed. They're scheduled to host the Winnipeg Avros in Morden Friday and then travel to Niverville Saturday to face the Eastman Selects.



VOICE FILE PHOTO

The male Pembina Valley Hawks U18 team are feeling good about their chances to move up in the league's standings. They're currently in ninth place out of 13 teams.

## Male Hawks keeping a positive attitude

By Lorne Stelmach

The male U18 Pembina Valley Hawks have struggled at times this season, but coach Matt Victor hasn't been too concerned about it.

As the team came out of the Christmas break, Victor hoped the positive attitude that he has seen so far will carry over into the second half and help the Hawks move up the ranks.

"The mood in the room was still good, so I think that's important for turning things around," Victor said after his team had gone through a tough December which saw them win just two of their seven games, including two back-to-back shutout losses.

"I think the season has had a lot of

**"WE'VE SEEN A LOT OF GOOD THINGS, AND THERE'S ALSO THINGS THAT WE NEED TO WORK ON."**

ups and downs ... but we've seen a lot of good things, and there's also things that we need to work on," he said. "I think overall it's been a good season. I don't really have any major issues,

Continued on page 17

# Flyers coach “hoping for bigger and better things” as season continues

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler Flyers head coach and general manager Justin Falk intends to keep his players’ eyes firmly on the road ahead as the second half of the Manitoba Junior Hockey League season gets underway now in the new year.

The team ended 2021 tied in points with the Winnipeg Blues in the MJHL East Division. With 36 each, both Winnipeg and Winkler trail the first-place Steinbach Pistons by 11, but the win-loss breakdown had the Blues (17-11-0-2) in second and the Flyers (17-11-1-1) in third. Seven points behind in fourth place is the Portage Terriers followed by the Selkirk Steelers and, in last, the Winnipeg Freeze.

It’s a respectable place for the team to be, especially considering the wholesale changes in staffing and players the Flyers headed into the 2021-2022 season with, Falk reflects.

“It’s been a bit of a roller coaster ride as we find our way throughout the season here, especially with a new group and a new staff. It’s a lot of firsts for everyone in this organization as a whole,” he says. “So we’re finding our way as we go, but where things are kind of trending right now and the standard and culture we’re creating as a group on the hockey side of it, it’s fun, it’s exciting, and we’re hoping for bigger and better things in the second half.”

This is Falk’s rookie year as head coach, coming to the role with 11 years of professional hockey under his belt. The shift from player to coach has been a rewarding one, he says.

“[I’ve been] enjoying things with these guys and learning how to manage and challenge each of them differently,” he says.

Success comes when you take all the right steps to get there, Falk observes. It’s a lesson the team’s coaching staff have been working to get across to each of its young players.

“For us as a group, we talk so much about the process and finding consistency with that process,” Falk says. “It’s just a different beast, junior hockey from midget, and I think a lot of these guys are realizing that and what goes into it—the work ethic, the discipline, sleep, nutrition, preparation—everything that goes into it so that you be your best each and every day. That’s what gets you to grow ... it’s continuing to be aware of the process and what it all takes to have success be the result.”

Looking back at the season thus far, Justin Svenson leads the Flyers in points with 44, contributing 18 goals and 26 assists. Not far behind him is Jayden McCarthy with 18 goals as well and 23 assists and Trent Sambrook with five goals and a team-leading 27 assists.

Dylan Meilun has anchored Winkler’s net through 21 games, facing



VOICE FILE PHOTO

Justin Svenson hits the post in a scoring attempt against the Winnipeg Blues earlier this season. The right-winger leads the team in points with 18 goals and 26 assists.

609 shots and giving up 64 goals for a 0.895 save percentage. Rookie net-minder Malachai Klassen, meanwhile, is at 0.915% in his eight games, letting 18 goals in out of 212 shots.

Looking ahead, Falk says the league has proven to be a competitive one this season, and he expects it will continue to be so in the final few months.

“Everyone’s got a chance to beat anyone any given night,” he says. “It

makes for competitive hockey and holds every staff and team accountable to bring their best game every night.”

The Flyers hit the ice for the first time in 2022 this Friday in Dauphin against the Kings. They then return the favour by playing host in Winkler Sunday at 3 p.m.

Next weekend, Jan. 14 and 15th, the Flyers face Waywayseecappo.

## > HAWKS, FROM PG. 16

and I think there’s been a lot of improvement ... there will be some urgency going into the second half, but most of the first half has been okay.”

Pembina Valley came into the new year in ninth place in the 13 team league at 10-15-2 for 22 points.

It left them two points back of the Winnipeg Bruins and five behind Yellowhead while just one in front of Norman, so Victor sees potential for them to gain some ground particularly with a strong start in 2022.

“Early in the season, we showed a lot of resiliency. We had some slow starts and kind of got behind the eight ball quickly, but later in the game, we were putting the work in and fighting back and winning some of those games. It’s nice to see that character in the team.

“What I would say that we need to continue to work on is really buy into the principles and have everybody really buying in and just putting in that effort and focus and try to deliver that positive result.

“With our powerplay, we would like to see some more production from there,” Victor not-

ed. “I’m quite content with our penalty killing statistically ... they’re doing a really good job of shutting it down.”

Carter Sotheran is leading the way offensively so far with 11 goals and 31 points, while Keston Worley has been the leading sniper, with 18 of his 21 points being goals. Also at 21 points are Griffin Ayotte with eight goals and Cameron Parr with nine goals.

In net, Raiden LeGall had a 3.22 goals against average and .924 save percentage, while Bryson Yaschyshyn had a 4.52 goals against average and .871 save percentage.

“Both of our goaltenders have really stood out,” noted Victor. “Being rookie goaltenders, they’ve really shown poise and some consistency, so it’s nice to have that on the back end.”

“Otherwise, no one person stands out. It’s pretty even. Every night, someone different might step up, so it’s nice to have that.”

Victor will be hammering home a simple message for his team for the second half of the season.

“Really being consistent with those small things and being successful with those small

battles will build up into bigger wins and getting those results.”

The Hawks returned to action Wednesday with a game against the Winnipeg Thrashers before heading north for a doubleheader with Norman in Thompson.

**What’s *Your* story?**

**We want to hear from you.**

The Winkler Morden Voice 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?

Please share your story ideas at [news@winklermordenvoice.ca](mailto:news@winklermordenvoice.ca) Phone 204-332-3456

The Winkler Morden **Voice**

• BEHIND THE COUNTER

# Living with diabetes and prediabetes

**A**mong Manitobans, 28 per cent are living with diabetes or prediabetes and 10 per cent live with diagnosed diabetes.

As a pharmacist, I see first-hand the level of stress diabetes can put on patients and their loved ones. While

diabetes can last a lifetime, there are ways to manage the condition to ultimately improve quality of life.



By Zahid Zehri

Concerningly, diabetes-related complications and prescriptions have increased since the start of the pandemic. New data from Shoppers Drug Mart shows a 17 per cent increase in new pa-

tients filling diabetes prescriptions when comparing 2019 to 2021, underscoring the importance of access to care for patients with diabetes.

As a pharmacist and frontline healthcare worker, I'm here to support you. I am qualified to help you with diabetes management and am here to answer any questions you may have. Whether you are newly diagnosed or have been living with diabetes for many years, I've put together some tips and services to consider when it comes to diabetes management:

- Ask your pharmacist: Living with diabetes or pre-diabetes can be a life-long challenge. Together, we can review your medications and teach you about your blood glucose monitor. We can also explore if there are additional technologies that can help make tracking easier.

- Make lifestyle adjustments: Nutrition and exercise are two important components of diabetes management. While no foods are strictly off limits,

Continued on page 19

Check out the Winkler Morden Voice online at [www.winklermordenvoice.ca](http://www.winklermordenvoice.ca)

## take a break > GAMES

### SUDOKU

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|
|   |   |   | 1 |   |   |   |  | 7 |   |
|   |   |   | 8 |   |   |   |  | 5 |   |
|   |   | 7 |   |   | 3 |   |  |   | 8 |
|   |   | 4 |   |   | 9 | 6 |  |   |   |
| 9 |   | 3 | 5 |   |   | 4 |  |   |   |
|   | 8 | 6 |   | 1 |   |   |  |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  | 4 |   |
|   | 1 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 |   |  |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |   |
|   |   |   | 3 | 1 |   |   |  |   |   |

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 9 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 7 |
| 9 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 1 | 4 |
| 1 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 9 |
| 7 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 2 | 6 |
| 2 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 6 |
| 3 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 1 |
| 8 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 3 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 4 | 7 | 9 | 5 | 6 |
| 6 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 4 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |

Sudoku Answer

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | H | C | T | V | B | E | T | U | T | V | S |   |   |   |
| S | S | V | D | M | O | C | S | R | E | N | I | R | V | M |
| C | I | E | I | R | E | G | V | N | E | M | T | E |   |   |
| V | N | D | D | T | V | R | V | M | V | T | H | E |   |   |
| S | V | T | V | T | O | R | V | T | S | I | C |   |   |   |
| B | V | H | O | N | H | D | V | P | V | V |   |   |   |   |
| D | T | P | R | C | H | C | P | T | C | L | V | T | C |   |
| D | I | V | R | A | R | E | D | C | L | V | T | C |   |   |
| E | L | V | P | Y | N | A | V | H | T | H | I | T | C |   |
| D | I | M | V | D | E | B | A | S | P | E | P | C |   |   |
| V | D | M | O | V | O | M | N | I | N | R | N | V | A |   |
| T | V | T | L | E | T | L | E | T | L | E | T | L | E | T |
| N | G | I | D | N | S | H | I | T | W | I | O | N | G |   |
| E | L | E | V | E | S | L | E | O | T | E | M | S |   |   |

Crossword Answer

## CROSSWORD

- CLUES ACROSS**
- Struck firmly
  - Shirt part
  - Nevertheless
  - Article
  - Adornment
  - Educator's helper
  - Healthcare pro
  - Atomic number 28
  - Extinct flightless bird
  - Mystic syllable
  - College sports decision maker (abbr.)
  - Edible mushrooms
  - Venerable English monk
  - Surrounded by
  - Forming fractional numbers from 4 onwards
  - Eastern France river
  - Short cry or yelp
  - Brew
  - Ornamental box
  - In a way, surfaced
  - Attired
  - Peculation
  - Netted
  - It shows you paid (abbr.)
  - Payroll firm
  - Antidiuretic hormone
  - Japanese classical theater
  - The first two
  - Ancient burial chamber
  - Type of card
  - Expression of sorrow or pity
  - Hectoliter
  - Morning
  - NYC subway dweller
  - Law enforcement
  - Sodium
  - Elevated subway
  - Facility where wild animals are kept
  - Integrated circuit
  - Seaman's tool
  - Drink to
  - Small group

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |    | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |    |
| 12 |    |    |    |    |    | 13 | 14 |    |    |    |    |    | 15 |
| 16 |    |    | 17 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 18 |    |
| 19 |    |    | 20 |    |    | 21 |    |    | 22 |    |    | 23 |    |
| 24 |    | 25 |    |    | 26 |    |    | 27 |    | 28 | 29 |    |    |
|    | 30 |    |    | 31 |    |    | 32 |    | 33 |    | 34 |    |    |
|    |    | 35 | 36 |    |    |    |    | 37 |    | 38 |    |    |    |
|    |    | 39 |    |    |    |    |    |    | 40 |    |    |    |    |
| 41 |    |    |    |    | 42 |    |    | 43 |    |    |    |    |    |
| 44 |    |    |    | 45 |    | 46 |    | 47 |    |    | 48 | 49 |    |
| 50 |    |    | 51 |    | 52 |    | 53 |    |    | 54 |    |    | 55 |
| 56 |    |    | 57 | 58 |    | 59 |    |    | 60 |    |    | 61 |    |
| 62 |    |    | 63 |    | 64 |    |    |    | 65 |    |    | 66 |    |
| 67 |    | 68 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 69 |    |    |
|    | 70 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 71 |    |    |    |

- CLUES DOWN**
- Poem
  - Everest is one (abbr.)
  - Olympic legend Jesse
  - Portable tent
  - When you hope to get there
  - Unwavering
  - Back muscle
  - Within
  - Excessive fluid accumulation in tissues
  - Six
  - Involved as a necessary part
  - 2002 Liotta, Patric film
  - Living thing
  - Type of gin
  - Moved around in pursuit of fun
  - Makes light bulbs
  - Story of one's life
  - Small island in a river
  - A type of bliss
  - Genus of large herons
  - A way to make dry
  - One's grandmother
  - Vocal style
  - Pronunciation mark
  - American Indian chief or leader
  - Insecticide
  - Go bad
  - Capital of Zimbabwe
  - Polish river
  - Cast out
  - People of India and Sri Lanka
  - Cleaning fabrics
  - Very skilled
  - Pouches
  - Restaurant must-have
  - Native Americans from Arizona
  - Remaining after all deductions
  - Fleece
  - Dorm official
  - It cools your home

# Investigations result in \$14M claims savings

From Pg. 18

## No. 2: The Fast & Furious

The 20-year-old driver told the MPI adjuster that he had been working a lot of overtime during the week and one night while driving home around midnight fell asleep and drove off the road, crashing into half a dozen parked vehicles. The posted speed limit on the road was 50 KM, with the young driver saying he was travelling 55 KM/H at the time of the crash.

However, the extent of the on-site damage contradicted the man's story. A download of the vehicle's Data Crash Recorder indicated the vehicle was travelling at nearly 140 KM/H at time of impact. The brake pedal was not applied and seatbelts were unbuckled. Surveillance footage was also taken from various locations on the travelled road, showing the vehicle was racing with another vehicle seconds before the crash.

There was also an on-site investigation which confirmed there was a long, straight 1.6 km stretch of road where the racing took place. The road then makes a left curve which the one vehicle was unable to negotiate, causing it to leave the road and crash heavily into a number of parked vehicles.

Based on the true facts of this investigation, the collision claim was denied and MPI has begun a recovery

of costs from the responsible driver. Cost savings to MPI estimated to be \$150,000.

## No. 3: Truckin' Along

A professional truck driver, the Winnipeg man was injured in a single-vehicle incident while hauling a load. Based on the extent of his injuries, he was entitled to receive Income Replacement Benefits and Personal Care Assistance payments.

He told his MPI case manager that his injuries prevented him from lifting his arms above his shoulders, unable to lift heavy objects, physically unable to drive more than 15 minutes, could no longer take out the garbage and recycling bins, or work his regular job.

After receiving information that the man was working while still collecting benefits, an investigation was opened, consisting of surveillance which conclusively showed the man was working, able to drive many hours a day and was seen carrying a number of objects, including heavy wooden crates.

Based on the investigation, MPI contacted the man and informed him his benefits were being terminated. He was also charged with Fraud Over \$5,000 and Make False Statement. Estimated savings to MPI was more than \$700,000.

## No. 4: Centre Stage

Two individuals opened separate collision claims, with one driver admitting he was responsible for the T-Bone collision at an intersection. The SIU investigator attended to the collision scene and noticed a surveillance camera pointed in the direction of the collision intersection. The surveillance clearly showed both vehicles slowly travelling through the intersection several times prior to the collision.

The surveillance also showed both vehicles were deliberately positioned in a T-Bone configuration, with one car accelerating into the other vehicle which was slowly entering the intersection. When presented with the facts, one owner admitted he and his friend planned this "staged" collision to write-off their vehicles. Savings to MPI was \$15,297.46.

## No. 5: Canine Caper

The Winnipeg woman opened a collision claim, stating a dog ran onto the roadway, causing her to swerve and collide with a pole and large flower pot located on the yard of a private

residence. There was significant damage to both the woman's 2020 Ford Explorer and items in the yard.

The woman also provided the name of a third-party witness, who told the MPI adjuster that the vehicle did swerve to avoid a dog and the woman was driving. Based on statements received, MPI determined the driver was not at fault, resulting in no financial compensation from MPI to the owners of the property.

When told of this decision, the owners of the property then provided MPI with video footage of the collision which clearly showed there was no dog running across the road, and the driver of the vehicle was a male.

When presented with this new information, the woman admitted to lying to protect her boyfriend who was driving and did not hold a valid driver's licence. The witness would later admit they had come across the crash after the fact, and did not see a dog.

The collision claim was denied and MPI is seeking to recover costs from the unlicensed driver. Claims savings to MPI was \$29,840.08.

## > BEHIND THE COUNTER, FROM PG. 18

working with a registered dietitian to understand what your body needs can have a major impact on overall health. When it comes to exercise, you should aim for at least 30 minutes of activity a day. This can help bring down blood sugar, prevent heart disease, and manage stress.

- Manage stress levels: Easier said than done! When stress levels are up, blood sugar levels may also increase. You may also find that it can be more challenging to manage diabetes when you are stressed. Routines and habits like getting exercise, eating healthy and taking diabetes medications may be harder to complete. Consider finding ways to relieve stress, such as meditation, yoga or taking a long walk.

- Quit smoking: When left unmanaged, the excess sugar in blood that causes diabetes can eventually lead to serious health complications, including heart attack, stroke, kidney failure, blindness, limb amputation, and anxiety or depression. If you smoke, your risk of health complications increases. Smoking can also make it more challenging to exercise – an important part of diabetes management. If you are ready to quit, your local pharmacist is an excellent resource.

For more information on diabetes and how you can best manage it, speak with your local pharmacist.

Zahid Zehri is a pharmacist and owner of Shoppers Drug Mart in Winkler.

# The Funnies

PLANET GARRY By: Harrison Doll  
Inspired By: Bill Whatterson



# Classifieds

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

*Morden*  
CITY OF MORDEN  
PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the audited Financial Report of the City of Morden for the year ending December 31st, 2020, together with the related financial statements have been deposited in the office of the Director of Finance & Administration and are available for inspection by any person or his/her agent during regular business hours of Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and that any person or his/her agent at their own expense may make a copy thereof or extracts therefrom.

Nicole Reidle, CMMA, CMML  
City Manager  
City of Morden

**MORTGAGE SALE**

## MORTGAGE SALE

The Building and Land known as 115 Main Street S., in the City of Winkler, in the Province of Manitoba as described in Certificate of Title No. 2232903/4 will be sold at auction on Thursday, the 27th day of January A.D. 2022 at 10:00 A.M. by way of video conference or teleconference.

The Vendor is informed that there is situated on the property a 3-bedroom, single family detached single-storey home with a single detached garage and a detached workshop. The house was built in 1964 on a 18,988 sq.ft. lot.

TERMS: Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) in cash or certified cheque or bank draft or solicitor's trust cheque on the date, place and time of auction and the balance in accordance with the conditions to be announced at sale.

SUBJECT TO RESERVE BID. The reserve bid will be announced at the auction.

Property taxes are paid to December 31, 2019.

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:

PKF Lawyers, 900-444 St. Mary Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 3T1 Attention: Yvonne Tavares, telephone 204-336-4002, file no. 19311-032

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**Estate & Moving**

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Brandon, MB

**FARM PRODUCTION OPERATOR**

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### Farm Production Operator

Looking to hire two full time Farm Production Operators on a 3000 acre seed production farm north of Carman MB. Looking for self-motivated individuals with production agriculture experience. These positions will have a lot of task variability from day to day and the work will happen in a team as well as independently.

**Duties**

- Seeding (air seeder and row crop) calibrating, adjusting to soil conditions, cleaning and loading.
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- Harvesting - swathing, combining, grain carting and trucking
- Land Management - ditch mowing, harrowing, land scraping, tillage and fertilizer banding
- Seed Plant Operation - not a primary duty but training will be provided
- Local Trucking - Class One license preferred
- Machinery maintenance

**Training / Professional Development Opportunities**

- Class One driver training
- Work place health and safety training
- Seed plant operator training
- Advanced machinery and guidance training

**Salary**

• Will vary depending on experience and skills  
Please contact  
Robert J Park  
RJP SEED LTD  
1-204-745-0088  
[rob.park@rjpseed.com](mailto:rob.park@rjpseed.com)

**SCRAP METAL**

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

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[www.mcna.com](http://www.mcna.com)

**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.

**NOTICES**

**URGENT PRESS RELEASES** - Have a newsworthy item to announce? Having a winter 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.

**NOTICES**

Worried about restrictions impacting your business? Advertise in the 37 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)

**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 [stone.woodelkranch@mymts.net](mailto:stone.woodelkranch@mymts.net)

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GVMA is a Non Government Funded Christian Private School

**\*\*\* Drive Thru \*\*\*  
Enchilada  
Supper**  
*With Rice, Beans, Chips and Dessert*

Friday  
Jan 14 2022  
**5:00-7:30**  
Free parking available for donations of \$20 or more

Meal  
3 Enchiladas,  
Rice, Beans & Chips  
Dessert Included

**WINKLER SOMMERFELDER CHURCH  
189 2ND ST, WINKLER**

**LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING  
MEMBERS OF ACCESS CREDIT UNION LIMITED  
(the "Credit Union")**

**TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE CREDIT UNION**

**TAKE NOTICE THAT** a special meeting of the Members of the Credit Union will be held at 6:00 pm on Thursday, the 27th day of January, 2022, via videoconference, for the purpose of announcing the results of the member vote on the proposed Special Resolution for the amalgamation of the Credit Union with Noventis Credit Union Limited and Sunova Credit Union Limited. All members wanting to participate in the Special Meeting are required to register by January 26, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. CST.

The Amalgamation Agreement, proposed bylaws, and meeting attendance and voting information package will be available for pickup at any branch of the Credit Union, or online at the secure voting site [accessvotes.ca](http://accessvotes.ca).

Questions from members regarding the amalgamation should be submitted to [together@accesscu.ca](mailto:together@accesscu.ca), or by calling 1.800.264.2926.

**VOTING**

**TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT** Voting on the Special Resolution prior to the Meeting will be by electronic ballot and will be tallied electronically by a third party provider. Voting will be open from 9:00 am CST on Tuesday, the 25th day of January, 2022 until a motion is resolved at the Special Meeting on the day of the Meeting. Each member may vote on a personal electronic device or should any member prefer, computers/tablets for the purpose of voting will be available at all branches of the Credit Union during operating hours. Voting will end during the Meeting, with no further votes to be cast after a motion to cease voting is passed at the Meeting.

**PROPOSED SPECIAL RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS the Board of Directors of the Credit Union has recommended that the Credit Union amalgamate with Noventis Credit Union Limited ("Noventis") and Sunova Credit Union Limited ("Sunova") in accordance with the provisions of the Amalgamation Agreement made between the Credit Union, Noventis, and Sunova, dated December 15, 2021 (the "Amalgamation Agreement");

**AND WHEREAS** it is in the Credit Union's best interests to enter into the Amalgamation Agreement and to amalgamate with Noventis and Sunova on the terms and conditions set out therein;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AS A SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF THE CREDIT UNION THAT:**

1. The execution of the Amalgamation Agreement by the Credit Union be and it is hereby ratified and confirmed;
2. The amalgamation of the Credit Union with Noventis and Sunova on the terms and conditions set out in the Amalgamation Agreement be and it is hereby approved.

**SUMMARY OF THE AMALGAMATION AGREEMENT**

An Amalgamation Agreement, dated December 15, 2021, has been approved by the Boards of Directors of the Credit Union, Noventis, and Sunova. The agreement provides for the amalgamation of the Credit Union, Noventis, and Sunova into one credit union, to be effective on July 1, 2022. The credit union resulting from the amalgamation will be called Access Credit Union Limited and will have its registered office in the Rural Municipality of Stanley, Manitoba.

Following amalgamation, all members of the Credit Union, Noventis, and Sunova will be members of the amalgamated credit union and all deposits and shares of or loans owing to either of the predecessor credit unions will be deposits or shares of or loans owing to the amalgamated credit union. The common shares and surplus shares of each of the Credit Union, Noventis, and Sunova will become the common shares and surplus shares of the amalgamated credit union on a one for one basis.

Because of the size of the amalgamated credit union, the transaction must be reported to the Competition Bureau of Canada and is subject to its approval.

**RIGHT OF DISSENT**

**TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT,** under the provisions of Section 127 of The Credit Unions and Caisses Populaires Act, members have the right to dissent to the proposed amalgamation. To dissent, a written objection to the amalgamation must be submitted to the Credit Union at or before the meeting of Members referred to in this Notice.

DATED this 6th day of January, 2022  
ACCESS CREDIT UNION LIMITED  
By Order of the Board of Directors



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**CAREERS**



**Owner Operators needed for  
our Deck and Van divisions.**

Odanah Truck Line is located in Brandon, Manitoba and has been in business since 1999. The most common lanes we run are from the Mid-West USA to Alberta but not specifically. Owner Operators are paid a percentage of the load rate, and 100% of any fuel surcharge, tarping and layover time that is collected from the customer. Providing your own trailer would provide you with a higher percentage.

We strive to have the drivers' home for a good work/home balance.

Two years' experience would be preferable however would be willing to make an exception for the right candidate.

All drivers must supply their own personal protection equipment and all equipment necessary for securing the load. We must be compliant with all rules and regulations for border crossing, so drivers must have a passport, drug and alcohol testing, knowledge of ELD's, double vaccinated and the use of the ArriveCan app.

**Please email [ken@odanah.com](mailto:ken@odanah.com) or [admin@odanah.com](mailto:admin@odanah.com)  
with your current drivers abstract if you  
are interested in joining our family.**

**CAREERS**



**Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc  
Carman, MB. is now hiring for a**

**111 Lyle Drive Carman, MB, R0G 0J0**

**Inventory Service Coordinator ("ISC")**

The ISC is responsible for the control, management, and planning of all inventories.

Must be flexible to work 40+ hours per week and weekends as required.

Reporting directly to the Plant Manager, responsibilities of this position include, but not limited to:

- Work Safety and follow all safety policies and procedures
- Monitor customer orders and maintain clear communication with Production, Logistics, CSR's & Sales as required and have full grasp of inventory
- Communicate with all ADS facilities to procure inventory
- Lead and maintain cycle count of all finished goods, resale and BOM products
- Reconcile inventory discrepancies
- Review and partner with Production to ensure schedules and orders are fulfilled
- Monitor and communicate back orders
- Practice Continuous Improvement and 6S, including facility housekeeping
- Achieve expectations to meet standard production efficiencies and KPI's
- Oversee yard storage, as well as monitor yard operations

**Job Skills:**

- Knowledge of inventory and supply chain management principles and techniques
- Strong math skills, ability to perform intermediate calculations
- Capacity, lead time and production planning and scheduling understanding
- Clean, transparent communication with various levels within the company
- Ability to work without day-to-day direction and manage time independently to meet team goals
- Team player, with a positive can-do attitude

**Educational Requirements:**

- High School diploma or equivalent
- Post-secondary degree/diploma is preferred

**Preferred Experience:**

- Inventory management systems (Oracle)
- Manufacturing background
- Basic knowledge of logistic and shipping

**Physical Requirements:**

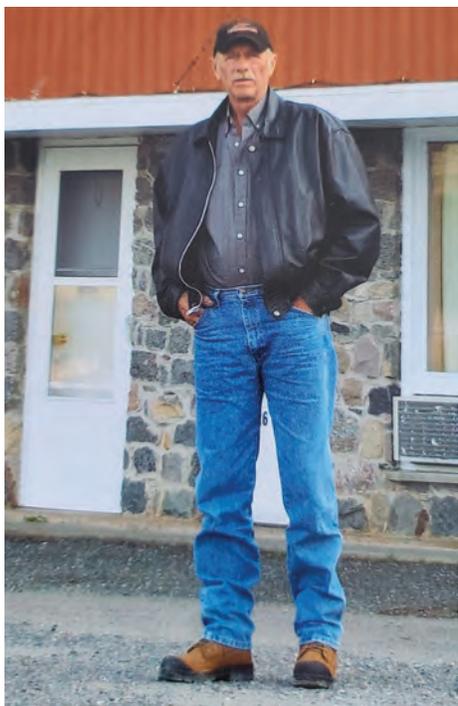
- Ability to sit and work on computer for 8+ hours per day
- Work outside (25%) in all weather conditions

**Please email resume to Gord Unger at [gord.unger@ads-pipe.com](mailto:gord.unger@ads-pipe.com)**

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## IN MEMORIAM



**Rob Hiebert**

July 4th, 1957 - January 5th, 2021

So when tomorrow starts without me,  
Don't think we are far apart;  
For every time you think of me,  
I'm right here in your heart.

-Love and miss you  
Doreen and family

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## OBITUARY

### Raymond Walter White 1939 – 2021



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Raymond Walter White on December 20, 2021 at the age of 82.

Raymond was born to Sidney and Verna White (nee Affleck) in Morden on February 2, 1939. He attended school at Elam, Thornhill and Morden Collegiate. In 1962, he graduated with a diploma in Agriculture from University of Manitoba. He worked at Manitoba Crop Insurance from fall to spring and farmed in the summer until 1967. He married the love of his life Sharon Philp in the spring of 1967 and became a fulltime farmer since then until 2009. After which, he continued to help his son, Ross in farming. While farming, he also worked in various agriculture sectors until his retirement. Ray loved curling, fishing, dancing, playing bridge,

travelling and especially the choir of St. Paul's United Church. He was a member of Morden Elks Lodge. He served on the board of the Morden Farmers Curling Club, the Manitoba Pool Elevator and St. Paul's United Church. In 2011, he was awarded the Pembina Valley Conservation District Farm Family Award.

He leaves to mourn his wife, Sharon and their two sons, Ross (Annelore) and Brian (Jewel) and his granddaughter, Coral. He is also survived by sisters, Charlene Moores, Pat (Jim) Gibson and Janice Dziver and his sister-in-law, Frances Radcliffe and brother-in-law, Dennis (Betty) Philp. He was predeceased by his parents, brothers-in-law, Milton Moores, Bill Dziver and Lorne Radcliffe and sister-in-law, Shirley Philp.

The family wish to extend their sincere gratitude to the staff on the Willow Unit at Salem Home for wonderful care they provided.

Unfortunately, due to COVID 19, the service was private.

Donations may be made in Ray's memory to Katie's Cottage 12115 Rd 24 W Stanley, MB R6W 1S5.

Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler  
In care of arrangements  
[wiebefuneralhomes.com](http://wiebefuneralhomes.com)



## OBITUARY

### Herman Gustav Bollenbach 1932 - 2021



On Tuesday, December 21, 2021 Herman left us to join his beloved Jean.

Herman was predeceased by parents, Gustav and Matilda; brothers, Lawrence and Walter; sisters, Ruth, Helen and Lydia.

He is survived by his sister, Marion; brother, Harold; son, John (Brigitte); daughter, Christine; grandchildren, Cody (Kirsten), Jayson (Brooke), Oliver (Emma), Lucy and great-grandchildren, Ariella, Maddyn and Luna.

Herman was born on October 31, 1932 at the family homestead. Farming was the family way of life, and from a young age, he spent many hours working alongside his father even before he was six years old. If farming was his early passion, school was not.

He thought his time was better served and chose to leave the education system to begin his working life before graduation. He started out working around Morden before giving logging a try in Northwestern Ontario. In 1953 he headed out West to begin working for Imperial Esso in the oil fields. On a fateful trip back West with car packed full of canned chicken and dill pickles, he had a car accident, which laid him up for four months. It was during his time out West that he met his beloved Jean in Devon, Alberta and married her in 1955. Then along came John and Chrissy to complete the family. They moved back to Morden in 1961 to take over brother, Lawrence's farm. Times were sometimes tough on the farm, but there was never a word of complaint, and these were also the best of times because family and friends all worked together.

Herman eventually gave up farming to manage Morden Fine Foods before moving on to sell insurance and recruit and train new agents. It was during this period than Herman ran for town council and became the mayor of Morden for a time. When they retired, Herman and Jean moved to Lac du Bonnet where they enjoyed many days fishing both summer and winter and snowmobiling in the winter.

After Jeannie's passing in 2009, Herman returned to Morden to be closer to family and friends. He was very proud of his service to his community and was a lifelong member of the Elks Lodge 476 and the Masons.

His storytelling and humour will be greatly missed by his family and all who knew him.

A special thanks to Edith for her devotion and care and to Rick for checking in and providing support in recent years.

Memorial service date is pending.

Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Morden  
In care of arrangements  
[wiebefuneralhomes.com](http://wiebefuneralhomes.com)



## OBITUARY

### Cornelius Dyck 1942 – 2021



In the early morning of Monday, December 20, 2021, Cornie Dyck, age 79 of Winkler, MB passed away peacefully with family at his side at the Boundary Trails Health Centre in the R.M. of Stanley.

Cornie was born in Schanzenfeld, MB on May 20, 1942 to Henry and Justina Dyck. He grew up and attended school in Friedensruh, MB. Cornie was a man of strong faith and in 1963 declared this publicly by being baptized at the Reinlander Church. His faith in Jesus was lived out in his actions and compassion for others.

Cornie married the love of his life Helen in 1964, they had three sons together and enjoyed their life together until her passing 52 years later. His family was everything to him, praying for them often and willing to do anything to support them. He was a humble, kind and gentle man, worked hard for what he had and provided a great upbringing for his children and foster children. He enjoyed camping, coffee with his buddies and siblings, mostly just being around others. Summer of 2020, he moved into his new home at Buhler Place and was blessed with community of this place. He made several new friends and he talked often about how much he enjoyed being there. When he ended up in the hospital, he spoke about how he missed the people there and couldn't wait to enjoy game nights again.

Cornie is survived by his sons, Bob (Debera), Ken (Sabine) and Merv (Nancy); foster daughters, Colleen and Rhonda; grandchildren, Jeremy (Brittnee), Melissa, Rebecca, Tyler, Brittany, Ashley, Kayla, Johanna, Bethany, and Zachary; great-grandchildren, Jaxon, Jayden and Tommy and several brothers, sisters, nephews and nieces.

Cornie was predeceased by his parents, Henry and Justina, stepfather, Jan Michnik, wife, Helen Dyck, daughter-in-law, Kathy as well as numerous brothers and sisters.

Private funeral service was held with interment at Westridge Memorial Gardens.

The family would like to send their sincere gratitude to the nurses at Boundary Trails for the care they provided him, as well as all of the people at Buhler Place for their hospitality and kindness in making his time there so enjoyable.

Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler  
In care of arrangements  
[wiebefuneralhomes.com](http://wiebefuneralhomes.com)



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**OBITUARY**



**Abram Peters  
1951 - 2021**

Abe was born on the 17th of July, 1951 in the Chihuahua area of Mexico to Katarina and David Peters. He was raised in southern Ontario and then met his bride, Margaret Blatz in Morden in 1972. They were married on August 4th, 1973. They had four children born in Morden then in 1978 moved to the area around Aylmer, Ontario. As empty nesters, they spent a number of years in Texas, growing friendships there before returning to Morden in 2015. Every place they ever lived always remain their home because of the people there. Throughout his life he demonstrated deep care for his siblings and extended family. Abe believed God and in the finished work of his promised Son, Jesus. Abe worked a variety of jobs over the years, starting off on the family farm as a young boy,

to running his own carpentry business, to driving truck, and then spending last number of years at Walmart. Abe always seemed to be well liked no matter where he went. And he always tried very hard to have a positive influence on everyone he met.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret; their children, Travis (Sharon) Peters of Texas, Jeff (Kyla) Peters of BC, Juanita (Paul) Thiessen of Manitoba and Carl (Sue) Peters of Ontario; their grandchildren, Rebecca (Dalton) Baker, William Peters, Lydia (Josh) Prado, Ethan Peters, Andrew Peters, Kezia Peters, McKinley Peters, Elijah Peters, Madeline Thiessen and Gideon Thiessen and great-grandsons, Yancey and Maverick Baker.

Private funeral service was held with interment at the Glencross Church Cemetery. If friends so desire, donations may be made in Abe's memory to the D'Friesens.

Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Morden  
In care of arrangements  
wiebefuneralhomes.com



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**OBITUARY**



**Elaine Ready  
January 12, 1936  
to December 24, 2021**

It is with sorrow that we announce the death of our mother, Jean "Elaine" Ready. Mom passed away peacefully at Tabor Home on December 24, 2021 at the age of 85.

Mom was predeceased by her husband, Don; her parents Alexander and Myrtle Ellis; and siblings Evan, Wilfred, Les, Glen, Ethel, Verna and Noreen.

Family who remain to cherish her memory are her children: son Bert (Belinda) of Martin, South Dakota, daughter Donna (Gwen) of Ladysmith, BC, son Dale (Norma) of Morden, MB, and son Darcy (Susan) of Winnipeg; along with nine grandchildren: Ben (Laura), James (Nathalie), Randy (Holly), Ross, Paige, Richelle, Shandra, Tarina, and Owen; as well as six great-grandchildren: Ella, Ingrid, Tait, Kinsley, Ryan and Leah.

The family would like to express our gratitude to the staff at Homestead South and most recently at Tabor Home for their care and kindness shown to Mom and appreciate the many kind words from friends and extended family on her passing.

Cremation has taken place. The family will celebrate Mom, Grandma and Great-Grandma's life at a family gathering at a later date.

Donations in Mom's memory may be made to the Alzheimer Society of Manitoba.

**OBITUARY**



**Peter J. Hamm  
1925 - 2021**

Peter J. Hamm of Winkler, MB passed away peacefully at Boundary Trails Health Centre on Thursday, December 23, 2021 at the age of 96 years.

Peter is survived by his wife of 70 years, Caroline and by his children: Raymond (Lydia), Sandy (Harrison Powder) Banman, Gloria (Henry) Friesen, Murray (Odette) and by many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nephews and nieces.

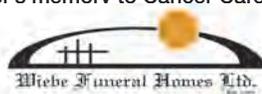
He was predeceased by his parents, John and Elizabeth Hamm; his brothers, Henry, John and Corny; his brother-in-law, Abe Derksen; sisters-in-law, Helen Hamm and Mary Hamm; his infant daughter, Mavis and by two grandchildren, Carl and Farrell.

Funeral service was held on Thursday, December 30, 2021 with interment at the Winkler Cemetery.

The family would like to thank the staff and doctors at Boundary Trails Health Centre and especially Dr. Kavi Abbu, Rev. Art Wiebe, Wiebe Funeral Home and all those who showed their support through prayers.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in Peter's memory to Cancer Care Manitoba.

Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler  
in care of arrangements  
wiebefuneralhomes.com



**OBITUARY**



**Bezan,  
Theodore (Ted)**

Quietly in the early morning of December 20th 2021, Dad took his last breath. He was 97 years old.

A ceremony to celebrate his life, and a burial in the Miami Cemetery will take place in spring or summer 2022. Announcement to follow closer to that time.

Doyle's Funeral Home  
in care of arrangements  
www.doylesfuneralhome.ca

**OBITUARY**



**Justina Wolfe (nee Hamm)  
1932 - 2021**

On Tuesday, December 28, 2021. Justina Wolfe suffered congestive heart failure and went to her eternal rest.

She leaves to mourn her passing, six sons, two daughters, their spouses, 27 grandchildren and 45 great-grandchildren.

Justina was born to Abram and Maria Hamm, on January 18, 1932 in Mexico. She was baptized upon confession of her faith and married to John D Wolfe on January 24, 1954. They moved to Altona, MB Canada on May 2, 1966, where they continued to raise their family of eight. In the later years after Dad had passed away and Mom was no longer able to care for herself, we moved her to Eastview Place in Altona. She easily found her way into the hearts of the staff that cared for her through her funny sense of

humour and the jokes she shared with them. But her greatest joy was always when her children or grandchildren came around. All who knew her also knew that her family meant the world to her. When she was still able, she loved to cook meals and have family over. Also, many memories were made with grandchildren doing puzzles and she always had treats for them. The part of her always wanting the family over and spending time with them never ended. One of her favourite songs we will remember her by, was "Church in The Wildwood" and the chapter that meant a lot to her was Psalm 23.

Private funeral service was held with interment at the Rosenbach Cemetery.

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude and heartfelt thanks to the Rosewood staff for the great care you've given our Mother over the years.

Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler  
In care of arrangements  
wiebefuneralhomes.com



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