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The *Winkler • Morden* Voice



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2025
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CCH cuts ribbon on new apartment complex

Central Community Homes in Winkler cut the ribbon on 557 North Railway Ave. last week. It offers 28 units of affordable housing with on-site support services. For the full story, see Pg. 2.

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

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“Safe, affordable housing is a fundamental human right”

Central Community Homes cuts ribbon on 28-unit affordable, supportive housing complex

By Ashleigh Viveiros

After years of dreaming, planning, fundraising, and, finally, building, Central Community Homes’ newest 28-unit affordable housing complex is now complete.

Officials cut the ribbon on the multi-storey building at 557 North Railway Ave. in Winkler Sept. 24. The first residents began moving into the facility earlier this month.

“This is the culmination of about five years of planning, including in the pandemic, to get us where we are today,” shared CCH board chair James Friesen.

“When Central Community Homes took on the responsibility of providing social housing in this community, in partnership with Manitoba Housing, we said the obligation of a community is to care for its own members. And that has continued to be

the theme for the organization going forward.”

This project was made possible thanks to not only funding commitments from multiple levels of government—including capital investments and ongoing operating support from Manitoba Housing—but also the many corporate partners and community donors who believed in the vision for this facility.

And thanks to recent funding confirmation to the tune of \$400,000 a year from Manitoba Health, CCH was able to partner with Eden Health Care Services to offer on-site support services to the building’s residents.

“So not only is it a beautiful new home for 28 individuals, it is also a place where people can continue their mental health recovery,” Friesen said. “And it will provide the ability for individuals to not only just have a roof over their head, but rather to become



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

The affordable housing complex at 557 North Railway is now complete.

truly invested members in this community.”

Bringing greetings to the event on behalf of the provincial NDP government—which held its caucus retreat in Morden-Winkler last week—was Health Minister Uzoma Asagwara and Housing Minister Bernadette Smith, who also oversees the province’s mental health portfolio.

“A lot of people have touched this project, and so I want to say thank you for everything that you’ve done as a community, as partners, to get to this point,” said Asagwara.

The \$400,000 in annual funding recognizes “that health and housing go

hand in hand,” Asagwara said. “We know that if people are housed with dignity and safety, with the supports they need, that you’re going to have happier and healthier outcomes. And we know that healthier communities are safer communities, more productive communities.”

Winkler Mayor Henry Siemens, who serves on the CCH board, noted that while this project is complete, the work of addressing affordable housing needs in the community continues.

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Regional partnerships the key to growth: leaders

By Lorne Stelmach

Local leaders touched on an array of issues and priorities last Thursday as the Winkler and Morden chambers of commerce jointly hosted the Your Region, Your Voice event at Zara's Garden.

Morden-Winkler MLA Carrie Hiebert, Winkler Mayor Henry Siemens, Morden Mayor Nancy Penner, and RM of Stanley Reeve Ike Friesen addressed a variety of topics ranging from education and training opportunities to the need for more housing and supports for people in need.

Other questions covered such areas

as investment and support for new-comer businesses and the need for more industrial space in both Winkler and Morden. And of course infrastructure—including most especially wastewater treatment—came up as an urgent priority so that development can move forward at the pace the region is demanding.

A common theme throughout the evening was the importance of regional collaboration between the three municipalities.

Friesen highlighted the Stanley community pathway as a prime example of what co-operation can accomplish.

"It's been a work in progress for



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

From left: Reeve Ike Friesen, Mayor Nancy Penner, Mayor Henry Siemens, and MLA Carrie Hiebert at the Your Region, Your Voice event last week.

many years ... more recently, it got more traction, and we got a committee that's worked very hard on it."

"The pathway is such a visible one,

and it's going to benefit so many of us," agreed Penner.

Continued on page 5



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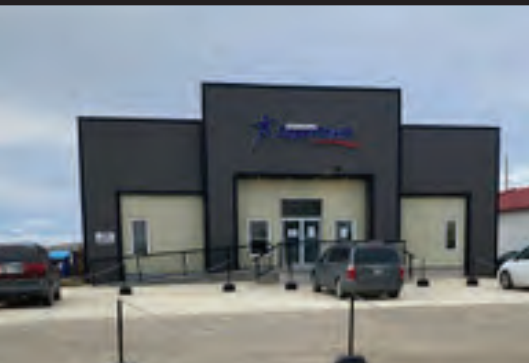
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Medical directors share update on health care

By Lorne Stelmach

There was a focus on local health care last Thursday as the Winkler and Morden chambers of commerce held their annual Your Region, Your Voice evening at Zara's Garden.

In addition to hearing from the local mayors, reeve, and MLA, there were also presentations from the executive directors of the Menzies Medical Centre in Morden and the C.W. Wiebe Medical Centre in Winkler.

Nicole Walske from the Morden clinic noted there has been a lot of change in recent years and reflected how things had looked kind of bleak when she stepped into the role a few

years ago. "Recruitment, as you know, is never ending, not just at Menzies but across the province and our country," she said, noting how the pressure for more physicians has been immense "because our doctors are burning out. If they can't care for themselves, how can they possibly care for their patients and our community?"

"Our community has felt the strain too ... people have been very, very frustrated," she acknowledged.

"It's important to understand the demands on our doctors," Walske added. "Many of them split their time between the clinic and the hospital. Some of them cover ER days, nights;

some of them are delivering babies, providing anesthesia ... their work extends further than the clinic exam rooms."

She did also offer some hopeful news.

"The good news is that our recruitment efforts are paying off," said Walske. "This summer we welcomed a new pediatrician. We are also planning to welcome our second pediatrician in just over a week and a half ... we brought in three family phy-



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Karen Denise Cyr (left) from the C.W. Wiebe Medical Centre in Winkler and Nicole Walske from the Menzies Medical Centre in Morden shared staffing updates at the Your Region, Your Voice event last week.

sician residents who were trained through our Boundary Trails clinical teaching unit."

They have welcomed six new physicians since last June, so they now have 19 family physicians in addition to other staff including two nurse practitioners and the pediatricians, and three more family physicians who have committed to join the clinic when they complete their training between 2026 and 2028.

Walske also touched on the importance of the family doctor finder registry, noting that there are currently about 2,000 people waiting for a family doctor.

"I know that doesn't sound very good, but just three years ago that number was 4,000," she noted. "That's

progress, but we also know there's thousands more who are using our walk-in services and are not formally attached to a doctor and may not have even registered on family doctor finder."

Karen Denise Cyr, executive director of the C.W. Wiebe Medical Centre, reflected on how it had been 100 years since Dr. C.W. Wiebe came to practice medicine in Winkler.

"Over the years, we've made really significant strides in health care," she said. "We certainly are facing challenges that really will demand our attention and to be innovative and to be collaborative with others."

She then aimed to offer a positive note.

"I think what's working is that we are acknowledging that physicians are people and people with families and a desire for life balance," she said. "We really stand as beacons of modern patient-centred care."

"With a team of 40 dedicated physicians ... and surgeons in that mix plus 20 allied health care professionals and a large team of dedicated staff ... the clinic provides compassionate and efficient care to nearly 27,000 enrolled patients ... and then there's many unattached patients."

Cyr also noted how their physicians and staff are also providing a range of specialized care—such as cancer care, as one example—as well as a wide range of other services, including vaccinations and diagnostics.

"These are really major wins for accessibility and continuity of care for our citizens," she said.

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> YOUR REGION, YOUR VOICE, FROM PG. 3

She also cited the regional landfill as another good example, including the recent initiative for it to take on doing composting for the area.

"They're moving full steam ahead, and we are pleased that we still have an opportunity to keep our composting out of the landfill," she noted.

"I think it is important to remember there have been some really good regional partnerships over the years," Siemens said. "When we look at MSTW, and we look at SWAMP [Solid Waste Area Management Project], and we look at some of the areas where we have worked together that have planted some of the seeds for what is happening now."

He also cited how the three municipalities came together to jointly support the Boundary Trails Health Centre Foundation for the current hospital expansion.

"There's a whole bunch of things where we have worked together that don't necessarily hit the news," he added.

Siemens went on to note how the local leaders meet monthly to discuss a range of issues

"Many of them are planting seeds for tomorrow," he suggested. "There are some pieces that we can point to that are big wins ... really, really big wins are still to come. They're to come based on the relationship that we are building of trust in each other."

> HEALTH CARE UPDATE, FROM PG. 4

"In the last few months, we've had five new physicians come and most of them are from Nigeria ... went to the UK and did their training there," Cyr shared.

"Our health care system is definitely not immune to kind of the broader provincial and national challenges," she continued. "While our clinic does see an influx of physicians, a lot of communities across Canada continue to have these really immense challenges recruiting people to come."

"Right now, we're expanding our urgent care offerings into the evening hours because we know that not everybody can access care between nine and five," she said. "It also will help to divert some people who end up walking in at the ER because they just don't have another option."

Cyr also touched on the measles outbreaks in the area and noted how it underscores the importance of im-

He also referred to the rivalry that had existed for so long between Morden and Winkler as mostly being a thing of the past.

"To see it now being pushed aside and to recognize those 25,000 or 30,000 vehicles a day that go back and forth," said Siemens. "People had figured it out a long time ago. It's time that we do as well, and we are working very hard to do so."

"I've never seen anybody work so well together, and I think this is such a big success for our region," noted MLA Hiebert. "It's a big thing for our area."

Hiebert said that she always works to bring forward the needs of the region, and she also highlighted the success of the expansion of the regional hospital but also such projects as the new arena in Winkler and the new school in Morden.

"There's a lot of really good things happening," she said. "I'm always going to fight to make sure that we get what we need in our communities."

Another question though focused on some of the challenges that are being faced and areas where things have perhaps not progressed as well or where there have been barriers.

"One thing I do know is that when there are roadblocks in our communities, we have got such amazing communities ... all of you step up," said Hiebert. "I think there's always a way,

and our business community, our people, our volunteers ... everybody just gets together and they figure out how to make it work."

"I think most of the things that we run into today are more not now rather than not at all ... that last piece is primarily a function of financing," suggested Siemens.

"We look at growth related infrastructure costs that are exponentially hard to do, and it's almost impossible to go back and ask the local ratepayers to pick up the cost of those things," he added. "It's not necessarily the local money that's the problem."

Penner touched on the challenge faced by Morden in getting to a wastewater solution.

"It's an issue that Morden has been struggling with ... but we are finally moving forward on it," she said.

"In the meantime, it is a project that we can't do alone," Penner stressed. "We need federal, provincial, and mu-

nicipal funding for this, but thinking about co-operative spirit, Winkler's going to look at the feasibility option for us in the short term to help us.

"So, here again, we're talking about co-operative spirit in the region. It's something we can't just walk away from. It's taking a major effort from a number of parties ... but Morden is situating itself so that when this wastewater treatment gets approved and in the ground ... we're full steam ahead."

Friesen also emphasized the spirit of regional co-operation in working to help out Morden in the short term, and he concluded with a thought on the need for capital lot levies to support and help pay for the infrastructure that the growth across the region demands.

"It's not coming provincially or federally, and we're having to go to developers," he said.

"I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYBODY WORK SO WELL TOGETHER, AND I THINK THIS IS SUCH A BIG SUCCESS FOR OUR REGION."



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Pride goeth

I've always been fascinated by the ability of people to be extremely proud of a thing they have little or no connection to other than proximity ... like a team, a city, region, country, etc.

Wars have been fought over such silliness.

As a child I moved a lot. I went to more than a dozen schools between Kindergarten and graduation. Maybe moving around so much made me somewhat immune to location-based pride.

There is an exception, however. I have been a life-long fan of the Toronto Maple Leafs and the Toronto Blue Jays. Likely this had to do with growing up an hour away from Toronto.

I've also lived in seven different communities. Believe it or not, my 20 years in Morden is the longest I've lived anywhere in my life.

I think this means that, as a person prone to move around a lot, I am a huge fan of things like amalgamation and centralizing.

When I look at places like Winkler, Morden, and sometimes Stanley I confess I am always dumbfounded by how difficult it has been for the communities to find a way to work together.

We chuckle when people compare Morden and Winkler to Springfield and Shelbyville from *The Simpsons* but



By Peter Cantelon

trust me, this is not meant as a compliment.

Don't get me wrong, over the years there have been plenty of joint initiatives, the most recent being the active transportation path. What I'm talking about are substantive infrastructure and governance initiatives.

The pattern I have seen has been one in which the communities begin conversations only to have them break down over silly things like leadership personality.

"Peter, you don't understand, they are so hard to work with..."

Take for instance the amalgamation of protective services like policing. Our local police work incredibly well together. Over the years the idea of amalgamation has arisen and the benefits—single infrastructure, single contract to negotiate, an economy of scale that could provide additional services and opportunities for officers, etc.—discussed.

Usually these talks break down over silly things like "they are going to want the police headquarters in their city" or "we will see service levels reduced."

First of all, these are red herrings distracting from the real issue. Service levels are measurable, and they can be managed accordingly. As for location—who cares where the headquarters are as long as service levels are met?

But of course, there are stories of

how people thought putting a hospital between Morden and Winkler and closing their two mutual facilities would be the end of the world. Instead, we have one of the best hospitals in the province.

There are so many missed opportunities, like joint wastewater infrastructure—something that was said to be unworkable until recently when we saw agreement to do it anyway (temporarily) with Winkler for Morden.

When the communities were close to securing a YMCA complex with an indoor pool for the region it fell apart because of location issues.

Merging two school divisions into one? Nonsense. A single chamber of commerce? Ridiculous. One regional city with a current population of nearly 30,000 people making it the third largest in the province ... never gonna happen.

Again and again egos and concerns of losing our sense of ownership and individuality have stood in the way of this region coming together in a meaningful way and really powering ahead.

Do you know what we called a city 10 minutes down the road from us in some of the other places I have lived? The other side of town.

There are always practical reasons floated for why these things won't

Continued on page 7

Letter policy

The *Voice* welcomes letters from readers on local matters.

Please keep your letters short (excessively long letters are less likely to be published), on-topic, and respectful.

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View the *Voice* online at www.winklormordenvoice.ca or altonavoice.ca

United Way puts call out for Koats for Kids donations

New or gently used winter clothing needed for both kids and adults

By Lorne Stelmach

United Way Pembina Valley is putting out a call for donations of winter clothing to help families in need stay warm in the months ahead.

The agency's Koats for Kids donation drive kicks off Monday, Oct. 13 and runs to Nov. 6. They're looking for all kinds of winter items for both kids and adults—jackets, snow pants, toques, mittens, scarves—and they welcome both new and gently used items but just ask that they be in good usable condition.

"It's something that is certainly meeting a great need in our communities," said Koats for Kids organizer Cathy Sandercock.

"The need seems to be growing every year," she said, noting last year over 840 people came out to pick up some winter gear at the distribution days in both Morden and Winkler.

She sees it as a good fit for the United Way to spearhead a program like this.

"We want people to be able to go through life on equal footing," Sandercock said. "We have a lot of new Canadians, often with many children, and this may be their first experience with our Canadian winters."

"We are very fortunate that so many people give, and we have such great partners that we are able to work with here in Morden and Winkler to make this happen," she added. "We have great volunteers that help get people fitted and set up properly for the winter."

"We can't stress enough how much we appreciate the support," Sandercock continued. "We even get some new ski suits for kids ... and even people just going through their closets ... and we also have had compa-



VOICE FILE PHOTO

United Way Pembina Valley's Koats for Kids program is collecting donations of new or gently used winter clothing Oct. 13 to Nov. 6. Volunteers will be distributing them at distribution nights in Morden Nov. 4 and in Winkler Nov. 6.

nies that have extra stock ... they've surprised us by having those appear in our bins still in the packaging."

Starting Oct. 13, red donation bins will be in place at four Morden-Winkler locations: at the Morden fire hall, the Winkler fire hall, Central Station Community Centre in Winkler, and

500 Stephen Community Centre in Morden.

This year's distribution nights are Nov. 4 from 3-7 p.m. in Morden at 500 Stephen and Nov. 6 also from 3-7 p.m. at Central Station in Winkler.

Items are free of charge for all in need.

letters

KATIE'S COTTAGE KUDOS

Not sure many living in the Winkler/Morden area know of one of the great services they have for all Manitobans. Katie's Cottage is a kind of motel for people who have a loved one either in the Boundary Trails Hospital (right across the street) or in another health care facility in the region. It is a wonderful service and is operated with love, compassion.

See, Boundary Trails is a great hospital and because it is a first-rate hospital people from all over the province are sent there for surgeries and procedures. But if you live many hours away and your loved one goes in for a day or more to Boundary Trails, where do you stay for night and spend your days with

your kids? You can't spend all your time in the hospital. And unless you are very rich motels are very expensive and you can't afford to eat out all your meals. So you book Katie's Cottage and stay there day and night and do your own cooking.

A fantastic idea and a great service for all. We have now had a number of people we know from our part of the province accompany a relative to Boundary Trails and stay at Katie's Cottage.

Just a huge thank you to the folks that operate Katie's Cottage. You will never know what a tremendous blessing you have been for some families.

Ken Reddig,
Pinawa

> CANTELON, FROM PG. 6

work, but the underlying foundation has always been the same: stubborn pride.

Somehow there is a fear that we will lose our distinctiveness. The reality is our history is our history—it cannot be changed. Our future

however, that can be whatever we want it to be.

Let's try not to stand in our own way and come together to do spectacular things. If any region can do it, this one can.

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**EFFICIENCY
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Stanley residents voice concerns about new wastewater system push

By Lorne Stelmach

Residents in the villages of Reinfeld and Schanzenfeld are fighting plans by the RM of Stanley to install a new low flow/low pressure wastewater system.

They not only object to the potential costs but also maintain they are content with what they have now, and they suggest that this project is being forced on them whether they want it or not.

"It's the way we are being treated. We are being marginalized and told our voice doesn't count because we are not prepared to pay the tax ... yet we are still going to have no choice but to eventually pay it," said Reinfeld committee chairperson David Hoepfner, who spearheading the collection of just over 500 objector's signatures to the proposed plan to present to council.

They suggest that represents about 70 per cent of affected taxpayers and will be past the two-thirds threshold required to stop the project.

The group's objections largely focus on three grounds: affordability with an estimated cost per property of between \$9,300 and \$16,000, the good working order of their current septic systems, and the increased density of future subdivisions that the new system would allow.

In February, the RM sent out confirmation forms asking property owners to commit to the new wastewater system.

Hoepfner maintained that despite receiving only about 21 per cent affirmative responses, the RM continued to push the plan forward.

Hoepfner alleges that the RM of Stanley had decided that only those property owners who agreed to connect thus far—the 21 per cent—are considered "potential taxpayers" and have a voice, while the remaining 79 per cent of affected taxpayers do not.

All property owners expect to have a say, he stressed, but they feel they have very little, as environment act regulations will require all properties to connect to the system within a decade (sooner in the case of a sale), so they see the RM as trying to side step the legal rights of property owners.

"Basically they were trying to sell us on the virtue of joining the new low flow septic system they want to bring into our village," said Hoepfner, noting how they had received a document with frequently asked questions and read that all property owners would be affected.

"So we were clearly led to believe that all means all," he said, further noting how they were then presented with three options: full connection, a partial connection, or not connecting at all. However, the last option made it clear hook up would still be required within 10 years under environmental regulations.

"So I can opt out, but I still can't run away from

this?" Hoepfner said. "The RM of Stanley is not dumb. They also know the Environment Act will kick in within 10 years and force people who don't sign up today to sign up and have to pay. So the RM is using the Environment Act to over the course of the next 10 years to pick us off one by one until everybody in the village is on board. They have time on their side.

"We find that to be completely undemocratic and manipulative," he said, further citing how they have thusly been perceived to be "not potential taxpayers" in relation to this plan because they are objecting and not signing on for it.

"Most property owners never gave this the time of day. They wanted nothing to do with it," Hoepfner suggested. "There is no real choice. It's just a matter of you're going to pay now or you're going to pay later.

"They don't seem to care that only about 20 per cent of the villages are going to be connecting because over the next 10 years the other 80 per cent are going to be forced ... and they know this."

On the advice and input of a lawyer, Hoepfner and fellow critics of the project are also suggesting that council acted wrongly in terms of having the bylaw brought forward for second reading and having signed off on it as being an accurate reading of the original bylaw approved back in July, despite changes being made to the document's wording, including a change in reference from "all property owners" to "benefiting properties."

"This is a strategic, on-purpose change in the wording to cut us off at the knees," Hoepfner alleged.

Hoepfner said that if property owners' objections continue to be ignored they are prepared to pursue this matter through the court system.

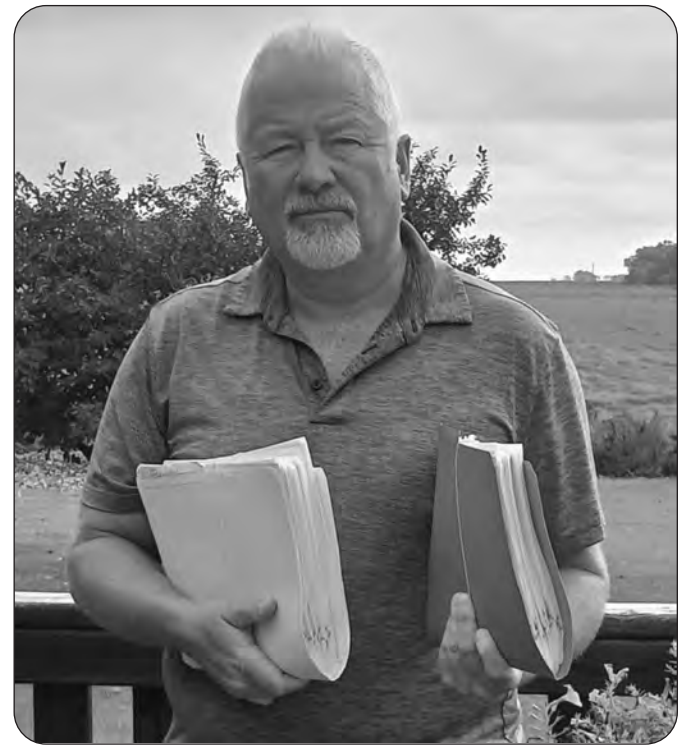
The bylaw's planned second reading earlier this month saw the public hearing delayed after things got heated when critics filled council chambers to voice their displeasure.

In an interview, Stanley Reeve Ike Friesen maintained the bylaw in question deals with setting out the borrowing for the project to set up and connect to this new septic system, and it was all done following proper procedures and process.

"This bylaw was for the people who want to connect, and we're borrowing the money so that they can put it on their taxes," he said. "We had X number of people wanting to connect, and we went to the first reading at the July meeting ... since then, some more people had wanted to connect, so we added those additional numbers with an amendment.

"There is a large number of people who are waiting for it," he said of the project. "This is a small, loud group who are making it sound like this [isn't wanted]."

But the uproar that ensued at the Sept. 18 coun-



SUPPLIED PHOTO

David Hoepfner is one of the residents of Reinfeld and Schanzenfeld who question the RM of Stanley's push to have a new low flow/low pressure wastewater system installed in the villages.

cil meeting made it clear tempers are running high on this matter. Friesen said council halted the meeting because they felt "it just got out of hand."

"Our lawyer's advice now was to just cancel the hearing," the reeve said. "And we will need to rewrite the bylaw with the new numbers and then start over."

Friesen acknowledged there are people who are opposed and have concerns and questions about it all, but he defends how council has approached this and the process they have followed.

He said if people are content with what they have right now and don't want this new septic system, that is well and good, but he suggested it would eventually have to happen with the growth of the region.

"That's not our regulations. That's the province," Friesen emphasized.

"This was already being worked on several years before I even got on council," he added. "The province really recognizes this is a need, and the federal government as well.

"Personally, I don't know why they're fighting it," he added. "Improvements are a good thing. And it isn't just for the sake of development. It's for the betterment of communities, and with two-thirds of the money coming in as grant money [from government] ... it just seems like the right thing to do ... other communities have done this years ago.

"A lot of people are aware of it and are waiting for this wastewater service to come in," Friesen said. "We have to be forward thinking. That's what we've been elected to do."

The **Voice**

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Hope Renew's opens Canada HQ in Morden

By Lorne Stelmach

A Morden business is playing a role in giving a global charity based near Turkey a new Canadian home base in Morden.

Community members, local leaders, and supporters gathered Sept. 18 at Prairie Barnwood to celebrate the grand opening of the Canadian head office of Hope Renew's.

It is a new Morden-registered charity founded by Jonathan and Tracey Heppner to support the work of Hope Renew's, which operates off the coast of Turkey on the island of Lessees, where it serves refugees and vulnerable communities through regenerative farming, food distribution and life-skills training.

Blayne Wyton, owner of Prairie Barnwood and now vice-president and fund developer for Hope Renew's, reflected on what the opening means to him and his wife Tara.

"Tara and I are passionate about supporting the work of Hope Renew's and facilitating a space for the Cana-

dian head office here in Morden," he said.

"Too often, as a society, we ask what do I get out of it? What's my return? But life isn't about what you get, it's about what you can give. What can you do for someone who can't repay you? What can you do for your community, your country or the world to make it better? That's what makes me come alive with Hope Renew's. It's about giving hope."

With its Canadian home now established in southern Manitoba, Hope Renew's will serve as a hub for awareness, fundraising, and partnerships, Wyton said, linking prairie values to a global vision of compassion, sustainability and hope.

Vegetables and produce grown on the Hope Renew's farm are shared freely with families in need, while refugees and locals alike are employed and trained in sustainable farming methods.

Alongside food security, the organization also provides leadership development, education and health care



SUPPLIED PHOTO

From left: Winkler Mayor Henry Siemens, Morden Mayor Nancy Penner, Hope Renew's director Johnathan Heppner, vice-president and fund developer Blayne Wyton, Stanley Reeve Ike Friesen, and Morden chamber executive director Clare Agnew cut the ribbon on the charity's Canadian headquarters last month.

access to some of the world's most vulnerable people.

Bringing the Canadian head office to Morden carries special significance, Wyton suggested, as the city has welcomed many newcomers in recent years and is rooted in a strong agricultural tradition. Hope Renew's connects directly with both realities, building bridges between local values and global need.

"Refugees are middle-class people, just like you and me, who have left everything behind for the sake of their children and their future. Unless you are of Indigenous roots, at some

point your family also came to Canada in search of a better life," Wyton said. "That connection is important, especially today with so many newcomers arriving in our area. We, as locals, need to embrace them, encourage them and give them hope."

"Hope can be as simple as a smile, a kind word, fresh vegetables for a family in need or a job that helps someone get back on their feet. That's what Jonathan and Tracey Heppner do daily on the island of Lesbos, and that's what we want to reflect here in Morden ... a community of hope."

> CCH, FROM PG. 2

"Much more work needs to be done. Today we're here to celebrate, and then we're going to start immediately on the next step," he said, noting the new units are already fully rented, and still many people remain on the wait list for a place to live. "We start again, because the need is still there, and the need will continue."

"Safe, affordable shelter is a fundamental human right," stressed Friesen. "Our responsibility is to make sure that some of the most vulnerable in our midst are receiving what they need. Their voices are often quieter, so we're trying to be that voice."

Morden-Winkler MLA Carrie Hiebert, who serves as the Conservative shadow minister for housing, addictions, and homelessness, shared her excitement at seeing this project come to fruition after years of work and lobbying the government for support.

"I'm happy to see these funds come to our community," she said, noting it shows that "when you put in the effort to really bring that awareness [to a project], it really does pay off."

"I think the community as a whole has been amazing to support such a great housing project."

SPREADING HER WINGS

For Lynette Bergen, who was one of the first tenants to move in, the affordable housing coupled with supportive services is what's allowing her to live independently for the first time in her life.

"It's really nice," she said of the building, which offers one- and two-bedroom units. The facility also has a shared common room for residents to gath-

er and socialize, laundry facilities, and two on-staff support workers to help ensure tenants are accessing the services available to them and are thriving.

"Being someone who is very anx-

ious about moving out for the first time later in life ... I was very anxious at first, but it was really a lot easier than I thought it would be," Bergen observed of moving into her own space, which she's been enjoying decorating and settling into the past few weeks.

"The programming that's available is a huge piece," noted her mother, Cathleen Bergen, of Lynette's ability to successfully leave the nest. "Because I knew she couldn't move out on her own without something being there for her to help her if she needed the help."



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

A peek inside one of the units in Central Community Homes' newest affordable housing complex. The building's last residents will be moved in soon.

"THE PROGRAMMING THAT'S AVAILABLE IS A HUGE PIECE."

NDP caucus holds meetings in Winkler, tours region

By Lorne Stelmach

Manitoba Premier Wab Kinew and his caucus spent some time out in the Pembina Valley last week.

Their stops included Winkler, Morden, and Carman, and the premier emphasized that it was very much for business as well as some pleasure.

"We're having our team dinner with our MLAs and ministers and some key staff," Kinew said while taking a brief break from a gathering at Rendezvous in Morden last Tuesday evening. "And we've been in Winkler doing our caucus retreat, doing a cabinet meeting."

He said they make it a priority to reach out to and connect with all regions of the province.

"It's just really important that your government gets out there where the people are and we talk to folks as we're making the decisions of government," said Kinew, adding it is especially important to get out into rural Manitoba.

"It's a huge priority. Manitoba is a beautiful province with so many great communities like Morden and Winkler and all the other places we visited this week so far.

"It's good just to be out and about, but when I think of the Pembina Valley, I also think about the economy. It's such an engine for the economy in Manitoba, so it's good for us to just have an ear to the ground so we know what the needs are, whether it's infrastructure or immigration or agriculture policy ... just to make sure that we keep the economy moving."

Kinew noted there are a lot of pressures that come with the kind of growth that is happening in this region.

"We want to make sure that we're listening to all of those things, and the best way to do that is by showing up," he said. "It was really nice to have people over the past few days say that we're appreciated for coming out and spending the time."

And he noted it makes no difference



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Manitoba Premier Wab Kinew and his caucus and staff members were in Morden-Winkler last week to tour the region in between holding planning meetings in preparation for the fall Legislative session starting Oct. 1.

that this region is so staunchly conservative politically.

"I'm the premier for all of Manitoba ... I've got to be there for everybody," he said. "We'll put the jerseys back on

for our respective teams at election time, but in between elections, let's work together to build up this place that we love so much."

The Centre on Main reports on a busy year

By Lorne Stelmach

The Centre on Main continues to be a hub for the community to connect in Plum Coulee.

A look back at the past year and a look ahead was all positive as the community centre held its annual meeting Sept. 16 following a fundraising soup and pie fundraising supper.



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

The Centre on Main in Plum Coulee has become a vital gathering space for the community, with programming and celebrations happening there regularly.

"It's been a very good facility for the community," said board chair June Letkeman. "It's been coming along very, very well. It's a well-used place."

She estimated the centre hosted perhaps 85 rentals of the facility last year. The Centre on Main can hold up to 75 people and is available for community use or rent; some events happening now include games nights, beginner line dancing, floor shuffle and floor curling, and more.

Having opened in 2018, the centre is in good shape financially, Letkeman noted.

"We have had no problems paying our bills, and that was always one of my worries," she said. "I didn't want it to be on the taxpayers' shoulders. I wanted to have raised the money and paid for it, and we are doing very well as far as that goes."

It is a priority for them to make it sustainable, she emphasized.

"That was always my worry, and it has been no worry," she said. "We have rentals, and we are open for fasp every day ... so it's been a really good facility for the community."

"It's a hub. Things are happening at the Centre on Main, and it's great. That's what we all wanted," said Letkeman. "It's all worked out really well for us, and we have a great committee, although our committee is getting a little older, so we would like to get some new members on our committee."

"Everything is really positive, and it's been really good," she said, noting they had a surplus in the past year of just over \$6,000.

They get not only support from the Municipality of Rhineland, which owns the building, but also from the community through donations from both businesses and individuals as well as through the well-known soup and pie fundraisers and grants from the Plum Coulee Foundation.

"Everybody in the community supports the Centre on Main, so it's really, really good," Letkeman concluded. "It's a great community. Plum Coulee has great people, and we have great support from everyone."

The **Voice**

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What's *Your* story?



12th Celebration of Life fashion show a big hit



PHOTOS BY
RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

The 12th annual Celebration of Life Fashion Show took over the Access Event Centre in Morden Saturday for not one but two showtimes: an afternoon matinee and a sold-out evening performance. Both included live music, food, prize raffles and auctions, and, of course, models on the catwalk wearing clothing and accessories from a host of local businesses. Final fundraising numbers weren't available at press time, but this event is Katie Cares' biggest fundraiser of the year, allowing them to operate the Katie Cottage respite home and to hand out care bags to kids in local health care centres.



Winkler measles exposure sites

By Voice staff

Manitoba public health officials announced three more Winkler measles exposure sites last week and are urging anyone who was in attendance at these locations on the specified dates to monitor for symptoms:

- Garden Valley Collegiate on Sept. 15, Sept. 16, and Sept. 18 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monitor for symptoms until Oct. 7, Oct. 8, and Oct. 10, respectively.
- Real Canadian Superstore on Sept. 15 from 3-10 p.m. Monitor for symptoms until Oct. 7.
- Winkler Evangelical Mennonite Mission Church, 600 Southview Dr., on Sept. 18 from 6-11 p.m. Monitor for symptoms until Oct 10.

Public health is asking anyone who was at these locations during these time to check their immunization records and ensure they are up to date with measles vaccine (MMR or MMRV). Immunization is the only means of protecting people from contracting measles.

Symptoms may include fever, runny nose, drowsiness, irritability and red eyes. Small white spots may also develop on the inside of the mouth or throat. Several days after the initial symptoms, a red blotchy rash appears on the face and progresses down the body.

Further information on measles, exposures, and immunization is available at www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/diseases/measles.html.

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What’s the difference between a financial adviser or a planner?

There’s no shortage of financial professionals to help you manage your money. However, two of the most common designations are that of financial adviser and financial planner.

Many people believe that the terms are interchangeable, but this is inaccurate. In reality, all financial planners are financial advisers, but not all financial advisers are financial planners.

FINANCIAL ADVISERS

Financial adviser is an umbrella term for professionals who help their clients manage their money. They may be bank employees that help their clients understand the range of products they offer of professionals who work independently. They often specialize in handling investment portfolios.

FINANCIAL PLANNERS

A financial planner is an adviser who specializes in helping individuals and companies create programs to meet their long-term financial goals. They assess the client’s whole financial situation in addition to any investments they currently hold. The strategies they create may include estate and retirement planning, education funding, insurance and risk management and taxation.

When hiring a financial professional of any kind, make sure they have the proper education and expertise. Almost anyone can take on the title of financial adviser. This means that while the person you work with may have extensive knowledge and training, they may also simply be a salesperson for the bank.

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Preparing for retirement: Get help from a financial pro

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2. They'll take your whole financial situation into account to create a money management plan tailored to your unique circumstances.

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4. They understand the different investment options available and can guide you towards those that best suit your needs.

5. They'll advise you on what actions you need to take to achieve your financial goals.

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Remembering Wyatt

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Community members gathered at J.R. Walkof School in Winkler last week to honour the memory of a little boy who certainly left a mark in his short time on this earth.

The elementary school cut the ribbon Sept. 23 on the Wyatt Kash Fehr outdoor classroom, built in honour of the five-year-old who died in an accident last year.

"This space is more than a structure. It's a lasting tribute to a young life that touched many even in five short years," said principal Moyra Valletly. "This space will be filled with children who will learn, grow and connect to nature. Here, there will be laughter, curiosity and discovery. What a beautiful legacy to leave behind."

"Though Wyatt was only with us for a brief time, his presence has left a permanent mark on our hearts and on our school," she said of the Kindergarten. "Wyatt's legacy will live through every lesson that is taught here, every moment of wonder, and every child who is inspired in this space."

"This structure reminds us that the impact of life is not measured by its length, but by the love that it leaves behind."

The project was spearheaded by Wyatt's family, including uncle Ed Penner of Ed Penner Construction.

Penner shared that the idea came about in conversation with Wyatt's father, Mark.

"Mark and I were talking one day and we got on the conversation about leaving something behind in honour of Wyatt," he recalled. "With both of us in construction, a playground or an outdoor classroom idea came up quick."

They soon settled on the classroom idea, and the project took off from there. They reached out to Vern Wiebe from Winterhouse Inc. for help in designing the structure.

"Vern met with all of us, gathered video and pictures of Wyatt, listened to stories," Penner said. The result was a 3D rendering that lines up pretty well with the finished structure, which is meant to look like the frame of a bicycle—Wy-

att loved biking—featuring bright colours that match his favourite superheroes and a pair of silhouettes of Wyatt himself from the day he first rode his bike without training wheels.

It's all meant to "express who Wyatt was," Penner said. "He was fun, adventurous, and his personality was big."

The project quickly got the go-ahead from both the school and the school

"THOUGH WYATT WAS ONLY WITH US FOR A BRIEF TIME, HIS PRESENCE HAS LEFT A PERMANENT MARK ON OUR HEARTS AND ON OUR SCHOOL."



The structure is meant to look like a bike frame because Wyatt loved biking. It also includes two silhouettes of the five-year-old on his bike and colours from his favourite superheroes.



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Last week, the family of Wyatt Fehr cut the ribbon on the outdoor classroom built in his memory at J.R. Walkof School. Right: Wyatt's uncle, Ed Penner, reflected on what the project meant to the family.



division, and community support quickly poured in to make it a reality. "It's quite humbling that we can take an idea like this and the amount of help that comes up from the community to help push you to get it completed and done," Penner said. "I had people walking in with cheques and people wanting to donate and phone before the idea was far from complete."

"That's one of the things about Winkler that makes us so much different than so many other communities," he observed of the numerous businesses who had a helping hand in this. "We try to help each other out. We don't always work against each other. We try to work with each other and as a community, and that's what helps our community succeed."

Wyatt's mother, Andrea, reflected that the project has very much been "a labour of love, and wonderful trib-

ute to our little boy, who was gone too soon."

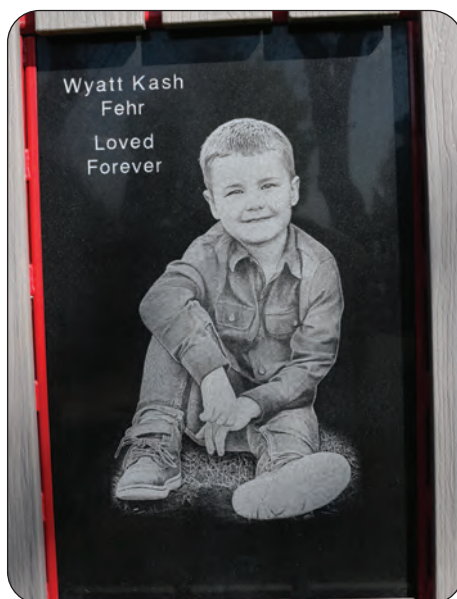
She shared that her son was an energetic and imaginative child who loved camping, riding his bike, and all things Marvel, including his favourite characters: Hulk and Spider-Man.

"He had a love of country music ... you could often find him singing along to the radio or singing with his guitar and karaoke machine," Fehr said. "He was sweet, compassionate, and had a great love for his family and friends."

"Our hope is that the outdoor classroom can be an added benefit to the community and J.R. Walkoff elementary school," she said. "And that it can be used for many years to come in order to continue Wyatt's legacy."

The family partnered with the Winkler Community Foundation to create the Wyatt Kash Fehr Memorial Fund in support of the outdoor classroom build. That fund will remain open and proceeds from donations to it will go to other community projects in Wyatt's memory in the future.

"Hopefully the fund is going to be there for many years to come so that every year it can give back and help out," said Penner.

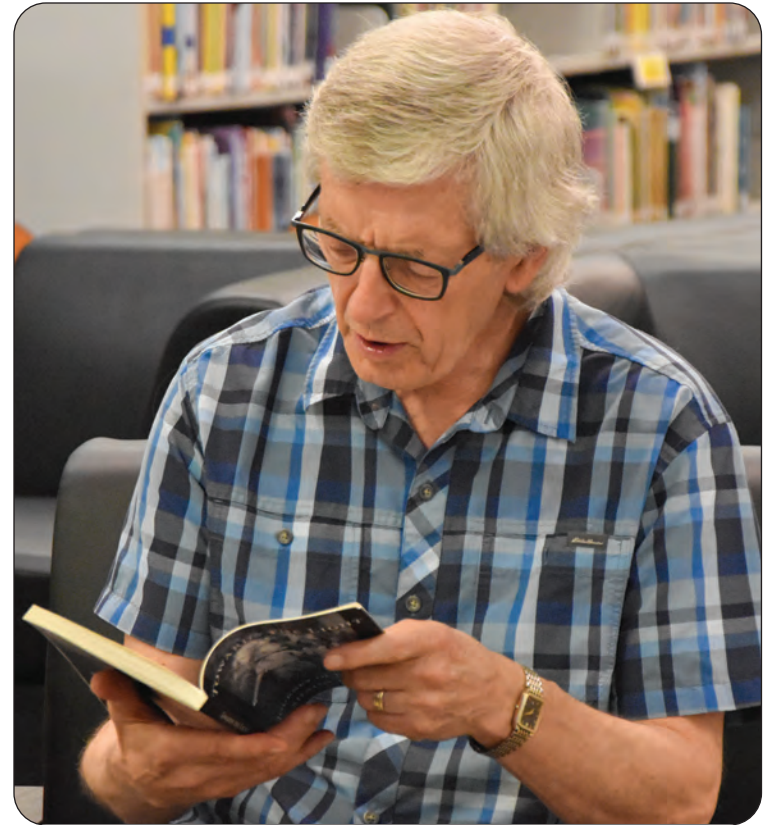




Author insight

PHOTOS BY EDWARD VINCENT ARCENAL/VOICE

Author Shaun Friesen (at right) was at several South Central Regional Library branches last week—including his home branch in Altona (above)—to read from his new book of poetry, *Towards the Light*, and field questions about his work, which he characterizes as a journey of exploration.



Winkler council hears request to allow legal cannabis dispensaries

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The community of Winkler is being asked to reconsider its stance on the sale of legal cannabis within city limits.

A delegation presented to city council Sept. 23 asking for the matter to be revisited.

"I believe there would be tremendous benefits to the community of Winkler," stressed presenter Jesse Lavoie, who owns legal dispensaries in Winnipeg, Stony Mountain, and St. Anne. "Local investment would create small businesses and strengthen the local economy, as opposed to citizens driving out of the community to get their cannabis."

Opening the doors to cannabis shops would also create "sustainable employment, as we've seen with revenue growing year over year, Lavoie said. "These dispensaries provide stable, longterm jobs in retail, logistics, and support services."

Licensed shops also ensure the marijuana being circulated has passed rigorous safety standards, he said, and reduces illicit drug activity in a community.

"Legal stores divert revenue away from illegal drug dealers to tax revenue," Lavoie said, noting the legal marijuana industry has added billions of dollars to Canada's GDP over the past seven years.

Seventy per cent of Winkler voters said no to cannabis sales in the 2018 election, which was held just a week after marijuana became legal in Canada.

Lavoie pointed out that vote came at a time where there was still a lot of uncertainty about the impact legalization would have on society.

"Winkler now has the opportunity to update its decision based on evidence, not speculation of the unknown," he said.

He pointed to the community of Mississauga, which, like Winkler, banned cannabis retailers stores in 2018. The community lifted that ban in the spring of 2023.

Since then, Lavoie shared, over 80 per cent of Mississauga consumers now obtain all or most of their cannabis from legal sources. Overall cannabis use did not increase significantly, he said, but rather purchasing patterns shifted toward legal outlets, ensuring greater product safety, consumer protection, and accountability.

Over the past two years, over 60 licensed cannabis stores have opened in Mississauga, growing municipal, provincial, and federal tax revenues significantly.

"We would absolutely love if the ban on dispensers would be overturned, allowing local businesses to thrive and the local community of

Winkler to enjoy the tax and municipal revenues that come from that," Lavoie said.

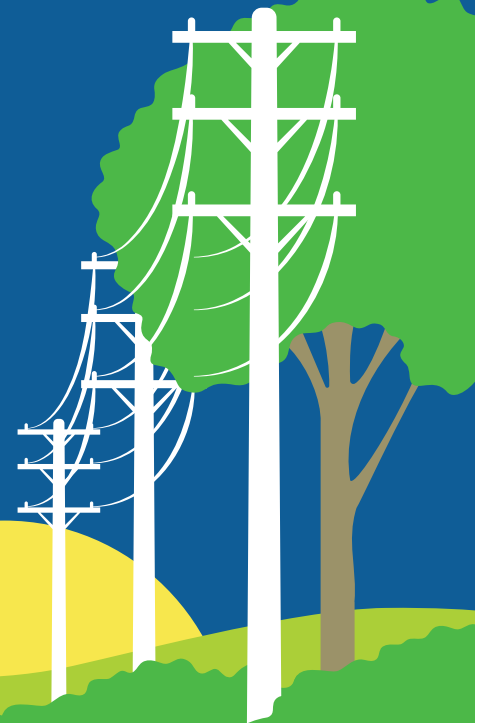
There are two ways Winklerites could be asked to vote on this matter once again: either city council will need to call for a plebiscite in the 2026

Municipal Election, or supporters will need to present a petition with signatures from 20 per cent of the electorate to force a plebiscite next fall.

Mayor Henry Siemens told the delegation that city council would take the matter under consideration.

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Middle Left to Right:
Justin Hildebrand, Louis Hoepfner, Josh Barkley, Jonathan Baumgart, Ben Wiebe, Terry Nelson, Vlad Yakubets, Ryan Funk, Cory Heide, Chris Addison, Bryan Gerbrandt, Chris LaRocque, Ryan Addison, Francis Campbell, Jadyann Wolfe

Top Left to Right:
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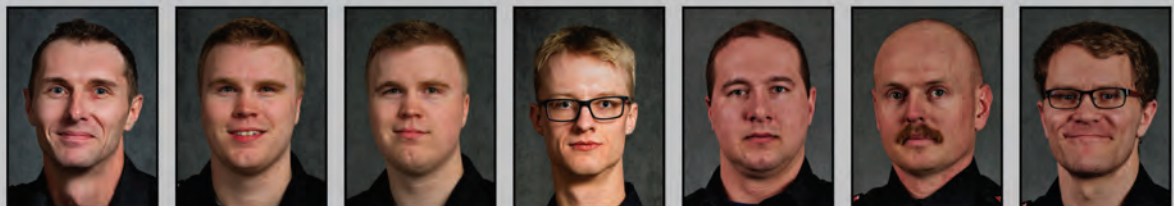
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getinformed

Roundabout refresher

By Ashleigh Viveiros

It's been four years since Winkler's first and still only roundabout opened at the 15th Street and Roblin Blvd. intersection, and despite the predictions of more than a few naysayers at the time, it seems Winklerites have pretty much gotten the hang of it.

Police Chief Ryan Hunt says they have received a grand total of zero official reports of collisions at that spot since it opened in August of 2021.

"That's not to say" nothing has ever occurred there, he notes, "because not every collision gets reported to us. If it's minor in nature and the two parties are able to exchange information properly then it often doesn't ... but we haven't had any reported to us there at all, so it's working out pretty good, I think."

Manitoba Public Insurance was contacted for any stats they may have for that intersection, but they were not able to provide them by press time.

The Voice reached out to the chief

at the request of a local reader who contacted us to express his frustration at the many drivers he sees failing to follow basic roundabout etiquette. Namely, failing to signal their intention to exit the traffic circle—something you *are* supposed to do.

"People should be signaling when they're exiting," stresses Hunt, observing that the small size of the intersection probably leaves most drivers feeling they don't need to telegraph their intentions, or perhaps just simply forgetting to do so in the short window of time between entering and leaving. "It does make it difficult to signal because you don't want to signal too early and have people think you're going to exit at a different exit than what you actually are. You want to signal just before you're exiting."

Failing to signal your exit is not only improper but also can create confusion for other drivers waiting to enter the intersection.

"The rule is that you give the right of



You are supposed to signal as you leave a roundabout, Winkler's police chief reminds drivers.

way to people that are already in the traffic circle," Hunt says. "So if there's somebody in there you would obviously wait for them to do their thing. But I get it—if they're not signaling and then they exit before they get to where you are, it's frustrating. I could have gone. If you had your signal on, I could have gone in."

So Hunt hopes drivers will take a moment to refresh themselves on the cardinal rules of traffic circle use.

First, drivers that want to enter the roundabout need to yield right of way to any drivers *or* pedestrians already in it.

Second, if you're in it and looking to

leave, let the other drivers know what you're doing by flashing your turn signal just before you turn out.

And since we were on the topic, we asked the chief if the perception of Winkler drivers being "the worst"—a perception everyone probably has about their own community—is true, statistically speaking.

"I think we're doing pretty good," Hunt says. "Comparing to other communities, I think we're fine."

"I've always heard that saying too ... but it's not been my experience, and I can't say I have any evidence to back it up [that it's true], because there isn't any."

Winkler Family Resource reports on a busy year

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Family Resource Centre (WFRC) had another busy year of enriching educational opportunities for young children and their parents.

"We were able to serve a lot of kids and a lot of families, so we're always happy with that," shared executive director Monica Dueck after the agency's annual meeting last week.

WFRC saw 316 children participate in 26 programs in 2024-2025, plus another 30+ kids coming out weekly for the Stay & Play drop-in sessions.

Many of the centre's free programs—designed to foster a child's literacy, numeracy, and social skills—filled up quickly this past year, with several programs having wait lists.

In addition to the many Winkler sessions, there was such an increase in the number of Plum Coulee families—almost double, in fact—that additional funding had to be secured in order to offer an additional program in that booming community.

It illustrates the growing need for

more programs across the board, Dueck noted.

"We're hoping and looking forward to being able to offer more programs as well as we can so that we can have hopefully something running every day of the week," she said, noting the limiting factor, as always, is funding. "We can only offer as much as we have funding for, so that's always the tricky part."

Financially the agency is in pretty good shape—savings will help them offset the deficit of just over \$8,400 for the 2024-25 fiscal year. That deficit came about mainly through a drop in operating grants—at \$52,873, it's down over \$10,000 from the year before—coupled with rising costs.

Fundraising and donations were also down slightly—at \$18,088 this year versus \$21,106 the year before—but Dueck stresses they remain grateful for any support they receive from the community, be it through corporate sponsorships or community participation in annual fundraisers like their New Year's Eve Family Dance,

February prize calendar raffle, and Teddy Bear's Picnic.

"We're always looking at new opportunities, grants as well as talking to local businesses and people in our community about whether they'd be willing to support us," she said. "We've got some good supports happening there and some good conversations going, so we feel pretty good about it, that we're able to find those new sources of funding so we can keep offering these programs for free. That's our biggest goal—we don't ever want to have to charge for them."

WFRC's programs are vital for families of young children, both for the kids and the parents, Dueck observed.

"We hear from a lot of families that they love the opportunity to get out of the house, first of all, to interact with other parents and caregivers, to chat with them, to build relationships, and then also to have the opportunity to have their kids engage in a different kind of play than they might get at home."

The varied sensory and social op-

portunities give kids a chance to learn new things and be better prepared for when they are ready to start school in a few years.

"A lot of caregivers really appreciate the opportunity to learn with their kids," Dueck said. "They're learning how to do different rhymes, different crafts, different activities—things they can take home with them and do with their kids as well."

"And then we also have a Kindergarten readiness program too that really focuses on how parents know what milestones to strive for to help their kids with as they get ready for school."

Behind the scenes, the resource centre welcomed some new faces to its board of directors and bid farewell to several members finishing their terms.

They are always looking for new board members, Dueck noted, urging anyone interested in getting involved or learning more about upcoming program sessions to head to winklerfamilyresourcecentre.com.

Morden council gives first reading to industrial park expansion debenture

By Lorne Stelmach

Work on the preparations for expansion of Morden's industrial park is well underway, and a debenture is now in place to help pay for it.

Morden city council last Monday gave first reading to the borrowing bylaw to help cover all of the initial costs of things like road construction and the installation of water and sewer infrastructure.

The debenture will be spread over 10 years, and the cost is estimated to come to just over \$2 million.

"The funds that we receive eventually on the sale of those new lots will go into reserve to help pay the interest or the annual payments on the debenture to fund the expansion," explained Mayor Nancy Penner.

There are significant initial im-

mediate costs of preparing the land and putting in the infrastructure for it, she noted, adding that hydro cost estimates also came in a little higher than what had been budgeted for this project.

The area being developed covers about 142 acres of land just south of Willcocks Road approaching the intersection with Route 100.

Penner stressed the expansion is really needed.

"It was very necessary because our existing industrial park was full, so we needed more land to facilitate existing industrial park users to expand and for new industry to move into the industrial park," she said. "We were at full capacity."

"Now we're developing it in phases," she said. "Of course, it costs



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Morden city council is planning to spend just over \$2 million on a much-needed expansion to the industrial park.

a lot of money to expand, so the idea is we're borrowing \$2 million ... and we need get our wastewater treatment up and running ... and we will sell those

lots, and it will go into reserve to pay for this debenture."

Check out the Roland Pumpkin Fair this Saturday

Giant pumpkin weigh-off gets underway at 10:30 a.m.

By Lorne Stelmach

The greatest pumpkin of them all will once again be crowned this weekend in Roland.

The Roland pumpkin fair is an annual one-day fair that always takes place on the first Saturday of October, so people will be drawn to Roland this Saturday, Oct. 4.

"We always like to promote that this is the last of the agricultural fairs for the season," said chairperson Derek Baschuk.

The fair is now well into its third decade. Its beginnings go back to local resident Edgar Van Wyck, who developed the interest in growing large

produce.

"We had a world record giant pumpkin grower from Roland, and it stood as a long time record," noted Baschuk.

You can easily make a day of it at the fair.

"We start early in the morning for anyone wanting a nice breakfast. Our Roland curling club puts on a pancake breakfast, and that is happening at the hall," Baschuk said. "Also starting early in the morning is our craft market tents and our exhibit hall."

"Lots of people come out of course for 10:30 when the weigh-off gets going," he noted. "The big thing is the giant pumpkin weigh-off, but we also weigh watermelons and tomatoes as well, and giant squash."

There is always some uncertainty as to the number and size of the entries, Baschuk said.

"It definitely varies depending on what the growing season has been like. Our regular growers are always going to have entries, and we usually expect over 20, although we have had as many as 40 in the past."

He sees the appeal as simply being about aiming to be the biggest and the best.

"It's a competition, and people love a competition," said Baschuk, noting for example how they usually have entries from two brothers outside of Winkler—Cornie and Henry Banman—who are both previous champions, and they usually also get at least one grower from the United

States each year.

Pumpkins will often come in at over 1,300 pounds.

"They know they're at least going to be in the running for a top-five finish," said Baschuk, who suggested growers on their own always just like to get their personal best. "And most of these growers are up to the challenge."

He sees the fair as being a great thing for Roland.

"It is a community fair, and it brings the community together," he said. "And we're just 15 minutes away from Carman, 15 or so away from Winkler and Mor-

den ... this is a great way, I think, to finish off the season."

The day's full schedule is available at rolandpumpkinfair.ca.

"THIS IS A GREAT WAY, I THINK, TO FINISH OFF THE [FESTIVAL] SEASON."

The Voice

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Pregnancy & Infant Loss remembrance ceremony Oct. 15

By Voice staff

The Pembina Valley Pregnancy Care Centre is teaming up with the Morden Alliance Church for an event later this month to remember little ones who were loved and lost.

The Carried for a Moment, Loved for a Lifetime remembrance ceremony takes place at the church (181 15th St.) on Wednesday, Oct. 15 at 7 p.m.

"Starting in 2009, Manitoba de-

clared October 15th as a special day of recognition. It is Pregnancy & Infant Loss Awareness Day, so we thought it was a fitting day to hold this ceremony," said Linda Marek, PVPCC executive director.

"Losing a baby is devastating, and some people grieve more privately while others need a larger community of support to move forward. Both women and men are deeply impacted by loss, and often men's grief is

overlooked," she noted. "This committee of parents wanted to hold a meaningful evening where anyone impacted by the loss of a baby—whether in pregnancy, during birth or in early infancy—could come."

"The evening includes a few different elements, but no one will be forced to share or say anything," Marek stressed. "The loss experience is so overwhelming, we just want to gently and tenderly hold space."

Singin' in the Grain returns with shows in Winkler, Winnipeg

By Lorne Stelmach

Once again this month, two annual fundraising choral concerts will be held in support of the work of the Canadian Foodgrains Bank (CFGB).

Singin' in the Grain is the name attached to a small committee of people who organize these popular concerts with the conviction that not only farmers can help address food security issues around the world.

The free shows offer people an opportunity to support the work of the CFGB, which is a consortium of Canadian Christian aid agencies who do global relief and development work.

"We know there are many places in the world where, if people are fortunate, they're going to eat one meal a day," said lead organizer Pearl Braun Dyck.

"Whatever money we raise ... obviously, the more the better ... but whatever we raise, that is money CFGB did not have," she said, noting the amounts raised by the concerts has varied over the years. "Our lowest, I think, was below \$20,000 ... about \$15,000 ... and then we've gone up as high as \$50,000."

Regardless of the final tally, it makes a big impact.

"Consider that the Canadian government matches the funds ... so if

you multiply even the \$15,000, multiply that times four ... it's huge," said Braun Dyck. "The other thing also is that we have very good sponsors, so every penny that we raise at these concerts goes towards the chosen designated area for the year."

Seeing close to a hundred singers from a wide range of backgrounds coming together to offer their time and talent to help feed hungry people is a stirring sight, Braun Dyck observed.

"And the musicians also volunteer their time," she shared.

The 2025 concerts will feature two community choirs: the Prairie Singers from the Altona and Winkler area and the Steinbach-based Accent Singers.

These two mixed voice ensembles will present concerts at the Emmanuel Mennonite Church in Winkler on Saturday, Oct. 25 at 7 p.m. and at the Evangelical Mennonite Church in Steinbach Sunday, Oct. 26 at 3 p.m.

Founded in 2003 by Ben Pauls, Prairie Singers is an auditioned adult community choir. They sing a wide variety of choral music spanning many centuries and regions of the world, creating a diverse program that speaks to their singers just as much as to the audience. They are led by Altona conductor Rick Heppner Mueller.



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

The Prairie Singers (above) and the Accent Singers perform at the Singin' in the Grain benefit concerts later this month in support of the CFGB.

The Accent Singers, meanwhile, are an adult non-auditioned 60-voice community choir conducted by Meredith Hutchinson and with pianist Analee Schellenberg.

In the early 2010s, vocal instructor Sheila Ardies formed the Accent Women's Ensemble, a 10-voice group made up of her current and former vocal students. In 2017, Hutchinson took over leadership of the group, which rebranded in 2023-2024 as the Accent Singers.

They continue the tradition of pre-

sending winter and spring concerts and enjoy performing at a variety of fundraisers and holiday events, covering genres that include classical, sacred, folk, pop, Broadway, contemporary, Celtic, country and ballad.

The CFGB concerts offer free admission, but there is an opportunity to support the cause with a donation.

The focus this year will be on the CFGB South Sudan campaign.

For more information or to donate, visit foodgrainsbank.ca/events/singin-in-the-grain-2025

RCMP warn of grandparent phone scam

By Voice staff

The RCMP are once again urging Manitobans, especially senior citizens, to be vigilant against telephone scams.

While these scams are occurring across the province, police share that they are seeing an increase of grandparent scams happening in northern Manitoba, an area previously with very few reports.

Over the past few months, four elderly Flin Flon residents have reported receiving a call from a scammer claiming to be either relative or a lawyer.

During these calls, the scammer asks for a large sum of money to help with bail and requests that the money be sent by mail to an address outside the province.

In two of the cases, thousands of dollars were sent to the scammer through the mail. Another victim's transaction was intercepted in time and returned. It is unknown at this time if all the cases are directly related.

"It's unfortunate that we have encountered more incidents where senior citizens have been the victim of these types of frauds," said Staff Sergeant Kevin Cavanagh of the Manitoba RCMP Major Crime Services Cyber and Financial Crime Unit. "Fraudsters are constantly adapting these scams, seeking new ways to generate a sense of urgency and entice victims to help a family member in need. We

don't want to single out one part of the province, but seeing these calls take place in the northern part of the province is relatively new. The RCMP wants to remind the public that they should immediately report these crimes to the detachment in their area and to never send money."

RCMP would like to remind Manitobans of the following when receiving a phone call where someone is asking for money:

- Be suspicious of telephone calls that require you to immediately take action and request bail money for a family member in distress.

- If you receive a suspicious phone call claiming to be from a family member in an emergency situation, hang up the phone and contact them directly on the number you have in your contact list.

- If the caller claims to be a law enforcement official and asked you to pay a fine or bail, hang up and call your police directly.

- Be cautious of what you post online. Scammers can use details shared on social media platforms and dating sites for targeting purposes.

- Use unique and strong passwords for all social media and email accounts.

If anyone has any information about any crime, contact your local RCMP detachment. Anonymous tips can also be made through Manitoba Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477), or by visiting www.manitobacrimestoppers.com.



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Morden Family Resource Centre was invited to be the charity of the day last Wednesday at the Hope Thrift Store in Morden. Proceeds resulted in just over \$1,800 being collected for the organization, and they were very thankful for the support. "We were very grateful to be asked," said executive director Jen Froese, seen here at the Hope Thrift Store with program assistant Galene Westhaver. "All of the proceeds will go to help fund our pre-school programs for parents and kids run out of the Morden Alliance Church," said Froese, who also highlighted that the centre is launching a 50/50 fundraising raffle this fall. Tickets are one for \$5, three for \$10, 10 for \$20, and 50 for \$50. You can find more information online at mordenfamilyresourcecentre.com.

sports & recreation

PV Hawks sweep Northstars in Manitoba U18 AAA Hockey League opener

By Lorne Stelmach

The male U18 Pembina Valley Hawks opened the season on a winning note with a pair of lopsided wins over the Norman Northstars.

The Hawks gave their hometown fans in Morden plenty to cheer about as they won game one of the doubleheader 10-1 Friday and then took game two 9-3 Saturday.

Cole Secord had a hat trick and a seven-point night overall in the first game as the Hawks rolled to period leads of 4-0 and then 9-0 after 40 minutes.

Carson Hiebert and Caden McMahon also contributed a pair of goals each, with the other scoring done by Ragnar Gillis, Paxton White, and Mason Liette. Koen Bleznuk only had to make 14 saves as the Hawks had a massive 55-15 edge in shots on goal.

It was equally lopsided in game two with Pembina Valley taking 5-1 and 7-2 leads to the dressing room at the intermissions.

McMahon took his turn for a hat trick and a five-point night while Se-



PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Ragnar Gillis scores the Hawks' ninth goal of the game en route to a 10-1 win over Norman Friday night. Right: Hawks forward Cole Secord celebrates his third goal of the night.

cord contributed a pair as part of a six-point night. Hiebert also chipped in with a pair of goals and assists. The other goals came from Gillis and Leite.

Brody Peters made 11 saves with the Hawks having a 56-14 edge in shots on goal.

The Hawks will aim to keep their hot start going this week with a trio of games against the Southwest Cougars. They were set to host the Cougars Wednesday in Morden before travelling to Souris for games Saturday and Sunday.



Female Hawks struggle in Fargo

By Lorne Stelmach

The effort was there but not the positive results for the female U18 Pembina Valley Hawks this past weekend in a pair of exhibition games against North Dakota teams.

Playing in Fargo, the Hawks first fell 6-2 to the U16 team Saturday then came up short Sunday in a 4-2 decision against the U19 team.

In the opening game, the first period belonged to the U16s as North Dakota jumped out to a 3-0 lead. The Hawks fought back to narrow the gap to one after the second period on goals by Sophia Cox and Skyla Hildebrand.

The North Dakota team though got a lucky bounce early to double the lead and then added another shortly after then added a sixth later in the third to round out the scoring. The final shots

on goal were 30 apiece.

In the second game, the Hawks gave up the first period's only goal despite playing well and generating several good scoring opportunities.

The Hawks evened the score right off the opening faceoff in the second period on a goal by Bree Pearce. North Dakota though added two more to take a 3-1 lead after 40 minutes.

In the third period, the Hawks closed

the gap on a goal by Payton Manness. The Hawks then pushed hard for the equalizer, but North Dakota doubled the lead with just over two minutes to play.

The Hawks will now have a practice again this week to prepare for a busy start to the regular season. The Hawks have three home games against Westman Oct. 4, Winnipeg Avros Oct. 5, and Eastman Oct. 6.

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St. Jean Derby doesn't disappoint, despite damp

By Siobhan Maas

The rain and mud did little to dampen the spirits of ATV enthusiasts from across the province that attended the 22nd annual St. Jean Derby Sept. 19-20.

"The muddier, the better," smiled planning committee member Jolene Bird after squelching across the mud-died grass.

Participants also seconded these sentiments. Bailey Sabourin, 15, has attended the derby "ever since I was a little girl" and gave this year's event a 10/10. "The rain made it so much fun."

Approximately 50 children and youth entered the Friday Night Lights races, racing a partial track before the "big bikes" competed in the full track, spraying muddy water on the spectators as they passed.

Although crowds participating in the derby were smaller than last year, lead organizer Sandra Fillion was content with the 600 ATVs and additional 325 passengers that hit the trails on the Saturday.

"For the first time, we have a prize for the lowest hand," Bird explained of the check points ATVers visited along the trail, choosing a numbered poker chip at each stop to form a full



PHOTOS BY SIOBHAN MAAS/VOICE

St. Jean came alive with the 22nd annual St. Jean Derby activities Sept. 19-20.

poker hand.

Crowds gathered in the beer gardens Saturday evening for the drawing of the 50/50, silent auction and door prizes, the winner of the Pembina Valley Twisters quad, and to honour long-time derby organizer Fillion with a plaque.

Committee member Tyler Chartier thanked the crowd and everyone who made the annual event possible.

"Although the weekend still had

last-minute challenges, thank you to all that busted their [butts] to put on the event, [especially] the landowners who push crops and harvest early to give us access to the trails through their properties."

A highlight of the weekend was the latest and only current Canadian 2025 model Can Am Side-by-Side flown in via helicopter by Lake Life Powersports.



Twisters wrap up preseason, shift focus to regular season

By Annaliese Meier

With their four-game exhibition schedule now complete, the Pembina Valley Twisters are turning their attention to the Manitoba Major Junior Hockey League regular season — and what they hope will be a strong, competitive comeback year.

The Twisters faced a busy preseason tune-up, opening with a road contest against the Stonewall Jets on Sept. 19 before hosting the Jets two nights later on Sept. 21. Pembina Valley then wrapped up its exhibition calendar with a trip to Winnipeg to take on the Fort Garry Twins on Sept. 28.

While the results were mixed, the series gave coaches a valuable opportunity to evaluate talent, test systems and fine-tune special-teams units ahead of meaningful games.

"These games are all about learning who we are and what we still need to work on," said Twisters head coach

Braeden Beernaerts. "We saw some really promising chemistry develop up front, and our goaltending has been solid. Now it's about tightening things up defensively and cleaning up some details before opening night."

The coaching staff says the four-game run revealed plenty of positives, including balanced scoring throughout the lineup and improved transition play as the series progressed. But there's still work to be done in the defensive zone, where turnovers and missed assignments led to costly chances against at times.

"Preseason always shows you where you stand," Beernaerts added. "We know we have the pieces here to compete — now we need to put it all together."

That confidence stems from noticeable progress in the team's structure and intensity. "I think our biggest improvement is our defensive zone

play," said Beernaerts. "We've got to be a lot better in front of our goalies this year. It was great to see the drive and determination in players' backchecks and defensive-zone structure. It shows us how hungry and determined the players are to keep pucks out of our net — the key to winning hockey games."

Offensively, the focus is on getting pucks and bodies to the net. "Our biggest aspect is getting our net drive going," he said. "With the results we've seen in preseason, it's clear we need to find a way to generate more chances. And of course, finding that 60-minute consistency in our game is crucial."

The Twisters roster features a mix of fresh faces and returning players eager to make an impact. "We've got a lot of new and returning players who came in hungry to be difference-makers this year," said Beernaerts. "The guys are gelling really well — there

were a few tough decisions — but I'm really excited to see what we can do." As the season begins, the message to players is simple: stay focused and start strong. "The intensity of games ramps up a bunch more this coming week," Beernaerts said. "Stick to the systems and play hard for yourself and the team. It's very important to get off to a good start — these points are worth the same now as they are in February."

Pembina Valley will now set its sights on the regular season, which opens with a pair of road trips on Oct. 3 at River East Royal Knights and on Oct. 5 at the Raiders Jr. Hockey Club. The club will welcome fans back to the Morris MultiPlex for its home opener against the Transcona Railer Express on Friday, Oct. 10 at 8 p.m., where they hope to carry the lessons learned from exhibition play into a fast, confident start to the campaign.

Morden students shine at provincial track meet

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden students did their schools proud at a recent provincial cross country race event.

A contingent of over 50 students, including 38 from École Discovery Trails, participated in Athletics Manitoba's Milk Cross Country Championships at La Barriere Park. The local kids had strong showings at the event, which basically serves as the provincial championships for middle years students from Grade 4 and up.

Harlen Rutledge was first among Grade 5 girls while Oakley Jerema



First-place finishers Harlen Rutledge (Gr. 5 girls) and Oakley Jerema (Gr. 7 boys).

was first among the Grade 7 boys. And there were a number of strong team results as well, including the Minnewasta Grade 4 girls placing first and the Grade 4 boys in fifth, while the École Discovery Trails Grade 5 girls placed first, the Grade 5 boys were 15th, Grade 6 girls were 11th, Grade 6 boys were 12th, and the Grade 7 boys were 4th.

In each race, there were around 200 athletes from Winnipeg and surrounding communities competing for provincial titles, and the local young athletes had an incredibly strong showing with six students placing in the top ten in their respective categories.

A big part of the success particularly for the Discovery Trails students can be attributed to these young athletes meeting on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings at 8 a.m. to train. On Mondays and Wednesdays, they meet at the new school track at École Discovery Trails and on Fridays alternately between Morden Park and the lakeside loop trail by Lake Minnewasta to give them an opportunity to run on more authentic cross-country terrain.

The run club has seen up to 72 participants from Grade 3-7 on a given practice day, noted instructors Kerri and Samuel Jerema.

"I think it's something in our school that we really promote and that it is



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

The Grade 5 girls race at Athletics Manitoba's Milk Cross Country Championships.

something that is accessible for kids of all different backgrounds and level of athletic ability," said Kerri.

"They enjoy the run club," said Samuel. "Kids like having that sense of belonging and being part of a club."

"It's not just our top athletes," he noted. "We do have the highest level of athletes in our school, but we also have a group of runners whose parents embrace that early morning discipline, get up, get some fresh air ... it's also a social activity for the kids."

"I think the kids encourage each other," added Kerri. "We've actually had lots of kids join later, maybe not at the beginning, but as the club has gone on, we've had greater numbers of kids express interest."

Grade 7 student Oakley Jerema liked both the team aspect of it as well as the personal physical challenge.

"I think it's a wonderful experience. It's fun running with your classmates ... and it's nice to run a different course," he said. "It's always nice to get a good result when you try hard."

"I think it's just good to be on a team and supporting your teammates be-

cause you can do better and you can try harder," said TJ Loeppky, who is a run club regular. "It's just fun to get up early and run outside."

"I just like run club because it's something fun to do," said Harlen Rutledge, Gr. 5.

"I would say all of the students improve over the course of the program," said Kerri.

"It's a privilege to work with young people who are excited to work hard and be excited to go on field trips when they get to go ... they're on the bus with their teammates," said Samuel.

"It's just a fun opportunity for them to get outside and get the exposure ... compete with other students ... it's one thing when you're running with your school, but when you start a race like this with 200 other kids around you, it's just very high energy and exciting for a lot of them."

"I think they really grow, and it keeps them coming back year after year," he added.

Winkler Flyers down Wolverines in first win of the season

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Flyers snagged their first win of the season last week.

Heading north to play the Wolverines in Waywayseecappo Thursday night, the Flyers returned with an 8-3 victory.

The two teams took turns lighting up the scoreboard in the opening frame. When the dust settled, the home team was up 4-3. Scoring for Winkler was Niklas Gudmundson with two and Trevor Dalton with one.

Jacob Michelson, Owen Wallace, and Ezekiel Lambert launched Winkler into the lead 6-3 with a flurry of goals in the second period and then Trevor Dalton and Charles Bernier cemented the win with two more early in the third.

Leif Ekbal made 30 saves in net off 33 shots as the Wolverines outshot the Flyers by one.

Things didn't go so well for the team a few nights later in Portage against the Terriers.

Liam Carlone was the only Flyer to score that night, midway through the opening period, while Portage fired home an answering goal a few min-

utes later and then scored three unanswered ones in the second to win it 4-1.

The Flyers lost the shots battle 48-25. Ekblad made 44 saves.

With that, Winkler is 1-3, which has them in sixth place in the East Divi-

sion in the early going of the season, ahead of only the Winnipeg Monarchs.

This weekend the Flyers are in Niverville Friday night and then host the Nighthawks Sunday. They play the Monarchs at home next Tuesday.

Winkler Storm move onto semi-finals

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Storm ended the regular season in third place the Manitoba Major Soccer League's Division 1, and now they're making short work of the competition in the playoffs.

Winkler's record of 10-5-3 was good for 33 points and a top-three finish behind Northern United (14-2-2, 44

points) in first and Grant Park SC (11-3-4, 37 points) in third.

On Sept. 22, they took on the sixth-place SWB in the first round of play-offs, winning the night 3-1 thanks to goals from Cornie Siemens, Tobias Morasch, and Lukas Froese.

Meanwhile, Bonivital2 knocked out UDM 3-1 that same night.

This Monday the Storm went head-

to-head against Grant Park in the semi-finals. The other semi-final match pitted Northern United against Bonivital. Results were not available at press time.

The winners will move on to face each other for the division championship this Sunday.

Aggies roll through Pembina Valley in spirited 2025 Bed Push fundraiser

UofM students raise funds for STARS and Manitoba Farmer Wellness Program

By Lana Meier

A decades-old tradition rolled across Manitoba once again last weekend as University of Manitoba agriculture students pushed a hospital bed through dozens of towns to raise money for causes that support rural health and well-being.

From Sept. 26 to 28, members of the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences Student Council — known as the Aggies — travelled more than 200 kilometres from Winnipeg to Brandon as part of their annual Bed Push fundraiser. The 2025 edition supported two organizations with deep ties to rural Manitoba: STARS air ambulance and the Manitoba Farmer Wellness Program (MFWP).

For organizer Pyper Hollar, the Bed Push is far more than just a fundraiser — it's a defining part of what it means to be an Aggie.

"To me, Bed Push means supporting those around us, helping raise money and awareness for the struggles in the ag community," she said. "I believe it's important to keep on with the tradition to not lose a sense of what makes us Aggies. Being an Aggie is like having a second family — and we support that family, and Bed Push shows that."

The bed push launched early on Sept. 26 from the University of Manitoba campus in Winnipeg. Cheered on by classmates and faculty, the Aggies rolled through La Salle, Starbuck and Elm Creek before making a lunchtime stop in Carman, where residents gathered along Main Street to show their support. Afternoon stops included Roseisle and Portage la Prairie, before the group reached Carberry and Douglas by evening.

Along the way, local residents, businesses and municipal leaders greeted the students with roadside donations, food and encouragement — a tradition that has become as much a part of the event as the push itself.

"The best interactions we have are the kids," said Hollar. "When we pass the schools, it is amazing to see them come out and see the next generations of Aggies — who maybe one day will participate in Bed Push too."

The second day took the Aggies deeper into the Pembina Valley as they passed through a string of rural



communities, including Wawanessa, Glenboro, Cypress River and Mariapolis, before reaching Pilot Mound and Manitou. The day wrapped up in Morden, where dozens of residents turned out to cheer the team into town.

"Seeing that kind of support means everything," Hollar said. "It's a reminder that this isn't just a fundraiser — it's about building connections and strengthening the bond between the university and the communities that sustain Manitoba agriculture."

Hollar said both chosen charities hit close to home for the Aggies.

"Many of us live and work in rural communities and that's where STARS comes to help — they focus on 'critical care, anywhere.' They have an incredible medical team on the air ambulance that can provide immediate medical attention on the ground or in the air," she said. "And Manitoba Farmer Wellness is a program that can provide counselling for farmers from farmers. Mental health is a big struggle for many and there is a stigma around it. Manitoba Farmer Wellness is trying to ensure that farmers are getting the help they need when they need it — and from someone who understands their situation."

The final leg of the journey on Sept. 28 saw the Aggies visit Rosenfeld, Morris, Ste. Agathe and Niverville, where they wrapped up the three-day trek. Communities once again responded with donations, refreshments and heartfelt thanks — a show of appreciation for students willing to spend their weekend pounding pave-



PHOTOS BY DENNIS YOUNG/VOICE

Carman's Gavin McCallum and Sophie Eshuis of Dauphin take a turn pushing the bed during the University of Manitoba Aggies' 2025 Bed Push fundraiser through Carman.



ment for a cause.

Pushing a hospital bed for three straight days is no easy task, but Hollar said it's worth every step.

"Pushing the bed for three days is hard — I'm not gonna lie, your legs and your feet are screaming at you after just one day," she said. "But it's all worth it when you see the people who come out and when you meet with the charities afterward and understand just how much what we are doing is helping them in their journeys. And it helps that you're doing it with a group of your buddies — we joke around and genuinely have a great time. Whether it's in each town or in the RVs between towns, we know how to make some good memories."

While the total reported on the first day of the fundraiser sat at \$2,410, donations poured in as the team continued their journey. By the end of the weekend, the Bed Push had raised \$10,934 — and the GoFundMe page remains open for anyone who saw the Aggies along the route and still wishes to contribute.

Reflecting on the effort, Hollar said this year's Bed Push was about more than just dollars and distance.

"There have been a lot of things that have happened this year with

the wildfires and everything else, so with that I want people to remember the people we met along the way and how the towns came together to support us in whatever way they were able to," she said. "I hope for the future we will see more people come out and we can raise even more for the next charities chosen."

A tradition rooted in community, the Bed Push has been a cornerstone of the Aggies' calendar since the 1980s, when students first pushed a bed from Winnipeg to Brandon to support the Winnipeg Fire Fighters Burn Unit. Over the years, the event has grown into one of the most anticipated fundraisers of the fall, with communities along the route eagerly awaiting the sight of the iconic burgundy bed and the students who push it.

"This event is a great reminder of how agriculture isn't just about crops and livestock — it's about people," Hollar said. "When we all work together, we can make a difference."

Donations are still being accepted online, and tax receipts are available for contributions over \$20. For more information or to support the campaign, visit the Aggies' GoFundMe page.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF WINKLER PUBLIC NOTICE - BOARD OF REVISION

Public notice is hereby given that the 2026 assessment roll for the City of Winkler has been delivered to the Municipal Office at 185 Main Street, Winkler, Manitoba and is open for public inspection during regular business hours. Applications for revision may be made in accordance with sections 42 and 43 of The Municipal Assessment Act.

Application for Revision

42(1) A person in whose name property has been assessed, a mortgagee in possession of property under subsection 114(1) of The Real Property Act, an occupier of premises who is required under the terms of a lease to pay the taxes on the property, the authorized agent of the person, mortgagee or occupier, or the assessor may make application for the revision of an assessment roll with respect to the following matters:

- liability to taxation;
- amount of an assessed value;
- classification of property;
- a refusal by an assessor to amend the assessment roll under subsection 13(2).

Application requirements:

43(1) An application for revision must

- be made in writing;
- set out the roll number and legal description of the assessable property for which a revision is sought;
- set out which of the matters referred to in subsection 42(1) are at issue and the grounds for each of those matters; and
- be filed by delivering it or causing it to be delivered to the Municipal Office at 185 Main Street, Winkler MB., or by serving it upon the secretary, at least 15 days before the scheduled sitting date of the board.

The Board of Revision will sit on **Thursday, November 20th, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Council Chamber of the City of Winkler to hear applications. The **final date** on which the Secretary of the Board may receive applications is **Tuesday, November 4th, 2025.**

Dated this 12th day of September 2025.

Jody Penner, Secretary
Board of Revision
City of Winkler
185 Main Street,
Winkler, MB R6W 1B4

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PUBLIC NOTICE



PLANNING & INFRASTRUCTURE
Planning & Permitting Department

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING UNDER THE PLANNING ACT

The City of Winkler, under the authority of The Planning Act, will hold a hearing at which time and place the council of the City of Winkler will receive representation from the applicants and any other persons who wish to make representations in respect of the Rezoning Application No. RZ2025-007 and By-law No. 2352-25, being an amendment to Winkler Zoning By-law 2271-21 of the City of Winkler. The general intent of the above By-Law No. 2352-25, is to zone the land described below, Namely:

legally described as Lot 1, Plan (Deposit No. 757-2025) MLTO.
as shown outlined in a heavy solid line on the map attached
hereto as Schedule "A", and forming part of this by-law,
be rezoned

FROM: "SI" SERVICE INDUSTRIAL & "CG" COMMERCIAL GENERAL
TO: "CG" COMMERCIAL GENERAL

A copy of the above By-Law No. 2352-25 and supporting material may be inspected by any persons between the hours of 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday to Thursday and 9:00 AM and 4:30 PM, Friday, in the City Office.

Date of Hearing: October 14, 2025
Time of Hearing: 6:30 p.m.
Location: Winkler Council Chambers,
185 Main Street, Winkler, Manitoba



DATED at Winkler, in Manitoba, this 27th day of August 2025.
Designated Officer, City of Winkler

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AUCTION

Farm Auction Sale for Bettina Baumgartner

Sale Starts online:

October 13th, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

Closes: soft close starting at 10:00 a.m.,

Friday, October 24th, 2025

Viewing: by appointment only Tuesday,
October 7th, & Wednesday, October 8, 2025

Contact Bettina at (204) 768-9048
(leave a message)

From Junction of Hwy #6 & #68 - West on
#68 for 22.8 km. Turn North on Road 44N for
7.8 km to yard site. Marker #136002 Rd 44N
From #68 Hwy and Vogar turnoff, travel east
for 12 km to Road 44N and 7.8 km North to
yard site. From Junction of #68 Hwy and
#325 - east for 25 km to Road 44N and 7.8
km North to yard site.

Some items included in the sale:

2015 Kubota M6-141 FWA Tractor w/M56
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BIRTHDAY



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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER of the Estate of ALVIN GLENN PHILLIPS, late of the City of Morden, Manitoba, Deceased.

ALL CLAIMS against the above Estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be sent to the undersigned at 326 Stephen Street, Morden, Manitoba, R6M 1T5, within four (4) weeks of the date of this publication.

PKF LAWYERS
Attn: Stéphane Warnock
Solicitor for the Estate

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PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF MORDEN

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE REGARDING BY-LAW NO. 28-2025 SPECIAL SERVICES PLAN NO. 1-25

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to section 318(1) of The Municipal Act that the Council of the City of Morden has scheduled a public hearing in the Council Chamber at the **Morden Civic Centre, 195 Stephen Street on the 14th day of October, 2025 at 11:00 A.M.** Council will hear any person who wishes to make representation, ask questions or register an objection to the Special Services Plan No. 1-25.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE THAT, pursuant to the provisions of Subsection 319(1) of The Municipal Act any person may object to the plan by filing a notice of objection, by mail or in person, to the City of Morden office at 100-195 Stephen Street, Morden, Manitoba, R6M 1V3 - no later than October 14th, 2025 at 11:00 A.M. A notice of objection must contain the name and address of the person filing the objection, identify the property of which the objection is filed and state the grounds of the objection of the above noted Special Service Plan.

General Description of Proposed Special Service: The intent of the proposal is to establish a consistent rate structure for the purpose of levying fees for the collection of solid waste, compost and recycling services within the City of Morden. The proposal includes Waste Collection and Recycling Pickup **Bi-weekly** and Compost Pickup **36 times annually** and will entail the use of 360-L wheeled carts for each of the Waste, Compost, and Recycling.

Special Service to be levied within the City of Morden: The special service tax will be levied annually from 2026 to 2030 to all residents, multi-family properties, as well as applicable businesses in the levy area. The levy amounts are as follows:

Year	Levy Amount
2026	\$163.26
2027	\$169.31
2028	\$175.59
2029	\$182.09
2030	\$188.83

Copies of the Special Services Plan are available for review and may be examined by any person at the City of Morden Civic Office at 195 Stephen Street, Morden, Manitoba, during regular office hours,
Monday to Friday, 9:00 AM-4:30 PM.

Nicole Reidle, CMMA
City Manager
City of Morden



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> MEAL IDEAS



Recipe courtesy of "Cookin' Savvy"

1 box spice cake mix
2 cups grated zucchini
1/3 cup melted butter
3 eggs
1 cup chopped walnuts, divided
1 cup chopped white chocolate chips, divided
1 cup powdered sugar
milk
Heat oven to 350 F.

Zucchini Spice Bundt Cake

In bowl, mix cake mix, zucchini, butter, eggs, 3/4 cup walnuts and 3/4 cup white chocolate chips. Pour into greased bundt pan and bake 40 minutes, or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean.

Let cool about 10 minutes then remove from pan to finish cooling.

Mix powdered sugar and milk, about 1/4 cup, to reach desired consistency of frosting. Pour over cooled cake then sprinkle with remaining walnuts and remaining white chocolate chips. Cut and serve.



Recipe courtesy of Real California Milk

Servings: 1
1 cup Real California cottage cheese
1 cup frozen cherries, plus 2 cherries for garnish (optional)
1/4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
2-4 chopped prunes, to taste
1 tablespoon ground flaxseed
1 tablespoon raw cacao nibs, plus extra for garnish (optional)
1 pinch salt
graham cracker crumbs, for garnish (optional)
1/2 cup Real California milk (option-

Chocolate Cherry Cheesecake Smoothie Bowl

al)
In blender jar, pulse cottage cheese, 1 cup cherries, cocoa powder, prunes, flaxseed, 1 tablespoon cacao nibs and salt on low.

Remove lid and scrape down sides of jar with silicone spatula.

Return lid to blender jar and blend on high about 30 seconds until smooth, creamy texture is achieved.

If necessary, scrape down sides of jar again and pulse until smooth.

Garnish with remaining cherries, cacao nibs and ground graham crackers, if desired.

Tip: To make drinkable smoothie instead of smoothie bowl, add milk.

Cherry Overnight Oats



Recipe courtesy of Northwest Cherry Growers

2 cups rolled oats
4 tablespoons chia seeds
1 1/2 cups milk
2 teaspoons pure almond extract
4 tablespoons pure maple syrup
1/2 cup Northwest Cherries, roughly chopped, plus additional for serving (optional)

Greek yogurt (optional)
sliced almonds (optional)

In mixing bowl, stir oats and chia seeds to combine.

Let's get moving challenge!

By Fitness Expert Julie Germaine Coram

Do a challenge with me this week! I have three easy to do exercises that will boost your energy levels – and they require NO equipment at all, just your body. With the cold weather looming, it's important to find ways to keep active at home, and I'd love to show you that even moving in your living room during Winnipeg Jets commercial breaks can help you to burn calories and feel better.

The first exercise is a full body movement that mimics a basketball move – the jump shot. Just pretend to be holding a basketball in your hands, keep your feet together and bend your knees to give yourself power to jump up, at the same time, extending your arms as if you were releasing the basketball to take a shot. Repeat 12 times, rest, then do two more sets of 12 jump shots.

The next movement is for core – bicycle crunches. Lay flat on your back the floor (on a matt if you have one or just grab a spot on the carpet). Bend your knees to a 90° angle. Now lift your shoulders and bring your right shoulder toward your left knee, while at the same time, extending your right leg out to a straight position. Next, lower your right shoulder while extending your left leg out to a straight position and bring your left shoulder to your bending right knee. Repeat this movement, it kind of feels like you are riding a bicycle with the way your legs go out and in. Repeat this entire movement 12 times, then rest and repeat for two more sets of 12 (but you can do the next set at the next commercial break!).

Finally, let's end with a plank – you don't have to move at all for this one! Flip onto your stomach on the floor and get into a push up position, with your hands on the floor



Fitness Expert Julie Germaine Coram

and back aligned with your straight legs. You can also do a plank from your forearms. Hold this position for 30 seconds. If this is too challenging, elevate your upper body by putting your hands onto the edge of the couch or a sturdy chair and hold the straight position with your body to fatigue.

Let me know how you did! julie@juliegermaine.fit

Discuss your health goals or fitness struggles by scheduling a free online consultation: www.calendly.com/juliegermaine or email me directly: julie@juliegermaine.com

Coach Julie Germaine Coram is dedicated to long-life health! She is an active mom, Registered Personal Trainer, a 2x Pro Fitness Champion, Certified Nutrition Expert & Fitness Specialist. She has helped thousands worldwide improve their health since 2005.

Add milk, almond extract and maple syrup. Stir to combine until uniformly mixed.

Using 1/4 cup measuring cup, divide oats mixture among four small jars, adding layer of cherries between scoops. Top with remaining cherries.

Seal jars and transfer to refrigerator overnight, or at least 6 hours, before serving.

Serve on their own or top with Greek yogurt, additional dried cherries and sliced almonds, if desired.

Photo courtesy of Shutterstock (girl with cherries)

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