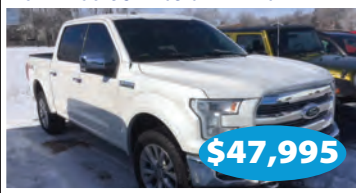


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Ice racing



EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

John Rooney from St. Andrews, with Eva Semkiw, took part in the Ice Man Motorcycle Race at the Gimli Ice Festival this past weekend. Rooney has been racing since 1984, competing in ice races and hare scrambles (off-road motorcycle racing). Racing on ice requires specially built tires with studs and modifications to the carburetor for cold weather. It also comes with physical challenges: "It's very demanding, especially when you're a bit older like me!" said Rooney. "You're working pretty hard out there, moving forward on the bike for cornering and moving back when you come out of the corners."

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Minister grilled in Gimli over investigation into Salkeld

By Patricia Barrett

Apart from saying that it's a complex investigation, Sustainable Development Minister Rochelle Squires, who held a meeting in Gimli March 1 with fishers, shared few details about the department's enquiry into Northern Walleye's Donald Salkeld and his involvement in the shipment of fish from four sheds that's left them about \$1 million out of pocket.

The meeting, which about 40 fishers and industry representatives attended on short notice by the department, came almost two months after the minister announced she'd be launching an investigation into the matter.

In addition to providing Squires with ideas about how to revamp the new Fish Marketing Regulation (see story next edition), fishers asked her to account for the failure to revoke Salkeld's licence and stop him from operating as a fish dealer.

"There is a full investigation that is underway — the investigation hasn't concluded. It is very complex," said Squires. "We're dealing with multiple players, multiple individuals, stakeholders, dealing with people in other jurisdictions. It's a very complex investigation. And we're following our

investigation and taking it very seriously. When that investigation concludes, depending on the outcome, there will be significant consequences, and again I can't speak about an investigation that is ongoing."

Lake Winnipeg Co-management Board representative and Lake Winnipeg fisher Kris Isfeld said there seems to be a "slant" or double standard at play involving "characters" trying to push the government's open market mandate and fishers who've made paperwork mistakes under the new regulation.

"I find it odd that somebody who's exported \$1-million-plus dollars' worth of fish from the province is still able to operate and still has a permit, whereas Bruce here is going to court for three charges of paperwork issues without the right to go to a judge [fishery appeal board] and have it heard," said Isfeld, referring to fisher Bruce Benson. "The government seems to be not acting in one case, but when it comes to the fishermen making mistakes, you're all over us."

With reference to his charges, Benson told Squires that fishers were once seen as honourable, hard-working people but now seem to be "vili-



Deputy Minister Rob Olson told fishers the department has to determine who's telling the truth before a fish dealer licence can be suspended.



Sustainable Development minister Rochelle Squires said the investigation into Salkeld is complex.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT

West Interlake Reeve Randy Helgason (second row, right) asked the minister to put safeguards in place.

fied" by the government.

"None of those charges have anything to do with me taking one fish out of the lake that I wasn't entitled to," said Benson. "I messed up on the paperwork. You have to understand when you're working 12-18 hours a day, you might mess up on your paperwork. You're tired."

Industry analyst and Lake Winnipeg fisher Bill Buckels said the new regulation clearly stipulates that fishers have to be paid within seven days, but in the case of the four sheds — Ashern, Eddystone, Waterhen and Dawson Bay — it wasn't "followed."

Not only did Salkeld fail to provide full payment (he alleges he paid out some monies) to fishers within seven days, but he also failed to complete paperwork, did not post his fish dealer licence at the sheds, and may have committed multiple violations, including food handling practices, according to fishers and sources close to the investigation.

Before the open market came into effect Dec. 1, 2017, fishers said Salkeld personally visited sheds or their AGMs with a Northern Walleye price list and told dozens of fishers he would buy their fish.

Gimli MLA Jeff Wharton had introduced Salkeld to fishers at a meeting in Gimli on Dec. 15, 2016, at which Salkeld stated he intended to market their fish. The meeting came with a press release, which contained a quote stating: "Northern Walleye will purchase and process all species of fish from Manitoba Fishers and we assure the Fishers that they will have the same benefits that are afforded to them now such as EI Benefits, CEDF Loans etc."

In earlier interviews with the *Express*, Salkeld denied he was a "buyer" of the sheds' fish, denied he owed them money, denied having a partnership with American fish processor Mike Schafer and denied having any-

Continued on page 4



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Olympic sports talent search coming to Manitoba

Submitted

Athletes from across the region encouraged to see if they might be suited for an Olympic sport RBC Training Ground gives local athletes — no matter what sport they are involved in — the chance to test their strength, speed, power and endurance in front of officials from 14 Olympic sports, and earn "Future Olympian" funding.

On Saturday, March 17 at the Dakota Community Centre Field House in Winnipeg, Olympic officials will be bringing the search for young athletes with raw talent to the area for the first time ever.

A second event will be held Saturday April 7 at Winnipeg's Sport for Life Centre.

This Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) and RBC initiative to bring new and undiscovered athletes into Canada's Olympic talent pool is an open talent discovery event. There is no charge to participate. The Winnipeg event is one of more than 30 local

combines happening across the country in 2018.

Top performers attending the Winnipeg events (any athletes deemed to have Olympic potential) will advance to a Manitoba regional final on May 5 or begin further testing with specific sports.

In addition to training support from a national sport organization, the athlete may not have considered, top performers also win Future Olympian financial support from RBC.

Any athletes from the region (between the ages of 14 and 25) curious about whether they might be suited to an Olympic sport are encouraged to sign up in advance at rbctraining-ground.ca.

At the events, they will be measured for anthropometric suitability (things like wingspan and body type) and perform speed, power, strength and endurance benchmark tests in front of officials from the Canadian Olympic Committee and 14 national sport

organizations in hopes of re-energizing a dream or being discovered and directed toward an Olympic sport.

The long-term goal is to help fill a hole in Canada's amateur sport system (talent identification in a country as big as Canada) and to then provide the uncovered talent with the high-performance sport resources they need to achieve their podium dreams.

WHO: Hundreds of athletes from Manitoba, from a wide range of communities and from traditional and non-traditional sports; officials and

talent scouts from National Sports Organizations — Canada Snowboard, Canada Basketball, Cross Country Ski Canada, Wrestling Canada and Speed Skating Canada will join returning partners Athletics Canada, Bobsleigh Canada Skeleton, Canoe Kayak Canada, Cycling Canada, Rowing Canada, Rugby Canada, Freestyle Canada, Judo Canada and Water Polo Canada — searching for hidden gems and potential cross-over talent.

Continued on page 7



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Athletes from across the region interested to see if they might be suited for Olympic sport RBC Training Ground "Future Olympian" funding have the chance to test their strength, speed, power and endurance in front of officials from 14 Olympic sports in Winnipeg on March 17 or April 7.



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Ashern HandiVan moves into newly renovated home

By Jeff Ward

A previously derelict building in Ashern has been repurposed, renovated and is now the new garage for the Lakeshore HandiVan Association.

HandiVan Association board chairperson Sandra McDougall said that they were finding it very difficult to continue paying for their old garage space (approximately \$350/month) that they rented.

Ashern's economic development officer (EDO) Clayton Gibson said that he had heard of a grant, the Public Transit Infrastructure Fund, that would cost share the renovation of a municipally owned building between the RM, the province and the federal government at a 25/25/50 share. He added that it cost the RM \$11,000 to renovate the old building for its new purpose.

Gibson said that the need for the HandiVan is great and thought that the old building would be a perfect space for the HandiVan. He said that the RM of West Interlake purchased the building in a tax sale a number of years ago and that the building was essentially an empty shell.

"It would've been very hard to market, even as a commercial building, if they wanted to sell it because all the services had been shut off," explained Gibson.

"The front half of the building was a showroom space. I think there was a satellite TV dealer there and I believe it was an automotive showroom. But we closed that off from the rest of the building and made the garage into something that could be used."

The HandiVan serves Ward 2 of the RM of West Interlake and the RM of Grahamdale in transporting seniors to medical appointments and programming. McDougall said the Interlake-Eastern RHA routinely uses the service to transport patients as well.

Gibson said that the RM is allowing the HandiVan board to use the space at no cost, but that they're responsible for covering the hydro expenses. McDougall said that she is really pleased with the new arrangements. She said that the board is exploring ideas of how to raise money to cover those hydro costs.

One of the ways they might do that is by renting out a small boardroom in the building. A raised section of the garage was cordoned off and turned into a space

that could be used for meetings for different groups.

"We've had some discussion about using it that way, but what we would charge or how it would work we haven't decided yet. But it would be nice to open that space for community

"IT WOULD'VE BEEN VERY HARD TO MARKET, EVEN AS A COMMERCIAL BUILDING, IF THEY WANTED TO SELL IT BECAUSE ALL THE SERVICES HAD BEEN SHUT OFF."



EXPRESS PHOTO BY JEFF WARD

Ashern EDO, Clayton Gibson said he's happy to see this old building get a facelift and a new lease on life. It's the new garage for the Lakeshore HandiVan Association vehicles.

use to help us pay for our hydro costs," said McDougall.

McDougall said that volunteer drivers can leave their personal vehicle in the heated garage while they are out on runs.

Gibson said that there are many smaller groups that could make use of a space like that. There are other spaces in Ashern that can be rented, like the Ashern Centennial Hall for instance, but for small groups that have a dozen or fewer members, a space that large just doesn't make sense, he said.

As EDO, Gibson is also happy to revitalize an old building that would have otherwise sat and rotted away

over the years. He explained that part of his job of attracting new business and making sure that prospective businesses see Ashern as "open for business" is made harder when they see abandoned structures.

The renovation shows movement and growth and it is to the RM's benefit in aiding community groups like HandiVan.

"This (building) was vacant and not doing anything for tax payers. This building is now living forward. And we sourced all local help and supplies for getting this done. I think that stands out here that this created jobs and spent money locally," said Gibson.

> SALKELD, FROM PG. 2

thing to do with fertilizer containers in which fish was shipped.

There seems to be nothing stopping the minister from revoking a fish dealer's licence if she so wishes, according to Section 11(1) of the regulation. And one of the clauses on the Fish Dealer Licence itself states, "This licence may be cancelled or the conditions amended at any time."

Deputy Minister Rob Olson, who attended the March 1 meeting with Squires, said the difficulty lies in determining who's telling the truth.

"There has been allegations involved by all directions, by all parties that are conflicting," he said. "But who's telling the truth? There's no records. People are alleging [sic] lots of things in lots of directions and there's not clear re-

records. It's extremely difficult to investigate at this time. It's not clear-cut as it seems."

A representative from the Ashern fish shed told the *Express* that the Co-op has records, such as emails from Salkeld saying he would buy and pay for the fish he had shipped to the States. But the department's conservation officers, to the best of his knowledge, have not asked for those records.

West Interlake Reeve Randy Helgason, who's also a commercial fisher on Lake Manitoba and uses the Ashern shed as a delivery point, asked Squires to put something in place to safeguard fishers against licensed fish dealers who break the law.

"Do you think it's the government's

responsibility or the individual fish shed's to make sure there's safeguards in place that guarantee a fisherman is going to get paid for his fish?" said Helgason. "Because if you're owed \$15,000, you can't operate like that. You can't pay your hired men, your gas. For our small communities, that's a hit to the economy."

Squires said the department would look into "best practices" to help fishers work in the open market.

"We can have more transparency with the paperwork so that it's easily traced back to who owns what and who owes what," she said, "and we also can also do more outreach with our fishers in terms of how to navigate the open market and be successful."

Squires added that she has the fishers' best interests in mind.

"Let me just state that absolutely

anything that brings undue hardship to our fishers, and anything that harms the reputation of our amazing fisheries in this province, is of great concern to me."

An RCMP investigation that was launched into Salkeld several weeks ago has now closed, said Sgt. Ray Campbell of the Winnipegosis detachment when contacted Monday.

"We closed our file and it's being looked after by the provincial agency," he said. "What had happened was they [Skownan First Nation and its Waterhen shed] came to us and reported it, but the provincial agency also had a file because they're dealing with all four [sheds]. We were just dealing with our local [file] here. Once the government got involved with the four communities, we let them run with the ball."

Sandy Hook withdraws speed-reduction proposal to Highway Board

By Patricia Barrett

Sandy Hook residents asked Gimli council to withdraw a proposal to the Highway Traffic Board that had asked for a year-round maximum speed limit of 50 kilometres per hour on Highway 9, which runs through the high-density cottage and residential community.

Walkers, joggers, cyclists and children use the verge of the narrow highway, and in the summer it can be as busy as Winnipeg's Portage Avenue when motorists travel to and from the beaches and fairs. Speeding, tailgating and illegal passing are regular occurrences along the twisting stretch of road, and residents have witnessed speeding motorists sliding into ditches in the wintertime.

Ninety-one per cent of residents had signed a petition in 2015 requesting a year-round speed reduction between First and Seventeenth avenues, and council had passed a resolution to support them. The municipality then forwarded the resolution to the Highway Traffic Board. But after an engineer carried out a traffic study, the Department of Infrastructure recommended reducing the winter speed limit from 90 km/h to 80 km/h and increasing the summer speed limit from 50 km/h to 60 km/h.

Rather than risk the chance of seeing the summertime speed increase, a majority of residents asked that the issue proceed no further. Sandy Hook property owner Rosie Jodoin, who had initiated the original petition, at-

tended Gimli council's Feb. 28 meeting to present councillors with a new request to have the submission to the Traffic Board withdrawn.

"[Our original proposal] very clearly stated that the summer speed limit was never to change," said Jodoin, who contacted residents last year about engineering report's findings and sought their feedback on how to move forward.

Jodoin said she called/emailed the 226 people that had signed the original petition. Seventy-eight did not get back to her, 47 telephone lines were no longer in service and there was no contact information for 11 people. Of the property owners she was able to reach, seven said they didn't care anymore about the issue, three were undecided and 28 recommended the issue continue on to the Traffic Board. Forty people, however, recommended to "leave things as is so as not to risk speed increase in summer."

"The [people] we could get hold of did not want it to go forward to the board hearing because nobody wants to see the speed increase in the summer. It was never what we asked for and nobody wants it," said Jodoin. "And 80 isn't much of a reduction in the winter. The majority of the people just said we'd rather have it stay as it is. Most of the residents believe if the posted speed is 60, people will drive faster."

Council voted unanimously to withdraw the submission.

Coun. Thora Palson, who's the liai-



EXPRESS FILE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

The maximum summertime speed limit of 50 km/h through Sandy Hook was just too slow for this motorist, who tailgated a driver for a long stretch and then swerved out on a double yellow to pass just before a curve.

son for the area, thanked Jodoin for her hard work "from the beginning to the end. It's really detailed in the submission that Rosie sent to us, explaining what happened, why it happened and why they're withdrawing the application. Thank you for the thoroughness and I really appreciate all of your work."

Palson asked that the RM look into ways to have pedestrian crossings installed on the highway, something that Manitoba Infrastructure would have to study and approve.

In the meantime, the RM will be reconstructing the "Old North Sandy

Hook" sidewalk that was built in the 1930s and is located on the west side of the highway between First and Seventh avenues.

"This fall we took out what was there and put in a gravel base," said Palson. "Once that settles, we can surface it. A lot of safety concerns have come up and we want to look at them."

CAO Joann Murphy said that although the sidewalk doesn't cover the full length of Sandy Hook, it's a start.

"We want to widen it, and it can be used for people in wheelchairs and people pushing baby strollers," she said.

Trudeau budget fails Manitoba families

Submitted

James Bezan, Member of Parliament for Selkirk-Interlake-Eastman, called out Justin Trudeau's failure to deliver the help he promised Canadian families.

"Never has a Prime Minister spent so much to achieve so little. Despite last year's economic good fortune, Justin Trudeau has failed once again to deliver the results that matter to Manitobans," said Bezan.

The federal deficit for this fiscal year is \$18 billion, which is triple what Justin Trudeau promised during the 2015 election. With the budget not projected to be in balance again until 2045, these additional deficits will add \$450 billion to Canada's national debt over the next 27 years.

"Justin Trudeau's budget is failing the hardworking people of Manitoba. Our province was only mentioned four times in the 369 page document," said Bezan. "Justin Trudeau has failed Manitoban farmers, seniors and small business owners with by slamming them with higher taxes. The simple fact is that Justin Trudeau is failing once again to match his big promises with action."

The Liberals have been asking Canadian families and local businesses to pay more to offset this government's out-of-control spending. Trudeau is raising taxes on more

than 90 per cent of middle-class families in Manitoba. Local businesses are now paying more in taxes, while being labelled as tax cheats by the Liberal government.

"What this government gives with one hand, it takes with another," said Bezan. "Justin Trudeau's economic policies are failing the people of Manitoba. Conservatives will put people first."

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getfishing

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> ARNIE WEIDL

Even at fishing derbies, lessons in life happen

Welcome, my friends.

The afternoon sun reflected brightly off the snow on the Red River as I nursed Old Red through a narrow monkey trail upstream of Breezy Point onto the ice pack. Ahead of me sat a portable ice shack with a tall guy standing beside it.

I pulled up to him and, stepping out of my truck, a raw wind forced me to pull my hood tighter. It didn't seem to bother our new friend, though, with his huge athletic stance and shaven bare head. He spoke well and quickly with a constant smile.

"Hi, I'm Kevin Seaford of Winnipeg," he offered, "and this is my son Nelson." He pointed to a big, dark haired lad maybe not quite 20. As we began talking getting to know each other, I found Kevin quite grounded in his family and their lives.

He recalled when he was a kid in the summer he would go with his grandfather to the Lockport pier to catch minnows for fishing and Granddad had a great trick. They would wait until the gates of the locks opened to let the big riverboats out to go to Selkirk, which would cause torrents of turbulent water to rush out. With their minnow nets deep in the boiling water, they would pull them up quickly to find their nets full of minnows. Sometimes, if they were lucky, there would be a sauger or two in the nets as well.

It's no secret that the ice on Lake Winnipeg is very thick this year, which wound up causing rookie angler Linton McGill of Winnipeg all kinds of anguish last week. This



EXPRESS PHOTO BY ARNIE WEIDL
Lily Thomas with "her" catch at the Ojibway Brokenhead ice fishing derby.

friendly young guy in heavy clothes, a big scarf and toque that almost hid his dark, bearded face explained how he had come out to fish with a hand-operated ice auger. After drilling la-

boriously as far as the auger would let him, he hadn't gotten through to water yet. Upset but determined, he tried to buy an auger extension back in Winnipeg during the week, but everyone was out of stock. He became a man on a mission. He went to a hardware store, bought some pipe and made his own extension. Come the weekend, he couldn't wait and soon was right back at the ice hole that had denied him. He put his rig together, plunged it into the hole and began turning it with great force.

In only a minute, he heard a clink and knew his auger extension had broken. He knelt on the ice cursing his bad luck. Just then, two neighbouring anglers appeared by his side saying, "You seem to be having all kinds of problems. Use our holes over there. We're packing it in for the day."

Linton thanked the guys, tossed his broken auger in the truck and managed to catch a few pickerel that day.

Once again, it was such a pleasure to attend the Brokenhead Ojibway ice derby. Our host and MIFA board member John Bear ran a wonderful derby with many locals and visitors participating. Lawrence Hackluk took first prize with a big jack, Sheldon Bear came in second and Kage Carver got third, but the "belle of the derby" was little Lily Thomas. This cute three-foot bundle of energy and fun could be seen running back and forth between friends and relatives yelling out how she was going to catch a big fish. MIFA president Law-

Continued on page 7

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SARAH program volunteer training starts April 15

Submitted by Survivor's Hope Crisis Centre

The SARAH Program is a sexual assault crisis intervention program that provides support services through regional hospital emergency departments and RCMP detachments. Survivor's Hope Crisis Centre has been helping victims of sexualized violence since 2003.

The SARAH Program volunteer offers victims of sexualized violence support, information and referrals to help with the recovery process. We are currently looking for new volun-

teers to join our SARAH Program to support program centres on the west side of the region (Selkirk & Beausejour) and the east side (Pinawa & Pine Falls). The Pine Falls team has been offering support for more than a decade and is looking for local volunteers to fill out their team. The Selkirk team started up in December and is keen to expand their group on the west side. If you live within 45 minutes of one of our major centres in Selkirk or Pine Falls, we invite you to learn more about this volunteer opportunity.

Suitable applicants will be invited

to participate in Sexual Assault Crisis Intervention training in April. All regional applicants will train together to complete 40 hours of training over four weekends. Training is set for April 15 (9-5 Selkirk), April 21 and 22 (9-5 Selkirk), April 28 and 29 (9-5 Selkirk) and May 5 (10-5 Winnipeg). A trainee must successfully complete all training sessions before being invited to join the SARAH Program as a volunteer.

Applicants must have a valid driver's licence and reliable vehicle. The screening process is straightforward:

an application form, interview, two references and current Criminal Records Check/Vulnerable Sector Check (RCMP). Applicants will also be required to complete a Child Abuse Registry Check and an Adult Abuse Registry Check. Call 1-204-753-5353 or director@survivors-hope.ca for more information. We look forward to hearing from you.

Information about the SARAH Program and our organization can be found at www.survivors-hope.ca and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/survivorshope.

> RBC, FROM PG. 3

WHEN: Saturday, March 17 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Dakota Community Centre Field House 1188 Dakota St., Winnipeg and on Saturday, April 7 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Sport For Life Centre, 145 Pacific Ave., Winnipeg.

New for 2018: To officially kick off its third year, RBC Training Ground has added Saskatchewan and Manitoba to its regional lineup, enabling even more young Canadian athletes to compete for a prime spot with a National Sport Organization (NSO). Full schedule available at RBCTrainingGround.ca. In addition, the number of NSOs participating in the program has grown to 14 partners, which means that more sports partners are using RBC Training Ground to find and identify potential future Olympians.

In 2017, more than 300 athletes out of a total of over 2,100 athletes who attended RBC Training Ground events were invited for additional testing by a national sport governing body. Thirty athletes were then selected to receive ongoing support funding from RBC in order to pursue their Olympic dreams (including travel, coaching and nutrition expenses).

> GET FISHING, FROM PG. 6

rence Proulx and I couldn't help laughing as John Bear, always a joker, caught a small jack and, seeing Lily running away, hooked it on her rig, dropped it in the water and then shouted, "Lily, come back. You caught a fish."

She seemed to fly over the snow. She grabbed her rod and began reeling with grim determination. In minutes, the jack came flopping up onto the ice with John heaping praise on her angling ability. Well, Lily is Lily and as soon as the fish was off the hook, the hook rebaited and back in the water, she was gone in a flash. It was all I could do to get her to stand still for a picture with John's fish. Then, wonder of wonders, Lily got a real bite. Again, John called her back and, since this was a legitimate catch with the prospect of her getting a prize, John couldn't help encouraging her to land the fish. She listened, perhaps a little too well, because she reeled in so fast just as it reached the top of the hole, it slipped the hook, disappearing into the water. She was heartbroken. John put his arm around her, talking to her softly, and slowly a smile blossomed on her pretty face. Even at fishing derbies, lessons in life happen. Come by next week, won't you? Bye.

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PR 518 closed for construction during rebuilding effort

By Jeff Ward

A one-kilometre stretch of PR 518 in the RM of Woodlands is being rebuilt after floodwaters washed the road out in 2011 and 2014.

The project is slated to cost the province \$450,000, according to a spokesperson for Infrastructure Minister Ron Schuler, and will be completed by the end of the month if weather conditions remain favourable. Work is underway right now by BT&T Construction, which is working to armour the side slopes of the highway, since past wave action has eroded both sides of the road.

The closed section is 14 kilometres north of the Highway 6 junction and five kilometres south of the Highway 415 junction.

Shoal Lakes Flooded Land Owners Association president Orval Procter said the group has been lobbying for the rebuilding of the road since the flood. He said that he is happy to see it finally get the attention it deserves.

"I don't use the road a lot myself, but most of our organization does. That's

their main connection route," said Procter.

"A lot of the people we represent use that road as well, and I can appreciate what it's like for that road to be closed for so long. When they're hauling bales and they can't go that route, for some of them, it adds an extra 20 miles to their trips. And emergency access, if you need an ambulance or something, is also a longer wait."

"THE GOOD THING IS WE'VE BEEN GETTING VERY GOOD VALUE FOR TAXPAYERS MONEY LATELY."

Procter explained that one of the reasons this project is on the books right now is that his group, along with members of council from affected municipalities, were able to get a meeting with Minister Schuler and

make their case. Derek Johnson, Interlake MLA and legislative assistant for Minister Schuler, helped get that meeting and said that when groups come together as a region, they do become higher on the priority list.

Johnson said he knows the road well and it's one of many on his list of roads he'd like to see have work done.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY JEFF WARD

PR 518 is being rebuilt to its former state from before the floods of 2011 and 2014. Work should be completed by the end of the month.

He credits his government's ability to get a good value for taxpayers' money as one of the reasons this project is being completed this year.

"The good thing is we've been getting very good value for taxpayers money lately. A lot of our tenders are coming in well under what the engineers kind of based the project at and it makes our dollar go a lot further

so you can wrap up some of those little projects that have been hanging around for a while," said Johnson.

The MLA added that the road, when finished, will have space for two vehicles to pass each other—a feature that the previous temporary road did not have. Johnson said the road will be restored to its previous state, prior to the flooding.

Morneau's 'Seinfeld' budget punts on the big issues

By Aaron Wudrick, CTF Federal Director
It's a budget about nothing.

That's one way to sum up Finance Minister Bill Morneau's third federal budget. Despite taking up a full 282 pages, there's just not much substance to it.

That's both good and bad.

It's good news because the Trudeau government mercifully resisted blowing the bank on a flurry of new deficit spending.

In fact, total program spending increases for this fiscal year are actually 0.5 per cent lower than originally planned, and increases over the next two years are limited to about three per cent annually. So, despite dozens of pages trumpeting all kinds of promises, taxpayers can breathe a sigh of relief that they didn't translate into an excuse for a huge new spending spree.

The bad news is that even with spending increases under control, we're still in a sizeable hole.

The 2015 Liberal election platform promised three "modest" deficits that

would have added a total of \$25 billion in debt before returning to balance in 2019. Instead, they're currently on track to add at least \$110 billion in new debt by 2022—more than quadrupling their platform figure—with no balance in sight. And it all gets piled onto the backs of our children and grandchildren.

Even worse, the interest cost for that debt is rising: This year it will be \$26 billion; by 2022, it's projected to be \$33 billion. To put that into perspective, consider the federal government's single biggest program expense, National Defence, clocks in at \$25 billion.

That's right: Taxpayers are already spending more just paying the interest on the government's credit card than we are on our own military. And it's only going to get worse.

But maybe claiming this budget is about "nothing" is a bit unfair to Morneau.

There's more money for Indigenous Canadians—but no mention of enforcing financial transparency laws so that First Nations can know how their

politicians spend the money. There's repackaged and rebranded corporate welfare and regional development funds—but no significant new tax relief. And there's more money for the Canada Revenue Agency to go after tax cheats—but no plan to address the root problem, our ridiculously complex tax code.

Perhaps the most glaring omission was the lack of any response to the major tax cuts announced in the United States, which have all but wiped out Canada's longstanding business tax rate advantage. Ignoring the dropping U.S. tax rates will inevitably hurt our ability to attract and retain jobs and investment.

If anything, the government made things even worse by proceeding with their controversial small business tax changes (which, to be fair, are much improved from the original proposals floated last summer.) But even the watered-down final version in the budget will squeeze small businesses for more than \$1 billion annually by 2020—not exactly hanging out a

"welcome" sign for investors and entrepreneurs.

While the Liberals' decision to not make things much worse this year may count as a minor victory for taxpayers, it may be short-lived.

The real test of the Liberals' resolve will come next year as they prepare to face voters in a fall election. Governments seeking re-election tend to spend more, not less, as they try to seduce voters heading to the ballot box. Add to this the fact that by late 2019, there will be recently elected (or re-elected) cash-strapped governments in Ontario, Quebec and Alberta looking to Ottawa for more cash. NAFTA could collapse. And the American tax cuts could put a dent in the government's own tax revenue projections.

To get back to a balanced budget, Minister Morneau will need to do more than just stand still. He'll actually need to make some tough choices. Here's hoping that next year, he finds the will to make them—or Canadians will pay a heavy price.

Eriksdale Recreation Centre renovations a welcome addition

By Jeff Ward

After years of fundraising, the Eriksdale Recreation Centre board recently completed renovations to the kitchen, rotunda, dance hall and legion that will add years to the life of the building.

Renovations to the kitchen included brand new flooring, new countertops, freezers and backsplash, which were all installed by board member Jerry Saunders. He explained that the projects have been something the board has had their eye on for a few years and it's been a main focus of their fundraising efforts.

Saunders also built and installed a new ledge for food and drinks that faces out into the arena in the rotunda area and built new stools to sit down on. Those stools and ledge were built from reclaimed wood, and Saunders has heard good feedback from locals who've been using the space.

The dance hall has received upgrades, too, in the form of new ceiling tiles, insulation and work to bring

the lustre back to the hardwood floor. Saunders said the tiles have much better acoustics, which should make music sound clearer and also make it easier to hear people giving speeches during big events.

"We've been working on funding these projects for a long time and honestly none of this gets done without help from the community," said Saunders.

"We're doing more renovations to the bar area in the legion, which will make serving from here easier as well. The community wants this building to be around for a very long time and that shows with how generous they've been in donating money over the years."

Saunders said the kitchen renovations cost approximately \$20,000, but the board saved on the labour he offered voluntarily. The ledge and stools were donated

by Saunders and the dance hall work cost \$60,000. The Eriksdale Recreation Centre is a massive building, housing not only a full-sized hockey rink and three curling surfaces, but it also has

"WE'VE BEEN WORKING ON FUNDING THESE PROJECTS FOR A LONG TIME AND HONESTLY NONE OF THIS GETS DONE WITHOUT HELP FROM THE COMMUNITY."



EXPRESS PHOTO BY JEFF WARD

Jerry Saunders worked to install a new bar ledge and stools in the rotunda at the Eriksdale Recreation Centre. These new pieces join a renovated kitchen, dance hall and legion bar.

a full-sized dance hall, legion space and an upstairs hall with a complete kitchen.

Keeping the building in tip-top shape is a challenge but for many, like Saunders, it's a labour of love. He said that, on average, at least one event is hosted there every week.

"Every year you try to do a little bit

more to keep up with it, and this year we've been able to do a lot. The next thing is going to be the stucco on the exterior of the building."

Saunders explained that if things go well and the board is able to find contractors, the exterior of the centre could be completed during the summer.

Group formed to lobby government for Grassmere Drain maintenance

By Jeff Ward

The Shoal Lakes Flooded Landowners Association is spearheading the formation of a new group that will form an action plan to deal with the aging Grassmere Drain.

The group has representatives from the RMs of Woodlands, Rosser, Rockwood and West St. Paul. Orval Procter is the president of the Shoal Lakes Flooded Landowners Association and said that the drain is in bad need of significant repairs and that he's looking forward to starting the process of laying out an action plan.

The Grassmere Drain starts in the RM of Woodlands and feeds down through Rockwood, Rosser and drains into the Red River near West St. Paul. The drain removes excess water from those areas, but over the years, it has been silted in and its flow capacity has been significantly reduced, according

to Procter. He said the group had their first meeting last week and the direction of the meeting was to understand what everyone needs and what they want from a potential strategy.

Procter explained that this will be a long process and it's not something that's going to get done overnight, or even this year.

"Realistically, we're probably a year from getting a plan in place to present," said Procter. "Once we all have something to present, it'll likely be an election year, which may or may not help us. It's going to be a multi-year process, it can't help but be."

Procter said that there is an early consensus to have a control drain from the Shoal Lakes into Grassmere that can be used as a relief valve. He said the Grassmere Drain is pushing a century old now and that the last

time it saw any serious work done was back in the '60s.

The drain needs work, and Procter said that the new group has a much better chance of being heard by the province if they can come together with an action plan that has a concise vision and a singular voice.

"This isn't going to be a piecemeal approach. Before we make a funding request we got to get our ducks in a row and make a strong presentation

of what's going to be needed in the future and then have everyone on one side presenting it," said Procter.

The next meeting date has not been decided yet, but Procter said he feels good about the formation of this new group and hopes that, with enough patience, they can come together and reach an understanding about what needs to be done to fix the aging drain.

"REALISTICALLY, WE'RE PROBABLY A YEAR FROM GETTING A PLAN IN PLACE TO PRESENT."



Weekend ice festival

Staff

The 7th Annual Gimli Ice Festival held last weekend featured Vikings, cars, motorcycles and hockey players battling it out for glory, ice sled racing and SnoBear excursions on the lake, a kids' art competition, reusable ice moulds that make ice sculptures, and plenty of food for the hundreds of visitors who came from far and wide for a bit of icy fun. The festival hosted an inaugural Pond Hockey tournament, featuring the Gimli Falcons (men), the Gimli Stingers (women) and local RCMP and firefighters. The Parent Advisory Council at Gimli High School initiated the tournament and hopes to hold regular games that will serve as fundraisers for the development of a multi-sport complex (tennis courts, track) at the school. "This is a way

of getting outsiders from Gimli to visit and promoting tourism to our town to give a boost to our local economy during the winter months and, ultimately, give us the much-needed funds to improve the infrastructure of school athletics," said PAC treasurer Kim Malchuk.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT

From left: Gimli High School art teacher Kristine Dubois with Roxy and Cash Silman and Anna and Thora Palson checked out the bee art display.



Gimli Mayor Randy Woroniuk was the puck-dropper for the RCMP (in white) vs Gimli firefighters (in blue) pond hockey game Saturday.



Kenny Zhen of Magic Ice showcased his ice-sculpting invention. Zhen pitched the idea to *Dragon's Den*.



2005 world motocross champion Kim Houde from Winnipeg takes a corner. And they're off!



Here come the Vikings.



The Vikings line up for battle.



Martine Sawanas (left) from the Riverton Friendship Centre served up some bannock to Gimli Ice Festival co-chair Susan Holfuehr.

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A day on the line at the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation's processing plant



1. About 1,650 commercial fishers from across Manitoba, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories pack fish into clean food-grade totes supplied by the federally run Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation and send it to FFMC's processing plant on Plessis Road in Winnipeg. FFMC was established in 1969, and its plant handles between 14 and 16 million kilograms of fish annually, netting the corporation about \$70 million in sales. In addition to providing fishers with a regular paycheque, FFMC shares its profits with a year-end bonus payment.



2. Each tote must have a label indicating the shipping date, weight, species of fish, and name of the fish shed and lake. Because the plant is governed by strict regulations set out by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, fish must be traceable to its source in the event of a recall. On busy days, the plant receives 15 or more truckloads of fish from sheds such as Ashern, Dauphin, Dore Lake (Sask), Eddystone, Fisher River, Matheson Island, Norway House, Riverton, South Indian Lake and Wabowden. Each shed has an FFMC agent that inspects the fish before it's dispatched.



3. This shipment of large whole whitefish from the Selkirk shed on Lake Winnipeg is packed in ice to keep the fish just above freezing. "Bright red blood is very good, indicating it was caught alive," said vice-president of field operations Dave Bergunder. "There's a lot of physical attributes you look at to determine the quality of fish."



4. Before fish is sold whole or processed into fillets, FFMC sorts them by size into small, medium, large and jumbo. The fish are whisked through a measuring machine with a flapper that diverts them into clean totes. Sorting fish by size before they're run through the filleting machines improves plant efficiencies in that processing does not have to be halted to adjust the size and speed of the automated filleting blades.



5. Once sorted by size, the fish is packed either whole in waxed food-grade cardboard boxes containing sterile ice or sent to the filleting line. The pickerel shown here are heading up a conveyor belt to have their scales removed before filleting.



6. The scaling machine uses blades to scrape both sides of the fish.



11. Pickerel skins are removed by machine and sold to markets in the U.S. The skins are used primarily for soup. FFMC also sells northern pike skins.



9. An employee checks each fillet cut by the machine and trims away excess. Freshwater employs over 180 full-time production staff, and those working the lines process about 25 to 30 fish a minute. Before they're allowed to enter the plant, staff must wash and disinfect their hands at a cleaning station and don smocks, aprons, gloves, safety glasses and steel-toed rubber boots. Hair must be secured under a hair net.



10. Employees on the pin-bone line check whitefish fillets for small bones, removing them with an electric de-boner and tweezers. Quality assurance standards are high; fillets containing more than one or two bones are unacceptable. FFMC's customers set standards that the plant must meet and will request inspections and audits. The plant is also a certified kosher facility with a rabbi on staff to inspect the fish.



8. Sounding like a cross between a sawmill and an automatic car wash, the filleting machine removes the ribs and backbone after the fish is cut.



13. The plant has a microbiology and chemistry lab that tests processed products for mercury and pathogens such as listeria and E.coli, and will send samples to external labs. Employees also check for foreign materials and "TDU" (tender, decomposed and unwholesome) fish. Sheds that fail to properly dress their fish before shipping will be notified and asked to improve their workmanship. "Food safety is critical," said Bergunder, "and quality is number 1. If you ever have bad fish, no one buys it again." All products undergo a metal detector before they leave the plant.



7. Pickerel is moved at a steady pace through a filleting machine and sliced in two by industrial-sized knives. The plant has eight lines and its fastest machine can cut 120 pounds of whole fish a minute.



12. Caviar anyone? Roe from northern pike was washed, inspected, salted and packed. Fishers remove roe sacs while dressing (remove heads, entrails and gills) their fish and ship them in food-grade bags to FFMC. "Roe is a huge market opportunity for fishers in Western Canada. It generates millions of dollars," said Bergunder.



15. Fillets produced for the frozen market are sent through a glazing machine, which coats them with a thin film of icy water to prevent dehydration and freezer burn. FFMC's marketing strategy is focused on selling as much fresh fish as it can, said Bergunder, but the fresh market is finite.



14. FFMC has flash freezers and a massive on-site cold storage that can hold about 1 million pounds of fish, which includes mullet, carp, sauger, perch and goldeye. The spiral freezer shown here has a moving belt on which fish is placed and rotates from bottom to top. As the fish turns, it's blasted with cold air, resulting in a perfectly frozen product.



16. Fresh or frozen fish destined for domestic, U.S. and international markets is packed by machine in food-grade boxes. Each box is labelled and barcoded, identifying species, fish shed, lake, lot number and product code. "We track all the fish and that information stays in our system," said Bergunder. "With the label, we're able to trace the fish back to the shed. For recalls and food safety, it's critical."



17. To meet CFIA's sanitary standards, employees clean the machines between breaks and the plant's floor several times a day. A night crew works through the wee hours cleaning machines, floors, walls, ceilings, stainless steel sinks, trays and implements such as knives. CFIA inspects the plant on a regular basis.

EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Annual Easter Bunny breakfast this Saturday in Eriksdale

By Jeff Ward

A photo with the Easter Bunny will be the backdrop to a variety of other fun children's activities this weekend during the Eaglets Daycare Breakfast fundraiser.

The annual fundraiser provides the daycare with money to purchase new toys, games and other supplies for the kids who attend the daycare.

Lisa Monkman, who works at the daycare and helps organize the fundraiser, said that this year there will be two special guests at the event. Karl Heinz, the Bubble Man, will put on an interactive bubble show along with a glitter tattoo artist.

Admission is \$6 per person and \$3 for children five and under, which will get you pancakes, sausages and eggs for breakfast. The fundraiser takes

place this Saturday, March 10 at the Eriksdale Recreation Centre from 8:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m., with Easter Bunny photos starting at 9:30 a.m.

"Parents really like getting photos of their kids with the Easter Bunny as well. It's a nice keepsake for them. Haylee Jensen is volunteering her time to do the photography for us," said Monkman.

In previous years, some of the money raised has gone to organizing field trips for the daycare kids. Monkman said that last year they organized trips to Malcolm's Haunted Forest in Lundar, Sabados Greenhouse, a local dairy farm and the Eriksdale Museum. Monkman said that the daycare prioritizes spending money raised locally. Last year, the event raised over \$1,500 in profits.



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED BY CHERYL LAW

The Eaglets Daycare is hosting their annual Breakfast with the Easter Bunny fundraiser this Saturday. Money raised will help stock the daycare with toys and for future field trips.

New doctor accepting patients in Gimli

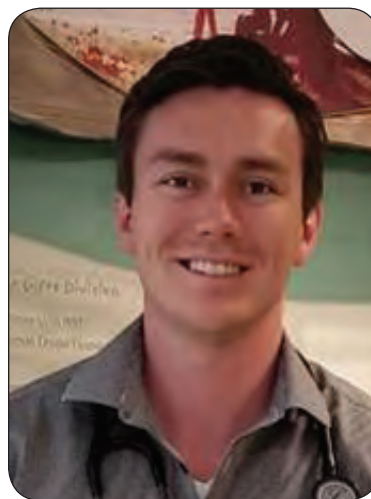


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Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority is pleased to welcome Dr. Jonah Fulmore to Gimli. Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority is pleased to announce Dr. Jonah Fulmore is now accepting new patients at the Gimli Community Health Centre, located in Johnson Memorial Hospital. Dr. Fulmore completed his medical training at the University of Manitoba with a focus on urgent and emergent care as well as addictions.

Dr. Fulmore is originally from the Northwest Territories and came to his calling as a physician through the influence of his mother, who is an ICU nurse. He enjoys the fact that both Gimli and Selkirk have newer hospitals and staff who



Dr. Jonah Fulmore

pride themselves in patient care and have a close understanding of the lifestyle of the community.

As a fan of the outdoors —

golf, fishing and hockey being the "big three" — Dr. Fulmore was immediately attracted to the lifestyle of the Interlake.

"My interests of fishing and golf have brought me to the Gimli area as the great hospital, great staff and great people."

Dr. Fulmore and his wife (who is also a physician specializing in obstetrics) have recently moved to the Interlake and are "looking forward to putting down roots and serving the population here."

Patients can make an appointment with Dr. Fulmore by calling the Gimli Community Health Centre at 204-642-1618. Be sure to have your Manitoba Health card ready when calling to make an appointment.

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Air quality tests at wastewater treatment plant show no concerns

By Patricia Barrett

The province has been monitoring air quality near the Gimli wastewater treatment plant after complaints arose last month about odour, and said it has no concerns about levels of hydrogen sulfide (H₂S), a gas that smells like rotten eggs and is naturally produced from decomposing human- and plant-based organic matter.

Residents in and near Aspen Park, which borders the Industrial Park where the plant is located, began complaining about the odour after the RM embarked on a project to upgrade the plant. One of the plant's SBRs, or sequencing batch reactors (which clean incoming wastewater through a number of steps), was discovered to have broken down, causing the strong odour.

"Initial monitoring has found hydrogen sulfide levels below the detection limits of the monitors. Two different monitors are being used to ensure consistent and precise results," said a Sustainable Development spokesperson last Friday. "There are no concerns with any of the results found. Sustainable Development and Health, Seniors and Active Living continue to work cooperatively on this issue."

H₂S has been reported in air, surface water and wastewater effluents in the vicinity of pulp and paper operations, oil and gas facilities, wastewater treatment systems and livestock operations, states a 2017 draft screening assessment by Environment and Climate Change Canada and Health Canada. A risk analysis determined that H₂S in air is "unlikely to be high enough to cause adverse effects to terrestrial wildlife (mammals or plants)." And health effects assessments relating to inhalation (in ambient air) have identified "no genotoxicity or carcinogenicity classifications."

Any sewage treatment plant, by nature of the material it deals with, emits odour to some extent and it cannot be completely eliminated. Governments



Aspen Park lies just east of the Industrial Park.

around the world grapple with the problem of minimizing foul odours from sewers and treatment plants with the latest technological tools at hand.

One resident in the Aspen Park area declined to comment on the record about the odour and others could not be reached by press time.

Whether the odour has resulted in any acute health crises is unknown. The Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority's public relations manager Lauralou Cicierski said the health authority doesn't collect data "that would link people's health concerns to the wastewater smell."

The RM of Gimli issued a public notice about the odour and upgrades at the plant a few weeks ago, and is posting its own H₂S air quality tests on its website. The readings correlate to about 40 different sites. Readings taken at the plant at the time of the SBR breakdown may show a higher value than other sites.

RM of Gimli CAO Joann Murphy said the part of the SBR that broke down (steel supports holding up a diffuser) is now fixed, and the RM has also installed and is monitoring charcoal filters placed on air vents that are part of both the influent and effluent lines.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Wastewater Treatment Plant in the Industrial Park.

"The diffusers are currently working in both SBRs," she said. "The diffuser is what blows air into the sewage and keeps it aerobic. So I think that's part of why you've seen a reduction of odour in the air."

The second SBR will be examined to see whether any repairs are necessary. A third SBR that the RM is installing will not be up and running until the completion of the project, which Murphy said could take about 15 months.

The cost to repair the SBR has been pegged at about \$1 million, and that money is part of a \$12-million provincial and federal grant awarded in 2016 for the upgrades. The RM will take out a \$6-million loan under a local improvement district (LID) project but will be paid off by the Diageo distillery, whose wastewater — composed of plant-based organic matter — is sent to the treatment plant.

Murphy said she's been driving through Aspen Park every morning for the past two to three weeks and has found the odour stronger on some mornings than she has on others.

"I agree, it is not a pleasant odour and the municipality is not dismissing it as nothing," she said. "We are working as hard and as fast as we can to put the improvements in place so that the plant will have the capacity and

the ability to manage waste with the least amount of odour possible."

The plant upgrade/expansion is required in order to meet new provincial wastewater discharge guidelines, which aim to reduce the amounts of harmful nutrients entering Lake Winnipeg.

"In my tenure here, we have gone from lagoons to having developed a complete sewage treatment facility, and with that you always end up finding challenges," said Murphy. "The good thing is the process is designed to put safe effluent into Lake Winnipeg. Reducing phosphorus and nitrogen is a requirement of our licence."

Sustainable Development has asked the RM to provide reports as the work continues.

"Even though the monitoring found all results within acceptable levels, Sustainable Development has issued a directive to the RM to retain a consultant to evaluate both the wastewater collection system and the plant itself, including (but not limited to) odour generation and impacts from the influent to the sewage treatment plant," said the spokesperson. "In addition, the RM has been asked to provide a report with odour mitigation and treatment plant upgrade recommendations."

Fisher Personal Care Home receives donation of pressure mattresses

Submitted

March 2, 2018 – The Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority's Fisher Personal Care Home today celebrated the donation of three brand new pressure reduction mattresses thanks to Fisher Personal Care Home Foundation Inc.'s generous donation of \$5,500.

Preventing pressure injuries is an ongoing focus of care in personal care homes where residents may spend a

lot of time in bed for a number of reasons. These specialized non-powered air mattresses will be used to help residents who are at high risk of developing pressure injuries. The mattresses are used to maximize pressure relief and redistribute pressure and are an important part of efforts to prevent pressure injuries for residents who are unable to move on their own.

Donna Lindal, clinical team manager at the Fisher personal care home,

said that the residents using these new mattresses will benefit greatly from this donation.

"We really appreciate the Foundation's commitment to our residents and their donation of mattresses. They will be a valuable asset in promoting resident comfort and improving quality of life," Lindal said.

Pamela McCallum, executive director of the region's Interlake Eastern Health Foundation echoed these com-

ments, saying that "community donations like these are not just about the giving, they are about making a difference in peoples' lives."

The personal care home extended the value of the donation by purchasing three mattresses for the price of two as part of the supplier's special offer. The mattresses have just arrived and are starting to be used as part of resident care.

Lakeshore faced with 500K budget shortfall for next school year

By Jeff Ward

The Lakeshore School Division is looking to reduce staffing, spending some of their surplus, increasing taxes while still planning to carry forward a small deficit following their draft budget meeting last week.

The division is budgeting a shortfall of \$536,765 next school year. The school board's annual Vision and Voice public meeting took place last week where they detailed their 2018-2019 finances.

Secretary treasurer Marlene Michno said the division will receive revenues of \$16,631,095 next year and will spend \$17,167,860. She explained that while the province did increase the education budget by \$6.6 million or half a per cent of the whole, Lakeshore will see none of that increase. Michno said it ends up working out to a two per cent reduction since their costs are rising two per cent over last year. She explained that their increase is mostly due to collective agreements with divisional support staff whose wages have been agreed upon until June of 2020.

"We're also anticipating other increases with our hydro rates and our insurance rates continuing to rise as

well," said Michno.

Lakeshore School Board chair Jim Cooper said the board is exploring ways to shrink the shortfall for next year. He said that the board will explore reducing staff, but only in ways that will not impact programming or services. Cooper said enrolment has declined steadily over the last decade, with 200 fewer students in the division than in 2008. This decision may not result in the termination of current employees, he said, and could be done through retirements.

"So we do have room to reduce staff without affecting any programming or services," said Cooper.

He said the board will also explore increasing the special levy that ratepayers pay in their taxes. He said the board hasn't pinned down exactly what that increase will be but that it will not exceed two per cent. The board also plans to withdraw money out of the surplus, which sits at \$782,646 as of June 2017 to help reduce their budget shortfall. Cooper said that the division needs to keep some money in surplus for emergencies and can't use all of it to address the shortfall.

The last thing the board will do is run another deficit into the 2019-20 school

year, which they did last year as well, carrying forward just over \$50,000.

"If we tried to [reduce the deficit] in one area, just reducing staff, let's say, we'd have to cut programs and we have no intention of that. If it was on the ratepayer, it would be enormous, and we don't have enough money in the surplus. It would cripple us if we used everything we had in surplus," said Cooper.

Above all things, Cooper said that maintaining the high quality of education Lakeshore School Division provides is their first priority. And although the board is making some tough decisions, they believe that this will continue to meet that priority.

Year over year enrolment has declined, but the board is projecting the same number of students for next year at 1,042.5. Kindergarten students are only counted as half, as they are only in school half the day. It costs the division \$14,757 to educate one student for the year, which is higher than the provincial average of \$13,187. Lakeshore spends more in every category to educate a student except other support services, where they spend \$314 compared to the provincial average of \$456, and maintenance, where

they spend \$1,404 compared to \$1,530.

The biggest difference in cost per student is in transportation where they spend \$1,539 per student opposed to the provincial average of \$582.

The cost to educate a student 10 years ago for Lakeshore was \$9,545, which was marginally higher than the provincial average of \$9,401 at that time.

"Part of our numbers being higher than the average is we have fewer teachers than the provincial average as well. The provincial average is 13 pupils per one educator and Lakeshore has 11.9 pupils," said Michno.

Cooper said that if provincial budgets continue trending this way, they are going to have to continue to make tough decisions.

"Number 1 focus for us is the quality of education. Our costs go up every year and funding for the last two years has gone down. If it keeps decreasing, there will be some difficult times in rural communities," said Cooper.

Final decisions on how the board will tackle their budget shortfall will come on March 13 at their next meeting.

The Truth Behind "In Like A Lion, Out Like a Lamb"

Files from The Farmers' Almanac

If March comes in like a lion, it will go out like a lamb.

Is there any truth to this saying? Weather folklore sayings are as colorful as our imagination. While many sayings are based on careful observations and turn out to be accurate, others

are merely rhymes or beliefs of the people who came before us.

Those people often believed that bad spirits could affect the weather adversely, so they were cautious as to what they did or did not do in certain situations. Those beliefs often included ideas that there should be

a balance in weather and life. So, if a month came in bad (roaring like a lion), it should go out good and calm (docile, like a lamb).

With March being such a changeable month, in which we can see warm spring-like temperatures or late-season snowstorms, you can un-

derstand how this saying might hold true in some instances. We can only hope that if March starts off stormy it will end on a calm note, but the key word is hope. However, this saying seems to be more of a rhyme rather than a true weather predictor.

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• Gimli Small Engines	• Smoke n' Fish (Selkirk)	

For Info Call: 204-641-6110 or 204-641-2210



EXPRESS PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

March storm dumps thick, wet snow on the Interlake and Southern Manitoba shutting down highways, closing schools and cutting power to many households. Approximately 10-30 centimetres of snow fell overnight Sunday and throughout the day on Monday.

get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS



American Irish Stew

1 tablespoon chopped fresh rosemary
1 leek, coarsely chopped
2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley
In large pot over medium-high heat, heat oil. Add beef and garlic. Cook, gently stirring until meat is evenly browned. Season with salt and pepper.

Add onion, carrots and parsnips. Cook 3-4 minutes. Stir in broth and bring to a boil. Reduce heat to low and simmer about 75 minutes, or until meat is tender.

Stir in potatoes and simmer another 30 minutes. Add rosemary and leeks. Continue to simmer, uncovered, until potatoes are tender. To avoid potatoes falling apart, do not overcook.

Serve hot and garnish with parsley, if desired.

Photo courtesy of Getty Images

Reprinted with permission from the American Institute for Cancer Research

Servings: 6

1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
1 1/4 pounds beef, top round, cut into 3/4-inch pieces
3 cloves garlic, minced
salt, to taste
pepper, to taste
1 medium onion, coarsely chopped
3 medium carrots, peeled and cut into 3/4-inch pieces
2 medium parsnips, cut into large chunks (optional)
3 cups low-fat, reduced-sodium beef broth
4 medium russet potatoes, peeled and cut into large chunks



Savory Irish Cheese Soda Bread

cheese

2 eggs

1 1/4 cups buttermilk

Preheat oven to 350°F. Mix flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda, salt and seasonings in large bowl. Stir in cheese. Set aside. Mix eggs and buttermilk in medium bowl. Add to dry ingredients; stir until well blended. Spread in lightly grease 9-inch round cake pan.

Bake 30-40 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool in pan on wire rack 10 minutes. Remove from pan. Cool completely on wire rack.

Tip: Make muffins instead of bread. Prepare dough as directed and divide among 12 greased muffin cups. Bake 20-25 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean.

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 40 minutes
Servings: 12
2 1/2 cups flour
1/2 cup sugar
1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
2 teaspoons McCormick Caraway Seed
1 teaspoon McCormick Garlic Powder
1/4 teaspoon McCormick Red Pepper, Ground
1/2 cup shredded Irish Cheddar



Do You Dream About The Perfect Weekend?

cial movie.

You could plan for relaxing baths or nurturing massages. If you are alone, you can still plan a lovely weekend for yourself. Forget the regular chores or activities you generally do on the weekend, and only do things you love. You might putter in your garden, read a good book, listen to (or play) music or do some writing. The main thing is that you give yourself a 'mini-vacation' from your usual routine.

The nice thing about a 'vacation' at home is that you save travel time and money. More importantly, such a weekend just might serve to remind you about the real meaning of leisure time. If you truly get a sense of what it means to experience leisure, you just might want to incorporate a little more of it into your life. For most of us, that would be a very healthy thing.

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



Mint Chocolate Chip Cookies

1 1/2 cups semi-sweet chocolate chips

Preheat oven to 375°F. Mix flour, baking soda and salt in medium bowl. Set aside. Beat butter and sugar in large bowl with electric mixer on medium speed until light and fluffy. Add eggs, food color and peppermint extract; mix well. Gradually beat in flour mixture on low speed until well mixed. Stir in chocolate chips.

Drop by heaping tablespoons about 2 inches apart onto ungreased baking sheets.

Bake 10-12 minutes or until edges are lightly browned. Cool on baking sheets 1 minute. Remove to wire racks; cool completely.

Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes
Servings: 3 dozen, or 36 (1 cookie) servings
2 1/2 cups flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened
1 1/4 cups sugar
2 eggs
1-1 1/2 teaspoons McCormick Green Food Color
1 teaspoon McCormick Pure Peppermint Extract

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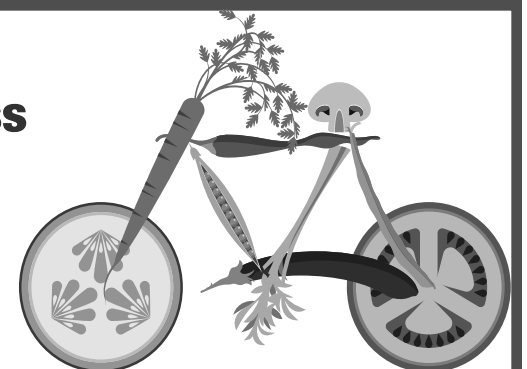
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sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Falcons ice Arborg in KJHL quarter-final series

By Brian Bowman

There's no quit in the Lundar Falcons.

Trailing the Ice Dawgs 2-1 in their best-of-five Keystone Junior Hockey League first-round series, Lundar battled back to win the final two games to eliminate Arborg from the post-season.

Lundar won the series-deciding fifth game 2-1 on Sunday.

After a scoreless first period in Game 5, Lundar took a 2-0 lead on second-period goals from Landon Gray and Brett Jocelyn.

Arborg cut that lead in half, though, when Ethan Chwaliboga tallied midway in the third.

Both goaltenders were very good in goal as Arborg outshot Lundar 55-49. Reece Jones made 54 saves for the win.

The Ice Dawgs took a 2-1 series lead after blasting the Falcons 7-0 in Arborg.

Colton Davies scored a first-period power-play goal and then Gordie Longbottom (two), Cal Finnson, and Ethan Chwaliboga tallied in the second.

Davies and Tristan Hudson closed out the game's scoring with third-pe-

riod goals.

Travis Rigden made 40 saves for the shutout.

Game 4 saw Lundar trounce Arborg 7-3 last Friday in Warren.

The Ice Dawgs' Derric Gulay scored the only goal of the first period on the power play.

But the Falcons' responded with two second-period goals by Brett Jocelyn and even-strength markers from Mason Medeiros, Derek Benson and Gray.

Lundar added power-play goals by Medeiros and Gray in the third. Gray led all players in the series with five goals and four assists.

Arborg answered with a shorthanded goal by Dylan Furgala and a power-play marker from Longbottom.

The Ice Dawgs were 2-for-7 with the man advantage while the Ice Dawgs finished 4-for-11.

Jones made 41 stops for the win.

No. 5 Lundar now advances to the league semifinal against the No. 2 Peguis Juniors.

Game 1 will be played Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in Peguis with Game 2 on Sunday at 2:30 p.m. in Warren.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

The Falcons Landon Gray led all players in the series with five goals and four assists.



Provincial bronze

EXPRESS PHOTO BY KRISTI MCLEOD

The Lakeside Falcons defeated Winnipegosis 7-4 in the Hockey Manitoba Male Midget Rural B/C provincial bronze-medal game last Sunday in Winnipegosis.

The Falcons lost to MacGregor 6-3 on Friday and then defeated PV West 11-1 and Steinbach 5-3 on Saturday in round-robin play. In the semifinals, the Falcons lost 5-3 to MacGregor before they beat Winnipegosis for the bronze.

Pictured back row, left to right: Jamie Christensen (coach), Nolan Smith, Connor Bindle, Riley Wirgau, Dawson Torgerson, Trevor Scott, Jaxon Pilon, Ryan Gleich, Earl Short and John Kaartinen (coach). Middle row: Jayson Christensen, Logan Miller, Deryk Lynch, Carson Gudmundson, Jesse Le Strat and Devon Torgerson. Front row: Dylan Lynch and Rylan Magnusson. Missing: Rob Scott (coach) and Mathew Diell.

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Peguis sweeps Satelites in KJHL playoff series

By Brian Bowman

The Peguis Juniors made quick work of the North Winnipeg Satelites in their best-of-five Keystone Junior Hockey League first-round playoff series.

Peguis swept the series in just three games, wrapping up play with a convincing 4-0 win over North Winnipeg last Friday in Peguis.

After a scoreless first period, Romano Paul and Darian Murdock scored second-period power-play goals.

The Juniors increased their lead to four goals as Travis McPherson and Vincent Hughes tallied in the third.

Allan Kohli needed to make just 18 saves for the shutout.

Peguis was 2-for-5 with the man advantage while North Winnipeg was blanked in seven opportunities.

On Feb. 27, Peguis blasted North Winnipeg 7-3 after scoring five first-period goals.

Paul led Peguis with three goals and

an assist while Keevan Daniels-Webb added a goal and four assists.

Paul had a great series, leading Peguis with four goals and three assists.

Chase Beach-Ducharme, Keifer Tacan and Dalen Schulz also scored for the Juniors.

Conner Grunsten (two) and Brett Williams replied for North Winnipeg.

Luke Penner made 32 saves for the win.

Peguis won Game 1 of the series 5-4.

With the series win, Peguis now advances to play the Lunda Falcons in a best-of-seven semifinal series. Game 1 will be played Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in Peguis with Game 2 on Sunday at 2:30 p.m. in Warren.

Lunda defeated Arborg in five games in their quarter-final series.

In the other KJHL semifinal series, the Selkirk Fishermen will take on the St. Malo Warriors. Selkirk swept Cross Lake while St. Malo upset OCN in four games.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

The Juniors' Keevan Daniels-Webb scored a goal and added four assists in Peguis' 7-3 win against North Winnipeg on Feb. 27.

Manitoba Hockey Standings

MANITOBA JUNIOR

HOCKEY LEAGUE

	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA
Steinbach Pistons	60	48	8	2	100	296	130
Virden Oil Capitals	60	40	17	2	83	268	181
Portage Terriers	60	38	16	3	82	251	163
OCN Blizzard	60	32	20	5	72	209	192
Winkler Flyers	60	35	25	0	70	205	175
Winnipeg Blues	60	31	22	5	69	215	220
Selkirk Steelers	60	31	25	3	66	192	206
Swan Valley Stampede	60	28	25	6	63	206	206
Neepawa Natives	60	25	31	3	54	215	250
Dauphin Kings	60	14	44	1	30	148	289
Waywayseecappo Wolverines	60	8	48	3	20	130	323

KEYSTONE HOCKEY LEAGUE

Lunda Falcons vs Peguis Juniors

Game 1 - Sat. Mar. 10 @ Peguis 7:30
 Game 2 - Sun. Mar. 11 @ Warren 2:30
 Selkirk Fishermen vs St. Malo Warriors
 Game 1 - Sat. Mar. 10 @ Selkirk 7:30
 Game 2 - Tues. Mar. 13 @ St. Malo 8:00
 Game 3 - Sat. Mar. 17 @ Morris 7:30

Game 4 - Sun. Mar. 18 @ Selkirk 7:30

Game 5 - Thur. Mar. 22 @ Selkirk 7:30

Lunda Falcons defeats Arborg Ice Dawgs in 5 games

Selkirk Fishermen defeats Cross Lake in 3 games

Peguis Juniors defeat North Winnipeg Satelites in 3 games

St. Malo Warriors defeat OCN Storm in 4 games

MANITOBA FEMALE MIDGET AAA HOCKEY LEAGUE

Semi finals - Eastman vs Winnipeg

Game 1 Feb. 28 Eastman 2 Winnipeg 0

Game 2 Mar 3 Eastman 2 Winnipeg 1

Game 3 Mar 4 Winnipeg 2 Eastman 1

Game 4 Mar 14 @ Ste. Anne 7:30pm

Game 5 Mar 17 @ Ice Plex - TBA

Semi finals - Westman vs Pembina Valley

Game 1 Feb. 28 Pembina Valley 3 Westman 2

Game 2 Mar 2 Pembina Valley 3 Westman 0

Game 3 Mar 4 Westman 3 (OT) Pembina Valley 2

Game 4 Mar 14 @ Hartney 7:30pm

Game 5 Mar 17 @ Morden - 7:30pm

STATS AS OF TUESDAY, March 6

Vikings bring home bronze



EXPRESS PHOTO BY PAM EINARSON

The Gimli Vikings Midget team defeated LaBroquerie 9-3 in the bronze medal game at the Hockey Manitoba Male Midget AA/A provincials last weekend in Sagkeeng. The Vikings defeated Cross Lake 12-2, Grunthal 3-0 and recorded one loss to Lake Manitoba First Nation 3-1.

Pictured back row, left to right; Mark Sewell (assist. coach), Tyler Olivier, Kris Johannesson (coach), Ryan Crave, Jordan Einarson, Ben Korolyk, Thorin Johannesson, Jamon Warms, Blaine Wishnowski, Turner Spakowski, Kalli Einarson and Corey Strachan (assist. coach). Middle row; Stefan Peiluk, Nicholas Swain, Darren Sewell, Luke Berens, and Tyson Bucklaschuck. Goaltender Tre Strachan.

THE EXPRESS
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Do you have a suggestion for our news team? Is there someone you would like to see recognized in the newspaper for their accomplishments - athletic, academic or community service.

Lightning swept by Selects in City Midget playoff series

By Brian Bowman

The Interlake Lightning had a real good effort in their best-of-five City Midget playoff series with the Eastman Selects.

But that effort wasn't enough to propel the Lightning to an upset win over the Selects.

Interlake, which finished last in the six-team league during the regular season, was swept by third-place Eastman in three games.

The Selects closed out the series with a 6-0 win on Saturday.

No goal scorers were posted on the league website at press time.

Eastman took a 1-0 series lead after a hard-fought 3-2 win over the Interlake on Feb. 28.

The Selects' Zach Tetrault scored the game-winning goal at 16:58 of the third period.

Interlake's Hunter Warman opened the game's scoring with a shorthanded goal just 3:35 into the contest. Eastman's Steven Desisle and Drayden Kurbatoff answered with goals before the Lightning's Dominic Griffin-Eros tied the score at 2-2 at 12:43 of the middle frame.

Rhett Woods and Rylan Gard assisted on Griffin-Eros' goal.

Eastman then went up two games in the series after a 5-1 win the following day.

After a scoreless first period, Woods gave the Lightning a 1-0 lead early in the second.

Eastman's Kade Runke (on the power play) and Kurbatoff replied in the middle frame and then Runke, Kurbatoff and Ethan McCollm (power play) tallied in the third.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

Lightning goaltender Cody Williams makes the save against Eastman's Blake Noble on March 1.

Midgets win silver



EXPRESS PHOTO BY DESTINY SWAN

The Lake Manitoba First Nation Eagles are silver medalists after losing to Thompson in the final at Hockey Manitoba's AA/A Midget Provincial championship in Sagkeeng last weekend. The Eagles lost 7-6 to La Broquerie in the first game of the tournament but then defeated Thompson 3-2, Sagkeeng 6-2, and Gimli 3-1.

Pictured back row, left to right: Gage Campbell, Darryl Swan (coach), Blake Smith, Timothy Edwards Jr., Elijah Mousseau, Jamie Maytwayashing, Sundance Paul, Donovan Beaulieu, Colby Choken, Keyon Malcolm, Clayton Missyabit (coach) and Daphne Missyabit (coach). Front row; Dale Monkman, Dennis Baptiste, Tegan Sutherland, Blaze Swan, Reuben Houle and Jonathan Campeau Jr.. Missing from the picture is Jake McLean.

Provincial recognition



EXPRESS PHOTO BY ANITA WILLIS

The Interlake Bulldogs Atom 'C' girls' hockey team won bronze medals after defeating Rat River 3-2 in their final game last weekend at the provincials in Swan Lake. The Bulldogs lost 8-1 to Elkhorn, beat Swan Lake 4-3, and defeated Carman 9-6 in the robin robin to advance to the semifinals. The Bulldogs overcame a 6-1 deficit after two periods to down Carman. A 2-0 loss to Elkhorn in the semifinals put them up against Rat River for the bronze.

Pictured left to right, front row: Vayha Willis, Haylee Strachan; middle row: Paige Powroznik, Payton Mowatt, Kerri Combot, Karen Caumartin, Lauren Morin, Gina Sinclair, Abby Oughton; back row: coach Kyle Willis, Kylie Combot, Bre-Ann Lucier-Windross, Myla Johannesson, Jencie Henry, Mia Cassils, Hailey Hiebert, Bailey Mantik and coach Wes Henry.

Mercs extend SEMHL playoff series with Carman

By Brian Bowman

With their backs to the wall – trailing 3-1 in their South Eastern Manitoba Hockey League semifinal series – the Warren Mercs desperately needed a victory Sunday.

And they got that win as Wes Pawluk scored the game winner in overtime to lift the Mercs to a 3-2 triumph over the Carman Beavers.

“Without a win, we were going home,” said Mercs’ head coach Gerry Minaker. “There was not much choice but to go out and play good hockey. We’ve never felt that we’re out of (the series). There’s been some bad puck luck at times but every game has been close.”

It was a huge win for Warren, who trailed 3-2 late in the third period when Kyle Luschinski tied the score at 18:15.

Carman took a 2-1 lead after 20 minutes as Laurent Benjamin scored a pair of goals for the visitors.

Those goals were sandwiched around a marker from the Mercs’ Eric Swanson.

All three goals came by the 3:45 mark of the game. After that, the two

teams settled down and played some great, playoff-style hockey.

“The way the game started, it looked like maybe we’d get some scoring on both sides, but then both teams settled in again,” Minaker said. “It’s very structured hockey – good defensive play by both teams.”

Travis Bosch was outstanding in goal, making 48 saves for the well-deserved win.

On Feb. 27, Carman edged Warren 4-3 as the Mercs’ Reid MacLeod made things interesting when he scored at 19:20 of the third period.

The Beavers took a 2-1 first-period lead as Ryan McIntosh (on the power play) and Geoff Maloney scored. Kyle Luschinski replied for Warren.

After a scoreless second period, Carman’s Brock Vanderveen and Warren’s Darrin Husak traded goals before Benjamin tallied at 10:50 of the third.

Game 6 of the series was played Tuesday in Carman but no score was available at press time. If necessary, Game 7 is set for Friday at 8 p.m. in Warren.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Mercs’ forward Wes Pawluk scored the overtime winner in Game 5 of the SEMHL semifinal series against Carman.

Banner win for Arborg



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Arborg Falcons PeeWee hockey team represented the Interlake at the Rural ‘B’ PeeWee provincials in Notre Dame last weekend. The Falcons defeated Warren and Fisher River in two games straight to qualify the previous weekend. The Falcons were defeated in three round-robin games and did not make the playoff round at provincials.

Pictured back row: Brian Barylski (coach), Landon Kilbrie, Ryan Dueck, Cyranno Dueck, Brandon Burak, Diyar Jarkas, Brody Barylski, Brooke Barylski, Roger Burak (coach), Evan Asham, Austin Loewen, Kendall Asham (coach). Front row: Dainen Jacobson, Johann Fridfinnson, Sawyer Zuk, Ryan Bazilewich, Josh Bazilewich, Matthew Barkman. Missing from the photo is John Dueck (manager).

McEwen among leaders at Tim Hortons Brier

Staff

Team Canada’s Brad Gushue defeated Team Wildcard Mike McEwen of Winnipeg 7-5 Monday evening at the 2018 Tim Hortons Brier, presented by Mosaic, in Regina.

The victory left Gushue, third Mark Nichols, second Brett Gallant, lead Geoff Walker, alternate Tom Sallow and coach Jules Owchar, the only undefeated team in Pool A at 4-0 heading into Tuesday’s action.

McEwen, third B.J. Neufeld, second Matt Wozniak, lead Denni Neufeld and coach Chris Neufeld, were 3-1.

“They were a good version of themselves and we weren’t as good as we could be and that’s not going to be good enough to beat

Brad,” said McEwen on the Curling Canada website.

“We made a couple of calls that probably could have forced the issue a bit more. It’s tough. You’re playing a good team that’s starting with hammer, there’s not much room for error.”

McEwen started the Brier by defeating Winnipeg’s Jason Gunnlaugson 4-3 in an extra end during a wildcard game.

He then defeated Yukon 5-3, B.C. 9-3, and Nova Scotia 6-5.

The two Winnipeg teams were invited to play the wildcard game as the top two squads in the Canadian Team Ranking System that had not won a provincial/territorial title.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

ROCKIN' RICHARD'S RECORD & CD SALE. Victoria Inn, 1808 Wellington Ave. Wpg. Sunday, March 18/18, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., 80 plus tables. Records, CD's, DVD's music collectibles. Admission \$5. Info 204-338-3655.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The 22nd Annual Manitoba Baseball Hall of Fame & Museum Induction Dinner will be held in Morden on Saturday, June 2, 2018. Tickets may be obtained by contacting David Taylor at 204-841-3242 or taylor@brandonu.ca, Jack Hrehirchuk at 204-639-6923/204-648-6395 or jhrehirchuk@wcgwave.ca, Joe Wiwchar at 204-822-4636 or mbbbhof@mymts.net or on-line at www.mbbhof.ca. Deadline for ticket sales is May 19, 2018.

HEALTH

Are you suffering from joint or arthritic pain? If so, you owe it to yourself to try elk velvet antler capsules. Hundreds have found relief. Benefits humans and pets. EVA is composed of proteins, amino acids, minerals, lipids and water. Key compounds that work to stimulate red blood cell production & cartilage cell regeneration & development. Stonewall Elk Products Ltd., 204-467-8428 or e-mail stonewoodelk@hotmail.com

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7700 Ford tractor, 86 HP with cab, asking \$14,000 obo; 22 ft. White cultivator with wings; bale spear for front end loader. Ph 204-322-5614.

ANNOUNCEMENT

CARD OF THANKS

The family of Cliff Gislason would like to thank everyone for their kind thoughts, prayers, flowers, gifts, food, messages and cards. Thank you to family and friends for their support at this difficult time. It's comforting to know so many people care. Thank you to the Ironworkers at Local 728 for all they did on that fateful day and in the following days. Thank you to MacKenzie's Funeral Home for making things a little easier. Thank you to everyone making donations in Cliff's memory.

-Sylvia, Christa, Dennis, Carter and Ryland

ANNOUNCEMENT

CARD OF THANKS

We would like to express our sincere appreciation for all who attended and contributed in various ways to the benefit dinner held on our behalf in St. Claude on February 24. Thank you to all the individuals and businesses who donated prizes, the ones who attended and so many others for making the fundraiser a success. A huge thank you to the Stonewall & District Lions Club for their generous donation. A special thank you to my Mom (Vernette) and Jim McIntosh, my Afi and Amma (Wally and Linda Finnbogason), for all that they do for us. The incredible support from so many is something that will never be forgotten. We will be forever grateful.

-Pierre, Mackenzie and Jillian Gaultier

NEWS TIPS

Call 467-5836



RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GIMLI EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY RECREATION SERVICES CLERK

This full-time clerical position requires a dynamic individual who is responsible for providing secretarial, clerical, bookkeeping and administrative support in order to ensure that recreation services are provided in an effective and efficient manner.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Receptionist duties such as greeting clients at front desk, answering calls and emails, dealing with inquiries on recreation programs and facilities, processing payments and facility rentals/bookings
- Distribution of messages & mail
- Writing letters/creating spreadsheets, being proficient in word processing, excel, data entry and general secretarial/financial support
- File maintenance
- To relate positively to a wide variety of people, in potentially stressful situations
- Provide assistance to the Manager of Parks and Recreation and Recreation Programmer, as required

SKILLS & QUALIFICATIONS: Applicants must have excellent communication, organizational and time management skills with the ability to set priorities and meet deadlines; strong customer service skills and the ability to effectively interact with other support and professional staff and the public; experience with Microsoft Office applications is required; demonstrates ability to work under minimum supervision and in a team setting.

Preference will be given to applicants who have completed a recognized Post-Secondary Office Administration Program and who have several years' experience in providing administrative support services.

Salary range: \$14.72 - 16.76, less \$1.00 per hour during the 6-month probation period, salary is dependent on experience and qualifications.

Interested applicants are invited to submit a written application including 3 references by 4:00 pm on Thursday, March 15, 2018 to:

Chris Hornby
Manager - Parks and Recreation Services
Rural Municipality of Gimli
45 Centennial Ave, PO Box 1258
Gimli, MB R0C 1B0
Email: chornby@rmgimli.com

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

take a break > GAMES

SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

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

Sudoku Answer

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

Crossword Answer

CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- Unpleasant substance
- Oil group
- One-time Yankees rookie sensation
- Ireland
- Less easily found
- Southeast Nigeria people
- Bridgeline Digital stock designation
- Play loudly
- Elegantly fashionable
- Open sore
- Frozen water
- Sacred Islamic site
- "Kokomo" rockers
- Follows sigma
- Cease to exist
- Cool
- Doctors' group
- Less attractive
- Swiss river
- Greek sophist
- Grandmothers
- Afflict
- Russian pancake of buckwheat flour and yeast
- Actress ____ Rachel Wood
- Not bright
- Western Asia peninsula
- Baseball speedster Gordon
- Golf score
- Transmits genetic information from DNA to the cytoplasm
- Diego, Francisco, Anselmo
- Songs to one's lover
- Cattle's mammary gland
- Having ten
- Fencing sword
- Scarlett's home
- Hold valuables
- Italian Seaport
- Cain and
- Bad places to live
- Large, wading bird
- Witches
- Cover with drops
- Props up the head
- Philippine province
- Shallow channel

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

- Type of acid
- Cygnus' brightest star
- One who buys and sells securities (abbr.)
- Large terrier
- Hillsides
- Patriotic women (abbr.)
- Connects words
- For each
- Flower cluster
- Closes a deal
- Arabian desert
- Vaccine against poliomyelitis
- American state
- Religion practiced in China
- Type of sediment
- Hall of Famer Ruth
- "Layla" singer Clapton
- Gamble
- Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- Midway between south and southwest

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