

A sister publication to **The Review**, Redwater, Alberta

## Sturgeon County partners with Pembina and Project Forest to restore Sandy Lake wilderness

By Haylee Winger

Sturgeon County is embarking on an ambitious environmental initiative aimed at restoring the Sandy Lake Wilderness Area through a partnership with Pembina Pipeline Corporation and Project Forest.

The rewilding project is part of the County's long-term vision for sustainable development, outlined in its Area Concept and Natural Area Management Plan.

The goal is to bring back native ecosystems, increase biodiversity, and protect the natural beauty of the region for future generations.

A significant part of this initiative involves meaningful engagement with the Alexander First Nation.

Their guidance and cultural perspectives are helping shape a project that goes beyond environmental conservation – it is also about respect, reconciliation, and honoring Indigenous knowledge.

By including Indigenous voices in the planning process, Sturgeon County is ensuring the project is not only environmentally sound but also culturally inclusive.

Pembina's involvement adds further strength to the initiative.



Pembina's partnership with Project Forest began in 2021 and has recently been strengthened through a renewed \$1.5 million commitment over the next three years. This expanded support will help advance rewilding projects across Western Canada, including the restoration of the Sandy Lake Wilderness Area. – Sturgeon County photo

As a committed community partner and long-time supporter of Project

Forest, Pembina brings shared values of environmental stewardship, safety,

equity, and inclusion. The company's Community Investment program focuses

on projects that support Indigenous and tribal communities, promote sustainability, and build resilient relationships.

These principles are strongly aligned with the County's goals for the Sandy Lake project.

Together, Sturgeon County, Pembina, and Project Forest will oversee the planting of more than 45,000 native trees across 22 hectares of land.

The rewilding process will help restore habitats for wildlife, improve the health of the soil and water systems, and create natural spaces for people

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## Midstream Support Society uplifts Morinville with compassion, connection, and community care

By Shelley Winger

Since its incorporation as a nonprofit organization in 1995, the Midstream Support Society has quietly but powerfully made life better for Morinville residents in need.

What began under the umbrella of Morinville's Family & Community Support Services has grown into a 100% volunteer-led organization dedicated to helping those who find themselves

“mid-stream” – not eligible for government support, yet not financially secure enough to stand alone.

For nearly three decades, Midstream has been a reliable source of hope, helping people bridge the gap during some of life's most challenging moments.

Whether it's the single parent struggling to pay a bill, the senior on a fixed income trying to stay warm through winter,

or the family navigating a tough month – Midstream steps in with practical help and a compassionate approach.

Midstream operates a well-known thrift store in the heart of town and uses 100% of proceeds to directly support the local community. There are no paid staff. A team of just 12 volunteers manages all aspects of the store and programs, offering their time and energy to

help individuals and families navigate hardship with dignity and hope.

The store itself is more than just a second-hand shop – it's a welcoming place where neighbours say hello, regulars come in for a quick browse and a friendly chat, and donors drop off items knowing they'll be put to good use.

Every box of donated goods and every purchase made helps fund local support

programs, creating a ripple effect that spreads far beyond the store's walls.

Midstream's purpose has always remained clear: to assist low-income residents of Morinville. It accepts gently used clothing, bedding, housewares, books, CDs and DVDs, tools, women's accessories, pillows and cushions, small furniture, and small appliances in working condition.

Items not accepted

include large appliances (fridges, stoves, washers, dryers), TVs, computers, cribs, baby car seats, and anything in need of repair.

Thanks to strong community support and donor generosity, Midstream was able to contribute more than \$52,000 in 2024 to help residents through a range of local programs and services, including: Jessie's House, Morinville

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# Morinville advances multiple infrastructure projects to enhance community living

By Haylee Winger

As of July 24, 2025, the Town of Morinville is actively progressing several key infrastructure projects designed to improve roads, sidewalks, parks, and trails throughout the community. Many of these projects began earlier this summer and are scheduled for completion by fall 2025. These efforts aim to enhance safety, accessibility, and the overall quality of life for residents.

The Residential Road Rehabilitation Program is currently underway, focusing on reconstructing roads, replacing concrete curbs, gutters, sidewalks, and repairing underground utilities along 97A Avenue between 99 Street and 98 Avenue. Construction began in June and will continue through August. Residents in the affected area should expect temporary parking and driveway

disruptions lasting several days, with vehicle and pedestrian access carefully managed by flag persons.

Similarly, the Arterial Road Rehabilitation Program is in progress with asphalt overlay work on 100 Street, south of 100 Avenue. Scheduled from June to September, the project is causing temporary traffic disruptions, though vehicle and pedestrian movement is controlled to minimize inconvenience.

The multi-use trail development rehabilitation on the Fish and Game Pond Trail started in June and will continue through September. Some sections of the trail are barricaded, but disruptions remain minimal.

Sidewalk rehabilitation is ongoing at various locations throughout the town with barricaded sections and is expected to continue until October with minimal

impacts.

The Sunshine Lake Park Playground is closed for infrastructure rehabilitation through October 2025 to ensure public safety during construction.

At Town Hall, the generator installation and commissioning project began in April and will continue through September. Restricted access to some areas of the Town Hall parking lot and intermittent construction noise are expected during this time.

Pedestrian safety improvements are taking place at multiple locations throughout Morinville and will continue through October. Barricaded sections have been implemented, with minimal impact on traffic.

Finally, the Alley and Parking Lot Program, planned for the MCCC and MLC parking lots, remains to be scheduled. When

construction begins, affected sections of the parking lots will be barricaded to ensure safety.

The Town of

Morinville encourages residents to stay informed about these ongoing projects and to plan accordingly.

The community's

patience and cooperation are greatly appreciated as these essential infrastructure improvements progress.

## Sandy Lake

Continued from page 1

to enjoy.

It's a project that aims to breathe new life into a once-degraded area while fostering community pride and involvement.

Beyond the environmental benefits, the project is a symbol of collaboration and shared purpose. It reflects a growing recognition that sustainability is not just about protecting land, but about building relationships – with the environment, with one another, and with the cultural histories that shape our communities.

Sturgeon County sees this as the beginning of a long-term effort to protect its



Sturgeon County photo

natural spaces while bringing people together in the process.

As the rewilding of Sandy Lake begins, local residents and community members are encouraged to stay involved.

Opportunities to participate – such as

volunteer planting days and educational programs – will be announced in the coming months.

This project is about more than planting trees. It's about growing a legacy that future generations can take pride in.



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Nomination deadline is noon on September 22



**Midstream Support Society**

*Continued from page A1*

Food Bank, Morinville & Area Social Supports (FCSS, Town Navigator), Morinville Eat Well Baskets & Workshops, emergency assistance for Morinville residents, Morinville K-9 School nutrition programs, Morinville Santa Store Auction, Knights of Columbus Christmas Hamper Program, FCSS Community Dinners, Morinville SCARS (Second Chance Animal Rescue), Morinville Curling Club, and Morinville Legion community events.

Each program supported by Midstream has its own story – a child who gets a warm meal at school, a family that can turn the heat back on, or a community dinner that brings isolated seniors together over a home-cooked meal.

These are the quiet but powerful outcomes that make the work so meaningful.

Midstream's only fundraiser, the Santa Store Auction, is a long-standing Morinville tradition that began in 1998.

In 2024 alone, the auction raised over \$24,000 to provide Christmas gifts for children and help families with bills and essential expenses.

This single event, driven by the generosity of local donors and

bidders, enables Midstream to spread joy and relief during the holidays to those who need it most.

Behind every dollar raised and every box unpacked is a group of volunteers who believe in doing good for its own sake.

Their dedication is what keeps Midstream running strong year after year, quietly supporting Morinville in ways that truly matter.

Midstream is committed to continuing its role as a pillar of compassion in Morinville. Its leadership and volunteers are

proud of what they've built – and are always looking for new people to join the team.

Those interested in volunteering are encouraged to call or visit the store to learn more.

In a world where small acts of kindness can feel few and far between, Midstream Support Society is a reminder that generosity doesn't have to be loud to be life-changing.

Sometimes, it's as simple as a neighbour helping a neighbour – and that's where the magic begins.



Tristan, proudly known as "The Freezie Kid," was all smiles as he handed out jumbo freezies during SHINE Beyond Limits' pop-up playground event at Morinville Spray Park. With his vibrant Pikachu outfit and kind heart, this young entrepreneur offered more than just cool treats – he created moments of joy. Equipped with special coupons, kids were invited to choose their favorite flavor, which Tristan carefully opened and served with a grin. His simple act of generosity and community spirit was a sweet reminder of how even the smallest among us can make the biggest impact. – SHINE beyond limits photo

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## August Meetings and Important Dates

Meeting schedule is subject to change. Members of the public are welcome to observe or listen in. For teleconference details and links to the livestream, click on the meetings notice in the following locations:

- Council Meetings:** [SturgeonCounty.ca/CouncilMeetings](https://sturgeoncounty.ca/CouncilMeetings)
- Board and Committee Meetings:** [SturgeonCounty.ca/Boards](https://sturgeoncounty.ca/Boards)
- Public Hearings:** [SturgeonCounty.ca/Notices](https://sturgeoncounty.ca/Notices)

<i>Heritage Day</i>	<i>Aug 4</i>	<i>Closed</i>
Subdivision and Development Appeal Board Hearing	Aug 5	2:00 PM
County Bounty	Aug 9	9:00 AM
Alberta Open Farm Days	Aug 16	
Alberta Open Farm Days	Aug 17	
Subdivision and Development Appeal Board Hearing	Aug 19	2:00 PM
Council Returns	Aug 25	
Regular Council /Committee of the Whole	Aug 26	9:00 AM



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# Empty Bowl Pet Supply Program helping local pet owners in need

The Empty Bowl Pet Supply Program is quietly making a big difference in the lives of local pet owners who are facing financial hardship or unexpected life challenges. The initiative provides food and basic supplies for dogs and cats,

helping ensure that pets can stay with their families, even during difficult times. The program accepts donations year-round, and there's currently a high demand for items such as dry and wet dog food, dry and wet cat

food, and cat litter. Donations can be dropped off during regular business hours at two convenient Morinville locations: the Morinville Community Cultural Centre and the Morinville Veterinary Clinic, located at 9804 90 Avenue. For many families,

pets are more than animals – they're companions and emotional support. The Empty Bowl Program helps bridge the gap when times get tough, keeping pets where they belong: at home, with the people who love them.

## Confidence boost: Small business outlook better in July

By Rob Roach, ATB ECONOMICS

As we've noted, U.S. trade policy has been in flux for so long, we've started to get used to it. As a result, the sense of uncertainty created by tariffs has, while still very high, been falling since March.

In the same way, the normalization of tariffs may be part of the reason business confidence both nationally and provincially in Alberta has doubled since March.

According to the July edition of the Business Barometer® from the Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB), the long-term (12-month) sentiment index went from just 25.5 in March to 50.9 in

July. In Alberta, the index went from 25.2 in March to 55.8 in July. It's a similar story for the short-term (3-month) confidence index in Alberta falling from 51.6 in February to 12.9 in March only to climb back to 55.2 by July.

The July levels are not particularly strong readings,

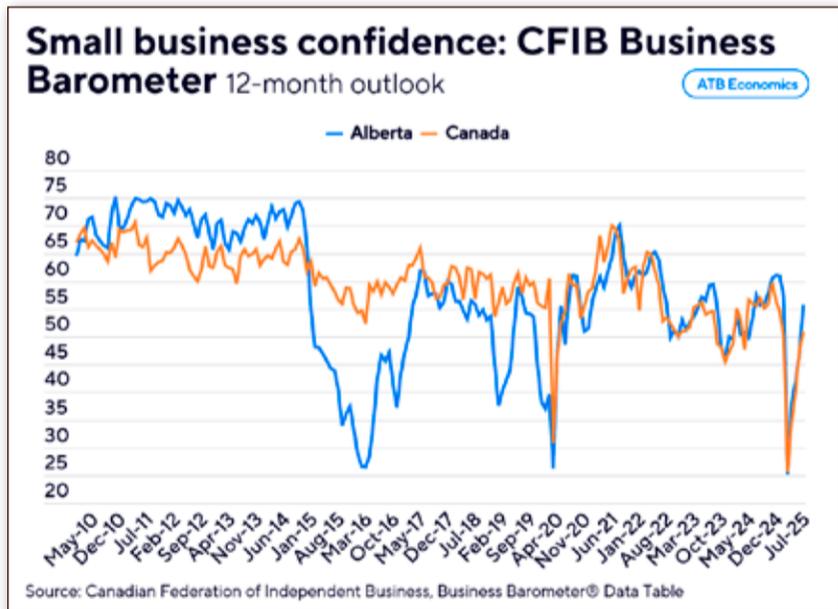
but the improvement since the spring is an amazing turnaround in a short period – a period during which U.S. tariffs and tariff threats dominated the economic news and Canadian countertariffs were being charged on a wide range of U.S. imports.

Perhaps it was the fact that the Canadian and U.S.

economies haven't performed as badly as feared and the potential of a trade deal with the U.S. that would minimize the damage from tariffs were enough to lift the confidence of small business operators from the depths seen in March?

This could, however, change quickly

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### Blaine Clare Gardiner

November 6, 1947 – July 15, 2025

Predeceased by: Mother, Katherine Sutherland; Father, Maurice Gardiner; Stepfather, Charles Sutherland; Brother, Lyle Gardiner; Sister, Adelle Groff; Fur family: Smokee and Lady. Lovingly survived by: Wife, Anna Gardiner; Daughters, Wanda (Chris), Yvonne (Jim), and Kathryn (Dan); Grandchildren, Brandon, Tasia (Josh), Victor and Jacob, Liam and Brianna; Brothers, Lionel (Lois) and Glen (Francis); Sister, Louise; and many many cousins, nephews, nieces, and friends. Blaine was born to Katherine and Maurice Gardiner in Clair, Saskatchewan, and had five siblings – Lyle (deceased), Lionel and Louise, Adelle, and Glen. After his dad's passing in 1961, his mother married Charlie Sutherland. They all grew up in the Wadena/ Clair area; from there they all went off to build their own lives. Blaine moved to Regina and worked as a long-haul trucker. He met Beverley Ealey; they were married in 1972 and had three daughters – Wanda, Yvonne, and Kathryn. After divorcing, he moved to Edmonton, where he met Anna Wasyleshko, and they married on December 21, 1985. Blaine worked for many years at CFB Edmonton as a civilian driver until a fall resulted in him being on long-term disability in 1995. Blaine loved family and friends and went out of his way to visit and keep in touch with everyone. In May of 1988, he and Anna bought an acreage that they both cherished and loved, where he remained until his recent passing. An avid outdoors-man, he would attend yearly hunting and fishing trips, and everyone looked forward to all the BBQs that resulted. Anna and Blaine had a love of camping; they would load up their RV and travel all over British Columbia, Alberta, and Saskatchewan. This gave them the opportunity to attend family and friends events or just stop in for a visit. He loved his grand-kids so much – all kids, for that matter! He would have them out to ski/toboggan on his ski hill, camp out in the "Chalet," and for BBQs and bonfires. He even brought the Scouts out to partake in these winter activities. He taught his grand-kids how to cut the grass on the riding lawn mower and woodworking as well as hunting and fishing. He was very detailed in recalling historical family information and did his best to make sure all his children and grandchildren were also aware of the history. We will all miss his special "top-ups" on our coffee while we were camping, sitting around with our tequila shots, or a good glass of wine. His favourite, unfortunately, was Royal Red, but that was being refined over the years. He always made sure we had a beer or wine in our hands. He was an exceptional storyteller and jokester because he had so many experiences that no one ever heard the same story twice. As he was telling the stories, you were so glued to the information, as he had such a wonderful talent in the delivery that you would be sore for days from laughing so hard. He loved to cook and would make sure you had a full stomach. If you left hungry, that would be "your own damn fault." He would always be willing to share a recipe or try a new one and then tweak it to make it his own. Blaine was talented at bartering and was always trading, as he could see the value in everything. One of those trades resulted in his beloved moped with a butterfly on a spring. He would teach the kids and grandkids to ride it, and once you rode it, you would officially become part of his Butterfly gang. He even let his own mother ride it, but that did not go as expected. She fell and broke her arm, but she was proud to say she saved the butterfly. While at home he developed a love for birds and wildlife. He would feed all of them from his back deck and developed a connection with each and every one of them. They seemed to know who he was and would watch for him where they would have conversations. We think they even understood one another! He had his beloved cats as well that meant the world to him – Smokee and then Lady. Blaine lived his life with energy and a fullness that he was proud of, and his family cherished every moment with him. He will be missed by everyone that came in contact with him, as his personality, charm, and character made him a memorable person, and everyone enjoyed him. At Blaine's request there will not be a service. There will be a private inurnment held at a later date for only close family. Arrangements entrusted to the care of Sturgeon Memorial Funeral Home, Bon Accord, Alberta (780) 921-3900.



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**CFIB Business**  
 Continued from page 6  
 depending on what the trade deal with the U.S. looks like, especially whether or not the exemption for Canada-U.S.-Mexico-compliant goods will continue and how the sector-specific tariffs will be treated. So while it is good to see business confidence improving, we

are still waiting for more clarity on tariffs and their impact on the economy.  
 \*The long-term optimism index is based on how businesses expect to be performing in 12 months while the short-term optimism index is based on how businesses expect to be performing in 3

months. Measured on a scale between 0 and 100, an index above 50 means owners expecting their business's performance to be stronger outnumber those expecting weaker performance. An index level near 65 normally indicates that the economy is growing at its potential.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND CLAIMANTS**

Estate of **DANIEL LEONARD DETONNANCOUR**, who died on **May 19, 2025**.

If you have a claim against this Estate, you must file your claim by **September 19**.

with **MARK W. KROCHAK**  
 at Peterson Krochak  
 Barristers & Solicitors  
 #200W, 14310 - 111 Avenue NW  
 Edmonton, Alberta T5M 3Z7  
 File #102,652mwwk

and provide details of your claim.

If you do not file by the date above, the Estate property can lawfully be distributed without regard to any claim you may have.

**YOUR CAREER AD AT WWW.MORINVILLEPRESS.COM**





2025 MUNICIPAL ELECTION



**Interested in running for Sturgeon County Council in the 2025 Municipal Election?**

Information and resources at  
<https://engage.sturgeoncounty.ca/2025-municipal-election>

Scan the QR code with your mobile device for more information.



# NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

Proposed Land Use Bylaw Amendment-Bylaw Nos. 10/2025 and 11/2025

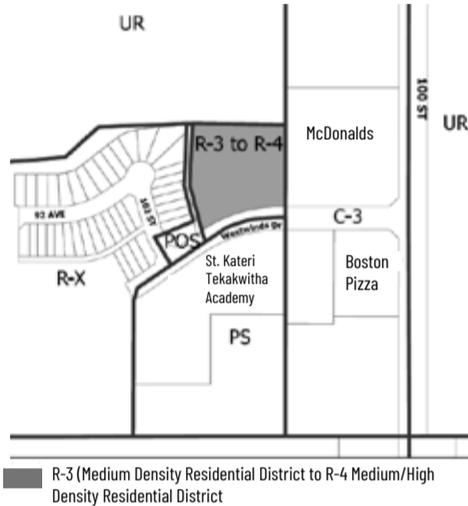
**Tuesday, August 26, 2025 at 4 p.m.**

**Council Chambers, Morinville Civic Hall: 2nd floor, 10125 100 Avenue, Morinville**

Advance registration to speak in-person is encouraged but not required. Written submissions and registration to speak by video conference must be submitted by 4 p.m., August 25, 2025 to ensure your submission is added to the agenda package and that you receive instructions to access the video conference; to do so, email [legislativeofficer@morinville.ca](mailto:legislativeofficer@morinville.ca). Learn more at [morinville.ca/speak-before-council](http://morinville.ca/speak-before-council) & find "Public Hearings." View a copy of the report relating to the Bylaws at [www.morinville.ca/councilcalendar](http://www.morinville.ca/councilcalendar) and select July 08, 2025, Regular Meeting of Council.

### Bylaw 10/2025

Land Use Bylaw Amendment 10/2025 redistricts ~0.957 ha of lands legally described as Plan 2520687; Block 1; Lot 10, located in Westwinds neighborhood, from Medium Density Residential (R-3) to Medium/High Density Residential (R-4) District, to allow higher density residential development creating the opportunity to introduce a variety of housing forms. This proposal aligns with higher-level plans.



### Bylaw 11/2025

Land Use Bylaw Amendment 11/2025 reduces the number of direct control districts and redistricts a total of nine (9) properties to standard districts. Text amendments clarify Council's role as the approval authority and include changes regarding provincial election signage regulations.



DC-1 Direct Control General to C5 Neighborhood Commercial DC-3-4 (Site-Specific Direct Control Small Lot Residential to R-X Residential Mixed Form DC-3-6 (Site-Specific Direct Control Duplex and Multi-Unit Residential to R-X Residential Mixed Form DC-2 Direct Control-Special to PS Public and Private Service DC-2 Direct Control-Special to C-2 General Commercial



#### How Do I Get More Information?

Contact Planning and Economic Development at 780-939-7635 or [planning@morinville.ca](mailto:planning@morinville.ca) or visit [morinville.ca](http://morinville.ca)

Share YOUR Voice. We're listening.



**NEW**

#### AFFORDABLE FOUR BEDROOM MOBILE!

This mobile home is two single-wides attached to each other, offering over 1200 sq ft of space! The large entry offers a boot closet as well as additional storage and flex space for a dining room, family room, or office. The open concept kitchen has a new island and opens onto the living room and flex room. Down the hall are the bedrooms – a primary bedroom with a TWO PIECE ENSUITE as well as three additional bedrooms sharing a four piece bathroom with new flooring. Outside is a front deck, two storage sheds, and room to park for three vehicles! Lot fees of ONLY \$595/mo and taxes of \$780 for 2025. Easy access to main street Morinville. This mobile home is waiting for you to make it your own! **Only \$60,000. Call Glenn to view.**



**SOLD**

#### 4 BEDROOM WITH GARAGE IN THORHILD

Well kept 3 + 1 bedroom split level home in Thorhild. Upgrades in the past few years include exterior and interior paint, shingles, living room & kitchen flooring, furnace & h/w tank. Two west windows will be replaced before possession. Main floor features a large eat-in country kitchen with plenty of cabinets, a large living room and storage closets. Upper floor has a good size primary bedroom with double closets and two additional bedrooms. The main bathroom has lots of cabinet and counter space as well as a linen closet and a convenient door to the Primary Bedroom as well. Basement has laundry area, large 4th bedroom and 3 pce bathroom. There is lots of additional storage space in the crawl space. Back yard has a 22'x16' garage with attached 22'x16' covered carport. Just needs the walls on the carport and you would have a nice double garage. **\$194,900. Call Heather to view.**



**NEW**

#### COMMERCIAL LOT IN THORHILD

1.24 acres of open land ready to develop into your commercial endeavor. High level land on the outskirts of the Hamlet of Thorhild. Paved road in front, gravel road on one side. Utilities are nearby. Thorhild is a small hamlet with lots of potential for growth and new business. Located approximately an hour NE of Edmonton. **\$59,900. Call Heather for more info.**



**REDUCED TO \$169,900**

#### THORHILD BUNGALOW

This well built 2+2 bedroom bungalow has all its original vintage decor from 1967 when it was built. It features original mahogany cabinets, doors and trim along with built in decorative shelving. There is a small pantry in the kitchen and a clothes chute from main floor to basement. Basement has a large family room, two bedrooms, cold room and laundry/furnace area. There is roughed in plumbing for a future bathroom in basement as well. Shingles around 10 years old and hot water tank is only a few years old. Newer vinyl plank flooring in kitchen. Large 50'x130' lot with lots of mature trees and perennial flowers, storage shed, and concrete block patio. Move in and upgrade the home to your own personal preferences when you choose to. Located in Thorhild, just under an hour to Edmonton. Thorhild has everything you need including a grocery store, hardware store, dental office, K-9 school, restaurants and even an outdoor swimming pool. **\$169,900. Call Heather to view.**



**REDUCED TO \$485,000**

#### FAMILY HOME IN FORT SASKATCHEWAN

Welcome to over 1900 sq feet of space for your family! The main floor features an open concept kitchen, dining, and living room with HARDWOOD FLOORS, 2-piece bath and laundry/mud room with access to the double attached garage. Upstairs are the bonus room, two bedrooms, a 4-piece bath, and the primary bedroom with a walk-in closet and 5-piece ensuite including a jacuzzi tub. The unfinished basement is ready for customization to your needs. Walk onto the 18'x14' deck from the dining room to overlook your sunny south facing back yard - with access to a walking trail perfect for dogs, a morning jog, or taking the kids to the nearby playground. **\$485,000. Call Tara to view.**



#### 5 BEDROOM 3 BATH BUNGALOW NEAR WESTLOCK

Beautiful 3 acres with 1770 sq ft 2+3 bdrm, 3 bath bungalow with fully finished bsmt and 30'x28' attached heated garage just a few minutes NW of Westlock, about a half hour to St Albert. Home has had substantial upgrades over the past 20 years including siding, soffits, paint, HOT WATER ON DEMAND, high efficiency furnace, wood stove, and back deck. In 2018 CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING was added along with a GENSET SYSTEM which automatically turns on if the power goes out and powers the whole house and at that time new flooring and a maintenance free front deck were also added. Other features are in floor heating in basement, pantry, 3 pce ensuite with soaker tub, main floor laundry, main floor office, back up sump pump system. Heated garage built in 2016 has 2 floor drains and a handy back porch area for boots and coats. Main floor also has a large flex room and office space. Garden area and raised garden beds, storage sheds, mature trees and view from front deck of a small lake complete this great property. **\$524,900. Call Heather to view.**



## GLENN FISHER TEAM



**REAL ESTATE**

Each office independently owned & operated.

10018 - 100 Avenue, MORINVILLE

Website: [www.glennfisher.com](http://www.glennfisher.com) Email: [glenn@glennfisher.com](mailto:glenn@glennfisher.com)



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