

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
For Our next Household Hazardous Waste Round-Up

May 2026			
Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			01 02
			03 04
			05 06
			07 08 09

May 9 - 10 am - 2 pm
Morinville Leisure Centre



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

Wildfire season begins in Alberta: Residents urged to prepare

By Haylee Winger



March 1 marked the official start of wildfire season in Alberta, and residents are encouraged to

begin preparing their homes, properties and families for the months ahead. One of the most effective steps homeowners can take is clearing combustible materials from around their homes. Experts recommend removing items such as dry leaves, branches, firewood, yard debris

and lawn furniture from within five feet of buildings to help reduce the risk of fire spreading. Pet and livestock owners are also encouraged to develop evacuation plans. Having a strategy in place for safely moving animals during an emergency can save valuable time if an

evacuation is ordered. Using FireSmart practices to protect livestock areas, barns and other outbuildings can also help reduce wildfire risk. Staying informed throughout wildfire season is another key step in preparedness. Residents can download the Alberta Wildfire mobile app or visit

the provincial wildfire website to receive the latest updates on active fires and conditions across the province. Residents are also reminded to review local regulations regarding responsible burning and fire permits. Information about safe burning practices and permit

requirements can be found on local municipal fire service websites. Wildfires are one of several natural hazards that can affect communities each year. Understanding the risks and taking steps early in the season can help protect homes, families and property.

Income tax season underway

By Shelley Winger



Income tax season is officially underway, and residents of Morinville and surrounding communities are being encouraged to prepare early. For most individuals, the filing deadline is April 30, while self-employed individuals and their spouses have until June 15 to file, though any balance owing is still due by April 30. Gathering documents such as T4 slips, receipts for childcare, medical expenses, and charitable donations can help make filing easier and ensure

all eligible deductions and credits are claimed. Filing early also gives residents more time to take advantage of benefits such as the Canada Child Benefit and the GST/HST credit, which depend on accurate and timely returns. Local experts emphasize the importance of planning ahead. Organizing paperwork, reviewing past tax returns, and making note of any life changes, such as a new job, a move, or changes in dependents, can help prevent mistakes and reduce stress during filing. For residents seeking assistance, several resources are available locally. Morinville families can choose to file

through professional tax services in town or use the Canada Revenue Agency's online services, which allow electronic filing, access to past tax information, and direct deposit setup. Free tax help is also available for those who qualify. The Community Volunteer Income Tax Program runs volunteer-led clinics across Alberta for people with modest incomes and simple tax situations. Clinics may be in person, over the phone, or virtual, and typically run through March and April. Additionally, the Sage Seniors Association in Edmonton offers free tax preparation for low-income seniors aged 55 and older, providing support for those with

basic tax returns. These programs give residents an opportunity to file accurately without paying for professional services. Residents are encouraged to pay attention to deadlines and avoid last-minute filings, which can lead to delays and errors. Even small mistakes, such as missing a receipt or forgetting to report a benefit, can affect refunds or future eligibility for government programs. Organizing documents, reviewing deadlines, and using available resources can reduce stress and help ensure taxes are filed correctly. For more information on filing, benefits, or locating a



Councillor Nathan Himschoot is serving as Deputy Mayor for the Town of Morinville from February 24 to June 23, a rotating position shared among council members, with each member serving two four-month terms. In this role, Deputy Mayor Himschoot will represent the town, support council initiatives, and provide leadership within the community. - **Town of Morinville photo**

Continued on **page 7**

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Chamber hosts luncheon with insightful talk by Dale Nally



Morinville Chamber of Commerce photo

The Chamber hosted a successful luncheon recently, welcoming all attendees.

A special thanks was extended to Dale Nally for speaking about current events in

Alberta, and to Bistro Di Madre Piccola for providing a delicious lunch.

Country Living Expo to celebrate rural life in Morinville

By Haylee Winger



The Country Living Expo 2026 will take place on Saturday, March 28, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Morinville Community Cultural Centre, offering residents an opportunity to explore rural lifestyles, agriculture and hands-on learning.

The expo highlights many aspects of country living, bringing together community members, hobbyists and rural residents for a day of education, demonstrations and local vendors.

Topics range from gardening and food preservation to ecology and small-scale agriculture.

Throughout the day, a series of free workshops will give visitors the chance to learn from experienced presenters.

While tickets are not required, registering for the event can help with planning and ensure attendees

receive updates and reminders.

The first session begins at 10:30 a.m. with *Who's Bugging Your Garden?*, a presentation exploring the diverse insect life found in gardens.

Attendees will learn how to identify both beneficial and harmful insects, including pollinators and natural predators, and discover practical ways to encourage a healthier and more balanced garden environment.

At 11:30 a.m., the workshop *Grate Expectations: Inside Cheesemaking* will introduce visitors to the art and science of cheese production.

Ian, an award-winning cheesemaker with more than 10 years of professional experience, will discuss the production process, highlight key techniques and share resources for continued learning.

At 12:30 p.m., *The Power of Native Plants* will focus on the role native species play in supporting healthy ecosystems.

The presentation will explore what native plants are, why they are important and

how they can be incorporated into gardens, yards and even small container spaces.

At 1:30 p.m., *More Than Meets the Spore: Mushrooms of Sturgeon County* will explore the fascinating world of fungi.

The session will highlight several mushroom species found in the region and explain how fungi contribute to soil health and thriving natural environments.

The final workshop of the day, *Kind of a Big Dill: Mastering Pickling Basics*, begins at 2:30 p.m.

This presentation will cover traditional pickling techniques used to preserve seasonal harvests, including preparation methods, safety considerations and variations for preserving food at home.

In addition to the workshops, the expo will feature a variety of vendors and exhibitors showcasing products, services and information related to agriculture, gardening, food production and rural living.

Register for programs online at www.sturgeoncounty.ca.

Behind the wheel: life as a school bus driver in Morinville

By Shelley Winger



The alarm rings at 6:30 a.m., and winter mornings in Morinville mean one thing: checking the weather and road conditions before stepping outside.

For this school bus driver – who has chosen to remain anonymous – these first minutes set the tone for the day ahead.

“I start my personal vehicle to warm it up, then make my way to the bus,” she explains.

“Along the way, I assess the roads. Some days are smooth sailing, but on rural routes, whiteouts or icy patches can make visibility nearly impossible.”

Once she reaches

her bus, she unplugs it, starts the engine, and walks around to ensure everything is safe. Then begins the morning route – a journey that might be calm one day and treacherous the next.

On particularly difficult days, she communicates with her supervisor, who can notify parents if delays occur.

Driving a bus might seem straightforward, but the job is far more complex than most realize.

“Most of the time, we’re alone. There’s no co-pilot – just me, responsible for anywhere from 10 to 72 kids,” she says.

“Every stop requires attention and patience. Some drivers get frustrated if we take an extra moment for a child who has a question or isn’t behaving properly.”

Winter driving is especially challenging. “You never know

what you’re going to get,” she says.

“Some days, the roads are clear. Other days, snow drifts, ice, and whiteouts make it hard to see. You have to stay calm, plan each turn carefully, and make sure every child is safe – even if it means being a little late.”

Even with the challenges, the rewards are clear.

“The smiles on the kids’ faces, the funny things they say... they make it all worthwhile. Kids always keep you on your toes. I cherish all the students I’ve had over the years – on routes, field trips, and everything in between.”

She notices the little things, too: the kids who grow up on her bus, the routines they follow, and the way their personalities shine during morning greetings or end-of-week goodbyes.

SP

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Community invited to Mental Health Lunch & Learn in Gibbons

By Haylee Winger



Residents of Gibbons and the surrounding area are being invited to take a pause from their busy schedules and focus on something that is often overlooked. Mental well-being.

A Mental Health Matters Lunch & Learn event will take place on April 26, 2026, from 12:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Gibbons Cultural Centre. The free program is open to individuals ages 16 and older and will offer an opportunity to learn about self-care, access local resources, and connect with others in a welcoming community setting.

The event is being organized in partnership with the Gibbons Family Resource Centre, the Gibbons Public Library, and Sturgeon County.

The session is designed to create a relaxed and supportive space where participants can learn about mental health and the everyday pressures that come with work, family life, and caregiving. The goal of the event is to encourage people to take time to check in with themselves and recognize the importance of their own mental well-being.

The Lunch & Learn will include a presentation focused on practical self-care strategies and mental health awareness. Attendees will also have the opportunity to learn about local supports and resources available in the

community.

In addition to the presentation, participants will be provided with a complimentary lunch and a light group activity, creating an opportunity for people to relax, share experiences, and build connections with others in the community.

Organizers note that the event may be particularly meaningful for parents, caregivers, and individuals who appreciate the value of supportive community spaces.

Registration is required for the free program and can be completed through the Sturgeon County programs page. Community members interested in attending are encouraged to register early to secure a spot.

Registration can be completed online at www.sturgeoncounty.ca/programs.

Strong season finish earns Morinville girls silver medal

Morinville Youth Basketball photo



The Morinville youth girls basketball team finished their season on a strong note. Throughout the season, the players worked hard and showed tremendous improvement.

In their final game, the team battled for rebounds and made several incredible shots, ultimately finishing the season with a silver medal.

Coach Ayakah said she could not have

been more proud of how far the girls had come over the course of the season.

Their dedication, teamwork, and determination were evident right to the final whistle.

Small Business Incentive Reopens Following Strong First-Year Results

Sturgeon County press release

Sturgeon County's Small Business Incentive (SBI) program reopens today, building on the measurable success achieved in its first year.

Launched in August 2025, the Small Business Incentive provides eligible businesses up to **\$5,000 in reimbursed matching funds** to invest in education, marketing, and equipment and technology upgrades.

A total of \$75,000 is available to support long-term growth, improve competitiveness, and encourage reinvestment within the local economy.

The results from the initial intake period demonstrate the program's impact:

- **19 applications received**
- **13 businesses approved** for funding
- **\$53,341.84** in matching funds awarded
- **\$192,697** generated in total private sector projects

This strong return shows how targeted public investment can stimulate broader economic activity.

Businesses used funding to improve irrigation systems, enhance security measures, and modernize equipment.

These upgrades increased efficiency, reduced labour demands, and strengthened overall operations.

"The early success of the Small Business Incentive shows how strategic, shared

investment can create ripple effects throughout our community," said Mark Morrissey, Director of Economic Innovation and Growth at Sturgeon County.

"By supporting entrepreneurs as they grow and modernize, we're strengthening the County's small business sector and building a more resilient local economy."

With the program now open again, eligible businesses are encouraged to apply early.

Funding is limited and will be awarded through scheduled intake periods.

For full program details, eligibility criteria, and application information, visit: investsturgeon.ca/incentives.

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Building the NAIT Advanced Skills Centre



Expanding the West Valley and Capital LRT lines and planning the LRT-airport connector



Building the Northern Alberta Compassionate Intervention Centre

Budget 2026 is focused on what matters to Edmonton, with record investments in health care and education, and a plan to keep our economy strong.

LEARN MORE

alberta.ca/budget



PUBLIC HEARING – BYLAW 1694/25 TO CLOSE AND DISPOSE OF PORTIONS OF RANGE ROAD 222

Sturgeon County Council requests public input on proposed Bylaw 1694/25.

This bylaw would close and dispose of a portion of Range Road 222, beginning 800 meters south of Highway 643, and north of Township Road 560. The subject area is within the Industrial Heartland, and alternate routes are available.

Learn more: sturgeoncounty.ca/public-hearing-bylaw-1694-25

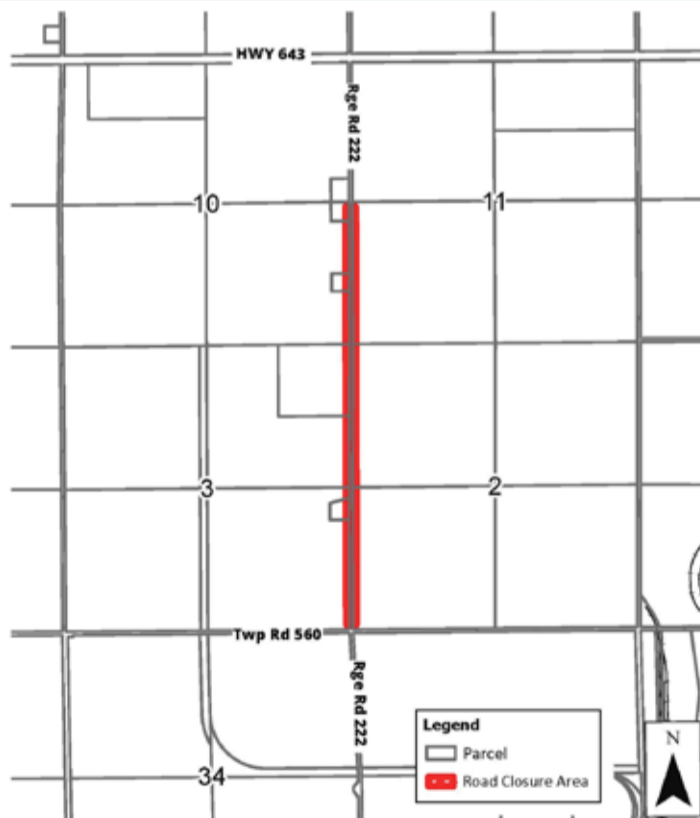
Public Hearing details

The Public Hearing will be held in person and via video conference on:
Tuesday, March 24, 2026 at 1 p.m. (or as soon as practical thereafter) at Sturgeon County Council Chambers (9613 100 St. in Morinville)

Questions? Contact us!

Kyle Schole
Senior Planner, Land Management
780-939-1397
kschole@sturgeoncounty.ca

Legal Land Description: All that portion of original government road allowance adjacent to the west boundary of the west half of Section 2 and west boundary of the southwest quarter of Section 11 and portion of Road Plan 252 0361 within southeast quarter of Section 3 Township 56 Range 22 west of the Fourth Meridian. Excepting thereout all mines and minerals.



Important information about Public Hearings

Requirements for speakers

All speakers have five minutes to speak and are encouraged to provide a written copy of their submission before the Public Hearing.

Speaking in person

To speak at the Public Hearing in person, contact Legislative Services at **780-939-8029** to register.

Speak via video conference (phone or video call-in)

To speak at the Public Hearing via videoconference, you must register by **March 23, 2026 at 1 p.m.** by contacting Legislative Services at **780-939-8029**. This ensures you receive instructions to access the videoconference.

Written submissions

Email your written submission to Legislative Services at legislativeservices@sturgeoncounty.ca. Written submissions are accepted up to the close of the Public Hearing. If making a written submission, you must include your name, state your interest in the matter (such as a County resident directly impacted by the proposed bylaw), and indicate if you are in favour of or opposed to the proposed bylaw.

Watching the Public Hearing

You can view the Public Hearing in person or online at sturgeoncounty.ca/CouncilMeetings.

To view the livestream, click on the meeting date on the calendar, then click on the video link.

By submitting comments on this bylaw, either orally or in writing, the personal information you provide may be recorded in the minutes of the public hearing or otherwise made public. This information is collected under section 4(c) of the Protection of Privacy Act (POPA). If you have any questions about the collection, use or disclosure of your personal information, please contact the Sturgeon County Access and Privacy Advisor at 780-939-1306 or accessandprivacy@sturgeoncounty.ca.





The Sabres U15 Boys wrapped up their season on a high note, winning another gold medal during the Feb. 28 weekend tournament. The team showed skill, determination, and great teamwork throughout the season, making their final victory well-deserved. – Morinville Youth Basketball photo



Members of the Mustangs SU402 team attended an Edmonton Oil Kings game following their silver-medal finish at Minor Hockey Week. – Sturgeon Hockey Club photo

Upcoming auctions

ANNUAL ANTIQUE AUCTION For Sheila Dumais & the late Ivan Dumais, 60441 RR 131 Vilna
 Sunday, April 12 – LIVE Auction
 Spedden Hall – Spedden, AB For information: Sheila – 587-579-6987

ACREAGE AUCTION – VILNA **ONLINE CONSIGNMENT AUCTION**
 Saturday, May 9 – LIVE Auction May 25–27, 59520 RR 135 – Vilna

For more information or to consign to one of these auctions call Danny at 780-645-1589

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RCMP

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Morinville RCMP respond to fatal two-vehicle collision

Morinville RCMP responded to a serious two-vehicle collision on Highway 44 at Township Road 572 on the morning of March 2, 2026.

Police were first notified of the crash at approximately 7:36 a.m. Emergency responders attended the scene and located a 31-year-old man, the sole occupant of a Dodge Charger, who was pronounced deceased.

The driver and only occupant of the second vehicle, a 72-year-old man operating a GMC pickup truck, was transported to hospital

with injuries.

Traffic in the area was diverted for several hours while officers conducted their investigation. Motorists experienced delays as police remained on scene gathering evidence and assessing the circumstances of the collision.

The investigation has since concluded, the roadway has been cleared, and normal traffic flow has resumed.

Morinville RCMP extend their sincere condolences to the family and friends of the deceased.

Sturgeon County Dust Suppression



Sturgeon County offers three options for dust suppression to help reduce dust created by vehicle traffic on gravel roads. See our website for details on the three options.



Early bird deadline is April 16, 2026

TYPES OF DUST SUPPRESSION	OIL	MINERAL OIL	CALCIUM
First 100m	\$4,165	\$1,097	\$405
Each Additional 10m	\$494	\$187.20	\$118

A late fee of \$100 is applied to orders received after April 16, 2026. No orders will be accepted after May 17, 2026.

Download application forms:
sturgeoncounty.ca/dust-suppression

Questions?
 Call: 780-939-8252 | Toll Free: 1-866-939-9303
 Email: DustSuppression@sturgeoncounty.ca



2026 LIMITED CONTROL AREA AGREEMENTS

NOW AVAILABLE

Sturgeon County residents interested in managing vegetation on municipally owned road allowances adjacent to their properties can now apply for the Limited Control Area Agreement.

To submit your application, fill out the agreement form on our website. Scan the QR code to access it.



If you need assistance, call Open Space & Agricultural Services at 780-939-8349.



Morinville RE/MAX realtors donate \$16,719 to Stollery Children's Hospital



Blair Borle Mortgage Architects photo

The Morinville RE/MAX office recently donated \$16,719 to the Stollery Children's Hospital, continuing a long-standing tradition of support from

northern Alberta RE/MAX agents. This year marks a significant milestone, with total donations from the region surpassing \$10 million.

The office expressed gratitude to clients, noting that their trust in RE/MAX for real estate transactions helped make this achievement possible.

Full tables, tight margins: 2025 dining out and travel recap

By Siddhartha Bhattacharya, ATB ECONOMICS

Building on our previous analysis of Alberta's retail spending patterns and their key drivers in 2025, today's Twenty-Four dives into Alberta's restaurant sales and international travel trends over the past year.

Spending up, but diners show restraint

Food services and drinking establishments posted stronger revenues in 2025 across the country with national sales up 5.6%.

Alberta establishments saw a notable 5.9% increase, improving on the 2.9% gain in 2024.

While the overall increase in revenues is significant, the picture is less rosy when adjusting for restaurant food prices and population growth.

Real* per capita restaurant sales only grew by 1.9% last year.

While this is encouraging given the 5.2% decline in real per capita sales in 2024, it still trails the 10-year average by 2.5%.

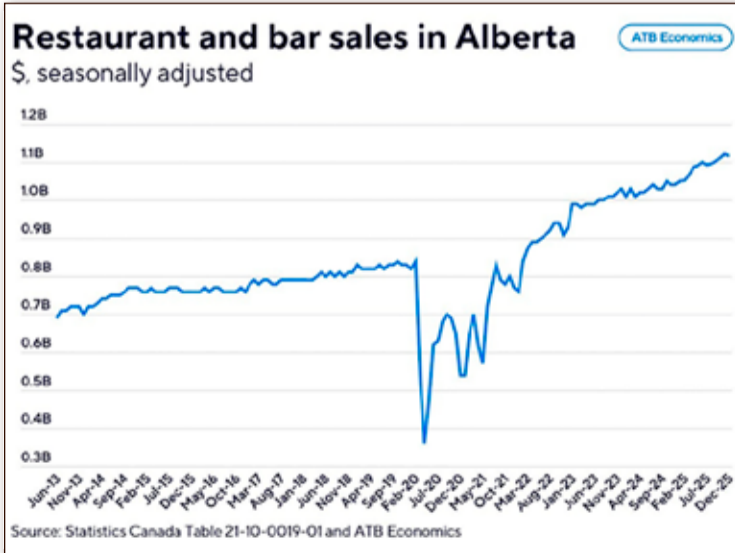
Profitability a challenge amidst cost and labour pressures

Despite overall sales growth, profitability in the restaurant sector remains under strain. Since the pandemic, restaurant price

appreciation has lagged behind grocery price hikes, as we have shown, suggesting that operators are absorbing escalating costs rather than passing them on fully to consumers.

A November 2025 report from Restaurants Canada indicated that 44% of operators were either losing money or just breaking

Continued on page 7



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Town of Bon Accord

Notice is hereby given that, under the provisions of the Municipal Government Act, the Town of Bon Accord will offer for sale, by public auction, in the Town of Bon Accord Council Chambers, 5025 50 Avenue, Bon Accord, Alberta, on Friday, March 27, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., the following land:

ROLL NUMBER	LOT	BLOCK	PLAN	C. of T.
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73300	33	9	729833	232 153 173

Each parcel will be offered for sale subject to a reserve bid and to the reservations and conditions contained in the existing certificate of title.

Town of Bon Accord may, after the public auction, become the owner of any parcel of land not sold at the public auction.

Redemption may be affected by payment of all arrears of taxes and costs at any time prior to the sale.

Terms: Cash or certified cheque. GST will apply.

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Dining out & travel recap
Continued from page 6

even, up from 41% in June and sharply higher than the 12% recorded in 2019.

The labour market remains a persistent challenge for the accommodation and food services sector,

which continues to face labour shortages.

As of Q3 2025, the sector's job vacancy rate was 4.9%, exceeding the 2.7% all-industry average in Alberta. Despite four consecutive years of growth since 2021, employment in this industry has only

just recovered to pre-2015 levels.

Travel a key driver of domestic activity

Cross-border travel appears to be a significant factor bolstering Alberta's dining activity.

Trade tensions with the U.S. influenced

travel patterns last year: the number of Albertans returning (via road and air) from the U.S. was down by 11.6%, while Alberta saw a rise in U.S. visitors (+6.7%) and visitors from other countries (+23.3%).

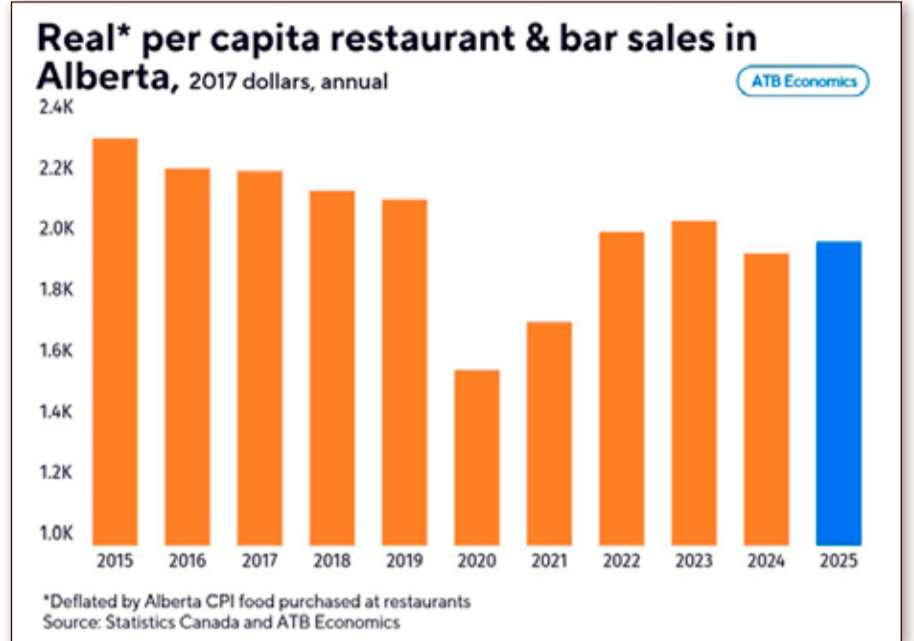
This influx of international travelers

contributed to record spending by foreign residents, reaching \$3.5 billion in the first nine months of 2025 – a 10% increase over 2024 levels.

The introduction of several new domestic and international flights in Calgary and Edmonton last year

supported this trend. Given the anticipated continued rise in domestic travel this year, we expect another positive year for the tourism sector in 2026.

**Deflated by the Alberta Consumer Price Index for food purchased at restaurants.*



Income tax season

Continued from page 1

With tax season in full swing, early preparation and awareness of resources can make the process smoother for Morinville residents, whether filing for the first time or reviewing years of previous returns.

With tax season in full swing, early preparation and awareness of resources can make the process smoother for Morinville residents, whether filing for the first time or reviewing years of previous returns.

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Health

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HIP/KNEE REPLACEMENT. Other medical conditions causing TROUBLE WALKING or DRESSING? The Disability Tax Credit allows for \$3,000 yearly tax credit and \$30,000 lump sum refund. Take advantage of this offer. Apply NOW; quickest refund Nationwide: Expert

help. 1-844-453-5372.

Heavy Equipment For Sale

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