

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

Sea to Sea for PTSD brings mental-health conversation to Morinville



By Shelley
Winger

A cross-country campaign focused on PTSD and mental health made a stop at the Royal Canadian

Legion Branch 176 in Morinville on Aug. 7, bringing people together for conversations, connections and access to mental-health resources. Sea to Sea for PTSD thanked the Morinville Legion, also

known as The Fox Hole, for hosting the group during its recent stop. The organization said the evening included conversations surrounding mental health, opportunities to meet people

connected with Sgt. John R. Little, and new connections within the community. Resources were also left behind for people who were unable to attend. Chad Kennedy, a Canadian Armed Forces veteran and medically retired Alberta Sheriff Highway Patrol officer, is behind the Sea to Sea campaign. Kennedy has shared his own experience with PTSD and the

challenges he faced in seeking help. "I share my story of PTSD as a veteran and medically retired Highway Patrol Sheriff," Kennedy said. For Kennedy, sharing that experience is part of an effort to encourage others to speak openly about their own mental health. "It's all about helping another person through their darkest times and providing resources," he said.

The 2026 Sea to Sea journey officially began in Sarnia, Ont., on June 1, with the team travelling toward Vancouver Island, where it plans to arrive by the end of September. The campaign is focused on raising awareness of PTSD and mental health and supporting public-safety personnel, military members and veterans.

Continued on **page 2**

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Sea to Sea for PTSD photo

Members of the Sea to Sea for PTSD campaign pose with a poster honouring the life and military service of Sgt. John R. Little during the group's Aug. 7 stop at the Morinville Legion.

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Sturgeon County declares agricultural disaster amid wet conditions



By Shelley Winger

Sturgeon County has declared an agricultural disaster for the 2026 growing season following ongoing concerns about excessive moisture, localized flooding and prolonged wet weather.

County council made the declaration during a special council meeting Aug. 6, following a recommendation from the Agricultural Service Board.

The County has been monitoring agricultural conditions throughout the region, with saturated agricultural land continuing to create challenges for producers.

The prolonged wet conditions have

affected field access, delayed seeding and harvest activities, hindered crop development and reduced overall agricultural productivity.

The County said continued moisture is raising concerns about crop health, reduced yields and forage production, while further wet weather could prevent or delay producers from completing necessary field operations.

The conditions are also creating increased financial and operational pressures for local farming operations.

Agriculture is a cornerstone of Sturgeon County's community and local economy, and the municipality is considering options to formally recognize the severity of the conditions and communicate concerns to

provincial and federal decision-makers.

The County is coordinating with neighbouring municipalities and regional partners to better understand the broader effects of the wet conditions and advocate for appropriate support measures.

Producers are encouraged to document the impacts to their operations and remain connected with municipal agricultural staff and available agricultural support programs as the situation develops.

Sturgeon County said it will continue working with producers, industry organizations and government partners to monitor conditions, gather information and advocate on behalf of those affected by flooding and excessive moisture.



Standing water fills a Sturgeon County field following prolonged wet weather this summer. Excessive moisture and localized flooding have delayed field operations and affected crop development across the region.



Sturgeon County photos



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Sea to Sea for PTSD

Continued from page 1

Kennedy has worked in law enforcement since 2004, most recently with the Alberta Sheriff Highway Patrol.

According to his biography on the Sea to Sea website, he was diagnosed with PTSD and anxiety in 2018 and later experienced a post-traumatic stress injury after responding to the Columbia Icefields bus crash in July 2020.

His experience eventually led him to seek intensive therapy and share his

story publicly, with the goal of encouraging others to ask for help.

The organization says its 2026 campaign is also raising funds for mental-health initiatives involving public-safety personnel and military and veteran communities.

This year's campaign includes an education-focused fund for children who have lost a parent to suicide in those communities.

During the Morinville visit, the Sea to Sea team also connected with people who knew or were

connected to Sgt. John R. Little.

A poster displayed at the Legion honours Little's life and military service and lists his dates as Aug. 7, 1985, to Nov. 22, 2021.

The Morinville Legion provided a setting for those conversations and connections, while the Sea to Sea team continued its broader journey across the country.

For Kennedy, the message behind the campaign remains simple: people struggling with mental health should not feel they have to face it alone.

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RCMP officers in Alberta will soon start wearing a new navy-blue uniform shirt

As part of on-going efforts to modernize the RCMP uniform, the RCMP is equipping officers with new navy-blue uniform shirts on a province-by-province basis. Commencing mid-August, 2026, frontline RCMP officers at RCMP detachments in Alberta will begin to wear their new navy-blue uniform shirts.

Members of the public should note that RCMP officers may still wear the previous grey uniform shirts for the foreseeable future, meaning they can be seen wearing either the grey or blue shirts on duty.

The RCMP understands that seeing a new uniform colour may cause confusion.

The RCMP also understands that there have been recent incidents of individuals impersonating police. If you have any concerns about the identity of the police officer you are interacting with, you can ask the officer for identification. You can also contact your local detachment's non-emergency line to determine if there is a police officer at your location.



PUBLIC HEARING – BYLAW 1713/26

LINGHAM EVENT VENUE REDISTRICTING

Sturgeon County Council requests public input on proposed Bylaw 1713/26.

The property owner would like to operate an event venue on their land at 55202 Range Road 230. This land is zoned as AG-Agriculture, which does not allow this type of activity.

The applicant is requesting the land be rezoned to AG2 – Agriculture 2 District, which would allow them to apply for an event venue development permit.

Each time land is rezoned, a bylaw is needed to amend the Land Use Bylaw, and a public hearing must be held.

Legal land description: SE-13-55-23-W4

Learn more:

sturgeoncounty.ca/public-hearing-bylaw-1713-26

Questions? Contact us!

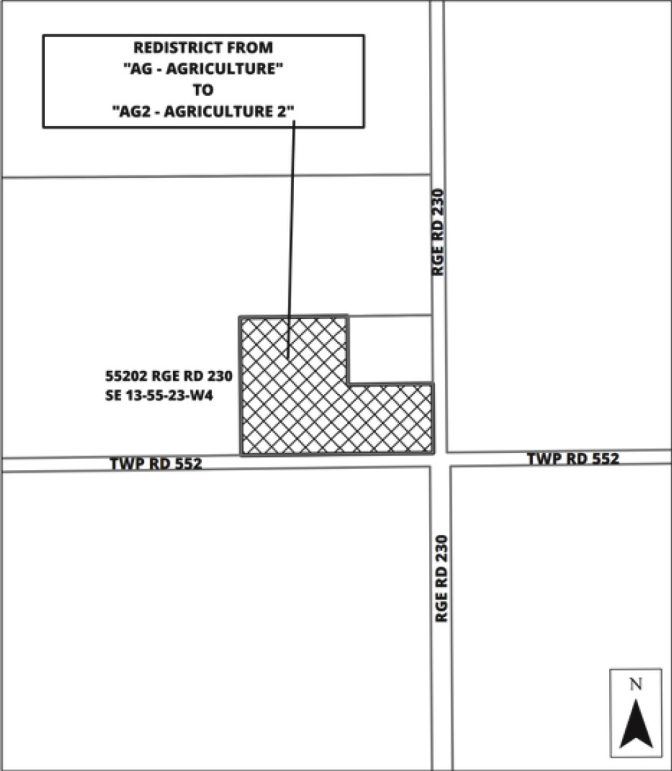
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REDISTRICT FROM "AG - AGRICULTURE" TO "AG2 - AGRICULTURE 2"



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 videoconference (phone or video call-in)

To speak at the Public Hearing via videoconference, you must register by **August 24, 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.

Morinville program helps families with back-to-school costs



By Haylee Winger

With the school year approaching, the cost of getting children ready for September can be a challenge for families already facing financial pressures.

In Morinville and Sturgeon County, a local partnership is helping make that transition a little easier.

The Rotary Club of Morinville Sturgeon and Morinville Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) are providing free backpacks filled with essential school supplies for local families experiencing financial challenges or going through a difficult time.

To qualify, students must live and attend school in Morinville or Sturgeon County.

Families must

register by August 21, with backpacks available for pickup on August 27 from 3 to 6 p.m. at the Morinville Community Cultural Centre, located at 9502 100 Avenue. The Town of Morinville confirms the centre's address and that FCSS can be reached at 780-939-7839.

Families can register through the program's online registration or by calling Morinville FCSS at 780-939-7839.

For families who have difficulty getting to the pickup location, the program says delivery may be available upon request if transportation is a barrier.

The program is available while supplies last. Applicants who are eligible for another back-to-school support program in their area may be referred to that program, helping the available supplies

reach as many families as possible.

Back-to-school expenses can add up quickly. A recent Léger survey found that 60 per cent of Canadian parents said their school-supply expenses had

increased compared with the previous year, while 63 per cent said back-to-school expenses had a significant impact on their household budget.

For families facing financial difficulties,

having a backpack and basic school supplies provided can take one more expense off the list before the first day of school. The initiative also shows how local organizations can work together to support families in

the community. With registration closing August 21, families who may qualify are encouraged to contact Morinville FCSS for more information and to register. Morinville FCSS: 780-939-7839.



Robert Murray stands in front of a mural he created in Morinville to honour Canadian heroes. The artwork features four military silhouettes standing amid a field of poppies. – Robert Murray photo

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Morinville Chamber opens nominations for 2026 Business Awards



By Shelley Winger

Local businesses, entrepreneurs and community organizations have an opportunity to be recognized through the Morinville & District

Chamber of Commerce's 2026 Business Awards. Nominations are now open for the annual awards, which recognize businesses and individuals who contribute to the local economy and community through their work,

innovation, customer service and community involvement. The awards include categories for small, medium and large businesses, new businesses, home-based businesses, agriculture businesses, and the Community Spirit Award.

There are also awards recognizing youth entrepreneurs and customer service, farmers' market vendors, and businesses demonstrating long-term commitment and community impact through the Legacy/Integrity Award.

According to the Chamber's nomination criteria, businesses may be evaluated on factors including financial growth, innovation, customer satisfaction, community involvement, employee engagement, adaptability

and leadership. The Community Spirit Award recognizes a registered non-profit or local business that gives back to the community through activities such as community events, community events,

Continued on page 8

Heritage Place Lodge hosts afternoon of fun and entertainment

Residents, family members, friends and guests gathered at Heritage Place Lodge on August 13 for an afternoon of entertainment, food and community. The Heritage Place Lodge Extravaganza featured

entertainment by Ed Bulger, who kept the crowd smiling with songs and stories. Guests also enjoyed the Chicken John's Petting Zoo, dancing, treats from the Cup or Cone Ice Cream Truck, and a hot dog and hamburger lunch

prepared by Centennial Food Solutions. The afternoon gave residents an opportunity to spend time with family and friends, meet with members of the community and enjoy an afternoon together at the lodge.



Centennial Food Solutions cooks up hot dogs and hamburgers for guests at the Heritage Place Lodge Extravaganza on August 13.



Young and old alike enjoy some time with the animals at the Chicken John's Petting Zoo during the Heritage Place Lodge Extravaganza.



Residents, family, friends and guests gather at Heritage Place Lodge during the Extravaganza to enjoy songs and stories from entertainer Ed Bulger.



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Local hockey heroes honoured at Morinville Leisure Centre

Hagel and Van Brabant return to Morinville for dressing-room dedication



By Haylee Winger

Morinville celebrated a piece of its hockey history on August 13 as two local NHL players returned to the community to help mark the naming of four dressing rooms at the Morinville Leisure Centre.

Brandon Hagel and Bryce Van Brabant were on hand for the occasion.

The four dressing rooms now honour Hagel, Van Brabant, Jason Holland and Dave Kryskow, four athletes with ties to Morinville who reached the highest

levels of hockey.

The initiative came from a motion of Morinville's 2021-2025 Council to recognize the accomplishments of the four players and create a lasting reminder for the young athletes who use the facility today.

Hagel has gone on to an NHL career with the Tampa Bay Lightning and has represented Canada internationally.

Hockey Canada lists Morinville as his hometown, and he was part of Canada's roster at the 2026 Olympic Winter Games.

Van Brabant also reached the NHL, making his debut with



Bryce Van Brabant stands outside the Morinville Leisure Centre dressing room named in his honour.



Brandon Hagel stands outside the Morinville Leisure Centre dressing room named in his honour.

the Calgary Flames during the 2013-14 season. He played six NHL games with Calgary.

The other two names being recognized have their own place in Morinville's hockey history.

Jason Holland was born in Morinville and played 81 NHL games with the New York Islanders, Buffalo Sabres and Los Angeles Kings.

Dave Kryskow was selected 26th overall by the Chicago Black Hawks in the second

round of the 1971 NHL Draft. He went on to play 231 NHL games and also played in the World Hockey Association with the Calgary Cowboys and Winnipeg Jets. Kryskow attended Morinville Community High School.

Hagel and Van Brabant were both present for the dedication, joining the community in recognizing the four local hockey players.

The four athletes' accomplishments are a point of pride for

Morinville and provide inspiration for the next generation of athletes coming through the Morinville Leisure Centre.



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Alberta RCMP provides tips for new drivers

This August, the Alberta RCMP is sharing safety tips for new drivers.

According to Transport Canada, young and new drivers are more likely to be involved in fatal and injury collisions due to their age and inexperience.

The Alberta RCMP would like to remind new and experienced drivers of the following tips:

- If you have your learner's license, you must always be accompanied by a valid Class 5 licence holder.
- Distracted driving is one of the leading causes of major collisions. Stay off your phone and avoid any activity that might impair your ability to operate a vehicle safely.
- Your passengers' safety is also your responsibility. Make sure everyone is wearing their seatbelt.
- The posted speed limit is the limit for ideal conditions. You may need to slow down according to weather, road, and traffic conditions.
- Highways tend to be busier in the summer. Give yourself extra time to reach your destination.
- Be aware of your surroundings and don't tailgate. Only pass when it is safe to do so.
- Be mindful of other roadway users, such as bicycles and motorcycles. They are not always easily seen.
- Driving for the first time can be nerve-wracking. Be patient with new drivers.

"Everyone has a duty to look out for each other on the roads, and this includes looking out for new drivers," says Sgt. Darrin Turnbull, Alberta RCMP Traffic Services.

"Stay attentive, drive according to conditions, and if you see dangerous driving, report it. This way, we can all do our part and stay safe."

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Mayor Boersma, members of council and the project team mark the start of construction on East Boundary Road in Morinville on Aug. 7. The project will upgrade the existing gravel road to asphalt, improve drainage and provide safer access to Juniper Heights. – **Town of Morinville photo**

2026 Business Awards

Continued from page 5
charitable initiatives, local partnerships and volunteerism.

The Steve & Marci Crouse Memorial Award recognizes a Morinville Farmers' Market vendor who is making a positive contribution to the

market. Eligible vendors must offer home-made, handmade or homegrown products and have attended at least five Morinville Farmers' Markets since September 2024. The awards also include recognition

for youth customer service and entrepreneurship, with criteria that consider leadership, entrepreneurial spirit, innovation in customer service, problem-solving, community engagement and the impact a young business

owner has on youth and the community. The Agriculture Business Award recognizes agricultural businesses for areas such as innovation, sustainability, product quality, market reach, community impact and investment in research and

development. Businesses being considered for the awards must meet the eligibility requirements for their respective categories. The criteria also note that businesses should not have won the applicable award

for three consecutive years. Nominations are open until September 1. Community members can nominate a local business through the Morinville & District Chamber of Commerce website.



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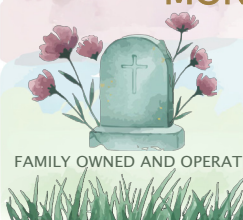
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