

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

Rotary Club launches new backpack program for local youth



By Shelley
Winger

The Rotary Club of Morinville Sturgeon has launched a new backpack program aimed at helping local families prepare for the upcoming school year.

Working with Morinville and Sturgeon County Family and Community Support Services (FCSS), Rotary provided 50 local youth with new backpacks filled with

school supplies appropriate for their grade.

The idea for the program came through Rotary's ongoing work with FCSS and its Dignity Closet program.

Jennifer Hunting, co-president of the Rotary Club of Morinville Sturgeon, said the club was looking for an annual project that would support people in Morinville and Sturgeon County.

"FCSS mentioned that there was a need for backpacks for our youth, as a former

program was no longer active," Hunting said. "We as a club thought this was a fantastic program to offer."

The partnership allowed Rotary to respond to an identified need in the community while working with FCSS, which already has connections with local families and an understanding of the resources they may need.

Working closely with FCSS, Rotary was able to determine the supplies required for



Rotary Club of Morinville Sturgeon volunteers prepare backpacks and school supplies for local students as part of the club's new Backpack Program.

students at different grade levels.

Each of the 50

applicants received a new backpack along with the classroom

supplies needed for their grade.

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Morinville U14 girls raise \$1,471 for Stollery



Members of the Morinville Fire Department stopped by to support the young fundraisers. - **Morinville Youth Basketball photo**



By Shelley
Winger

Morinville's U14 girls basketball team turned a day of lemonade into an opportunity to give back, raising \$1,471.61 for the Stollery Children's Hospital.

The team took part in Lemonade Stand Day, an annual fundraiser supporting the Stollery Children's Hospital Foundation, setting up outside No Frills in Morinville and working together to raise funds for the Edmonton

hospital.

The cause has a personal connection for some members of the team, with girls on the roster having older or younger siblings who have been Stollery patients.

"Because of that, the Stollery is a cause that hits close to home for some of our families," said Chloe Wright, head coach of the Morinville U14 girls basketball team. "We thought this was a great opportunity for the girls to come together, give back and support a hospital that has had such an impact on families

in our community."

The team initially set a fundraising goal of \$1,000, but quickly surpassed it.

"The girls were so excited to see how generous everyone was and how much they were able to accomplish together," Wright said.

The fundraiser also brought plenty of community support, with residents stopping by throughout the day to donate, encourage the girls and help them reach their goal.

"It was really special for the girls to

Continued on **page 2**



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Morinville Farmers' Market warns vendors about fake Christmas market applications



By Haylee Winger

The Morinville Farmers' Market is warning vendors to be cautious after another fraudulent attempt was made to imitate the market's Christmas events and solicit vendor applications.

The market recently alerted the public after an email was circulated that was not connected to either the Morinville Farmers' Market or the Morinville & District Chamber of Commerce.

Vendors are being reminded to

verify the source of any communication they receive before submitting an application, providing personal information or sending payment.

The market says all official email communication regarding its markets comes through market@morinvillechamber.com.

Serena Brenneis is the Market Manager responsible for vendor applications, approvals, invoicing and market communication.

The market is advising vendors who receive an email, Facebook message, comment or

application link and are unsure about its legitimacy to contact the market directly before taking any action.

The warning is particularly important for vendors who may be preparing to participate in the market's Christmas events. A fraudulent application or payment request could appear legitimate at first glance, making it important to confirm the source before proceeding.

The market is encouraging anyone who receives a suspicious message not to respond or send money until it has

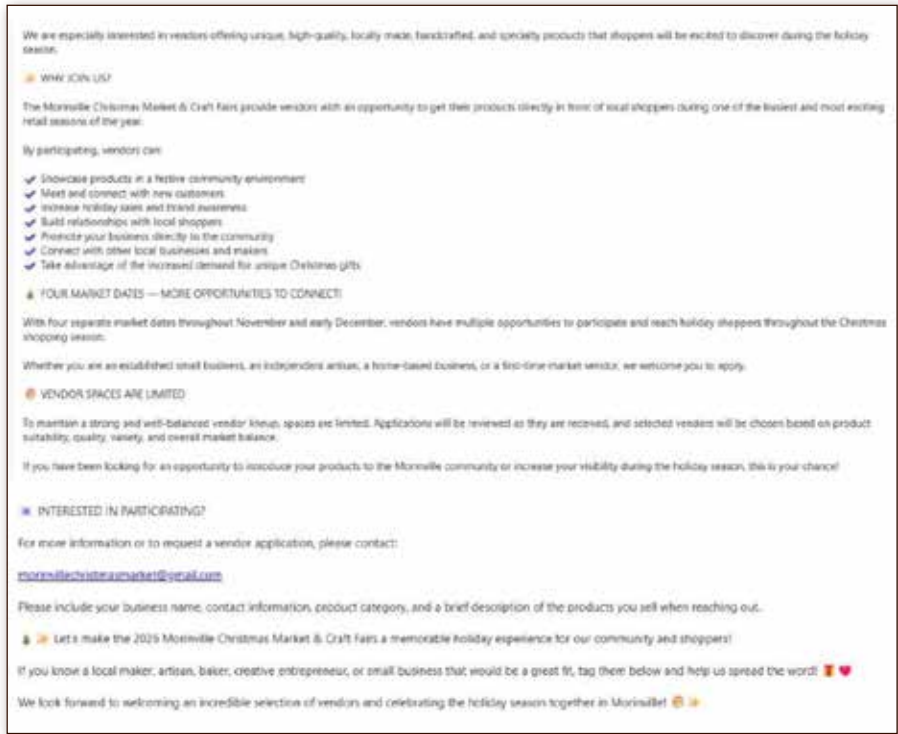
been verified.

Vendors can contact the Morinville Farmers' Market at market@morinvillechamber.com.

to confirm whether an application or other communication is legitimate.

The market is also asking community

members to share the warning with other vendors to help prevent anyone from falling victim to the scam.



A fraudulent email prompted the Morinville Farmers' Market to warn vendors about fake Christmas market applications. Vendors are encouraged to verify any market-related communication through the official market email before providing personal information or sending payment. **Photo courtesy of the Morinville Farmers' Market.**

RCMP

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE



Alberta RCMP provides traffic safety tips for back-to-school season

RCMP Release

The Alberta RCMP is reminding parents, guardians, students, and motorists to take extra precautions to help keep everyone safe on Alberta roads.

Parents/guardians and students:

- Brightly coloured clothing can help make students more visible when weather conditions or time of day reduce visibility.
- Teach your child to look in all directions before crossing the street, cross only at designated crosswalks, and make eye contact with drivers before stepping onto the road.
- Remind your child to never run after a school bus. Bus drivers and motorists may not see them enter the roadway.
- Show your child a safe route to walk or bike to school. Walk the route with them at least once to identify potential hazards, use crosswalks safely, and obey traffic control devices.
- If your child takes the school bus, ensure they understand the traffic hazards that may be present near the bus stop and where they can wait safely.
- If meeting your child at the bus stop after school, wait at the designated stop rather than nearby. Children may forget traffic safety rules and cross the road without checking for traffic.
- Texting, using a mobile device, or listening to music with headphones while walking can

be distracting and make it harder to notice traffic hazards.

Drivers:

- Watch carefully for children walking to and from school when entering or exiting your driveway or garage.
 - Be mindful that it may be difficult to see pedestrians during dark mornings and evenings.
 - Remember that it is illegal to pass a school bus when its red lights are flashing. Drivers travelling in both directions must stop and remain stopped until red lights are turned off.
 - Slow down in school zones and be particularly alert for students during school hours, especially during drop-off and pick-up times.
 - Never assume pedestrians can see you. Make eye contact whenever possible before turning or proceeding through a crosswalk.
- "The start of the school year brings more children onto our roads, sidewalks, and crosswalks, often during darker morning and evening hours," says Sgt. Darrin Turnbull, Alberta RCMP Traffic Services. "Whether driving through a school zone, approaching a bus stop, or backing out of your driveway, take a few extra seconds to ensure no students are in your path. Let's ensure students make it home safely."
- For more traffic safety information, follow us on Facebook @RCMPinAlberta and on X @RCMPAlberta.

Morinville U14 girls

Continued from page 1

see how much their community supports them and the causes they care about," Wright said.

The fundraiser was a first for the team, but likely won't be the last.

The girls had such a positive experience that the team hopes to participate in Lemonade Stand Day again in the future.

"It was an amazing experience for them to learn about giving back and making a difference beyond basketball," Wright

said.

The team is now preparing for its new season, which includes another fundraising goal: helping the girls attend the 2027 U14 Club Nationals and potentially represent Morinville on the national stage.



Morinville's U14 girls basketball team hosted a lemonade stand to raise funds for the Stollery Children's Hospital.. - **Morinville Youth Basketball photo**

Morinville author turns years of teaching and love of animals into two books



By Haylee Winger

For Rosalba Politi, the idea for her first book began with a conversation about something she had encountered countless times during her years in education: student excuses.

After more than 25 years as a teacher, educator and instructor, Politi had heard plenty of explanations from students about why assignments were late or had not been completed.

The idea for her first book came while having lunch with a friend who had recently retired from teaching after 40 years.

Politi was sharing some of the more unusual excuses she had encountered

when her friend suggested she write a book about them. The suggestion stayed with her.

Not long afterward, Politi was grading papers when another message came through from a student explaining why an assignment had not been submitted. The student had sent a very similar explanation only two weeks earlier.

That was when Politi decided to start writing down her thoughts.

She opened a Word document and began putting her frustrations on paper. What started as a way to get her thoughts out eventually became her first nonfiction book, *Every Excuse in the Book: Behind the Scenes of Truth, Integrity, and Teaching*.

As she worked on

it, she began thinking about why students make excuses and what might be behind them.

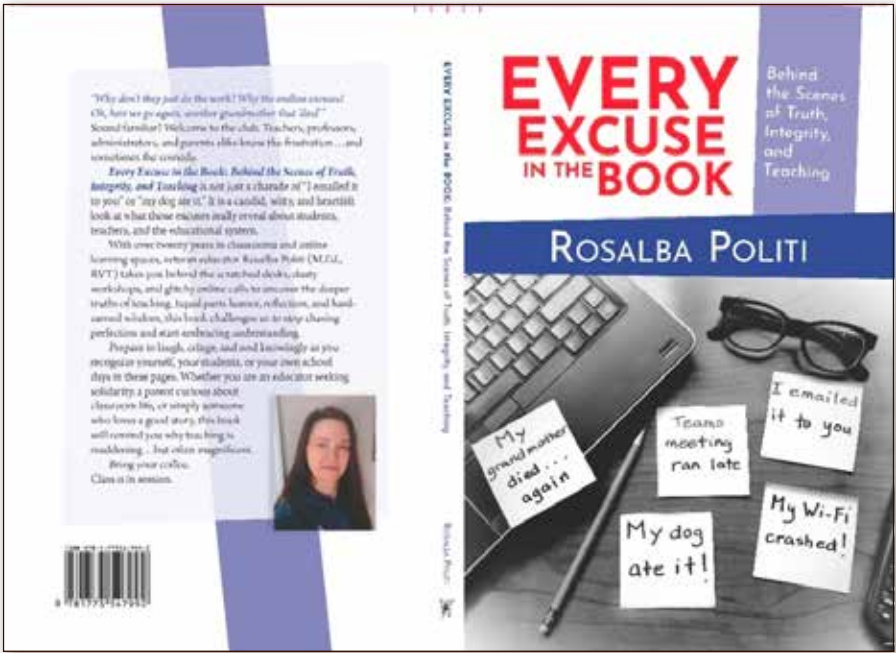
Humour became an important part of the book, reflecting Politi's own personality and her enjoyment of finding the lighter side of situations.

At the same time, the writing gave her an opportunity to look at teaching from a different perspective.

Politi said it can be easy for educators to become focused on a student's behaviour and forget the person behind it.

"Behind each one is a student who is human," she said.

She believes an excuse can sometimes be connected to fear or a lack of confidence. She also acknowledges that some students may simply be trying to



Rosalba Politi's first book, *Every Excuse in the Book: Behind the Scenes of Truth, Integrity, and Teaching*, explores the reasons behind student excuses and the experiences of educators in the classroom. Paperback ISBN: 9781773547992; Book ISBN: 9781773548005

avoid responsibility.

For Politi, understanding the reason behind an excuse does not necessarily mean accepting the behaviour. Instead, she hopes her book encourages educators, parents and school administrators to consider the bigger picture before making a judgment.

Politi's second book looks at a completely different subject, but one that is equally important to her.

The Human-Animal Bond: Past, Present, and Future – A Veterinary Technologist's Perspective was launched on Aug. 26, 2026.

Politi began working on the book in 2024.

As a Registered

Veterinary Technologist and animal welfare advocate, she said writing about the relationship between people and animals has been a long-standing goal.

The book examines the many ways animals can influence human lives.

Among the topics are the psychology of the human-animal bond, health benefits, education and the ways animals can contribute to learning and teaching.

Politi also looks at how animals become part of families and communities and how those relationships can influence the people involved.

The book also addresses the more difficult side of

caring for animals, including end-of-life experiences.

For Politi, animals can teach people important lessons about empathy, resilience, cultural understanding and ethical responsibility.

She hopes the book will appeal to students, educators, veterinary professionals and anyone who has experienced a meaningful relationship with an animal.

Her two careers have played a significant role in shaping the way she approaches writing.

Politi describes herself as a direct person and said she does not consider herself a flowery or

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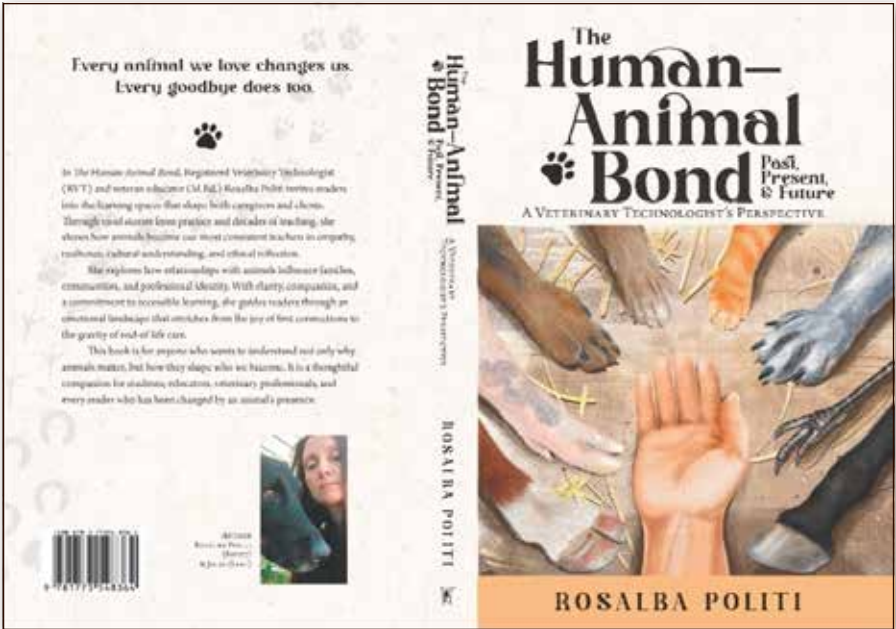


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Politi's second book, *The Human-Animal Bond: Past, Present, and Future – A Veterinary Technologist's Perspective*, examines the many ways relationships between people and animals can shape our lives. Paperback ISBN: 9781773548364 eBook ISBN: 9781773548371

Walking a tightrope: Bank of Canada remains on hold

Mark Parsons,
ATB Economics

Key points

- Policy interest rate stays at 2.25%, as we expected.
- The Bank is walking a tightrope, balancing higher inflation from the war in Iran and weaker growth prospects from re-escalating U.S.-Canada trade tensions.
- We expect the Bank to remain on the sidelines for the rest of 2026.

No surprise this morning. The Bank remains in a ‘wait-and-see’ posture, keeping its policy interest rate at 2.25% for the seventh consecutive meeting.

The last time the Bank made a move was almost a year ago at the end of October 2025 when it lowered the policy rate by 25

basis points.

Inflation is too hot...

Inflation is the Bank of Canada’s preoccupation, and it’s still running too high at 3% – above the 2% target.

The big takeaway from this morning is the Bank’s reference that “inflation pressures have increased,” amid the escalating war in Iran and the U.S.-Canada trade conflict. That reads a touch hawkish to me.

The good news? Underlying inflation (as measured by the Bank’s core inflation metrics) has so far been cooperating. Indeed, core inflation is holding near 2%. According to the Bank, “so far, there has been little evidence of higher energy prices spreading to other components of inflation.”

But the Bank is not

resting easy (hence my emphasis on ‘so far’). They are concerned that higher prices at the pumps could become generalized—and if that happens, they may need to lean against those inflationary forces with higher rates.

They also have a new pressure to confront – counter-tariffs, which in our estimation will add 0.2-0.3 percentage points to headline inflation. Providing a temporary assist, reports are circulating that the Government of Canada is expected to announce an extension of its gasoline tax pause for the rest of the year.

...and the economy is too fragile in this ‘fluid’ environment...

The Canadian economy can’t catch a break. Just as it was starting to find its

legs, the trade war between Canada and the U.S. entered a new escalating chapter. The Bank calls the situation “fluid” and says that “new tariffs make

growth prospects more uncertain.”

Last Friday’s GDP report showed that the economy grew by 3.3% annualized in the second quarter,

and upwardly revised the first quarter result from a decline of 0.1% to an increase of 0.3%. That’s better than expected.

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The Rotary Club of Morinville Sturgeon donated \$1,000 to Mission Creek Care Home to support the 70 seniors evacuated from the Summerland Care Home. – Rotary Club of Morinville Sturgeon photo

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Bank of Canada

Continued from page 4

The Bank, however, doesn't appear to be in a celebratory mood. Trade tensions are keeping Bank officials up at night. Or, in the language of the Bank: "uncertainty is high and new U.S. tariffs and threats of further action pose risks to the sustainability of the recovery."

With all the uncertainty, the Bank was most definitely pleased that the September announcement did not require them to publish a new slate of forecasts. But reading between the lines (and reading ATB's latest analysis, of course), growth is expected to slow significantly in the third quarter.

Our view is that, if

contained to the announced measures, the macro impact of the U.S. tariffs and Canadian counter-tariffs is 'manageable', but will disproportionately hit certain sectors and regions. Overall, we think the new tariff measures will shave 0.4-0.5% off real GDP growth, with most of the impact felt in 2027.

The real risk,

however, is an escalation of the trade war from here on in.

...keeping the Bank of Canada in a 'wait-and-see' pause position

The default position for the Bank in this highly uncertain environment is to stay on the sidelines, carefully track the ever-changing geopolitical situation and be prepared to hike or cut. We think that the Bank will stay on hold for the rest of

the year. Our forecast still has two hikes next year, but that is conditional on tariff pressures easing.

In such a 'fluid' environment and with an economy still waiting to hit its stride, rate hikes will need to wait. Even without a BofC rate hike, financial conditions have tightened

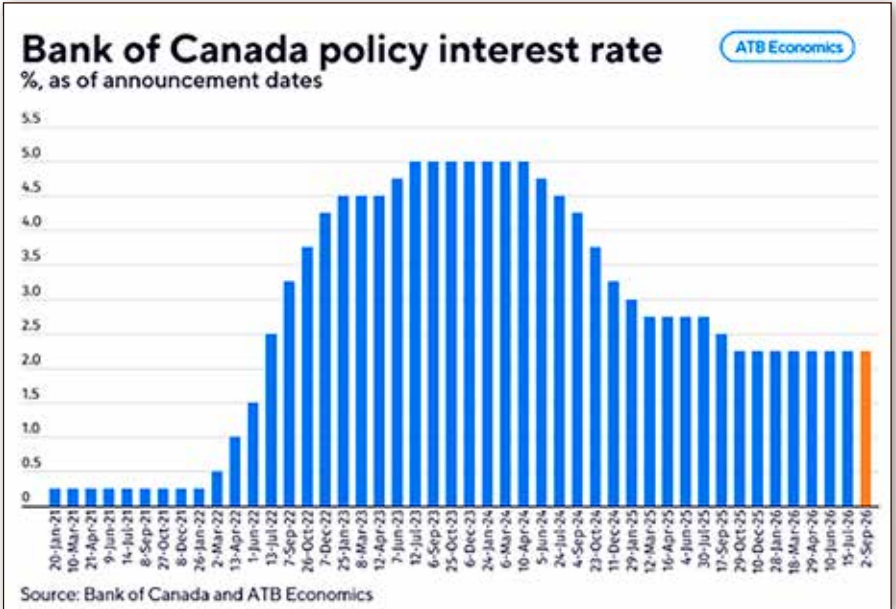
According to the Bank, "financial conditions have tightened." This means

that, even without adjustments to the short-term policy rate, the bond market is doing some tightening on its behalf.

Longer-term bond yields have shifted higher in recent weeks, particularly in the U.S. amid fiscal, inflation, and hyper-scaler demand pressures. Though not to the same extent, higher longer-term rates have also been felt in Canada.



Teachers and students welcomed the start of a new school year in a Grade 2 classroom at Morinville Public School, where the room was decorated to celebrate the first day of Grade 2. The school community marked the occasion with plenty of smiles and excitement as students returned to the classroom. - Morinville Public School photo



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Rosalba Politi

Continued from page 3

ornate writer. She prefers getting to the point.

Writing the books also required her to step back and think about her own work.

She said the process made her consider why she teaches the way she does and why she approaches caring for animals in the way she does.

Becoming a published author has been a learning experience of its own.

Politi said the process has been exciting, but it has also required considerable patience.

Working with

editors and illustrators and going through multiple drafts and revisions gave her a new appreciation for everything that happens between an initial idea and a finished book.

As a self-described perfectionist, she found some of that process nerve-wracking.

Still, seeing the difference between her early drafts and the completed books has been rewarding.

And she already has another project underway.

Politi is working on a children's book aimed at early readers between the ages of four and

nine.

She hopes to have it completed by the end of 2027.

For Politi, sharing her work in Morinville is also important.

She believes smaller communities are often home to talented writers, artists and musicians who may not always receive the recognition they deserve.

"More often than not, smaller communities have amazing talent within them, hiding like little gems," she said.

Politi believes communities have a role to play in supporting local creators. She would

like to see libraries make books by local authors available to readers and more opportunities created for artists and musicians to showcase their work.

While the subjects of Politi's two books are quite different, both grew from the same habit of asking questions and looking beneath the surface.

The first asks readers to think about what may be behind a student's excuse.

The second explores why the relationships people form with animals can become such an important part of their lives.

For Politi, writing has provided a way to take experiences from two very different areas of her life and turn them into something she can

share with others.

And with a children's book already in progress, it appears her writing journey is only getting started.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND CLAIMANTS

Estate of **GEORGE NOEL VANSEVENANDT**, who died on **August 3, 2026**.

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Rotary backpack program
Continued from page 1

“So essentially all supplies related to the classroom,” Hunting said. The program is designed to help local youth head into the new school year prepared with the tools they need, while also helping families with some of the costs associated with getting children ready for school. For Rotary, supporting local families is an important part of the club’s role in the community.

The club relies on community fundraising to support its initiatives and looks for meaningful ways to put those funds back into the communities it serves. “Our Rotary Club relies heavily on fundraising within our community, which have been very successful in the past,” Hunting said. “We are committed to helping local families in need, and providing back-to-school supplies is the start of a bright year for our next generation.”



Utility crews carried out operational repairs on 98 Avenue between 95 Street and Morinville Drive on September 3 and 4. A temporary road closure was in place while crews worked, with signage directing traffic around the area. Drivers were asked to use caution around the work zone. - Town of Morinville photos

BIG RIVER FIRST NATION TRUST OFFICE

BOARD MEMBER CALLOUT

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The Free Press

76.9 ACRES WITH 2 HOMES, BARN, TRIPLE GARAGE

Perfect horse set up or hobby farm for two families. Or rent out second house. The main house has a huge kitchen with built in appliances, pantry, and large island with granite counter top. Dining room has space for large table and sitting area, large primary bdrm with walk in closet and 4 pce ensuite, bedroom, 3 pce bath and den (could easily be 3rd bdrm by adding one wall), living room and closed in porch. Garden doors to covered deck and the house sits on a concrete grade beam. 2nd home has 2 bdrms, large open kitchen/living room, upgraded 3 pce bath, laundry, att'd single garage and storage room. Newer windows, drywall, vinyl plank flooring, metal roof, furnaces, and bathrooms in both houses. 40x30 garage is heated with wood stove and has new shingles. 40x24 Barn, corrals, round pen, 2 auto waterers, fenced pasture land, garden area, storage sheds, chicken coop, fruit trees. SW of Thorhild with less than 2 miles of gravel. **\$674,900. Call Heather to view.**



YEAR ROUND LAKE LIVING

Step into your own piece of Paradise at Bonnie Lake Resorts. This all season 900 sq foot bungalow and double garage are nestled amongst the trees in this 0.75 acre lot. Featuring a wrap around deck with wheelchair ramp that goes along the side and back of the house, 3 bedrooms, galley kitchen, and spacious living room. There is a fire pit and plenty of trees and privacy to enjoy your back yard in peace. Clean beaches, docks, a boat launch, playground, tennis courts, beach volleyball, walking trails and Vilna Golf Course are all within walking distance of your new home. Upgrades over the years include interior doors, flooring, furnace, hot water tanks and more. Bonnie Lake Resort is approximately 1 1/2 hours to Edmonton, just over a half hour to St Paul. **\$269,000. Call Janine to view.**



74 ACRES OF LAND

74 Acres of land bordered by the Hamlet of Radway and Highway 28, less than an hour to Edmonton. Approx 25 acres of this land is high while the rest is wetland. May be able to have it rezoned to agricultural or country residential and use as pasture land or get a few acres of grain land with the possibility of building a house on the high land at south end. Creek runs through the property. Was pasture land at one time but old fence is in poor condition. Possibly use as a weekend getaway and go fishing at the Radway Fish Pond next door. Seller had trees cleared on some of it a few years ago but some have started to grow back. **\$120,000. Call Heather to view.**



NEW

ACREAGE NEAR LONG LAKE

Perfect affordable home or use as a weekend getaway. Located north of Newbrook, on Highway 63, right across the road from the access to Long Lake Provincial Park. Natural forest surrounds a 3 bedroom manufactured home with an attached covered deck and carport. There is also a 32'x28' metal clad shop with back door opening onto a tarp shed for great storage of your boat or RV. There is also a couple of other tarp sheds and another metal clad shop. House features a large master bedroom with 2 pce ensuite at one end and 2 bedrooms and 4 pce bath at the other end for privacy. In the middle is a large kitchen and living room. Relax on the covered deck or sit around the firepit. Or visit the Golf course, beach, boating, ski hill, paint ball course which are all within 5 minutes of home. Owner is in the process of cleaning out the extra items on the property and should be cleared out in the next week or two. Great retirement home or weekend getaway with lots of recreational opportunities close by **\$250,000. Call Heather to view.**



THORHILD COMMERCIAL LOT

1.24 acres of commercial land in the Hamlet of Thorhild, just about an hour north of Edmonton. Great community with lots of business opportunities. Right across the road from the local Arena and community hall so lots of visible exposure. Build your own building to your needs. **\$49,900. Call Heather to view.**



REDUCED TO \$149,900

YOUR DREAM BUILD AWAITS!

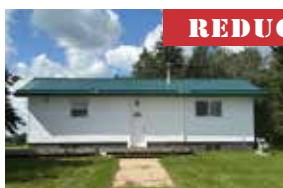
1.52 Acres of sloped land in the Hillsborough subdivision! Great opportunity to build a beautiful walk out home, with mature trees at the back of the property offering privacy from the neighbors. ON PAVEMENT all the way to Hwy 28, 10 mins from Gibbons and 30 mins from Edmonton. **\$149,900. Call Glenn for more info.**



REDUCED TO \$499,900

8.95 ACRES WITH UPDATED BUNGALOW, BARN AND GARAGE

Beautifully updated 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom bungalow on 8.95 acres in Thorhild County, less than one hour from Edmonton with only 1/2 mile of gravel road. Great hobby farm or horse set up with lovely hip roof barn with metal roof, chicken coop, 24'x20' metal clad shop, dug out, and plenty of room for future pasture land. This property has been almost completely remodelled in the past 6 months including all flooring, paint, bathrooms, kitchen cabinets, vinyl siding with styrofoam, complete basement development and new septic tank and discharge. Features open concept kitchen/living room, 5 pce bath and 2 bedrooms on main. Basement has two large bedrooms, family room, laundry room and 4 pce bathroom. Large back deck, patio doors to future front deck, beautiful white cabinets with black hardware, stainless steel appliances, vinyl plank flooring make this home show like new. **\$499,900. Call Heather to view.**



RADWAY COMMERCIAL LOTS

2 commercial lots on main street. **\$9,900** on the smaller lot and **\$13,900** on the other lot. One large lot in west end of Radway. This one has water & sewer at the corner of the property. **\$29,900. Call Heather for more information.**



NEW

GRAZING LEASE

This grazing lease is up by Long Lake Prov Park. This is crown land and we are selling the lease to graze approximately 5 cow/calf pairs for about 4 months. **\$15,000. Call Heather for more info.**



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