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### 2 The Selkirk Record Thursday, June 5, 2025



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## **Mystery interference disables vehicle** fobs near Selkirk's Staples and Walmart Local Facebook page shows many people

discussing issue

### By Katelyn Boulanger

I love

that you're my

2 dad

439 MAIN ST., SELKIRK

North of Manitoba Ave.

A growing number of Selkirk residents say their vehicle's key fobs are mysteriously malfunctioning in the parking lot near Staples and Walmart, sparking concern over electronic interference.

Dozens of posts on the "Meanwhile in Selkirk" Facebook group describe similar incidents, vehicles that won't lock or unlock, and key fobs not working as normal.

The common factor appears to be that residents are parking their vehicles in the West-End parking lot that is near Staples and Walmart.

"Just had a scary thing happen outside Staples. BE AWARE," one user wrote. "My vehicle wouldn't lock and wouldn't recognize the key fob to start the vehicle. I was stranded. My husband came to bring the spare fob from home, (in a, same as mine, newish, Subaru Forester vehicle). When he went to restart his vehicle, same thing, key fob wouldn't recog-

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### 4 The Selkirk Record Thursday, June 5, 2025 Public information session held to update residents on the Selkirk Lift Bridge

# Residents voice their opinions about replacement versus rehabilitation

### By Katelyn Boulanger

On May 21, AECOM Canada Ltd. invited residents in our region who use the Selkirk Lift Bridge to come to a two-hour public information session in Selkirk's Memorial Hall. Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure (MTI) is currently in Phase 2 of the Public & Stakeholder Engagement for the Preliminary Design for the Structure Rehabilitation for the Selkirk Lift Bridge and AECOM is leading public and stakeholder engagement.

The goal of this meeting was to discuss the two options of rehabilitating or replacing the bridge.

Erin Huck, Senior Urban Planner, Building + Places for AECOM started by introducing the team of people who were there to answer questions before launching into the presentation.

"Today, we want to share a little bit about phase one engagement. We want to present the alternatives considered and the preferred alternative, and then we're going to talk to you and listen to some of your questions and collect the feedback that you'd like to provide to us," said Huck. She started by acknowledging that the bridge is a vital connection between Selkirk and East Selkirk.

"We know that there's about 7200 vehicles that go over the bridge every single day, and we know that [it is a] really important part of the trail highway series, the La Vérendrye Trail highway series," said Huck.

She started by talking about the feedback that was heard during phase one of the consultation. The first topic was safety.

"There are obviously a lot of concerns around public safety and ongoing use of the bridge. So, when the project team heard that, what we clarified was that there's always routine inspections, and currently the bridge is safe to use, and if there's long-term use, there will be long-term rehabilitation and care of that bridge," said Huck.

The next point that was a priority for residents was the historical preservation of the bridge as it is significant both structurally and to the area.



RECORD PHOTO BY KATELYN BOULANGER

Residents got to learn what phase one of consultation about the Selkirk Lift Bridge revealed.

The third bit of feedback that the team heard was that residents wanted the bridge, if not used for vehicles to have another purpose like active transportation.

"The project team said that they were exploring options to preserve the existing bridge for multi-modal, non-vehicular purposes should replacement emerge as the preferred alternative," said Huck.

Another point of feedback from phase one was that people were concerned about the cost of maintaining the bridge if it were to be replaced.

On this point, the slide presentation said, "The project team noted that the decision to replace or rehabilitate the

Continued on page 10





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### The Selkirk Record Thursday, June 5, 2025 5

### > KEY FOB INTERFERENCE, FROM PG. 3

nize, indicating something blocking their communication. This was a very scary situation to be in."

They reported the issue disappearing once their vehicles were moved to a different part of the lot, suggesting a localized source of interference.

While speculation in the Facebook group ranged as to how something like this could happen, John Kobak of Custom Remote Starters says it may be less sinister than it seems.

"It may not be somebody doing it themselves, like something they're (doing) trying to steal the cars. It could just be a rogue signal from some machinery or something," he explained.

Kobak said that in the past he's had a customer who when at home can't remote start their car but if they went down to the end of the street it would work. In that situation, it turned out that a neighbour's Ham radio that was interfering with the signal.

In his experience, if it was someone intentionally jamming the signal, Kobak explained that it would likely be all of the vehicles that would be affected. Also, the post did not mention any auto thefts or thefts from vehicles as of last Friday afternoon.

"Years back, your alternator would be going, and the way it would go, it was creating an RF field and it would come up on the radio. You would hear this whining, buzzing sound. It could be something as simple as that, you know, somebody's running something like that, that's causing a field," said Kobak.

His advice for people who experience this issue is to avoid panicking because sometimes in these situations people get flustered.

"If they're pushing the button and the door lock doesn't unlock, first thing is to check the battery, because if the battery is low, that can affect it. Also, if it's a smart key, there's always a key to pull out so that you can unlock the door manually. Some people say, 'Oh, I don't have that.' Yes, you do. On the driver's door, that lock is covered with a cap to keep dirt out, and so it's just a matter of going from the bottom with the key, and there's a little slot there. You press up, and the cap pops off, and then you can unlock it. Then if you try and start it, if it won't start, then a lot of cars, you push the button with the start with the fob or on Fords, they have pockets in the centre console, certain places you put it (the key) in, and that'll start it up if the battery (in your fob) is dead, because every car always has a backup emergency start. It's just a matter of finding where that spot is," he explained.

Some drivers said they resolved the issue, like Kobak said, by utilizing the physical key within the fob to open their doors.

Other drivers sympathized with the original post creator, "Been hap-

pening to me at Staples for over a year now. I have always thought it's strange."

Because the cat is out of the bag thanks to the Facebook post, residents should make sure to be extra careful when parking their vehicle, not just in this area but anywhere making sure that their vehicle really is locked even if they've pressed the lock button on the fob and valuables and especially keys should never be stored in or around your vehicle.

Concerns of vehicle interference should be reported to police.

At press time, no official cause has been confirmed.





**RECORD PHOTO BY THE SENATE OF CANADA** Local fiddler Morgan Grace performed at the State Opening of the Parliament of Canada last week and met His Majesty King Charles III and Queen Camilla when she was there. This event was a historic one as King Charles attended the opening of parliament and delivered the Speech from the Throne. Grace will be back in Ottawa for her encore on July 1 to pay at the capital city's Canada Day celebration. Colution dance company Fall Registration begins June 16th

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# 6 The Selkirk Record Thursday, June 5, 2025 SALP Writing Contest winners announced!



**RECORD PHOTOS BY BRETT MITCHELL** Photos from the awards ceremony for this year's writing contest.



#### By Katelyn Boulanger

The Selkirk Adult Learning program once again hosted it's annual Writing Contest with winners from their students and the greater community. Submissions of fiction, non-fiction, lyrics and poetry were all accepted

> and the winners were announced at a ceremony last week.

### Winners

The Adult Learning Program winners presented by the Knights of Columbus and the Rotary Club are:

1st Place is Suzette Marceline for *My History in Canada*.

2nd Place is Loretta Petri for *You*  are Never Alone.

3rd Place is Nadiia Provalniuk for *The Best Year of My Life*.

Honourable Mentions are Oksana Gusieva for *Spring Haiku* and Margret Makawundo for *Moving to Canada from Uganda*.

The community winners presented by the Selkirk Legion and Gerdau are:

1st Place is Don Dempster for *My Mother-In-Law*.

2nd Place is Tamara Jenkins for *You are Everywhere*.

3rd Place is Danielle Noguet for *I Define Who I Am.* 

Honourable Mentions are Shelley DeMarco for *Thank you Selkirk!* and Debbie Okun Hill for *The Future in Two Voices*.

Readers can read the winning submissions to this year's contest at the SALP website at https:// selkirkadultlearning.wixsite.com/ salp/team-4.





### The Selkirk Record Thursday, June 5, 2025 7 A highland cow, plaid, and scotch eggs at this year's Highland Gathering

### Set aside some time on June 21 or 22 to learn about our local Scottish culture

### By Katelyn Boulanger

If you want to check out a celebration of our province's traditional Scottish heritage and culture, you're in luck. You don't even have to travel out of the region to check out the Highland Gathering which is taking place in St. Clements on June 21 and 22.

"Everything that you would find at a highland gathering in Scotland, you would find here with a few differences, because, we do have our own unique culture as well," said Joyce Nevedly, event organizer for the Manitoba Highland Gathering.

The gathering is an annual event that's going to be in its 57th year. It takes place at Legacy Park and the East Selkirk Recreation Centre.

Despite the event being two days, people who visit are going to have a jam-packed schedule if they want to see everything that the gathering has to offer.

"We have our sword championship. We have a long sword championship and a broad sword championship and the organizer has told me that he has seven categories more than he had last year," said Nevedly.

She explained that there are opportunities for men, women and children. In addition to sword sports, there is

also the heavy games which consist of events like the hammer throw, the caber toss, and the sheaf toss.

The opening ceremonies are going to take place on June 21 at 10:30 a.m. and they will feature the Southglen Fiddlers. There will also be a Toast to the Haggis to follow at 11 a.m. which combines tradition and ceremony with lines in Gaelic that honour the Haggis as it is brought into the hall. Residents should note that this opening ceremony is going to be a bit earlier than in previous years.

The various reenactor groups will be returning this year with The Barony of Castel Rouge, Hands of Lugh, the Jacobite Encampment, Medival Live Enactment, and Manitoba Living History groups setting up shop for the weekend to, as accurately as possible, show residents how people lived a various points in history.

"Of course, it has to be safe, so we will not have the fire pits with Manitoba Living History or with any of the groups, because we've got the fire ban on," said Nevedly.

Some other great things to make sure that you don't miss are the Scottish food booths, the auction, the pipe and band competition, Highland

dancer demonstrations, clan booths and the Scottish market, a British car show, a petting zoo, wee folk activities, a Highland coo (cow) on Saturday, and an appearance by a unicorn on Sunday.

Nevedly wants residents to know that though there is a lot going on it's not just a historical event. The gathering is more like a festival in that it's a celebration with activities for people of any age from the wee ones to the elders in our community and everyone in between.

"It's all hands-on, and people love it, because where else do you get to touch this stuff? Where else do you go to a Viking Village and see everything?" Nevedly said.

She explained that it's important to keep this traditional heritage alive outside of Scotland because it's how locals can stay connected to their roots.

"Because we're expats, we want to treasure and share our traditions, because it's been going on since the beginning of time, and lots of people like lots of things that are Scottish things," she said.

Nevedly also explained that it's not just a way to connect to cultural roots but to connect to family.

"I immigrated in 1951 with my parents and my sister. So, I'm a Canadian, but my roots are strong in the Scottish culture, and it's very important to me. I mean, my daughter and granddaughter danced and my grandson was a bass drummer for a while, and my son did some of the heavies, and my other son is a major volunteer throughout the years," she said.

For people who don't have Scottish heritage, this event is a great way to connect with and learn about one of our area's local groups.

The event takes place on June 21 and 22. The days run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday.

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**RECORD FILE PHOTOS BY KATELYN BOULANGER** 

The Highland Gathering is returning again this year. Pictured: Some photos from last year's fun.

adults (13-64) and \$30 for both days, \$12 for one day for children (5-12) and \$18 for both days, seniors (65+) also get the \$12 for one day and \$18 for two days deal and preschoolers enter for free. There is also a special family deal where 2 adults/seniors and 2 children can get a ticket for \$40 for one day and \$70 for both days. Residents should make sure to bring cash with them as the event does not have an ATM on site.

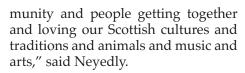
You can also check out their website at https://manitobahighlandgathering.org/ to learn more and to register for the various competitions that take place.

Nevedly also says that if anyone wants to help with the event they should reach out by contacting them.

"We are always, always looking for volunteers. So if anybody would love to come and volunteer, we would love to have them," she said.

She hopes that residents will stop by and check out the Highland Gathering.

"It's just com-





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night, but joy cometh in the morning. Psalm 30.5

## Sellank Regord





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Katelyn Boulanger



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PRODUCTION Nicole Kapusta

MPI donates \$100K to support wildfire evacuees

By Lana Meier

Manitoba Public Insurance is contributing \$100,000 to the Canadian Red Cross to support thousands of people displaced by wildfires burning across the province.

"This is a devastating situation, and it is incumbent on us to step up and help people who have had to evacuate their homes and leave everything behind in the interest of safety," said MPI president and CEO Satvir Jatana. "At times like these, we need to come together as a community and offer whatever support we can to ease the suffering so many people are experiencing."

More than 17,000 residents in northern Manitoba have been forced to leave their homes due to wildfire threats. The Red Cross is helping evacuees by coordinating emergency shelter, reception centres, financial assistance and longer-term recovery efforts.

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"Our hearts go out to those who are impacted by the wildfires," said Carmen Nedohin, chair of MPI's board of directors. "One thing Manitobans know how to do is support each other through a crisis, and MPI understands the importance of keeping each other safe. We wanted to do our part to help through this donation to the Red Cross, who are currently matching every dollar donated, doubling the impact of each contribution."

The Red Cross is encouraging Manitobans to donate, with all contributions going directly toward wildfire relief and recovery in affected areas. Donations can be made online or by calling 1-800-418-1111.

The Manitoba government is providing ongoing updates on the wildfire situation through its fire bulletins.

# Free Concerts, Family Fun & Community Celebration Return

### Events scheduled for Selkirk this summer

### By Staff

We've had a chance to dip our toes into the first bit of summer and with the City of Selkirk's Concert Series, sponsored by South Beach Casino and Resort, just around the corner, it's time to dive right in.

The annual summer event series which features outdoor concerts on the Waterfront and Manitoba Avenue - kicks off June 7 with the Season Opener, featuring Kates Outlaw and Bluestem.

"It's free entertainment for the whole family and it's just so nice to get outside and listen to music, dance in the streets and celebrate life in Canada and life in Selkirk," said Ellie Longbottom, the city's Culture Coordinator.

Rock the Waterfront takes place July 19 and features Van Halen cover band Unchained headlining and Foreigner cover band Hot Blooded opening the show.

The Season Opener and Rock the

Waterfront both start with opening bands at 7 p.m. and headliners at 8:30 p.m. Food trucks will be on site.

Music on Manitoba returns Aug. 9 and is so much more than just music; it's a festival that celebrates Selkirk, summer, families and community.

"There's music of course, but there's kids' entertainers, there's food trucks, a market and a real sense of community with people gathering and spending time with family and friends. It's a highlight of the summer without a doubt," Longbottom said.

Kids activities run from 4 to 7 p.m. and include the Bubble Barn Farm, Mr. Circus and Sleepy the Clown, whose alter ego is Charles Lauder, a Canadian legend who has been entertaining kids for almost 30 years.

The night market in partnership with Bud & Bloom runs from 4 to 9 p.m. and features an array of unique, handmade treasures by talented artisans.

The music starts at 7 p.m. with Jive-

town, a Canadian recording act, who play original songs plus covers of the best music from the '60s till now. They're known for their harmonies and excellent musicianship.

Dr. Rocktopus takes the stage at 8:30 p.m. and they bring the party.

There's more to come over the summer months, with the Selkirk Port Market, Canada Day, the annual K9 swim & splash at the Selkirk Park Pool and the Under the Stars Movie in the Park, an event in Selkirk Park that's part of Culture Days, all still to come.

More information on all those events to follow.

All concert series events feature food vendors and the events are never cancelled due to rain. If it rains, the event will be moved indoors and the city will post information on its social media channels as well as on the website MySelkirk.ca.

For more information on the Concert Series, go to myselkirk.ca/ConcertSeries.

> Got something you want to get off your chest? How about an act of kindness to share?

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ADMINISTRATION



# *The Selkirk Record* Thursday, June 5, 2025 **9 P.A.S.S. program hosts graduation at high school**









RECORD PHOTOS BY KATELYN BOULANGER

The Promoting Aboriginal Student Success (P.A.S.S.) program at the Lord Selkirk Regional Comprehensive High School hosted its graduation celebration. The event acknowledged the hard work of their students and celebrated local Indigenous culture with an awards ceremony, a speech from PASS Leader Steve Richard, traditional dancing and drums. P.A.S.S. Co-Valedictorians Savannah Mallett and Logan Adams each spoke to their fellow graduates, Rowan Sinclair was presented with the Dr. Elder Ruth Christie Award by Christie herself, and LSSD Alumni Dr. Niigaan Sinclair honoured graduates with his words.



# 10 The Selkirk Record Thursday, June 5, 2025 > SELKIRK LIFT BRIDGE CONSULTATION, FROM PG. 4

bridge will be made in the next evaluation phase. Maintenance costs will also factor into options for preserving the bridge as a pedestrian crossing."

Feedback also mentioned that during more wet years the road going up Highway 204 can become flooded, and so people asked if a new bridge would include exploring other alignments or other routes to avoid this issue.

They also said that the team is considering utilities and communications in future designs.

From there, Huck went on to talk about inspections and their findings about the condition of the bridge.

They say that an examination of existing road conditions took place, a hands-on and drone inspection and an underwater inspection were undertaken and a traffic analysis happened.

"What was found was that even though there are areas where the bridge could be repaired and is in need of some repairs, the bridge is in generally good condition. In addition, the lift section doesn't need to be in operation so it wouldn't be fixed (made operational)," she said.

Huck expanded on that explaining that after consultation with Transport Canada, the Selkirk Lift Bridge is no longer the limiting factor for the clearance height for navigation on the Red River but that a few other bridges are. Additionally, the lift part of the bridge hasn't been operational since 2007 and the expansion joints have been permanently welded, so they cannot open the structure.

The next slide focused on the alternatives that are being considered for this bridge with regard to the ways that it might be replaced or rehabilitated.

There were six options considered. Options A and B, option B had two legs that were considered, had the new bridge north of the existing bridge and options C and D were south of the existing structure. Options E and F share the same landing or starting place on the west side. Diagrams of these options can be viewed in the presentation which will be linked at the end of the article.

"When our design team looked at this, they concluded with support working with MTI, that evaluation concluded that rehabilitation is the best option currently, and MTI is not planning to pursue replacement at this time," said Huck.

Considerations for the bridge rehabilitation project were to:

• Strengthen the bridge for longterm usage to re-establish the load capacity;

• Rehabilitate the bridge deck, rid-

ing surface, and substructures to extend the service life for 25 years;

• Provide pedestrian and traffic barriers that meet current standards;

• Replace lighting;

• Investigate options to widen the existing sidewalk;

• Avoid the need for land acquisition;

• Minimize disruption to the environment;

• Rehabilitation of the existing bridge would likely be required even if a replacement bridge were immediately planned.

"What was the rationale for this? So, when we landed on this preferred alternative, this is a vital link for the community. It maintains a vital link to the city center. Again, there's, lower construction costs. It eliminates the need for land acquisitions. It may meet a lot of concerns around heritage conservation values, some of the negative impacts, some of those are mitigated. It maintains its vital link to the city center, and it eliminates the need to build, to have something [in the] interim while you build something," said Huck.

The final slide in the presentation detailed that we are currently at the end of the preliminary design phase and will be moving to the Completed Preliminary Design and to Share Details of Selected Option phase in the fall of this year, from there sharing Structure Details from the Detailed Design Progress will take place in the Fall of 2026 and they anticipate that construction will take place from the Spring of 2027 to the Fall of 2028.

Throughout the presentation, and at the end of the presentation attendees shared their thoughts. It was a lively conversation with many people participating so this is a selection of the comments made and their responses.

"In my humble opinion, there's no point spending money on an 88-yearold structure. It is a heritage bridge. It's one of a small handful in our nation that exists. It must remain a heritage bridge. We can use it for foot traffic after. The traffic that comes from the RM of St. Clements into the city is thousands of cars every day. It's a busy thoroughfare. Again, in my humble opinion, there's no point spending [to rehabilitate]. It seems to me that the government's already got their mind made up on rehabilitation, but I don't know why you're spending all kinds of money on an 88-yearold bridge. B1 and B2 seem to be the only realistic options for a couple of reasons. It doesn't matter where you dig on the Red River, you're going to find something, you're going to find a home, you're going to find some historic resources. Doesn't matter where



**RECORD PHOTOS BY KATELYN BOULANGER** 

#### Erin Huck speaking at the event.

you dig. So the historic resource branch angle is a moot point. Doesn't matter where you go. You're going to find something,"said the commenter. They went on to mention that the flood mitigation factor is very important for regular users of the road continuing, "If we can address both the low road and the new bridge at the same time, in my humble opinion, that is the way we need to go."

The response from the presenters to this comment was that every route has positives and negatives as well as key features. In addition, the bridge is old but it can be rehabilitated to work for another 20-25 years and this will give everyone more time to discuss options.

Another commenter said, "There are cement trucks, everything coming over our bridge. That's the problem. And the problem is there's no way station or anything to stop them from going on that bridge. That's the problem. Now, how much does it cost to rehab? And is it millions? I want to know what the figures would be to put a new bridge there, and then you're talking about expropriating properties, obviously within the city of Selkirk."

An attendee voiced the opinion that we need to be planning for the future. "So after we decided we're going to rehabilitate, what are we doing to secure the property and work with the City, work with the RM to make sure that the access point on Clandeboye Ave. or McLean or whatever it is, is secured to start planning for the future infrastructure. Because we're spending millions of dollars every year developing our downtown, investing in our community and if we're going to have to plan for that future crossing, we should be designing with that, rather than be surprised in 35 years when all of a sudden, we have new bridge coming across the River, we've just sold the land and we're putting up a new building."

Some other questions included what happens should traffic volume increase in the next few years as the population is on the rise, whether there will be a reassurance that we will actually get a new bridge eventually if the rehabilitation is done, and how much more will a new bridge cost if we rehabilitate it and then construct a new one in the future.

To view the slide presentation visit https://rmofstclements.com/wpcontent/uploads/2025/05/C15103-DES-ENG-AECOM-202510516.pdf. You can also learn more about the history of the Selkirk Lift Bridge, the battle of its ownership and its eventful opening at https://selkirkmuseum. ca/places/bridge/.

> "WHAT ARE WE DOING TO SECURE THE PROPERTY AND WORK WITH THE CITY, WORK WITH THE RM TO MAKE SURE THAT THE ACCESS POINT ON CLANDEBOYE AVE. OR MCLEAN OR WHATEVER IT IS, IS SECURED TO START PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE INFRASTRUCTURE,"

# **Peguis First Nation volunteers to shelter up to 300 wildfire evacuees**

### Fisher River Cree Nation, Gimli's Evergreen Basic Needs providing back-up support

### By Patricia Barrett

With out-of-control wildfires in Manitoba having forced about 17,000 people from their homes last week – with even more evacuated on the weekend – and thousands of burned hectares of land, First Nations and other communities in the Interlake are stepping up to help support people fleeing the disaster.

As wildfires intensified last week, Peguis First Nation proactively offered to house up to 300 evacuees. By last Friday afternoon, the First Nation community had about 65 evacuees staying in its arena.

Peguis' northern neighbour, Fisher River Cree Nation, and Gimli's Evergreen Basic Needs also stepped up to provide assistance to the evacuees who've been offered safe harbour in Peguis.

Peguis Emergency Operations Centre's (PEOC) emergency management coordinator Marjorie Nielsen said she reached out last week to her counterparts at the provincial Emergency Measures Organization with an offer from Peguis to help shelter evacuees from the north.

"We volunteered to take people in. I phoned and asked if they needed a place for people to come," said Nielsen last Friday afternoon by phone as she and other staff were busy coordinating the humanitarian relief effort and organizing the shelter at the Peguis Multiplex Centre. "The maximum number of people I said we could take was 300. Right now, we have 65 evacuees, but there's supposed to be more coming today. I don't know where the people are coming from, but it could either be Flin Flon, Cross Lake, Norway House or Pukatawagan. We were asked if we wanted to shelter people from a specific area, but it doesn't matter to us where the people come from."

The PEOC coordinates responses to natural disasters and other emergencies to prevent or minimize the loss of life and property, prevent damage to the environment and the restoration of essential services.

The province declared a state of emergency last week. There were 22 active wildfires burning across the province as of last Thursday. Premier Wab Kinew said he expects more people from northern Manitoba to be evacuated and sent to communities around the province, with the majority coming to Winnipeg.

On Saturday, a mandatory evacu-

ation was underway for about 430 people in Cranberry Portage after fire destroyed power lines overnight, caused deteriorating air quality and closed part of Highway 10, according to media reports.

Nielsen said some of the evacuees that arrived in Peguis said they're homesick while others are glad to be away as they didn't sleep while fires were threatening their communities.

"People are really lonesome for home; some are saying they want to go home. And others are saying they never slept for two days," she said.

Peguis' humanitarian assistance is being supported by Fisher River Cree Nation, which has offered a number of free services to help the evacuees with practical matters such as laundry, as well as recreational activities.

"Fisher River is offering free laundromat service to our evacuees because they'll have bedding that will eventually need to be washed, plus towels and their clothing," said Nielsen. "Fisher River's coordinator is also offering free recreation services for evacuees."

Those recreational services include a bowling alley, pool tables, darts, inflatables, indoor basketball nets, outdoor rink, baseball diamond, Netflix, television and a couch area, a play park, beach volleyball, golf, a skate park and horseshoe pits. Evacuees arriving by vehicle can also get a free car wash in Fisher River.

And Peguis itself will be providing a number of additional services to evacuees to keep their minds off the fires.

"Our recreational staff person on Peguis is pretty darn awesome," she said. "He's set up a big-screen TV for movies for the kids and is working on transportation to get them to the beach. Plus we have an arcade, Xbox and Nintendo, pool tables, rollerblade floor hockey and basketball nets. Our recreational department is also offering to take people on outings. We have our own baseball field and volleyball courts here too."

The Evergreen Basic Needs food bank and second-hand store in Gimli sprang into action when it heard Peguis had offered to take in up to 300 evacuees and needed items such as bedding and towels.

EBN executive director Karen Bowman said she rounded up the items, and local restaurant Carlo's Cucina offered to get it up to Peguis, which is about 124 kilometres north of Gimli.

"We're going to be taking some box-



RECORD PHOTO BY MANITOBA HYDRO

Wildfires have toppled hydro poles and scorched thousands of hectares of forest and land in Manitoba.

es over to Carlo's, who's arranging to transport it to Peguis," said Bowman last Friday.

When asked what EBN could provide to the RM of Gimli should it offer to house evacuees in the municipality, Bowman said she was trying to determine what its needs are.

"We know the Red Cross is involved and other organizations such as emergency measures and they will coordinate responses. But I don't know what they cover," she said. "At this point, EBN is saying [to the municipality] to let us know what you need, and if we can help you we will. If we're asked to help with food on a short-term basis, we'd be available to do that,"

She said she was able to speak with Gimli councillor Andy Damm to see whether the RM could use back-up support.

"I let [councillor Damm] know that the RM can keep EBN in mind if there's anything we can do to help," said Bowman. "We're ready and willing to help with whatever the RM might need; we will do our part."

The *Record* reached out to the RM of Gimli, asking whether the municipality is planning to offer space to wild-fire evacuees, but didn't receive a response.

The paper reached councillor Andy Damm, who was attending the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' conference in Ottawa last week. He said he and his three fellow councillors want to do what they can in the face of this quickly evolving humanitarian crisis.

"Gimli is acutely aware of the rap-

idly spreading fires and the devastating effect they're having on our fellow Manitobans. Gimli has an airport and road links, and we could possibly source accommodations through local establishments and use the dormitory [an RM-owned facility with bedrooms, kitchen etc.] if given the go-ahead," said Damm. "My three fellow councillors have indicated they are on board with whatever Gimli can offer, and I'm proud to be associated with them and [appreciate their willingness] to try to help Manitobans in need during these difficult times."

The provincial government told the *Record* it's in the process of exploring housing options for evacuees.

"The province is exploring all kinds of scenarios for housing evacuees. Evacuees are all over the province, many have chosen to stay with friends and family, others are in hotels around the province (Dauphin, Brandon, Winnipeg, etc)," said a spokesperson.

Nielsen said some of the evacuees that arrived in Peguis have healthcare needs that require a little bit more attention.

A child with autism was evacuated with his grandmother, and she's afraid to sleep at night in the arena because he might wander off. Nielsen might be able to set them up inside a dressing room as it has a door. They've also had some babies arrive on Thursday night who were ill, one throwing up and another with diarrhea that required Pampers of a cer-

## 12 *The Selkirk Record* Thursday, June 5, 2025 Veteran educators Crupi, Juvonen reflect on decades of dedication

After decades of shaping young minds in the Lord Selkirk School Division, longtime educators John Crupi and Gloria Juvonen are stepping into retirement with gratitude, memories, and a continued passion for helping others. Their combined 56 years in education have left a lasting impression on students, colleagues and communities across the division.



John Crupi

John Crupi has taught in the Lord Selkirk School Division for 30 years, primarily teaching Grade 8 and 9 math and Grade 8 science.

His first teaching job was at Happy Thought School, where he remained for 12 years before finishing his career at East Selkirk Middle School.

Crupi said he always cherished working with youth. He first taught guitar lessons at Komar School of Music when he was 16 years old, coached youth hockey, and worked in a daycare.

"All these positions inspired me to become a teacher," he said.

Crupi noted his first year of teaching was a battle—facing several diverse needs and behavioural challenges. He had many late nights preparing lessons to ensure he could meet the needs of his Grade 7 class.

"However—that is when I realized I loved teaching junior high," he add-ed.

Crupi loves math and said he enjoys seeing his students succeed. He feels a sense of pride when a former student tells him the positive impact he's made on them, and this motivated him throughout his career.

He noted several changes in classroom dynamics and rules over the years—the biggest being the influence of cellphones and social media on students.

"I would say that cellphones, social media and computers have caused students to socialize less, get less sleep, have more difficulty focusing in class and ultimately affecting their mental health. I love being a teacher, but I have definitely noticed that the profession has become a little more challenging."

In retirement, Crupi looks forward to relaxing mornings. He said he is not a morning person, so a slow start with a second cup of coffee while completing a crossword is on the radar.

He also wants to travel, substitute teach, work on his golf skills, and volunteer in personal care homes singing and playing guitar.

"I would definitely welcome the idea of working with student teachers, especially in the area of math instruction. It would be fun to share some wisdom with them," Crupi said.



Gloria Juvonen

Gloria Juvonen is retiring after 26 years with the Lord Selkirk School Division.

She has held many positions, including resource teacher and school counsellor at Walter Whyte School, resource teacher at East Selkirk Middle School, school counsellor and viceprincipal at Happy Thought School, and most recently, principal at Walter Whyte for the past 12 years.

Before joining LSSD, she also taught in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Manigotagan, Man., and Sagkeeng First Nation, Man. She came to Manitoba on a whim after seeing a postage stamp–sized advertisement in the paper asking for teachers to apply. She eventually moved to Grand Marais with her husband—who is retiring in December—and took a position at WWS.

Juvonen was inspired by her own teachers to pursue a career in education.

"I had fabulous teachers during all my school years and especially my physical education teacher, Mr. Holder, when I was in junior high and high school. They all inspired me to be that teacher who would make school a positive experience for students," she said. In her first year of teaching, she taught phys. ed. in two small rural schools on the west coast of Newfoundland, one of which didn't have a gymnasium. She taught classes in the basement.

"I remember thinking that in my five years of university courses no one prepared me for developing a phys. ed. program without a regulation gymnasium and very little equipment."

She went on to develop after-school and weekend activity programs for the students—something they had never experienced before.

Her influence on students kept her motivated throughout her career, noting she cares for her school community like they are her family.

"I am incredibly proud of our team and the dedication, support and loyalty which has always motivated me to go above and beyond and give 150 per cent to all I do."

She has boxes full of cards, notes, drawings and pictures from those she's connected with throughout her career—defining these items as pieces of gold, holding memories of her fondest moments as an educator.

"It's often said that you never know the impact you have on your students' lives, but when you do get even a glimpse of that, it's the best feeling in the world."

One such moment came on a Marine Atlantic ferry to North Sydney. The captain of the ship—a former student—shared their appreciation for Juvonen's dedication to developing after-school and weekend programs. The captain even invited her family to visit the captain's quarters.

Juvonen said she had no idea of the impact she had on that student before that day.

Another highlight of her career was sharing her education journey with her two sons, Andrew and Tim, both WWS graduates.

Andrew graduated from the Royal

### > PEGUIS EVACUATION, FROM PG. 11

tain size they didn't have.

The band's SunLodge Village, which offers space for traditional Indigenous teachings, celebrations and other events, is housing some elderly evacuees in its bunkhouse cabins. One man had required nursing attention because the cot in the arena was too hard for him.

Nielsen said they needed strollers and playpens on Friday morning and a call was put out. Now she's looking for donations of small tents and/or room dividers or privacy screens. Military College of Canada in 2018 with an engineering degree before earning his helicopter pilot's licence two years later. He now flies the Cormorant with the 103rd Search and Rescue Squadron from Gander, N.L.

"It was a very proud moment for me as a mom and a school principal to arrange Andrew to fly the Cormorant to WWS on Feb. 22, 2024, as part of the 100th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Air Force. [We] were delighted to see a former WWS student fly the pride of Canada's search and rescue fleet over our little school, land in our yard and invite [us] to view and tour the aircraft," Juvonen said.

Tim is also a proud and successful WWS alumnus in athletics. He spent five years playing university volleyball, winning three Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association conference championships and two national championships with his teams.

"I am very grateful for the experiences our boys have had in our school division and super proud of their accomplishments."

Juvonen continued to make a difference in students' lives, and students continued to make a difference in hers. Over the years, she has watched her students grow and seen the evolution of technology and social media in classrooms.

She also recognized and celebrated the increasing acceptance of neurodiversity in schools—one of many changes she has experienced.

Upon retirement, Juvonen and her family will move back to Newfoundland, where they can enjoy ocean views while focusing on health and wellness. She also plans to travel throughout Canada and explore warmer destinations outside of the U.S.

"We will definitely be exploring opportunities to be involved in our new community in some way once we get settled in," she added.

"I have people situated in the middle of the rink and our arena lights don't fully dim. A lot of the evacuees were saying it's too bright so I'm thinking we need small tents they can set up inside the arena so they'll have some shade and can sleep better. That would also give them some privacy. We have no wall dividers," she said.

Inquiries and offers of assistance can be directed to Peguis' emergency coordinator Marjorie Nielsen by email: emergency.coord@peguis.ca

# École Selkirk Junior High Rocks!

time together.





École Selkirk Junior High presented a show by their rock band the Missing Assignments on May 29. The band grew out of their lunch hour 'Talent Development' group offered by Teachers John Schrofel and Sean Stevens. Nine students rocked the stage and showed Selkirk what they learned in the culminating event of their





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# 14 The Selkirk Record Thursday, June 5, 2025 Prairie Originals thrives in wild prairie weather

### By Emma McGill

Prairie Originals is doing things differently — and not just because of its brand-new location in St. Clements.

The native plant nursery doesn't use a greenhouse. Instead, it relies on outdoor propagation and cold frames to grow more than 150 hardy prairie species, all of which can survive Manitoba's unpredictable climate.

"Because they come out of dormancy based on the conditions they're experiencing, they're already hardened off, so they're fine," said owner Kelly Leask. "It takes away some of the challenges of wacky weather. They're very hardy."

Leask said the plants, all native perennials, are often able to handle temperature swings from 25 C one day to -15 C the next. In winter, they're left outside — frozen but insulated.

Some species still require extra attention, including Virginia creeper, ostrich fern, lead plant and indigo bush.

"We are constantly monitoring those," Leask said. "The soil in pots warms faster than the soil in the ground. Those ones can be frost sensitive."

Prairie Originals was founded in 1990 by Shirley Froehlich. The nursery was first located in St. Andrews, then moved to East Selkirk about a decade later, gaining four acres. Leask joined the team in 2013 as a summer employee, but stayed on and purchased the business in 2020 when Froehlich retired.

This spring, Prairie Originals moved again — this time to St. Clements. The new location isn't far from the old one, and a soft opening was held May 23. Some renovations are still underway, including the installation of seed production plots.

"We open a few weeks later than most other garden centres," Leask said. "I want to be selling plants to

ambrian



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Walk-in Clinic

**RECORD PHOTO SUBMITTED** Prairie Originals is open for the season at its new location in St. Clements.

people at a time of year when it's appropriate to plant them. I just want people to be able to plant them and not worry about it. We kind of take on that burden to make it easier for everyone else."

Looking ahead, Prairie Originals hopes to host workshops and tours to help more people learn about native plants and how they grow. The nursery's website is already a useful resource for gardeners seeking advice on companion planting and ideal growing conditions.

Prairie Originals sells grasses, shrubs, wildflowers, vines and seeds suited to the prairies — ready to face whatever the weather brings.



## The Selkirk Record Thursday, June 5, 2025 15 Interlake artists sharing the secrets of their studios June 7-8

### By Patricia Barrett

Imagination having run wild will be on display during the upcoming 24th Annual WAVE Interlake Artists' Studio Tour.

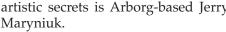
Every summer and fall, WAVE member artists in communities such as Matlock, Winnipeg Beach, Gimli, and Arborg open their studio doors and art caves to the public and share their innermost artistic thoughts, inspirational ideas and techniques.

Mediums on display include paint, jewellery, sculpture, clay, wood, photography, metal and paper.

Visitors can conduct their own tour of different studios to discover and unique arts and cultural expressions inherent in the region, as well as purchase art.

One of the artists about to reveal his





"This year's Wave's theme is 'Imagine," said Maryniuk, whose formal artistic training and work as a Winnipeg Police forensic artist (now retired) is borne out in painting, sculpting, cartoons and book-writing. "With this in mind, I created a number of pieces from old cattle bones, gourds, wood, rock and clay."

Maryniuk pays tribute to nature in some of his art, and he'll have on display an owl he sculpted from the vertebrae of beef cattle. He said there will "many more such surprises" at his studio, as well as at other artists' studio.

Maryniuk is probably best known for his thunder gourds, which people





**RECORD PHOTOS COURTESY OF JERRY MARYNIUK** 

artistic secrets is Arborg-based Jerry love. He grows the gourds himself toms. The worry stones were collectand turns them into art. He'll have those on display at his studio. He'll also showcase forensic art - skeletal remains reconstruction which Maryniuk did as a police officer and which "most people find very interesting."

Visitors to his Arborg studio can also see the evolution of his work on a new cartoon called The Rusty Years.

"These new cartoons will appear in my next book, which is well on its way to being completed. It's about

old people laughing at getting old rather than crying about it," said Maryniuk, who likes to instill humour in much of his art.

Visitors will have a chance to weigh in on future art pieces Maryniuk will be creating.

Maryniuk is a co-founder of the Winnipeg Police Service retired members' PTSD peer support group – which in addition to police officers has fire, paramedics, miliary and corrections personnel and civilian staff in the group – and he'll have art such as worry stones at his studio.

"Worry stones are a tool for people with anxiety and other PTSDrelated symped by me and my wife on the shores of Lake Winnipeg," he said.

Maryniuk will be teaming up later this summer with artist Georgina Ball and the Arborg-based Creative Cocoon to host an art show in Arborg on Aug. 8 and 9.

The summer WAVE tour is scheduled for June 7 and 8.

For information about the 16 artists in the show and directions to their studios, visit www.watchthewave.ca





### **16** The Selkirk Record Thursday, June 5, 2025 **Continuing Education program at Lord Selkirk School Division discontinued**

### Teachers still welcome to host classes

### By Katelyn Boulanger

The Lord Selkirk School Division (LSSD) put out a release saying that they have decided to discontinue their Continuing Education programming effective July 31, 2025.

The release stated, "We recognize the significance that Continuing Education has played in serving this community over the years. The decision to discontinue Continuing Education programming was not an easy one. We have arrived at this decision based on several factors, the most influential ones being budgetary constraints and the need to focus on supporting our K-12 school programming."

LSSD Superintendent Jerret Long discussed the impact that the program has had on the school division and expanded a bit more on how the division came to this decision.

"I know that we sent a letter to the community outlining sort of the rationale behind it, but the cost of maintaining the Continuing Education program in its traditional format exceeded the revenue generated from it. So, it became conversations over some time about how to support it, and, it in no way, shape or form, diminishes the value that it brought to the community, because that's really the rationale for holding on to it certainly as long as we did, because we recognize the value it brought to the community," said Long.

The Continuing Education program provided enrollment for classes, as well as an opportunity for experts in our community to share their skills in a variety of topics such as dog obedience, cooking, vocational types of programs, yoga, mental and physical health, and more.

Long explained that the decision was a financial one.

"It just became one of those scenarios given our funding scenarios that we had to make some hard decisions, and we had to really prioritize the notion that K-12 education needed our priority in terms of funding," he said.

The Lord Selkirk School Division held a budget presentation for the community earlier in the year and the *Selkirk Record* covered it in our March 13 edition. For the purposes of this discussion, their base funding is still lower than it was in the 2016/17

school year as shown in the provincial funding trend slide that was part of the presentation. Special one-time funding and nutrition programming funding do push those numbers up but inflation is also a factor in the conversation.

"It doesn't afford us a chance to do a lot extra, so to speak. That being said, there are other things that we get from the province, funding for nutrition. But in terms of operational monies to operate programming and to do those types of things like that, this would be, it really had us making some tough decisions, because we also need to have support for educational assistants or for teaching positions with growing enrollment. We want to make sure we continue to keep class size numbers, which is something we take a lot of pride in, very low compared to many other divisions," said Long.

He recognized that there will likely be some questions from the community about this decision and wanted to give people some clarity about where they are coming from. Because the programs did have a cost to participants, some people might think that this registration fee paid for the cost of the program but Long said that it didn't.

"Any revenue generated from that (registration fees) didn't come close to offsetting the cost of the whole entirety of running the program, and there are obviously lots of operational costs that went to that. Otherwise, we certainly, if it was even close, we would certainly maintain Con. Ed. programming, because it's important to the community," he explained.

Residents should also know that the Adult Education Programming, run out of the building on Main St. in Selkirk, and the school division's pool programming will continue to be in place.

Also, based on feedback that he's

received he wanted to reassure residents that instructors have also been informed of the change.

"That's the only other thing I'd add is that, because we recognize and support the value of continuing it, instructors have been notified already, and they can notify their participants. If they wish they can continue to run programming. And we will certainly support them and give them the option to run their programming in our school facilities. For example, if the instructors who currently do yoga want to still run yoga, however many nights a week in the library at the high school, we'll allow them to use that facility. Absolutely, it's just the only difference is they would have to own the responsibility of the program, like contacting people or advertising and those types of things," said Long. He says that he feels empathy for

He says that he feels empathy for people in our community who are disappointed by this decision.

"It's sort of our current educational reality is that funds and monies we need to prioritize for making sure with what we've been given, we allocate to students and supporting the programming of K-12, I guess is what I'd say. To that, there's one or maybe two divisions in the province that have a Continuing Education program within their School Division, everyone else, it's sort of moved to this scenario. It's not uncommon that a community does have continuing education that is run separately from the division, probably for this exact reason, in terms of being able to distinguish between funding to give to students. So I guess my last comment would be emphasizing, it's not a lack of recognition of the value it brings. It's just prioritizing K-12 education," said Long.

He also said that they'd be willing to work with anyone who would want to maintain programming.

Long also wanted to thank the staff and students who have participated in this program over the years.

"It's not unrealistic to say it takes a full community not only to run this type of programming, but to be instructors in it and to participate in it, and we recognize, again, the value that it's brought into the community. It's not lost on us that it has been something that's been run in this fashion for, oh boy, decades, I'd say is an honest answer. It's been like that for decades. So, although it's going to look a little bit different, I'm confident that there'll still be programming in our schools and we'll help support it. So, [our] thanks to our community for that," said Long.







**Tues Aug 5 to Fri Aug 8** Open to beginners age 7 to 13 For more information, call Brian at 204-782-9785 or email selkirkjudoclub@shaw.ca

# Ride For Dad plate unveiled to support prostate cancer fight

### By Annaliese Meier

Motorcyclists in Manitoba now have a new way to show their support in the fight against prostate cancer.

Manitoba Public Insurance has unveiled a new Ride For Dad specialty licence plate, with proceeds directed to the Manitoba Prostate Cancer Support Group. The announcement was made Saturday during the annual Ride For Dad kickoff event in Winnipeg.

"Working with groups like Ride For Dad, and the many others we've partnered with over the years, to create specialty licence plates helps generate critical funding for charities in the province," said Satvir Jatana, president and CEO of MPI. "We are proud to support communities across Manitoba and groups like Ride For Dad and MPCSG, who are making a direct impact on the lives of people impacted by prostate cancer."

The plate — the 15th design available under MPI's Specialty Plate Program — will cost \$70, with \$30 from each sale going to MPCSG. The organization offers education, awareness and support to Manitobans affected by prostate cancer.

Justice Minister Matt Wiebe, who is also responsible for MPI, praised the partnership.

"Prostate cancer affects thousands of Manitobans, and our government is pleased to partner with MPI and unveil the Ride For Dad specialty licence plate in support of this very important cause," said Wiebe. "These plates are one way Manitobans can show solidarity in the fight against cancer and support life-saving research and education right here in our province." Since its inception, the Specialty Plate Program has raised more than \$5.5 million for local causes.

Ride For Dad co-chair Moe Sabourin said the plate is already generating excitement in the motorcycle community.

"The announcement of an official Manitoba Motorcycle Ride For Dad licence plate has the motorcycle community buzzing and will support prostate cancer awareness and education throughout the province," Sabourin said.



**PHOTO SUBMITTED** Officials gathered to unveil the new Ride For Dad specialty licence plate, which will support prostate cancer awareness and education in Manitoba. Pictured, from left: Justice Minister Matt Wiebe, Kirk Van Alstyne, Maria Campos, Carmen Nedohin and Moe Sabourin.

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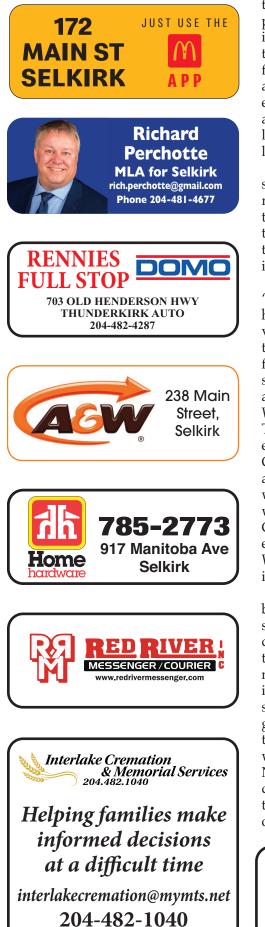
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# Interesting facts about D-Da

This June marks the eighty first anniversary of the Allied invasion of Normandy, widely-referred to as D-Day, during World War II. On June 6, 1944, more than 160,000 Allied forces landed on the beaches of Normandy in France. The Normandy landings were the largest seaborne invasion in history and marked the culmination of planning that began in 1943. D-Day is often characterized as a success that led to the liberation of Europe from the stranglehold of the Nazis, and rightfully so. But the Allied forces paid a heavy price for the victory, as more than 9,000 soldiers lost their lives within the first 24 hours of the landings.

The landings at Normandy have inspired countless books, documentaries and Hollywood productions, but there's still much to be learned about this momentous occasion in world history. The following are some interesting facts about D-Day.

The meaning behind the name "D-Day" remains open to debate and has sparked legions of curious individuals to ask what it signifies. In fact, the United States Department of Defense reports that, "What does D-Day stand for?" is the most frequently asked question at the National World War II Museum in New Orleans. Though a definitive answer may never materialize, the DoD quotes U.S. General Dwight D. Eisenhower saying all amphibious operations had what was known as a "departed date," which was often shortened to D-Day. General Eisenhower reportedly noted there were several D-Days during World War II, even if one in particular is more renowned than any other.

Deception plans played a notable role in the planning and ultimate success of the Normany landings. According to the Imperial War Museums, the D-Day deception plan was codenamed Operation Fortitude, which itself was part of a larger deception strategy known was Operation Bodyguard. Fortitude North aimed to trick the Germans into believing the Allies were planning to launch an attack on Norway, while Fortitude South was designed to deceive the Germans into thinking the invasion of France would occur northeast of Normandy. These



deception plans included the usage of dummy tanks and the fictitious First US Army Group (FUSAG), among other efforts.

• Popular western depictions of the Normandy landings often portray largely American and British forces, but the D-Day invasion was a collective success that included troops from many additional countries as well. In addition to troops from the U.S. and Britain, the D-Day invasion involved naval, air and group support from Australian, Belgian, Canadian, Czech, French, Greek, New Zealand, Norwegian, Rhodesian (modern day Zimbabwean), and Polish forces.

· A lone meteorologist might have played as significant a role as anyone in ensuring that D-Day was a success. Though his fellow meteorologists did not recommend any delays, Group Captain James Martin Stagg of the United Kingdom advised General Eisenhower to delay the D-Day invasion, which was originally scheduled for June 5, 1944. Various storms plagued the Atlantic and affected the British Isles in the days before the landings at Normandy, and indeed a storm centered north of Scotland on June 5 would have made the invasion of Normandy far more difficult. Though conditions were not perfect on June 6, they were markedly better, confirming Stagg's intuition that a delay was the best decision. That intuition left a lasting impression on General Eisenhower, who reportedly later credited his meteorologist when asked by President-Elect John F. Kennedy why the landings at Normandy had proven so successful.

Several young men from Selkirk, Manitoba fought a Juno Beach during World War II. Lt. William Little, one of the Dufferin Gang, was Captain of the Fort Garry Horse regiment during the D-Day assault. Little commanded a Sherman tank and led an armoured troop onto Juno Beach. Another notable individual from Selkirk who fought in the war and was present at Juno Beach was Cpl. Jim Parks, who enlisted with the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders after lying about his age. Both men returned to Canada after the war.





























# Classrooms can 'tackle finances' with Bomber-led workshops

### By Annaliese Meier

Manitoba classrooms have a chance to score a touchdown in financial literacy, thanks to a returning partnership between Access Credit Union and the Winnipeg Blue Bombers.

Schools across the province are invited to apply for the "Tackle Your Finances like a Pro" workshop—an engaging, 60-minute session co-led by an Access Credit Union Financial Literacy trainer and a Winnipeg Blue Bombers player.

Back for the 2025-26 school year, the workshop uses interactive activities to help students build practical money management skills. Exciting giveaways and prizes are also part of the experience.

"These workshops were introduced last year to great success. We found students were very engaged, asked thoughtful questions, and showed genuine interest in learning how to take control of their financial future," said Emily Suderman, Financial Literacy Specialist at Access Credit Union.

Last year, Blue Bombers receiver Nic Demski attended every workshop—a highlight for many of the participating students.

"We are excited with all the interest from the local schools for the Financial Literacy Program and look forward to building on last year's success," said Wade Miller, president and CEO of the Winnipeg Football Club. "We are thrilled to be in partnership with Access Credit Union on this important community initiative."

Schools interested in applying can visit accesscu.ca/bombers. The application deadline is June 30, 2025.

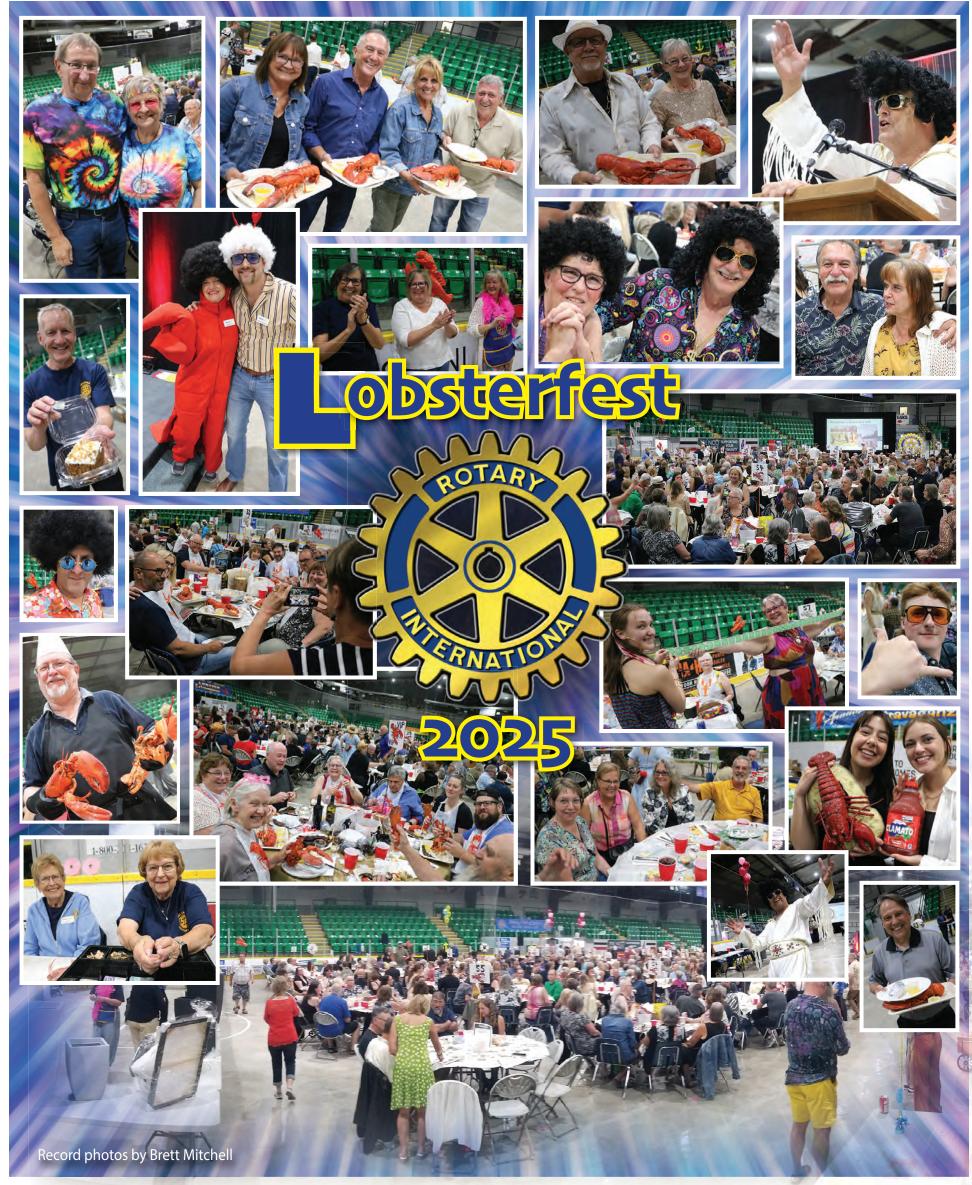
Access Credit Union, the largest credit union in Manitoba, serves more than 205,000 members with \$13.49 billion in assets and a province-wide network of branches.

# **Spring cleaning looks great!**



**RECORD PHOTO SUBMITTED** 

The Do it Better Do it Safer Network and Selkirk Peer Advisory Council hosted their third annual community cleanup on May 30. The clean-up itself left Selkirk looking more beautiful with over a dozen bags of garbage being removed from our community. In addition, the groups spread awareness about harm reduction with access to STBBI testing, vaccines, harm reduction supplies, and resources on offer, alongside an afternoon BBQ and some smiles. The groups want to thank The Selkirk Friendship Centre, City of Selkirk, Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority, Canadian Mental Health Association Interlake Eastern, and all the volunteers providing direct support for the clean up.



### The Selkirk Record Thursday, June 5, 2025 21

# Gwen Vernon to represent Canada at international dragon boat championships

### By E Anotnio

Gwen Vernon shows her strength both as a breast cancer survivor and dragon boat athlete — and soon, she'll compete on an international stage with a team of fellow survivors at the International Dragon Boat Federation (IDBF) Racing Championships in Germany.

Originally from the Selkirk area, Vernon spent over 20 years living near Toronto, Ont., before recently moving back to Manitoba.

Her breast cancer journey began in October 2012 when her first mammogram detected the disease.

"It was a real shock to me. It was one thing to know the possibility of a diagnosis, but it is something else actually receiving the news," she said.

After undergoing surgery and chemotherapy in early 2013, a friend she met during treatment encouraged her to join a dragon boat team exclusively for breast cancer survivors.

"It is a floating support network of a community of people who have gone through the same journey," Vernon said.

She fell in love with the sport almost immediately.

Her favourite part of dragon boating is the sense of connection and rhythm with her teammates.

"There is a rhythm that is created when we are all in tune, and it almost is like magic — it feels amazing to do, and it looks beautiful to watch."

As her skills grew, Vernon joined more competitive teams, competing at the Canadian Dragon Boat Nationals six times and internationally at the Club Crew World Championships twice. She also became a paddling coach, personal trainer and nutrition coach for other dragon boat athletes.

"It is so much more than the sport. Dragon boat reminds you to take care of yourself," she added.

Later this summer, she'll head to Brandenburg, Germany, with her partner Rob Crawford — who will cheer her on — for the IDBF Racing Championships taking place July 14–20.

This year's event holds special significance, as it will be the first IDBF championship to feature a breast cancer team division. Vernon and about 38 other athletes — all breast cancer survivors — will represent Team

# **Clarification**

In last week's edition of the *Selkirk Record* in the article pertaining to the reopening of Skinner's Locks Market Tennille Frost is also a partner in the market and Bud & Bloom.



Gwen Vernon and her partner, Rob Crawford, celebrate a medal win at a local dragon boat race in Ravenna, Italy, in 2024.

Canada in races against teams from Germany, Great Britain, Italy, New Zealand, Spain and the United States. "It means so much to me to be a part of the inaugural crew who will make IDBF history... it is just surreal to think about."

After the breast cancer division was approved, Dragon Boat Canada issued a call for athletes to try out. Participants underwent general fitness and sport-specific testing at selection camps held in Vancouver and Ontario over Mother's Day weekend. Vernon attended the Ontario camp and learned she had secured a spot on Team Canada over May long weekend. Only one other Manitoban athlete made the team.

"It is a full circle moment for sure," Vernon said. "Being on a breast cancer team has its challenges and rewards.



**RECORD PHOTOS SUBMITTED** 

Gwen Vernon is a local athlete who has qualified to compete in the breast cancer division for Team Canada at the International Dragon Boat Federation (IDBF) Racing Championships in Germany, July 14–20.

There are people that you meet and paddle with who do not always have the same success story I do. We have lost some people along the way, but we paddle for them as well.

"I want to be more than just a breast cancer athlete. I want to be that person who is able to paddle for everyone I have met along this journey. It is for people who want to be strong and regain their normal, and if I can help them do that, it is worth it."

Vernon said she is excited to represent Canada with her friends and teammates and can't wait to get on the water. She described race day as a "dog fight," but said she's proud to have earned her Team Canada jersey. The team will compete over four

days in races ranging from 200 to

2,000 metres. All IDBF Racing Championship races will be livestreamed on Facebook or YouTube, with links available at www.dragonboat.sport closer to the event.

To prepare, Vernon follows a rigorous independent training plan paddling two to three times a week, weight training twice a week and doing cardio on two other days. The full team will gather in Germany a week before the championships for a final training camp.

When she's not training, Vernon enjoys photography, crafting and spending time with her family, including her 20-month-old granddaughter and another grandchild on the way.



# LSSD honours outstanding citizens at annual awards

### By E Antonio

The Lord Selkirk School Division (LSSD) is celebrating the achievements of four outstanding individuals whose leadership, resilience and commitment to community have earned them this year's Local Student Recognition Awards.

From international athletic triumphs to national advocacy work and local cultural outreach, the honourees demonstrate the many ways youth and alumni are contributing to their communities — and beyond.

### Dylan Collins: A Trailblazer on the Slopes

Dylan Collins made history by becoming the first Manitoban on Special Olympics Team Canada to medal at the Special Olympics World Games, capturing gold in Alpine Skiing's Intermediate Giant Slalom (M03 division).

A 12-year veteran of the Special Olympics program, Collins started in bowling before discovering his passion for skiing after watching fellow athletes train on the slopes. Known for his determination and courage to try new things, Collins exemplifies perseverance and inclusion.

"Dylan inspires others by showing what's possible through hard work," his nomination reads. "He represents Manitoba and Canada with pride, demonstrating sportsmanship and resilience — values promoted within LSSD."

While not involved in formal community projects, Collins' athletic journey stands as a powerful example of citizenship in action, inspiring those around him with every stride down the hill.

### Kyra De La Ronde: Voice for Métis Youth

Kyra De La Ronde, a recent graduate of Red River College Polytechnic's Community Development program, has long been a passionate advocate for Indigenous youth.

The Selkirk-born Métis woman serves as Youth Representative for the Interlake Regional Youth Advisory Committee and was selected in 2021 as Chair of the Manitoba Métis Federation's Provincial Youth Advisory Committee. In early 2023, she travelled to Rome as part of a Red River Métis youth delegation to meet Pope Francis.

"Kyra uplifts Métis youth voices and contributes to Indigenous education and cultural pride," reads



**RECORD PHOTO SUBMITTED** 

Kadence Sharples, Kerri Einarson, Kyra De La Ronde and Dylan Collins are this year's recipients of the Lord Selkirk School Division's Local Student Recognition Awards, honoured for their outstanding contributions in sport, advocacy, culture and community leadership.

her citation. "Her leadership at the provincial and international level marks her as a changemaker."

Through her work with the Infinity Women Secretariat and MMF initiatives, De La Ronde defines citizenship as advocacy, cultural engagement, and taking initiative for positive change.

### Kerri Einarson: Curling Champion and Community Mentor

Clandeboye-born Kerri Einarson is a four-time national curling champion, making history by winning the Scotties Tournament of Hearts four years in a row — a feat never before accomplished in Canadian curling.

A graduate of William S. Patterson, Lockport School, and the Comp, Einarson has represent-

ed Canada at multiple World Championships, competing in Calgary, Prince George, and Sandviken, Sweden.

Einarson's success has brought pride and visibility to her hometown and to LSSD. Beyond her titles, she is recognized for mentoring youth and promoting the value of commitment and teamwork.

"She models citizenship through excellence, teamwork and giving back," her nomination reads. "Her love of the game and willingness to share it with young people is a testament to her character."

### Kadence Sharples: Music, Advocacy and Ethics

Kadence Sharples was recently named the Manitoba School Boards Association Student Citizenship Award recipient for Region 3 — one of many ways she's been recognized for her civic engagement.

A passionate volunteer, Sharples plays flute at hospitals and seniors' homes, participates in the Selkirk Arts Festival, and has taken part in national forums like the Youth Nuclear Peace Summit. She has also represented youth voices in Parliament and competed in the Manitoba High School Ethics Bowl.

"Kadence models citizenship through active participation, leadership, creativity, and compassion," her award submission notes. "Through music, ethics discussions, and peace initiatives, she uplifts both school and community environments."

Sharples' wide-ranging contributions reflect a deep commitment to community and thoughtful public service.

The Local Student Recognition Awards highlight individuals who embody the values of citizenship, leadership, and engagement within LSSD. Whether on the world stage or in local halls and homes, these recipients demonstrate the profound impact of youth and alumni working to better their communities.

For more information on the LSSD Local Student Recognition Awards, visit www.lssd.ca.



# Selkirk wins national municipal innovation award for its CitizenSupport program

Submitted by the Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators

The City of Selkirk, Man. has received national recognition from the Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators (CAMA) for their Citizen-Support service request program. The municipality was presented with the 2025 CAMA Willis Award for Innovation, in the Under 20,000 Population Category, during an awards ceremony held at CAMA's national conference in Mont Tremblant, Que.

"CAMA is pleased to recognize Selkirk for the administrative excellence demonstrated though their service request program," said Tony Kulbisky, CAMA President, CAMA Representative for Alberta and CAO for Westlock County, Alta. "It is inspiring that Selkirk could make improvements and better deal with citizen requests, while reducing demands on City resources."

Launched in 2018, CitizenSupport has transformed how the city engages with citizens, enhancing responses to service requests while reducing demands on city resources. What was once a fragmented process—resulting in misdirected calls, lost messages, and delays—is now a centralized system where every request is tracked, categorized, and resolved with accountability and efficiency.

Following a business re-engineering process, the city developed a structured hierarchy of services and sub-services. At the core of CitizenSupport are Citizen Intent Forms, designed to capture, document, and continuously improve responses to citizen inquiries. If the necessary information isn't available or out of date, the question is escalated, and the correct response is added for future use.

In 2023, the system was enhanced with the addition of Chuck, a chatbot who helps answer questions on the City's website and on the MySelkirkConnect App. And in 2025, Charlotte, an AI Assistant was added to the phone system to help when CitizenSupport representatives (CSR's) are busy helping others or to answer questions after regular business hours.

CitizenSupport now brings together Selkirk's website, front desk, call centre, service tracker/ ticketing system, customer relationship management (CRM) software, artificial intelligence, and a database of information to provide a holistic, citizen-first approach. This model demonstrates how municipalities can turn citizen support into a continuous cycle of learning, improvement, and stronger community connections.

"The City of Selkirk thanks CAMA for its recognition of our CitizenSupport program. CitizenSupport is a holistic approach to meeting the needs of our citizens," says Selkirk CAO Duane Nicol.

"It brings together all of these tools in a cohesive system that is continuously improving and adapting as we go. Our approach goes beyond having these elements in place; it integrates them into a more seamless process, allowing us to deeply understand and respond to citizens' concerns individually and collectively, improve our responses, and even anticipate needs and provide proactive guidance to city departments."

"CAMA's Awards of Excellence Program celebrates the best in local government and recognizes the professional munic-



**RECORD PHOTO SUBMITTED** Duane Nicol receiving the award on behalf of the

ipal administration needed to deliver creative and successful programs, projects or services," said Bev Hendry, Chair of the 2025 CAMA Awards Committee and CAMA Past President. "Each year we are amazed at the calibre of submissions received. Congratulations to the winners and everyone who submitted an entry."

City of Selkirk.

A total of 54 submissions were received for this year's awards program. To find out more about each award, and to see a video outlining each project, visit www.camacam.ca/awards and look for the award recipients' link.

# Thank you firefighters



Members of our local Selkirk and Clandeboye Fire Departments have been helping deal with the many forest fires that our province is experiencing this summer. The two departments teamed up to fight the fire located west of Split Lake which as of press time remains out of control. Pictured: Selkirk Fire Fighters Shaun DeBoer (middle) and Mike Kreviak (right) with Selkirk Mayor Larry Johannson.







Recipe courtesy of "Cookin' Savvy" Yield: 12 cups

2 packages (16 ounces each) chocolate chip cookie dough

Whipping Cream:

- 1 cup heavy cream
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- Filling:
- 8 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 1/2 cup powdered sugar

1 cup whipping cream

crumbled cookies, for topping (optional)

sprinkles, for topping (optional)





# Cheesecake **Cookie Cups**

### Heat oven to 350 F.

RIVFR

In muffin tin, press three pieces of cookie dough into each muffin hole. Bake 15 minutes. Let cool 5 minutes then use shot glass and press into each hole. Let cool another 5 minutes and place on rack to cool completely.

With hand mixer, mix heavy cream and sugar until it thickens then add cream cheese and powdered sugar; cream together. Spoon into cool cookie cups.

If desired, use piping bag and pipe pretty edge around cup. Top with crumbled cookies or sprinkles, if desired.

# **Queso Cheese Corn Salad**

Recipe courtesy of "Cookin' Savvy" Servings: 4-6

- 1 pinch salt
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 2 cans whole corn, drained
- 1 cup chopped bell pepper
- 1 hot pepper (optional)
- 1 cup shredded queso cheese

freshly chopped cilantro, for garnish To make dressing: In bowl, mix lime juice, mayo, salt and sugar.

In separate large bowl, mix corn; bell pepper; onion, if desired; hot pepper, if desired; and queso cheese.

Pour dressing over corn mixture and

## Ask the money lady

### Dear Money Lady,

I am panicking about my investment portfolio. It has lost so much in the last couple of weeks. I now wish I wasn't invested in the stock market. What should I do? Helen M.

Hello Helen, this downturn will pass so please do not cash out. Try to limit your withdrawals and consider buying more of your good dividend stock picks that are now "on sale" due to the current economic market.

For many of us, creating meaningful wealth means we have to get out of our comfort zone and invest in something that will appreciate over time. Whether this is through the stock market, home ownership and improvement, or even additional education to increase your career opportunities; it must be done, to give you the future you believe you deserve. Your biggest risks will not be the things you cannot control, such as the stock market, the economy or pandemics - it will be how you react to them. Unfortunately, when investing in anything, those things that are the most comfortable are usually the least profitable. Investment bias and preconceived notions about risk and volatility shape our future more than the investment itself.

Let's look at a case study done by Thomas Corley: The Daily Success Habits of Wealthy Individuals. This study took over 200 self-made millionaires with a minimum income of \$160K and \$3M in assets compared to 200 people with an income of less than \$35K and \$5K in assets. Over a 5-year study, it was found that those with money had very different views and personal habits to those of the respondents with far less. Of course, this is to be expected, but what was interesting was that it wasn't any product, investment, win-fall opportunity or even education that created their wealth, it was their positive mindset. Those that became wealthy had the following common traits.

1. Made goal setting part of their everyday routine and were always forward-thinking.

2. Read for improvement a minimum of 30 minutes per day.

3. Formed relationships with like-

minded people. 4. Not afraid to try new opportunities.

5. Preferred to invest in proven simple strategies to create meaningful wealth over time

6. Showed the conviction and



perseverance to consistently work their business plan for success.

7. Demonstrated a patient attitude toward what they believed to be true.

Those that had much less had the following common traits.

1. Did not invest to grow their wealth or improve their lifestyle.

2. Did not take personal responsibility for their current situation and their life circumstance.

3. Spent too much time with other people who wasted their time.

4. Rarely created personal goals and found it hard to execute them.

5. Were more impressed with complicated plans to succeed but rarely had the inclination to follow them.

6. Showed a "herd mentality" when trying something new, where if many people are doing something, they must be right, so they wanted to follow this method.

7. Was impatient toward most things that were important for self-improvement.

Stock markets will always rise and fall, but it is those investors that stay the course, remaining true to their convictions and investment strategies that make money today. Don't get sucked in by what you see on TV, investing in the flavor of the day or selling because you can't handle a market swing. If you believe that your investment plan (or even your life plan) is correct, then have the conviction to invest in it over time through thick and thin. Listening to fearmongers or negative people never helps you achieve greatness. Good Luck and Best Wishes,

Money Lady Written by Christine Ibbotson, Author, Finance Writer and Syndicated Money Coach on BNN Bloomberg. Christine is also part of the everyday lineup on CTV Your Morning in every province. No AI. If you have a money question you want answered FREE - send it to: info@askthemoneylady.ca



- Dressing:
- 2 limes, juice only
- 1/4 cup mayo

- 1/4 cup chopped red onion (optional)

mix well. Top with cilantro.

# Ride for Dad raises \$600K in Manitoba for prostate cancer research

### By Lana Meier

The sound of hundreds of motorcycles echoed through Gimli on Saturday as the Manitoba Motorcycle Ride for Dad rolled through town, part of the annual provincewide fundraiser to fight prostate cancer.

The May 31 ride attracted more than 1,200 registered riders who departed from Winnipeg's Polo Park and travelled through several Manitoba communities, including Selkirk and Gimli, before returning to the city. Now in its 17th year, the event raised over \$600,000 — bringing the ride's total fundraising impact to \$5.7 million since its inception.

"It's a good cause and a reason for a bunch of people to get together," said Scott Mullen, who made the trek with his 12-year-old son Jake. The father-son duo enjoyed a free burger after arriving in Gimli, part of a lunch served to the first 500 riders courtesy of Lakeview Hotels, a major event sponsor.

<sup>•</sup> As a tourism partner, it's important for Lakeview to support the Ride for

Dad along with other events including the Icelandic Festival, the Gimli Film Festival, MS Biking to the Viking and the Ice Festival to promote the town as a destination," said Lakeview's vice-president of operations Chris Miller. "We have been involved with the Ride for Dad since the beginning. It's a great cause and always an exciting day for the community, supported by our great local volunteers that make these events possible."

The annual ride is part of a six-week campaign to raise awareness about prostate cancer, which the Canadian Cancer Society says is the most common cancer affecting Canadian men. One in eight men will be diagnosed with the disease, and one in 30 will die from it.

Gimli residents lined the streets to show their support as the parade of riders rolled through. Volunteers also helped make the day possible, including former Gimli mayor Randy Woroniuk, who was spotted helping with traffic direction. While similar events take place across the country, funds



**RECORD PHOTOS BY CHRIS MILLER** 

More than 1,200 riders roared into Gimli on May 31 as part of the 17th annual Manitoba Motorcycle Ride for Dad, raising over \$600,000 for prostate cancer research and awareness. The provincewide event, which began in Winnipeg, included stops in Selkirk and Gimli before returning to the city.

raised in Manitoba stay in Manitoba, supporting local research and education. Proceeds from this year's ride will go toward work being done at Winnipeg's Genomic Centre for Prostate Cancer Research. Organizers praised the hospitality shown in each community along the route — with Gimli once again serving as a memorable stop for many riders and supporters alike.



# Manitoba Hydro monitoring wildfires, 1,500 without power

### By Lana Meier

Manitoba Hydro says it's closely monitoring wildfire activity and related power outages across the province, as about 1,500 customers remained without electricity as of Friday afternoon.

The outages are primarily affecting communities in northern and eastern Manitoba.

"The safety of our employees and the public remains our top priority," said Allan Danroth, Manitoba Hydro president and CEO. "We are working closely with the Manitoba Wildfire Service, the Office of the Fire Commissioner and RCMP to ensure we're not putting any of our restoration crews or emergency response teams in unsafe situations. We appreciate the support and patience of our customers as we wait to safely access affected areas to assess damage to our infrastructure and begin our restoration work." Hydro confirmed all employees have left areas under evacuation orders. The Jenpeg Generating Station was evacuated Wednesday. The facility was undergoing maintenance at the time and was not generating electricity, so the evacuation is not expected to impact customers.

In eastern Manitoba, crews have paused restoration work in Nopiming Provincial Park and have left the area until conditions are safe to return.

"I want to acknowledge our staff and customers who live and work in communities affected by fires and evacuations," said Danroth. "Our thoughts are with them, and we are very mindful of the challenges they're facing. I also want to thank the firefighters and other first responders who are doing their best to protect Manitobans at this time of crisis."

Customers can view real-time updates on the Manitoba Hydro outage map.



**RECORD PHOTO COURTESY OF MANITOBA HYDRO** A water bomber flies over a fire-scorched area in Manitoba.

### **26** *The Selkirk Record* Thursday, June 5, 2025 Fisher says Lake Winnipeg's fishery future depends on clean water, not only eco-certification

### By Patricia Barrett

A Lake Winnipeg commercial fisher who has been fighting for decades to get various levels of government to take meaningful action on stopping the polluting of the lake said the sustainability of Manitoba's freshwater fishery depends on clean water, not just eco-certification.

Robert T. Kristjanson, who has been a commercial fisher for over 70 years, said he asked natural resources minister Ian Bushie to address pollution at a recent meeting that the minister and government staff had with Lake Winnipeg commercial fishers to discuss eco-certification, but the government "wouldn't hear anything about it."

"We went to a meeting with the minister in Selkirk on Friday (May 9) where they're trying to move forward on the eco-certification of fish. They're making a great big deal of that. But nobody wants to make a big deal of the water issues in Lake Winnipeg," said Kristjanson, who earned the Order of Manitoba in 2018 for his enduring commitment to fight for clean water. "I told the minister that the most important thing we have in Manitoba is water. And look at what we're doing to it. I said, 'I hope you have the [will] to do something about it.' The government is trying to enhance opportunities for selling fish but is doing nothing about cleaning up our water."

Lake Winnipeg experiences extensive and damaging algal blooms caused by nutrients such as phosphorus and nitrogen that enter the lake from agricultural runoff, treated wastewater and untreated human waste – the most infamous of which comes from the City of Winnipeg's combined sewer failures. Millions of litres of raw waste can find its way into city rivers whose waters eventually flow north to Lake Winnipeg.

While Kristjanson said he agrees in principle with the eco-certification of Lake Winnipeg, the long-term sustainability of the fishery really boils down to water quality. This past winter fishing season saw more pollution besetting fishers. And garbage left behind by anglers washed up on Grand Beach.

"Fishers in Matheson Island and throughout the channel, they had the algae problem just terrible this winter," said Kristjanson, who has been featured in episodes of the television series Ice Vikings. "And Grand Beach was covered with stuff from anglers from the winter – all their minnow tubs, shit and garbage from the thousands of people angling this winter."

Eco-certification is a process whereby a third party assesses the sustainability of a fishery. Three key principles are assessed: the sustainability of fish stocks, impacts on other fish species, and the environment and management effectiveness.

According to the May 9 presentation document, there is a "growing demand" in the retail and restaurant sectors for certified sustainable fish and seafood products, with retailers such as Costco and Sobeys committed to sourcing sustainable fish and seafood.

Kristjanson said it's unwise to think that commercial fishers are going to get a higher price for their fish should it become eco-certified. The price of fish is set by the market. And eco-certified fish may be more expensive for the consumer.

"The government is saying people all over are wanting to buy fish that's certified. That's likely true. But I've been to every big box store such as Costco where I see fish coming in from every country, and I haven't seen anything certified," he said. "There's nothing wrong with being eco-certified, but the fishers are not going to get a big price for their fish. What the world is willing to pay for fish is what determines the price."

According to Costco's website, the store won't buy wild seafood at risk such as Atlantic halibut unless its certified by the Marine Stewardship Council, an international non-profit organization that works with fisheries, processors, distributors, retailers and others for responsibly sourced and traceable seafood. Costco also supports aquaculture (farmed seafood) if it's done in a responsible way. It's unclear what Costco's policy is on freshwater fish as no statement could be found on its website.

The eco-certification process entails a pre-assessment to determine whether a fishery would meet standards, a Fisheries Improvement Project (FIP), which is an action plant to address deficiencies, a full assessment of the fishery meeting standards, and annual audits.

A pre-assessment of Lake Winnipeg was completed in 2024 with two FIPs registered. A FIP of the north basin of the lake is underway. A pre-assessment of Lake Manitoba was completed in 2024 with a request to move forward to a FIP. A pre-assessment is to be conducted this year of Lake Winnipegosis.

There are two certified fisheries in Manitoba: Waterhen Lake and Cedar Lake.

Kristjanson said it's unclear who would be paying for the eco-certification process of Lake Winnipeg. He was involved in an initiative 20 or so years ago to get Lake Winnipeg



**RECORD FILE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT** 

A Lake Winnipeg fisher working in the Hecla-Crindstone region encountered a huge swirling mass of algae and excrement in October 2018. The polluting of Lake Winnipeg is an ongoing issue.

whitefish certified – which was supported by the federal fisheries department – but nothing happened in the end.

"It's a monster of a thing to do, to get certification. The whitefish [certification initiative] went back and forth and back and forth with Ottawa, but nothing happened with the province," he said.

When asked how minister Bushie responded to his promptings to take action on water, Kristjanson said the minister said "nothing."

"I guess you can eco-certify a polluted lake and continue to pollute it," said Kristjanson.

The *Record* reached out to the provincial natural resources department for comment.

When asked if cleaning up Lake Winnipeg is a concern for the department along with eco-certification, a department spokesperson said there needs to be suitable water quality.

"Fisheries Branch understands that healthy fisheries require a healthy lake, including water quality suitable for the fish communities that support the province's commercial, subsistence and recreational fisheries," said the spokesperson.

There have been numerous discharges of raw sewage from the City of Winnipeg since January, and Kristjanson said the city should be fined by the province.

"They're just dumping [city] sewers straight into the river. If the City of Winnipeg has another sewage spill, they have to be liable. They need to pay the fishing industry damages," said Kristjanson. "The only thing they'll understand is money. That money should go to a fish hatchery in Manitoba." Kristjanson encourages people to continue advocating for clean water in Lake Winnipeg and reach out to their elected representatives to remind them that the pollution issue has not gone away.

"We mustn't stop working on improving the water quality in Lake Winnipeg," he said.

In addition to the discussion on ecocertification at the May 9 meeting with minister Bushie, there were discussions about forging a new working relationship between the province and commercial fishers, which broke down under a previous government.

A commercial fishery advisory table is currently in the works. It will allow the government and fishers to meet and discuss matters of concern to the commercial fishing industry, which generates about \$100 million annually. Lake Winnipeg produces the lion's share of fish in Manitoba.

When asked if water quality in Lake Winnipeg will be one of the advisory table's mandates, the department's spokesperson said:

"The Commercial Fisher Advisory Table offers a new platform for the Manitoba government to engage with commercial fishers. The table will discuss matters that are of importance to the commercial fishing industry."

The government is still in the "early stages" of forming the advisory table, and the government's focus is continued engagement with the industry as it gets established.

Membership on the advisory table will be done in "co-ordination" with the commercial fishing industry.

"The province looks forward to working in partnership to bring together fishers from the entire lake," said the spokesperson.



# INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

# Blue Jays split doubleheader against Orioles in MJBL action

### By Kieran Reimer

The Interlake Jr. Blue Jays are hoping to get over the hump in the Manitoba Junior Baseball League this season.

Last year, the Jays were eliminated in the semifinal by Elmwood, falling just short of a finals appearance in a decisive Game 5.

This year, the roster looks a little different, but the end goal remains the same, according to head coach Dave Meyers.

"It's a pretty good group of kids, pretty strong team," said Meyers. "Got good pitching, which is always good, so when you have that, you're always going to be in games."

Now entering the fourth week of the season, the Jays have been competitive in every outing.

They currently sit at 3-3 after alternating wins and losses, with each defeat coming by four runs or fewer.



Nolan Wright was the starting pitcher for the Interlake Blue Jays in Game 1 against the Orioles.

Their record puts them fifth in the seven-team league, though they're tied for the fewest games played.



**RECORD PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT** 

Interlake Blue Jays' Keenan Allen slides in headfirst and is safe at third base during Game 1 of a doubleheader against the Pembina Valley Orioles on May 25 in Winkler.

elled to Altona on Friday and picked up their third win of the season with a 7–5 victory over the Bisons.

They followed up with an 8–6 loss to St. Boniface on Sunday in a game where they left 12 runners on base.

"It was just a matter of not getting timely hitting when you needed it yesterday, so other than that, the game was pretty good," said Meyers.

The Jays will now turn their attention to a trio of games this coming weekend, including a doubleheader at Quarry Park in Stonewall.

They'll face Elmwood on Friday at 6 p.m. at Koskie Field in their second meeting of the season.

Sunday's home doubleheader will be at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m., when the Jays take on the Carillon Sultans for the first time this year.



Interlake Blue Jays' Tyler Olson steals second base.



What's *Your* story?

### We want to hear from you.

The Selkirk Record connects people through stories to build stronger communities. Do you know someone who has a unique hobby? Will be recognized by a local organization for volunteer service? A teacher that goes above and beyond? A hometown hero? A sports star? A business celebrating a milestone or expansion? A senior celebrating their 100th birthday? A young entrepreneur starting out? Please share your story ideas at news@selkirkrecord.ca Phone 204-485-3337

Settens Record

# Sportsærecreation INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN Royals stock rising in second year of competition

### By Kieran Reimer

The Lord Selkirk Royals girls lacrosse team is taking a step forward this season in the Manitoba High School Field Lacrosse League Women's Division I.

Seven games into just the second season in team history, the Royals have already surpassed their win total from last year, with four victories so far.

What's also helped is the extra year of experience for a group that had just two players with prior lacrosse experience heading into last season. At this year's tryouts, nearly twice as many players came out compared to last year.

Since hitting the field, the Royals have also found ways to score with the best in the league.

Heading into last Saturday's games, they had tallied 82 goals through seven games while allowing the thirdfewest in the league with 63 — thanks in part to goaltender Aubrey Palsson.

A 12–9 win over the Dakota Lancers on May 20 showed their offence taking over a close game while their defence locked things down in the second half.

Leading the Royals offence were some of the team's regular scorers — captain Delainey Kiteley, Julia Gidilewich and Aliyah Teixeira — who combined for all 12 goals in the victory.

"We're very fortunate that those three in particular, along with Serena Reeb, are some of our returning players, so they all played last year as well," said head coach Regina Kiteley. "That's helping our offence — they've now got a season under their belts and have a good read on the game and how to play."

"We're fortunate to have a very athletic team. As a whole, we've got a lot of multi-sport athletes. This is only



Royals' Serena Reeb cuts around a Garden City Gophers player on Friday. Reeb scored a hat trick in the Royals' 15-7 win.

our second year with the program, so they're getting a better read of the field, learning to love the game and appreciate it. They're doing a great job out there."

The win over Dakota also showed how the team is trending upward with playoffs on the horizon.

Last year ended in a first-round playoff exit for the Royals, who are now aiming to win a playoff game for the first time.

On Friday, they moved one step closer with two games at the Selkirk Recreation Complex — an 11–6 loss to Murdoch MacKay followed by a 15–7 win over Garden City.

"They're excited for the end of the season," said Kiteley last Tuesday. "They've got a couple of tougher teams coming up, but all of their games have been close and they battle hard."

"They're gritty, they're smart, and they play like a team. That's what I love most about coaching these girls





### **RECORD PHOTOS BY BRETT MITCHELL**

Royals' Delainey Kiteley cuts through the Garden City Gophers with the ball on Friday. Kiteley currently ranks third in MHSFLL Women's Division I with 36 goals.



Royals' Jolie Hanslip looks for options against the Garden City Gophers on Friday. The Royals went on to win 15-7.

— they win as a team, they lose as a team. They don't get down on themselves and they never quit. I think they've got a solid base heading into playoffs."

The Royals wrap up the regular season this Tuesday against Sturgeon Heights at 6:45 p.m. at Shaughnessy Park Field.

# Spontside > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

# **Royals soccer teams both make finals appearances**

### By Kieran Reimer

It was a successful season on the pitch for both of Lord Selkirk's varsity soccer teams.

The Royals reached the finals on both the boys' and girls' sides, with the boys capturing the KPAC B-side championship title.

On the girls' side, a three-game unbeaten streak in May — including a 6-2 semifinal win over the Kildonan-East Reivers — earned them a spot in the KPAC A-side championship game.

Coached by Alex Haiart, the Royals took on Miles Macdonell for the title at East St. Paul Field on May 22. The Buckeyes came away with a 3-1 win, leaving Lord Selkirk as KPAC finalists.

The Royals wrapped up their season last Tuesday at Ralph Cantafio Soc-

cer Complex with a wildcard game against Léo-Rémillard, where they were edged 1-0.

"The team played so well all year, building and getting better every week," said Haiart. "We had strength all over the field, allowing us to play on all parts of it. Our bench was deep and kept the standard when we made subs."

On the boys' side, the Royals entered the KPAC B-side championship game coming off wins over Garden City and Springfield.

In the final, they met the Kildonan-East Reivers and earned a 2-0 shutout to claim the title at East St. Paul Field on May 26.

Coached by Gennaro Raimo, the boys finished the month of May with a 3-1 record, outscoring opponents 11-4 along the way.



**RECORD PHOTOS BY BRETT MITCHELL** Royals' Ashton Raimo cuts past a Kildonan-East Reivers player during the KPAC

# Strikeforce living up to their name early in season

### By Kieran Reimer

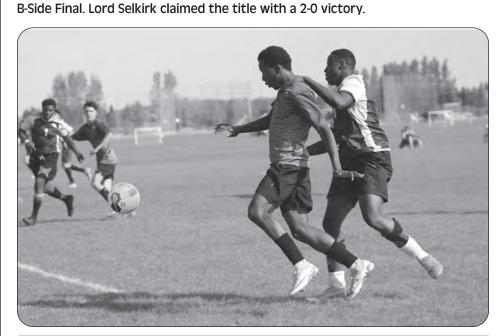
Selkirk Strikeforce have earned an off-week after a near-perfect start to the regular season.

Through three matches, Strikeforce have been the class of the Manitoba Major Soccer League's Division 3B, going 3-0 with a plus-eight goal differential.

Their wins include a 5-1 victory over Superbia FC, a 4-2 result against Storm City, and a 3-1 win over Thunder FC in their most recent match on May 21. Strikeforce are also set to benefit from a favourable stretch in their schedule, with four of their next five games at home at Selkirk Recreation Complex Field.

The first of those, which doubled as their home opener, took place Monday, June 2 against Triumph. Due to press deadlines, the score was unavailable at press time.

They'll remain at home for their next two matches, with Wasps visiting on Wednesday, June 11, followed by Maples FC on Monday, June 16.



# **Royals come up just short of KPAC finals berth**

### By Kieran Reimer

One more win and the story might have ended differently for the Lord Selkirk Royals varsity boys baseball team.

With the KPAC regular season concluding on May 21, the Royals found themselves just outside the top two spots that advanced to the league final. Their 4-2 record placed them third in the seven-team league, but an undefeated season by Garden City and a 5-1 campaign by River East edged Selkirk out of playoff contention.

The Royals had defeated every team in the league except Garden City and River East.

They remained in the hunt until their final regular season game on May 21, when they faced Garden City. The Gophers — who had overwhelmed every opponent this season — continued their dominant run, posting a 14-5 win over Selkirk to secure a spot in the championship game. Garden City went on to defeat River East in the final the following day at Blue Cross Park in downtown Winnipeg.

Looking back, the Royals' narrow 11-9 loss to River East on May 14 proved to be the turning point of their season. It was a pivotal game with playoff implications, and one they came just short of winning.

The Royals bounced back with two strong wins before Garden City ultimately ended their playoff hopes.

Despite missing the playoffs this year, the Royals are poised for a strong return next season, with only seven players graduating from the roster.

### **30** The Selkirk Record Thursday, June 5, 2025



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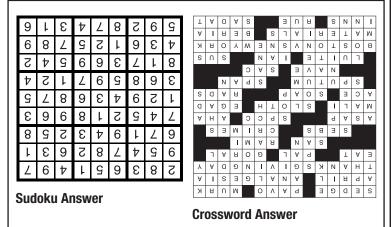
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# take <u>a break</u> > GAMES

FINDOKU Fun By The 8 3 6 4 Numbers 2 gooog Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This and the mind-bending 5 puzzle will have 7 2 vou hooked from the moment you wood 6 7 5 square off, so sharpen your 9 4 pencil and put your sudoku 3 9 savvy to the test! 4 5 2 8 3 6

### Here's How It Works:

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



**CLUES ACROSS** 

- 1. Marsh plant
- 6. Southern constellation ("The
- Peacock")
- 10. Fogginess
- 14. Home to Fools' Day
- 15. Absence of the sense of pain
- 17. Popular November holiday
- 19. Consume food
- 20. Buddy
- 21. Long-haired goat-antelope
- 22. Japanese honorific
- 23. Actor Malek
- 24. One point south of southeast
- 26. Illegal acts
- 29. As fast as can be done
- 31. Prevents harm to young
- 32. Exclamation of satisfaction
- 34. African nation
- 35. Slow-moving animal
- 37. Oh, goodness!
- 38. A team's best pitcher
- 39. Cleanser
- 40. Radioactivity units
- 41. Expectorated matter
- 43. Cover a wide range
- 45. The central area of a church
- 46. California capital (abbr.)
- 47. Dutch painter Klaver
- 49.007's creator
- 50. Impression of dishonesty 53. Northeastern sports rivalry
- 57 Cloths
- 58. Stalin's police chief
- **59. Hostelries**
- 60. Bitterly regret
- 61. Anwar \_\_\_, Egyptian statesman
- **CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Satisfy
- 2. European health advocate
- 3. Expression of annovance
- 4. Strong liquor 5. Large red deer
- 6. Holder of less common
- religious beliefs
- 7. West Indian shrub



9. Wealthy, influential business

12. Monetary unit of Iran and

16. Expressed in pithy maxims

13. Mary \_\_\_, cosmetics

22. The NFL's big game

23. Proof of payment (abbr.)

24. Starchy preparation of dried

18. Relaxing spaces

orchid tubers

28. Herring-like fish

29. Doctors' group

**30. Pouches** 

25. Indicates near

8. Family of proteins

leader

Oman

10. Low spirits

11. Approves food

CROSSWO

20

- 35. A reminder of past events
- 37. Geological time
- 39. Stationary part of a motor
- 42. Brings together
- 43. Of sound mind
- 44. Personal computer
- 46. Without (French)
- 47. A bank might give you one
- 48. Agricultural testing
- organization 49. A small island
- 50. Type of gene
- 51. Murres
- 52. Card game
- 53. A measure of human health
- 54. Australian airline (abbr.)
- 55. One point south of due west
- 56. Affirmative
- 31. Bread dipping in sauce 33. Commercials

27. Minneapolis suburb

- 56 55 58
- 61

40

- - - 36. Affected by injury



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ANNOUNCEMENT



Roger John Goetz March 31, 1952 - June 9, 2024 In loving memory of my dear husband who I lost 1 year ago When God was making husbands, As far as I can see. He made a special soulmate, Especially for me! I think of all the laughter, The smiles and all the fun; And before I even know it, My tears have again begun. Next time we meet will be at Heaven's door, And when I see you standing there, I won't cry anvmore. I'll put my arms around you and kiss your smiling face, Then the pieces of my broken heart,

Will fall back into place.

-Love you always, Gloria

#### Roger Goetz

March 31, 1952 - June 9, 2024 We're always thinking of you, Pa But that is nothing new, We thought about you yesterday, And the day before that too. We'll think about you tomorrow, And as the years come and go. We'll think about you forever, Because we loved you so. We love and miss you so much "Every little thing is gonna be alright", -Roddy, Lisa, Dusty, Misty and Windy

Roger "Papa" Goetz March 31, 1952 - June 9, 2024 Forever remembered, forever loved, A Papa whose heart now rests above. In our memories your spirit thrives, A beacon of love, That never dies. "We'll never not remember you, Papa", -Ramey, Randey, Rayley, Hayley, Riley, Harley, Theo, Manny, and Your Little Buddy Rylar, Super Hero Tatum,

Super Hero Tatum, Boo Boo Avery and Princess Zariaah

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ANNOUNCEMENT ANNIVERSARY



Happy 45th Wedding Anniversary Bruce and Charlene Kreamer On May 31st -Love your children and grandchildren

### ANNOUNCEMENT

IN MEMORIAM

Roger Goetz March 31, 1952 - June 9, 2024 When I need comfort I walk down memory lane, There I see you smiling I want to talk with you again. And as I wander slowly back I seem to hear you cry, Don't grieve, don't cry We'll meet again someday.

-Love your mother-in-law Clara Donald

Remember your loved ones or send your special wishes to your friends and family. Seikirk Record Call 204-785-1618

### ANNOUNCEMENT ANNIVERSARY



Joan and Murray Wilkinson 50th Anniversary, May 31, 2025 THANK YOU - What a Celebration! Thank you to our family for all the hard work they put into our celebration. Thank you to Brenda and Chris for the fabulous and delicious lunch as always. Thank you to all who attended, for your gifts and best wishes. Thank you for your kind words to all who spoke and brought greetings. To all our family and friends, thank you for being a special part of our lives, and for all the love, laughter and support that you have gifted us through the years.

### OBITUARY

#### Lorraine Doris McLeod

Peacefully, on Wednesday, May 21st, 2025 at KinPlace Nursing Home, in Oakbank, Manitoba, The Lord called our beloved Mother home.

Lorraine was 84, born on December 22nd 1940, and grew up in the Grand Beach area, in the small village of Beaconia, MB. She married Lawerence Alexander Longbottom at the spirited age of 18, and they had five children, Treva, Michele, Penny, Tamara, and James. They later divorced, and Lorraine raised their five children in the suburb of Charleswood.

In her 40s she worked at Deer Lodge Hospital, as a kitchen aid, before retiring to Grand Marais, MB.

Her second marriage was to James Alexander McLeod. They built a beautiful home in Grand Maris, MB, and resided there for 30 plus years.

Lorraine enjoyed playing the guitar and singing country songs at parties and family gatherings. She loved to cook, and was famous for her spaghetti sauce, homemade soups, and German cabbage rolls. She loved curling with her family and friends in the winter, and during the summer, she loved riding her bike around the beach, filling her basket with wild flowers, and stopping in to visit with friends and family who lived around the Grand Maris community.

Sadly, Mom suffered a massive stroke at the age of 67, and never fully recovered. Her husband Jim dedicated his life to her care until his passing in 2016. Job well done Pops, RIP.

Lorraine is survived by her sister Dorothy Craigie; brother William Klatt (Karen); daughters, Treva Longbottom, Michelle Longbottom, Penny Iwaniw, Tamara Leech (Mark); her only and favorite son, James Longbottom (Camille); 16 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents Adolph and Audrey Klatt; brothers, David, Melford, Ralph, Earl, Leaonard and her special younger sister, Christine "Chrissy"; husband James Mcleod, and grandson Carl Steve Iwaniw; sister-in-law Margarie Klatt, brother in-law Wilfred Craigie.

Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, June 7th, 2025 at 11 a.m. at Wayside Church, 39082 Fey Road, Grand Marais, MB. Interment will take place at St Lukes Anglican Cemetery, 100094 PR 500,

#### Balsam Bay, MB.

Our family would like to thank all of her wonderful homecare workers in Grand Marais and Selkirk areas, since she suffered her stroke 23 years ago. Also, a special thank you to the entire staff at Kin Place Nursing home, in Oakbank MB, for their exceptional care for the past six years. God Bless Each one.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Stroke Recovery Association of Manitoba. Please visit Lorraine's memorial page at seasonsfunerals.ca to share memories and condolences.



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#### OBITUARY



#### Morna Murray February 21, 1934 – April 24, 2025

Peacefully at the Selkirk Regional Health Center on April 24, 2025, Morna Clare Murray passed away.

She leaves behind her lifelong partner of 70 years John Murray, her daughter Pam O'Leary and son-in-law Paul Ratson, her brother Verne Frantz, nephew Larry Frantz and the twins Susan Woodruff and Sharon McMaster.

She will be laid to rest in River Hills with her dear son Mitch, her mom and dad Tony and Clara Frantz, her grandmother and many cousins and friends.

Morna was born in Winnipeg in 1934 and grew up in Seven Sister Falls. She went to Winnipeg United College where she met John, and they got married in March of 1955. She and John followed his job and lived in many places: Oakville, Beaconsfield Que.,

Ancaster, and then to Selkirk in 2011.

Morna worked as a Comptometer Operator, stay-at-home wife and mother, and was an avid gardener which led to joining garden societies and participating in world class flower arrangement competitions. She enjoyed golfing and swimming. Morna was very artistic which showed in her crafting, sewing, quilting, knitting/crocheting, and paintings. She made many donations to the Winnipeg Humane Society and spent many hours crocheting wool blankets for the puppies. Morna loved to travel and visit new places, such as Florida, Hawaii, Australia, Mexico, Germany, Switzerland, Panama, Caribbean, Greece, Fiji, and Portugal.

A memorial service will be held on Thursday, June 26, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. in the Gilbart Funeral Chapel, Selkirk, MB.

OBITUARY

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent in Morna's name to the charity of your choice. Tributes: www.gilbartfuneralhome.com

Gilbart Funeral Home, Selkirk in care of arrangements.





#### Herbert Daniels

Unexpectedly on December 22, 2024 in Calgary, Alberta, Herbert Randall Daniels, aged 71 years, passed away.

He is survived by siblings Bernice, Dickie, Debra, Louella, Lloyde and Lawrence as well Danny Daniels who was always there for him.

Burial of ashes will be held at Lutheran Cemetery, Selkirk, Manitoba at 12 noon on June 14th, 2025. Please join us for lunch at 1 p.m. at Selkirk Friendship Centre, 425 Eveline St. in remembrance of Herb.



### OBITUARY In Loving Memory

of Corinne Wilson

December 4, 1950 - May 29, 2025

With deep sadness, we announce the passing of Corinne Wilson on May 29th, 2025.

Corinne Wilson was born and raised in Lake Francis, MB. She was fond of the outdoors, yard sales and thrift stores, cooking, sewing, crafting, travelling, visiting with friends and family. Corinne loved her family and tapestry of blessed friends, including her cat Collette and the birds that visited her each day.

Corinne leaves behind sons Lee and Jason Wilson; granddaughters Isabelle and Ella Wilson; sister Marlene; brother Paul, nephew and nieces and their families.

Predeceased by sister Jocelyn; father Joseph and mother Eva Ducharme; grandson Quinn Wilson and husband Ed Appleyard.

Corinne touched the lives and hearts of all those who knew her. She will be dearly missed and never forgotten.

A memorial service will be held on Monday, June 9, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. in the Gilbart Funeral Chapel, Selkirk, MB.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made toward a suitable charity or foundation that support health research and/or organ transplant services. Tributes: www.gilbartfuneralhome.com

Gilbart Funeral Home, Selkirk in care of arrangements.



### OBITUARY

John Gordon Dickson

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of John Gordon Dickson, age 75, on May 30, 2025 in Selkirk, MB. Dad was predeceased by his parents Frank and Isabel, his

beloved wife Sherry and Cassie (retirement puppy). He will be lovingly remembered by his children Tina (Brent), Shape (Boberta) and John sister (Pat) sister-in-law Darlene

Shane (Roberta), and John; sister (Pat); sister-in-law Darlene (Bruce); his grandchildren Mercedes (Ernest), Cole (Shayanne), Faith (Andrew), Kaleb (Kate), Keianna (Jake), Wesley (Hailey); his three great-grandchildren, many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Dad was born in Lethbridge, AB. He was raised on the family farm in Redcliffe, AB. He moved his young family to Libau, MB in 1975 after he got a job where he worked as a red-seal welder for 25 years. He moved to Highland Glen to be closer to family after Sherry passed. He decided he wanted to work operating heavy

construction equipment till he retired. During his retirement, he kept busy doing all of his favorite things: puttering in his shop, rebuilding old vehicles, going to car shows, drag races and tractor pulls. He enjoyed his annual trips down south. He loved spending time with his family and he was so proud of all his children and grandchildren. His most beloved achievement was becoming a great-grandpa. He was positive he was going to live another 20 years to become a great-grandpa.

We'll always remember you Dad because there will never be another one to replace you. If love could have saved you, you would still be with us.

Funeral Service will be held on Monday, June 9, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. in the Gilbart Funeral Chapel in Selkirk, MB.

Tributes: www.gilbartfuneralhome.com

Gilbart Funeral Home, Selkirk in care of arrangements.





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**36** The Selkirk Record Thursday, June 5, 2025



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