## Plain & Valley January 2024 • Volume 17 Number 1 Covering Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba







Above left: Kristjan Hebert and former Quebec premier and federal Conservative leader Jean Charest.

**Above:** Saskatchewan Agriculture Sustainable Food Production pan-

Left: Kristjan speaking on CANZA.

### Kristjan Hebert shares agriculture's story at COP28

BY JOEY LIGHT

Kristjan Hebert, a local farmer and president of the Hebert Group, attended the United Nations Climate Change Conference, COP28 in Dubai to tell Saskatchewan's agri-

Saskatchewan had its own pavillion at the massive worldwide gathering, that attracted more than 70,000 people from around the world to Dubai in December.

Following is an interview with him on his return to Saskatchewan:

#### Why were you in Dubai?

"A few months ago the Saskatchewan government asked if I could attend to help tell the agriculture story. I attended the COP28 conference as part of the Saskatchewan delagation."

Why do you take your time for events like this instead

of using that time for your own operations? Why is that

important to you?
"I think the number one reason is that I think one of the biggest risks for agriculture and our province in general is bad policy. If we as producers don't take time for events to tell the story of how good Saskatchewan and Mid-Western agriculture really is, or else we have to rely on the federal government to do so and I don't believe they are telling the story correctly for us."

What was the main message you were trying to get

"My message I wanted to get across was how Green House Gas Emmisions in agriculture, potash and oil in Saskatchewan are low, and some of the lowest in the world, so that's what I was there trying to tell, is that practices such as zero till, variable rate and nitrogen inhibitors

have been implemented in Saskatchewan for a long time and if the world wants to see emission reductions, the best thing they could do is buy as much Saskatchewan prod-uct and Canadian product as they can, as the rest of the world tries to catch up to our sustainable practices. In the Saskatchewan pavillion this was received wonderfully, I think we should be pretty proud of how the province did over there in telling the story. I would say our message went across really well. People were listening and I think the message got through.

How can farmers on their own farms help slow cli-

mate change?
"Well I think we are pretty lucky in Saskatchewan that we have some of the most innovative farmers in the world, they have already started using zero till.

Continued on Page 21





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### EDO sees bright days ahead for region

World-Spectator editor Kevin Weed-mark sat down with Moosomin Economic Development Officer Casey McCormac to discuss some of the major projects the economic development committee worked on in 2023 and the projects on the horizon for 2024. Following is the full interview:

Looking back at 2023, what are some of the highlights? What is some of the important stuff that happened in the last

We had Moosomin Sports Excellence opening this year, which is an important addition.

#### How big of a hole does that fill in the retail sector?

Huge. They have all of the shoes that we need and before everyone had to go to the city or Virden to get shoes, other than what Kari offers. The sporting goods, especially hockey I think, is huge because Moosomin

hockey I think, is huge because Moosomin is such a sporting community.

As well, Kassie's Jewelry has a new owner now, which was a good show of what the CBA is able to help with. We have the new daycare spots. We got 90 new daycare spots so we'll be building a brand new daycare which is huge for Moosomin because right now you can't get daycare if because right now you can't get daycare if you have a baby.

### How big of a problem is that for economic development when people can't find the daycare space? It's huge because there were people that

couldn't go to work because they couldn't find daycare for their kids, so that will

find daycare for their kids, so that will help put more people into the workforce. We also had progress on the airport which is a huge need for our health sector. We completed the feasibility study for the multiplex—that one is quite a few years out still but it's good to have started so that we can apply for any government grants that come up.

The Visual Arts Centre will be opening on February 2.

on February 2.

That is an awesome win for Moosomin



Moosomin Economic Development Officer Casey McCormac

to secure that \$150,000 over three years

for all of the arts community.

How much work was involved in get-

ting that together?
I worked on that very closely with them. I created their budget and worked on their business plan and now I'm applying for grants for them.

I've applied two and I have a third one that I need to apply for for them to help

with the finding.

I also helped them with their proposal to the Town of Moosomin in order for them

from the town.

We've been working on the tourist booth and I actually have Tourism Saskatchewan coming out in January to look at Moosomin, give us pointers and help us out with available grants for funding for it—that piggybacked off of Communities in Bloom which also happened this year which we

How much work went into Communities in Bloom?

### Do you think it made a big difference

for the town?

I think so. Everyone said that the town looked really good this summer and I think it showed what Moosomin can look like and that we can continue to look like that this summer.

that this summer.

It was really good because the judges gave us a lot of pointers on what we can improve on—especially the tourism aspect because we have so many good stories in Moosomin but there's no way to tell them. So that tourism booth is what will help us bring more people into Moosomin, try to get them into the businesses and able to tell people the history of Moosomin.

Also, Anytime Fitness is being built right now and I applied to some housing funding, (HAF) Housing Accelerator Funding, to try and get more houses in Moosomin. So if we are approved, the town will receive just over a million dollars to help create a lot more housing. ceive just over a ...... ate a lot more housing. Continued on Page 6 FET

### Fundraiser coming up in Carnduff

It's cold out there. And on February 24, the Choose Life Minister team is going to do

They will be walking to raise funds for Choose Life Ministry—a residential rehabilita-tion program located in rural Saskatchewan.

uon program located in rural Saskatchewan.

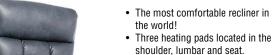
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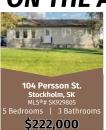
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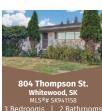
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### Moosomin to host national curling event in March

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter
Curling fans may want to mark March 15-24 on their calendar for some national-level curling action. That's when the Moosomin Curling Club will host the 62nd annual Canadian Fire Fighters Curling Association National Championships.

tional Championships.
"It's going to bring probably 150 to 200 people to this area for about 10 days," said Dale Nixon, one of the organizers of the event. "It's going to be exciting."
Nixon is no stranger to the event, having attended nationals six times in the capacity of Director of Team Saskatchewan and curled at the provincial level around 20 times. Saskatchewan plays host once every 11 years and this is the first time Moosomin has the honour of being the host community.
"The last time it was hosted (in Saskatchewan) was

"The last time it was hosted (in Saskatchewan) was 2010 in Regina," explained Nixon. "We were supposed to do it in 2021, but Covid kind of put a mess into that a little bit."

Nixon noted the bid to host the event was made a few years back, around 2018.

years back, around 2018.
"We had to show them what we have for a curling facility and prove we have hotels in the area," he said.
To qualify for the national competition, teams must first attend the provincial event, which will take place in Prince Albert as that city hosts the Saskatchewan Fire

Fighters Curling Association 65th annual Provincial Championship from Feb. 2-4. Nixon said Moosomin does not have a team entered in the provincial event. A large part of the national curling event is fundraising with local efforts just starting to roll out. Money raised is earmarked on the national level for muscular ductrophy. but also includes prejects deport to home dystrophy, but also includes projects closer to home such as the Moosomin Fire Department, Parks and Recreation efforts and towards funding a CT scanner.

"There's lots of good events—there's meals every

night, cabarets every night, all the cabarets are open to the public," said Nixon, a retired volunteer firefighter with a decade of experience. "All proceeds are going to and take in all the excitement."



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### EDO sees bright days ahead for region

™ Continued from Page 3

### Does that go into the infrastructure to make lots avail-

Yes, and the town would provide incentives for people to build houses, such as three years of cancelled property taxes, free water/sewer hookup and stuff like that, incen-

tives to get people to build houses in Moosomin.

Also at the beginning of the year and last year, we had Ukrainians come to Moosomin which was awesome. Mossomin really stepped up for the people that needed it in helping them get jobs, furniture, housing and stuff

Also, I worked a lot on gathering statistics for the CT scanner to prove to the government how needed it is in the community because we have so many more people in our radius than they probably realize just because Moo-somin is a smaller town.

When you talk to them now, those population stats always come up. That seems to have made the difference in their thinking. Yeah, it really helps

### Where do you think the project is at? Do you think it's

a likelihood to become a reality?
I think so. I hope so. I think we should hear more about it in the new year hopefully and I really hope that they see the value in putting one in Moosomin.

Then the next thing that's coming up that I'm working on is the Firefighters' Curling Championship which is be-ing held in Moosomin at the end of March. There will be 11 teams from every province in Canada plus one territory in Moosomin for 10 or 11 days.

So that's huge economically because they bring their wives and their wives go shopping and they eat here ev-

wives and their wives go snopping and they eat here every night.

They will be here for a decent amount of time to get to know the town and so I'm working with Mike Schwean and Dale Nixon on that which I think will be a huge hit. It's the first time this championship has ever been hosted in a community the size of Moosomin, so I think we can

in a community the size of Moosomin, so I think we can prove that Moosomin is more than a small town.

I've also been working with the Southeast Recovery Centre on the Addictions Treatment Centre. We applied for a Request for Proposals last year and we finally heard this year that we didn't get it but there's a Request for Supplier Qualifications out now, and we've been encoursed to apply again through that process and beach. aged to apply again through that process and hopefully we'll get it.

That treatment centre is not necessarily for people right That treatment centre is not necessarily for people right in Moosomin because usually when people go for treatment they go away from their town, so they can't just walk out the door and be back where all their problems are, but then that brings their families here to Moosomin to visit them and then we're providing them spaces that are very much needed in our province.

I also worked on building a relationship with Economic Development Regina which is really good because we want to got a very live relationship with Poping So

want to get a working relationship going with Regina. So I spent a couple of days up there with them, shadowing them and they've been helping me with any questions I have. I can send an email and he'll answer right away and give me advice from what he knows

Then just throughout the year we have different businesses reach out and I'll help them with anything they need. Lots of times they want property locations, places where there's land for sale that they can build on, statis-

tics, information about their industry or anything like that and I help them with that.

So hopefully some of those potential new businesses

become new businesses in Moosomin in the future.

You have a lot on the go. What do you think makes a difference in Moosomin because I know not every community has this much on the go?

I think it's the sense of community in Moosomin and

how helpful the community is—they rally behind any cause, anything they can support. Moosomin is just so opening and welcoming to people that it continues to

grow every day.

I think we have such a wide variety of people too that there's something for everyone always, so people that are interested in different things come out.

I don't know, it's just a different sense of community and pride in our town.

Lots of people love Moosomin and want to show it off.

What are you most looking forward to next year? What do you think is coming down the pipe?
Everything! I think it's just exciting to see what can happen and what changes in a year because it's crazy to see where we've been just this year.
So I'm just excited to see what happens!



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### Kaeding optimistic about future in Melville-Saltcoats

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

There's a lot to be grateful for in the Melville-Saltcoats constituency ac-cording to MLA Warren Kaeding. He's got to be one of the area's strongest voices when it comes to pro-moting the positive growth and direction of the region as Kaeding enthusiastically listed many positive attri-butes of the area.

butes of the area.

"The employment opportunities are endless,"
Kaeding began. "You
know, we've got Mosaic,
we've got Nutrien, we've
got CN in Melville and
then the crush plants in
Vorkton crain milles in Yorkton, grain millers in Yorkton. In fact, the last I checked, there was 1,100 job openings listed on SaskJobs in the Yorkton area. They've been open for a little while, but that is definitely an area of op-

portunity.
"I drove up the Number 9 here just a few minutes ago, and there's seismic ago, and there's seishic crews all over the place there," he continued. "Who knows what that's leading to!"

The healthcare sector is

another area where he sees growth—especially after key announcements over the past year with \$250,000 flowing to Esterhazy for a new facility and \$500,000 new facility and \$500,000 to the Yorkton Regional Health Care replacement project. These funding commitments came back in March when the provincial government announced their \$6.9 billion translib health are higher.

overall health care budget.
"What's been very
promising and positive for
the area is planning dollars for the Esterhazy Integrated Health Facility, and planning dollars for the Yorkton Regional Hospi-tal," Kaeding said. "Those are two key government capital projects that we need to get underway here in the area.



Melville-Saltcoats MLA Warren Kaeding

Another huge area that received a major boost was daycare funding for existing and new projects— something that has kept Kaeding busy during his recent commute back to

recent commute back to the constituency. "That's how half my drive from Regina to the constituency has been: talking to daycares," he said. "We've got a new board that's formed here in Esterbazy we're inst tryin Esterhazy, we're just try-ing to find them a space to have a 40-50 spot daycare. Langenburg's expanding, Melville can literally double, we've got a brand new one that just opened up in Stockholm and Breden-bury. I mean, every town now, Grayson just opened up earlier. So that is really exciting, certainly for our constituency. That's a sec-ond job for a family or it's a primary job for a single parent—there's tremen-

dous opportunity there."
Another huge announcement came over the summer with a \$1.8 million investment to Sunmillion investment to Sun-crest College in Melville, re-opening the firefighter training program after be-ing on hold since 2021. "The other big thing for our constituency was the revamping of the Fire School through the Sas-

katchewan Public Safety Agency. It used to be the Parkland College, but it's Suncrest College now. That was idled for a couple of years. That is a big deal," explained Kaeding.

An initial intake of 14

students began their Na-tional Fire Protection Association training and the additional funding allowed upgrades to the facility plus relaunch the NFPA 1001 professional firefight-ing program.
"Now we can train pro-fessional firefighters local-

ly, where for the few years it was on hiatus, they had to go out of province, so that's huge," said Kaeding. "And then ultimately what happens with the firefighters is a lot of them stay on for paramedic training. Local fire departments are turning over a lot of staff, they've got their 40 or 50 year service pins, so we need to get a few guys now to get their five-year service pin."

A challenge over the past

year has been that of con-vincing professionals of the rural advantage present in the Melville-Saltcoats constituency. This seems like an age-old dilemma that continues to play out all over the province.

"It's just getting hard to recruit professionals to come to rural Saskatch-ewan. It doesn't matter if it's an accountant's office, a lawyer's office, working in the health sciences lab or an RN, or a doctor, or even teachers. It's just difficult to recruit young people from outside the area to come and consider rural Saskatchewan as a great career opportunity

for them," Kaeding said. "That's ultimately why we set up this Health Huwas set up his Fleath Hur-man Services Plan. We're changing things with SINP (Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program), trying to get qualified profession-als into the area easier, trying a lot of 'grow our own' programs now, that try to encourage young people that if they're going away for career development, that they consider coming back to the area they come from originally to start their career. And knowing that if we get them to start their career here, they'll probably complete their career here."

As for the coming year, Kaeding has cautious op-timism on what 2024 will bring. With an ever-soar-ing cost of living felt across the nation forcing every-one to stretch their dollars, a nervous future awaits as forces beyond everyone's control dictate the future.

"Hoping that the econ-omy improves over the next little while, that we can end the fiscal year on a positive note and that we're able to supply all the services that our constituents require," said Kaeding, when asked about the biggest challenge 2024 will hold. "So, that would be the area that's a bit of a concern now, and probably the bigger concern is ultimately kind of where federal policies are lead-ing us right now and that boils down locally. Being that our area is so dependent on ag, dependent on manufacturing, dependent on the rails—both CP and CN are big employers in the area. How does a federal economy affect those

As for future opportunities, as another year closes, Kaeding pointed to the strong agricultural tradi-tion and the pivots seen in the farming sector as something to watch.

something to watch.

"Being an ag-based economy here, we're al-ways looking forward to next year. And I would say that's kind of our approach here, looking forward to here, looking forward to next year to see what it brings," he said. "We fi-nally now have become an area that ag value-added wants to be in. Look at the huge expansions going on in Yorkton and I under-stand there's a lot of companies poking around that Yorkton-Melville area to see if there's an opportunity for them to show up. So there's lots of exciting things percolating behind the scenes that you hope the economy is going to stay strong, that's going to support them developing in the areas."

A final point Kaeding made was during a con-versation about renewed optimism when it comes to

the trades in general.
"That's the other area
that we're certainly spendthat we're certainly spend-ing a lot of time on as a provincial government is supporting the trades," he said. "Making sure we've got enough seats at all our post-secondar-ies to support the trades, whether they're in health care, or whether they're in the wedding or meshin. in the welding or machining trades, we just need to make sure that we've got enough training spots that everybody has an opportu-nity here."

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### Thieves break into Moffat United Church

Crime thought to have happened over Christmas

#### BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI

### LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER Members of a small rural church com-

munity were shocked after discovering the nearly 140-year-old Moffat United Church fell victim to thieves. Sometime between the afternoon of Dec. 24 and the evening of Dec. 25, 2023 the church was entered, damaged and had items stolen from the building. Police were notified on Christmas Day after the discovery had

on Christmas Day after the discovery had been made.

"Investigation has determined that items in the building were damaged and wiring in the building had been cut out, including wiring to 240v heaters," said RCMP in a media release. "Further investigation determined a 50-foot rug, a heating unit an unknown number of eardless." ing unit, an unknown number of candles and candle holders, and some bins were stolen from the building." Indian Head RCMP are continuing their

investigation into this crime, asking any-one with information that might be helpful to contact their detachment at (306)

ful to contact their detachment at (306) 695-5200. Tips can also be submitted to Saskatchewan Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or via their website sask-crimestoppers.com.

Some of the items stolen simply cannot be replaced, including antique furniture. Other items were discovered tossed outside of the church, two large chairs in particular that were later found damaged in the surrounding bushes. Curtains were ripped down and taken, several areas inside the church were described as "trashed," and even the barn near the church had been entered with items tossed church had been entered with items tossed

"We struggle to put into words the mixed emotions we feel because of the vandalism and theft from our little country church at Moffat," the Moffat Church Council told the World-Spectator in a statement. "We greatly appreciate the out-pouring of con-

cern and support given to us."

Community members were quick to



One of the candelabras stolen from Moffat United Church.

clean up the disarray, discovering more ciean up the disarray, discovering more items missing in the process. A box of communion glasses, files including past anniversary papers, a bag of baseball equipment and a unique wooden box reading "Jimmy's Skunks" with the town name Sintaluta on the cutside wars among the Sintaluta on the outside were among the items taken.

Church council members are asking that nobody visit the church until further no-tice so repairs to the torn out wiring can be made.

"It was a terrible incident, especially at "It was a terrible incident, especially at Christmas, but we are a strong-willed and determined community and we will not let one wrong-doing outweigh the many, many positives we promote," the Council noted. "We acknowledge how this event has provoked feelings of shock and anger, but it comforts us knowing that Moffat touches many hearts."

touches many hearts."

The church has a storied history. As Scottish settlers made their way to the area (briefly known as Moffatville) in 1884, St.



Baseball equipment and the distinctive wooden box reading Jimmy's Skunks" from inside the barn

Andrew's Presbyterian was established,

initially as a wooden frame structure.

With a large number
of stonemasons and no shortage of rocks to build with, the original church was replaced in 1891 with the stone structure that still stands today. The original wooden structure was eventually moved to Wolesley where it continues to exist as a home. As many Presbyterian churches became affiliated with the United Church, so St. Andrew's had a name change to the current Moffat United Church.

Despite the setback posed by the recent vandalism, there is optimism toward marking the 140th year of the church built from the hard

work of early settlers "We look forward to this anniversary

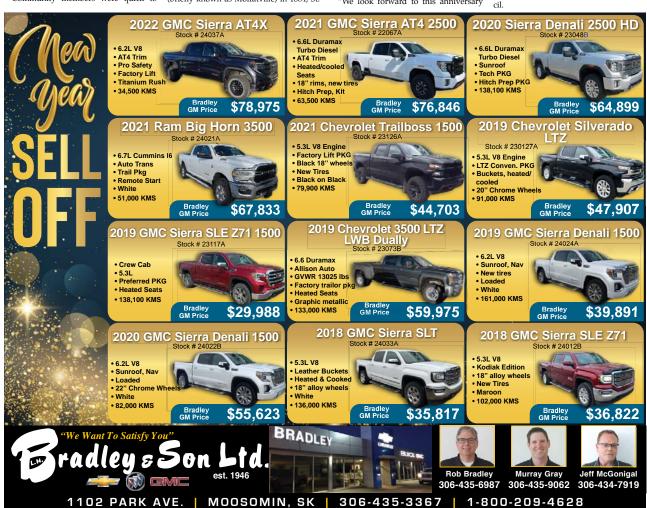


Storage totes were emptied of their contents and stolen.



The carpet runner seen here was stolen from the church.

in 2024 with continued support from our congregation, our community and our friends," noted the Moffat Church Coun-





### **Wok Xpress**

### **New food option** coming to Moosomin

Very soon, people in Mosomin with a craving for American-style Chinese food will be able to order it for delivery or pickup with the addition of a new busi-

pickup with the addition of a new business in Moosomin—Wok Xpress.

The new business is the idea of Dan Davidson, the owner of the Red Barn.

Wok Xpress will be operated out of the Red Barn, however the food can only be ordered online using an app or website for delivery or pickup. There will be no dine-in or call-in option.

The menu will consist of six to seven key main dishes, four side dish options, and a number of appetizers.

Davidson says the idea is to offer a small menu of American-style Chinese food that can be prepared quickly, is

food that can be prepared quickly, is made-in house with fresh ingredients, and is extremely tasty and well done.

and is extremely tasty and well done.
His main dishes will consist of orange chicken, kung pao chicken, beef and broccoli, honey walnut shrimp, black pepper chicken, and crispy fried tofu with broccoli. Side dish options will include fried rice, white rice, chow mein, or mixed vecetable.

vegetables.
"We'll have six to seven entrees and four sides. We're going to try to be very good at a small number of items, but when you can make different combinawhen you can make different combina-tions, that's all we feel we need," says Davidson. "We thought let's go hard on six items and do an amazing job on these six items. Let's try to be really good at a small number of items."

### Six main entrees

Davidson wants Orange Chicken to be-come known as their signature dish, but he is proud of all the entrees.

"What we want to be known for is or-ange chicken. We bring in cases of fresh oranges. It's made from squeezing or-anges, and using the rinds to help give you flavor in the sauce.

"For the meat, we have a process that

starts the day before that makes it ex-

starts the day before that makes it ex-tremely tender and it crisps up beauti-fully even after it's sauced.

"For the Kung Pao Chicken you have your fresh peppers and roasted peanuts. We're doing everything from scratch.

"Honey walnut shrimp is something we played with a little bit. We sugar our own half-walnuts. It's a thin crispy coating on the shrimp so it stays crispy once

ing on the shrimp so it stays crispy once it has sauce on it.

"The black pepper chicken is unbelievable. I think people are really going to like it, if they like a little bit of heat.

"The beef and broccoli, what makes the difference is the meat, it's the kind

of meat we're buying, it's the process of preparing the meat, it's hand cut and done the day before. It has a beautiful fla-

done the day before. If has a beautiful flavor. I'm extremely proud of that one.

"Crispy fried tofu with broccoli. I said we have to figure out how can we take care with a vegetarian or vegan person, so we're bringing in blocks of tofu, we cube it, it's brined and coated, then fried."

### Combinations

Customers will be able to make different combinations of the dishes.

"Your first option is a bowl," Davidson explains. "You get one side for the base and one entree. So you can have white rice, fried rice, chow mein, or fresh cut vegetables, and one of the entrees on top. But when you pick a side you can pick vegetables, and one of the entrees on top. But when you pick a side, you can pick one or go 50/50, so you could say 'I want all fried rice as my base, or you can have fried rice and vegetables, with an entree, say orange chicken, on top.

"When you go to order, it will be externelly easy."

tremely easy.

"In addition to the bowl, you can have the plate, with a side and two entrees, so fried rice, chow mein, orange chicken, and beef and broccoli. Then there is a larger plate, one side and three entrees.

Continued on page 17



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### **Moosomin Visual Arts Centre has a home** Arts Centre leases space from St Alban's Anglican Church

BY ASHLEY BOCHEK

The Moosomin Visual Arts Centre has been offered St Alban's Anglican Church building on Ellice and Broadway as a home for the arts centre. The lease agreement begins February 1 and programs will start soon after. Krista Crellin and Terry Grant of the arts centre board say they are excited to see the arts

centre become a reality.
Crellin says the project began when she completed a survey last year sent by the Economic

Development Committee (EDC).

"Casey McCormac with the
EDC sent out a survey last year probably around this time, ask-ing local business people what they thought the town was miss-ing and what they think can imove the town from an econom-

ic standpoint.

"I told her the arts were missing in the town and I thought that an arts centre would be a great idea. She took it to the rest of the EDC and they agreed. "They asked me to come in and talk about it and after we

met they suggested that I reach out to other members of the community and to the Moosomin and District Arts Council and see if there was interest among other people who would help this proj-

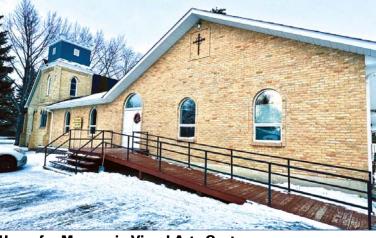
ect along.

"I did that, and there was lots of interest and lots of help. We created a board and it just went from there.

She said she has long seen the

"I've noticed a need for it for a long time. I have noticed there is a lack of art opportunities in the town. There are a lot of sport facilities, but there are no arts fa-

'Myself as an artist, I am inter-



#### **Home for Moosomin Visual Arts Centre**

The Moosomin Visual Arts Centre will be located at St. Alban's Anglican Church. The church and the Visual Arts Centre came up with a lease arrangement so the arts centre can start offering classes in the church building.

ested in not just photography but all kinds of art, but there was no-where for me to learn any of that so I just feel it is lacking in my life and I just figured it is prob-

ably lacking in others' lives too," says Krista.
"This has been a dream for me for a long time," adds Terry.
"This is something we need."

### Long road

It has been a long road to get the arts centre to where it is now.

"After meeting with the EDC, we got the board going then we were looking for a place because we needed that to get grants

and sponsors. We talked to a few people then Sheilagh Gar-rett reached out to Terry saying that the Anglican Church might be a possibility if we thought it would work for us to make that our home. Then we started chatting with them and now we finally have a lease agreement signed," Krista explains. "That took a couple times going back to the EDC to fine tune those details and we talked with town council to see if they would support us, and they did."
"Our long term goal would be that this is a town facility,"

says Terry. "The same as the rink would be. It wouldn't be just for a few people, it would be for the

a tew people, in would be for the whole community." Both say it wasn't difficult to pull the plan together, but it took some time. "It just took time and meet-ings. It wasn't difficult." Krista

Terry agrees. "In the agreement with the church, I think there was support from both sides all the way through, but it just took time. I don't think we were anticipat-ing how much time some of these things would take. That was sort of an eye-opener for me.'

of an eye-opener for me."

Krista says support from the
town made a huge difference for
the start up of the arts centre.

"It made years of difference.
If they hadn't come through, we
would still be back in the planning stages and looking at the
'what ifs.' It made a huge differ-

Terry explained how MADAC became involved. "MADAC is the umbrella of many arts programs here in Moosomin. Under the umbrella they have the theatre board who runs movies, the Mooseberry Acting Company, Visual Arts which up until now has been Visual Arts shows in the Armoury or different things over the years, and dance also was under them as well. That has been set up for years since the '70s. Each board runs independently and follows the guidelines set under MADAC and the bylaws of MADAC. It just very much works together. It worked out really well for the Visual Arts Centre to be part of MADAC."
The Visual Arts Centre board

is very excited to have the church

as their future creative space.
"I think it is accessible," says
Krista. "We are thinking of eventually having an art gallery in the front and then have the Parish Hall space as a creation space so we can have classes in there. We hope to use the kitchen for cooking classes, we are going to have a digital arts zone with computers for digital arts, and, a pottery studio in the basement. I pottery studio in the basement. I think the building itself is a great location. It is wonderful that it is a historic building and we can keep a historic building running in the community.

Continued on page 20 🖙



### Sask booming according to Moosomin MLA

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER The province is booming, evidenced by the largest population increase over the course of one year in over a century. "Saskatchewan's population is at an all-time high at 1.23 million people," noted Moosomin MLA Steven Bonk, with 30,685

people coming to the province over the

Perhaps the job growth can also be linked to this population boom as 19,300 new jobs were added year over year.

"With an unemployment rate of 4.4 per cent, that's the lowest among the provinc-

es," Bonk said.

Other stats point to fantastic economic growth, for example nearly \$28 billion in private investments and reaching a record-breaking \$52.6 billion worth of exports in 2022. Construction numbers also look healthy as in September, provincial investment in building construction grew

by 18.5 per cent year over year.

"It's the third highest increase among the provinces and above the national average of 5.3 per cent respectively," Bonk

There's been a lot of talk about short-ages in the health care sector, but Bonk pointed to some positive numbers, starting with budget commitments to doctors.

There's been \$1.8 million (a \$600.000 increase) to support the Rural Physician Incentive Program, which was recently enhanced to provide \$200,000 over five years," he said. "Also, \$1.3 million to hire up to 12 physician assistants in Saskatchewan's health system for the first time."

There are more than 1 000 doctors currently practicing in Saskatchewan, a 62 per cent increase since 2007. An increase in doctors will also be felt in rural areas,



Moosomin MLA Steven Bonk

according to Bonk.
"Through the Saskatchewan Interna-tional Physician Practice Assessment, over 283 additional doctors are currently providing service in the province," he said. "The vast majority (77 per cent) are in a

There's good news for nurses as well, including \$3.1 million devoted to the new registered nurse travel pool program which seeks to prevent service disrup-tions. Currently, over 18,000 nurses call

Saskatchewan home.

"Last year, over 600 nurses started practicing in Saskatchewan," noted Bonk.
"Saskatchewan has the highest Licensed

Practical Nurse wages and second highest Registered Nurse wages in Canada according to the Canadian Federation of Nurses Unions.

Surgical wait times were another priority this past year with almost \$670 million invested to the surgical program for 2023-

invested to the surgical program for 2023-24.

"Between April 1 and June 20, 2023 more than 24,800 surgeries were performed, the highest quarterly volume ever recorded in Saskatchewan," Bonk noted. "As of Oc-tober 15, 2023 we have performed over 51,000 surgeries this fiscal year. Over 9,600 of these are publicly funded but privately delivered, or nearly 19 per cent."

The government also announced \$27.5 million in funding towards reducing in-

The government also announced \$27.5 million in funding towards reducing interpersonal and sexual violence.

"We're the first in Canada to enact Clare's Law—to inform people who may not know they are in an intimate relationship with someone with a history of violence," said Bonk. "In July 2023, our government was also proud to sign onto government was also proud to sign onto the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence with the federal govern-

Education was another area that saw a large investment, seeing the Ministry of Education devoting \$3.1 billion in 2023-24. Of that, \$382.4 million will go to early learning and child care with thousands of new states created and \$10 per day day. new spaces created and \$10 per day day-care fees as of April 1—three years ahead of target.

crease to education operating funding in more than eight years, investing \$2.1 bil-

lion in school operating funds.
"Saskatchewan spent the highest per capita on primary and secondary schooling among provinces; over 24 per cent higher than provincial average," Bonk

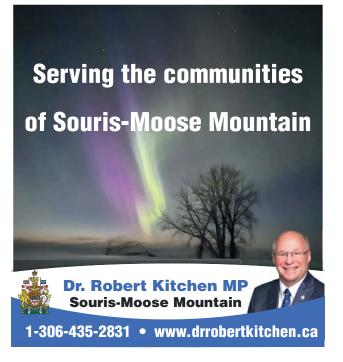
Bonk also noted the province's stance on the Parental Inclusion and Consent Policy

"Parents are the most important people in a child's life and need to know what goes on and is being taught in their chil-dren's school," he said. "The default po-sition of schools should be to include parents in their child's school life, not to exclude them. This policy supports parental inclusion.

"Our government has heard from con-cerned parents and guardians across the province regarding sexual health educa-tion, including many parents and guard-ians of school-aged children," continued Bonk. "Professional school supports will be provided to students who feel in danger when obtaining parental consent. We will work with school divisions on implementing these policies and any challenges that may arise in implementing them."

In terms of capital spending on educa-tion, the province has committed \$2.4 bil-lion toward infrastructure since 2008 that included 60 new schools being built and 30 major renovation projects.







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### Quirky book a lifelong dream for local author

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter
What is your pet really thinking? It's something everyone has pondered at some point. Perhaps they're on a mission themselves, trying to wrap their minds around a human concept or phrase they hear most often.

This is the impetus behind They Call Me Quirky—the first book by famous local retired teacher from Moosomin,

Karen Berglund.

"It's pretty exciting. I have held it in my hands and it's just amazing. It's always been a dream of mine to write my own children's book, but now that I've written it, and I've own children's book, but now that I've written it, and I've held it in my hands, it's like my dream just got bigger," Berglund said. "I knew I always wanted to write a book for children and I wanted humour to be a big part of it, but there is an important message as well that goes along inside the book. It's all about perspective."

They Call Me Quirky takes the reader on a journey as one small dog decides to figure out what the word 'quirky' actually means.

actually means.

"It's written from a tiny five-pound Pomeranian's point of view and he always hears this word around him: quirky. If you know dogs, or if you're familiar with dogs, they have real personalities and he always hears this word 'quirky', but he doesn't know what it means," explained Berglund. "His encounters during the day make you wonder who really is the quirky one. From a dog's perspective, things are totally different and that's what I want children to understand or to try to see a situation from somebody else's point of view."

else's point of view.

It is this important message of expanding one's worldview that Berglund hopes to get across to her readers, drawing from her 32 years of teaching experience.

"Children as they develop, they're naturally very egocentric when they're small and kids normally will grow



#### A dream realized

Karen Berglund holds her initial book They Call Me Quirky for the first time.

out of that, or they'll start to see a bigger picture of the world," Berglund said. "But there are some kids that struggle with it and even adults, actually, that struggle

with seeing something from someone else's point of view."
The book itself is not just about the tale of one dog's quest for understanding, Berglund has loaded it with useful items educators can use, plus one big mystery.

available to order on Amazon.

Inspiration for the protagonist came as a melding of several canine personalities, as Berglund explained.

"This quirky character in my book is a combination of every dog I've ever known or loved," she said. "I do have three of the world's quirkiest Pomeranians in my house right now, there are some some bits of them in this story as well.

'Now that I've written my first book, I'm hooked," Berglund said, adding that she has some other writing projects in the works. "I just I loved the entire process from start to finish!

"Going forward, I would like to promote other Saskatchewan authors as well," she continued. "My next dream is to be able to go in and to do school visits for children. I would love to see more of that in the schools. In Saskatchewan—especially in the rural areas—we don't have as much access to things like that as the urban centres do."









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### Resources huge in Souris-Moose Mountain



Souris-Moose Mountain MP Dr. Robert Kitchen.

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Our province has many amazing features including a wealth of natural resources beneath our feet. While oil, coal and potash have been utilized for several decades, exciting developments are being made for materials used in alterna-tive forms of energy as well. Those resources are something Souris-Moose Mountain MP Dr. Robert Kitchen believes ought to be further explored, especially given the opportu-

ought to be further explored, especially given the opportunity in our own region.

"We have the geothermal plant that's been being looked at in Torquay and in the brine that comes out of that, there's a huge amount of lithium in there," he said. "As well, my understanding is there's large amounts of lithium in the Stoughton area, which is a product that is needed. You look at graphite and all the minerals that are out there that are at graphite and all the minerals that are out there that are needed for solar panels. Those are things that we have a high amount of in the riding and those are things we need to take and utilize where they're appropriate, instead of importing them from dictator-led countries around the world that treat their citizens with total disregard."

Taking a global perspective, marketing the resources found in Saskatchewan makes both economic and ethical sense according to Kitchen

found in Saskatchewan makes both economic and ethical sense, according to Kitchen.

"Germany's had to go back to coal-based power and they want LNG—we have natural gas in Saskatchewan which could be exported to Germany and yet instead of that, we have this present government that sends back parts to the Russians such that they can export their natural gas to Germany," he said. "Yet, you have Russia and their illegal invasion of Ukraine and we want to turn around and say 'that's want to turn around and say 'that's leave you have the say where we are where yet as where yet as where yet. okay, vet we won't use our own natural gas where we can use LNG and ship that over to that part of the world. It just makes no sense

Kitchen also listed a crucial resource that he values most of all—the people in his riding, and the fortunate oppor-tunity he has to meet with them to learn of their successes

and concerns.
"The ability to communicate and get out and about with
my constituents is very important to me," Kitchen said.
"Whether that's up in Moosomin and surrounding area—
Rocanville, Fairlight, etc. Getting into those areas to communicate and hear from them I think is probably the biggest bonus of what we've done over the past year. I can't
thank my constituents enough for that opportunity to sit
there and talk with them and hear not only the positives,
but also the negatives.

but also the negatives.

"There have been a fair number of negatives that we were wanting to change and we will continue to push on that to try and make certain that when we get that opportunity to have an election that we make those changes," he ex-

panded.

When asked of the largest challenge he's heard over the

past year from constituents, Kitchen pointed toward the high cost of living and the impact that has on everyone. "Ultimately, I think that the big things obviously are the huge inflationary costs that have happened on all Canadians," he said. "Whether that is rent, whether that is groceries, those are huge impacting items on Canadians. As we

move forward, those are things that definitely we want to see curtailed and brought down; bringing down the prices of our food, bringing down the price of home heating. Likewisse, the inflationary cost for rental and even housing markets have escalated quite exponentially."

Part of the solution is one Kitchen's colleagues all seem to agree on, that of getting rid of the Carbon Tax entirely. Such an action may not be realized unless there is a change in the federal government, but for now, Kitchen says MPs will continue to prompt changes to the tax as it currently stands.

continue to prompt changes to the tax as it currently stands.

"We've said for the longest time, we will axe that carbon tax, that's what we want to do," he said. "Obviously, we want to become government, we're going to take every step we can between now and then to do things to try and pressure this government to at least axe the tax, whether that is on people for simple little exemptions on their home heat-ing. This Liberal government has created that exemption for the East Coast, but not for our constituents in Souris-

Moose Mountain. We want to make certain that we exempt Moose Mountain. We want to make certain that we exempt that tax, because by exempting that tax, that puts money back in your pocket. It's not only that tax that's being escalated, but there's a GST on top of that tax. So again, you take away that tax, the GST is gone, the tax is gone, that money is now in your pocket and you can decide what you think is best and where you think it's best to spend that money."
While the next federal election could be as far away as Oct. 2025, Kitchen sees change as an opportunity heading into 2024.

into 2024.

into 2024.

"The big opportunity that I see and want to see is that election," he said. "That's the biggest thing—to get to that election and find a way to defeat this government. The unfortunate part is that you have an NDP-supported government and that gives the Liberals so many aspects of things. That's a huge challenge to try and bring them down, but that's the number one goal is to see us defeat this present government."





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### Health a hot topic in Cannington for 2023

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

It's been a big year full of challenges and opportunities in the Cannington constituency, highlighted especially by health care resources.

"Continuing on with health care is one of the challenges," said Daryl Harrison, MLA for Cannington. "We continue to recruit to all positions and that includes training new nurses and physicians; recruiting existing nurses and physicians to rural areas or wherever they're in need the most and keeping their health-

care strong."

A huge example of the health care crisis in Harrison's constituency has been the community of Oxbow. Like many centres across the province, the Galloway Health Centre in that town bid doctors farewell and faced ser-Centre in that town bid doctors farewell and faced service disruptions due to staff shortage throughout 2023. A pair of public meetings were held with municipal government, Saskatchewan Health Authority and provincial government representation. Harrison was at those public forum meetings, and was confident on the progress made over the last few months in the region. "We've got two new physicians there, now we're in need of some nurses," he said of the Galloway Health Centre. "We'll get that filled. As the two new doctors become more familiar, it'll be easier for them going forward and working with the new staff that we recruited to that facility."

Fortunately, the stresses faced at the rural hospital

have been eased with a transition to more effective care. "Oxbow, was very stable for a lot of years having three doctors, but having a husband and wife in tandem, when they decided to proceed on to other opportunities, you lose two all at once. So it was great that we



Cannington MLA Daryl Harrison.

got a couple new doctors coming in and the community will be welcoming and very supportive."

Another highlight Harrison noted was the declaration of the province over natural resources. Passed in the spring, the Saskatchewan First Act flexed its muscle in November to review the federal government's proposed clean-electricity regulations.

"On the high point is the Sask First Act," Harrison said. "We're drawing the line in the sand and making sure that the federal government knows and understands what's provincial responsibility and what is federal responsibility as it relates to our natural resources.

eral responsibility as it relates to our natural resources

As for looking ahead to 2024, Harrison—like all producers in this province—is hoping to see some snow this winter and maybe the odd timely shower after the frost melts to rejuvenate the soil for the upcoming

rost meirs to rejuvenate the soil for the upcoming growing season.

"Well, as a rancher, I certainly look forward to Mother Nature providing adequate moisture for our producers to grow hopefully bumper crops and see that from border to border here in the province," he said. "Some areas were hit extremely hard, other areas had decent crops. So we look forward to getting back to what we're more accustomed to producing for crops."

crops. So we look forward to getting back to what we're more accustomed to producing for crops."

While in the agriculture vein, Harrison also noted some of his thoughts on the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act, which directly affects farmers and ranchers. "It's really taking its sweet time," he said. "I think some of the senators refer to it as being slow walked, but I sure get the feeling that those in name only independent counters are cally triving to die their head." pendent senators are really trying to dig their heels in and not let this go through, which is unfortunate." At press time, Bill C-234 had since completed Third

Reading in the Senate, the bill being passed with amendments.





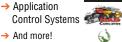


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### Wok Xpress

### **New food option coming to Moosomin**

"You can also buy a la carte, small medium and large boxes in the entrees, and just medium and large for the sides. We have a family meal, two large sides, three large entrees."
"There will also be catering options.

"There will also be appetizers and desserts including handmade cheese rangoons that are dipped in sweet and sour sauce."

### **Wok Xpress**

Solution to a problem

Davidson says the idea for Wok Xpress came about because of the pandemic and the way it changed the restaurant industry. "The pandemic has really changed the restaurant industry," he says. "I think

restaurant industry, no says. I tunk a big thing is just trying to innovate and we found with the pandemic it forced us to look at new ways to grow. How can we grow our revenue and grow for the future of my long-term staff? Because when you retain a lot of people what is your plan? How can they grow with you?

"The pandemic did bring out delivery. I

do have Edo Japans and have a lot of expe-rience with the integrated delivery, and it was occupying almost 40 per cent of sales in those style of restaurants. "We saw here in Moosomin that Amer-

ican-style Chinese food was a big hole that needed to be filled. I knew we had a that needed to be lifted. Takew were starting to become bigger things in the city. They use spaces in existing kitchens or spaces to produce food that is only on online plat-

"It's another way to get more sales out the back door. You are starting to see a little more of that because people have to find

more of that oecause coople have to find ways to grow because costs are going up and you have to grow you revenue. Less people are dining out.

"We have to scale the Red Barn's delivery, too, so this fits. One car is extremely difficult, and to staff the one car is difficult, but when you scale things you can handle it differently. I would rather run a two to three car system than a one-car system, but you have to make it viable for the people

you have to make it viable for the people running the cars.

"In scaling the delivery, it has to be all automated. The orders have to find a way directly to the kitchen cook and it has to find a way directly to the phone of the driver, and it has to have GPS to the house. It has to in order to save time and make it

work.
"With Wok Xpress, we really have an awesome prep room that is really a ghost kitchen by 4 pm because we have all the prep done in the morning.

"And we have a lack of that kind of food

here. The number two delivery in North America is Chinese food. Pizza is number



Dan Davidson

#### Kitchen modifications

Davidson decided to modify part of his kitchen at the Red Barn to put in a high pressure wok so that Wok Xpress could be come a reality.

"To get a smoky hue you have to use a wok," he says. "I've got some highly skilled cooks who have done a lot of wok skilled cooks who have done a lot of wok cooking before they came to Moosomin. If you cook with a gas stove it can't get hot enough, whereas a gas wok can heat up and get hot quickly. It's got 23 jets shooting heat and can heat up to over 700 degrees. "When you put meat into it, it's an immediate sear to lock the juices in, and they call it a 'smoky hue' to the food when you cook it so fast like that, and you need a high pressure wok to do that."

Davidson and his staff started working on Wok Xpress a year ago, and they will

on Wok Xpress a year ago, and they will be adding up to three full-time cooks and a couple of part-time positions to help the business run as well.

Davidson says the key features of Wok Xpress are its small menu, inventory shar-Apress are its small field, inventory shar-ing, online ordering feature, delivery driv-er sharing, and the fact that its orders are prepared separate from the Red Barn front kitchen and creates two separate kitchens serving two totally separate menus at the same time without affecting each other's service to their customers.

service to their customers.
"It's a very small menu. It's online only. It's not going to affect one thing we do inside the Red Barn. It's 100 per cent independent of the Red Barn, and we are just sharing drivers at our back door," he says.
"We're adding three full-time cooks and one student expediter. We're always staffing three to four every night. We'll add one extra and they will help with pickup and packaging for takeout.
"This is going to be an option for pickup and delivery. We are going to do catering as well. Delivery will be within Moosomin.
"There is a website and an Apple app

There is a website and an Apple app

and Android app you will be able to download. It is extremely user friendly.
"Everything that we have on our menu

travels well because it's a delivery and takeout menu.

**App will be live soon**Davidson says he hopes to have Wok Xpress filling orders within a few weeks, and he's excited to see the idea become re-

ality.
"We've been working on this and going over things a million different ways.

"As soon as I got the menu printed I got excited. We put the kitchen equipment in, in the middle of December. I'm excited about the final menu. I'm extremely happy with the final choice.

"This business will be open 363 days a year from 4:30 to 8:30 every day, so we are always there. It's a four-hour window at night, but we are going to be there ev-ery day. We just always want to be there knowing that if you want to order Wok Xpress, go on your phone, we're there, we're open."







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### Church happy to see new life for building as arts centre

Sheilagh Garrett of the Anglican Church board reached out to local Visual Arts Centre committee to offer church as new home

ву Аяньеу Воснек Sheilagh Garrett is a member of the St Alban's Anglican Church board in Moosomin. The church has been declining in attendance over the past few years and has decided to lease space to the Moosomin Visual Arts Centre.
Sheilagh reached out to Terry Grant, vice-chair of the

Visual Arts Centre, offering the church as space for the new arts centre.

"St Alban's, as with so many churches, has declining attendance. We have lost many older members and been attendance. We have lost many older members and been unable to attract a younger membership. We have had no paid minister for several years, and mainly rely on volunteers for weekly lay services. It's difficult to offer extra programs such as Bible study or mid-week services with volunteers who all have other jobs or commitments. In the fall of 2022, after poor attendance at an open meeting, the decision was made to continue with services until Faster 2023 then make some hard decisions."

ing, the decision was made to continue with services until Easter 2023 then make some hard decisions."

Sheilagh thinks the church will be a perfect fit for the new arts centre. "In May, I read the article in the World Spectator about a group wanting to create a local arts centre. I thought, wouldn't the Anglican church be a fantastic building. It has various areas that can be developed for different uses, it is in a good location, and maybe most importantly for myself personally, a great future use for a sacred and cherished historical building that has been so importantly to my own family for so many years. My mothers are the properties of the same program of the properties of the same program o important to my own family for so many years. My mother (The Reverend Betty Garrett) first began working in the parish in the early 1970's and I was involved with the joining of the church and hall in 2001. I have pictures of my mom, myself, my daughter and granddaughter at the blessing and sod turning ceremony that year. Of course so many other families have their own connections.

many other families have their own connections.

"I called Terry Grant and said 'hey this is unofficial, but what do you think?' He was very receptive to the idea. And it went from there. There were discussions with both groups. Would the space work for the Visual Arts programs; how would it all evolve? Although as a congregation we had already been discussing the reality of the future of our church, when the actual moment came,

"This is a building. It is a precious building, but it is only a building."

—Sheilagh Garrett

there was definite second thought. St Alban's of course, is owned by the Anglican Diocese of Qu'Appelle and they have final say in the use of the building. We included our Bishop Helen Kennedy and she made some excellent suggestions. Instead of all or nothing, we looked at smaller

Steps.
Sheilagh explains it was tough for board members to

agree to pass the church building along.
"There was some second thought definitely, but we agreed it's better to see it be used then to sit empty. It is

agreed it's better to see it be used then to sit empty. It is tough. When we had our meetings on the next steps for the church we agreed we had to do something. "I think the real game-changer was when we talked to the Bishop and she said, don't be in too big of a panic here, slow it down, smaller steps because we just thought it had to be all or pathing.

here, slow it down, smaller steps because we just thought it had to be all or nothing.

"Then we thought we would keep the church just we might not hold a service every Sunday, but we will see where that goes. We have a three-year lease and by the end of the three years, then it will be passed on. I think we ourselves took little steps and we had our own comfort level with it."

Sheilagh feels this is the right next step for the Anglican

"The church has limited funds and cannot continue to operate on the offerings received. With so few members it makes it hard because we rely on our peach fundraiser that we have and being able to rent space to the Kids'

It makes it hard because we rely on our peach fundraiser that was huge and being able to rent space to the Kids' Kollege, that was good.

"After several meetings with the Arts group we came to an agreement. For now, the church will continue to rent the basement of the hall to Kids' Kollege, and retain the church body itself. The rest of the building will be rented to the Arts Group. Regular services will be held as long as possible and then the horse is that a full transfer of the as possible, and then the hope is that a full transfer of the

building will be made to the Arts Group. It seems like it

"The reality is you have to move on. I mean it is only a building in reality. This is a building. It is a precious building, but it is only a building."



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Sealed, written tenders for the property situate in the Municipality of Brenda-Waskada and described below will be received by:

MEIGHEN HADDAD LLP P.O. Box 485

Deloraine, Manitoba R0M 0M0 Attention: Warren G. Barber, K.C.

### PARCEL ONE:

• NW 1/4 13-1-24 WPM (159.82 acres)

### PARCEL TWO:

NW ¼ 8-4-24 WPM (159.01 acres)

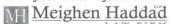
\*all acreages taken from the most recent Manitoba Property Assessment Reports

#### CONDITIONS OF TENDER

- 1. Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the property and not on the above or any other particulars or representations made by or on behalf of the Seller.
- 2. Tenders may be submitted for the purchase of either or both parcels and must be received at or before noon on Thursday, February 1st, 2024.
- 3. Each tender must be accompanied by a \$5,000.00 deposit cheque payable to Meighen Haddad LLP. Deposits accompanying unacceptable bids will be refunded.
- 4. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

- 1. The bidder whose tender is accepted will be required to complete an agreement covering terms and conditions of sale, including the date of closing which shall be thirty (30) days after notification of acceptance of Tender or the issuance a Grant of Probate in the estate of John William Innes, deceased, whichever is the later date. The balance of the accepted tender shall be due and payable on the closing date, failing which the deposit may be forfeited as liquidated damage and not as a penalty.
- 2. Possession is not authorized until acceptable arrangements for full payment are made following acceptance of tender.
- 3. All mines and minerals will be reserved from any transfer.
- 4. Successful bidders will be responsible for real property taxes commencing January 1, 2024.
- 5. Successful bidders will be responsible to pay G.S.T. or to provide a Declaration and Undertaking to self-assess if registered for G.S.T.



### FOR SALE BY TENDER

Sealed, written tenders for the property described below will be received by: MEIGHEN HADDAD LLP

P.O. Box 485

Deloraine, Manitoba R0M 0M0 Attention: Warren G. Barber, K.C

#### PARCEL ONE:

- N ½ 16-1-24 WPM (319.84 acres Municipality of Brenda-Waskada) PARCEL TWO:
- E ½ 24-3-23WPM (320 acres Municipality of Deloraine-Winchester) PARCEL THREE:
- NW 1/4 23-1-25WPM (160 acres Municipality of Brenda-Waskada)
- \*all acreages taken from the most recent Manitoba Property Assessment Reports.

#### CONDITIONS OF TENDER

- 1. Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the property and not on the above or any other particulars or representations made by or on behalf of the Seller.
- 2. Tenders may be submitted for the purchase of one or more parcels and must be received at or before noon on Wednesday, January 31, 2024.
- 3. Each tender must be accompanied by a \$5,000.00 deposit cheque payable to Meighen Haddad LLP. Deposits accompanying unacceptable bids will be refunded
- 4. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted

#### TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

- 1. Parcel Three will be sold subject to a series of caveats, assignments of caveat and ease ments all relating to surface leases and underground installations for the production and transportation of oil. There are two current surface leases yielding annual surface lease rent payments of \$11,100.00. Those leases will be assigned to the successful bidder and rentals under those leases adjusted as at the closing date. There are two abandoned well sites which may yield crop reduction rehabilitation payments pending acknowledgment of final rehabilitation. Rehabilitation payments to and including the 2023 crop year will be retained by the Vendor. Subsequent payments will be the property of the successful bidder.
- In addition to the deposit, the balance of the accepted tender must be paid on or before the closing date which shall be 30 days after notification of acceptance of tender. If the balance of the accepted tender is not paid by the date specified, or evidence provided that the balance will be available under conditions acceptable to the vendor, the deposit paid may be forfeited as liquidated damages and not as a penalty
- 3. Possession is not authorized until acceptable arrangements for full payment are man following acceptance of tender.
- 4. All mines and minerals will be reserved from any transfer.
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Covering Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba

### Yorkton-Melville MP optimistic for 2024

BY RYAN KIEDROWSKI LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Across the nation, unity remains strong—something Yorkton-Melville MP Cathay Wagantall counts as a huge

positive.
"I feel like over the course of the last few months, Canadians have really come together across the whole world, the whole country, on the issues that they're facing, which are mostly economic, that they're very fo-cused on right now," she said.

A result of that combined initiative has been the recent

A result of that combined initiative has been the recent changes to the Carbon Tax, especially when it comes to home heating. Public pressure was one factor in the carve out, which launched other reforms in the wake.
"The government's response by changing its mind on the carbon tax on oil heating I think was significant," Wagantall said. "A good thing, very hard, because obviously it opened the floodgates to the concerns of Canadians right across the country."

Given the restriction of the change to only beating all.

right across the country.

Given the restriction of the change to only heating oil, the Saskatchewan government announced they would scrap the carbon tax on SaskEnergy bills come the new year, and Canada's newest premier, R.J. Simpson of the Newburst Towitsche hes heartened by his right to be the same of the property of the same Northwest Territories, has been vocal on his views to axe

the tax completely.

Bill C-234—which seeks to amend the carbon tax especially as it affects agriculture—continues to crawl the Senate floor at a snail's pace, stalled out at Third Reading as the year comes to a close. Wagantall remains confident

as the year comes to a close. Wagantall remains confident that area producers will receive good news once the bill is finally dealt with.

"It's interesting because on the one hand, yes, it's an independent place of sober second thought," she said on the Senate. "But regardless, there's a lot of pressure on some of them to hold the line because the prime minister had come out—well, his minister had come out—and said there will be no more opportunities for a carve out. Yet, this is really resonating with Canadians, because food is expensive."

While not as seemingly cut and dry as those outside the Senate may think, there is progress on passing Bill

C-234.
"They are very certainly putting their back into it," Wagantall said of the senators. "From our side of the ryagantan satu of the senators. From our side of the situation, it's highly encouraging and they're what they can to build consensus. So we're very hopeful that that is what will happen. We will have a win for Canadians there, I believe.

"It's one thing to come up with these concepts when a country is doing well, but there really is a great deal of angst around the cost of basics and mortgages as well," Wagantall continued.



Yorkton-Melville MP Cathay Wagantall

A huge opportunity came with the provincial announcement of 2,300 added childcare spaces through 51 points in Saskatchewan, something Wagantall was excited to hear.

"Esterhazy, of course, is receiving 60 of those spaces for the Little Miners Daycare, so that's encouraging," she said. "I like that there is funding for the construction as

A challenge throughout the year, Wagantall noted, was the continued work from home environment gov-

was the continued work from home environment government employees are still utilizing.

"It's been tough communicating with the government on all the various files because people were still working from home," she explained. "I think we're hearing and seeing that gradually they are now getting back to their offices, and that is speeding things up—slowly—getting to where things should be back to where they were pre-

Implications have been felt beyond the internal government sector, affecting the business culture around Parliament Hill.

"I know that it's tough on Ottawa as a city as "I know that it's tough on Ottawa as a city as well, because downtown is government employees and huge high rises and they've been empty, which impacts all the small businesses in the area, too," Wagantall said. "So for my staff, and those in the other offices in Saskatchewan, I know that that's been a challenge is trying to respond to the needs of our constituents in a timely manner. We're hoping that this means that we're on the right track to beside better exprise them."

having better service there."

A challenge moving into the new year is that of the economic climate and how it affects mortgages. While something more magnified out East, Wagantall noted it

something more magnified out East, Wagantall noted it has made for stressful conditions in our backyard also.

"I am concerned," she said. "Even now, we're starting to get into the circumstances where people are having to refinance their mortgages and Saskatchewan has been pretty buffered; we don't have those big huge cities. Our prices have not been in the same challenging levels as other places, but I am beginning to hear mortgages being renewed." renewed.'

Wagantall gave an example from her riding involving a couple who had their first child and went on maternity leave. At the same time, the interest on their mortgage increased by \$600 per month. Instead of extending the current mortgage to accommodate the increase, the young family decided to sell their house in favour of something

Continued on Page 23 ™



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### FOR SALE BY TENDER

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#### MEIGHEN HADDAD LLP

129 SOURIS STREET P.O. BOX 397 MELITA MANITOBA R0M 1L0 ATTENTION: KAREN BEAUCHAMP

#### PROPERTY:

• E 1/2 28-6-26 WPM EXCLUDING ALL MINES AND MINERALS Cultivated land southeast of Pipestone, Manitoba

### **CONDITIONS OF TENDER**

- 1. Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the property and not on the above or any other particulars or representations made by or on behalf of the Seller.
- 2. Tenders must be received on or before 5:00 p.m. on January 19, 2024 in an envelope marked "TENDER".
- 3. Each tender must be accompanied by a \$2,500.00 deposit cheque payable to Meighen Haddad LLP. Deposits accompanying unaccepted bids will be refunded.
- 4. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

- 1. The bidder whose tender is accepted will be required to complete an agreement covering terms and conditions of sale.
- 2. The closing date of the sale shall be March 1, 2024 on which date the Vendors shall provide a registerable Transfer of title to the Purchaser and the Purchaser shall pay the balance of the accepted tender. If the balance of the accepted tender is not paid within the set time limit or acceptable arrangements for payment have not been made, the deposit paid may be forfeited as liquidated damages and not as a penalty.
- 3. All mines and minerals will be reserved from any Transfer.
- 4. Land is in the Torren's Title system.
- 5. Successful bidders will be responsible for real property taxes commencing January 1, 2024.

For further information contact Karen Beauchamp at (204) 522-3225.



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#### MEIGHEN HADDAD LLP

129 SOURIS STREET P.O. BOX 397 MELITA MANITOBA R0M 1L0 ATTENTION: KAREN BEAUCHAMP

#### PROPERTY:

THE NE¼ OF SECTION 27-2-27 WPM EXCLUDING ALL MINES AND MINERALS AND PORTIONS COVERED BY THE SOURIS RIVFR

#### **CONDITIONS OF TENDER**

- 1. Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the property and not on the above or any other particulars or representations made by or on behalf of the Seller
- 2. Tenders must be received on or before 5:00 p.m. on January 26, 2024 in an envelope marked "TENDER".
- Each tender must be accompanied by a \$2,500.00 deposit cheque payable to Meighen Haddad LLP. Deposits accompanying unaccepted bids will be

### **TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE**

- 1. The bidder whose tender is accepted will be required to complete an agreement covering terms and conditions of sale.
- 2. The closing date of the sale shall be April 30, 2024, on which date the Vendors shall provide a registerable Transfer of title to the Purchaser and the Purchaser shall pay the balance of the accepted tender. If the balance of the accepted tender is not paid within the set time limit or acceptable arrangements for payment have not been made, the deposit paid may be forfeited as liquidated damages and not as a penalty
- 3. All mines and minerals will be reserved from any Transfer.
- 4. Land is in the Torren's Title system.
- 5. Successful bidders will be responsible for real property taxes commencing January 1, 2024.

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### **Moosomin Visual Arts Centre has a home** Arts Centre leases space from St Alban's Anglican Church

"To find a building as ideal to meet our needs would have put us years out and this project years out. I'm super grateful that they reached out and that they are willing to work with us," Krista says.

"The church will remain in the sanctuary side and Kids Kollege will remain in the basement of the hall. It is kind of turning into a community centre which is part of this dream that is all linked together," Terry adds.

**Opening soon**The Visual Arts Centre board hopes to start some programming mid-February or March. Krista says the group will add programming as they purchase programming midr-rebruary or March. Krista says the group will add programming as they purchase equipment. "As we are trying to raise more money to buy equipment, we will be doing things like painting, drawing, and knitting to start, things that don't require a lot of big, expensive equipment. We hope to have the after-school youth program running as soon as possible, maybe mid-February or March. We are still looking for people to teach the classes. We have some people in mind and some people interested.

"It is exciting and a little overwhelming, but it is coming up fast and we have a lot to do. I actually thought it would just be me talking a year ago when I filled out the survey. So for it to come this far and this fast is pretty amazing," Krista says.

Terry says there are a lot of people who could share their talents at the new centre. "People have skills we don't even realize because most people do their art in their basement or in their own space. This is a way of bringing people's talents out into the light. Not everyone's needs are met in one certain way. For some, maybe sports meets their needs, but just because you play sports does not mean you cannot be artsy as well. You can be a reader as well and etil like theater. There is room for avergader as well and etil like theater.

does not mean you cannot be artsy as well. You can be a reader as well, and still like theatre. There is room for everything and more. The more needs or niches we can fill the more rounder and fuller our community is."

Exciting time

Krista and Terry are most excited for teaching other artists as well as learning themselves. Krista says she is most excited for the special feeling of working with other creative people. Terry agrees it is empowering creating art in

a communal space.
"I am most excited for the feeling you get when you are in a room with other creative people," Krista said. "That is something I feel I have been missing. I know when I go out to photography conventions I get energized and ready to work again once I am there. I hope we can provide that for people, too."

Krista explains the beginning steps of programming of-fered at the arts centre.

fered at the arts centre.

"For youth programs we need to get an instructor and a lesson plan together and some supplies before we can start. For other programs we hope to have a sewing zone so we will need equipment for the bigger projects. Same with pottery it is quite an expensive initial start up so we need to be raising money and looking for sponsors before we can get started with bigger programs."

Terry says they have been hearing positive comments from people in the community. "There have been lots of positive comments," he said. "I haven't heard anything but positive. I have been talking to lots of different organizations across Saskatchewan that have either a communi-

zations across Saskatchewan that have either a community centre or arts focused programming like we are doing. So we are trying to figure out contracts and pay schedule so artists are being recognized for their time they have put into the craft, their knowledge, and for teaching. All I've heard is 'wow what a great idea,' from each community I have talked to across Saskatchewan that have taken these steps already and know the benefits to their communi-

Krista says lots of people are excited about taking classes at the Visual Arts Centre. "From people in the community I have heard they want to learn all sorts of different things. Many people have said their life-long goal is to sew or to kint or watercolour. People are making requests. Pottery is a huge request and knitting and painting are other big ones that people want to learn. We've heard sewing quite a bit as well. When we did our poll, pottery was the top one and then actually cooking classes was the second one so there are a lot of people that want to learn about cooking, too, which was surprising."

#### Sharing talent

Krista describes what the arts centre will look like. "We hope to eventually have a gallery when you walk through the door where you can see the work of local artists and descriptions of their works. We have also talked about having virtual art galleries too, eventually where you can put on some goggles and walk around the virtual art gallery. Then you can come through to work on projects in the digital art area or to the other zone where you can grab a sewing machine where you can work on a project by yourself or with your friends or join a class. I just hope it is a hub, a community where people can come

and work together on different projects."

Terry says he is looking forward to the start of classes.
"Mid-February we should have some classes even if it is just a few evening classes to start," he says.

Terry says he got involved Visual Arts Centre when the

ideas was presented to the Moosomin and District Arts

"Jacqui and Krista presented to the Arts Council and



I am the chairman of the council, I took pottery through Birtle in 2021 and their centre was amazing. I experienced what Birtle had to offer and it was mind blowing. The number of people from Mossomin who go to Birtle for programming is crazy. Then, when Jacqui and Krista came to me, I thought it is aligned with what I see as a need and maybe a chance to participate and help to bring it to life. I hope people can come in and feel at home whether it is with like-minded people or just having a space that is open and inclusive. Everybody can come and learn new skills or practice old skills and share with one another. Just a creative sharing space."

Krista adds, "I hope to see everybody's art develop here. Hopefully we will be able to see people go from be-

ginners to amazing artists in our community."

They both believe the arts centre will be very benefi-

cial for the community.

'You start something and you don't realize the "You start something and you don't realize the work you have to do, but you are committed to it and invested," says Terry. "If you knew the amount of work ahead of time it may cause you to step back, but in the long run it is going to be worth it for not just us but for everybody. I very much like the idea of sharing knowledge and skills. What I learned on my own if somebody can come in and learn in an evening what took me mather is learn that is a win right them."

The Arts Council would like to eventually host an opening event for the community. "I would like to do a big event once we have most of the equipment." that we want in there so we can show everybody and explain how it works," says Krista. "We need to get a bunch of classes booked and a schedule rolling so we can get people in there. We also need to focus on finding sponsors, fundraising, donations, and grants so we can get the bigger equipment." She is looking forward to the opening. "It will feel surreal and awesome. I am proud of us," she says.

**Thankful for support**She said she is thankful to everyone who helped make the arts centre a reality. "We would like to thank the Town Council for their support. It would be impossible for us to do this without them," she said. "The Economic Development Committee and Casey have been helping us with our budget, and Casey has been writing some grants for us so that has been super helpful. The Mosomin and District Arts Council adopted us into their umbrella as a nonprofit so thank you to them. The World-Spectator has been incredibly helpful with promoting us in the paper and has been supportive that way, and has given us lots of advice. Our board members have been very helpful and the Anglican Church reached out to us and they are willing to work with us and that is wonderful to give us a space like that."





Bentley and Ivy Hebert with a falcon in the desert in Dubai. The family went on a desert safari and learned the importance of falcons in the UAE.



Energy and Food Security in a Low Emission World panel at COP28.

### Kristjan Hebert shares agriculture's story at COP28

© Continued from front

"Right now there is a lot of discussion around what the regenerative practices will be, but in Saskatchewan, zero itill is a fairly major thing and I think that Saskatchewan also needs to keep fighting the fight to keep glyphosate as a tool in our tool boxes. Without the ability to use glyphosate it actually really limits the ways we have to keep improving sustainability. I think that there is going to be more and more science done on nitrogen inhibiters, which are a pretty easy way for farmers to continue to reduce emissions and one of the most exciting things, and its part of the reason we are working with the CANZA project, part of it is emissions reduction and part of it is proving how much we are sequestering each year by doing a good job and improving our organic matter over time."

#### What did you learn while attending COP28?

"When it comes to climate I have learned that there is a whole bunch of money in the climate, sustainability and the ESG (Environmental and Social Governance) world and that we need to keep our eyes open because change is coming and we need to be part of that, and be the people

that are building the policy around that change. I learned that there is a large number of people in this world that have no idea how current agriculture is done but they have a lot of ideas on how it should change, so we need to make sure we are ahead of that and I would also say that they are a lot of people in the world that don't re-ally understand how Saskatchewan is leading the world in sustainable agriculture and in agriculture we're usually pretty humble and this is something we should be more proud of and tell the story more especially on the global stage."

### Does the agriculture industry do enough to communi-

"No, I think in the agriculture industry we are really strong at growing grain and feeding the world but we don't really like to take time to tell our story and share all the exciting things and opportunities that we are capture." ing and that might have to part of more business plans."

What moments from COP28 will stick in your mind? "When I wake up in Dubai and go oustide I won't get a sun burn becuase of the smog, where as when I go outside on my farm in Moosomin it's clear with thousands of acres of wheat and canola blowing in the wind. I got to spend some time with Premier Smith out of Alberta and I think she's pretty interesting and one of my really intering conversations was with Jean Charest with him coming from the East I was a little bit worried on where his stance would be on agriculture and also on Saskatchewan presence at COP28 and actually one of the things he told me was if the media in Saskatchewan specifically the cities want to hound Premier Moe for coming here, tell them to phone me for an interview because I think what Saskatchewan is doing here is awesome, so that was great to hear from a Eastern-Canada politician. Then I had some really good meetings with VPs and EVPs of companies like Bayer and Pepsi and BCG and I would say the one really exciting thing is how many companies are looking at agriculture and talking about it now. We need to capture that as an opportunity and not a negative. I also got to learn about different religions and different people and we all might look and talk different but there's great people all over the world.



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### Yorkton-Melville MP optimistic

"They have not been able to find a bank that will give them a new mortgage," Wagantall said of the dual-income family. "Here they thought they're doing the right come family. "Here they thought they're doing the right thing because they're making sure that what they spend is within their income and they can still take care of all these other things with prices going up on food and whatnot. I'll be talking with some of my friends on the government side of things to put pressure on the banks to work this out for Canadians in light of the circumstances, and hopefully it will improve over time."

There is one situation that Wagantall believes should face further consideration. While coal has long been demonized as a dirty form of energy, some types can be con-

monized as a dirty form of energy, some types can be converted to graphite—quite useful in batteries and the electric vehicle industry. However, some aspects of where this opportunity is heading has Wagantall scratching her

"We're investing as a government here an awful lot of money on projects like Stellantis, the battery plant, and

there is concern there," she said. "We're just debating the transition bill again today and the stress was that as we shut down oil and gas, that there's going to be jobs for these workers and transitioning opportunities.

"On that note, this move to bring in the Korean workers to build the plant when we have people who definitely could do that work is not resonating with the workers across Canada," continued Wagantall. "There will be jobs

across Canada, continued wagantaii. There win be jobs once the plant is built, but we can do it all. So we're not quite sure what happened there."

Ultimately, Wagantall is looking forward with optimism, confident the year ahead will offer more positivity

"I'm looking forward to next year," she said. "I'm looking forward to our public servants that are in larger numbers than pre-Covid getting back into downtown Ottawa and into their offices; looking forward to us continuing to have stronger and stronger response across the nation from Canadians that are saying they're resonating with our perspective on how we need to build more homes."







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