





Gazette-Reporter
# Rivers Banner
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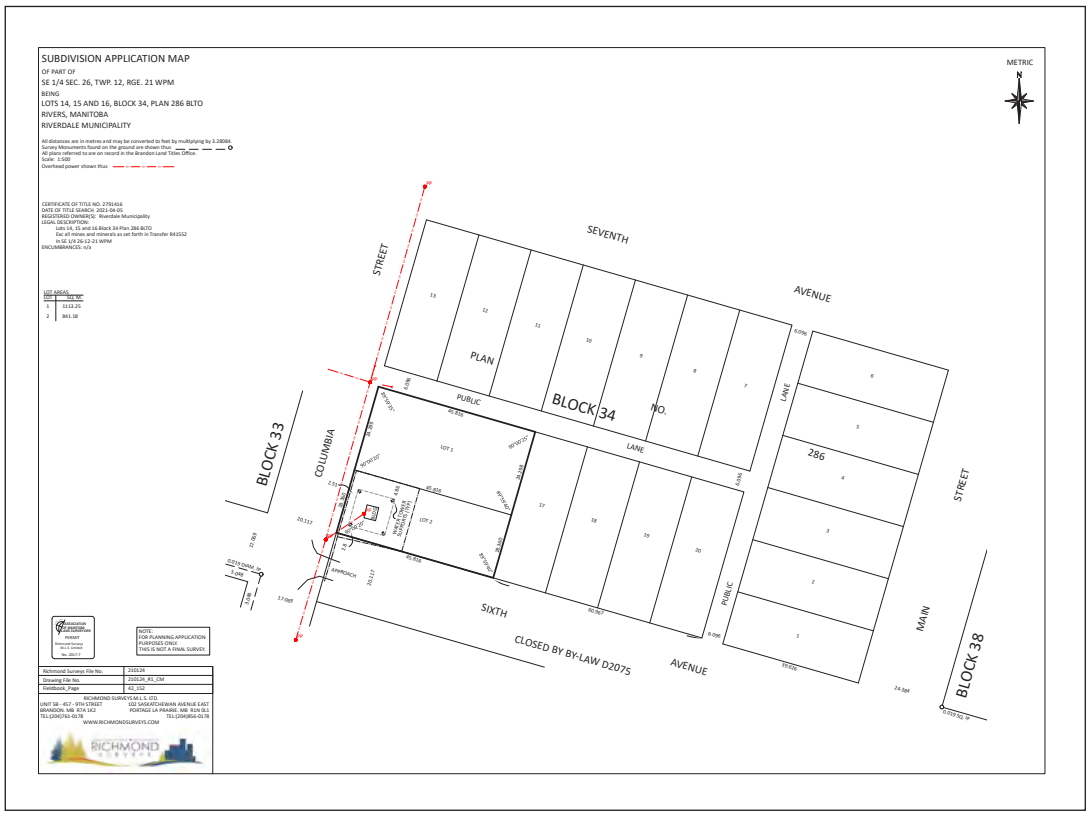
# Riverdale Early Learning Centre on their way to a new facility

**By LeAnne Fletcher, Treasurer**
Riverdale Little Learners Board of Directors

RIVERDALE LITTLE LEARNERS CHILDCARE COOPERATIVE

As many communities continue to struggle with different needs, one that always seems to come to mind is childcare. Whether it's for infants, toddlers or preschoolers, every other day or before and after school, the need has always been great.

Rivers is a growing community, and we are seeing that need here as well. You might be a mom or dad, grandma or grandpa, aunt or uncle, or simply a friend who helps keep the busy lives of families in our community running smoothly. When it comes to children, the saying "it takes a village" continues to ring true.



Subdivsion application map.

Along with the current Riverdale Early Learning Centre, we are excited to announce that the second facility project has an official name; Riverdale Little Learners Childcare Cooperative Inc.

This new facility will have the capacity for 63 children. Focusing on providing care for preschool age, and school aged care (including before and after school). We have also successfully purchased and zoned the land that is needed for the project. Another huge step forward in making this project a reality. Our goal is simple; to create a safe, fun and welcoming environment for children while helping meet an incredibly important need for families in our community.

While there is still a lot of work ahead, and we want to celebrate this exciting step with the families and the community that are a part of it.

On November 28, at the Legion Hall from 3-5pm we want to invite everyone to come out and celebrate another step forward in this project and present another opportunity for questions, ideas and support that anyone would like to bring forward towards our project. Please bring a blanket and enjoy a holiday classic (The Grinch). Entry is free, but donations big and small are always welcomed to support our project. We will have snacks and drinks for purchase for all ages.

We can't wait to be able to take this opportunity to get together as a community, celebrate another step forward, and enjoy a cozy and relaxed afternoon before all the real holiday madness begins!

We are excited for what lays ahead, and we look forward to building Riverdale Little Learners and our community together.

## Inside...



OAK RIVER FALL SUPPER
P2



FARMERS ADVOCATE
P5-8

# 2026 Oak River Community Acres Report



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Oak River Community Association/ Community field was seeded to canola this year. We had several farms volunteer their time throughout the season to make the project happened again. Thank you to the following, the Blacks, the Gerrards, the Browns, the Ramseys, the Stewarts and the Heapys, your contributions made everything possible. We harvested the canola on October 22 and hauled it to Bunge at Forrest. A special thanks to Rocky Mountain Equipment of Brandon for donating supper in the field for the harvest crew that was greatly appreciated. We would like to thank the following businesses for donating products and services to us this season your support makes these community projects possible: Nutrien Ag Solutions, Cargill Ag, Matt Ginter – BASF, Redferns Hamiota. We're looking forward to 2027 and hopefully another successful year.

# Oak River Fall Supper feeds huge crowd



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Friends and family enjoyed another wonderful fall supper at the Oak River Memorial Rink.

**By Anne Davison**
Rivers Banner

On Oct. 25, Oak River Fall Supper drew customers from Rivers, Kenton, Hamiota, Cardale and Oak River area. On the menu - turkey, ham, perogies, meatballs, veggies, salads, and all the trimmings including desserts.

Kaitlyn Campbell and Ashley Black organized the meal, along with help from Meaghan Froese.

The crowd was up from last year as over 275 people were fed, with proceeds going to Oak River Memorial Rink.

"It was a big community effort, and it has to be," said Bob Turnbull, chairperson of Oakview Community Development Association and he was pleased to say many supplies were purchased at the new Oak River store.

On Saturday morning, a half dozen people got together to peel 80 pounds of potatoes for Sunday. Then, Sunday morning cooks started their work to be ready for the 4:30pm start.

"The Oak River Community Association had a very successful fall supper, at the Oak River Memorial Rink Hall. They had over 275 attending a very delicious turkey, ham and meatball dinner with all the fixings and dessert. The Oak River Community Association would like to thank the convenors for all their hard work as well as all the community members who donated food or their time to make this a very successful fundraiser for our community complex. Special thanks to Mr. T and Son Services for the donation of meatballs, and to Spud Plains Farms for the donated potatoes for our event as well as everyone from the RM of Oakview and surrounding RM's that attended the supper. Your support was greatly appreciated," says Diane Kuculym.

**Fall or Fowl**

Traditionally these community meals held in the fall were termed Fowl Suppers. Often held in a church basement where space was limited, they were not a smorgasbord, but rather a turkey meal served to the tables.

Ticket holders waited upstairs in the sanctuary until their number was called and then it was down the back staircase to the long table. Homegrown birds were the fare and pumpkin pie was offered complete with whipped cream from locally milked cows.

Now, during fall in Westman, Fall Suppers are very popular.

# Sloppy Joes



**Ingredients**

- 2 Tbsp. butter, plus more for buttering rolls
- 2 1/2 lb. ground beef
- 1/2 large onion, diced
- 1 large green bell pepper, diced
- 5 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 1/2 cups ketchup
- 2 Tbsp. brown sugar
- 2 tsp. chili powder, plus more to taste
- 1 tsp. dry mustard
- 1/2 tsp. red pepper flakes, plus more to taste
- 1 cup water
- Kosher salt, to taste
- Freshly ground black pepper, to taste
- 2 Tbsp. tomato paste (optional)
- Worcestershire sauce, to taste
- 8 buns

**Directions**

1. In a large skillet or Dutch oven, melt the butter over medium-high heat. Add the ground beef and cook until brown. Drain most of the fat and discard.
2. Add the onion, green bell pepper, and garlic. Cook for a few minutes, or until the vegetables begin to soften.
3. Add the ketchup, brown sugar, chili powder, dry mustard, red pepper flakes, and water. Stir to combine and simmer for 15 minutes, adding salt and pepper to taste. Also add the tomato paste, Worcestershire, and Tabasco, if desired. Taste and adjust the seasonings as needed.
4. Spread the rolls with butter and brown on a griddle or skillet. Spoon the meat mixture over the rolls, topping with a slice of cheese if it makes your skirt fly up. Serve hot with kettle cooked chips!

# A haunting we will go




Every year on Halloween, my family dresses in our family costume for the year, one of our longest running traditions, one that started long before we even had kids. Back when it was just my husband and me, we spent our first Halloween together dressed as Robin Hood, followed later by the Mad Hatter and Alice. It was silly and fun and creative, and we didn't know then that we were building the foundation for something our kids would one day look forward to all year.

Now, with two children, who get excited for me to announce our family costume every October. We've tackled Star Wars, superheroes, pirates, and even the Addams family. Some years the costumes come together easily; other years involve last minute scrambling, last minute Amazon panic, and at least one child declaring they "don't want to be that anymore." But somehow, every October 31st, we pull it off.

Halloween has always been one of my favourite holidays. I love carving pumpkins and pretending I'm better at it than I am. I love scary movies. I watch through my fingers. I love the candy, especially the candy I definitely don't steal from my kids' bags when they're asleep. And I love fall itself: the crisp air, the crunch of leaves, the way the whole season feels like a warm hug wrapped in a spooky soundtrack.

But one of the things I love most is how much our community embraces the holiday. Growing up in Virden, Halloween always felt special. There are very few houses that don't leave their porch lights on. People hand out candy with genuine enthusiasm. Neighbours decorate their yards, carve pumpkins, and greet kids like they've been waiting all evening just to see their costumes. It's one of those small town traditions that makes you feel like you're part of something bigger, a shared celebration that stretches across streets and generations.

As a parent, I see Halloween differently now. It's not just about the costumes or the candy or the spooky fun. It's about watching my kids experience the same community warmth I grew up with. It's about seeing them run up familiar driveways, laughing with friends, proudly showing off their outfits. It's about knowing that these nights, these simple, joy filled nights, are becoming part of their childhood memories.



PHOTO BY BETH MCCONNELL

One of our most popular costumes, my family as the Addams Family on October 31, 2024.

Family costumes might seem like a small thing, but they've become a thread that ties our Octobers together. They remind us to be playful. They give us something to look forward to. They create stories we'll tell for years, like the time our pirate hats kept blowing off in the wind.

And every Halloween night, when we're walking through Virden with our kids, surrounded by porch lights and laughter and the smell of fallen leaves, I'm reminded why this tradition matters. It's not just about dressing up. It's about making magic for my children that they will remember for years to come. Just like I do.

# Happy Halloween Wordsearch

J N M D E U S N S U P K T T O E R P D L
R F L K W E F P Z W S T B B M I R V B H
J O B N Y E I H N L R U B O L J B A H C
N U A W F D R W F Y L C L M E H J M Y T
H T G R E V J E W K F W H Y M O T P K I
E A D R I O W W W G H O S T W G T I D W
K I U M O O N F E O S B J A P N J R H T
B S N N U Y H E N P L N N I R U N E A V
W P F M T M B J M W F F O E K R D E C C
I O R P Y E R B V U P C Z T E I R L B I
P O U V Y Y D G R J T O A T E T T H D O
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H Y A T O D T W R W P A O O D Y E T H R
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U M W B P K C R E O T C M C S B A K S V
L E B A K L K H K I I S T P E V L W M F
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T E I S R W A A T A G M C O N I H V P U
L Z G E H J L Y J F L D O T M B N M N L
M H L V H J B J W T B E N Z T S C A R Y

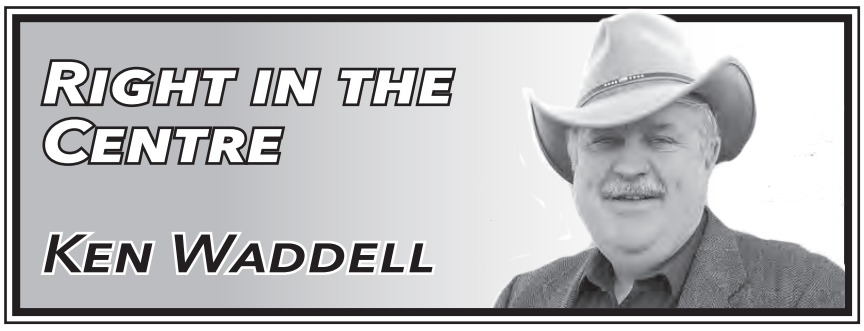
Bats
BlackCat
Candy
Cobweb
Costume
Ghost
Ghoul
Haunted
Jack-O-Lantern
Monster
Moon
October
Pumpkin
Scary
Skeleton
Spider
Spooky
Trick or Treat
Vampire
Werewolf
Witch
Zombie

# Tundra

**By Chad Carpenter**




# B.C. election shows promise




Last weekend, a political earthquake took place in British Columbia. The now former premier of B.C., David Eby, threw an ill-fated set of dice and called a snap election. It was a bit weird as Eby, a well-rooted NDP premier, had a majority and two years left in his mandate. He thought the Progressive Conservative Party was in disarray and they were. He also thought that somehow people would rally to his cause which he somewhat based on the effects of President Trump and his tariff wars against Canada. What the people of B.C. knew and I don't think Mr. Eby did know, is that while the Trump tariffs are damaging and annoying, there are a lot of other factors in our economy. Unnecessary government regulations are a big drag down, bad attitude is another and lack of capital is a constant obstacle.

For example, we produce a lot of very good beef in Canada and our meat inspection system is so cluttered that beef and beef products move with great difficulty from province to province. I am told there are also huge problems in the trades, trucking and many other areas of the economy.

The people of B.C. have pitched their tent with a plain speaking little known PC premier, Lorne Doerkson, rather than an NDP premier who always looked like he has a headache. That and Eby had a staunch refusal to tell the left wing socialist agenda people to grow up, face reality and understand that some of their policies actually hinder, rather than help people.

Everybody in British Columbia also knows that the various drug injection sites are not really working. Just in Eby's nine years there was 1,000s of drug overdose deaths in B.C.

> **"Smart politics would suggest that if a government has a strong mandate, they should implement as many promised changes as they can and do it early."**

Not directly Eby's fault, but he was the leader and didn't bring about the needed changes. Where else except in the drug trade would you keep believing that soft-on-crime works.

Premier-elect Lorne Doerkson has laid out some of his government's early priorities, such as an independent review of provincial finances and an expert commission to keep hospital emergency rooms open and cut down wait times. Doerksen has promised extensive changes in resource production, not the least of which is tripling of natural gas production by 2035.

He has one of the strongest mandates in B.C. history, if not Canadian history. He is making wise use of that mandate so far. Smart politics would suggest that if a government has a strong mandate, they should implement as many promised changes as they can and and do it early. Bureaucracies love to drag out progress but with a strong mandate, that is not wise nor necessary.

One of Doerksen's biggest challenges will be dealing with the legitimate First Nations concerns and getting past the frivolous ones. There seems to be a mixture of both kinds. And First Nations need to decide if they want the advantages of modern day life or if they want to live in a natural history museum. It's tough to have both.

British Columbia and Canada can make great progress but a lot of negative and silly policies have to be set aside. It's hard not to be optimistic when listening to Doerksen but I am sure his detractors will do their best to drag him down.

*Disclaimer: The views expressed in this column are the writer's personal views and are not to be taken as being the view of the newspaper staff.*




# It could happen to anyone, right?

I was running errands, trying to find the correct smoke/carbon dioxide alarm, feeling a tad frustrated, had Arie along because she loves car rides….so a fair bit going on in my thoughts. As I approached a dark coloured SUV, ready to place my hand on the handle, a quiet voice stated 'this one's mine'. And it was! My vehicle was parked right next to hers. A dark coloured SUV. Not the same brand, with two big dogs not one little black dog, there were tell tale signs. The young woman was gracious enough to say she had made the same mistake once. And it has happened to me before as well. You would think one could/would learn!

The most dramatic wrong car story happened many years ago. I was at work, like at a workplace, and a woman who had been shopping returned to the store, very indigent. She assumed that while she had been shopping someone had used her vehicle, parked right there in broad daylight on a public street, as a garbage can! She asked if we would dispose of an empty coffee cup, some fast food wrappers and odd papers. Of course we could, so sorry this happened while you were supporting our local business. And then, just moments later, she slunk back in. Could she have all the garbage back? There had to be a story there! Our customer had diligently cleaned someone else's car. Same colour as hers, parked right next to hers. Both with unlocked doors. We commiserated with her dilemma, carefully returned all the garbage and we never saw her again.

I do know that this most recent incident with me blithely thinking your car is mine is not the first or only time. I would wager any money that it won't be the last time either. So far I never, well there is a faint memory of maybe once- entered and sat in a vehicle that was not mine. That driver was gracious enough to ask where I wanted to go!

The reality is that autos do get stolen. Off the street or right off your yard. The reality is that cars have been stolen with passengers already inside, sometimes children. I want to believe that a confused old lady would not be seen as a thief, but times are changing!

There was a time when I left my vehicle unlocked when I was out and about. These key fob things are so much easier to use than actually keying in. With the fob in my hand, or pocket, I simply point and lock or depress the dot and all four doors lock. Marvelous!

There are possible solutions to the car mix up situation. Have one in such a distinct colour that you will never see another like it, or remember your license plate and check before boldly placing your hand on someone else's handle! Thinking about a distinct colour for an easy find — I should do that with my phone case! I can't count the times I lose that rascal. Basic black for the phone case and the car….hmmm

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# More than just a harvest

**Submitted**
Stride Credit Union



PHOTO COURTESY OF STRIDE CREDIT UNION
Jaret and BJ at Bailey Farms, located near Carberry.

After weeks of wet weather, a stretch of sunshine during potato harvest meant there wasn't a minute to waste at Bailey Farms near Carberry. So when representatives from Stride Credit Union stopped by with more than 30 meals for the crew during one of their Meals in the Field visits, supper had to fit around the work — not the other way around.

Stride Account Manager BJ and Jaret, Vice-President of Ag and Commercial, also had an opportunity to see the operation firsthand. Lori took them into the fields to watch the potato harvesters in action, while Terry provided a look at the farm's unloading, processing and storage system back at the yard. Despite the challenging conditions leading up to harvest, the operation moved like a well-oiled machine.

But beyond the equipment, bins of potatoes, and pace of harvest, the visit was also a reminder of what a farm represents. Years of work. Decisions made season after season. It's where conversations about money become conversations about much more.

For anyone who has spent years building a farm or a business, there eventually comes a point when the questions begin to change. How much longer do you want to work? What would stepping back actually look like? Is there someone who wants to take over? And if there is, how do you make that transition work for everyone involved?

Maybe retirement is still decades away. Maybe it's starting to feel a lot closer. Maybe the goal is to grow before you ever think about slowing down. Or maybe you simply want to know that when the time comes, you'll have options.

Those are financial questions, but the answers aren't found in the numbers alone. Understanding what someone wants to accomplish also means understanding what they've built, how their operation works, the challenges they face, and what matters to them and their family. That's particularly true in agriculture and business, where two operations that look similar on paper can have very different stories behind them.

It's why relationships have always been an important part of how Stride Credit Union works with its members. A financial statement can tell part of the story. A conversation around the kitchen table, a visit to a business, or an afternoon spent seeing a farm in operation can tell much more.

Because behind most financial decisions is a more personal question: What do you actually want?

A farm your kids might want someday. A business that can carry on without you. The freedom to retire when you're ready. A home you finally own outright. Something to leave your family. Or simply enough breathing room to feel comfortable about what comes next.

Meals in the Field is one of the ways Stride goes beyond everyday banking to build meaningful relationships with its members. It's an opportunity to step outside the office, spend time with members, and better understand the farms, businesses, and lives they're working to build.

The numbers will always matter. But good financial advice takes more than knowing the numbers.

It takes knowing the people behind them.

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# Manitoba Crop Report highlights

Manitoba Agriculture released its latest crop report on Friday, Oct. 20. Here are a few highlights:

• McCreary was listed as the wettest location in the Northwest region for the period of Oct. 12 to 18, having received 14.6 mm of precipitation.

• Much progress has been made at this point in the harvest of crops in the area. These results are up-to-date as of Oct. 20.

In the Northwest: Winter wheat, fall rye, and field pea crops were reported as 100 per cent completed. Meanwhile, spring wheat, barley, and oats were all listed at 95 per cent completion; and canola at 90 per cent, and soybeans at 60 per cent. Overall, a regional average of 77 per cent completion.

In the southwest, the regional average is slightly higher, at 78 per cent.

There, winter wheat, fall rye, barley, and oats are all at 100 per cent completion. The percentages for the remaining crops in the southwest are: spring wheat, 98 per cent; field peas, 99 per cent; canola, 85 per cent; soybeans, 60 per cent; dry beans, 60 per cent; and silage corn, 75 per cent.

• In the southwest, remaining spring wheat crops are reported to likely be feed grade, as yield is holding up but quality is declining. Most of the barley crop harvested in this region is also being graded as feed due to a variety of factors. Sunflowers are ready for desication.

• In the northwest, post-harvest operations are continuing across the region. This includes fall fertilizer and anhydrous applications. Some areas in fields will also require attention due to weed growth caused by wet conditions throughout the season.

• Crop quality and yield in both regions were very mixed.

The full Crop Report for Oct. 20, 2026 can be found on the Government of Manitoba Website's agriculture category by clicking 'crops', 'seasonal report', and then 'crop report'.




PHOTO BY ANNE DAVIDSON

On the way to Oak River Fall Supper Sunday evening, Oct. 25. we see a canola crop being harvested. Crops enjoyed moisture during growth and then it became too much as downpours and then wind storms continued into fall. Since September, in Hamiota, harvesters could be heard running through the night as producers took advantage of every hour. The Harvest Moon was a month ago. Sunday night the Hunter's Moon was rising, temperatures were plummeting to bring single digit days, ice-cold nights and possibly snow this week.









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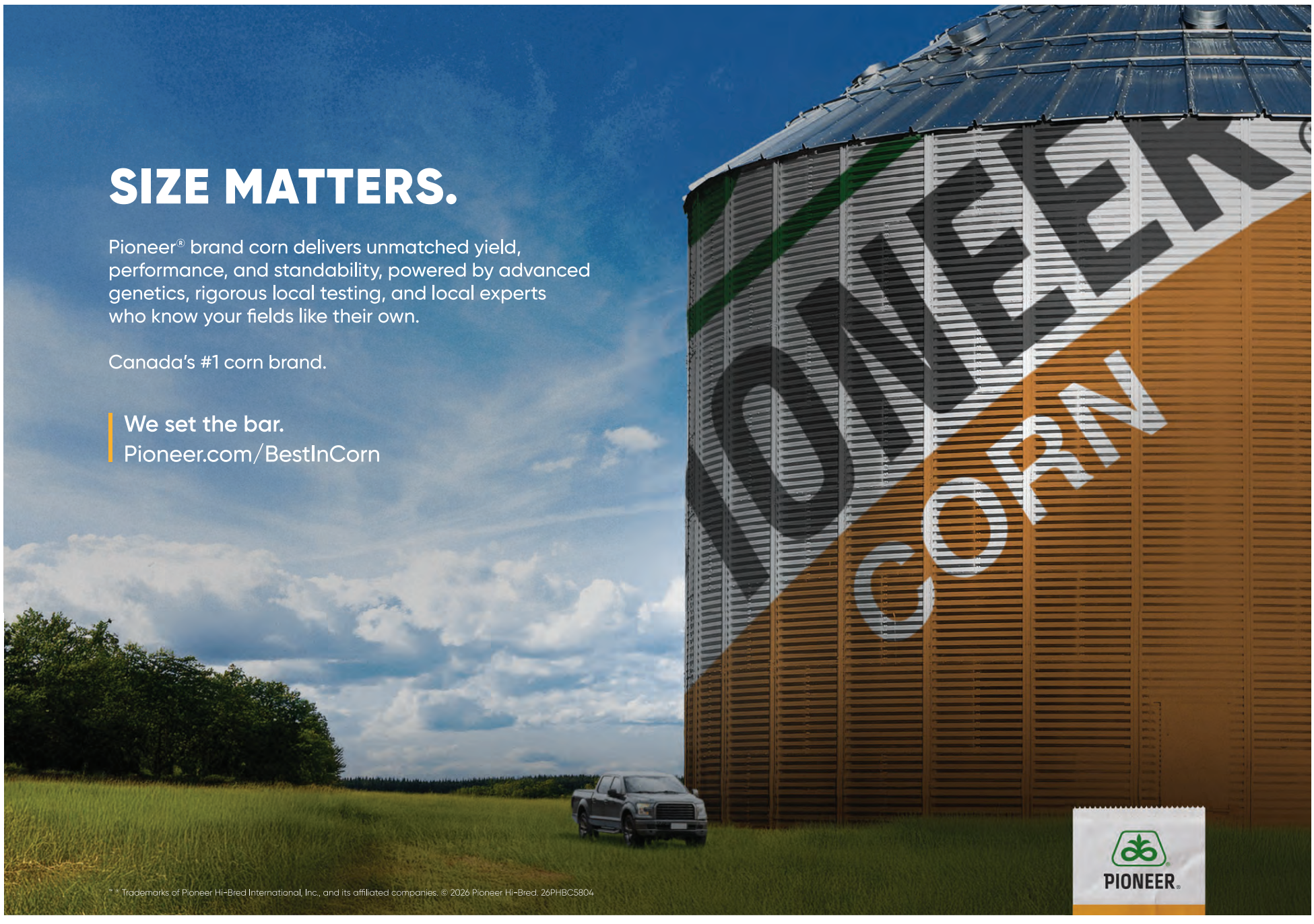
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Canada

# October 1926




The 1926 census of Canada was a special mid-decade population count conducted exclusively for the Prairie Provinces, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta starting June 1,1926. This covered the 3 provinces to track rapid population growth and re-adjust federal per-capita grants and political representation between National Census.

It included 25 questions marking the first prairie census to track time spent in school. It did not include questions on occupation or religion.

RCMP officers and Indian Agents enumerated Indigenous reserves and northern territories while standard local officials covered towns, rural districts and institutions. The count recorded over 2 million people in the prairies with an estimated population in all of Canada sitting roughly at 9.45 million.

Manitoba's first pulp and paper mill operated in Pine Falls. The Pas Winter Carnival and dog derby events continued to grow as a center piece of Northern Manitoba winter tradition.

On December 23,1926, a massive fire destroyed the Historic Winnipeg theater. Four firefighters were killed in the blaze when one of the building's walls collapsed.

The Royal Canadian Legion was incorporated in Manitoba in 1926, thus they are celebrating 100 years.

Life in Kenton in 1926 included the new United Church. The center of rural education was at the 2 story brick Kenton Consolidated School building, which was designed by architect Eldred Tuttle.

The Manitoba Pool Elevator had been incorporated a year earlier and changed how farmers stored, pooled and marketed their grain crops.

In Kenton, we have no railroad tracks, no elevator and no school, but we are still the best town by a dam site!

# CLASSIFIEDS

## Notice

### R.M. of Oakview
### PUBLIC NOTICE REGARDING BY-LAW NO. 2026-24

**A BY-LAW TO CLOSE PART 6TH STREET and PUBLIC LANE PLAN 7847 NLTO**

The Council of the Rural Municipality of Oakview at its regular meeting in the Council Chamber, 10 Cochrane Street, Oak River, MB on Tuesday, November 17th, 2026, at 6:15 p.m. will present By-Law No. 2026-24, a by-law to effect to close Pt 6th Street and Public Lane Plan 7847 NLTO and transfer portions of the closed road to the Rural Municipality of Oakview.

The purpose of the hearing is to allow any interested person to make a representation, ask questions or register an objection.

Copies of the proposed by-law are available on our website at www.rmofoakview.ca or upon request at the municipal office, at 435 3rd Avenue, Rapid City during regular business hours. Questions and remarks may also be directed by letter to our Chief Administrative Officer or through our email address at info@rmofoakview.ca.

Dated at the RM of Oakview this 6th day of October, 2026 and issued pursuant to Section 290(2) of The Municipal Act.

Mark Humphries
Chief Administrative Officer
Rural Municipality of Oakview
Phone: (204) 566-2146

## Coming Events

**Rolling River School Division**
**Board of Trustees**
invites
interested individuals to present their views on educational and budget priorities for the Board of Trustees to consider in setting the 2027-2028 budget.

**How to provide input:**
- Send a written submission for the Board's review.
- Make a presentation at a Board meeting.
- Visit the school division website, rrsd.mb.ca (click on the Budget Input link)

Forward a written submission or a request to make a presentation at a Board meeting to the attention of:

Rolling River School Division
c/o Kathlyn McNabb, Secretary-Treasurer
Box 1170
Minnedosa, MB R0J 1E0
kmcnabb@rrsd.mb.ca

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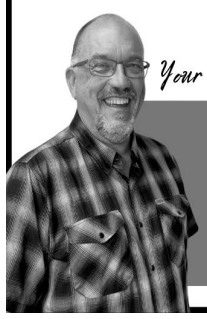
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# SPORTS

## Bobbleheads?

By Gerry Nolan
Rivers Banner

Oversized "bobblehead" looking helmets in the National Football League are actually called "Guardian Caps", which are soft-shelled padded covers that attach to the outside of a standard helmet to absorb impact and reduce concussions.

In 2022, the first made Guardian Caps were made mandatory for select positions including lineman, tight ends and running backs during training camp practices.

In 2024, the National Football League officially permitted players to wear Guardian Caps during preseason games and during the regular season.

James Daniels, an offensive lineman for the Pittsburgh Steelers was the first NFL player to wear a Guardian Cap during an official game. He made history by wearing it during a preseason game against the Houston Texans on August 9, 2024.

When the 2024 regular season kicked off a few weeks later, a handful of players became the first to wear them in a regular season live action, including James Daniels of the Pittsburgh Steelers, Jubrille Peppers of the New England Patriots, Jonathan Taylor Indianapolis Colts and Josh Whyte from the Tennessee Titans.

If you were to look back in NFL history, Buffalo Bills safety Mark Kelso was the first player to wear a predecessor to the Guardian Cap called the "ProCap" during a regular season game from 1989-1992.

The NFL typically records between 130 to 220 concussions in a single year. Note, these are the reported ones. There are many not recorded! Because of aggressive safety changes such as advanced helmet designs, mandatory Guardian Caps in practice and revised kickoff structures the actual number of concussions fluctuates from year to year.

In 2025 the total number of recorded concussions was 168. An average of 23 players per week wear a Guardian Cap during live NFL games. In total, roughly 25 players opted to wear the cap at various points of the season.

Many players explicitly state they dislike the "Bobblehead" look of the cap and prefer wearing traditional helmets.

The National Football League laboratory testing shows that several of the newest position specific helmets provide just as much protection on their own as an older helmet paired with the Guardian Cap. As a result, many players chose to upgrade their core helmet rather than strapping on the outer padding.

The Guardian Cap NXT 2.0 made its official live game debut for the 2026 season.

Jalen Pitre, safety, Houston Texans has become the face of the movement as first-ever official Guardian Cap signature athlete. Others who wear the helmet are Chris Olave, wide receiver from the New Orleans Saints, Rashawn Slater, offensive tackle Los Angeles Chargers, Germie Bernard, wide receiver Pittsburgh Steelers plus many more.

Will the "Guardian Cap" become mandatory? Not likely, as the helmet technology is catching up to make the game safer. There are new high tech helmets each year and custom made models optimize just for specific positions. These helmets are built to advance impact absorption directly into the hard outer shell.

Hopefully the technology that is on the horizon will someday be so good that concussions will drop significantly so we the fans can enjoy watching our favourite players, play longer and are concussion free!

## Jets host Blues for home opener on Friday

By Robin Wark
Rivers Banner

The Rivers Jets are looking to bounce back as they prepare to host their home opener this weekend.

The Tiger Hills Hockey League team fell 7-0 on the road to the Minnedosa Bombers on Oct. 24 to open the season. On Friday, Oct. 30, at 7:30 p.m., the Jets host Hartney, which lost to the Killarney Shamrocks in the 2026 league championship series.

"I'm hoping we get a big crowd. Hartney fans usually travel well, so hopefully our fans come out to support the guys," Rivers coach Ryan Lamb said.

The Jets hit the road Saturday, October 31, for another 7:30 p.m. matchup against the Souris Elks. With two games in two nights, Rivers will look to make the most of its home-ice advantage Friday before heading to Souris to close out the weekend.

The Jets opened their season in Minnedosa. The host Bombers led 2-0 after the first period and 3-0 at the second intermission. Three of Minnedosa's goals came on the power play.

Riley Lamb started in net for the Jets. He made 31 saves on 36 shots. In the third period, the Bombers' Ricky Kowalick received an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty while Lamb received the same as well as two misconducts and a game misconduct. Layne Anderson took over between the pipes and stopped 13 of the 15 shots he faced.

"Last night didn't go our way," Coach Lamb said. "It was closer than the score showed. but they scored on their opportunities, and we didn't."

Devon Fordyce made 17 saves for the Bombers. Bryson Werbicki-Mallett led Minnedosa with two goals, while Owen Riffel, Logan Robinson and Shane Jury each had three points.




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# In My Opinion:

## Do we even know who the EU is?

**By Anne Davison**
Rivers Banner

I cannot rhyme off the countries who became the EU. Who are these 20+ countries? Why would Canada want to become an "associate member"? And what does that even mean?

I have family and friends in the country with which we have shared the longest international border. You probably do too. Sorry Prime Minister Carney, but friendship with America could and should outlast you.

RM of Pipestone candidates were asked, during their forum, how and when municipal council should involve ratepayers in decisions.

Pipestone candidate Dan Ducharme said, "If a decision affects a large number of residents, involves significant spending, changes service levels, or otherwise shapes the community for years to come, public input should be part of the process."

The Canadian prime minister could take a lesson. The prime minister has taken it upon himself to hook us up, in one form or another, with the European Union.

The European Commission president, Ursula von der Leyen said (reported in The Guardian), "I would like to work with you on opening the door for Canada to be the first associate member of the EU."

Since that public declaration of love mid-September, PM Carney has called for a "unique alliance" with the EU.

Michelle Rempel Garner, Conservative Shadow Minister for Immigration, is calling on the prime minister to tell Canadians what his proposed deal with the European Union means for immigration. And she wants to know before the Canada-EU Summit on Thursday and Friday.

She said, "In September, the Prime Minister told the European Parliament that people from the EU should be able to live, work and study in Canada. He made that commitment before saying anything to our Parliament or directly to Canadians, and Monday (Oct. 26) in Question Period, the immigration minister refused to provide any details."

Europe is a romantic Canadian tourist destination and visa versa. But keep in mind, the UK left the union in 2020 – Brexit. And France is heating up, actually on fire.

So, just who is the EU? According to Rockwool Foundation – Berlin, by 2024 the European Union had over 63 million foreign-born residents, representing 14.1 per cent of the total population and most of them, 71.4 per cent originated from non-EU countries.

Remple Garner says, "A leaked document suggests the government could remove safeguards in the existing Canada-EU trade agreement, CETA. Under the existing agreement labour mobility is limited to specific categories of EU citizens for short, defined periods and does not grant access to the general labour market or permanent residence."

For several years all of Canada heard the ins and outs of why Alberta should or should not secede. What's the rush to make an agreement with the EU?

Canadians deserve more information. I would like to hear answers to the Immigration Critic's questions:

How many more non-citizens will this deal bring to Canada, and will they count in the immigration levels plan?

Does greater mobility apply only to EU citizens, or to anyone with EU residency?

Will CETA's migration safeguards remain in place?

What will the impact be on Canadian housing, hospitals, jobs and social services?

Fundamentally – a changing relationship with the EU should be considered a major item requiring a referendum or better yet, make it an election issue.

Acclaimed reeve, Ross Tycoles answered: "I would like to see more opportunities for residents to become involved before major decisions are finalized. Sometimes it seems that an issue only receives widespread attention once it has become controversial.... I think it's important to explain the issue, outline the options and financial implications, and give people a reasonable opportunity to provide input."

I agree.

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | **Oct 30**<br>Prairie Crocus Library Storytime in Rivers 10am<br>Chase the Ace Rivers Legion 7pm | **31**<br>Happy Halloween<br>Hope it's a real treat! |
| **Nov 1**<br>Rivers Legion Bingo 11:30am | **2**<br>50 + Card Games 1pm | **3**<br>Riverdale municipality<br>Council Meeting<br>50 + Club Pool 1pm | **4**<br>50 + Club Cribbage 1pm<br>Darts Rivers Legion 7pm | **5**<br>Rivers Food Bank 9:30 - 11:30am<br>Rivers Legion Cribbage 7pm<br>50+ Floor Games 1pm | **6**<br>Prairie Crocus Library Storytime in Rivers 10am<br>Chase the Ace Rivers Legion 7pm | **7** |
| **8**<br>Rivers Legion Bingo 11:30am | **9**<br>50 + Card Games 1pm | **10**<br>50 + Club Pool 1pm | **11**<br>Remembrance Day<br>Lest We Forget | **12**<br>Rivers Legion Cribbage 7pm<br>50+ Floor Games 1pm | **13**<br>Prairie Crocus Library Storytime in Rivers 10am<br>Chase the Ace Rivers Legion 7pm | **14**<br>Rivers Christmas Craft Show |