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**Voice**



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Many of the recipients of the 233 hampers packed by the Morden Christmas Cheer Board last week will be a little warmer this winter thanks to gifts like these knitted scarves donated by students from Maple Leaf School.

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

**Filling the Cheer hampers**

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# Morden Cheer distributes 233 care hampers

By Lorne Stelmach

The Morden Christmas Cheer Board made the season merrier for recipients of the 233 hampers delivered last week.

The 2017 campaign saw a small army of volunteers work three days preparing and packing hampers leading up to delivery day Dec. 20.

The effort went smoothly, although financial support is down a little this year.

"Hopefully we can up that again next year, but contributions were a little down," said chairperson Carolyn Schellenberg, who has been volunteering with the Cheer Board for 10 years now.

"We are a little short on funding this year, so we cut back a bit on some of our contents," she said. "Not on the essentials ... but on things like pancake mix and syrup, cranberry juice ... things that people can do without."

The hamper count of 233 came in just a few hampers more than last year's campaign.

"I think it's just the community keeps growing," suggested Schellenberg. "I think the recipients are the same kind of people, same clients that we have had."

"We have many new ones and some who don't need it anymore or have moved away. Durwin [Buchy] calls all the people who received hampers in the last year to see if they need another one."

"We get families, some single people, a lot of single people actually ... many over 70. And there are sometimes two singles like sisters living together or two brothers living together."

The Cheer Board supports the effort primarily through cash donations to purchase bulk food items, but they also accept donations of food and gifts to fill the hampers.



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Morden Christmas Cheer Board members and volunteers Linda Kirk, Earl Lautenschlager, Denis Myers, and chairperson Carolyn Schellenberg oversaw and helped with the packing of 233 hampers last week.

Each hamper includes food, toiletries, and other sundries to help families in need make it through the holidays. Gifts are also included for families with children.

Schellenberg noted that means it requires a fair bit of co-ordination to make sure they get them all right.

"We make sure that we've got the right things in the right boxes ... like school supplies are going into the right hampers ... toys will be wrapped and we need to make sure they go into the right hampers. We don't want to give a doll to a 15-year-old boy."

For those details and more, she appreciates the efforts of the campaign's dedicated volunteers, which include many who have been involved for years.

"And we've had lots of volunteers," Schellenberg said. "Unfortunately, we've had to turn some away because

otherwise it would get too crowded. "The schools in Western School Division and the students have done a good job for us as well," she added, pointing to the \$3,000 boost that came

from the annual Morden Thunder Christmas Cheer game held a few day earlier.

With the hard work all done, Schellenberg said it is always both interesting and rewarding for them once delivery day comes around.

"Unfortunately, it's not good to see that the numbers have gone up," she


said. "It's great to see the progression, though ... not only the impact but how efficient we've become ... and the delivery guys always come back with good comments on how thankful people are to get their hampers."

**"THE DELIVERY GUYS ALWAYS COME BACK WITH GOOD COMMENTS ON HOW THANKFUL PEOPLE ARE TO GET THEIR HAMPERS."**



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Volunteers were hard at work last Tuesday afternoon wrapping the many gifts that went out with the Cheer Board hampers Dec. 20.



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We wish you all of God's Blessings in the New Year!

Publisher of the  
*The Winkler Morden*  
**Voice**



# It was a banner year for Winkler, says Harder

By Ashleigh Viveiros

At the start of 2017, Mayor Martin Harder predicted the year ahead would be a banner one for Winkler.

Reflecting back now at year's end, the mayor feels those predictions have held up.

"One of the things I said in my state of the city address last spring is this year would be a year for growth, and that definitely played out," he said, pointing out building permits in the city are expected to hit over \$39 million by year's end.

"We've had a number of commercial enterprises that have opened up, including, I think, six different restaurants," he said, going on to point to growth in the city's industrial park, as well. "We have at least a dozen new industrial buildings that have gone up over the last year, the most phenomenal one being Icon Technologies, which will be opening up in 2018."

Harder expects 2018 will bring with it more growth on all those fronts.

"I can't say who or where right now, but there's some significant expansions coming in 2018 for industrial growth," he said.

Though there were perhaps fewer major grand openings of the likes seen in 2016—which saw the Buhler Active Living Centre and the Winkler Arts and Culture Centre open their doors—2017 was no slouch when it came to getting new community projects off the ground.

"Just looking at the Winkler Horticulture Society ... they had the opening of the butterfly gardens, which has been a tremendous attraction," Harder said, also lauding the volunteer-run organization for the creation of the Parkside Pioneer Patch off of Hwy. 14. That rest stop, with its displays of colourful flowers and antique agricultural equipment, has become a popular photo spot for tourists and locals alike.



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Winkler Mayor Martin Harder said 2017 was a year of phenomenal growth in the city and he expects similar things from 2018.

Sticking with the cultural theme, Harder noted Winkler Arts and Culture's first full year of operations was a huge success and he's eager to see what the creative minds at the gallery have to offer in the year ahead.

"Just the attraction that all these things have received over the course

of the last year has been incredible."

The mayor expect similar success from projects such as the Discovery Nature Sanctuary in 2018. Plans are underway to protect 32 acres of natural habitat in the northeast corner of the city.

Continued on page 5

Morden City of Morden city of discovery

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# Perception is reality

**T**he other day I got home from work and it was dark. It was 5:30 p.m. and it was night outside.

Now, this happens every year and has since I moved to Manitoba more than 12 years ago. In southern Ontario light changes between summer and winter, but not to such extremes as here.

After dinner we sat down and watched some Netflix. After what seemed like a very long time I yawned, stretched, and looked at the clock.

"6:58 p.m.! What the heck? I thought it was 10 p.m.!"

Darkness makes us tired. It is a physical and evolved response. When the light goes away we want to go to sleep (some of us, anyway. My teenage daughter would just be coming alive, but that's a whole other editorial).

It was so annoying to realize that what I was feeling deep inside, what I assumed was reality, was really a deception.

Perception is reality.

The above is a famous quote attributed to former U.S. Democratic National Committee chair Lee Atwater, but of course the sentiment goes well back through Shakespeare to the Greek philosophers and likely further.

The point of it is that our mind plays tricks on us and can convince us of things that are not true. Like that it is 10 p.m. instead of 6:58 p.m. simply because it is dark out.

In Atwater's case, he was speaking of the ability to manipulate the public's perception of people and politics until what you want them to believe is believed.

We experiment with this philosophy all of the time.

"I got your nose," says Dad.  
"NOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!!!!!!!" screams the alarmed three-year-old.

"GIVE NOSE!!!!!"

"Daddy, give Sarah her nose back," says Mom.

Dad gives Sarah her nose back and the world is good again.

Perception is reality.

I often feel like the world is on the cusp of collapse. There is war and rumour of war everywhere. Natural disasters and global climate change are regular headlines. It seems like crime is on the increase and no one is safe anymore.

This is how I feel. This is how many others feel. It is the perception of our age and so, whether it is true or not it, has become our reality. More frighteningly, we act out of this perceived reality. We start battening down the hatches. We become fearful of the stranger. Trust levels drop and we latch on to things that support what we perceive to be reality such as extreme headlines and stories from dubious sources etc.

It is being argued that Russia recently took extreme advantage of the idea that perception is reality by pouring thousands of false, manipulative bits of content onto social media to manipulate the 2016 American election.

Thankfully, peer reviewed, valid statistical analysis are always available to help us break through our perceptions to the reality of the world.

For instance, homicide rates around the world have plummeted in the past 500 years. Gun deaths in the

United States have actually been falling for several decades. Global deaths related to war and conflict are lower today than they have ever been historically down to less than 1 per 100,000 compared to peaks of almost 200 per 100,000.

Literacy rates are significantly higher now than ever before. Studies show that increased literacy leads to democratic forms of government and democracies, statistically speaking, are less likely to wage war with one another.

So what is going on? Why do we perceive things to be getting worse? Well, one factor is our rapidly shrinking world. Access to instant news contributes to this feeling. It seems like every time a person dies we hear about it. Every murder, every tsunami, tornado, war ... we know about it instantly.

Repetition is another factor. Hearing the same thing over and over again because of duplication across media platforms: traditional news, radio, websites, Facebook, Twitter.

I'm not suggesting these are not things we should be concerned about just as I'm not suggesting you are not tired at 7 p.m. in November and still swimming at 7 p.m. in July.

I am saying we need to remind ourselves of why we feel what we feel so the next time someone or something "gets our nose" we don't panic but continue on our way confident we can still breathe.



**By Peter Cantelon**

## Letter policy

The *Voice* welcomes letters from readers on local and regional issues and concerns.

Please keep your letters short (excessively long letters are unlikely to be published), on-topic, and respectful.

The *Voice* reserves the right to edit, condense, or reject any submission.

Please include your full name, address, and phone number for veri-

fication purposes. Your name and city will be published with your letter. We do not print anonymous letters.

Send your letters to us by e-mail at [news@winklermordenvoice.ca](mailto:news@winklermordenvoice.ca), or via mail to:

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# Skating day supports Genesis House

The Canada 150 skating day held Dec. 10 in Morden collected donations of things like hats, touques, mittens and cash for the Genesis House women's shelter, and Stephanie Dueck, recreation programmer for the City of Morden, presented them all to Ang Braun, executive director of Genesis House. "We are glad to be able to help in some small way," said Dueck (far left). Braun said it is great for the shelter "to be able to offer a family these things that we all take for granted ... to have that there for them is awesome."

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE



# Arena expansion, wastewater plant on city's to-do list

From Pg. 3

"You take a look at the nature sanctuary, the initiation of that project ... it's going to be amazing," Harder said.

"When I take a look at the city of Winkler having become an attraction over the last number of years, these things enhance what we have to offer," he continued. "So people come specifically to see these things and obviously it creates tourism opportunities."

Further to that point, the city had worked hard to improve its recreational offerings, revamping the Winkler arena over the past year for improved accessibility and undertaking major renovations to the Winkler Aquatic Centre.

"It has been a very obvious direction from council this last year," Harder said.

The pool, which has been in operation for over two decades, closed early this summer so a new lining could be installed and other structural repairs completed. Those maintenance items were costly but won't be particularly noticeable to the public at large; what swimmers will notice are things like the expansion to the kiddie pool and the addition of a concession stand and a climbing wall in the deep end.

"It's about creating an experience," Harder said, stressing that council wanted to do more than just the basics to extend the life of the pool. "It becomes a destination, it becomes an experience, rather than just, 'I'm going for a swim.'"

Other projects that stand out to Harder in 2017 include the new bas-

ketball courts in the Pine Ridge area and the new ice rink that just opened in Emerado Park.

"None of these things can be done without partnerships," the mayor stressed, pointing to the donations and grants from local businesses, individuals, and upper levels of government that have made all these projects possible.

"Again, those are different experiences that can be had in the city of Winkler which lends to a positive experience for families to live in and to enjoy community more than just simply a job.

"I think all of those things have contributed over the past year to the success that we want to continue working toward, to ensure Winkler is a place where people want to come and live and enjoy."

Looking to the year ahead, Harder is eager to see the Viterra provincial curling championship come to town Jan. 31 to Feb. 4.

"From what I hear from them, they've had tremendous community support," he said. "It's important to note that as far as the overall culture and experience in Winkler and willingness for people to pitch in and making something happen, we are more than ever continuing on our path of saying if it can happen, it will happen in Winkler."

But while the city has its bases covered when it comes to supporting local events and projects, where things hit a wall sometimes is in the foot-dragging at the provincial and federal level.

Enter the Meridian Exhibition Centre, the major expansion to the Win-

kler Rec. Complex that has been in the works for years. The phased project would add additional ice surfaces and a huge exhibition hall to the Parkland arena. It could cost anywhere from \$18 million to \$40 million, depending on funding.

"When we depend on outside assistance, in particular government assistance regarding our exhibition centre, it's still stalled," Harder said, lamenting the fact the project cannot move forward until the upper levels of government figure out the funding ratios. "We cannot do it totally on our own.

"It's frustrating, because you'd like to go ahead with it," he said, pointing out they're in a similar situation with the wastewater treatment project. "There, we have the design and engineering plans done for it, but we're again waiting for confirmation for the project to go ahead."

While the arena expansion is perhaps a "nice to have" project (though one the mayor stressed is long overdue), the wastewater treatment plant and its improved capacity will be integral to the future growth of the community, Harder said, but all the city can do is continue to lobby and wait for the green light to move forward, hopefully in 2018.

Twinning Hwy. 32 is another project in a similar state. Winkler has done

everything it can to pave the way, as it were, and now they need to wait for the provincial government to step up, Harder said.

Meanwhile, council expects to make headway on other infrastructure projects in the months to come, including extending Northlands Parkway from the high school all the way down to 15th St., creating a huge opportunity for residential and commercial growth in north Winkler.

"Commercial and industrial, I believe, are going to even further outshine 2017," Harder said. "I think we're going to get back into a little bit more aggressive residential development ... there's getting to be a shortage of lots available."

Though he's mum on whether he'll throw his hat in the ring for another term in office, Harder said he's enjoyed his role in local government

immensely this past decade.

"It's probably been the most interesting 11 years of my life, almost 12 years," he said. "I'm very pleased with what I have seen with Winkler's development."

"There is still more work to be done and I am hopeful that some of those projects can be stroked off the list in 2018."

**"THERE IS STILL MORE WORK TO BE DONE AND I AM HOPEFUL THAT SOME OF THOSE THINGS CAN BE STROKED OFF THE LIST IN 2018."**



# Growth brings challenges, but they're worth it: Wiebe

By Lorne Stelmach

Mayor Ken Wiebe will take the challenges faced by Morden any day over those faced by many other rural Manitoba communities.

There are issues that come with being part of one of the fastest growing regions of the province, but they are good challenges, he stressed.

"Our community continues to grow, and we anticipate another four per cent for 2017," Wiebe noted recently in a year-end interview.

"There's always challenges ... we continue to grow, and that is a challenge ... it's all part of growth," said Wiebe, who approaches the end of his second

mandate next fall. "Growth is wonderful, but if you don't stay ahead of it, it can get away on you ... but I think we're staying ahead of it all so far."

Wiebe said there were a number of highlights for him from 2017, beginning with Morden hosting the 2017 Esso Cup national female midget hockey championship in the spring.

"It was a pretty amazing hockey

tournament ... and it really turned into a regional event," he said, saluting the many volunteers who made it happen. "It came off as a great success ... and we got national television coverage for it."

He also cited Morden not only taking part in the Communities in Bloom competition for the first time but doing so well in earning four blooms out of five in the program that promotes beautification.

"The whole community really became part of it all," Wiebe said, adding that "we didn't do anything really other than what we normally do ... the judges were absolutely blown away by our community."

Wiebe also touted the range of new development in the city, from commercial growth like that happening on the east end of Morden in the Pembina Connection to new housing and the long awaited completion of the new Tabor Home.

He stressed how immigration continues to play an important role in Morden's ongoing growth.

"We have about 160 families right now in the pipeline for immigration to Morden, and we expect them to come in about the next 18 months or so," Wiebe said.

"Of course, that's also putting pressure on the school system as well," he added, but pointed out how it also spurs and supports com-

**"THERE'S ALWAYS CHALLENGES ... IT'S ALL PART OF GROWTH."**

**"WE BELIEVE THE ARTS AND CULTURE ARE PART OF THE FABRIC OF THE COMMUNITY."**



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Morden Mayor Ken Wiebe acknowledges that with the city's rapid growth have come some challenges, but he'll take them over the problems stagnant communities face any day.

mercial and industrial growth in the community.

"Most of them who come ... that's what they are looking for ... better opportunities for their children and a safer place to live."

Wiebe as well cited the importance of the infrastructure improvements that support a growing population base.

"We've done a lot of work in our community on things like sidewalks and streets. Those are the kind of things that people see, but there's so many things that we do that so many people don't see," he said.

Water and sewer infrastructure is the most vital part of it, with Wiebe acknowledging issues with the smell and taste of the water this past fall due to an algae bloom on the lake.

"It's one of those first-world problems that happen," he observed. "Normally ... we know it's coming and we can treat beforehand, but it got into the system."

Wiebe also touched on the overlooked importance of the corporate plan for Morden, which gets updated every year, as well as the new asset management plan.

"It shows all the things that we have in our community and it values everything ... water lines and sewer lines, fire hydrants, vehicles ... it not only gives you a current value but also a replacement value."

The city has its 2018 financial plan ready to go, covering many priorities, but Wiebe particularly emphasized

the importance of supporting community events and organizations.

"We believe the arts and culture are part of the fabric of the community. If you don't support arts and culture ... it'll go away ... you lose a big part of what the community is," he said,

noting he occasionally is challenged on why council funds certain things. "You take any one of those pieces away, you're not a whole community anymore ... all these things are part of our community."

Looking ahead, Wiebe said council plans to continue to prioritize fur-

ther reduction in waste and increasing what the community composts and recycles. There are minor tweaks coming, including requiring lidded containers, and the city is also working to get the commercial and industrial sectors more on board.

"It's so we can even further reduce our waste going to landfill," he said.

Finally, he remains optimistic that federal and provincial funding could fall into place to make the regional wastewater treatment project a reality sooner rather than later.

"We will be shovel ready in March ... we are at the grant application process now," said Wiebe, suggesting it could be operational in an 18 month time frame if all falls into place. "It will be exciting if we get the grants ... and there's a lot of other things that could happen in the community if that is successful."

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# Regional growth is a balancing act

By Lorne Stelmach

Managing continued strong growth while balancing local and regional needs will continue to be priorities for the RM of Stanley in the year ahead.

In a year-end interview, Reeve Morris Olafson said the ongoing challenges range from the day-to-day of the municipality to the more long term, larger scale projects for the area.

With that in mind, he stressed the importance of there being a continued focus on development with a regional perspective.

"Anything that is done here in the Stanley, Morden and Winkler area has a regional impact on everybody," suggested Olafson.

"As long as everybody realizes that ... we're better off for it. Everything we do, whether we put one little business or a major business ... and no matter where it's located, it has an effect on this area because it's growth for the whole area."

In this past year, planning for the future regional wastewater treatment project to be built in conjunction with Winkler and Morden took up a lot of time and attention for the municipality.

The final cost of the project, which has been in the works for a number of years, has not been finalized,

though some past estimates have put it in the \$70 million range.

"That has taken a lot of our administration time to get that ironed out. I know we're two or three years away from it being up ... there's a lot of millions of dollars involved in that project," said Olafson.

Addressing and planning for further development in the highway corridor has also presented another challenge for the municipality: council has been working to finalize a corridor development plan, but it of course also raised issues for the neighbouring cities of Winkler and Morden.

"We've had our ups and downs with that," said Olafson. "We've got that plan down now where ... I think we'll have one more hearing and then that should go to the province and it should be done. That will be a big thing off our plate if we get that done."

Stanley, meanwhile, is also working towards adding more sewer and water service in the corridor to support continued development.

"We've had about five different scenarios to go through ... in my mind, it will get done next year, but we haven't finalized that yet," said Olafson.

More immediate priorities for the municipality have also included completing more paving in the villages, with three more miles done this past year in Reinfeld.

"That is pretty much complete with a little bit of touch up work in the spring," Olafson said. "Now there's the continuation of that paving program, we will be laying it out to another village in the new year."

"If the support is as good as we had in Reinfeld we will continue on with that project for one more year," added Olafson, who went on to stress the importance of routine work—everything from road maintenance to water and drainage.

"We spread about 57,000 yards of gravel on 400 miles of road," he noted.

"We also had 27 more water hookups this year in the rural area, so that's pretty good continuation of that program. Also, there were 27 drainage projects throughout the municipality ... and 27 miles of reditching done."

With water in mind, Olafson sees it as a priority to work with the Pembina Valley Water Co-op in 2018 to address issues that have surfaced not so much with supply but with the capacity of the system.

"We're in the process of trying to somewhat drought-proof ourselves a little bit ... and with that comes the possibility of making a new reservoir for the storage capacity so that we don't run out," he suggested.

In the midst of these issues as well going into 2018 is that the current council is in the last year of its mandate. The 2018 municipal election is set for October.

"Our focus now is to make sure we have everything cleaned up that we wanted to do and also leave the new council with a slate for the following year which they can follow and carry on with," said Olafson.

"I know that we will likely not have



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

RM of Stanley Reeve Morris Olafson points out that growth in this area needs to be done with a perspective of how it will impact the region as a whole.

the same group," he added, while noting he had not yet made a decision about seeking re-election.

"When summer comes, we'll see how I feel. To carry on another four years, it is a major commitment. You've got to be prepared to spend the time."

"ANYTHING THAT IS DONE HERE IN THE STANLEY, MORDEN, AND WINKLER AREA HAS A REGIONAL IMPACT ON EVERYBODY."



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# Bunker's sister ministry weathering the storm

## Puerto Rican church, youth centre reaching out to those in need in wake of hurricanes

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The island of Puerto Rico has a long road ahead of it as it continues to recover from the damage caused by a pair of deadly hurricanes this fall.

But amidst all the devastation is hope, says Kevin Hildebrand, executive director of The Bunker, who spent six days on the island earlier this month.

The Winkler youth centre has had a long-standing relationship with a sister ministry in the city of Fajardo, sending numerous missions trips and donations there over the past decade.

Hildebrand had managed to get some updates from their contacts on the island over the past few months, but wanted to see for himself what the needs on the ground were going forward.

"I wanted to go down there and see for myself what the situation was of the area that we work in," he says, adding it also gave him the opportunity to bring some of the monetary donations that have poured in for Puerto Rico personally rather than trusting the mail and wire services. Electricity is still out on much of the island, making everyday banking and postal service unpredictable.

Upon arrive in Fajardo, Hildebrand was pleased to see things weren't as bad as he'd feared. But life is by no means anywhere near getting back to normal.

"It's been 100 days that they've been without electricity," he notes, adding that pockets of the city do have power, but others are still waiting for the extensive damage to the grid to

be repaired. The 200 mph winds bent cement-reinforced hydro poles in half all over the island.

Thankfully, the Fajardo youth centre and church got through the storms with minimal damage and have since been able to reach out to others in need in the community.

"Their front door got blown open and so they had some water damage ... but minimal, so they've been able to focus more on the people around them," Hildebrand says. "The congregation is working really hard to establish this pattern of thinking about other people and helping them, getting to really know their neighbours."

To help that effort, thanks to the more than \$7,000 donated to The Bunker for the people of Puerto Rico over the past few months, the ministry has been able to send their sister church several shipments of dehydrated food and other necessities for distribution.

"If anybody wants to help, send your money to us here and every penny of it goes over there to help them," Hildebrand says.

### RISING FROM THE ASHES

In the short time he was there, Hildebrand says he went through a lot of emotional highs and lows as he heard stories of the good works being done and of the many tragedies still playing out.

But that's nothing compared to the people who call Puerto Rico home.

"There's so many people that are shutting down ... suffering from depression or fear and anxiety and loneliness," Hildebrand says, noting they're cut off from the world and struggling to find their way back to some sense of normalcy. It's going to take years, though, for the country to recover.

"The people that are doing okay, they've got this strong spirit," says Hildebrand. "They know they're screwed for maybe the rest of their lives, but they want to try and make the best of it for whoever they can."

To that end, there is hope to be found in how people have pulled together in the wake of the storm. Hildebrand heard about countless acts of sacrifice and charity.

"Out of the people that we work



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

The hurricane damage in Puerto Rico was extensive, including roofs blown off homes (above) and hydro poles snapped in half by the high winds (right). Locals like Denise (below) and her daughter were among those who helped distribute donations brought down there by The Bunker executive director Kevin Hildebrand earlier this month.



**"THE PEOPLE THAT ARE DOING OKAY, THEY'VE GOT THIS STRONG SPIRIT ... THEY WANT TO TRY AND MAKE THE BEST OF IT FOR WHOEVER THEY CAN."**

with, only one of them had damage to her roof. So we offered to give her some money to help replace some of the furniture that she'd lost.

"What was really cool was she was like, 'I don't really need a new couch right now. I don't need chairs,'" Hildebrand says, explaining she and her husband had already received a replacement bed and other necessities. "So she says, 'We have places to sleep.

We have a tarp over our heads ... but I have a friend of mine and her house has been devastated. Is it okay if I use some of this money to help her out?'

"That's what I heard so much of. Anybody who has anything, they share it."

If you'd like to donate toward the ongoing recovery efforts in Puerto Rico, contact The Bunker at 204-325-9723 or [info@bunkerministry.com](mailto:info@bunkerministry.com).



> GUEST COMMENTARY

# Cannabis legalization a complex issue

**E**arlier this month, finance ministers for Manitoba and the other provinces and territories met in Ottawa where discussions on the legalization of cannabis was on the agenda.

The Manitoba government's view on the legalization of cannabis has been clear: this is a federal policy on a federal timeline, yet the responsibilities, cost and risk fall mainly to the provinces. Understanding that, the majority of tax revenue, especially for the first few years, should go to the provinces.

In the days since the meeting, suggestions have been made that Manitoba was not agreeable enough to the proposal advanced by the



By Cameron Friesen, MLA

federal government on how to split a federal excise tax. I want to make clear that there was broad based agreement on a number of issues.

First, provinces agreed that there are no guarantees that revenues will exceed expenses, especially for the first few years. Second, we must focus our efforts on keeping cannabis out of the hands of children. Third, we must aim to squeeze the black market out of the distribution and sale of cannabis. Fourth, taxes on cannabis must be held low enough to be able to maintain competitive pricing and attract market share to legally regulated supply.

There was agreement too by premiers, who, in the lead up to the finance ministers' meeting, discussed how provinces and territories should be firm and stand together to illicit from the federal government the lion's share of tax revenue, at least for the first few years, based on the recognition that the provinces will bear

the majority of the costs in areas including policing, courts, road safety, regulation, health care, mental health and public awareness efforts.

There was little negotiation in the meeting itself. The federal government went into the meeting stuck on keeping 25 per cent of the tax, and that's where things ended up. This is on top of the GST revenue that the federal government will also generate from cannabis products.

Other jurisdictions didn't seem to need much time before agreeing to that proposal. Yet important questions were left unanswered as a result of those abbreviated discussions.

While the federal government made some aspirational spending announcements, it is not clear whether any of that funding will flow to the provinces or municipalities. Provinces asked the federal government to elaborate on the costs they claim they will incur, but no details were forthcoming. The federal government is pointing to areas where it would selectively make new investments, but the provinces have no such luxury of choosing - our costs are our costs.

Manitoba needs to determine the best path forward for the first few years. Either we sign on to the federal framework on the excise tax or advance a provincial tax framework, essentially going it alone. There are advantages and disadvantages to both. In the days and weeks ahead, that determination will be made as provincial and federal officials will continue to dialogue and share information.

We are committed to working cooperatively with our fellow provinces and with the federal government. However, in lieu of the federal government's refusal to give a little bit in recognition of the real costs of cannabis legalization primarily to the provinces, we require a little more time.

We will provide an update when that work is complete.

Whatever the decision, Manitobans can be assured that we will go forward with an approach that puts public safety first.

*Cameron Friesen is MLA for Morden-Winkler and Manitoba's finance minister*

## Gr. 2s give back



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The Grade 2 class of Jennifer de Rocquigny Stein at Maple Leaf School did their part to support two local charities. Earlier this month, the class organized its annual Christmas garage sale. Items donated by students and staff helped to raise around \$1,000 for the Morden Christmas Cheer Board and the Pembina Valley Humane Society.

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# sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

## Flyers ready to soar in back half of season

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Flyers have their eyes on the prize heading into the back half of the season.

Speaking to the *Voice* just before the holiday break, Flyers head coach and general manager Ken Pearson was feeling pretty confident in the junior team's chances of going the distance in the new year.

"That's our goal here is to win every year," he said of the coaching staff, adding of the players, "We've got a good group of guys here and I know their focus is on doing the same thing.

"I think we have as good a chance as any other team."

Indeed, the Manitoba Junior Hockey League's top teams this season—Winkler, Steinbach, OCN, and Portage—are all incredibly close in the standings and any given game between them could go either way.

"It doesn't matter who you play, you can lose on any given night if you don't do your best," Pearson reflected.

The coach added that while skill on the ice is obviously a key part of the team's recipe for success, so too is the support of the community.

The Flyers have that in spades, he said, and they're grateful for it.

"The support that we've gotten has been great on and off the ice," Pearson said, stressing the team tries to do its part through programs like the Winkler Minor Hockey Breakfast Club or events like the opening of the Emerado Park ice rink earlier this month. "We try and get the guys as involved in the community as we can and I think that definitely pays off."

The Flyers closed out 2017 by splitting a pair of games with the Portage Terriers Dec. 15-16, putting their record at 23-12 for 46 points.

At press time last week, that put them third in the standings behind the Steinbach Pistons at 55 points



This could be the year the Winkler Flyers go all the way in the MJHL playoffs, says coach Ken Pearson.

VOICE FILE PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT

and the OCN Blizzard at 47 points. Portage rounded out the top four with 45 points.

Winkler has bounced around the top three spots for awhile now, and Pearson is pleased to have maintained a hold on the top of the standings.

"I think we are [pleased] for the most part," he said. "Considering the turnover that we had, especially with our defensive core, I think we're pretty happy."

Pearson noted that while they're not number one in the league in goals against (that honour goes to the Pistons), they're still in the top two ow-

ing in large part to the men between the posts.

"Part of that is our goaltending, with Troy [Martyniuk] and Aaron [Brun] back there," he said.

The team has, though, been going through a rocky patch in recent weeks, dropping four of seven games in December. They need to shake that off when they hit the ice again in 2018.

"We feel there's been a couple games we let slip away. We've been really inconsistent the last little bit," Pearson said. "That's kind of the biggest bit. I think we maybe lost our identify a little bit here at home as to

what type of a team we are."

Reclaiming a winning mentality is forefront on the coaching staff's mind, as is looking to beef up the roster at the Jan. 10 trading deadline.

"We're looking to see who we might want to add," Pearson said, noting they're looking at both their defensive and offensive lines. "It's all going to depend on how things play out ... who's available."

After the holidays, the Flyers play in Virden Jan. 3, Dauphin Jan. 6, and Waywayseecappo Jan. 7. Their next home game is against the Steinbach Pistons Jan. 9.

## Female Hawks focusing on teamwork

By Lorne Stelmach

Teamwork remains the priority for the Pembina Valley Hawks female AAA midget team as they prepare for the second half of the season.

That has always been and remains the mantra for coach Dana Bell and his staff, which includes assistant coaches Shanley Peters and Kayleigh

Wiens.

"We've got the right attitude and the right work ethic ... it's just putting it together and focussing on a couple things that we need to be better at," said Bell.

The Hawks came into the 2017-18 season looking to defend the league title, which earned their spot in last spring's Esso Cup national champi-

onship in Morden.

After finishing second in the regular season with 19 wins, six losses with one win and two losses in overtime, they then went on an undefeated playoff run that began with a three game sweep of seventh place Central Plains followed by downing the third





## Touring Morden's lights

PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Above: The 'superbike' in support of charity Levi's Hope was the centre of attention last Tuesday as Morden held its second annual Tour Of Lights evening. Fashioned to hook up seven bicycles together, the superbike is in support of a charity based in Cavalier, North Dakota that helps families cope with the life changing diagnosis of Congenital Muscular Dystrophy. The Tour of Lights walk or bike event aimed to get Mordenites both active and into the spirit of the season. It drew about 50 participants of all ages. Left: Cyclists and walkers received free reflector strips and heard a safety presentation before setting out on a tour of the city to view the Christmas lights. The evening wrapped up back at the Pembina Hills gallery for music and refreshments.

# Midget Hawks need to bring their 'A-game'

By Lorne Stelmach

There's a lot that coach Rylan Price likes of what he is seeing from his Pembina Valley Hawks male AAA midget team so far this season.

The key, then, for Price going into the second half of the season is to see his charges bring their 'A-game' each and every night.

"It's jam packed there for that last playoff spot ... if you lose too many of those easy ones, you're going to be on the outside looking in at the end of the season," said Price.

The Hawks have been hovering in the middle of the 13 team standings for most of the season.

Pembina Valley put together a five game winning streak in early November and then dropped four of the next five, including three in a row.

Other than a 9-2 loss to Brandon, though, the Hawks have usually kept it close, and that attests to their compete level. Price just wants to see a more consistent effort from game to game.

"You've got to show up to play against the weaker teams in the league because they're coming prepared to play against a team that's

ahead of them in the standings," he said.

"If you take a night off against any of these teams, they're going to give you a good game. I think we've realized if we're prepared we can go up against any team and compete well."

Price had expected it would take a bit of time in the early going for the team to gel.

"It always takes time to find your ways to win," he said. "We've had some ups, had some downs, and we're starting to kind of level ourselves off ... we know we're going to have some good games, some bad games, and it's how we react to those games. The guys are starting to learn that."

Price said he hoped the Hawks could at least be around .500 through the first half, which they have managed, and they can now aim to keep moving up in the standings to get into a good position for the playoffs.

In order for that to fall into place, he sees a couple areas for the team to work on moving ahead.

"Our powerplay and penalty kill need to improve," Price suggested.

"There's obviously more than just that ... but if we can find a way to score a couple more goals here and there ...

make a big kill at the right moment of a game ... our record would be even better than it is right now.

"It's an ongoing process, and it's just a matter of trying to get all five guys on the same page. I've said that now for a couple months ... we're still working at it, but I'm comfortable that we will get it before too long.

"What I like is when we have confidence, we're a tough team to play against," Price added. "We're a physical team, we're a fast team, and we've got some guys who can put the puck in the net."

"There's also the other half of that ... we're not the most confident team where we show a little bit of struggle, and we end up struggling for longer than we need to struggle, and it's just a matter of growing up mentally a little bit and realizing you're not going to have your best shift all the time, but you've just got to get ready for your next shift."

Price also noted a few individual performances that have made an im-

pression so far.

"Both goaltenders have done fantastic jobs," he said, citing Martin Gagnon for stepping up from backup to starter this season and Brock Moroz for doing well in his first year at this level.

On offence, Kolton Shindle has set an example for others to follow.

"I'm not sure I've ever had a hockey player who works as hard as Kolton does," said Price.

"He is a true hockey player ... he goes hard on every shift, and he works hard off the ice as well.

He's got the goal-scoring touch," he said. "He wants to develop and he wants so badly to get to that next level ... you can just tell he loves hockey."

Pembina Valley kicks off the second half of the season in the new year with a road trip to Thompson for a double-header against Norman Jan. 5-6.

They're back in Morden Jan. 10 to host Central Plains.

**"IF WE'RE PREPARED WE CAN GO UP AGAINST ANY TEAM AND COMPETE WELL."**



# Agriculture

## Manitoba's hog industry in good shape

By Harry Siemens

The ever challenging world of supply and demand and consumers keeps challenging the pork industry in Canada, says Tyler Fulton, the director of risk management with h@ms Marketing Services.

"Demand for pork will be a key factor influencing hog markets moving through the first quarter of 2018," said Fulton. "The availability of hogs for slaughter projected by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in its September Hogs and Pigs Report is running significantly below those forecasts."

He said wholesale pork prices have been holding steady with some variation based on cuts so packers are willing to give what they get. So the question in 2018 will be the same as in the last two months of 2017: how does hog supply compare with pork demand?

"It appears as though we've over-estimated hog supply and so if we project that forward maybe we're going to reduce the total production that we're looking at," said Fulton. "This is good because we're finding on the demand side in particular exports have not been keeping pace with the growth in production. We've seen great numbers coming from domestic pork demand but mediocre or steady numbers only from the pork export side."

He said the big question is how well do those two balance up? If the hog supply starts to balloon and the industry isn't clearing the market, that has price implications, especially in the winter months when they need to be consistently clearing the market of all production.

Fulton said with the new plants coming on stream in the United States, increased competition for hogs may narrow up packer margins, resulting in a better profit environment than otherwise have thought.

"Most producers have a large portion of their production already hedged and, when I say that, I'm talking about independent hog producers in western Canada, and so they've been pretty active and are in at very competitive prices," he said.

"The recommendations right now, given we see some new contract highs come in for the spring of 2018 and even the summer, we're advocates of covering off roughly a third of a producer's production in that spring summer time frame at those previous contract highs."

For many producers that relates to about the benchmark level of about \$200 per pig, which is good profitability for that time of year and mitigates that uncertainty pertaining to demand and production risk, he added.

In the meantime, the Office of Manitoba's Chief Veterinary Officer reported at the end of the year that the province's pork sector is well on its way toward getting PED virus out of

Manitoba.

Dr. Glen Duizer said 80 sites in southeastern Manitoba have been infected since April, including 25 sow herds, 16 nurseries, and 39 finisher operations. But there have been no new cases since Oct. 24.

"At this point, we have 24 presumptive negative farms, and we would have 24 transitional farms," he said.

"So, of the 80, 48 of them are confirmed to have reached a stage where the disease is being cleaned up. Of those 48, 24 of the farms have reached a point where all animals, all staff areas, all contact areas, pretty much everything outside of the manure handling and the manure storage is considered negative for PED," Duizer

said. "We are happy to progress that far. We have a pretty good expectation over the next four to five weeks we'll have a significant number that will move on through transition to presumptive negative, so we expect that to continue to move in the right direction."

Duizer said with everything working out the way it is right now, if it stays on that path, Manitoba should have all hog farms from the outbreak reach a presumptive negative status by the end of March.

That said, there is some concern over what will happen next spring and early summer when outbreaks typically occur.



## Going forward with faith and inspiration

By Harry Siemens

When I look back at 2017 and forward to 2018, I see only good things. Why, you may ask, when we see so many problem areas in the world and some of our local politicians and some of our business people are bringing legalized marijuana to a place near you, and I could go on and on.

Stop. We just celebrated the birth of the baby Jesus, the saviour of mankind for those who accept Him and that is the reason I see only good things.

I look back at our continued travels, especially the one trip to Europe in May, spending a week at Long Lake for old times sake, and other shorter jaunts around Manitoba and Saskatchewan and several times into the United States.

Sharing the blessings of a close-knit family with an extended family, sharing the gospel with people more elderly than myself at Salem Home and several other like-minded senior homes, singing in the Winkler Community Male Choir, and working as a farm journalist and social media

consultant make it all worthwhile getting up each morning. Not to mention walking through Winkler's Bethel Heritage Park every morning, stopping to think and often give thanks for what these people did to provide us with what we have today.

Most importantly, my parents and Judith's parents passed on to us the gift of faith, the gospel of Jesus Christ, and instilled in us that a positive mental attitude is a matter of choice and not necessarily by our surrounding circumstances.

I defer to my friend Orion Samuelson who told me recently about an occasional email he receives that goes like this: "Orion, when are you going to retire? Why do you keep on working at your age?" Several reasons: What else would I do? What would my wife do with me around the house 24/7? My best friend retired three times and failed all three times. All good reasons for me not to retire. But here is the real reason: I am still having too much fun to retire! I decided years ago I would retire when I wasn't having fun anymore. That hasn't happened yet.

Yes, Orion was born in 1934 mak-

ing him 83 years young today. Wow, what a blessing he is in my work and personal life. He took me under his wing and booming voice in 1978 when I attended the first of many AGMS of the National Association of Farm Broadcasters of America in Kansas City.

While a man of his stature and capabilities is inspiring to say the least, giving me the inspiration to do my mundane work, putting my trust and faith in the Man of Galilee takes it up many notches.

Yes, we have some challenges in the farming world with supply and demand, weather, and government people who always want to reach out too far. And, of course, commodity prices set by many things keep fluctuating, machinery and input costs keep rising. But we still have it better than 99.9 per cent of the people in the world.

My goal is to keep telling the story of farming one farmer at a time.

If you have a story you want me to tell, send me an email at harrysiemens1@gmail.com.



# “There are things we’ve got to work on”

From Pg. 10

place Winnipeg Avros and then taming the first place Westman Wildcats with a dramatic 2-1 double overtime victory sealing the league title.

On home ice then for the Esso Cup, they finished fourth after dropping their semi-final game to Quebec then falling to Ontario in the bronze medal game.

The new season brought some challenges with eight veterans having moved on, so it took time to build the team chemistry.

“We’re getting better and better as the weeks go on,” said Bell, whose charges won three in a row after an opening game loss to Winnipeg. They then fell into a five game losing streak

before rebounding to win five in a row, which helped them climb from sixth place to battling for third or second by the Christmas break.

“We’re just going to bear down and give it our all from here on out,” said Bell.

“They’re a hard working team. They work hard at practice. Our passing is getting better, and they’re starting to buy into the systems,” he said in explaining what he has liked so far this season.

“There are things we’ve got to work on though,” he continued.

“We’ve got to be a little more consistent, and we need to work on our discipline for sure. If we can get those two things down pat going into the second half of the season we should finish up at the top of the league.”

And it is a tough league this season with just eight points separating sixth place from the top of the standings before Christmas.

“In past years, you’ve always had first, second and third quite a bit of distance ahead of everybody,” Bell said, “but this year, every win and every point counts to stay in a top four, top five position.”

“Our goal is to move up into first, second or third,” Bell said.

“We’re a young group ... with eight or nine girls from last year ... but you can’t make excuses,” he continued. “Our vets are doing a great job ... they’ve stepped up to help our young girls.”

“The right frame of mind is there. We’ve got the team atmosphere ... everybody’s putting the team first, and

**“THIS YEAR, EVERY WIN AND EVERY POINT COUNTS TO STAY IN A TOP FOUR, TOP FIVE POSITION.”**

that’s where we’ve got to be,” he concluded. “Everybody’s doing their part out there, and everybody has their role to play.”

After the holidays, the Hawks play in Winnipeg Jan. 3 and Central Plains Jan. 6 before returning home Jan. 7 to host the Avros.

## take a break > GAMES

### SUDOKU

				2	8			
1				6				
	7		1					5
		9		4				
	3			7	5			4
			8					6
	2		4		7			
	8	1			6			3
5					9	8		7

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Intermediate

**Here's How It Works:**

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

7	2	8	6	1	3	4	9	5
9	3	4	6	5	2	1	8	7
6	1	5	7	8	4	3	2	9
2	9	6	1	3	8	7	5	4
4	8	1	5	7	6	9	3	2
3	5	7	2	4	6	9	8	1
5	4	2	3	9	1	8	7	6
8	7	3	4	9	5	2	6	1
1	6	9	8	7	2	5	4	3

Sudoku Answer

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

Crossword Answer

## X CROSSWORD

**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Put within
- 6. Learned person
- 12. Resistance
- 16. Female title
- 17. Logical basis for a belief
- 18. Of I
- 19. Indicates position
- 20. Article
- 21. Insignificant organizational member
- 22. \_\_\_ route
- 23. Expression of disapproval
- 24. Microelectromechanical systems
- 26. Ponds
- 28. Satisfy
- 30. Dad
- 31. Spanish soldier “El \_\_\_”
- 32. Pouch-like structure
- 34. Obscure unit of measurement
- 35. Okinawa prefecture capital
- 37. Platforms
- 39. Jazz singer Irene
- 40. Benefits
- 41. Hellenistic governors
- 43. Brownish-green fruit
- 44. Needed to see
- 45. Political action committee
- 47. Fast plane
- 48. Bahrain dinar
- 50. Urgent request
- 52. Raccoon genus
- 54. Millisecond
- 56. Atlanta rapper
- 57. Rural delivery
- 59. Intrauterine device
- 60. The Wolverine State
- 61. Free agent
- 62. For instance
- 63. Reduces
- 66. Lincoln’s state
- 67. Quit
- 70. Midsections
- 71. Bullfighting maneuvers

	1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11	
12						13	14						15
16			17									18	
19			20			21			22			23	
24		25			26			27		28	29		
	30			31			32		33		34		
		35	36					37		38			
		39						40					
41					42			43					
44				45		46		47			48	49	
50			51		52		53			54			55
56			57	58		59			60			61	
62			63		64				65				66
67		68									69		
	70								71				

**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. The arch of the foot
- 2. Canadian peninsula
- 3. Koran chapters
- 4. Abba \_\_, Israeli politician
- 5. Youngster
- 6. Burns
- 7. Comedienne Gasteyer
- 8. Valley
- 9. Belongs to sun god
- 10. Nickel
- 11. Great in salads
- 12. Leader
- 13. Forced through a sieve
- 14. Entryway
- 15. Support pillars
- 25. Aquatic mammal
- 26. \_\_\_ Farrow, actress
- 27. Unhappy
- 29. Holds molecules
- 31. Thrifty
- 33. French dynasty
- 36. Scottish port
- 38. Irish militant organization
- 39. Dawn
- 41. Musical group of seven
- 42. Used to fry things
- 43. Carrot’s companion
- 46. Rough stone landmarks
- 47. Fourth son of Jacob and Leah
- 49. Goes against
- 51. Passion
- 53. Hard white animal fat
- 54. Soybean pastes
- 55. Beckon
- 58. Mountain and morning are two
- 60. Self-referential
- 64. Data executive
- 65. Retirement plan
- 68. Star Trek character Laren
- 69. You and I



# Classifieds The *Winkler Morden* Voice

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**McSherry Auction**  
12 Patterson Dr.  
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**Estate & Moving**  
Sat Jan 13, 2018 @ 10 AM  
Call to Consign - Pick-up /  
Trucking Available!  
**(204) 467-1858 or**  
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www.mcsherryauction.com



**Winter Road Haul 2018**  
Class 1 Drivers needed for deliveries in MB & NW Ont.  
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**WORK WANTED**  
Available to do renos, repairs, maintenance, painting, siding, roofs, fix-ups. Residential or commercial. Call Bill at 204-362-2645 or leave a message at 204-822-3582.

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**WORK WANTED**  
Do-it-yourself project gone bad? Need help to start or finish? I can help. Call 204-362-2645 or lve. message at 204-822-3582.

**HELP WANTED**  
Medical Transcription! In-demand career! Employers have work-at-home positions available. Get online training you need from an employer-trusted program. Visit: [CareerStep.ca/MT](http://CareerStep.ca/MT) or 1-855-768-3362 to start training for your work-at-home career today!

**SERVICES**  
Worried about your credit card balance? Let us eliminate your credit card debt with rates from 2.2%. Bad credit OK (OAC). Call today toll-free 1-800-581-8288 (LIC #4733142)

**MISCELLANEOUS**  
Colorado Blue Spruce: \$0.99/each for a box of 180 (\$178.20). Also full range of tree, shrub & berry seedlings. Free shipping most of Canada. Growth guarantee. 1-866-873-3846 or [TreeTime.ca](http://TreeTime.ca)

**MISCELLANEOUS**  
Batteries for everything. Automotive, farm, construction, ATV, marine, motorcycle, golf carts, phones, tools, radios, computers etc. Reconditioned, obsolete and hard-to-find batteries. Solar equipment. The Battery Man. Winnipeg. 1-877-775-8271 [www.batteryman.ca](http://www.batteryman.ca)

**MISCELLANEOUS**  
Parts & full trailer repair, trailer safeties & Autopac trailer repair. Sales, Leasing & Financing of flat-deck, dumpbox, cargo, gooseneck & utility trailers & truck beds. Kaldeck Truck & Trailer, Hwy #1 MacGregor, Mb. 1-888-685-3127.

Powertec Solar, Consumer Choice Award winner, "Top Solar Company," contact us for a free estimate and let us explain the - Powertec advantage: [www.powertecsolar.ca](http://www.powertecsolar.ca) (204) 809-8703

**HEALTH**  
Are you suffering from joint or arthritic pain? If so, you owe it to yourself to try elk velvet antler capsules. Hundreds have found relief. Benefits humans and pets. EVA is composed of proteins, amino acids, minerals, lipids and water. Key compounds that work to stimulate red blood cell production & cartilage cell regeneration & development. Stonewall Elk Products Ltd., 204-467-8428 or e-mail [stonewoodelk@hotmail.com](mailto:stonewoodelk@hotmail.com)

**NOTICES**


**Public Notice**

The City of Winkler purchases approximately 35% of its water from the Pembina Valley Water Cooperative (PVWC). The Public Utility Board has approved a rate increase for PVWC in the amount of \$0.16/1000 gallons, effective January 1, 2018. This rate increase reflects a "pass through" rate increase of .06/1000 gallons for Winkler consumers.

Public notice is hereby given that the water rate increase will be 0.06/1000 gallons effective for the March 15, 2018 quarterly billing in the City of Winkler. That being from the present water rate of \$9.44/1000 gallons to \$9.50/1000 gallons. The sewer rate will remain as it presently is, being \$6.42/1000 gallons.

Barb Dyck  
City Manager

**CITY OF WINKLER**  
185 Main Street, Winkler, MB, R6W 1B4  
204-325-9524 || 204-325-5915



**NOTICES**

**WINKLER POLICE BOARD PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Winkler Police Board quarterly meetings will be held on **April 11, July 11, October 10 & December 5 of 2018 at 12:45 p.m.**

Meetings are open to the public and will be held at Smitty's Restaurant, 777 Norquay Drive, Winkler, MB. Anyone wishing to come forward with a delegation is asked to contact the City Manager a minimum of 1 day prior to the meeting.

**COMING EVENTS**

*Thousand Oaks Ministries Inc.*

**GOSPEL MUSIC NIGHT**  
Sat., Jan 6, 2018  
7:30 pm at the  
**P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall** Winkler, MB  
Featuring:  
**Living Waters** (Austin, MB)  
**Backwoods Gospel** (Miami, MB)  
Everyone Welcome! Freewill Offering  
1000 Oaks Info Line (204) 822-1253  
[www.ThousandOaksInc.org](http://www.ThousandOaksInc.org)

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**Full or part time positions available.**  
Wages based on experience.  
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Carnduff, SK. S0C 0S0  
Email : [competition@sasktel.net](mailto:competition@sasktel.net)  
Office : 306-482-3558  
Fax : 306-482-3574  
Charlie : 306-482-7897  
Greg : 306-485-7833

**NOTICES**

**CITY OF MORDEN PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE REGARDING SPECIAL SERVICES PROPOSAL- BY-LAW NO. 27-2017**

To establish a rate for fire and police protection services and street lighting services within the City of Morden limits for the years 2018 to 2022.

**PUBLIC NOTICE** is hereby given pursuant to section 318(1) of The Municipal Act that the Council of the City of Morden has scheduled a public hearing at the City of Morden Civic Centre on the 11th day of January 2018 at 7:00 P.M. Council will hear any person who wishes to make representation, ask questions or register an objection to the following Special Services:

The estimated cost of the Special Services plan for the next five years is as follows:

2018	\$2,600,000.00
2019	\$2,900,000.00
2020	\$3,150,000.00
2021	\$3,500,000.00
2022	\$3,850,000.00

**Method and Rate of Calculating the Special Services Tax.**  
The method of taxation to be applied shall be based on the portioned value of assessable property. The assessed property is all rateable properties, including otherwise exempt properties, within the City of Morden. The mill rate shall be determined by Council annually, based on the annual fire protection, police protection, and street lighting budgets set out in the City of Morden's Financial Plan to a maximum annual levy as per the estimated costs above. The actual assessed values of the properties will be supplied annually by the Department of Intergovernmental and Indigenous Affairs (\$443,096,120 in 2018). For 2018: \$2,600,000.00 / (\$443,096,120 / 1000) = 5.83 mills. All objections, by mail or in person, must be filed with the City Manager, at the City of Morden office at 100-195 Stephen Street by January 11th, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. A notice of objection must contain the name and address of the person filing the objection, identify the property of which the objection is filed and state the grounds of the objection of the above noted Local Improvement. Copies of the special services proposal are available for review and may be examined by any person during the regular office hours (9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.) of the City of Morden at 195 Stephen Street, Morden, Manitoba.  
Dated at the City of Morden this 19th day of December A.D. 2017 and issued pursuant to Section 318 of The Municipal Act.

*Morden.*

Patrick Dueck, CPA CA  
Director, Finance & Technology  
City of Morden

**NOTICES**

*Hatha Yoga*



*Winter Term Begins January 9*

Tues & Thurs @ 5:30 & 7:00 pm  
Northlands Parkway Collegiate  
204.312.7552  
[become-yoga.ca](http://become-yoga.ca)  
[become-yoga@outlook.com](mailto:become-yoga@outlook.com)



become yoga

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## AUCTION

### TWO FARM REAL ESTATE AUCTIONS

**THURS., DEC. 28 • 10 AM**  
32 & 5 acres  
west of Southport

**FRI., DEC. 29 • 10 AM**  
80 acres NW of Carman

Ph: (204) 325-4433  
Cell: (204) 325-6230  
Fax: (204) 325-4484  
**Bill Klassen Auctions Ltd.**

## ORGANIC PRODUCTS

### ORGANIC FLAX MEAL

Ground Fresh In-Store.

500 g - \$3.25  
1 kg. - \$6.25  
2 kg. - 12.50

**Feelin' Good**  
372 Stephen St.  
Morden  
204-822-6707

## NATURAL PRODUCTS



**CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN 2017**

**Feelin' Good**  
372 Stephen St.  
Morden  
204-822-6707

## OBITUARY

### John J Froese 1927 - 2017



In the early afternoon of Friday, December 15, 2017, at Boundary Trails Health Centre, our beloved dad, grandpa, and great-grandpa went to his eternal home with Jesus, after suffering several heart attacks earlier in the day.

Dad was born on May 22, 1927 in the village of Reinfeld to parents, Jacob and Margaretha Froese. He was the youngest of 15 children. His father was the Bishop in the Old Colony Mennonite Church as well as a farmer. While his upbringing might be considered strict by today's standards, it was a happy one; where the values of integrity and generosity were instilled. Faith was an integral part of his upbringing and he remained highly committed to his Lord until the very end. Dad served in various capacities in the churches he attended and the Christian Faith Mennonite Church was his home church at the time of his passing. Dad attended school in Reinfeld, completing Grade 9 there. He was a good student, and returned to school as an adult in his late 30's to complete his grade 10 equivalency, which was considered an accomplishment in those days. Dad's spiritual formation was deeply influenced by his parents and his school teacher of nine consecutive years, John D. Adrian. He was baptized on confession of his faith in the spring of 1948 in the Old Colony Church in Reinfeld.

Dad married Anne Hiebert on November 18, 1951 in the Reinfeld school as the church building was too small to host a wedding. Married life for them began in a small suite at the back of the Old Colony Church; they then purchased their own farmyard in the village, a place that remained their home for the next 32 years. Dad was passionate about farming and built a thriving enterprise; initially running a mixed operation of grain and vegetable crops as well as raising cattle and hogs, but eventually settled into grain farming only. He was a farmer through and through and helped his sons farm well into his retirement years. Dad and mom moved to their home on Roblin Blvd in Winkler in 1984 and he adjusted to living in town more easily than we had expected. He kept a keen interest in what was happening on the farm and was always willing to share his expertise with his sons. Every summer, including this past one, they could expect daily calls for updates on how the harvest was progressing. During this time, dad and mom also enjoyed yearly trips to BC to visit Linda and her family. In 2005, they moved to their home on 15th Street. When mom died in 2010 there was concern about how dad, who had been in frail health for some time, would manage on his own but he surprised us all with how well he was able to cope. After being hospitalized this past spring for several months, he purchased a scooter which gave him new freedom and much enjoyment over the summer. Then on Thanksgiving Monday, he agreed to look at a suite at the Buhler Centre. He viewed and purchased it the next day, then moved in two days later.

Dad was the last surviving member of his family. He was predeceased by his wife, Anne on November 15, 2010; 10 siblings in infancy and early childhood; his mother in 1965; his father in 1968 and by his adult siblings, Tina Derksen, Jacob Froese, Mary Bartsch and George Froese. Left to cherish his memory are one daughter, Linda Wiebe and her husband, John; three sons and their wives, John and Ann, Randy and Margaret, Pete and Sharon; 11 grandchildren, Tim, Jon (Jocelyn), Leslie (Scott), Josh (Hanh), Kim, Leanne (Nathan), Derek, Justin (Lindy), Brittany (Scott), Kayla and Brendan; and five beloved great-grandchildren, Jackson, Lukas, Jersey, Brielle and Kenzie. He is also survived by four sisters-in-law and three brothers-in-law, Mary Krahn, Margaret and George Ens, Betty and Pete Penner and Dorothy and Frank Giesbrecht.

Memorial service was held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 20, 2017 at the Winkler Mennonite Brethren Church with interment prior at the Reinfeld Cemetery.

Our family would like to extend our sincere appreciation to Dr. J. Allen for his care of dad over the years. We also want to extend our gratitude to the nurses and support workers from the Home Care program who served dad on a daily basis since our mother's passing seven years ago. Thank you also to the Wiebe Funeral Home for their assistance and professional service in the past few days.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in John's memory to the Winkler and District Food Cupboard.

Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler  
In care of arrangements  
wiebefuneralhomes.com



## NOTICES

*Morden.*

### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE CITY OF MORDEN 2018 FINANCIAL PLAN and BORROWING BY-LAWS 03-2018 and 04-2018

Pursuant to Section 162(2) of The Municipal Act, the Council of the City of Morden invite all ratepayers of the City of Morden to a Public Hearing in respect to the 2018 Financial Plan (Budget) for the City of Morden. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to allow any interested persons to make a representation, ask questions or register an objection to the Financial Plan.

A presentation of the Financial Plan will be made at the Morden Civic Centre on **Thursday, January 11, 2018 at 7:00 P.M.** Copies of the Financial Plan will be available on January 2, 2018.

In accordance with section 174.1(2) of the Municipal Act notice is hereby given that following the financial plan hearing on Thursday 11th January 2018 two Debenture By-Laws in support of the Financial Plan will be given 1st reading.

By-Law 03-2018 BEING a By-law to provide for the expenditure and borrowing of funds for the development of sports fields.

With an estimated cost of \$600,000 to complete the work with all funds being \$600,000 being borrowed and no other funds of any kind to be applied to this project. It is estimated that the Term of the Borrowing will be for 10 years at a current 10-year rate of 3.89% per annum. The annual taxation revenue to be raised to furnish the principle and interest at the above-mentioned interest rate is \$72,520.68.

By-Law 04-2018 BEING a By-law to provide for the expenditure and borrowing of funds for the redevelopment of the Civic Centre.

With an estimated cost of \$500,000 to complete the work with all funds being \$500,000 being borrowed and no other funds of any kind to be applied to this project. It is estimated that the Term of the Borrowing will be for 10 years at a current 10-year rate of 3.89% per annum. The annual taxation revenue to be raised to furnish the principle and interest at the above-mentioned interest rate is \$60,433.92.

Financial Plan Hearing and Borrowing By-Laws first readings will take place at Morden City Council Civic Centre, 100-195 Stephen St, Morden, Manitoba.

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## NOTICE OF HEARING

### UNDER THE HIGHWAYS PROTECTION ACT AND THE HIGHWAY TRAFFIC ACT THE HIGHWAY TRAFFIC BOARD

Notice is hereby given that a hearing of the Highway Traffic Board will be held on Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 204-301 Weston Street, Winnipeg MB R3E 3H4 Phone: (204) 945-8912.

### PERMITS - PART I - SECTION 9 H.P.A. AND PART III - SECTION 17 H.P.A. 2/014/200/B/17 - GARDEN VALLEY SCHOOL DIVISION

Application for Building, Shed, Fence, Fenced Gravel Parking Area, Two Garbage Bins, Fenced Dust Collector, Concrete Pad and Two Light Standards (Other) adjacent to P.T.H. No. 14, Lot 26, Plan 50974, N.E. ¼ 5-3-4W, City of Winkler.

The Highway Traffic Board will be prepared to consider all submissions, written or oral, on the above applications by contacting the Secretary prior to or at the hearing.

200 - 301 Weston Street Winnipeg, MB R3E 3H4  
Michelle Slotin, A/Secretary  
THE HIGHWAY TRAFFIC BOARD  
Phone: (204) 945-8912



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\$1,000 COSTCO  
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2010 GMC SIERRA SL NEVADA EXT  
4.8L V8, AUTO, A/C, TILT, CRUISE, REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY, POWER WINDOWS &  
POWER DOOR LOCKS, CLOTH INTERIOR, BENCH SEATS, ETC  
**ONLY \$18,995**



ONLY 4,780 KM

STK# W7411A

2017 DODGE GRAND  
CARAVAN PREMIUM PLUS  
3.6L V6, AUTO, A/C, TILT, CRUISE, POWER WINDOWS & POWER DOOR LOCKS, LEATHERETTE  
INTERIOR, STOW N GO SEATS, 6.5" TOUCH SCREEN, REAR BACKUP CAMERA, REMOTE USB  
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GARMIN NAVIGATION SYSTEM, POWER LIFTGATE, LEFT POWER SLIDING DOOR, ETC

**INQUIRE FOR PRICE**



ONLY 47,350 KM

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2015 CHEVROLET SILVERADO LTZ CREW 4X4  
5.3L V8, AUTO, A/C, TILT, CRUISE, POWER WINDOWS & POWER DOOR LOCKS,  
LEATHER INTERIOR, REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY, TINTED GLASS, HEATED FRONT SEATS,  
8" COLOUR TOUCH SCREEN, BENCH SEATS, 20" CHROMED ALUM WHEELS,  
REAR VISION CAMERA, BOSE SPEAKERS, ETC

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Permit #2816



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#/£ Limited time lease offer from Honda Canada Finance Inc. (HCFI), On Approved Credit. Weekly lease offer applies to a new 2018 CR-V LX-AWD, model RW2H2JES for a 60-month period, for a total of 260 payments of \$89 leased at 3.99% APR. 120,000 kilometre allowance (12 cents/km excess-charge applies). Consumers may pre-purchase up to a maximum of 16,000 extra km/year at \$0.08/km at the time of entering into the lease agreement. Total lease obligation is \$23,140. Lease obligation includes freight and PDI of \$1,725. Federal air conditioning charge, tire levy and other applicable fees except PPSA lien registration fee of \$52.76 and lien registering agent's fee of \$5.25, which are both due at time of delivery. No down-payment required. Taxes, license, insurance and registration are extra. Dealer may lease for less. #/£ Offers valid from December 1, 2017 through to January 2, 2018 at participating Honda retailers. Offers valid only for Manitoba residents at Honda Dealers of Manitoba locations. Weekly leasing available on terms of 36 months or greater. Offers subject to change or cancellation without prior notice. Offers only valid on new in-stock 2018 vehicles. While quantities last. Dealer order or trade may be necessary. Visit HondaManitoba.com or your Manitoba Honda dealer for details. \*None of the features described are intended to replace the driver's responsibility to exercise due care while driving. Drivers should not use handheld devices or operate certain vehicle features unless it is safe and legal to do so. Some features have technological limitations. For additional feature information, limitations and restrictions, please visit www.honda.ca/disclaimers or refer to the vehicle's owner's manual.



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