

## Candidate lists made official

Medicine Hat News

It's official, a list of confirmed nominated candidates for next month's municipal and school board elections was released Tuesday by the local chief returning officer.

Four mayoral and 19 councillor candidates submitted paperwork on Monday, but legislation states they have 24 hours to reconsider while election officials vet information on the forms.

In Medicine Hat, the list will stand as presented on Monday.

For mayor, incumbent Ted Clugston will face Tom Fougere, John Hamill and Scott Raible.

Council candidates (in order of filing) are Jamie McIntosh, Robert Dumanowski, Maureen Roberts, Brian Varga, Charles Turner, Jim Turner, Leslie Rath, Phil Turnbull, Kris Samraj, Michael Klassen, Myles Mulholland, Ryan Regnier, Hugh English, Darren Hirsch, Bill Cocks, Julie Friesen, Les Pearson, Colette Smithers and Immanuel Mortitz.

General voting takes place on Monday, Oct. 16. Special ballots are available by contacting the chief returning officer via the City of Medicine Hat city clerk's office.

## Hat woman among trio arrested in Drayton Valley

Medicine Hat News

A Medicine Hat man was one of three arrested by RCMP in Drayton Valley after a stolen vehicle fled from police and crashed into trees.

Thorsby/Breton RCMP report that on Sept. 16, they located a stolen truck in the Buck Lake Area, with the truck followed by an unmarked police vehicle before it parked on a residential street in Drayton Valley.

Police blocked the vehicle in, but the vehicle fled by backing up through trees and damaging not only the trees but a parked civilian vehicle and an unmarked police car in the process.

The damaged, stolen vehicle crashed into nearby trees and the occupants fled from police on foot.

All three were located by police.

Murlin Becker of Buck Lake was charged with possession of property obtained by crime over \$5,000, dangerous operation of a motor vehicle, two counts of failure to remain at the scene of an accident, and three counts of mischief under \$5,000. Levi Rain of Buck Lake was charged with possession of property obtained by crime over \$5,000 and breaching his release conditions.

Jayce Beaven of Medicine Hat was charged with possession of property obtained by crime over \$5,000.

## Swastika, 'white power', on car a hate crime: police

The Canadian Press

Calgary police say they are investigating graffiti found on a car as a hate crime.

Early Tuesday, officers saw smoke and fire coming from a parked BMW.

After the fire was put out, officers saw that 'white power' had been spray-painted in white on the hood of the car, a swastika was on the driver's side door and the numbers 666 were on the passenger side of the car.

Investigators are asking the public for information.

No information on the owner of the car will be released.

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## ER wait time info now available

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How long you will have to wait at the emergency department is no longer a guessing game.

Alberta Health Services has rolled out a service that tells you in real-time how long your wait is likely to be.

On the AHS website you can choose the city and the hospital and then see at that point in time an estimated emergency department wait before you can expect to see a physician. It is another tool to help people decide where to access medical care for themselves and their families.

"It is really about giving our patients information that will help them decide what the most appropriate service is," said Katherine Chubbs, chief zone officer for Alberta Health Services' south zone.

Patients can then consider options such as the emergency department, health link, accessing a doctor in the community, or going to a walk-in clinic, Chubbs explained. The patient can decide, based on wait times, what will work best for them considering their medical situation and the day and time.

The posted wait times are an estimate of how long it takes from being assessed by a triage nurse in the emergency department to being seen by a physician. Times are calculated through a software system that uses current data from the facility compared to the number of people in the emergency department, how sick they are and how many resources are available and required to treat those patients. It does not take into account seriously ill patients, who will be seen immediately, and patients with non-urgent concerns, who may wait longer to be



seen depending on resources, said a press release. Wait times do not represent the total time patients may spend at the hospital.

The website also allows patients to view the wait times at other hospitals in the province. This may indicate a much longer wait time in some emergency department than others.

"I certainly anticipate that people will be looking at the information and draw conclusions based on that," said Chubbs.

The emergency department wait times are being provided for "general information only", the website states. Wait times "can change significantly and immediately, without warning and therefore are not guaranteed".

<http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/waittimes/waittimes.aspx#disclaimer>

## South Eastern Alberta Archaeological Society hosting curator from Royal Alberta Museum

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The South Eastern Alberta Archaeological Society will be hosting a talk by a curator from Edmonton's Royal Alberta Museum on Wednesday.

Kristine Fedyniak will deliver a free lecture called "Partners in Collaboration: Collectors and Government Working to Deepen Knowledge of Alberta's Past," which will start at 7 p.m. at the Crowfoot Room in Medicine Hat College.

SEAS president Bruce Shepard said the event is an opportunity for the public to learn more about Alberta's rich cultural heritage.

"We're inviting anyone who finds stuff out on the trail and the river valleys, and is wondering about the policies and procedures around collecting these items to

come and ask," Shepard said.

"Ranchers, farmers, town and city folk out for a stroll, frequently encounter items from by-gone eras," reads a SEAS news release promoting the event. "It is a universal temptation to pick them up to safeguard them or begin a collection."

Shepard said SEAS initially got in touch with the province, who put them in contact with the head of archeology at the Edmonton museum, which is how they found Fedyniak.

He said it's important to clear up some misconceptions about archeological regulations the group has heard from many local collectors.

"Their intentions are good, and some of them have established some quite extensive and interesting collections, but they don't always know what the legalities are," said Shepard. "There is a lot of misinformation out there."

## Alberta man angry after getting ticket for going one kilometre over speed limit

The Canadian Press

EDMONTON

An Alberta man is shaking his head after a peace officer gave him a ticket for driving one kilometre over the speed limit.

Mathieu Gagne, 31, said he was nabbed Friday in his Jeep for driving 101 kilometres in a 100-kilometre zone just north of Edmonton.

The father of two boys said he was pulled over after passing the Sturgeon County officer, who was driving below the speed limit.

The officer wrote out the ticket after accusing Gagne of disrespecting him by passing his vehicle, he said.

"It was my right to pass the officer. When I completed the pass, he turned his lights on. I pulled over and he came up to me and the first thing he said was 'That was pretty ballsy of you,'" Gagne said Tuesday.

"He said that was disrespectful."

Gagne said he was flabbergasted by the \$78 ticket and was concerned about how the driving demerit points would affect his insurance rate.

"I was mad. Why? It was one over. It was absurd."

When he got home he told his partner, Larissa Turnbull, about what hap-



CP HANDOUT  
PHOTO  
LARISSA  
TURNBULL

A speeding ticket issued to an Alberta man for driving 1 km over the speed limit is shown in a handout photo.

pened. She posted an account of the traffic stop, including a picture of the ticket, on Facebook.

Her social media post generated a lot of buzz and the county cancelled the ticket on Monday, citing an error by the officer.

"Upon further review, they did only estimate the driver's speed and they did not record it or measure it on radar and laser as they indicated on the ticket," said Gwen Wolansky, a county spokeswoman.

Gagne said he is happy his brush with the law is over.

"This kind of stuff shouldn't happen," he said.

## PUBLIC NOTICES



### PROPOSED DIRECT CONTROL DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION 1001 BRIDGE STREET SE

TAKE NOTICE that the Medicine Hat City Council will be considering a Direct Control Development Application for the expansion of an existing seacan storage facility at 1001 Bridge Street SE. The expansion consists of 46 additional seacan storage units along the south section of the property. The development area extends beyond the parcel owned by the applicant and onto land leased from the Canadian Pacific Railway Company (CP Rail). Seacans placed on Direct Control lands in a rail yard can be considered an acceptable location.

A Non-Statutory Public Hearing will be held on **Monday, October 2, 2017** at approximately 6:30 pm in the City Hall Council Chambers (580 First Street SE).

At the Hearing, any person may make representation to City Council and discuss, support, object to or ask questions about the proposed development. Oral submissions are normally restricted to a maximum of five (5) minutes.

In addition, any person wishing to submit a written submission (that will be handled as a public document) must submit it to the attention of the writer or her designee by 12:00 noon, Wednesday, September 27, 2017.

If you wish to inspect any other documentation on file with regard to the proposed development, you may do so by attending at the City Clerk Department between the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 pm Monday through Friday (City Hall, Third Floor, 580 First Street SE).

Angela Cruickshank, City Clerk  
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[www.medicinehat.ca](http://www.medicinehat.ca)

## Oilsands miner says bird deaths a mystery

The Canadian Press

CALGARY

Oilsands giant Suncor Energy says it is mystified by the discovery Sunday of dead and dying birds at a nearly complete northern Alberta mine that hasn't produced its first official barrel of oil yet.

On Tuesday, the Alberta Energy Regulator announced it was dispatching an inspector to the nearly completed Fort Hills oilsands mine north of Fort McMurray after Suncor reported finding 123 waterfowl and songbirds near a tailings pond.

"On Sunday ... a group of birds were discovered in the north end of our Fort Hills tailings area and had to be euthanized," said Suncor (TSX:SU) spokeswoman Nicole Fisher in an email.

"The majority of birds impacted were horned larks (a migratory species). The larks are not native to the area so we are engaging with wildlife experts as well as the regulator to determine what additional measures we can put in place."

She said the company has launched an investigation to figure out why the birds were in the area despite the presence of working bird deterrent systems, including canon, radar and scarecrows.

AER spokesman Ryan Bartlett says the birds were found on or near a tailings pond, a body used to separate oil, sand and chemicals from water used in oilsands ore transportation and processing.

He says the mine, which is operated by Suncor, is continuing to monitor and collect the injured and dead birds and an AER inspector is on route.

The incident recalls previous bird deaths at oilsands tailings ponds. Syncrude Canada was fined \$3 million when more than 1,600 ducks were killed in a pond in 2008 but no charges were laid in 2010 when 550 birds had to be destroyed due to an early winter storm that forced them to land on ponds at Syncrude and Suncor.

In August, Syncrude Canada was charged with failing to properly store a hazardous substance in connection with the 2015 deaths of 31 great blue herons at its oilsands mine, an incident not related to its tailings ponds.

"This is a macabre version of Groundhog Day, where the government and industry keep promising that they'll do better while the birds keep dying in toxic lakes," said Greenpeace Canada energy strategist Keith Stewart.

"We'll hear lots of excuses over the next few days, but the reality is that it is going to keep happening until the federal government actually enforces the laws designed to protect wildlife from toxic substances."