

Manitoba Opposition member raises idea of government action on grocery prices

STEVE LAMBERT
The Canadian Press

A member of Manitoba's Opposition New Democrats has raised the prospect of a government "clampdown" on grocery prices if the party wins the election slated for Oct. 3, but has not offered details on how that might be possible.

Mark Wasyliv, the party's critic for economic development, investment and trade, made the comments on the doorstep of a Winnipeg resident, a recording of which was obtained by *The Canadian Press*.

"We need to get grocery prices down. They're way too expensive," Wasyliv says in the recording, taken earlier this month by a homeowner who wanted to remain anonymous.

"And part of the problem is, there's only a handful of these big companies and they engage in predatory commercial practices that raise the cost of groceries. So we want to clamp down on that on regulation."

Wasyliv, who is seeking re-election in the Fort Garry constituency in Winnipeg, also discussed issuing more rebates for

automobile insurance, which Crown-owned Manitoba Public Insurance has done in some recent years.

The NDP caucus rejected an interview request for Wasyliv or NDP Leader Wab Kinew on the issue, and instead provided a brief written statement that did not explain what a clampdown on grocery prices might entail.

"There are steps government can take to fight for a fair price for consumers and a Manitoba NDP government will do everything we can to make life more affordable for families," the statement read.

The Retail Council of Canada said it's unclear what powers a provincial government has on pricing, and rising grocery prices have been driven by higher input costs including fuel, farm fertilizer, and the supply-chain effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and Russia's war in Ukraine.

"It's naive to think that you can manage pricing at a provincial level when it's such a complex global sector that is so interconnected with global issues and rising costs all along the food chain," John Graham, the council's government relations director in the

Prairie provinces, said Friday.

The issue of rising grocery prices is being studied by a parliamentary committee in Ottawa. Prices were up 11.4 per cent in January compared to the same month of last year, the committee heard, which was nearly double the overall rate of inflation of 5.9 per cent.

Michael Medline, president and CEO of Empire — the parent company of chains including Sobeys and Safeway — told the committee in March grocers are not to blame because they have faced rising costs themselves.

PUBLIC NOTICES



**DEVELOPMENT PERMITS APPROVED
MAY 18 TO MAY 24, 2023
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**



COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL/INSTITUTIONAL

- 403 1 AVENUE NE** (Lot 13, Block D, Plan 9911151) PLDP20230263. Addition To Existing Building.
- 766 14 STREET SW** (Block 43, Plan 1567JK) PLDP20230284. Industrial Support Services (Addition).
- 1434 BRIER ESTATES CRESCENT NW** (Lot 22, Block A, Plan 0610259) PLDP20230310. Accessory Use (Canvas Structure)
- 901 3 AVENUE SW** (Lots 17-20, Block 18, Plan 2177M) PLDP20230342. Change Of Use (Day Care Facility).
- 87 SOUTH WEST DRIVE SW** (Lot 6, Block 2, Plan 8010570) PLDP20230343. Accessory Use (Shipping Container).

HOME BUSINESS

- 8 ROSS HEIGHTS GREEN SE** (Lot 2, Block 15, Plan 7810535) PLDP20230277. Home Business Major. Small Engine Repair.
- 76 NORTHLANDS CRESCENT NE** (Lot 58, Block 24, Plan 0512311) PLDP20230286. Home Business Minor. Recorded Music/Disc Jockey.
- 119 SUNSET ROAD SW** (Lot 24, Block 21, Plan 0410307) PLDP20230316. Home Business Minor. Consultant.

A person claiming to be affected by a decision of the Development Officer or the Municipal Planning Commission may appeal to the Medicine Hat Subdivision and Development Appeal Board by completing and submitting to the City Clerk Department, the required Notice of Appeal form within twenty one (21) days of this publication. Notice of Appeal forms are available from the City Clerk Department, Third Floor, City Hall or on the City's website at www.medicinehat.ca.

All Development Permits listed are subject to conditions. Further information on any Development Permit may be obtained from the Planning & Development Services Department, Second Floor, City Hall during normal business hours (Telephone 403.529.8374).

ENVIRONMENTAL FRAMEWORK COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SESSION TUESDAY, MAY 30, 5-8 P.M.

Join City project leaders and consultants in a come-and-go open house setting to learn more about the development of Medicine Hat's Environmental Framework and provide your input to shaping Medicine Hat's environmental future.

Tuesday, May 30, 2023
5 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Kinplex Social Room
2055 21 Avenue SE

Learn about the project at medicinehat.ca/EnvironmentalFramework.



AIR SERVICE SURVEY



Medicine Hat residents are invited to provide feedback about the community's demand, needs and wants with respect to air service from the Medicine Hat Regional Airport (YXH) through an online survey. The deadline to respond is Friday, June 2, 2023.

The resident survey is just one part of the air service restoration plan (ASRP) – a comprehensive effort initiated in 2022 to update the City of Medicine Hat's air service strategy for YXH. The project includes stakeholder consultation, a passenger survey, this resident survey, and thorough market analysis.

Learn about the project and complete the survey at shapewayourcity.medicinehat.ca/airport-service-restoration-plan.

FIRE HYDRANT INSPECTIONS & WATER MAIN FLUSHING

City Assets Environmental Utilities Maintenance Crews perform regular, routine maintenance to uphold the water quality and system infrastructure by annually inspecting fire hydrants and flushing water mains.

During these operations, there may be some discoloration in the water which is not harmful to consume and will dissipate when flushing is complete. Please note that discoloured water should not be used for laundry and that fluctuating water pressure may also be noticed.

Should discoloration persist beyond three hours, turn on a cold-water faucet or an outside sprinkler and let the water run for several minutes until the water runs clear.

For additional information or to confirm whether crews are working in your zone, refer to the Water Flushing information on the City's website at www.medicinehat.ca/water or contact City Assets Environmental Utilities at 403-529-8176.

8AM - 4PM SPECIAL SERVICES

- Electric Outages..... 403.529.8260
- Gas Emergency..... 403.529.8191
- Water & Sewer Emergency..... 403.502.8042
- After Hours Special Services..... 403.526.2828

THE CITY OF MEDICINE HAT LAND USE BYLAW 4168 PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

BYLAW 4771 – 401 SOUTHLANDS BOULEVARD SE
BYLAW 4786 – 79 CUYLER ROAD SE
BYLAW 4788 – 2802 13 AVENUE SE

TAKE NOTICE that City Council gave First Reading on Monday, May 15, 2023, to the following City of Medicine Hat Bylaws:

Bylaw 4771, amending Land Use Bylaw 4168 to rezone the subject property from Community Services District (CS) to Medium Density Residential District (R-MD) to appropriately reflect the current use of the site as residential use.

Bylaw 4786, amending Land Use Bylaw 4168 to rezone the subject property from Community Services District (CS) to Medium Density Residential District (R-MD) to appropriately reflect the current use of the site as residential use.

Bylaw 4788, amending Land Use Bylaw 4168 to rezone a portion of the subject property from Open Space District (OS) to Mixed Use District (MU) to allow for the subdivision of the property to separate a portion of the existing golf course's parking lot and create a separate titled parcel to be used as a standalone Parking Facility for the neighbouring commercial property.

A Public Hearing in general accordance with the Municipal Government Act and the City's Procedure Bylaw, and consideration of the Second/Third Readings of proposed Bylaw 4771, Bylaw 4786 and Bylaw 4788 will be held on Monday June 5, 2023, beginning at approximately 6:30 pm in the City Hall Council Chambers (580 First Street SE).

Any person who claims to be affected by the proposed bylaw may make an oral presentation limited to five minutes to City Council at the Public Hearing. All written/electronic submissions received prior to the Public Hearing will be presented to City Council with any submissions received by 12:00 noon, Wednesday, May 31, 2023, being included in the Regular City Council Meeting agenda.

Written submissions become public documents and must be submitted to:

City Clerk Department, 580 First Street SE, Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A 8E6

or e-mail: clerk@medicinehat.ca

For further information, or to view copy of the proposed Bylaws and related documents, please contact Planning & Development Services at 403.529.8374. The proposed bylaws may also be accessed via the 'Proposed Bylaws' section on the city website at www.medicinehat.ca.

Dated at the City of Medicine Hat, in the Province of Alberta, this 20th day of May, 2023.

Jessica Robinson, Interim City Clerk

2023 PROPERTY TAX NOTICES

The 2023 Property Tax Notices were mailed on May 19, 2023 with a due date of June 30, 2023.

The Province of Alberta Land Titles Office is experiencing delays of 3-4 months in processing title transfers. Recent ownership and mailing address changes may not be reflected on your notice. If you have not received your Tax Notice, please contact Customer Care to receive a copy so that you can avoid the 8% late penalty charged on unpaid balances on July 1st.

Tax Due Date

Taxes are due on or before June 30th. Payments will be considered paid on June 30th if received by City Hall, processed by a financial institution or postmarked by Canada Post by 4:30 pm on June 30th.

If a Canada Post postmark is absent or illegible, the date received by the City of Medicine Hat will be considered the payment date. Commercial postage meter imprints will not be honoured.

A penalty of 8% will be added to any unpaid balance on July 1, 2023.

Monthly Payment Plan

You can pay your taxes in monthly instalments by signing up for the Tax Instalment Payment Plan (TIPP) before June 30, 2023. Please visit www.medicinehat.ca to sign up or call 403.529.8111.

How to Pay

The easiest way to pay is by automatic withdrawal through the TIPP payment plan. You can also pay by:

Internet Banking: Payments can be made through telephone/internet banking. Please ensure your taxation account number is registered for telephone/internet banking.

Credit Card: Credit card payments can be made through www.paysimply.ca with a convenience fee.

After Hours Drop Box: Payments made by cheque can be deposited in the drop box at the west entrance to City Hall. Please do not leave cash in the drop box.

Post-dated Cheques: Post-dated cheques will be accepted by the City of Medicine Hat. Cheques must be dated for June 30th or earlier.

Mail to: City of Medicine Hat, 580 1 St SE, Medicine Hat AB, T1A 8E6

Person: Payment may be made at Cashiers, Main Floor City Hall, between 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday. Cash, cheque or Interac accepted.

For further information regarding property taxes: Visit the Website at: www.medicinehat.ca Email: tax@medicinehat.ca Telephone: 403.529.8111

Competition Bureau recommends changing THC limits for edibles, easing pot packaging

The Canadian Press

Canada's competition watchdog says the federal government should consider easing restrictions on cannabis packaging and limits on how much of pot's psychoactive component can be edible products.

The Competition Bureau says the moves would boost consumer choice, foster innovation and further reduce illicit market activity by bolstering the legal cannabis industry.

It says adjusting tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) limits would allow pot producers to better meet consumer demand and compete with the illicit market.

It adds easing restrictions on cannabis promotion, packaging and labelling would give producers more room to innovate and help consumers make more informed purchasing decisions.

Federal invasive species fund opens to new projects

The Canadian Press

The federal government is set to begin accepting proposals to spend the remaining money in a multimillion-dollar fund aimed at fighting invasive species across Canada.

Fisheries Minister Joyce Murray says the \$8.75-million Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Fund is aimed at raising public awareness and working to stop the threat of non-native freshwater and marine species.

Last fiscal year, \$3.3 million from the fund went to eight multi-year projects including work by the Pacific Salmon Foundation to fight the invasive European green crab in B.C.'s Salish Sea.

The foundation's CEO, Mike Meneer, says the \$750,000 it is getting over three years is going towards work to eradicate the crabs, which compete with native species and invade habitats.

A call for proposals to spend the remaining money between now and 2026-27 opens Monday and runs until Aug. 31.

Murray says the fund is part of \$36.6 million the government has earmarked to fight invasive species over five years.

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