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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Comedy isn’t there just to make people laugh, it’s there to make people think critically.”

See RHINO CANDIDATE Page 5



October 9, 2015 Vol. 51, Issue 01



ENDEAVOUR



Election coverage

Get candidate profiles and debate coverage.

Pages 5-7



Volkswagen Scandal

Car owners are staying loyal despite all the bad press.

By Sarah Redekop Page 10

Copperheads suit up

Copperheads coaching staff are encouraged by the positive start of the season.

By Aaron Haugen Page 11



Election race heats up



PHOTO BY JONATHAN GUIGNARD

Cheryl Meheden, Mike Pyne, Kas MacMillan, Rachael Harder and Geoffrey Capp debate their platforms at the Coalhurst Community Centre. See more stories on pages 5-7.

Volunteers help candidates reach Lethbridge citizens

AARON HAUGEN
@ahaugie

Elections are not won by candidates and party leaders alone.

Behind them are dedicated teams of volunteers, people who spend countless hours working to get elected the candidate they best believe can represent them.

For one of those volunteers, Allayna Ramp, working for the Cheryl Meheden campaign has become a journey of self discovery.

A University of Lethbridge student double majoring in philosophy and political science, Ramp first got her feet wet by volunteering for Shannon Phillips in the Lethbridge West riding during the remaining days of the Alberta provincial election in the spring.

“While writing a final I asked my dad if he thought Shannon needed any help,” Ramp said. “A few Facebook messages later, we had a volunteer agreement.”

She started working as a foot canvasser, a volunteer whose job is to go talk to people at home on their doorsteps and ask them how they’re voting.

“Volunteers, especially those that actually go to people’s doors



PHOTO BY AARON HAUGEN

Volunteer Allayna Ramp (right) speaks with local resident Mel Decillia during a canvas on Sept. 19.

and talk to them in person, are a very important part of mobilizing our vote,” said Jennifer Takahashi, the voter contact organizer for the campaign. “By identifying our supporters, we can then make sure that they go out and vote on election day.”

Ramp said that canvassing is one of the hardest things she does on the campaign.

“It’s challenging sometimes, especially when you have people from other political parties who want to argue with you for a couple of hours,” she said. “It’s hard to shut them down and say that’s great, but we have to move on now politely.”

For Lisa Blanchette, the campaign manager for Cheryl Meheden, volunteers are the main driver of the campaign.

“Without them, we can’t do any voter contact ... we basically can’t run the campaign,” she said. “We appreciate any time they can give.”

For Ramp, the experience has changed her outlook on her career.

“Before this, I wanted to be a kindergarten teacher, but now I’m looking at becoming a lawyer,” she said.

She has also discovered a new respect of the diversity of Lethbridge, having been to different parts of the city and seeing the different issues that affect those areas.

As for anyone who’s interested in volunteering, according to Ramp, all you need is to show up with an open mind and not be argumentative.

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Possible change for First Nations in upcoming election

First Nations getting more recognition, encouraged to vote in federal election

TAWNIA PLAIN EAGLE
@Tawnya_PE

For the first time in Canadian History, First Nation people are in a place to sway the vote according to Carl Brave Rock, a student at the University of Lethbridge. If many people get out to vote, the change that First Nations are hoping for could be coming in the near future. If this is not the case, Brave Rock fears that it can potentially set back First Nations 10 to 15 years.

"In my life time, I've never seen the federal election pay attention to Native people, you got Trudeau posing with Natives, Mulcair visiting reserves." He then goes on to say, that First Nations needs this kind of recognition. "If we don't get out to vote, the next federal election, we won't be taken seriously" he added.

With the 2015 federal election around the corner, Rachel Crow Spreading Wings, a Lethbridge College staff member says the New Democratic Party (NDP) has Aboriginal voters leading there way.

NDP leader Tom Mulcair had made an announcement that if elected, says he would make in an inquiry into

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, something that many First Nations across Canada feel the government should take seriously.

"It should be an issue that is respected," says Brave Rock. He adds Missing and Murdered Indigenous women is one of many Issues First Nations want the government to take seriously, next to poverty, and lack of clean water on reserves.

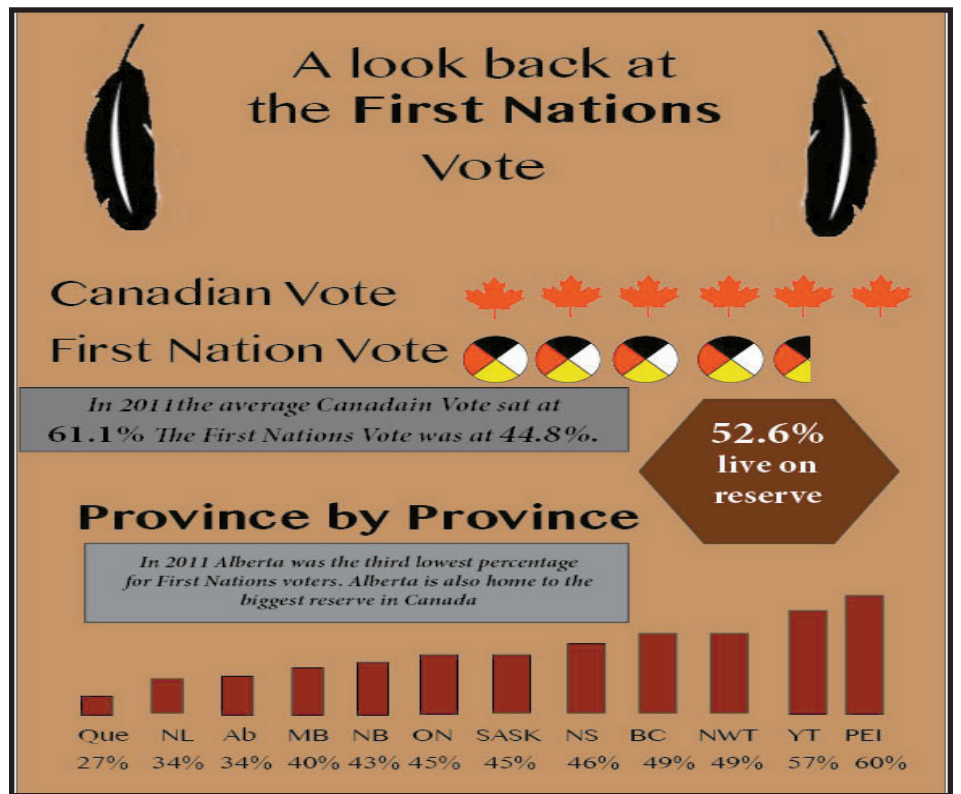
"They seem to be very balanced when asking for votes by talking about issues that concern both First Nations and non-First Nations," Says Crow Spreading Wings.

A lot of First Nations don't feel as if their vote will matter. "I think it is about gathering together and educating people on why they need to vote."

She then goes on to say that as a First Nations person, we are eligible to vote, and that is part of the reason why our ancestors signed treaty #7 back in 1877.

"It's on us now to make sure our culture will survive," added Crow Spreading Wings.

Kristin Krien, an organizer for Indigenous vote, believes the government has to do more than just apologize and would like to see direct



change happen for the First Nations community.

Indigenous vote is a branch of the Women Space Resource Centre and works a lot with the First Nations community in

Lethbridge. The organization is designed to help the community by mobilizing the First Nations vote.

Krien explains that Indigenous vote has been there to assist individuals

when it comes to registering to vote in the 2015 elections. "We have information at every single one of our events, as well as links on our Facebook page."

If you are not sure on how to vote, visit electioncanada.ca or email indigenoustotelethbridge@gmail.com for any questions you may have requiring the federal election.

College professor makes big career choices

Sarah Redekop
@sleered

Some people make deals with God, some people with the devil, but Dr. Faron Ellis makes his deals with Aristotle.

As Dr. Ellis, a political science expert and instructor at the college, once stood in the majestic mountains of Kananaskis, he pondered a few things. While waiting for the golf green to clear, famous words of Aristotle circled his thoughts. Phrases like it's all about community and politics are local.

His deep-rooted life in the world of politics, had over the years, created some innate responsibility within him to run for parliament. Although this idea weighed on him heavily, the tolls the job can have on family and personal life were beyond what he was willing to sacrifice.

So while standing on the green, a revelation came to him that maybe city council could be a viable option. It was there, on the par three, fourth hole, that Ellis made his deal. He recalled back to the day, with just as much seriousness as on the day he made it, "I made a deal with

Aristote, and the gods of Mount Kid, If I put this on the green, I'm going to seriously consider it," he said. He put the ball on the green within two feet of the hole.

Needless to say after returning home, Ellis began fulfilling his part of the deal. As he was headed off to his first meeting, he nonchalantly mentioned to his wife that he might come home with nomination papers. His wife's response was not one that was alarmed, and he was taken aback by her lack of surprise. "Oh I always knew you were going to run for something," she had said. While continuing his teaching at the college, Dr. Ellis served as a Lethbridge councillor from 2010 to 2013.

Ellis' time on city council was just a minimal part of his role in our community. Perhaps his most important job is the one he has here at the college. Ellis devotes a large portion of his time to the Citizen Society Research Lab, which he founded in 2000. Within the lab, his

students conduct Alberta-wide polling on various topics. He explained how it is important for students to get practical, hands-on experience. "Students learn more about

"He always keeps us engaged, he makes us think outside the box and helps us see how science research is so valuable in today's society."

Mallory Kristjanson

data collection in a couple of interviews, than I could teach them in hours of lecture," he said.

The lab provides students with the opportunity to gather their own data and carry out the scientific research from beginning to end.

Mallory Kristjanson, a student in the General Studies

Sociology and Psych Program, is in Dr. Ellis' Research Methods class. She spoke about her experience thus far. "Dr. Ellis is incredible at what he does and how he teaches," she said.

"He always keeps us engaged, he makes us think outside the box and helps us see how science research is so valuable in today's society."

Since coming into the research class at the beginning of the semester, her philosophy on what we need to do as a society has changed. She explained how important it is for the younger generation

to develop an understanding of the key issues facing our society.

Laurel Mitchell, a third year Justice Studies Student, said, "It's good to see how research is done and what it takes to get it done, you learn to appreciate it more." The information that is being gathered in polling sessions will have a future impact on the community. Once organizations



PHOTO BY SARAH REDEKOP
Professor Faron Ellis

have an understanding of the general population's opinions, it assists them in dealing with current issues at hand.

Various organizations throughout Alberta contact the Citizen Society Research Lab to have research conducted for them.

Along with city council and the research lab, Ellis still finds time to write.

If you are interested in learning more about the Citizen Society Research Lab, including results from previous studies, visit: lethbridgecollege.ca/appliedresearch.



PHOTO BY HALEN KOOPER

The Department of Health and Human Services says drug and alcohol overdoses make up 75 per cent of suicide deaths.

WHO spotlights suicide prevention

HALEN KOOPER
@kooper_kulture

According to the World Health Organization, around 800,000 people commit suicide every year or one person every 40 seconds.

The International Association for Suicide Prevention and the World Health Organization started World Suicide Prevention Day with the goal to help people recognize warning signs, erase stigma, bring awareness to the issue of suicide taboo and ultimately reduce suicides globally.

This initiative led to the creation of the Canadian Association of Suicide Prevention and a suicide prevention strategy called The Blue Print.

Within this strategy, the CASP expanded the fundamentals provided by the WHO by supplying information about postvention.

Postvention is the skills and strategies involved in taking care of yourself or helping another person heal after the experience of suicidal thoughts, attempts or death of a loved one.

Former U of L student Alexis Webster feels students should be aware.

"After the initial devastation there needs to be more open support instead of seeing it as a taboo that no one can really talk about," she said.

Last year, Webster had lost a very close friend of hers from an overdose. Due to her friend's history of mental illness, it had been speculated that their death might not have been accidental.

In the WHO's first report on suicide

prevention from September 2014, they say that the taboo and stigma of mental disorders stop people from receiving proper treatment.

However, it fails to mention the possibility that some people may not seek treatment because of the cost of medications.

Being unable to find money for treatment is something that Lethbridge NDP candidate, Cheryl Meheden, finds to be insufficient in supplying all Canadian's with proper healthcare.

"If people can't afford drugs or people can't take them because of a cost issue then you end up with an unhealthy population that will cost the healthcare system even more money," said Meheden. "From that perspective I think drug costs are out of line, particularly for low-income people."

Dying with Dignity is a national organization that advocates for the right of those who are suffering from irremediable medical conditions to choose how and when they die.

Unlike suicide, physician-assisted suicide is done under the supervision of a medical professional and former Vice Chairman of Dying with Dignity, John Warren, explains there's an extreme distinction between these two practices.

"Self-suicide is a violent act committed by mentally unstable or very depressed people and often during the early years of life," said Warren.

According to CASP, approximately 11 people commit suicide daily in Canada, if you need help or want more information on the topic you can visit www.suicideprevention.ca.

Saying goodbye to the Meliorist ?

CRAIG KAMBA
@craigkamba

University may lose their voice! The fate of The Meliorist, the independent student publication at the University of Lethbridge, is in limbo, with the chain of command that held it together currently scattered.

The forty-ninth September issue entitled *The Meliorist Might Be Toast* is an accurate foreshadowing of what is coming if events don't go according to plan this month.

Editor in Chief, Lauren Crazybull, has made a personal decision to step down, passing on the reigns to contributing writer and chemistry major, Drew Dennis.

Dennis has proven to be the most likely and willing candidate as the new Editor in Chief is volunteering his extra time and energy to recovering the fumbled publication.

"I looked around at where we are at, and realized how much I really like this publication and decided I'm going to kind of step up," said Dennis.

He explained that years of disorganization and miscommunication, coupled with an outdated constitution have left staff locked out of the publication's bank account and behind in taxes, with no further means to print for the month of October.

Currently, funding for the magazine is taken from each student by default at five dollars per semester; therefore every student is a deemed part of the association.

"The Meliorist is a society; it has a constitution and therefore demands that there must be a board of directors. But somehow for the last two years, the society has kept on operating without one, amazingly unnoticed."

The bank took notice this year, leaving the Meliorist in hot water.

The plan implemented to save the publication is a fragile one, heavily dependent on the student's participation in the upcoming October student body election.

According to the bylaws, within the constitution, a collective group of university students must meet and vote, requiring at least fifteen per cent of the student population to be in attendance.

"We are going through a referendum,

essentially we have to create a board and rewrite the constitution, with clarity and without cumbersome language so we can have more freedom to write," continued Dennis.

The delicacy lays in voter turnout. The last few years, the University only had a turnout of 15 to 17%. They will work around the clock to create awareness.

Partnered up with the student union, volunteers have placed their faith in high hopes that students will rise to the occasion; however still quite worried that though students may want the publication to stay, there is a possibility that not enough students will actually vote.

Elections will commence in the second week of October.

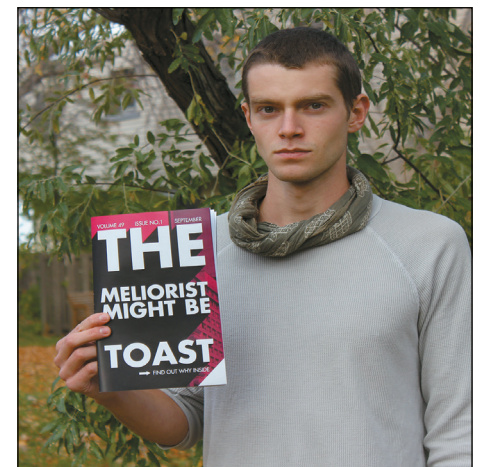


PHOTO BY CRAIG KAMBA

Drew Dennis holds what could be the last publication of the Meliorist.

The first edition of the Meliorist was published in 1967. It has acted as a voice for students since then, and its publications include a wide variety of topics including anything from quantum physics, hot music albums picks and general student opinion. Each edition has its own unique stories written by students for students.

"The fact the student can have a voice is very cool. Many of the students don't read it or think it's an artsy magazine, but I see it as a way for us to really connect on campus and to share a voice."

"Hopefully this is only just a little blip and it goes unmentioned, and October is the only month we go unpublished," concluded Dennis, with high hopes for the future.

The student body and the Meliorist encourage students to become active in the upcoming elections in order to show their support.



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OPINION

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The Endeavour is produced 10 times during the academic year by students in the Digital Communications and Media program at Lethbridge College. Stories, photos and advertisements are produced as part of the academic program and are not representative of the opinions of the Board of Governors of Lethbridge College, its directors, officers, employees, agents or representatives.

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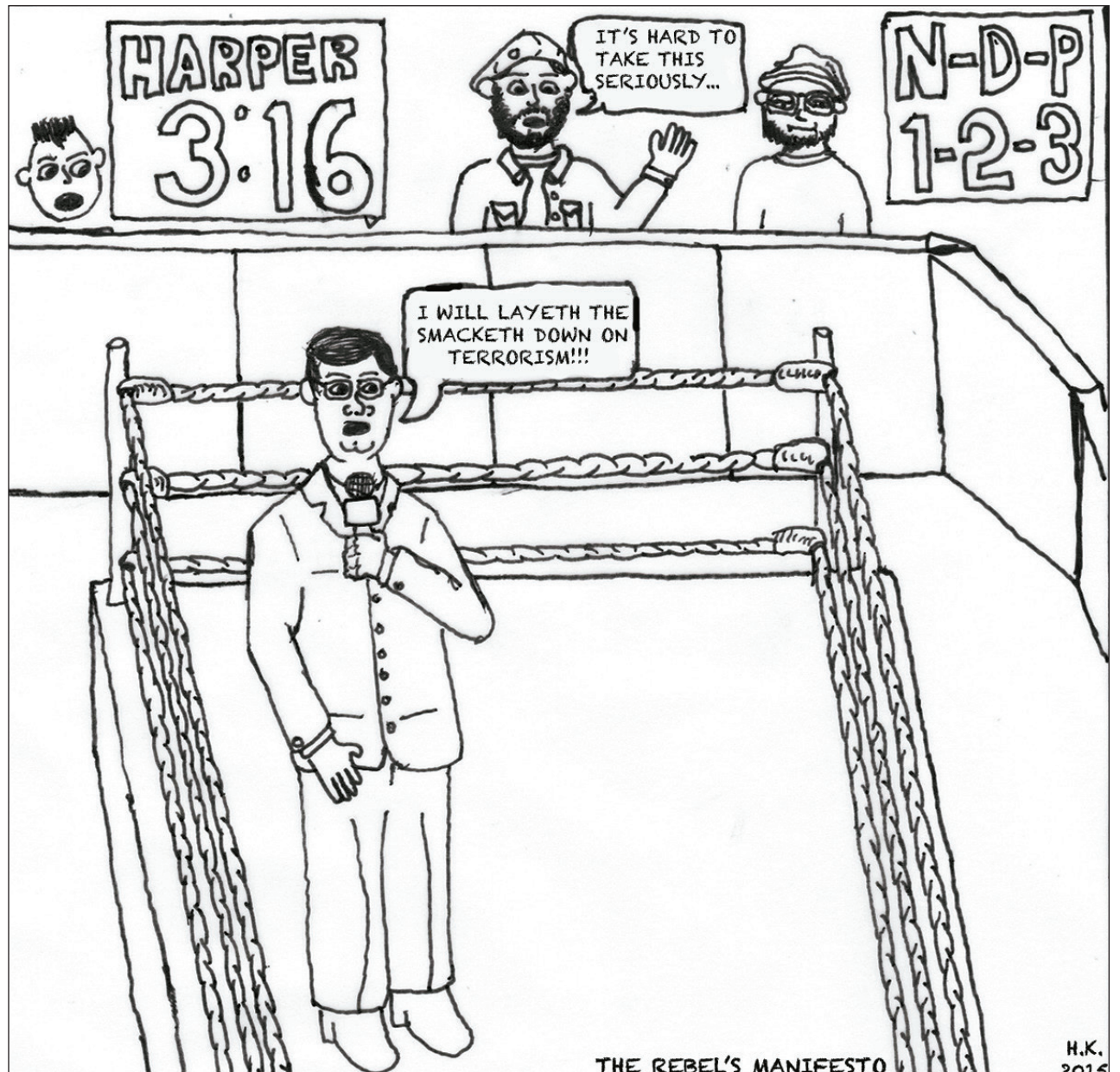
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Vote for the future

This federal election has seen confusion and propaganda spewing through the Internet and circling our media outlets in the form of personal attacks and cheesy campaign ads, leaving many of us ill informed.

This type of disorientation has consequences. Many young people have become discouraged, losing both hope and trust in the system and so believing that their vote no longer matters, while others have become completely apathetic and disconnected.

The opposing side of the spectrum has sparked many activists to take action as well. If we truly live in a democracy, then why do so many people believe that their vote is insignificant?

As Canadians we have seen our share of corruption and government scandal in recent years. Just recently we've had the Canadian Senate expense scandal, commonly known as the 'Duffy' incident, while the current government seems to make unpopular decisions and plan agendas behind closed doors, at times even avoiding the media.

One recent example is the controversial Bill C-51, a bill that many feel could infringe upon the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedom and was still passed in spite of mass protests across the country.

At the provincial level, the NDP have proposed banning corporate and union donation at federal levels, only pointing to the further unfair disadvantages of involvement with corporate entities in politics—a messy intersection of capitalism and democracy.

Canada still places amongst the top countries for living conditions, offering up equality and tremendous freedom for a vast

and proud multicultural society.

Canada is an island of hope that is hurting in the world today. As pollution and homelessness continue to flourish, our economy has felt some major dips in recent months, old wars continue on while new ones commence, and millions of men, women and children are fleeing their countries due to constant instability and conflict around the world.

At a time where peacekeeping is in demand more than ever, Canada has dropped from a top contributing peacekeeping country to now ranking 65 according to contributions published on the United Nation's website.

The men and women we elect shape and mold the direction and course of our schools, roads, parks, law enforcement, immigration, health system and so much more of our community. Meanwhile, our same tax dollars fund the programs and policies they make.

For those of you who scoff at voting, or cannot seem to align yourself with a party, the current proceedings allow a person to reject their ballot as long as they show up in person.

The Elections Canada website states that in the last Federal elections, there was a 61 per cent voting turnout, and in the previous elections of 2008, there was an all-time low turnout. Let's not repeat this.

The future for not only us, but for our children and the generations to come will feel the impact of the decision our leaders make today. Let us strengthen the fabric of our system, show power in numbers and cast out our voices together this October in order to align our country with our values and beliefs.



PHOTO BY COLE SWIER

Candidates Cheryl Meheden (NDP), Kas MacMillan (Green Party), Mike Pyne (Liberal) and Solomon Krygier-Paine (Rhino) debate at the University of Lethbridge on Sept. 30.

Lethbridge's face for church and state

HALEN KOOPER
@kooper_kulture

With campaign trails blazing and the federal election drawing closer, the Christian Heritage Party believes Canadians want honest politicians.

Lethbridge CHP candidate, Geoffrey Capp, intends to implement change and is inspired by what he explains to be damaged citizens who have been harmed by current leadership.

"I see government policies that hurt Canadians and hurt families," said Capp. "I have a strong motivation to suggest policies that will promote the well-being of our families and our country."

The Christian Heritage Party is a right-leaning political movement that endorses Judeo-Christian principles. The Canadian Charter of Rights has no explicit rule for the separation of church and state and as Capp points out, the foundation of the Constitution was formed by Christian values.

"The wisdom of the Bible is basic and sound wisdom. We already have Christian heritage in our laws," he explained. "Christian heritage in our laws has provided for equality regardless of religious beliefs and the presumption of innocence unless proven guilty."

Prior to moving to Lethbridge, Capp campaigned in the Yukon four times and continues his crusade in Lethbridge.

Capp has earned respect for his never say die philosophy, a trait NDP candidate, Cheryl Meheden finds admirable.

"He is a very honourable man with very strong convictions," said Meheden. "He holds true to his convictions."

Central campaign manager, Frans VandeStroet resides over all of the candidates in his Southern Alberta area, he believes in Capps' integrity and is currently focused as Capps' fulltime campaign director,

"Geoff is very good at studying subjects in detail and very good at position statements and policy development," said VandeStroet. "If Geoffrey were elected to Parliament he would be an excellent MP."

When the Canadian Alliance and the Progressive Conservatives merged and decided that abortion is no longer for discussion, VandeStroet joined the CHP.

With the Christian ideologies of the CHP, they take pride in being the only federal organization to fully endorse pro-life. When asked about the subject, Capp reiterates the parties unwavering stance.

"In regards to abortion, we hold that if a medical condition due to the pregnancy threatens the mother's well being, doctors should make all efforts to preserve both lives and the unintentional death of one or both is not an offence," explained Capp.

In the eyes of the CHP, they are the only real pro-family political organization in Canada. Promoting families to use adoption as an alternative to abortion. They look to create a better economy and improve the justice and health care systems for the average Canadian. Their tax benefits would allow full income splitting between married couples.

However in the taxation, defend life and defend marriage sections of their website they state that family and marriage is between one man and one woman. When questioned with what this could mean for same-sex couples, Capp stated he hadn't caught any policies that singled them out.

"I haven't heard any specific exclusion in that regard, income splitting would be offered to families and married couples," said Capp. "I think our approach there would be to gain a greater understanding that same-sex marriage does not serve any purpose other than for the two people within that relationship."

The CHP's perspective on family and morals extends into the arts as well. They assert too much government funding goes into art without considering who pays for it. They would approve grants for artists who create works they deem acceptable. Capp explained that projects exploiting sex and violence would have to receive funding from private investors.

"Art has to have some kind of merit," said Capp. "I don't think government should be using tax payer money to finance art that may not be pleasurable to every single person."

Art and Education student at the U of L, Andrea Webster, worries about how the CHP's definition and attitude towards family and art could change the social and cultural landscape of the city if he were elected on Oct.19.

Rhino candidate pokes fun

COLE SWIER
@coleswier

Instead of kissing babies as a way to win over voters, a Lethbridge candidate has stepped out of the box and is instead using satire to entertain locals. Solomon Krygier-Paine also known as Solly, is not focusing on winning over voters. Instead Paine is bringing an ironic voice to the Lethbridge political scene. Logically, Paine aligned himself with the political party that he most agreed with; the Rhinoceros Party of Canada.

"I have always liked satire and I have always liked the Rhinoceros party, so when the opportunity came, I promised myself I would do it," said Paine.

Paine has been using his odd sense of humour in the political forums that he has been invited to as a way to get noticed. Whether he is anxiously awaiting the start to the forum by jamming out on his keyboard, or answering every question asked at a forum in rhyme, Paine has not lost sight of why he is running. His ironic political viewpoints have proven successful in both entertaining the audience as well as politicians on stage during the forums.

During the all candidates political debate held at the University of Lethbridge on Sept. 30, both Rachael Harder, the Conservative candidate, as well as Mike Pyne, the Liberal runner, picked Paine if they couldn't vote for themselves.

"There are very few things on this

campaign that Rachael and I tend to agree on, but I think I'm going to vote for Solly," said Pyne.

Paine has been performing comedy since high school, here in Lethbridge, Paine has still been honing his comedy craft participating in the Owl Acoustic Lounge Open Mic comedy night whenever he gets the chance.

Paine's longtime friend Brett Hutchinson feels Solly's satirical sense of humour on and off stage has important political benefits.

"Comedy isn't there just to make people laugh, it's there to make people think critically by holding politicians accountable and trying to poke fun at them. I think it promotes a higher understanding of what they are actually doing," said Hutchinson.

When Paine is not at forums or on stage singing, he is catching up on his homework. Paine is a fourth year anthropology major at the University of Lethbridge and his love for satire helps fuel his critical thinking.

"There is no objective right way of looking at things, but it's a very narrow perspective that's created in our society in categorizing things and I like how anthropology breaks that apart and make me think about things differently,"

Paine does not anticipate being a contender in the upcoming election but is using this election as a way to promote critical thinking, satire, and his comedy. You can catch Paine on stage next at the Owl's Open Mic night on Oct.14.



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MacMillan brings Green Party youth to Lethbridge

CRAIG KAMBA
@CraigKamba

A local has found his voice in the world of politics, measuring up to the other surrounding local leaders—at the energetic age of 23.

“I remember him in the community a long time ago,” reminisces one community member, Mathew Keentsz.

“He was very personable and outgoing. His achievements today do not surprise me.”

Despite his age, Kas MacMillan’s hard-earned candidacy has helped him gain respect among the Lethbridge community and peers, where he is very capable to make points on hard-hitting topics at forums and debates.

“I want to be the best-informed candidate up there and show that I can play in their leagues, although it is easy to surpass expectation in an area where the Green party is not well known,” said MacMillan.

He grew up with his family in Coalhurst. In his youth, he spent much energy studying social sciences in high school and playing sports.

“In sports you can only go so far, whereas that’s not the case in academics, so I chose to focus on my studies,” explains MacMillan.

Post-secondary brought him to the University of Lethbridge, where he chose to immerse himself



PHOTO BY CRAIG KAMBA

Kas MacMillan representing the Green Party at the Coalhurst Community Centre, his home town.

thoroughly in biology, geography, business as well as a second language.

Eventually, MacMillan found his way to Carleton University in Ottawa, where he is pursuing a degree in History and Political Science.

“Originally, I wanted to work for the Department of Foreign Affairs, but many of my friends who worked there weren’t actually able to implement some of the policies that they want to because they don’t agree with the current government’s stance on things,” he explained.

“Instead of implementing other people’s ideas, I

wanted to implement my own ideas.”

Pursuing a career in politics, MacMillan ventured to find a political party that matched his values, finding a home with the Green Party.

Some of the party’s significant traits that caught the young candidate’s attention were its environmental views, combining both economy and government as two separate entities, as well as their specific regulations of representation.

“With the Green Party, we don’t have a party whip and will never have one. We believe we should represent the riding before the local party,” said MacMillan.

Throughout the election season, he has spent a lot of his time in the community canvassing and helping community members understand his party’s views on current affairs.

“He’ll go door knocking, even where there is scrutiny. He just takes it and is happy,” remarked Heather Galandy, Green Party supporter and volunteer.

Though much support is generated from all ages, MacMillan holds a key focus on the younger generation and students in particular.

“If we listen to younger people, then our policies will actually work for them,” states MacMillan.

MacMillan acknowledges that the chances of his party having a win are slim, he still stands firm in his beliefs and values.

Pyne building on Liberal strength in Lethbridge

KATELYN WILSON
@katewils14

Although he didn’t always see himself in politics, the man behind the red, Mike Pyne has always believed in democracy and is firm that Canada is losing its fundamental freedom.

Tyler Gilbert, his campaign manager, used the word jovial to sum up Pyne into one word.

“He’s a really positive person and that’s what makes it so easy to work with him,” he said.

Pyne has loved politics his whole life and his children often refer to him as the champion of the underdog.

“I can’t stand people being abused and I can’t stand people being taken advantage of,” said Pyne. “Life should be a win-win for everybody and it can be, if we all work together.”

Pyne grew up in Taber before moving to Lethbridge in the late 1980s with his wife, where they had four children.

He’s now a grandfather to nine and is expecting number 10, shortly after the election.

Pyne said his family has been his greatest achievement and they’re encouraging of his venture into politics.

“They’re all really supportive,” said Pyne. “They’ve been out on the campaign trail with me at different times, it’s become a family affair.”

In addition to being a family man, Pyne currently works as a Safety and Human Resource Officer for a local trucking company.

Earlier in his life, Pyne graduated from the University of Lethbridge with a degree in political science and was involved in politics for a short while afterwards.

His list of undertakings include, being elected as a trustee to the school board in Taber, where he also acted as President of the Taber and District Chamber of Commerce.

Additionally, Pyne was on the Oldman River Regional Planning Commission and was the researcher for Alberta’s Royal Commission on Aboriginal Self Government in the 1990s.

Although he didn’t plan on re-entering politics later in life, something happened that made him change his mind.

“Ten years ago, this guy named Stephen Harper became Prime Minister and politics hasn’t been the same since,” said Pyne.

As he makes reference to Canada’s health care being in danger, his passion for people is undeniable and his wittiness even more so.

When asked about what he finds most challenging about being a candidate, he laughed and said, being a Liberal.

“Let’s face it, being a Liberal in Southern Alberta is not the easiest way to get a job in Ottawa,” said Pyne lightheartedly.

Ken Covey, has been volunteering with Pyne since the beginning and said in one word, he’s terrific.

“He’s got his own mind, he thinks his own thoughts, it’s not just reading off the cue cards so to speak,” said Covey. “He would be good for the people, he would be a voice. He wouldn’t just be the party line so to speak.”

Like a fracture, Pyne believes the government is broke and needs to be fixed.

“I’ve always believed politics is the



PHOTO BY KATELYN WILSON

Liberal Candidate Mike Pyne prepares to answer a question during the YWCA Women’s Issues Forum on Oct. 1 at CASA.

art of the possible,” said Pyne. “You take people from way over on the left and way over on the right and through compromise and working together, you come together and you create this fabulous country called Canada.”

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Conservative candidate has a passion for helping the community

JONATHAN GUIGNARD
@guij26

Rachael Harder believes that freedom, entrepreneurship, innovation and creativity is what Canada needs going forward.

Harder is the Lethbridge candidate for the Conservative Party. You may have heard the name, but do you know anything about her?

She's young and energetic and most importantly she cares.

Harder cares for what she is doing and she cares for people. Most importantly, she cares about Lethbridge.

Harder was raised in a family who spent a lot of time volunteering.

From there her passion grew for serving the community, which eventually led her on the path to politics.

For her, being in government is an opportunity to help make a difference and to build a more vibrant community.

"I believe in freedom, I believe in

entrepreneurship, I believe in innovation and I believe in creativity," said Harder. "These are the fundamental principles of my party and what we stand for."

Rick Dempsey, Harder's campaign manager, was introduced to Harder while running as the Conservative nominee in the spring of 2014.

Dempsey said it was easy to support her based on her strong character and believes she is exactly what this community needs.

"Rachael is someone who is a very good listener, a very good connector and always wants the best for everyone around her," said Dempsey. "She is always receptive and always wants to know more about you. She enjoys engaging herself with who you are and what you are about."

Evan Harasem, local resident and Harder supporter, feels that her personality can help make Lethbridge a better place to live.

"She can do a ton, she seems like she



PHOTO BY JONATHAN GUIGNARD

Harder shaking hands with local cyclist, trying to persuade voters.

is strong and confident and is able to get things done when she needs to," Harasem said. "She can get a lot done for this city."

Harder and her team claim to have knocked on every single door in the community and have now started knocking on doors a second time through.

According to her team, it's definitely a challenge, but they're more than happy to go the extra mile.

"Ideally, my goal would be to have a face-to-face conversation with every single person in my constituency," said Harder.

Outside of campaigning Harder works as an independent youth and young adult consultant, educator and public speaker. She is contracted by organizations across Canada to apply her expertise on the emerging generation.

She has had the chance to work with young people and is proud of what she

has been able to accomplish.

"I've traveled from coast to coast; to sit down with people and hear their story and understand why they think the way they think," said Harder. "To be able to inspire them, to encourage them and train them to get to where they want to go, there's nothing more rewarding than that."

Harder feels fortunate to have been able to take young people under her wing and being able to build strong values within them.

Harder grew up on a small farm in Kathryn, Alberta and attended college in Briercrest, Saskatchewan, where she was named young alumnus of the year in 2012, before moving back to Alberta to attend the University of Lethbridge.

She graduated with a Bachelor of Education and a Bachelor of Arts in Social Sciences.

NDP Candidate ready and waiting to represent Lethbridge

MEAGAN WILLIAMS
@Lili_Gean

Amidst the orange bodies of the New Democrat supporters and the manic hustle of local and national news crews setting up their lights and cameras at the Sik-Ooh-Kotoki Friendship Centre, a tall, strong and intelligent looking woman stands out from the crowd as she shakes hands and emanates a sense of purpose.

Cheryl Meheden is Lethbridge's federal New Democrat candidate and, like the rest of the crowd, is awaiting Thomas Mulcair's arrival and announcement of the NDP's proposed mental health initiatives.

Meheden stands with NDP supporters behind Mulcair as he makes his announcements, even in the background, Meheden is a woman of impressive stature. Meheden also carries an equally impressive resume, one that she feels has readied her for public service.

"I've worked for the federal government in what used to be called unemployment insurance or Canada employment, I've also worked for some private non-profit organizations and in-service delivery in my community," said Meheden. She goes on to describe her experiences working with immigration and directly with refugees, her multi-national retail firm experience and more recently, her adventure into small business ownership with local grocery store, Urban Grocer, in the London Road neighbourhood.

Meheden's smile grows as she talks about the community hub that grew organically out of refreshing the local corner store. "My goal was not to become wealthy off of the neighbourhood grocer, it was to be able to make a positive contribution to my community," said Meheden. "We put a big kitchen table there and put some chairs around it and it became this gathering place. We have a really great group of people that come and go and sit there and it became habitual for some people."

Meheden who is a wife, mother of three and soon to be grandmother, speaks eloquently and simply when discussing the issues that she feels are important to Lethbridge, particularly for the student population. Job



PHOTO BY MEAGAN WILLIAMS

Cheryl Meheden Chatting with supports at an NDP press conference for Tom Mulcair at the Sik Ooh Kotoki Friendship Centre.

creation and opportunities for youth are the focus of her discussions, pounding home the harsh reality that student debt is a heavy burden to bear if you cannot secure a good job to pay your way out of the financial hole that higher education digs. This is an area where Meheden feels that there is a better way of doing things when it comes to the Canada Student Loans Act.

"Maybe we need to look at more of a granting system than of a loan system and maybe we need to reward success, so if you graduate then there's some sort of remission on your loans. There are ways to do this that don't result in students having \$26,000 worth of debt when they graduate."

As someone who feels connected with the student population in Lethbridge through her teaching position at Lethbridge College, Meheden says she feels the anxiety of her students about life after graduation. When asked how enthusiastic her students are at the prospect of voting in the upcoming election, she laughs and shakes her head. Meheden says even the students she knows

who love her classes are apathetic about ticking the boxes on a ballot on Oct 19.

Sarah Ferarri is one of Meheden's students and is adamant about the fact that her teacher doesn't bring up her personal involvement in the election itself, but does encourage students to get out and vote.

"She talks about the election, but she doesn't talk about her in general. She doesn't want to be persuading people to vote for her."

Back in Meheden's campaign office, the hustle of working towards election day is obvious and her team are practically buzzing with anticipation and optimism. Jennifer Takahashi is one of the many volunteers who make up Meheden's orange crusaders for the Lethbridge campaign office. Takahashi, who immigrated from the United States 10 years ago, is only too happy to list off the reasons she believes that the NDP are Lethbridge's only hope for a better future.

"I love what the NDP represents and knowing that my child has the opportunity to grow up under that government, under a government that cares about its citizens first and foremost," said Takahashi.

She compares the Lethbridge West MLA Shannon Phillips and Meheden as both being great representatives at the provincial and federal level, a loud voice in a chorus of federal representatives. "They are both very strong, they are not going to back down, if there is something that they believe in, they are going to fight for it."

As election day nears and the campaign machine pulls into top gear, life gets busier for Meheden. When asked what she does to take time out from the mania of running for office, Meheden smiles and you can almost see her mind fall into stillness behind her eyes.

"Every morning the first thing I do after I get out of bed is walk the dog, so we go for a nice walk in the coulees. Those short moments allow me to refuel."

That quiet time may become more precious if the residents of Lethbridge vote Meheden into office as their voice in Ottawa on Oct. 19, a challenge Meheden says she is ready and waiting for.

New parents needed on the block

KATELYN WILSON
@katewils14

It's an iconic symbol of safety, it lets children know they have a safe place to go and it's at risk of becoming extinct in Lethbridge.

The classic red and white Block Parent sign of an adult holding a child's hand is seeing fewer and fewer windows as less and less people are becoming involved.

Bobbi Farrell, former president of Block Parent Lethbridge, said the program is currently looking for members.

"Our program is dying terribly, we don't have that many homes and our board, I don't even know if there is one at this point," said Farrell. "I resigned last week and no one has stepped up to take over."

In the past, Block Parent Lethbridge has attended the children's festival, various barbeques and has been featured in the newspaper and radio.

Despite the effort to promote the program, they still aren't getting the numbers they need.

Right now, it's estimated that approximately 75 homes are currently involved in the program.

Farrell said a possible reason for the regression of the program is

It needs new passion, new people and new ideas.

Betty Vogelsang

within the course of signing up.

"People are getting lost in the application process and are simply not following through," said Farrell.

"It needs new passion, new people and new ideas."

Betty Vogelsang, a Lethbridge resident and former Block Parent, said the program is a valuable tool for the community.

"Even if it helps one kid and there's people willing to do it, why not?"

According to the Block Parent website, the first program began in Ontario in 1968 and has since rapidly expanded across Canada.

The 40-year-old program, relies on volunteers to offer their homes

as a temporary refuge for a child, in case of an emergency, with the goal of making the community safer for children.

All volunteers are screened and the sign is placed in the window only when someone over the age of 18 is available to answer the door.

Francine Chartrand, Director with the Block Parent Program of Canada Inc., has been with the program 13 years and said the program has allowed her to meet people who share the same goal of child safety.

"Every time that a child seeks assistance by ringing my doorbell and that I am able to help is a precious moment for me."

The goal of the program in Lethbridge is to expand the network of Block Parents, until there are several homes on each block all displaying the iconic red and white symbol.

In addition to supporting child safety, Farrell said the program offers a feeling of connectedness.

"It's important to build a sense of community, so people are talking to their neighbours, knowing their neighbours and having a safe place to go."

Get involved at www.facebook.com/blockparentlethbridge.



PHOTO BY KATELYN WILSON
Former President of Block Parent Lethbridge, Bobbi Farrell, stands with her son Sheamus Farrell holding a Block Parent Sign, a symbol of child safety.

Cyclists, cars clash over getting around Lethbridge

JOHNATHAN GUIGNARD
@guij26

Cyclists are concerned for their safety while on Lethbridge roads as they are finding it difficult to use cycling as a means of transportation.

David Short, University of Lethbridge Instructor, was recently hit by a motorized vehicle while on his bike and felt it was just a matter of time before it happened.

Short frequently bikes from the south to the west side and believes that safety is a huge concern.

"I've had people shout at me to get off the sidewalk and I've had people shout at me to get off the road," said Short. "You just can't win, I find drivers don't look out for bikes in Lethbridge." Steve Baker, of the Lethbridge City Police, understands that cyclists in this city do not always feel safe on the road and therefore resort to riding on the sidewalks where they are technically not allowed.

"You get this competition between the bikes and the cars which is completely counter productive and it doesn't help at all," said Baker. "They need to remember that a bike is a vehicle as much as a car is a vehicle and that they are sharing the road."

According to Baker, awareness is key for both cyclists and motorized vehicles to coexist on roadways.

Ron Evans, a local resident, feels that cyclists don't always do their part when it comes to road safety, which can leave drivers feeling frustrated.

"It's something I think is a worldwide phenomenon, cyclists seem to think they have a moral right to do anything they please such as running red lights and racing in between cars," said Evans. "I am astonished by what some people think they can get away with just because they are on bicycles."

Constable Baker also said that having bike lanes in the city would solve some safety issues, along with being better for the environment.

"The more people feel safe riding bikes, the more they will start using their bikes for transportation purposes," said Baker. "Less motorized vehicles on the road equals less pollution."

In Calgary, the city has already introduced an inner city cycle track. The track consists of multiple bike lanes all over downtown, which have barriers separating the cyclists from motorized vehicles.

According to the city's website, the cycle track was designed to help increase travel choices for cyclists, while at the same time ensuring their safety.

David Ellis, Lethbridge City Park Manager, believes although Lethbridge may not be the best place for using bicycles as a means of transportation, it definitely offers cyclists the chance to be on their bikes.

Currently, Lethbridge has over 150 km of paved pathways and approximately 50 km of natural or gravel trails for cyclists to enjoy.

According to the BikeBridge Cycling Association, the Lethbridge intends on creating a bike boulevard on 7



PHOTO BY JONATHAN GUIGNARD
Cyclist David Short behind the court house on October 5 preparing to hop on his bike and take off to his next destination.

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Bhutanese seniors bring bountiful gifts to student food banks



PHOTO BY CRAIG KAMBA

(Left) Student Union Rep Emmerson Rays accepts produce from the Bhutanese society on behalf of the College on Sept. 28. (Right) Members of the Bhutanese seniors group help to till the Campus Garden for next year.

Construction commences on Crossings Leisure Centre

COLE SWIER
@ColeSwier

With yet another hockey season just around the corner, the people of Lethbridge have found comfort knowing a new and improved ice rink will be available this time next year.

Phase one of the Crossings West Leisure Centre is expected to be complete around April of next year. The centre consists of two NHL sized rinks, a curling rink, a lounge, as well as an improved concession that will overlook one of the ice rinks.

Ashley Matthews is the project coordinator at the City of Lethbridge and explained that the concession will add another

level of enjoyment to watching hockey in the facility.

“You can actually sit up there and watch what’s happening behind windows and be quite comfortable,” said Matthews.

He added that the location of the Crossings Leisure Centre was extremely important. The leisure facility is being constructed near both Catholic Central High School West as well as, Chinook High School, the location is ideal for school use.

“There are also a number of other elementary schools in that west side area, and schools being close to the facility makes it more accessible for them to use during the day,” said Mathews.

The leisure centre will be split into two sides. Phase one, which includes the arena, is considered the “cold side” and phase two is considered the “warm side.” The warm side will start construction in 2016 once phase one has been completed. Phase two will be approximately 200,000 square feet in size and will include a fitness centre, some multi-purpose spaces, as well as some field houses which will have six separate gymnasium spaces inside. Arguably the most anticipated aspect of the leisure centre is the brand new aquatic centre, which will be run by the Lethbridge YMCA.

Jennifer Petracek-Kolb, the Chief Executive Officer of the

Lethbridge YMCA, explained that she is equally excited about each of the separate parts of phase two and the opportunities they offer the people of Lethbridge.

“I think that it is the one thing that brings everyone together in the family. In a facility like this we hope that there will be something for everyone to do, regardless of their age or their interests,” said Kolb.

She believes that families rely too much on technology to spend time together, it is her hope that the new leisure centre can give families a new way to bond.

“We are hoping for an

opportunity to go someplace without your iPhone, your iPad and your TV. We hope to create new experiences for families,” said Kolb.

Dillon St.Jean is the local YMCA Youth Leadership Co-ordinator also expressed his excitement towards the new facility.

“The new YMCA facility is going to offer us opportunities that aren’t quite possible here at our current facility, not just a huge amount of space but also a ton of different opportunities,” said St.Jean.

Phase two of the Leisure Centre is scheduled to be complete sometime in 2019.

First Nations takes centre stage in Calgary performance

TAWYNA PLAIN EAGLE
@Tawnya_PE

Sept. 25 wrapped up a series of performances on a First Nations play based on the cultural issues First Nations face in Canada. *Making Treaty 7* (MT7) sold out shows three nights in a row in Calgary as it continued to wow audience members.

Last February the cast and crew of MT7 suffered the sudden loss of key members Michael Green and Narcisse Blood making this the first time the production has run without the two present.

Blood was a respected elder of the Blood Tribe and had made a significant impact on cast and crew members.

Telly James, a performer and writer for MT7, says that Blood had fulfilled a lot of roles that he was missing in his life.

“One of the things I would really look forward to whenever I would do a *Making Treaty 7* event was having Narcisse there and making him laugh.”

MT7 looked to members of Bloods’ community to insure that they were representing his culture the best way they could. It was important to keep the spirits up this year by consulting with other elders who were also involved in the production.

Chris Hsiung, a videographer for MT7, says that Blood had brought a lot of wisdom and knowledge of traditional Blackfoot culture to the production and that is one of the things that will be missed going forward.

“He’s that kind of person who was able to bridge between the Blackfoot culture and the European Culture, he was always so helpful,” says Hsiung.

A lot of the content Blood delivered in the production was so powerful to the audience members that they had carried in old footage from last year’s production into this year.

“I think that was the perfect way to do it, because it really honoured the message he was trying to share,” says Kristin Fedorak, an audience

member who has seen MT7 before Bloods’ passing.

Fedorak adds that she doesn’t think anyone else would have been able to deliver that message the same way.

Because Blood had played a huge role in the play both on and off stage, Fedorak shares that this year had a different feeling because of Bloods passing.

“Because he started off the play last year, I sort of saw him as a narrator of the history and what had happened, he sort of set the tone for the play,” Fedorak says.

Overall the presence of Blood was missed and it is important for the cast and crew members of *Making Treaty 7* to continue to represent both Blood and Green’s vision for this play.

Plans for future show dates are already in the works and they’re hoping they can eventually take this production across Canada.

For further information about the play you can visit MakingTreaty7.com.

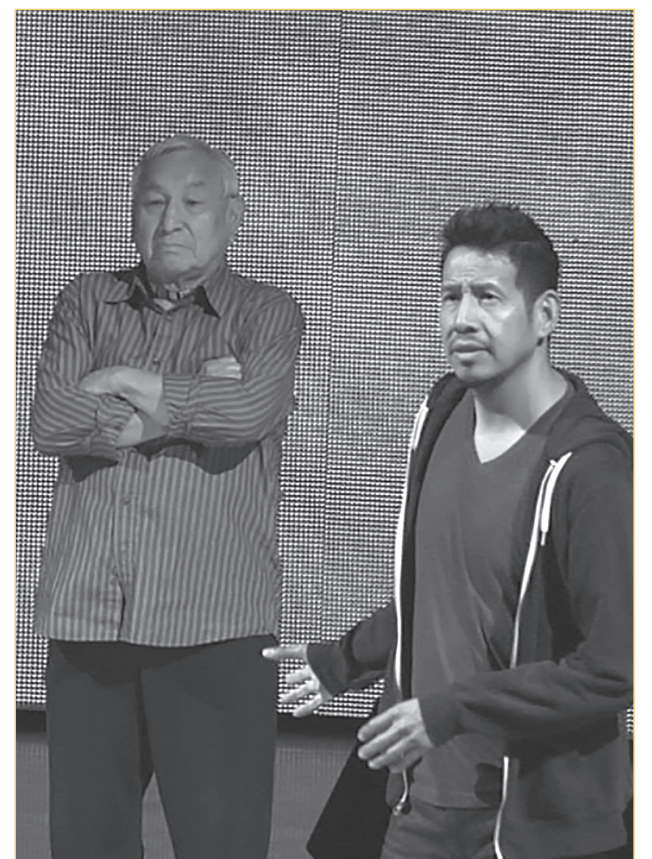


PHOTO BY TAWYNA PLAIN EAGLE

Cast members Sykes Powderface (left) and Telly James (right) acting out a scene in the First Nations play, *Making Treaty 7* on Sept. 25 at Bella Concert Hall at Mount Royal University in Calgary.

e LIFE

Kodiaks claw out another win



PHOTO BY CRAIG KAMBA

Koffi Akpaloo-Nyavor edges out a Medicine Hat Rattler during a Kodiaks home game. The men's team is second place in the ACAC south division.

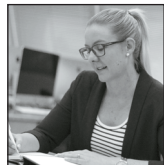
Jack Frost can suck it

As someone who grew up never seeing snow until the age of 21, Canadian winters are a frightful experience.

I don't know whose idea of fun involves getting out of bed an hour earlier to shovel snow in -20 and then painfully scraping your car windshield in the pitch black of a winter morning. If this is your idea of fun then, either I haven't met you yet, or in my opinion you're suffering from some sort of clinical psychotic episode that is yet to be treated.

But what about all of the fun sports and activities you can have in the winter I hear you say?! By sports and activities do you mean strapping yourself onto those long pieces of wood and hurling yourself down a mountain and/or off the side of a cliff to your quite possi-

CULTIVATED



MEAGAN WILLIAMS

bly imminent and painful death? Then yes, yes I have attempted and failed miserably at both the singular piece of long wood and the two pieces of long wood.

What's that now? The hot chocolates and coffee and baileys and hot turkey dinners are just simply the best? You do realize that you can have any of those things at literally any other time of the year, right? That's the same as saying having a cold beer is only good in the summer, which we all know is total jibberish.

I will agree, that winter can be pretty when the

snow is fresh and it's fallen and dusted the trees and ground in the delicate white powder in only a way snow can. Yes, that is pretty, until, an inevitable chinook blows through and makes a slushy mess when mixed with the dirt, grit and sand to create some sort of poop coloured, lumpy soup covering the road.

So, I say boo to you winter, boo to you and your frosty appearance making a mess, endangering all with your sneaky black ice and most importantly, making me wear so many layers it takes entirely too much time to get to a comfortable body temperature when moving between inside and outside. But hey, perhaps that whole global warming thing will take care of old Jack Frost and his season after all?



Das not auto Volkswagen recalls cars, affects millions

SARAH REDEKOP
@sleered

A global scandal is affecting a local business. Three weeks ago, Volkswagen's credibility declined as 11 million of their vehicles became fraudulent. The company had installed software that made it possible for the vehicles to falsely pass emissions tests. The situation came to light when the International Council on Clean Transportation (ICCT) was contracted to thoroughly test emissions on a select number of vehicles.

A Volkswagen vehicle was on the list and failed.

The ICCT discovered that Volkswagen diesel engines were emitting higher levels of nitrous oxides into the environment than what is acceptable. Prior to this, Volkswagen has been known for their excellent fuel mileage, many times competing with hybrid vehicles. They were also known for their minimal impact on the environment in comparison to other diesel vehicles. It is estimated that over 11 million Volkswagen's worldwide contain the illegal software.

Although Europe has a much larger diesel market than in Canada, the impact is still being felt in Lethbridge. The scandal has required all dealerships nationwide to stop selling the affected models. Currently our local Volkswagen dealership has 15 cars on the lot that are grounded and unable to be sold. On Wednesday new information came to light as Volkswagen announced it would be sending out a software update that would repair five million vehicles. Fortunately for Canada, the update will bring affected vehicles up to acceptable emissions standards. This was good news for the local dealership as the 15 affected vehicles will soon be available for sale again. Brad White, a Product Advisor

at Lethbridge Volkswagen said, "they'll probably be the guinea pigs, they'll be the first ones that we correct and make greener."

Long-time Lethbridge resident and loyal Volkswagen consumer, Marlene Saler, is disappointed with the company. She has owned various Volkswagens since 1957. "I don't know how long those guys thought they could get away with it," she said. "How fair is it to our laws over here?" she remarked. "When we're

trying to say we don't want our cars emitting a certain amount

of pollution into the air, they need to abide by our standards." She went on to explain that it's unfortunate that local business has felt the backlash over something they had no control over.

Saler did mention that the scandal would not affect her loyalty to

Volkswagen. Her vehicle was not one affected by the scandal and she says she will continue to get it serviced at the local dealership.

Reuben Scenft, a student at Lethbridge College, expressed how he feels about Volkswagen as a whole. "My opinion has definitely dropped, it's understandable from a money point of view, but it's not ideal. I don't like that they did it," he said.

The recent news of the update has been good for our local dealership, however there are still six million cars worldwide that will remain unrepairable. This includes the half-million cars in the United States that will still not meet emissions requirements with the update.

The results of the scandal will not only affect consumers, but also the company as a whole. Matthias Mueller, replaced Martin Winterkorn as CEO after the scandal came to light. He recently announced that Volkswagen would be making cutbacks to compensate for their newfound financial responsibilities. The current cost to the company is estimated at \$86 billion.



eSPORTS

Crack of the bat

MEAGAN WILLIAMS
@Lili_Gean

A relatively unknown sport in North America, cricket has experienced a surge in interest and participation in Lethbridge according to Lethbridge Cricket Association President, Diwakar Vyas.

“We started with 10-12 players about 11 months ago and in the past six months, there have been around 50 odd players playing, so it’s been great.”

The 11-man team sport is the second most popular sport in the world, based on participation in over 100 countries, according to the International Cricket Council. Prominent amongst Commonwealth countries, cricket has reached monumental levels of popularity in India and surrounding nations such as Pakistan, Sri Lanka and the islands of West Indies.

Joel Bhaskaran, who is studying audio engineering at the University of Lethbridge was surprised to find the LCA and says he loves the nostalgia of playing a childhood sport as an adult who now

lives away from his native Bahrain.

“You wouldn’t think that in a Western country that people actually play cricket, so it’s like you have a piece of home with you.”

While interest and participation have increased since their inception, the LCA could still do with some local community support according to Vyas.

“We are constantly looking for support from the Lethbridge community, both in terms of come here and watch us play cricket, or in terms of finances as we are a not-for-profit organization.”

The initial start up of the LCA did have a helping hand in crossing their i’s and dotting their t’s from the Lethbridge Sports Council. Tanya Whipple, Program and Communication Coordinator at the sports council says that it was exciting to see how the LCA were reaching out to the community to get the sport up and running.

“There’s a very energetic group of people who are working to get cricket successful in Lethbridge. They actually came to my daughter’s school last year and that was when I first heard of them



PHOTO BY MEAGAN WILLIAMS

Diving for the line, Batsman Harsha Bandara is out for stumps at the hands of wicket keeper Arth Patel at the Lethbridge Cricket Association’s second last game of their summer season at G.S Lakie School on Sept. 24.

making a run in Lethbridge.”

Vyas says the LCA is always thinking about what is next for the sport in Lethbridge. Planning a winter league and a kids training camps are expected to roll out in the not too distant future. Something that Whipple believes can happen if her daughter’s enthusiasm for the sport is anything to go by.

“My seven-year-old came home so excited because they got to play cricket at school and she was telling us all the rules and she was so excited. That was

really great to see that they were taking the steps to expose different people, these school children, and exposing them to a new game.”

Cricket is a sport for everyone of all ages and ability levels according to Vyas. If he and his fellow cricket enthusiasts had their way, there’d be a league for everyone in the Lethbridge Community. Further information on games and membership can be found on the LCA’s Facebook page or on the Lethbridge Sports Council website.

Copperheads welcome new season



PHOTO BY AARON HAUGEN

Coaldale Copperheads Rookie goaltender Dylan Swanson is scored on by teammate and forward Jamie Price during practice at the Coaldale Arena on Oct. 1.

AARON HAUGEN
@ahaugie

The expectations are high as the Coaldale Copperheads head into the 2015-16 season.

Having come off a south division and league championship in the Heritage Junior Hockey League, the team is looking to continue its winning ways.

However, the loss of several veterans has shifted some of the burden to the team’s youth.

Head Coach Derek Wiest is confident that the team’s rookies can step up and build on last year’s success.

“We got a good group of leaders that are able to get players new to the organization up to speed,” Wiest said. “We’re pretty confident in their ability to get the new players going for us.”

One of those leaders is defenseman Matt Johnson.

“I think we’ll be pretty good,” Johnson said. “We lost a lot of talented guys last year, but we got a lot of new talent coming up this year which I think we really benefit our team.”

A native of Sylvan Lake, Johnson joined the Copperheads last season after a year with the Blackfalds Wranglers.

Outside of hockey, Johnson is taking Criminal Justice at Lethbridge College and says that the support of his team-



We got a good group.
Derek Wiest



mates helps him balance hockey and school.

“It depends on how much school work you get and how much we’re practicing.”

Joining the team this season is rookie defenseman Brock Boutiller.

A Coaldale native, Boutiller is excited to walk into a team with a culture of winning.

“Hopefully we’ll be able to go as far as possible with it while having fun,” Boutiller said.

For Wiest, it’s the type of attitude he’s looking for from his young players.

“We’re real excited about this team. We’ve got a lot of skill,” Wiest said. “We’re really excited and looking pretty good.”

The Copperheads are currently 2-2 and have three home games over the Thanksgiving weekend taking on the Air-dire Thunder on Saturday, Okotoks Bison on Sunday and Strathmore Wheatland Kings on holiday Monday.

All games take place at the Coaldale Arena at 8:30 p.m. with the exception of Monday’s game, which starts at 2 p.m.

COALDALE COPPERHEADS PLAYERS BY HOME PROVINCE



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INTRODUCING

The New Trades Wing



Daniella Wheeler and Tom Marzolf trying to figure out the strange noise coming from the vehicle.

PHOTOS BY TAWNIA PLAIN EAGLE



Left: Justin Jones and Kelly-Rae Aldridge working together to change oil on Jones' vehicle.
Right: Bryson Goddard from the electrical apprentice program.
Bottom: Mathew Kritz from the Heavy Equipment Technician program.



Most of the space is dedicated to shop and labs in the 165,270 square foot addition.