

REGIONAL PRESS NEWS

FOX CREEK • SWAN HILLS • VALLEYVIEW

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Young entrepreneurs find success during Fox Creek Lemonade Day



Representatives of Olivia's Sunny Sips pose with organizers after being named Entrepreneur of the Year during Fox Creek's Lemonade Day on June 13. **Town of Fox Creek photo**



The team behind Zestie Besties was recognized for Best Tasting Lemonade during Fox Creek's Lemonade Day on June 13. **Town of Fox Creek photo**

By Valerie Winger

Four lemonade stands took to the streets of Fox Creek on June 13 as local youth participated in the community's annual Lemonade Day program, gaining hands-on experience in business ownership while serving refreshing drinks to residents.

According to the Town of Fox Creek, four lemonade businesses operated throughout the community this year.

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Swan Hills Celebrates 2026 Lemonade Day winners



By Shelley Winger

The Town of Swan Hills congratulated the winners of the 2026 Lemonade Day event.

Bowser's Lemonade received awards for Local Entrepreneur and Best Tasting Lemonade. Vayda's Magical Creatures Lemonade was recognized for having the Best Lemonade Stand.

Lemonade Day is a program held in communities across Alberta that gives children the opportunity to operate their own lemonade stands. Participants learn about planning, handling money, customer service and

CONTINUED PAGE 5



Town of Swan Hills photo

Municipal District of Greenview Council highlights

June 9 Press release

Supporting Indigenous Culture through the Grande Prairie Traditional Pow Wow

A \$1,000 sponsorship was approved by Council for the Friends of the Grande Prairie Aboriginal Circle of Services in support of the 2026 Grande Prairie Traditional Pow Wow, taking place June 20-21 at the TARA Energy Services Centre in the County of Grande Prairie. The annual event celebrates Indigenous culture through traditional dancing, singing, and cultural activities while welcoming residents and visitors to learn, connect, and participate.

The Grande Prairie Traditional Pow Wow is expected to attract between 1,000 and 1,500 attendees from across the region, including Greenview residents. The sponsorship supports a community event that promotes cultural awareness, inclusion, and engagement while recognizing the contributions and traditions of Indigenous peoples in northwestern Alberta.

2026 Tax Recovery Public Auction Scheduled for September

Properties with outstanding tax arrears may

CONTINUED PAGE 10



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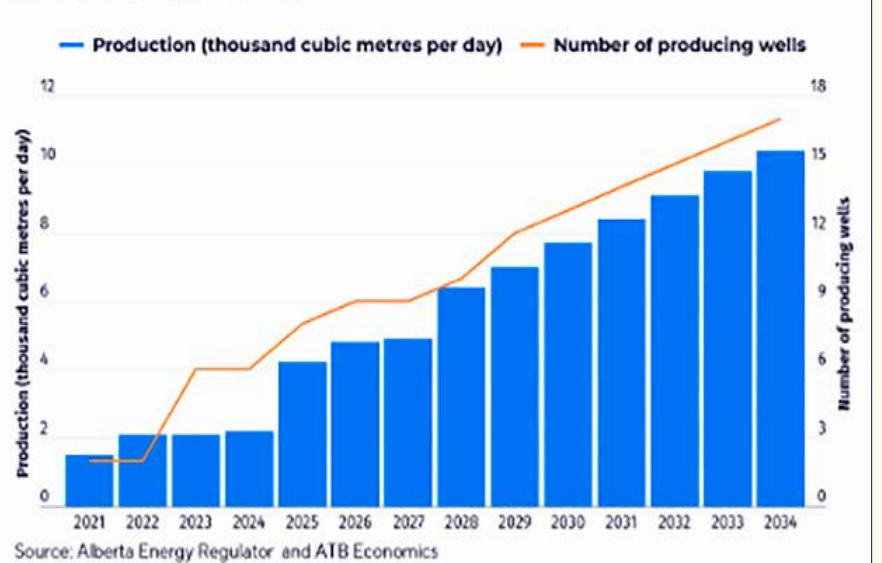


Beyond the barrel: The other supply shocks brought on by the Iran war

Canada's aluminum exports to the U.S.
\$ billion, seasonally adjusted, balance of payments basis



Alberta helium production and producing wells



By Carol Kamel, ATB ECONOMICS

The tentative memorandum of understanding reached between the U.S. and Iran establishes an immediate 60-day ceasefire, the lifting of the U.S. naval blockade, and a framework to reopen the Strait of Hormuz toll-free. But while global markets can breathe a sigh of relief ahead of the formal signing in Switzerland this Friday, the structural damage to global supply chains cannot be undone overnight and neither can the geopolitical risk premiums that will be baked into global supply chains moving forward.

While our June Alberta forecast was released last week ahead of the agreement, our outlook for the economy remains unchanged. This morning the futures market was pricing WTI oil prices at just over US\$80/bbl in 2026, not far off our \$84/bbl forecast, and well above pre-war levels. Next year, we assumed US\$70/bbl, which is largely in line with futures prices. Moreover, oil prices have less torque on the real economy than in the past, with producers remaining cautious on new investment

spending in part due to uncertainty over future pipeline capacity. More importantly, we see a fundamental shift in the way that supply chains are viewed today, positioning safe and stable jurisdictions like Canada favourably.

While crude oil has dominated the headlines, today's edition of The Twenty-Four shifts the focus to the other critical shortages brought by the war in Iran.

1) Petrochemicals

When we think about the Strait of Hormuz, we naturally think of oil tankers. However, the Strait is also critical for the chemicals that industrial economies are built on. About \$20-25 billion worth of petrochemical products pass through the Strait annually. Since the war began, plastic prices have surged to roughly four-year highs. To illustrate the impacts of the war, ethylene outages from the war now amount to 12% of global production. Ethylene is the base feedstock for the most widely used plastic in the world, polyethylene, found in packaging, piping, auto components, and medical devices. Plastic manufacturers in Asia and Europe, which

are heavily reliant on the region, are being squeezed. However, North America is relatively advantaged due to its feedstock availability. The market size of Canada's petrochemical manufacturing industry is \$7 billion, the majority of which is concentrated in Alberta, Ontario, and Quebec. Reinforcing Alberta's leading position is Dow's landmark Path2Zero project, which is under construction and, once completed, will be the world's first net-zero emissions integrated ethylene facility.

2) LNG

Natural gas is another crucial commodity that has faced large disruptions. Europe entered 2026 with gas storage levels significantly below recent years, leaving it poorly positioned when Strait of Hormuz traffic collapsed. About 20% of global LNG trade transits the Strait, with Qatar as the dominant supplier. Iranian strikes on Qatar's Ras Laffan LNG complex—the world's largest—have cut Qatar's LNG capacity by approximately 17%, with repair timelines of three to five years.

For Canada, the opportunity is real but

time-constrained. The Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada has noted that Canadian oil and LNG are well positioned to take Asian market share from the Middle East, but infrastructure decisions made in 2026-2027 will effectively determine Asian energy supply patterns until the 2070s. LNG Canada in Kitimat is already ramping exports to Japan, South Korea, and the Philippines, while Woodfibre LNG and Cedar LNG are under construction. Potential projects include: LNG Canada Phase 2 and the proposed Ksi Lisims project, which has recently signed onto an LNG purchase agreement with Germany.

3) Aluminum

Wood Mackenzie projected that the global aluminum market was already heading for a supply deficit of 200,000 tonnes in 2026 before the war, this deficit was projected to widen to 800,000 tonnes by 2028. The war only exacerbated this dynamic. Iranian missiles struck the Emirates Global Aluminium Al Taweelah site and Aluminium Bahrain, two of the Gulf's

largest smelters. Consequently, benchmark London Metal Exchange (LME) aluminum futures briefly touched its highest levels since 2022.

This shortage has a Canadian angle. After a steep 50% tariff was implemented on Canadian aluminum, more Canadian aluminum found its way to European markets. While American aluminum imports from Canada dropped 27% in 2025, exports are starting to bounce back in 2026. However, U.S. reliance on Middle Eastern aluminum has increased, leaving American manufacturers more exposed as global supply tightens.

4) Helium

AI investments are at the top of every headline. Yet, the shortage of helium is often overlooked despite its critical links to AI and its infrastructure.

Helium is co-produced with natural gas. Qatar's Ras Laffan complex, already damaged by Iranian strikes, was responsible for a substantial share of global semiconductor-grade helium supply. The strikes removed roughly 30% of global semiconductor-grade helium supply within days.

Helium is essential because its exceptional cooling power and chemical inertness are critical for controlling extreme temperatures and preventing defects during the delicate chip-printing process. Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company, Samsung, and SK Hynix collectively rely on the region for over 60% of their helium supply, with the disruption potentially impacting production of smartphones, laptops, and AI data centre GPUs. On the Canadian side, Alberta and Saskatchewan are the only provinces that commercially produce helium. Saskatchewan is the most active commercial helium producer in the country, while Alberta is in its emerging stages. It's estimated that Canada has helium resources that would make it the fifth largest in the world.

Bottom line: While the new peace framework signals a step toward the "normalization" of global trade and energy prices, it's not a return to the status quo. The conflict has shone a spotlight on the fragilities of global supply chains and reinforced Canada's role as a safe and reliable supplier to the global market.



Granny Dani's brings homemade meals to Fox Creek



Granny Dani's Photos

By Valerie Winger

Dani Thompson opened Granny Dani's Home Cookin' & Catering earlier this year at 11 1 Avenue in Fox Creek. It's a take-out and delivery operation, and Thompson says things have been going well since opening in March. She now has two staff helping her out.

Thompson moved to the Fox Creek area from Saskatchewan to be closer to where her husband works. She's spent close to 20 years in the restaurant industry — cooking, serving, bartending, managing, catering — at all kinds of places, from higher-end event venues to owning her own catering company in Saskatchewan.

"I grew up a farm girl, always cooking with my grandmas and aunties, and have always wanted to share those meals with other people," Thompson said.

That means everything is made from scratch using family recipes. The menu includes Ukrainian and Polish dishes, comfort

food staples, soups, frozen meals, baking, ice cream cakes, and homemade ice cream sandwiches. Pre-ordered lunches are available, and the business serves a hot and ready home-cooked meal every night from 5 to 8 p.m. and is closed only on Saturdays. Daily specials and pricing are

posted on Facebook.

Pre-ordered lunches can be brought out to worksites or delivered in town. Thompson also does catering for larger orders. Meals, including dessert, generally range from \$20 to \$30, and the portions are on the generous side.

Thompson is also setting up a few bistro tables out front for anyone who wants to eat outside. The business has been drawing good reviews. It seems to be working well for shift workers and seniors who want a hot home-made meal without cooking it themselves.

Customers can reach Granny Dani's on Facebook, stop by 11 1 Avenue in Fox Creek, or call 780-622-5408.



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Tipi raised at Valleyview Health Centre



A tipi was raised at the Valleyview Health Centre on Friday, June 5, with a ceremony led by Barb Goodswimmer and June Palmer. Elders and residents from the hospital attended, along with AHS and hospital staff, EMS and first responders, Pembina Pipeline staff, and Councillor Kerri Danner. Pembina Pipeline Corporation sponsored the event and provided a barbecue afterward. **Town of Valleyview photos**



Town of Swan Hills photo

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

other basic business skills while running a small venture for a day. The annual event

encourages children to think about what goes into starting and operating a business, from choosing a location to serving customers.

The Town recognized the winners on social media and congratulated all of the young entrepreneurs who took part in this year's event.



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Children enjoy special visit from Officer Brown



By Haylee
Dianne

A recent cookie craft-
noon at the Fox Creek
Library drew a strong
turnout from local chil-
dren and families.

The event featured
special guest Officer
Brown, who read a

story to the children and
showed them a police
cruiser.

The library shared
photos from the gather-
ing and thanked Officer
Brown for taking part in
the afternoon's activities.

"We had a great turn-
out for our cookie craft-
noon with our special
guest Officer Brown,"
the library said in a so-
cial media post.

Library staff also ex-
pressed their apprecia-
tion to Officer Brown
for visiting, reading to
the children and bring-
ing the police cruiser for
participants to see.

The event was one
of the many programs
hosted by the Fox Creek
Library that brings local
children together for ac-
tivities and community
connections.



Fox Creek Library photos

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
While the event may appear simple on the surface, Lemonade Day is designed to teach participants valuable skills related to entrepreneurship, financial literacy, customer service and goal setting.

Participants are encouraged to think like business owners by creating a plan for their stand, developing marketing ideas, managing expenses and interacting with customers. The program gives youth an opportunity to learn practical lessons about responsibility, communication and money management in a fun and supportive environment.

Throughout the day, residents had the opportunity to visit the stands, purchase lemonade and support the young entrepreneurs. Community members

played an important role in helping make the event a success, providing encouragement while giving participants a chance to put their newly learned skills into practice.

Several awards were presented to recognize the efforts and achievements of the participants. Olivia's Sunny Sips was named Entrepreneur of the Year, while SplASH Lemonade received the award for Best Lemonade Stand. Zestie Besties earned recognition for Best Tasting Lemonade.

The Town of Fox Creek thanked the volunteers, mentors, judges, families and community members who supported the event and helped create a positive experience for the young business owners.

Programs such as Lemonade Day aim to

introduce youth to entrepreneurship at an early age while helping build confidence and leadership skills. Participants learn that running a business involves more than simply selling a product; it also requires planning, problem-solving, customer service and perseverance.

For many participants, the experience provides a first look at what it takes to start and operate a business. Organizers hope the lessons learned through the program will continue to benefit youth long after the lemonade has been served.

With another successful event now complete, organizers are encouraging interested youth and families to watch for registration information when Lemonade Day returns next spring.



Participants from SplASH Lemonade celebrate after receiving the Best Lemonade Stand award during Fox Creek's Lemonade Day on June 13. **Town of Fox Creek photo**

Alberta RCMP gives reminders for sharing roadways with commercial vehicles

RCMP Press Release

As traffic increases over the summer months, the Alberta RCMP would like to remind commercial and passenger-vehicle motorists how to share our provincial roads responsibly. Sharing roadways with, or operating, semi-trucks, tractor-trailers, busses, or other commercial vehicles, requires extra caution, especially during summer months when traffic increases. Help avoid a collision involving a commercial vehicle by following the below tips:

Commercial vehicle drivers:

- Always complete

trip inspections to ensure your vehicle is in proper operating condition.

- Always carry the required inspection certificates.
- Stay alert while driving and pull over when tired.
- Pre-plan your trip and help ensure your safety by staying updated on road, traffic, construction, and weather conditions.
- Maintain a safe following distance with other vehicles.
- Be aware of blind spots and make wide turns safely.
- If you are hauling or transporting cargo, ensure that it is

properly secured.

Passenger vehicle drivers:

- Stay far enough behind big trucks to see both of its side mirrors. If you can't see the truck driver, they can't see you.

- Increase your following distance behind larger vehicles to see oncoming traffic.
- Oncoming commercial vehicles can create strong wind gusts, large splashes in wet conditions, or sprays of rocks and

debris. Practice defensive driving and brace when they are passing.

- Leave extra space when passing or changing lanes in front of a commercial vehicle as they require more time to

slow down or come to a stop.

- Stay back when large vehicles are indicating right or left, as they require a wide turning radius.

"A variety of vehicles share our roadways every day, and it's everyone's responsibility to keep each other safe," says Sgt. Darrin Turnbull, Alberta RCMP Traffic. "Commercial vehicles need more time and space to operate safely due to their size and weight. Help avoid a collision with one of these vehicles by practicing extra caution around them and by giving them extra space."



June 30 deadline nears for Greenview scholarships



By Haylee Dianne

Students planning to pursue post-secondary education still had time to apply for funding through the Municipal District of Greenview No. 16's 2026 Post-Secondary Scholarship

Program.

The municipality reminded residents that applications were due by June 30, 2026.

Greenview Council offers scholarships to students attending university, college, trades and apprenticeship programs.

Students enrolled in a degree program leading

to an academic degree were eligible for a \$2,500 scholarship.

Students enrolled in diploma, certificate, trade or apprenticeship programs were eligible for \$1,500 in funding.

The scholarship program is intended to support local students as they continue their education after high

school.

More information about eligibility requirements and the application process was available through the Municipal District of Greenview's website.

Council encouraged interested students to submit their applications before the June 30 deadline.

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Kikinow Elders Lodge officially opens at Victor Lake



Municipal District of Greenview No. 16 photos



By Haylee
Dianne

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held Wednesday to officially open the Kikinow Elders Lodge at Victor Lake. Among those attending were Evergreens Foundation Board Chair and Greenview Councillor Winston Delorme, Greenview Reeve Ryan Ratzlaff,

and councillors Tyler Hackenberg, Dale Schlieff and Tom Soderquist. The lodge was developed through a partnership between the Victor Lake Cooperative and The Evergreens Foundation to provide culturally appropriate housing for Indigenous Elders. The facility allows residents to remain close to family, friends and their community while accessing supportive housing.

In addition to providing housing, the lodge is expected to serve as a gathering place where culture, traditions and community connections can be shared and maintained. The Municipal District of Greenview recognized the work of the Victor Lake Cooperative and The Evergreens Foundation in bringing the project to completion and acknowledged the collaboration that made the development possible.



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Amazing Race wraps up school year in Swan Hills



By Haylee Dianne

Junior high and senior high students at Swan Hills School marked the end of the 2025-26 school year by taking part in a community-wide Amazing Race on June 17.

Teams travelled throughout Swan Hills, visiting local businesses and community spaces

while completing a variety of activities. The event included challenges such as group sliding, ping pong ball water skips, blind water tosses, lock cracking, ice cream identification and several other team activities.

Throughout the event, students demonstrated teamwork, problem-solving and school spirit as they took part in the challenges around town.

School staff expressed

their appreciation to the local businesses and community members who welcomed students and made their spaces available for the activities. Thanks were also extended to the Student Council and school staff for organizing the event.

The day brought laughter, excitement and friendly competition to the community as students celebrated the close of the school year.



Swan Hills grade two students get second look at Oobleck mystery



Swan Hills School photos



By Haylee Dianne

Swan Hills School grade two students celebrated Dr. Seuss Day at the beginning of

March with a hands-on experiment involving Oobleck, inspired by the Dr. Seuss book *Bartholomew and the Oobleck*.

Students enjoyed making the Oobleck, though some were uncertain about its

unusual texture. The experiment left an open question: was the substance a solid or a liquid?

The timing of the activity coincided with a period when students were out of the school building.

As grade two students wrapped up their Investigating Materials unit in June, they were given a second opportunity to explore the question and determine once and for all whether Oobleck is a liquid or a solid.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
be offered for sale this fall following Council's approval of the reserve bid terms, conditions, and auction date for the 2026 Tax Recovery Public Auction. The auction is scheduled for September 14, 2026, at the Valleyview Administration Building and includes a number of properties located in the Little Smoky, Valleyview, and Grande Cache areas. The tax recovery

process is governed by Alberta's Municipal Government Act and is used when property taxes remain unpaid for an extended period. Property owners can pay outstanding arrears and associated costs before the auction begins, at which point the property will be removed from the sale. Reserve bids were established based on current market value assessments, as required under provincial legislation.

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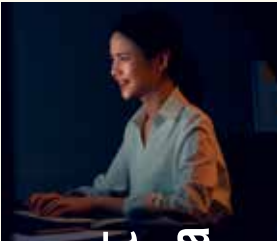
Grade six students wrap up school year with Colour Wars and water fight



Grade six students at Fox Creek School celebrated the end of the school year by taking part in the school's annual Colour Wars and water fight.

The event gave students an opportunity to enjoy time together outdoors as they wrapped up their elementary school year.

The annual tradition marked a fun sendoff for the Grade six class as they prepared to move on to the next stage of their education.



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Northern Lakes College has the following *ongoing position* available:

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- A High School Diploma or equivalent
- Experience working with the public is required
- Experience with Microsoft 365 software is required
- A clean vulnerable sector criminal record check prior to commencement
- A valid Class 5 driver's license
- A combination of education, training and experience may be considered

Assets:

- Experience with teleconference and video equipment
- Experience working in educational environments

Successful candidates must provide College or University transcripts and a clean Criminal Record Check to Human Resources prior to commencement.

This position is covered under the Collective Agreement between Northern Lakes College and the Alberta Union of Provincial Employees.

For complete details on this employment opportunity, visit us online at: www.northernlakescollege.ca click on **Careers at NLC**. Please submit a resume **quoting the reference number NLC-2294** to: Northern Lakes College, Human Resources, 1201 Main Street SE, Slave Lake, AB T0G 2A3 or alternatively Fax: 780-849-5881

Closing Date: July 6, 2026

Note: Northern Lakes College thanks all applicants for their interest in employment; however, only those candidates selected for interviews will be contacted.



Town of Fox Creek Council highlights

Regular Meeting of Council June 15

•Council proudly recognized Cecil Russell as the Arne Vaadeland Volunteer of the Year and Esther Kitojo as Youth Volunteer of the Year. Both recipients were celebrated for their outstanding dedication, leadership, and contributions that continue to make Fox Creek a stronger and more connected community.

•STARS provided Council with an update

on their life-saving emergency services across rural Alberta. Council approved continued annual support of \$12,500 through 2030 to help ensure critical care remains accessible to residents when they need it most.

•Council welcomed incoming Fox Creek School Principal Marty Leach and thanked outgoing Principal Ian Baxter for his dedication, leadership, and positive impact on students and the community.

•Recreation, Community Services, Operations, Finance, and Administration reported ongoing progress on programming, projects, economic development initiatives, grant funding, recruitment efforts, and improvements to municipal services that support the community's continued growth and sustainability.

•Approved advocacy efforts for increased flexibility for rural

communities facing workforce shortages.

•Directed Administration to relocate an existing portable washroom to Marnevic Park to improve accessibility for park users.

•Reviewed options for improved street lighting in the industrial area and directed Administration to include the project in future infrastructure planning and engineering reviews.

•Approved updates to the Public Works Fees and Rates Bylaw to create consistent pricing, improve transparency, and better align municipal service costs with industry standards

•Approved a new Video Surveillance Policy to support public safety while ensuring privacy protection, accountability, and compliance with provincial legislation.

•Council shared updates from recent meetings, training

opportunities, community events, and regional initiatives, highlighting continued collaboration, advocacy, and commitment to community growth.

The next Regular Meeting of Council will be held July 6, 2026

For full Council Highlights and more detailed information, visit: <https://www.foxcreek.ca/.../council-highlights-june-15-2026>.

Talk with your teen about substance use

News Canada

Is your teen using drugs or alcohol? It's an uncomfortable question that can lead to an equally uncomfortable conversation. But having that conversation is important, even if it's difficult.

Young people use drugs and alcohol for different reasons. For some, it may be a way to fit in or try something new. For others, it may be a way to cope with stress or mental health struggles.

Just because it's legal doesn't make it safe. Alcohol, cannabis, nicotine and other drugs can be dangerous,

especially to a teenager's developing brain. Substance use increases the risk of attention and memory problems, affects the ability to make decisions and can lead to mental health challenges like anxiety and depression. That's why it's so important to have regular conversations with teens about substance use.

The danger of illegal drugs is real. Teens may hear about or potentially use illegal drugs such as cocaine or MDMA (ecstasy). Illegal drugs found in Canada are increasingly contaminated with strong opioids like fentanyl and other harmful substances. It's impossible to know exactly what other substances may be in drugs that are obtained illegally. Having access to reliable information can help young people better understand these risks and make informed decisions.

Tips for having a positive conversation:

- Have clear goals in mind for your discussion.
- Create a casual, relaxed and judgment-free space, and consider letting your teen pick when and where the conversations happen.
- Ask open-ended

questions and listen actively to the answers—let teens feel heard.

- Don't rush or pressure your teen. Let conversations flow naturally and pause to resume later if needed.
- Be ready to answer their questions honestly, including about your own substance use and share

factual information that can help them make informed decisions about their health.

Parents and teens can also find free resources online, such as Health Canada Experiences, which provides interactive modules to learn about drugs and alcohol, and their risks.

Open, honest conversations about

substance use are a critical part of preventing harm. When parents clearly communicate expectations, share accurate information and discuss real consequences, it can help young people reduce their risk and make safer choices. You can learn more, as well as find free resources, at healthcanadaexperiences.ca.



Town of Valleyview to host interactive Paint in the Park event

 **By Haylee Dianne**

Residents are invited to put their creativity to the test during the Town of Valleyview's upcoming Paint in the Park: Pass the Canvas Edition.

The community event is scheduled for July 17 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Legion Park. Participants will begin their own paintings before passing their canvas to another person every five minutes, creating a collaborative artwork by the end of the evening.

No painting

experience is required, and all art supplies will be provided. The cost to participate is \$30 per person.

Registration is required as space is limited. Those interested can register by phone, in person or through the Town of Valleyview's online registration system.

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WHAT'S WRONG, FRAZ?

I JUST FOUND OUT CHRIS LIKES THE SAME MUSIC I LIKE!

by PETER MARINACCI

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NO! IT MEANS I HAVE TO FIND NEW MUSIC TO LIKE!

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