



The Connector

Building your best city through community connections



We Welcome You

All Woodwork & Photography
By Dean McMurrer

By the Lake Park ~ Our Local Gem
Photo by Dean McMurrer, Sept 10/24

Connect Wetaskiwin is thrilled to have contributed to the organization of Wetaskiwin's inaugural WELCOMING WEEK! From September 7 to 13, the City of Wetaskiwin is collaborating with local agencies to offer **FREE** events to the community. Be sure to view the calendar on the City's Facebook page and in both local newspapers to discover the exciting activities happening this week! A warm welcome to Wetaskiwin awaits you!

Our Mission

To be a **Catalyst for Action** by bringing community together for a common cause or issue,
AND
providing support to help make them successful as they work together.

Expanding Our Reach: Working with City Administration

City Council made a decision in March to explore a partnership with Connect Wetaskiwin to organize local engagement sessions aimed at understanding community engagement better. In June, our proposal was approved, leading to the hosting of three focus group engagement sessions. Our first focus group was with associations, followed by local interagencies, then Council & Administration. All sessions have been constructive, productive and fun and have focused on uncovering the genuine needs of locals to enhance engagement while exploring the role of trust in our interactions. We have two more upcoming sessions planned: one to gather insights from Indigenous residents and another to listen to senior citizens' perspectives. If you wish to participate in either session, please contact us at **connectwetaskiwin@gmail.com**. Stay tuned for the results of our findings to be reported back to Council early 2025.

The meaning of Life is to find
your gift.
The purpose of life is to give
it away.

Pablo Picasso

News Highlights



WELCOMING WEEK Activities
Sept 7-13, 2024
Join in the Fun!



IT'S OFFICIAL! We are now
a Not for Profit Society.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
Our Front Yard Fires have
been such a hit with our
community. Reach out to
Get Involved ~ it's fun!



CONTACT US:

email: connectwetaskiwin@gmail.com

web: connectwetaskiwin.com



Fireside Chats

For the past year, we've been gathering every second Thursday of the month from **6-7pm** at the **Wetaskiwin District Heritage Museum on 50th Ave.** Recently, we've added themed discussions, allowing us to hear not only residents' ideas and concerns but also insights from content experts who provide valuable information and guidance. We've had the opportunity to learn from the city's Environmental Services and Public Works department about local issues, as well as from the RCMP, By-law, and Redline Street Society regarding street racing in our area. As a result of these sessions, two action groups have emerged: one exploring the feasibility of installing city-wide security cameras and another assisting public works in creating new interpretive signs for By-The-Lake-Park.

Join us on **September 12** for a discussion on the "Roles & Responsibilities of Local Leadership." We look forward to seeing you there to gain insights into the responsibilities of local officials!

Celebrating National Indigenous Peoples Day ~ June 21st

In the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation, we dug a little deeper into the Seven Grandfather Teachings. Truth, Honesty, Love, Courage, Respect, Wisdom, and Humility were beautifully showcased in a handcrafted felted storybook crafted by budding local artists from Centennial and Norwood Schools. The finished Grandfather's Teachings Book was exhibited at the National Indigenous Day Ceremony on June 21st at Jubilee Park. The students involved in this project were so happy to present it to their peers, creating a memorable experience. Currently, the Grandfather Teachings Book is being showcased at the Wetaskiwin Heritage Museum.



Heritage Museum & Star Store
Great little coffee bar!



Grandfather Teachings
June 21

Front Yard Fires~ Our Front Yard Fires have been a huge hit. We bring the propane firepit, the hot chocolate & marshmallows and everything to make your own s'mores. This is a fantastic opportunity to meet your neighbours and talk about what is going on in *your* 'hood'. Interested in hosting a Front Yard Fire? Interested in helping the Front Yard Fire team? Please email frontyardfires@connectwetaskiwin.com

Canada Day ~ Participating in the Canada Day Parada was a lot of fun! Connect Wetaskiwin had a '**Most Contest**' inviting kids & families to walk or ride their bikes with us. This was so much fun with several prize categories: Most Canadian, Most Creative, Most Colorful, Most use of Recycled Materials, Most Decorated Group, Most Traditional and Crowd Favorite. Prizes were generously donated by **Wetaskiwin Heritage Museum & Star Store**. Looking forward to seeing you again next year. We will send out a reminder a few weeks before the parade, giving ample time to unleash creativity and be ready to march with us, and perhaps even win!



Survey ~The Connect Wetaskiwin Survey is on-going and open for participation. Visit our website to access the survey online. If you would like a paper copy instead, please contact us at connectwetaskiwin@gmail.com.

Mall Space ~ You may have seen some of our signage up in the mall recently! We are currently working on building up a community focused space where local events and resources will be shared! We even have a Little Free Library out front, supplied through the Little Free Library's Indigenous Library Program!! If you have any books that help to showcase the diversity in our community, please consider dropping them off in the library to be shared with all residents.



Always Looking Ahead