



February 12, 2021



# WESTBORO ELEMENTARY

## Weekly Newsletter

### IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

**February 15:** Family Day - **No school for students or staff**

**February 17:** Chapel 1:00 p.m. - Google Meets meeting code: **wbochapel**

**February 17:** School Council Meeting 6:30 p.m. - A link to the meeting will be emailed out prior to the meeting. For more information please email

[westboroparents@gmail.com](mailto:westboroparents@gmail.com)

### THE LOGOS CHRISTIAN PROGRAM

The Logos Christian Program is an alternative program for students in Kindergarten to Grade 9, within a regular school setting. Students in the Logos Christian Program are taught Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science and Health and Life Skills from a Christian perspective by Christian teachers. Click [here](#) to learn more.

Also check out the Elk Island Logos Society February newsletter [here](#).

### QUARTER 3 SCHOOL FEES ARE NOW POSTED

Quarter 3 fees are now posted and payment is due within 14 days. If any credits were present on the account, they have been applied and any outstanding balance will show as due. Please log into your PowerSchool Parent Portal account to see credits, fees, and make payment. If you have any questions, please contact the school at 780-467-7751.

### SCHOOL COUNCIL

Please see the agenda for the upcoming School Council meeting.

[Westboro School Council Agenda February 17, 2021](#)

Please see the meeting minutes from the School Council meeting held on January 20, 2021.

[Westboro School Council Meeting Minutes January 20, 2021](#)

# HABITAT FOR HUMANITY: MEANING OF HOME CONTEST

Habitat for Humanity Canada, in partnership with founding sponsor Sagen, is currently running its annual [Meaning of Home contest](#). The contest invites grades 4, 5 and 6 students from across Canada to submit a written poem or essay explaining what home means to them for a chance to win cool prizes. One winner in each grade will be chosen and the winning submission will direct, on behalf of the sponsor, a \$30,000 grant to its local Habitat for Humanity office.

The Meaning of Home contest plays an important role in helping Habitat for Humanity raise funds and awareness for affordable housing in Canada, while offering a unique and meaningful way to get students involved in the creative-writing process and teach them about the importance of giving back to the community. For every entry submitted, \$10 will be donated to your local Habitat. There's no cost to enter and no fundraising requirements—just entering earns \$10 for Habitat for Humanity Edmonton. The submission deadline is February 19.

## STRATHCONA COUNTY CHILD AND YOUTH COALITION NEWSLETTER

The [February Strathcona County Child and Youth Coalition newsletter](#) is now available. [Learn more](#) about the coalition.

## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten registration has begun! Is your child turning five on or before Dec. 31, 2021? If so, it's time to register for kindergarten. Kindergarten registration opened for the 2021-22 school year on Feb. 1, 2021. To help families prepare, Elk Island Public Schools has put together an online [EIPS Kindergarten Toolkit](#) to make the transition as smooth as possible. The kit includes information on registration, important dates, programming options, what to expect, eligibility, how to find your designated school, transportation and more. Additional information regarding Westboro Elementary's kindergarten program is available at [westboroelementary.ca](#).

## RETURNING STUDENT REGISTRATION

Returning student registration for 2021-22 Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) is once again conducting an online returning student registration process to confirm student registrations for the 2021-22 school year. Families of all returning students must complete the process to confirm the school their child plans to attend in the 2021-22 school year. Additionally, students who want to attend a non-designated school need to make that request through the returning student registration process—acceptance is based on available space. The 2021-22 returning student registration takes place between Feb. 1-28, 2021. Access to the Returning Student Registration Form is provided through the PowerSchool Parent Portal. If you don't have a PowerSchool Parent Portal account, please take the time to set one up. [Create a PowerSchool Parent Portal account](#). For more information contact the school directly.

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH RESOURCES

Historica Canada has compiled a series of [articles](#) and [videos](#) to celebrate [Black History Month](#) throughout February.

- Learn the story of the community of [Amber Valley](#), commemorated in this year's Canada Post Black History Month stamps. It was one of several Alberta communities settled by [Black people](#) in the early 20th century, and the furthest north.
- Discover how [Sylvia Stark](#) learned to read in secret during a time that Black children were forbidden to read or write in the state of Missouri. Born into [enslavement](#), Stark emigrated to British Columbia with more than 600 Black Americans in 1858.
- [Lester Brown](#) was a rifleman for the Queen's Own Rifles during the Second World War. Listen to his testimony as he describes being injured days after landing in Normandy, and discover more in The Memory Project's [Black Canadian Veterans](#) gallery.
- [Africville](#) was founded in the mid-18th century but was demolished by the City of Halifax in the 1960s in what many said was an act of racism. For many people, Africville represents the oppression faced by Black Canadians, and the efforts to right historic wrongs.
- Test your knowledge of Black history in Canada with [easy](#), [medium](#) and [hard quizzes](#) from the [Citizenship Challenge](#).
- A new [Heritage Minute](#) about [Oscar Peterson](#) will also be available on February 17.

## SCHOOL AND TRANSPORTATION FEE WAIVER APPLICATIONS: DEADLINE EXTENDED

Elk Island Public Schools recognizes the global pandemic has put a strain on some families' finances and available income can change quickly in the current situation. As such, the Division has extended the deadline for requesting a waiver of your 2020–21 school and transportation fees. If you encounter circumstances where you're unable to pay your fees, you can apply to have fees waived by submitting an [Application for a Waiver of Fees](#). Because of the pandemic, the new deadline is Feb. 15, 2021—if you're new to EIPS, the deadline is the latter of Feb. 15, 2021, or 45 days after registration. Each quarter—or trimester, as applicable—you'll receive an email notification letting you know fees are posted on the PowerSchool Parent Portal. To access your fee information, go to "Student Fees" on PowerSchool. There you can view your fees and pay online using Visa, MasterCard or INTERAC Online—when available from your financial institution. All fees are due within 14 days of being posted. **NOTE:** School fees apply to in-school learners only. For more information about school fees, transportation fees, waivers and payment deadlines, visit [eips.ca](#) or [westboroelementary.ca](#). Alternatively, contact the school at 780-467-7751.

# SELF IDENTIFIED PARENT MEETING

Sessions will be held online using Microsoft Teams Meetings. Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting.](#)

- Second Gathering (virtual): March 9, 2021 (7 - 8 p.m.)
- Supports offered for First Nations, Métis and Inuit students
  - We thank all families for joining us in our initial gathering and sharing your stories. We were grateful to all who attended for our initial meeting. As we started with words from Elder Wilson and took time to meet each other, we did not get through the full agenda from our first gathering. We will ensure we cover the missed topics and answer your questions in the second gathering. Here is what we hope to share on March 9:
    - EIPS' First Nations, Métis and Inuit team mandate
    - What self-identification is and what it means
    - What supports are in place for self-identified students
    - Time for Q and A

# FIRST NATION, MÉTIS AND INUIT PARENT ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS

**The First Nations, Métis and Inuit education team has planned a three-part series—Developing Foundational Knowledge of First Nations, Métis and Inuit cultures, histories and contemporary contexts—designed for all EIPS parents and families who are curious to learn about First Nations, Métis and Inuit cultures, perspectives and histories. The sessions are designed as entry points to understanding as we work toward learning our collective truth on the path of reconciliation. [Join the session.](#)**

## **Session 2: February 23; 7-7:30 p.m.**

- Addressing common roadblocks to understanding and relationship
- Terminology; bridging the gap between what language parents may be used to hearing and what children are learning in schools

## **Session 3: March 16; 7-7:30 p.m.**

- Language of this land: The importance of highlighting Indigenous languages; deepening understanding of relationship to land through language; what exploration of Indigenous languages can look like in schools

# Strathcona County Information

## CURRENT RESTRICTIONS

The Government of Alberta announced [limited changes to their restrictions](#). Effective February 8, there will be a potential easing of restrictions if hospitalizations stay below 600:

- Restaurants, pubs, bars, lounges and cafes can open for in-person service, with health measures, limited capacity and opening hour restrictions.
- Children's sport and performance activities are permitted if related to school activities, such as physical education classes.
- K-12 schools and post-secondary institutions are allowed to use off-site facilities to support curriculum-related educational activities.
- Only one-on-one training is permitted for indoor fitness activities (e.g. fitness in dance studios, training figure skating on ice, one-on-one lessons). Sessions have to be scheduled or by appointment. No drop-in or groups allowed.

All other provincial restrictions remain in place. For full details and more information, visit <https://www.alberta.ca/enhanced-public-health-measures.aspx>

## EXPLORE YOUR WINTER

Good news! You can now enjoy the winter lights at Broadmoor Lake Park until February 22. Looking for more activity ideas? Check out our Free Recreation webpage here:

<https://www.strathcona.ca/.../free-recreation-opportunities/>

## FAMILY DAY

This Family Day, celebrate safely with free virtual and outdoor activities! Take part in interactive, online programming including fitness classes, cultural experiences and preschool activities.

Families looking to celebrate outside can take advantage of the County's outdoor amenities including new additions like free snowshoe rental sessions and Crokicurl. <http://bit.ly/3oWaHTD>

## STRATHCONA COUNTY LIBRARY

The Strathcona County Library is closed to the public, in accordance with provincial restrictions, however holds pickup, digital, telephone, and email support services remain available.

[Learn more here.](#)

THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF  
STRATHCONA COUNTY IS NOW

**ACCEPTING REGISTRATIONS  
IN OUR BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL  
CARE PROGRAM LOCATIONS:  
KINDERGARTEN - GRADE 6**

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN AT OUR: HERITAGE HILLS, ARDROSSAN,  
WOODBIDGE FARMS & SPRUCE CLUB LOCATIONS

PICK UP AVAILABLE FROM: PINE STREET, MILLS HAVEN  
& FULTONVALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

SERVICES OFFERED: HOMEWORK HELP, RECREATION PROGRAMS, PART TIME FEE FOR  
KINDERGARTEN, SUBSIDY AVAILABLE, PRIORITY SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION (AND ONCE  
RESTRICTIONS ALLOW, HOT BREAKFAST AND NUTRITION PROGRAMS, SPORTS LEAGUES,  
EVENING PROGRAMS AND LOW COST NON-SCHOOL DAYS)

PROGRAM FEES: \$175.00 PER MONTH FOR  
BEFORE OR AFTER SCHOOL, \$325 FOR BOTH

**REGISTER TODAY! PLEASE CALL 780.416.1500**

#123, 2016 SHERWOOD DRIVE, SHERWOOD PARK, AB T8A 3X3



THROUGHOUT FEBRUARY,  
**CHOOSE KIND**  
FOR YOURSELF AND OTHERS.

We all have a choice to be kind. Kindness has been proven to reduce stress and anxiety as well as boost health and happiness.

Learn more [strathcona.ca/choosekind](http://strathcona.ca/choosekind)

#SCchooseKind



**February  
is kindness  
month**



CAN YOU CRACK THE  
**KINDNESS  
CODE?**

For the month of February, you will find interactive signs with fun code cracking activities around Strathcona County. Do you have what it takes?

Go to [strathcona.ca/choosekind](http://strathcona.ca/choosekind) to find out.

#SCchooseKind



**EDUCATIONAL  
WORKSHOP SERIES**

**Self-Compassion: Re-filling your emotional cup**  
February 3 | 12 noon - 1 p.m.

Self-compassion can improve our mental health and well-being, quality of life, and relationships. Join us to learn simple ways to care for yourself and practice self-compassion.

Presented by: Strathcona County Mental Health Capacity Building and Social Supports Team

**Cyberworld: What happens when youth press send?**  
February 9 | 12 noon - 1 p.m.

Join us to learn about popular websites, games, and apps commonly used by children and youth. We will discuss legal consequences and the potential dangers online as well as helpful tips to start a conversation with children and youth.

Presented by: SAFFRON Centre

**Creating safer spaces for 2SLGBTQ+ people**  
February 23 | 12 noon - 1 p.m.

What makes a space safe and how can we help make them safer? Learn why safer spaces are so important for 2SLGBTQ+ people and what simple steps we can all take to demonstrate our allyship.

Presented by: The altView Foundation

Register: [strathcona.ca/adultlearning](http://strathcona.ca/adultlearning)

#SCchooseKind

