



# MILE ZERO

## Banner Post



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# Celebrating Canada Day in Grimshaw

Kristin Dyck

Residents of Grimshaw and area came out on July 1 to celebrate Canada Day together, despite dreary and drizzly weather. The annual parade began at noon on the north end of Main Street in Grimshaw and proceeded towards the Mile Zero Regional Multiplex. There were 21 entries in the parade, across four categories. In the small float category, Grimshaw's youth rope skipping club, The Alleycatz, took home the first-place ribbon while Les Schurr representing Grimshaw Huskies Mens Baseball took second place.

In the medium float category, first place went to the Lac Cardinal Pioneer Village Museum who entered a float, pulled by a tractor, decorated with various museum artifacts complete with clothes drying on a clothesline and a small fisherman riding on the back. Second place in the medium float category went to Room 27 Youth Centre, while Grimshaw's Pharmasave took third place. In the Large category, NewGen Projects was awarded first place. Finally, in the vehicles category, first placed went to the Mackenzie REA Ltd, second to Klaas

Sipma and third to Tanya Wearden and Helen Macintosh. Immediately following the parade, the crowd that had gathered on Main Street made their way to the parking lot of the Mile Zero Regional Multiplex. Once there, attendees were welcomed by a series of bouncy houses standing ready for the children to enjoy. Other attractions included a food truck and open-air market, featuring many of Grimshaw's local businesses and makers. The day's festivities wrapped with a free-swim, sponsored by the Town of Grimshaw, at the Grimshaw Municipal Outdoor Swimming Pool.

# Canada Day Parade...



Kids excitedly reached for candy being handed out by this RCMP officer during the Canada Day Parade in Grimshaw, held July 1. More photos on page 2.

# Name selected for Manning's new K-12 school

Dan Archer

Manning Aurora Composite School earned the highest ranking from the naming committee, who were tasked with deciding on a name for Manning's new K-12 school. Superintendent Adam Murray for Peace River School Division provided details on how the name for

Manning's new school was chosen. "There were mail-outs, there was an online process, there was a drop box for ideas. The committee kept an open catalogue of all the names that were coming in. The kids in the community were really active in the process," Murray recalled. "Staff, parents, community

members, grandparents, local government, Town of Manning, County of Northern Lights and Industry all had a say in naming the school." "There was also Indigenous representation," Murray added.

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# Manning residents battle in Canada Day water fight

Dan Archer

Manning started their Canada Day festivities with the annual Town Wide Water Fight between the residents and the Manning & District Fire Department. The fire department

drove through much of the town on July 1, 2022. Many townsfolk and onlookers were sprayed with water or bombarded with water balloons. Games for children were also scheduled at the fire hall. Afterwards, Freson

Bros arranged a barbecue at the fire hall. Manning resident Melony Donald praised the Town Wide Water Fight and other Canada Day events in town. But Donald, who has lived in Manning for seven years,

thought there were missing elements to the annual national celebration held on a Friday afternoon in Manning. "I wish they were doing more for the children right through the whole day," Donald said. "There is lots of young children here, and for the afternoon they're just holding a barbecue and games at the fire hall," Donald said. "To me, it isn't quite enough. Something should be done at the pool – like a free pool day I think." Manning Centennial RCMP Swimming Pool reopened on June 13, but is currently short-staffed, so there is less flexibility with opening hours. Donald agreed that the water fight was great fun for the children in Manning. People of all ages could be seen on the streets of Manning on a day with light rain and cool winds with water guns. They waited in anticipation for the fire trucks to enter their neighbourhoods. "I'm

hoping the kids thoroughly enjoyed that," she said. "But I wish there were more events lasting all day. I haven't even heard if there's going to be fireworks this year." Manning and other communities as disparate as Grimshaw and Vancouver didn't have fireworks during their Canada Day celebrations for different reasons in 2022. Peace River hosted a brief display at 11:59 p.m. on July 1. In many parts of northwestern Alberta, fireworks are prohibited for the summer of 2022 to prevent fires. Despite a mix of rain and cool winds in June, Alberta Wildlife listed a high fire warning for the Peace River Forest

Region on June 30. Consequently, Alberta Wildlife restricted the use of fireworks in the Forest Protection Area. Bordering County of Northern Lights to the south, Municipal District of Peace No. 135 prohibited fireworks and exploding targets on June 3, 2022, under a fire advisory. Donald was unhappy with the Canadian government, but she loved the nation for its beauty. "It's a pretty country, but there's lots and lots of issues," she said. "And the government's not looking out for the little people like small businesses and low-income people. All of us are struggling."



Manning & District Fire Department were in attack mode on July 1, 2022. More photos on page 5.

