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Standard time would be better (a semi-editorial)

In a move some say is a handy distraction from the B.C. government's projected \$12.6 billion deficit for 2026/27, Premier Eby announced this month that B.C. will, come hell or high water, end the twice-

annual time change by instituting permanent Daylight Saving Time through most of the province except for a few eastern portions.

This means our summers will stay the same with daylight extending long into the evening. But it also means dark mornings in winter, especially north of 55°.

See 'Time change' over →



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Trivia: What was the first burger joint in Canada? (Answer back page) →



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Hosed at the pump?

Gas prices have shot up since the first strikes by the U.S. and Israel on Iran in early March.

At Mackenzie Petro-Can, the price jumped about 18% in just over a day.

An op-ed last week by economist Jim Stanford in the Toronto Star questions why Canadian prices would see such a jump given that the Iran conflict has no effect, he says, on Canadian oil production.

Stanford cites the Canada Energy Regulator data indicat-

See 'Pump shock' over →

News of the Odd:

In 1928, a wealthy financier Albert Loewenstein boarded his private aircraft, a Fokker Trimotor, for a trip over the English Channel to Belgium. At some point mid flight, Loewenstein simply vanished. The door to the plane was found open and Loewenstein was not on board.

Due to his wealth and interests in electricity, textiles, rubber and early aviation, conspiracy theories arose regarding his disappearance. But investigators concluded that he simply opened the wrong door on his way to the restroom.

Silver lining: His death inspired aviation designers to improve safety mechanisms and cabin door design, making it less easy to open during flight.

Surf rockers amuse Macktown crowd

House concert goers were treated to a lively and ribald show at the Arts Centre last Friday with Vancouver surf rock duo Kitty & the Rooster stopping over for one night on their northern BC and Alberta tour.

It was the second show to make use of the new performance space in the upper floor of the new Arts Centre. Kudos to the Arts Centre for creating a great new performance venue in town.

Quotes:

“The sign of a healthy economy should be a drinkable river.”
 -- Li An Phoa

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The Macktown Buzzette

Mar 12 - 25, 2026

Community honours powerlifters

Over 50 friends, family, and town officials on Wednesday attended the naming of the weight room at the Rec Centre to the Northcott Surgenor Weight Room in honour of local weightlifter Pierce Northcott and his training coach Bryce Surgenor.

As reported last year, Northcott won gold and set a world record for his age class at the 2025 Special Olympics BC Summer Games by deadlifting 451 lbs.

Colleagues at Special Olympics Mackenzie were

present to cheer and support the two.

Volunteer Judy Close commented that Pierce was unique in his dedication to

See 'Dedication' over →

Fun Facts:

Top consumers of coffee in the world: Luxembourg

tops the list at an average of 5.3 cups consumed per day. Finland comes second at 3.8 cups a day, followed by Sweden and Norway.

Canada shares 11th place at 1.6 cups per day with Lebanon, Brazil and Belgium.

Source: Visual Capitalist

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'Time change'...

sleep cycles to later bed-times and rise times.

On permanent Daylight time, actual daylight will only be breaking when kids start school at 9 am. They will be walking to or waiting for the bus in the dark. Morning commuters will be driving in the dark.

While some jurisdictions have adopted permanent Daylight time, there are past experiments that failed. After a three-year trial of Daylight time in 2011, Russia switched to permanent Standard time: residents of Moscow were not loving the 10 am sunrise in winter.

Energy use will shift toward the morning. And industries such as construction will be grappling with later start times or higher safety risks.

The U.S. also tried it in 1974 during the energy crisis but just a few months in, Americans were objecting to the darker mornings.

The option preferred by sleep, brain and health experts is year-round Standard Time.

Long before this month's announcement, the B.C. government in 2019 conducted a survey to gauge support for a move to permanent Daylight time. The option to adopt Standard time was not on the table.

The province says the results showed that a majority supported it; however, critics point out that many respondents were simply voting for an end to the seasonal clock changes.

Have a Rose or Razz?



Studies find that morning daylight is critical for our body clocks to stay in sync with the natural day and night cycle. Dark nights are better for sleep. Permanent Daylight time could shift some people's

?? > Name the Song puzzle: Always - Coming - From - Take - Me - Down ??

WORD SCRAMBLE

Unscramble these anagrams to spell out three Mackenzie street names (with abbreviated street type, e.g.: Cres., Dr., St., Ave.)

redo elf maker _____

cedar honk _____

ocean crimes _____

'Dedication'...

the sport and determination to train and achieve.

A plaque with the dedication and brief story is mounted on the weight room wall.

Whether you're Olympics-bound or just want to have fun, Special Olympics Mackenzie invites community members of all ages and abilities to join and play sports in a friendly setting.

COMMUNITY NOTES

YOUTH WELLNESS SOCIETY OF MACKENZIE Annual General Meeting March 21, 5 pm. Callahan Room, Rec Centre

WATERCOLOUR WORKSHOP Create a floral art piece for spring w/ Debbie Walker. March 23rd 5 pm @ the Library. FREE. (18+) Sign up: 997-6343

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CRYPTO-QUOTE



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VFD BRHAMBZ FBQ EN BRHAMBZ.
- NKENGH ACEEFGQ

MINI-CROSS from last issue: ACROSS: 1. Petrol 6. One 7. Lee 9. Stardom 12. Toolkit 14. Apse 16. Gypsy DOWN: 8. Emotes 10. Roles Granville in Vancouver.

TRIVIA ANSWER: White Spot makes claim to being the first chain of burger restaurants in Canada, opening its first location in 1928 on South

When I was a kid, my parents would always say "Excuse my French" after a swear word. I'll never forget that first day in school when the teacher asked if we knew any French.



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'Pump shock'...

ing that Canada exports most of the oil it produces and little to no oil comes here through the Persian Gulf.

"The gas in [Canadian] pumps was refined weeks ago, from oil extracted months ago, none of which came through the Strait of Hormuz," he summarizes

elsewhere.

It was speculation in oil futures markets, not an actual supply crunch, that drove the huge price spikes after Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022, Stanford notes. The high gas prices benefited oil companies but had severe repercussions throughout the economy.

Read his article at thestar.com

