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## Short term rentals okay with some limits: survey

Mackenzie residents are broadly supportive of short-term rental accommodations (STRs), but would like to see safeguards in place before any growing demand begins affecting the community's housing supply.

Public engagement on the topic was conducted this spring with a second round coming in July.

Participants said negative impacts of STRs in Mackenzie are minimal but warned that rapid

growth could reduce the supply of long-term housing, especially if more homes are purchased primarily as revenue-generating properties.

The vast majority (79%) of respondents were resi-  
*See 'Short term rentals' →*

## Quotes:

“Keep company with people who uplift you, whose presence calls forth your best.”  
-- Epictetus

## Trivia:

What is the current world record for hot dog eating? (Answer over) →



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## Fun Facts:

In 1908, a Canadian salesman cut his hand while demonstrating a slotted screw-driver to a customer. That accident led to the Robertson Screw, an all-Canadian invention which some say is a superior product.

The Robertson Screw is the square-headed screw that dominates the Canadian screw market. It is lauded for its design that 1) doesn't slip, 2) doesn't strip (as much) and 3) can be driven one-handed.

Car manufacturer Henry Ford estimated the screw saved two hours of labour for every Model T produced and wanted exclusive North American rights. Robertson said no. Ford chose the Phillips head screw, also invented at that time, which now dominates the U.S. market.

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## No holiday for tree crew!

Canada Day for at least one crew in town was just a regular work day. Contractors for the District continued their work Wednesday removing large cottonwood trees in the green space between Azu Place cowpath and Fraser Blvd., beside Spruce Grove townhouses.

While District tree removal has been happening in various spots through town, this one is unusual for the sheer volume coming out of such a small area.

Several large branches came down during the last wind-storm from trees on the Fraser Blvd green, in at least one case, taking out a section of a residential fence.

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## The Macktown Buzzette

July 2 - 15, 2026

## Youth drop-in space approved for Rec Centre

The Mackenzie Youth Wellness Society (YWS) will operate a youth drop-in activity centre in the Rec Centre after a lease proposal for the multipurpose room was approved by Council at the last meeting.

Rec Services Director Terry Gilmer told Council that it could be a very helpful service in the Rec Centre where kids gather who don't necessarily have Rec Services access.

The draft lease for the room was for five years

with no mention of rent. Council amended this to one year.

The group says that it plans to start paying rent when it can secure funding. YWS co-founder and president Jesse Wright, who also sits on council, was not present at the meeting.

Formed in 2025, the Youth Wellness Society aspires to be youth-led, supporting youth in "lead[ing] full, well and social lives", and to provide low-barrier space for young people to

*See 'Youth drop-in' over →*



## Wanted: board member!

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## 'Youth drop-in space'...

feel belonging, safety and support. According to Wright, the group as yet has no youth members.

The lease includes the use of an attached office space. YWS says the office will have a dedicated computer station that would give youth access to online counselling services through Foundry BC.

A small detail not discussed by Council was the group's request that the office space be exempted from normal Rec Centre access, with keys held only by the society. The group says the security is for confidentiality reasons.

An e-mail query from The Buzzette on this point asked if the YWS has any staff or volunteers with social work or counselling credentials.

Wright answered that he is currently studying to become a Registered Clinical Counsellor and that he hopes to be able to provide

that service to YWS but later added that that's "way down the road." In the meantime, he says, a staff position will be filled when the society can find funding.

At the meeting, Councillor Barnes asked who would be overseeing the group's activities. Vice-President Cassandra Jones, who was in attendance, responded that the staff to be hired would oversee the volunteers. She added that a current board member has worked at The 92 and that the YWS hopes to cooperate with them.

A further Buzzette query to the group asking if volunteers will be handling or generating confidential files before a professional staff is hired received no response.

The YWS, with support from private and public funders, is organizing the Mackenzie Mental Health Summit this coming November.

## COMMUNITY NOTES

**MUSIC & ART IN THE PARK** Thursdays 7 - 8 pm, starting July 9. Community Bike Park.

**SKI CHALET NAMING** July 9<sup>th</sup>, 6 pm, Little Mac Ski Hill.

**NATURAL HISTORIES** Photorealism & photography. Exhibition by Misa Nikolic opens July 9<sup>th</sup>, 5 pm @ Mackenzie Arts Centre

**ADULTS SUMMER SOCIAL** July 13<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 am. More info @ the Library.

**SUMMER READING CLUB** Contact the Library for days & times.

**WEEKEND CRAFTS 1 - 3** pm at the Mackenzie Visitor Centre #11-600 Mackenzie Blvd. More info: 250-997-5459

**Have a Rose or Razz?**  
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## SERVICES

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From an Alberta Board of Education Grade 5 Social Studies workbook, 1988:

After the faller and the buckler, comes the scaler. His job consists of measuring the amount of lumber which has been cut. He uses a scaling stick to help him determine the volume of the lumber. The scaling stick tells the scaler the diameter of the log, the length of the log and the volume of the log. By looking at his stick he can read off all the required information.

This information is then recorded on a tally sheet.



Figure 37



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## BUZZETTE MINI-CROSS

|    |    |   |    |   |    |   |
|----|----|---|----|---|----|---|
| 1  | 2  | 3 | 4  | 5 | 6  | 7 |
|    | 8  |   |    |   |    |   |
| 9  |    |   |    |   |    |   |
| 10 |    |   |    |   |    |   |
| 11 |    |   | 12 |   | 13 |   |
| 14 |    |   |    |   |    |   |
|    | 15 |   |    |   |    |   |

### DOWN

2. Fooled, tricked as in practical joke
3. Building block of protein
4. Popular grain
5. Expression, saying
6. Small electric vehicle used locally (acr)
7. Important part of a tire
9. Wooden container for aging wine
12. Popular internet news aggregator (acr)
13. When something will arrive or begin (acr)

### ACROSS

1. Select, designate for a role or position
8. Simple book for children learning to read
9. Someone captured, held against will
10. Family formicidae

11. Off the top
14. Vintage canvas sneaker brand
15. Pertaining to teeth

**SUDOKU answers from last issue:** Row 1: book, telephone, bell, candle. Row 2: candle, bell, telephone, book. Row 3: telephone, candle, book, bell. Row 4: bell, book, candle, telephone. **MISSING NUMBER:** The missing number is 6. In each circle, add the left and top triangle numbers together and divide by 3.

**2024 Trivia answer:** 83 hot dogs in 10 minutes, held by Jeoy Chestnut in 2024. The women's record is 51, held by Miki Sudo.

Rice is great if you're really hungry and want to eat two thousand of something.

— Mitch Hedberg



## 'Short term rentals'...

dent homeowners, with renters making up just 13%. Only 14% of respondents indicated a clear interest in operating a short-term rental.

The survey found relatively little support for restricting short-term rentals to an operator's principal residence. Nearly half of respondents (46.1%) said rentals should also be permitted on properties not occupied by the owners.

Just 22.7 % favoured limiting them to a principal residence.

Suggestions included clear operating guidelines, case-by-case approvals, and limits on the number of properties owned by a single opera-

tor to prevent market concentration.

It's not clear from the report what information was provided on other negative impacts of STRs. The Joy Smith Foundation, for example, warns of the growing role of STRs in facilitating human trafficking.

The City of Winnipeg requires educational signage about human trafficking to be posted in short term rental units. It includes a warning that operators can allow access to local authorities without notifying guests.

A second round of public engagement is scheduled for July before Council approves regulations.

 thebuzzette@gmail.com