Dr. Kami Kandola, the chief public health officer for the NWT, was in Hay River recently to provide information on the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), which is spreading throughout the world.

Kandola was asked about the possibility that the virus would eventually arrive in the NWT and Hay River, where there were no known cases as of late last week.

"In terms of expecting, we have so much travel coming outside of the NWT," she said. "So, we're in a state of vigilance of trying to pick up cases that are related to travel. But we have no cases now and we don't have community spread now, so it's basically picking up cases that can be brought in and trying to get them before they become spreaders in the community."

Kandola visited at the invitation of Erin Griffiths, the CEO of the Hay River Health and Social Services Authority.

"I invited Kami to come down to Hay River to assist our health authority with educating our community and our staff, and increase the awareness of the virus," said Griffiths.

She noted that meetings were held throughout the day with various groups – health care providers, the Town of Hay River, the Hay River Interagency Group, Katlodeeche First Nation, West Point First Nation and the Hay River Metis Government Council. Plus, there was also a meeting in Enterprise.

"So I think we've covered a majority of our stakeholders," said Griffiths.

She noted that social media and all the news coverage on television have ramped up people's expectations and interest in the coronavirus.

"And I think it's best to hear it right from the chief public health officer, as we are following her directions," she said. "So that's why we asked her to come down."

Kandola said there are things that people can do to help protect themselves.

"So people, if they have symptoms and they think they're a risk, they should stay home and then we can test them and make sure they don't have it," she said. "Those are things people can do. What you don't want someone to do is someone who has travelled from an affected area, get sick, not tell anyone and go to as many public gatherings as possible."

When Kandola was speaking on March 3, there were 27 confirmed cases in Canada of COVID-19, the illness caused by the novel coronavirus.

As of March 7, those numbers had increased to 28 confirmed cases in Ontario, 27 in British Columbia and two in Quebec.

The virus originally emerged in China late last year.

While there were no confirmed cases in Northern Canada as of March 7, the Arctic Winter Games (AWG) set for Whitehorse this month have been cancelled because of concerns about the coronavirus.

According to a news release on March 7, the decision was based on a recommendation from Yukon's chief medical officer.

"It has been determined that cancelling the 2020 AWG is the most responsible precautionary measure," states the news release from Whitehorse 2020 Arctic Winter Games officials, who added the decision is supported by the Arctic Winter Games International Committee.

There would have been 25 young athletes from Hay River attending the games March 15 to 20.

"I am more like a hippopotamus at feeding time. I am not a runner."

– Adam Aylward chased down a thief in Edmonton, page 4.
Linda Duford, a well-known musician and music teacher, has been named Hay River’s Citizen of the Year.

“I can’t believe it,” she said, just after receiving the award at the annual gala of the Hay River Chamber of Commerce on March 7.

“You think you don’t really deserve it. There are so many wonderful people in this town,” Duford has been a fiddler for many years, and has also passed on her musical knowledge to young and old over those years. And in November of 2018, she opened The Purple Pick Studio, not long after she and her sister sold the family business, The Back Eddy restaurant.

“It’s just been a dream of mine,” Duford said of owning her own music studio, where she teaches fiddle, guitar, keyboards and more. “I’m living my dream.”

Duford is also a member of Hay River town council.

Niada Monkman, a pharmacy technician at Ring’s Pharmacy, was honoured with the Customer Service Excellence Award at the annual gala of the Hay River Chamber of Commerce on March 7.

“I’m shocked,” she said. “I don’t deserve this.”

It is the second time that Monkman has been recognized with the Customer Service Excellence Award.

The NWT Literacy Council will host an information session on the Canada Learning Bond on March 11 from 4 to 7 p.m. at Soaring Eagle Friendship Centre.

The federal government contributes up to $2,000 to save for the costs of a child’s full-time or part-time studies after high school in apprenticeship programs, trade schools, colleges or universities.

The NWT Cross-Country Ski Festival will be held in Hay River on March 14, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Hay River Ski Club.

The event will feature cross-country skiing games, coaching and a fun timed loop at the ski club.

All ages and experience will be welcomed.

The festival is being presented by Cross-Country NWT, Spirit North XC, the Hay River Ski Club, and the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs.
The 38th K‘amba Carnival – the annual winter festival on the Hay River Reserve – was celebrated from March 5 to 8. As in previous years, the carnival offered lots of exciting events and fun for everyone – talent shows, dog sled races, hand-games, drum dances, outdoor games, and much more.

K‘amba Carnival is hosted by K‘atlodeeche First Nation and organized by a committee of volunteers.

Averly Guild, left, is crowned princess of the 2020 K‘amba Carnival by Riley Thomas-Comeau, the princess from the 2019 carnival.

Elijah Norn was crowned prince of the 2020 K‘amba Carnival.

For the first time in the 38 years of K‘amba Carnival, the new carnival queen succeeded her sister. The 2020 K‘amba Carnival queen is Shayla Moore, right, who was crowned by her sister Shannelle Moore.

A trio of singers and ukulele players – left to right, Lexie Fischer, Laura Moshenko and Angelica Whittle – perform at the Youth Talent Show.

Emmanuel Engen does the Broom Dance at the start of the Youth Talent Show of K‘amba Carnival. The young performer was part of a demonstration by jiggers and square dancers from cultural dance sessions instructed by Beverley Lambert at Soaring Eagle Friendship Centre.

One of the most exciting scenes of K‘amba Carnival is the mass start of the 10-dog races at the ice crossing to the Old Village on the Hay River Reserve.

Richard Beck of Yellowknife readies a dog for a race.

Roy Salopre of Meander River, Alta., drums for hand-games.

Shaelee Cardinal of John D’Or Prairie, Alta., plays handgames.

Kyle Camsell takes aim at a target in the axe toss competition.
Hay River man chases thief at Edmonton mall

Medical trip turns into action scene for father

A 37-year-old man is facing charges as a result of the incident.

Aylward, 48, said it was complete instinct to chase the thief – for what was probably no more than 100 feet.

"I didn't even think twice about it," he said. "I probably had enough time to catch up and complete instinct to chase the thief." Aylward noted people have been reaching out to him and saying they are happy that he did that for his sons.

"It's been incredible," he said.

Aylward also told his wife about what happened. "When I told her the story, I don't know if she truly believed it," he said. However, she then saw the story reported on Global News Edmonton.

Aylward was pleased that strangers stepped in to help when he called out, noting it would have been disappointing if no one had done anything.

"Some people they're fearful," he said. "They're afraid and they're like, 'I've got no investment in this.' But then there are some people that just said, 'Something is not going on right. I want to help.'" His sons – 12-year-old Jacob and 15-year-old Ian – were impressed by their father’s heroics, with his youngest son describing him as running like Olympic champion Usain Bolt.

"I am not like Usain Bolt," Aylward said with a laugh. "I'm more like a hippopotamus at feeding time. I am not a runner."
Every once in a while, an idea pops up that needs to be popped right back down. Such is the idea that permanent residents of Canada be allowed to vote in municipal elections in the NWT.

That masterstroke of political thinking comes from Yellowknife North MLA Rylund Johnson. Now normally, what Yellowknife MLAs are thinking – at least those not in cabinet – doesn’t really concern us much. However, Johnson has written Hay River town council seeking a motion of support to two amendments to the Local Authorities Election Act that he intends to propose in the Legislative Assembly in June.

One amendment would allow online and telephone voting by municipalities, which is not that big of a deal. However, the other amendment – the aforementioned voting rights for permanent residents – is most assuredly a big deal.

There was a lot of doubt on town council about the concept when it was discussed on Feb. 24, but members agreed to get more information from Johnson on his idea. We wouldn’t have even asked for information. We would have rejected the idea out of hand, and suggested that a letter opposing voting rights for permanent residents be written to all MLAs.

Of course, we don’t have anything against permanent residents who are citizens of other countries. It’s just that they are not Canadian citizens. And only Canadian citizens have – and should have – the right to vote in this country.

Societies change and what we once considered untouchable rules often evolve with the times. However, there should be some absolute core values that never change.

We believe that Canadians – and no one else – should elect their governments. That is such an obvious core value it is amazing that we even have to say it.

Not even service clubs – say the Rotary Club of Hay River Sunrise – would allow non-members to vote on club business. For Canadian governments, members of the voting club are Canadian citizens.

Permanent residents may live in Canada, but they probably wouldn’t call themselves Canadian just by the simple fact of residing in the country. By their very status, they are citizens of other countries.

We believe in inclusiveness as much as the next person. However, providing the vote to permanent residents would be inclusiveness gone a little bit nutty.

We don’t know why the Yellowknife North MLA is suggesting giving the right to permanent residents. To be quite honest, we don’t really care about his reasoning.

There is absolutely nothing he can say that would make us believe it is a good idea.

Despite what some people might believe, we take the right to vote very seriously. (We say that because we upset a lot of people before the last federal election when we wrote that we were not going to vote because none of the party leaders deserved our support. But that’s another story.)

The right to vote is a precious and hard-won right. And in Canada, the right to vote belongs to Canadians.

Of course, there is one way that permanent residents can gain the right to vote in Canada without having to change territorial legislation, and more importantly not mess with voting rights. They can become Canadian citizens.

Why do you make traditional crafts?

Minnie Butt: “I make traditional crafts because my mother did it, and I like to keep the culture alive. And I enjoy sewing. It’s my hobby, although it’s very expensive. It’s just my pastime since I retired.”

Bev Tybring: “It’s a sustainable resource, and you create products that keep you warm throughout the winter.”

Jennifer Buckley: “I make traditional crafts because it’s relaxing. It gives me something to do on my time off work. And I like the finished product. I think doing artwork is beautiful.”

Crystal Bohn-Dettieh (Fort Nelson, B.C.): “I grew up watching my Mom make crafts. She learned from my Grandma. It’s just been passed down. It’s very important.”

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HISTORICAL QUOTE
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You Said It!

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EDITIORIAL

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EDITIORIAL

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For the first time since 2017, Polar Pond Hockey will return this weekend to the ice of the Hay River. And Terry Rowe, an executive member of Polar Pond Hockey, said everyone is “very happy” to be back.

Rowe explained the event skipped 2018 when Hay River hosted the Arctic Winter Games because that international event also happened in March and relied on the same volunteer base. “And last year I think we were about a week later, and the weather just didn’t hold up,” he said. “It was super nice and we couldn’t get out there to flood the ice and there was a lot of water on there. So, unfortunately, we had to cancel last year.”

Rowe said organizers weren’t nervous about a repeat of the warm weather as this year’s event dates approached – March 13 to 15.

“For course, there’s always the thought in your mind,” he said. “But I believe that was the first year that we had to cancel due to warm weather.”

This March has returned to more seasonal temperatures. “I mean everybody wants to see -5 or -10, but perfect weather would be around that -15 so we could still flood the ice during the games,” said Rowe. “I think we should have good weather.”

Last year, the event was planned for March 22 to 24 before the warmer than normal weather led to its cancellation. Rowe noted there are good signs about the number of teams that will register for the event, despite the two-year absence.

Organizers usually aim for 35 to 40 teams, and there were 23 teams registered as of late February, including nine out-of-town teams.

“I think we should be pretty close to that 35 mark, at least,” Rowe said.

This year will see Polar Pond Hockey using the Town of Hay River’s new pavilion at Fisherman’s Wharf, instead of a large tent on the ice of the Hay River. “It’s a great venue for the town and a great venue for us,” said Rowe. “We’ve been trying to help where we can from the start. We were a contributor financially towards the project and with the town financially, and through a little bit of project management. It’s a beautiful, beautiful building. The town did an amazing job. And we’re really looking forward to being the first ones to use it.”

The Polar Pond Hockey organization donated $50,000 towards the pavilion project.
Hurst, Harvey

On February 23, 2020, Mr. Hurst Harvey, age 87 years, passed away quietly in his sleep after fighting numerous infections. Harvey was born in Toronto, Ontario on October 13, 1933, one of sixteen children of Albert & Doris Hurst. He moved to Alberta in 1966 with his wife, Claire (nee Lincee) & 3 children, Barbara, Harvey Jr. & William. They lived in southern Alberta, but later moved to the Bonnyville area, where their children grew up and moved on. Once Harvey & Claire were again on their own they traveled some, then took a job in Inuvik, NWT, looking after a 42-suite apartment building until retiring. They chose the town of N.W.T. as they had lived another 15 years before moving to St. Paul, Alberta to be with their family & daughter. Harvey is survived by his loving wife, Claire; daughter, Barbara Betingquelle; 2 sons, Harvey Jr. "Todd" (Laura) & William; 10 grandchildren, Johnathan, Charles, Amy, Dean, Jacklynn, Steven, Mitchell, Nicholas, Ian & Reggie, 12 great-grandchildren; 6 brothers, Ed (Hilary), Dan (Jerry), David (Evelyn), Paul (Grace), Raymond (Denise), Don (Sue); 2 sisters, Dona McAravey, Mary Giran, Ruth (John) Ditchburn, Rachel Mercedit & Sharon Dixon, Mr. Hurst was predeceased by his parents, Albert & Doris Hurst; 3 sisters, Alberta, Richard, & Gladys, 4 brothers-in-law, Aubrey McAravey, Stan King, Jim Dixon & Steve Garian, daughter-in-law, Robin Corless.

A Celebration of Harvey's Life will be held on Monday, March 9th at 1:00 p.m. at Grace Gardens Funeral Chapel, St. Paul, Alberta. Cremation to follow. To send condolences online, please visit Grace Gardens Funeral Chapel 6862-51 Street, St. Paul, AB T0A 3A1 780-645-2877

VICTIM SERVICES. For immediate assistance call 877-2029 for information on victim assistance. Addresses are back every Monday and Wednesday unless the Legion from 8-7pm. Come in and get the latest on your case.

INTERESTED in Kanata? Class for all ages at Sewing Angels Friendship Centre, Cari Barlag or Cindy Futek at 1273-8745.

HUB RESERVE Community Councilling. Service hours: Mon, to Fri, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. For more information, please call 587-364-0264.

THE SOUP Kitchen Open Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm. For more information, please call 587-364-8680.

SUPPORT LOCAL business. Check out www.visitedk.ca to see what businesses have to offer!

MEALS on Wheels needs volunteers to deliver meals. (Min - noon approximations). If you're interested, please call Mary or Stephanie at 473-7201, Hay River Community Health Services.

ST. ANDREWS Anglican United Church service – Sunday morning 10:00 am, Sunday School at the North Shore Junior Church – West, Thurs. and Sat – 10:30 am. Thurs night 7pm to 9pm.

FINE OPTION Program is administered by the Hay River Community Justice Committee which is located at 502 in the Greenway. Business hours are Monday to Friday, 10:00 am, for information you can call 587-3648.

MEAT MARKET Tuesday & Thursday 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Hay River Minor Hockey Association. Price: 15.00/person and within this, the dinner plates are blessed every October and June. If you seek to have a meat market, you have to be in the town and have something to donate to between these months. Please contact Aisha at 587-3648 to set up your meat market.

HAY RIVER Community Library hours are as follows Monday – Thursday 9am – 5pm (last open during lunch Friday 12noon to 3pm) Saturday 9am – 5pm Closed for statutory holidays.

SPARKS (GRL): Guides of Canadas Wednesdays 6 – 7:30PM, Pente- cle Thursday 6:30PM, open to the public, and $5 donation, call 587-3648.

GUIDES, PATHFINDERS (Guides of Canada: Wednesdays 6 – 7:30PM, Open to the public, please contact 587-3648, for more information, call 587-3648.

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GROUNING TOGETHER, a place for children 6 and under and their parents. A variety of activities are always on the go. For a full schedule of events, call at 587-3645.

24 HOURS CRISIS: Receive a free and safe place for victims of family violence. Help is available, call 587-3647.

EVERY week at the Tree House Monday – Saturdays, and during school or parental leave for parents and children ages 4-12. Tuesday, Thursday. Friday, and Saturday. 1:00-4:00 pm. Wednesdays – mornings and afternoons. Free meals, fun, and a bit of texture. Please contact 587-3648 for more information.

ROTARY CLUB meets every Tuesday at 5:30 pm at the Peace Hotel, please call 587-452-0303 or email info@hryrotary.ca for more information.

HAY RIVER AA Meetings. Sundays through Thursday 7:30 pm – Sunday at 5MC, Tuesday at 5MC, Thursday at the Anglican Church. Monday and Wednesday at the Webb Church Buildings at 6:00 pm. – Friday at the Anglican Church Saturday at the M族自治县 Building, 587-3648.

HEALTH

DUNREATH OR Sketchy all current and previous crime vacuum cleaner: 877-3648 (3:10:15) DECOLE.

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INTERNET SECURITY Phone: 1-800-557-1717. For more information, visit the following website: lifetabs.com.

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 Sudoku 6 x 6

Kids Help Phone
Jeunesse
J’Écoute
1-800-668-6868

Students of the Week

Keyona Tourneau
Grade 10
Chief Sunrise School

Chaine Delroy
Grade 2
Harry Camsell School

Jersey Ashton
Grade 4
Princess Alexandra School

Daniel Chichery
5e année
École Boréale

Keyona is making progress in her ELA and Math programming on a regular basis. She is always willing to help when asked, whether it is preparing food or helping with prepping for Sandy Creek trips.

Chaine is a strong student who is positive and hard working. She likes to be active and enjoys PE classes and gymnastics. Chaine is helpful and kind to her classmates. At home she takes very good care of her dogs.

Jersey is a model student who puts her best effort into everything she does. Jersey loves to learn and try new things. Her favourite school subjects are Math and Art. Outside of school, some of her interests are hockey, gymnastics, biking and playing board games.

Daniel a eu un début difficile dans une école lointaine (venant d’Alberta) mais il a su se surpasser et après plusieurs mois a réussi à surmonter les épreuves d’un déménagement et d’une adaptation dans un nouvel environnement. Ses résultats s’améliorent et nous lui souhaitons beaucoup de succès.

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