

# Editorial

The Drayton Valley

## Western Review

www.draytonvalleywesternreview.com

CATHY WEETMAN Editor  
cweel@postmedia.com

SARAH RENWICK, Multimedia Sales Consultant  
srenwick@postmedia.com

JENNY CALLAN, Multimedia Sales Consultant  
jcallan@postmedia.com

LESLIE FRASIER, Office Administrator  
lfrasier@postmedia.com

Box 6960 Drayton Valley, Alberta T7A 1S3 • Ph. 780-542-5380 • Fax 780-542-9200

Distribution Services 780-436-8050 ABNorth.Dist@postmedia.com.  
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### POSTMEDIA



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### Our Editorial

## Justin Trudeau MIA on helping Alberta amid SNC-Lavalin scandal

**W**e get it. Between ducking responsibility for anything related to his offices dealings on the SNC-Lavalin file, and managing the related fallout in his cabinet and caucus, the prime minister has been a busy man.

But this is no time for Justin Trudeau to be ducking anything. Sure, he's had ministers to fly-overs to airdrop funding for transit and flood mitigation and such.

But as he and others go on and on about being concerned about the involving 9,000 jobs allegedly at stake if SNC suddenly picked up stakes to parts unknown, it leaves us out west wondering, "Yeah, so?"

Not that we're not concerned about 9,000 people out of work. That would be pretty devastating.

But those are just hypothetical at this point, hypothetical job losses that had the PM and his minions, allegedly, trying to pressure former Justice Minister and Attorney General Jody Wilson-Raybould to overrule the Director of Public Prosecutions on a deal for the company.

Meanwhile, Alberta leads the country in unemployment.

What do we get from the PM? Platitudes at best.

Sure, the feds bought the Trans Mountain pipeline. But the pipeline hasn't seen construction start more than two years after it was approved. And it's still winding its way through the regulatory process. And you can bet that if the prime minister sees his political fortunes hanging on a shift in attitude on TMX, well, how did his promises on electoral reform work out?

Alberta Premier Rachel Notley had to take the extraordinary steps of curtailing oil production to help with a price differential, and get in the oil-by-rail transport business to get our product to port.

So, Justin, what have you done for us lately? Other than push legislation that could hamper moving Alberta oil off the West Coast, and make it harder for oil infrastructure projects to get approved.

We understand that the goal of your government is to reduce an emphasis on fossil fuels. But worldwide demand for oil is growing, and instead of getting a piece of this action, Alberta is left fighting against its provincial neighbours, and the federal government for any modicum of progress.

So please, Mr. Trudeau, let's see you step out from the SNC scandal, and step up for the jobs of all Canadians.

(By the Edmonton Sun editorial board)



## An alternative to movie theatres

**I** own a television but don't subscribe to any particular channel packages except for Netflix on occasion. I rarely go to movie theatres anymore because of the cost and the fact that other people in the theatre talk and are disruptive throughout the movie, which greatly lessens the enjoyment of them.

But what I have discovered in our own local library is a treasure trove of weekly television shows and series in a DVD format that I can take home and watch whenever I have spare time.

So far I have watched the entire series of Golden Girls, and now that I'm older, I can identify with some of the storylines about aging, dating and how important friends are in one's life.

I just finished watching a gem of a series, called The Knick. Set in a New York hospital (The Knickerbocker) in 1900, the series focuses on a group of doctors and their attempts to find solutions to medical ailments such as repairing hernias, dealing with drug and alcohol addiction and delivering babies without killing them



Cathy Weetman  
Cathy's Comments

and their mothers. The series also looks at real life incidents including the source of a typhoid outbreak and deaths in several New York districts. It reveals the source as an Irish cook, dubbed "Typhoid Mary," who had typhoid antibodies in her system but didn't appear ill herself. Several dozen people died from typhoid until health agents found her.

The series also tackles the subject of Bubonic plague that occurred in San Francisco, Hawaii and New York, brought in by sick passengers from other countries that arrived in those areas by ship.

What is so fascinating about this series is that each of the

characters has a "dark side" from the head surgeon hooked on opiates to the Catholic nun who comforts women by day and performs abortions on them at night. Dark but intriguing at the same time.

As if the diseases and ailments weren't interesting enough, The Knick also touches on the topic of racism as a black surgeon joins the staff at the Knick and attempts to help "people of colour" in the sub-basement of the hospital, where his office is located.

The series only lasted two seasons but it is definitely worth a look.

If a movie experience is still what you prefer, our local library also has a solution for that. Every Thursday night, beginning at 6:30 p.m. the library hosts a free movie night, complete with free popcorn to boot. The movies themselves are Academy Award contenders and winners that recently appeared on the big screens. They're held in the conference room at the Town Administration building and they fill up fast, so come early.