AUGUST 2025

VOL XVI ISSUE VIII

Red Deer Arts Council
literary | performing | visual

A vibrant community celebrating and supporting

Arts, Culture, and Creativity!

Red Deer Arts Council & Red Deer Public Library are delighted to present

"gathering evocations"

art by Karla Mather-Cocks

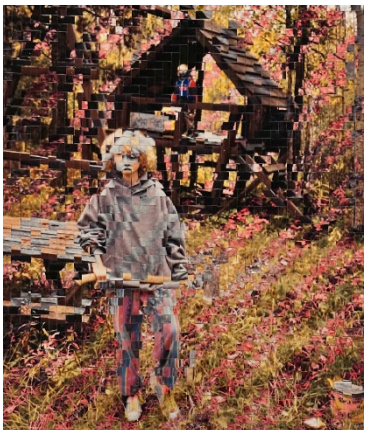
running in the Kiwanis Gallery until August 17, 2025

Karla Mather-Cocks ***"gathering evocations"***, a powerful contemplative exhibition that explores the shifting terrain of memory. Featuring a blend of handwoven and digitally altered photographs, this immersive collection transforms familiar images into fragmented, textured reflections of how we remember — and misremember — the past. As traditional techniques merge with modern manipulation, "*gathering evocations*" invites you to reflect on the emotional echoes of your own memories.



Flowers and Innocence
Hand Manipulated Photo, 2025
Karla Mather-Cocks

#FirstFridaysRedDeer Opening reception August 1 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm



Axe
Hand Manipulated Photo, 2025
Karla Mather-Cocks

Gallery Hours: Mon-Thurs 9am–8pm, Fri 9am–5pm, Sat & Sun 10am–3pm

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Red Deer Arts Council is pleased to present

Ink and Art

Art by Central Alberta Tattoo Artists



Swan in Reeds
Dremel Etching on Antique Mirrors
Haley Wasdal

at the Red Deer Arts Council's Community Gallery until August 30, 2025.

Red Deer Arts Council invites you to check out this group exhibition featuring both tattoo designs and other artistic endeavours of some of Red Deer's best tattoo artists, this exhibition, coordinated in partnership with Wolf & Crown Tattoo.

#FirstFridaysRedDeer August 1 reception from 5 – 7pm with many of the artists in attendance.

Community Gallery Hours: Mon to Fri 10am – 5pm



Valkyrie
Procreate Digital Drawing
Ida Törnqvist

Alberta Government · The City of Red Deer · Canadian Tire · Benjamin Moore · Alberta Foundation for the Arts · Red Deer Museum + Art Gallery · RDPL Red Deer Public Library

~ Celebrating more than 50 years of Arts and Creativity in Central Alberta ~

Creative Happenings in August 2025

In the Neighbourhood Concert with Denis Boisvert in Riverside Meadows – August 16 3:30pm

Bring your own lawn chairs and enjoy this free outdoor concert!! Tips for artists are gratefully accepted!

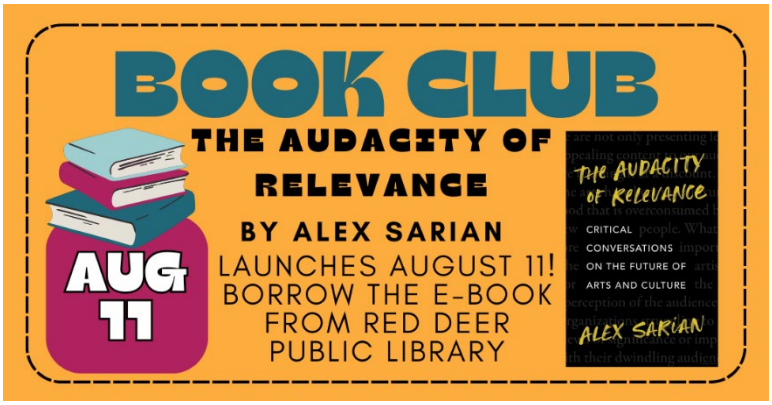




Muskoka Chair Silent Auction!

With the Sendero Centre, we're auctioning off seven awesome handmade and custom-painted muskoka chairs by local artists! Bid at GalaBid.com/rdac-sendero. Check them out at the Heritage Day Hootenanny at Red Deer Museum + Art Gallery Monday, August 4th and win your favourite!





CAPS Guides Shutterbugs Through the Ever-Changing World of Photography

You don't have to own an array of expensive camera equipment to join the Central Alberta Photographic Society (CAPS).



Bill Kossmann says he once won a group competition with a moody photo he took of Red Deer's CP Rail pedestrian bridge with his smartphone camera.

"As they say, the best camera to have is the one that's on you right now," adds Kossmann, acting president of CAPS.

The club was started about 40 years ago by a dozen shutterbugs. CAPS has since grown to 67 members, who pay $70 a year to attend monthly meetings with skill-developing talks and workshops.

Local photography enthusiasts meet twice monthly at Red Deer Polytechnic (Room 2602 at 6:45 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday), from September through November and January to May.

There's a lot to learn in this ever-changing field. Kossmann says there are still old-school film photographers in the group, but most members are now using digital cameras with a wide range of editing software. They can zoom in and crop images, or use corrective features, such as changing the brightness, colour saturation or tint in photos.

However, CAPS draws the line at using AI to add objects that weren't in the original photograph. "We want an honest image," says Kossmann.

While he doesn't judge those who are forthcoming about their use of AI, he adds this isn't allowed in the club's monthly assignments or competitions. "There's a need for documenting honest events… (having) a emotional connection to a particular moment in time…"

In May and December, club photo competitions are held and the images are judged by members. Most have been trained by the Canadian Association of Photographic Art.

Every month, club members take photos along suggested themes. Kossmann says these have ranged from "action figures in public places" to the colour yellow, or monochrome compositions. Members share their pictures and get peer feedback.

"They can ask questions or make comments," said Kossmann.

The decade-long club member became interested in photography as a child. Kossmann recalls getting tips from his dad, who used to lay out the Grand Prairie Herald-Tribune newspaper in the 1960s and '70s. Kossmann took pictures with his Kodak Instamatic and would then come to the paper with his dad on Saturdays to use the dark room.

Decades later, after retiring from his accounting job with Alberta Health Services, Kossmann decided to revive his old hobby. Among his most memorable photographs is one of an awe-inspiring, massive churning storm supercell over Sylvan Lake in 2023.

Last year he flew to Ontario to document the total solar eclipse.

"It took seven or eight months of planning," he recalls, only to have clouds roll in just before the moment of totality. But he appreciated the technical challenge — and in the end was happy with the composite image he created of all phases of the eclipse.

Becoming part of CAPS has allowed Kossmann to meet like-minded people and learn from those "who know something you don't…

"If you like photography, why not give it a shot?"

To find out more about the group, visit them at https://www.capsphotoclub.com/.