

# MEDIA RELEASE



## **For immediate release**

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**Contact:** Ashley Campbell, Marketing Advisor,  
Ashley.campbell@lethbridgeymca.ca, 403-942-5756,  
Dean Hawkins, West Coulee Station principal,  
dean.hawkins@lethsd.ab.ca

## **Lethbridge School Division:**

- We are growing, leading and supporting -

## **- West Coulee Station partnership with YMCA -**

The YMCA will be the operator of the Before and After School Care Program at West Coulee Station Elementary when the school opens in September of 2025.

The program will provide licensed child care to children from Kindergarten to Grade 6.

Parents will have the option to register and pay a monthly fee for their children to attend. Care will be provided before school starts and after school ends, and on school professional development days and holidays.

Across Canada, thousands of children start and end their school day with the YMCA. In fact, the YMCA is the largest provider of not-for-profit child care in Canada.

Between the YMCA's five current licensed child care programs, the YMCA provides licensed childcare to almost 300 children in Lethbridge. Of these 300 children, 100 of them are school-aged children who attend the Before and After School Care program at the Cor Van Raay YMCA, which was established in 2021.

"We believe that being the operator of the Before and After School Care program at West Coulee Station Elementary School aligns well with our strategic vision of providing meaningful and quality programs to more people in the community, and it builds on current programs that we offer that support the goals of the Lethbridge School Division," said YMCA marketing advisor Ashley Campbell. "We also work with many schools in the region to provide programming for physical education classes and options for youth volunteerism within our programs and facilities. We eagerly look forward to working with the school administration and families to becoming the newest partner in the West Coulee Station Elementary family."

For Lethbridge School Division, the YMCA-West Coulee Station partnership will be beneficial to local families, according to the school's principal.

"West Coulee Station Elementary School is excited to announce our partnership with the YMCA," said West Coulee Station principal Dean Hawkins. "Our vision is to foster academic success within a nurturing and respectful learning environment. We are confident that collaborating with the YMCA for before and after school programs will be advantageous, given their extensive experience and the close proximity of the YMCA to our school. This partnership will provide valuable support to our families."

### **Lethbridge School Division**

Communications Officer, Garrett Simmons: 403-382-0681,  
garrett.simmons@lethsd.ab.ca

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