

PEACE RIVER BLOCK DAILY NEWS

Keeping you informed since 1930

GUITA
'N STU

PH: 782-3

600-114th Ave., Dawson
Buy, Sell & Co

60 ¢ (GST incl.)

DAWSON CREEK, B.C.

Tuesday, Apr



ART AUCTION PORTRAIT —

Gary Rusak photo

Local artist Emilie Mattson did a little sketching of her own at Arti Gras art auction on Friday night at the Kiwanis Performing Arts Centre.

Council says chainsaw car

By Gary Rusak

A plan to decorate parking meter poles to attract tourism to downtown Dawson Creek was approved by city council on Monday.

The proposal to offer chainsaw carving prices ranging from \$600 to \$3,000 to attract tourists to parking meter poles downtown was brought forward by Haney of SMT Gateway Gallery.

"My concern is that in our experience it is difficult to find time to sell the carvings privately at that price," said Marilyn Belak, who added that in the future the poles would be stuck with the parking meter poles.

"I move that we remove the poles and replace them with downtown beautification plan."

One of the major sticking points for the council had previously agreed to remove the poles and all, from the downtown core.

"The poles are to be removed fully," said Mayor Jim Chute. "That was council's intention."

Coun. Paul Gevatkoff said that the he appreciated the council coming forward with their plans and stressed that the council is always open to new ideas.

"I don't think that we want to preclude future proposals," he said. "I don't want to stop the whole process."

Belak as well agreed that public input in the revitalization is a necessary component.

"I would invite all the community to come forward with their ideas," she said.

For his part Haney understood council's decision. "I value the opportunity to present it," he said.

After the vote was completed Mayor Haney expressed gratitude to Haney for bringing forward the proposal and said he was encouraged by the public's support in making the city a more attractive place.

"Thanks for the offer," Dahlen said.

Producers upbeat about lifting of more beef restrictions

EDMONTON (CP) — Canadian T-bone steaks, prime rib and hamburgers will soon be sizzling on American plates for the first time in almost a year after the U.S. lifted some trade restrictions imposed because of mad cow disease.

Beleaguered producers say allowing more exports of beef products from young animals will bolster the industry's bottom line by up to \$150 million.

It also means the U.S. is a step closer to reopening the border to the one-million-head-per-year live cattle trade, Arno Doerksen, chairman of the Alberta Beef Producers, said Monday.

"This is significant that they have moved ahead and is an indication that progress is being made," said Doerksen.

"Hopefully close to mid-year we can

producers slammed shut to Canadian beef on May 20 when a case of bovine spongiform encephalopathy, or BSE, was found in an Alberta cow.

The federal government estimates BSE has cost the Canadian economy about \$2 billion so far.

In September, the U.S. allowed the resumption of shipments of boneless cuts of beef from cattle under 30 months of age. Younger animals are considered to be at low risk of the disease.

The new U.S. rules that went into

effect last year can now be shipped south of the border, said Ted Haney, president of the Canadian Beef Export Federation.

"Hopefully close to mid-year we can export live cattle."

Arno Doerksen,
Alberta Beef Producers

The changes cover bone-in cuts of beef and processed products, including hamburger.

"All edible beef products derived under Canada's regulatory process where specified risk materials are removed from animals under 30 months of age are

now eligible for trade," Haney said.

"We can now start selling prime rib again. And of course T-bones. This will

philosophical shift by beef export permit systems to allow specific products to a more liberal approach.

The beef industry in Canada's other North American Trade Agreement partner countries has similar changes to its beef exports later this week, he said.

The timing of the changes was less than ideal, said Agriculture Secretary Dan Glick, who said he would not let the U.S. beef exports to Canada until the ground for Canadian beef exports was laid.

That bodes well, said Doerksen.

"If the anti-trade protectionism of the future was to be a reality, we wouldn't have seen the trade as we have seen it today."