

# Nearly 200 players flood CFL's free agent market as CBA creates limbo

**DAN RALPH**  
The Canadian Press

Jeremy O'Day's first foray into CFL free agency as a general manager promises to be a unique one.

As of Friday, more than 190 players were scheduled to hit the open market at noon Tuesday. That number could change with teams signing prospective free agents before the deadline, but starting quarterbacks Mike Reilly, Bo Levi Mitchell and Trevor Harris are expected to headline a deep talent pool.

With only one quarterback on Saskatchewan's roster, it's a

position of priority for O'Day, who was named the Roughriders' vice-president of football operations/GM last month.

"It will be interesting to see if everyone makes it to free agency," O'Day said. "If they do, it's really going to add a different dynamic because I don't think there's been one like it with the amount of franchise quarterbacks going to free agency.

"It's a different year with the amount of players who'll potentially be on the market. It's a lot, but it's also an opportunity."

This won't be O'Day's first free-agency experience. In 2011, he became Saskatchewan's football operations co-ordinator before being named assistant GM a year later. He was appointed vice-president of football operations and administration in December 2015.

Toronto Argonauts GM Jim Popp also is a veteran of CFL free agency. But even he can't remember seeing so many players poised to hit the open market.

"By sheer numbers, yes, it's

different," said Popp. "There's a lot of people waiting and wondering what's going on.

"It's going to be interesting to see how free agency is."



There are many reasons for the abundance of free agents. They include:  
- Veteran players being allowed to sign one-year deals. Many go this route to not only keep their options open at season's end, but also be better able to cash in quickly following a solid campaign.

- The uncertainty regarding the '19 salary cap. That figure

was \$5.2 million last year but the current CBA is scheduled to expire in May. As well, the league's minimum salary in 2018 was \$54,000.

- The CFL not allowing players who sign contracts this off-season to collect signing bonuses until after a new CBA is ratified. Essentially, there's no reason to justify signing immediately.

- More options outside the CFL. The eight-team American Alliance of Football begins play Saturday while the rejuvenated XFL has started preparing for its 2020 reincarnation "Like I said, it definitely will be interesting."

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### 8AM - 4PM SPECIAL SERVICES

Electric Outages.....	403.529.8260
Gas Emergency .....	403.529.8191
Water & Sewer Emergency .....	403.502.8042
After Hours Special Services.....	403.526.2828



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### DEVELOPMENT PERMITS APPROVED JANUARY 31 TO FEBRUARY 6, 2019 PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

#### RESIDENTIAL

**20 CAIRNEY CRESCENT SE** (Lot 30, Block 1, Plan 7510668) DP14763. Garage (Shed) and Garage (Shed).



#### COMMERCIAL

**103, 2201 BOX SPRINGS BOULEVARD NW** (Lot, Block 1, Plan 0913184) DP14803. One Fascia Sign.

**821 INDUSTRIAL AVENUE SE** (Lot 1PUL, 2PUL, Block T, 2T, Plan 1811069, 1811069, 641JK) DP14807. Live Work Residence Including Internal Configuration Variance.

**105, 954 SOUTH RAILWAY STREET SE** (Lot 11, Block 1, Plan 1992B) DP14808. Discretionary Use Change of Use to Animal Services.

#### HOME OCCUPATION

**526-B 6 AVENUE SE** (Lot 10, Block 62, Plan 61685) DP14810. Office Use With Storage on Site. Consultant.

A person claiming to be affected by a decision of the Development Officer or the Municipal Planning Commission may appeal to the Medicine Hat Subdivision and Development Appeal Board by completing and submitting to the City Clerk Department, the required Notice of Appeal form within twenty-one (21) days of this publication. Notice of Appeal forms are available from the City Clerk Department, Third Floor, City Hall or on the City's website at [www.medicinehat.ca](http://www.medicinehat.ca)

All Development Permits listed are subject to conditions. Further information on any Development Permit may be obtained from the Planning & Development Services Department, Second Floor, City Hall during normal business hours (Telephone 403.529.8374).

### SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

The Senior Citizens Advisory Committee (SCAC) Annual Meeting will be held Wednesday, February 20, 2019, at 1:30 pm in the Veiner Centre South Auditorium. Guest speaker, Dr. Ken Sauer, Chair of the Alberta 55 plus Summer Provincial Games Committee, will provide an overview of the 2019 Games to be held in Medicine Hat.

### ENHANCE YOUR RESUME, EXPAND YOUR KNOWLEDGE, HELP SHAPE YOUR COMMUNITY

The City of Medicine Hat invites you to apply for decision making and advisory opportunities on our diverse Boards, Commissions and Committees.

- ✓ Review the opportunities below, and pick up or download a handbook and application form on our city website: [www.medicinehat.ca](http://www.medicinehat.ca) and click on 'I want to apply'. Feel free to contact the key people listed below if you have additional questions.
- ✓ Ensure you are the right fit: you are a resident of Medicine Hat (except the Public Library Board and the Youth Advisory Board). Police Commission applicants are subject to a records check. All terms are three years except where indicated.
- ✓ Fill out an application form, and submit it to the City Clerk Department by 4:30 pm, February 27, 2019. Drop off: Third Floor, City Hall, 580 First Street SE or apply online & email your application to: [clerk@medicinehat.ca](mailto:clerk@medicinehat.ca)

ENTITY	VACANCIES	ACTIVITIES	MEETING DETAILS	MORE INFORMATION?
ARTS & HERITAGE ADVISORY BOARD	1	Advise Committee & Council on Esplanade & arts/heritage matters	Last Monday of month 5:30 pm	Carrie Wall (403.502.8798)
CITY CENTRE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	2	Champion the Downtown, propose policy change, advocate	2nd Tuesday of month 5:45 pm plus activities	CCDA Office (403.529.5997)
PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD	1	Management, regulation & control of Library	1st Wednesday of month 7:00 pm ± 2 hours plus minimum of 1 monthly sub-committee meeting ± 2 hours	Ken Feser (403.502.8528)
URBAN ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD	2	Advise Committee and Council on parks/urban environment/recreation	3rd Wednesday of month 5 pm ± 2 hours	James Will (403.529.8312)
YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD	2 (Must be aged 15-21)	Advise Committee and Council on youth issues/needs	4th Wednesday of month - 4:30 pm (subject to change)	Leslie Jerry (403.502.8086)

### PROTECT WATER LINES FROM FREEZING

The following actions should be considered to protect your water lines:

- Repair broken windows and ensure windows/vents are closed during the winter.
- Insulate water pipes in unheated areas, including crawl spaces.
- For sinks located against a non-insulated outside wall:
  - Open the vanity door to allow warm air to reach the water pipes.
  - A light bulb placed near the water pipe may generate enough heat to keep the water flowing.
  - Heat tape wrapped around the pipe may keep the pipe from freezing.
- Residents of mobile homes should check the condition of the heat tape on their water service and water meter.
- Protect unheated indoor water meter with an insulated box and water pipes should be wrapped in insulation using heat tape.
- Outside water taps and underground sprinkler systems should have the water supply shut off inside the house at the isolation valve for the tap.
- Sprinkler lines and taps should be drained/blown out.
- A thin stream of water (as thick as a pencil lead) running continuously from at least one tap will help prevent a frozen water service.
- If you plan to be away from home over the winter period, close the main water isolation valve located next to the water meter in your home. You should leave the heat on in your home and have someone check inside your home daily while you're away.

A frozen water service, or a burst water pipe, is an inconvenience and expense that most people would like to avoid. Please take all possible precautions to prevent this happening in your home or business.

For more information, refer to [www.medicinehat.ca/eu](http://www.medicinehat.ca/eu) or contact Environmental Utilities at 403.529.8176.

### GAS, ELECTRIC, WIND ENERGY RATES SET FOR FEBRUARY

**Medicine Hat – The City of Medicine Hat has set its February energy commodity rates.**

#### Natural Gas

The February natural gas commodity rate of \$2.1585 per gigajoule (GJ), up from \$1.347 per gigajoule (GJ) in January, for all customers is based on the average of the monthly gas charges set by Alberta gas distribution (pipes) owners.

(per gigajoule)	February 2019
Direct Energy Regulated Services (North and South)	\$1.990
AltaGas Utilities Inc.	\$2.327
<b>City of Medicine Hat Rate (based on the average)</b>	<b>\$2.1585</b>

The City of Medicine Hat calculates the Monthly Reference Price based on the average of the rates approved by the Alberta Utilities Commission.

#### Electricity

The February electricity rate of \$0.06800 per kilowatt hour, same as the previous month \$0.06800 per kilowatt hour, for Residential, Farm, Small and Medium Commercial, Unmetered Services and Rental Lighting, is based on the average of the rates for owners whose regulated rate tariffs are approved by the Alberta Utilities Commission under section 103(2) of the Electric Utilities Act for that calendar month as posted by the Alberta Utilities Commission on its internet page under Regulated Rate Option Regulation.

February 2019 (per kilowatt hour)	Rate per kWh
Direct Energy Regulated Services	\$0.07109
ENMAX Energy Corporation	\$0.07009
EPCOR Energy Alberta GP (Edmonton)	\$0.07189
EPCOR Energy Alberta GP (outside Edmonton)	\$0.07086
<b>City of Medicine Hat Rate (based on the average)</b>	<b>\$0.07098</b>
<b>City of Medicine Hat Rate Cap Regulation Order</b>	<b>\$0.06800</b>

In November 2016 the Government of Alberta announced a plan to cap the Regulated Rate Option at 6.8 cents per kilowatt hour. City of Medicine electric utility customers are protected under Ministerial Order 149/2017. During the period of February 1, 2018 – May 31, 2021 Residential, Farm, Small and Medium Commercial, Unmetered Services and Rental Lighting customers will pay the lower of the Market Reference Price or the rate ceiling of 6.8 cents per kilowatt hour. The rate will automatically be applied to consumer's bills that are on the regulated rate.

The City of Medicine Hat calculates the Monthly Reference Price based on the average of the rates using the four Regulated Rate Option providers approved by the Alberta Utilities Commission under section 103(2) of the Electric Utilities Act. This calculation aligns with the Regulated Rate Cap Regulation.

The February default electricity rate for Large Commercial, Industrial and Street Lighting customers is based on the monthly average Alberta Power Pool price as established and published by the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) plus \$0.02 per kilowatt hour. The rate for January was \$0.05783 per kilowatt hour.

The Electric Utility also offers a fixed electric commodity price for Residential, Farm, Small and Medium Commercial customers. The fixed rate for 2019 is \$0.06800 per kilowatt hour.

The Gas Utility offers a fixed natural gas commodity price for all rate class customers. The fixed rate for 2019 is \$5.80 per gigajoule (GJ).

#### Going Green Charge

Customers also have a "Going Green" surcharge on their bill. This surcharge is for renewable energy purchased for residential, farm, small and medium commercial customers.

The Going Green surcharge is calculated monthly to recover costs incurred to purchase renewable energy.

The Going Green surcharge for February is \$0.00050 per kilowatt hour.

For further information, please contact:  
Cal Lenz, Utilities Division Commissioner  
City of Medicine Hat • 403.502.8756