



## News Release – For Immediate Release December 3, 2009

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### County Launches Second History Book

The County of Grande Prairie is pleased to announce the launch of *The Grande Prairie of the Great Northland Part Two 1951-1990* on Sunday, December 6, 2009, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the County Administration building in Clairmont. Author David W. Leonard will make a presentation at 2:30 p.m. and then will be available to sign copies of the publication.

The book is a continuation of *The Grande Prairie of the Great Northland: The evolution of a County, 1805-1951*, published by the County in 2006. Council approved the second book to cover the time period from its formation in 1951 up to 1990.

Dr. Leonard says he accepted the offer to write the second book because so much of what was commonplace in 1951 has disappeared. “Significant buildings have been destroyed, natural areas invaded by energy and by forestry companies and valuable farmland given over to urban sprawl. There has been, as well, significant social change,” explained Dr. Leonard. “If you can’t remember where you have come from, how can you know where you are going? By recalling life in 1951 and the years that followed, perhaps people today can gain a greater focus on just what sort of community they would like to see evolve for their children.”

“This is a book that people can relate to as I can remember many of the events highlighted in it,” stated Reeve Everett McDonald. “It is the perfect Christmas gift for those on your list who have everything!”

*The Grande Prairie of the Great Northland Part Two* is a glossy 330 page publication, 8” x 10”, with dust jacket, 50 % of it composed of archival and contemporary colour photographs. The hard cover book will be on sale for \$50 at the launch with the opportunity to have it personally signed by Dr. Leonard.

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