

COUNTY CONNECTIONS



SPRING 2025

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Reeve's Message



At this time of year, I often find myself excited for all that is in store for our community this summer and beyond, knowing that we will meet any challenges together as a unified and resilient community. I am proud to share the latest news and developments as we head into the warmer months.

Budget

With final budget deliberations complete, we now have a clear roadmap for the year ahead. Council approved the 2025 budget with a 2.4 per cent municipal tax rate increase to ensure alignment with public feedback which consistently identifies roads and public safety as key priorities. Reflecting these priorities, Council directed approximately 70 per cent of the capital budget toward road and bridge projects in addition to significant funding for policing services. The approved budget also considered the cost of delivering programs and services to the County's growing population, recorded as 26,701 in our 2024 municipal census – up 26 per cent since our last census in 2012. Read more about the budget starting on page 2.

Crime Prevention Initiatives

We all play a role in keeping our community safe. The County held two crime prevention town halls in January and provided an online survey to hear resident concerns, followed by two additional town halls in April. Thank you to everyone who shared their thoughts on this important matter—more on this on page 19. I'd like to remind residents to stay vigilant and report any suspicious activities to the RCMP.

Intermunicipal Development Plan Update

In December, Council signed a Recreation and Culture Cost Sharing Agreement with the City of Grande Prairie, recognizing that facilities like the Eastlink Centre, Bonnetts Energy Centre,

Evergreen Park, and the J.D.A. County Sportsplex serve both County and City residents. The County has committed \$2.76 million, with an ongoing annual contribution adjusted over the four-year term. In addition, we've agreed to a one-time retroactive payment of \$4.6 million to the City, distributed over four years, to support prior building costs of facilities. The County continues to support the Grande Prairie Public Library and Art Gallery to ensure these valuable services stay accessible for all residents.

Engagement Surveys and Events

We encourage our residents to participate in surveys and open houses. Work continues on the Plan Your County project to gather feedback on the draft Municipal Development Plan at a series of open houses this spring. Stay tuned for updates at engagecounty.gp.ca. We also invite local businesses to participate in the 7th Annual Business Retention and Expansion Survey.

Advocacy

We've been busy advancing economic growth in our region. Invest Northwest Alberta is an agreement between the County of Grande Prairie, City of Grande Prairie, and Municipal District of Greenview to attract economic investment to northwestern Alberta. In January, we launched a promotional video highlighting the region's robust economy, exceptional amenities, and strategic transportation networks, underscoring why northwestern Alberta remains the entrepreneurial capital of Canada. This tri-municipal partnership is invaluable—we're stronger together and proudly work as a unified front to promote this region.

In March, we attended CERAWEEK, a Texas-based global energy conference, and in April, we took part in our first Advocacy Day in Edmonton to amplify the County's voice in provincial politics. These meetings provide crucial opportunities to advocate for improvements to transportation, health, community safety, and economic development. Our advocacy work also continues for a fairer electricity rate for northern Alberta users.

In the Community

Join us on September 1 for our second Alberta Day celebration at the Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum!

Earlier this year, we welcomed J.D.A. Ventures Ltd. as our new naming sponsor, ensuring the County Sportsplex continues to offer high quality recreational amenities for many years to come. I look forward to seeing you all at the J.D.A. County Sportsplex this summer!

Finally, I'd like to thank a few residents for exceptional service to the community. Congratulations to this year's 'It Takes a Volunteer' honorees for creating positive change in our community and to the Alde family, our 2025 Farm Family of the Year.

Stay Safe

The previous two fire seasons remain sobering reminders of the dangers this time of year can bring. As we head into summer, please consider fireproofing your property using the tips on page 12, observe all fire bans, and stay informed about developing fire concerns on our website. Be aware of the current wildfire rating and contact your local fire guardian with any questions.

It's been a full year since we launched Voyent Alert, the County's subscriber-based emergency notification system. We encourage all residents to download the app or subscribe for email, text or landline alerts as an additional safety measure heading into the fire season:

www.countygp.ab.ca/alerts

Thank you for doing your part to ensure a safe and enjoyable summer for all!



County Council Delivers on Resident Priorities of Roads and Public Safety in 2025 Final Budget

County of Grande Prairie Council approved the 2025 budget with a 2.4 per cent municipal tax rate increase to ensure alignment with public feedback which consistently identifies roads and public safety as key priorities. The increase translates to approximately \$57.85 annually, or \$4.82 per month on a residential property valued at \$575,000.

The \$216.5 million budget includes an estimated \$118.3 million for general operations and \$98.2 million for capital investments.

Municipal taxes cover all items that contribute to quality of life, including roads, emergency services, and funding for community programs and facilities. Additionally, all municipalities, including the County, must collect education levies to fund schools on behalf of the provincial government and provide support for seniors housing. Municipalities are also bound by the Legislative Act to produce a balanced budget.

"Our 2025 municipal census indicates the County's population is 26,701, up 26 per cent from the last municipal census in 2012," says Reeve Bob Marshall.

"This significant growth makes it clear that the County offers a high quality of life and is committed to low and competitive tax rates even as our cost to maintain programs and services continues to rise due to inflation and our rapid population growth."

In the economic aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, Council dipped into reserve funding to provide relief to residents by holding the line on the municipal portion of taxes in previous years.

"This year's increase in the municipal portion of taxes will help ensure our programs and services can continue to be

provided sustainably," says Reeve Bob Marshall. "Based on our current funding allocations, we are still faced with using reserves to balance a \$9 million deficit.

The County's tax base is rebounding, due to the province bringing an end to the three-year pause on taxes for new well and pipeline projects. However, these gains have been offset by increased demands to maintain capital and operating programs.

Highlights of some of the services, programs and projects Council approved for 2025 include:

- Approximately 70 per cent of the capital budget is going toward road and bridge projects
- \$7.8 million in grants to various organizations for recreation, health, community, culture, seniors and special needs transportation, and libraries
- \$5.2 million in Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework (ICF) Contributions, cost sharing agreements with other municipalities, including the City of Grande Prairie and the towns of Beaverlodge, Sexsmith, and Wembley
- The new Recreation and Culture Cost Sharing Agreement between the County and City of Grande Prairie will see an increase of \$1.3 million in the County's annual operating funding for community services and amenities. As part of this agreement, the County will also contribute a retroactive payment of \$4.6 million to the City, distributed over four years, to support prior building costs of facilities.
- Additional \$2.65 million for the new Teepee Creek Fire Hall, bringing the total project contribution to \$4.5 million



Budget 2025 Highlights

- \$2.54 million in transfers to the provincial government for RCMP policing costs in addition to \$560,000 for the Municipal Police Service Agreement to provide policing services in the Hamlet of Clairmont
- \$1.2 million to replace the Bezanson water main and curb stop – Council requested that Administration explore possibilities for cost recovery
- \$600,000 increase for engineering costs for the Range Road 62/ Highway 43 Flyover project, for a total engineering cost of \$995,051
- \$150,000 increase to complete the Transportation Master Plan to make the County's roadway system more accessible, connected, and efficient, for a total project cost of \$300,000
- \$100,000 to the Compassion House Foundation to support accommodations for women receiving cancer care in Edmonton – \$20,000 per year over five years (2025 to 2029)
- \$75,000 in annual operating funding – \$25,000 per year over three years (2025 to 2027) for the Grande Prairie Regional Tourism Association Visitor Information Centre
- Additional \$46,156 in operating funding for 2025 to the Bezanson and District Agricultural Society
- Additional \$15,000 in operating funding for 2025 to the Teepee Creek Stampede Association

Learn more about the 2025 operating and capital budget in the Budget Highlights or at

www.countygp.ab.ca/budget.

Capital Budget

Approximately \$68.4 million is being invested in capital road and bridge projects including surfacing Richmond Hill Estates (West) and Morgan's Mountain Estates.

Grant funding is estimated at \$19.9 million, including an estimated \$5.6 million Canada Community Building Fund, an estimated \$10.7 million in funding from the Local Government Fiscal Framework Grant and an estimated \$3.6 million Alberta Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program grant.

Some of the highlights of the capital budget include:

- \$16.9 million for the divisional road program
- \$12.6 million for fleet replacement
- \$9.4 million in surfaced road rehabilitation
- \$4.5 million for the new Teepee Creek Firehall
- \$2.1 million for Morgan's Mountain Estates Road Surfacing
- \$1.7 million for Richmond Hill Estates (West) Road Surfacing
- \$1.2 million in water main and curb-stop replacement in Bezanson
- \$427,497 in additional funding for the Administrative Complex Redesign project
- \$400,000 upgrade to the Range Road 53 and Highway 43 intersection

- \$222,520 to replace specialized fire equipment nearing expiration dates/end of life
- \$65,000 for the Hythe sewer lagoon geotechnical assessment

Operating Budget

The operating budget for 2025 includes:

- \$7.8 million in grants to various organizations for recreation, health, community, culture, seniors and special needs transportation, and libraries.
- An estimated \$5.2 million in Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework (ICF) contributions, cost sharing agreements with other municipalities, including the City of Grande Prairie and the towns of Beaverlodge, Sexsmith, and Wembley, pending outcomes of ongoing contract negotiations.
- An estimated \$1.3 million to the City of Grande Prairie for the tax sharing agreement to be allocated to projects fostering regional development (share of municipal tax revenue – 20 per cent from the co-generational facility and 10 per cent on any new commercial/ industrial development in areas serviced by Aquatera).
- \$600,000 to STARS – \$200,000 annually for three years (2025 to 2027).
- \$300,000 for additional road sand and salt due to freeze/thaw cycles.



OF THE

MAKING SENSE 2025 BUDGET



County of
Grande Prairie No. 1

BUDGET BASICS

Every program and service in the County has a cost. Each year, Council makes financial decisions to provide money for each program and service in the Operating and Capital budgets.

The total budget for 2025 is \$216.5 million.

OPERATING BUDGET: The County's operating budget is for day-to-day costs to keep everything running smoothly. This includes enforcement and fire services, parks and recreation facilities, road maintenance, including snow removal, and waste management.

CAPITAL BUDGET: The County's capital budget funds major assets, including machinery and equipment, vehicles, buildings, major road construction projects and debt repayments.



includes \$50.2 Million in carried forward projects

READING YOUR PROPERTY TAX NOTICE

Your property tax notice includes more than municipal taxes – it also includes taxes for education and seniors lodging. The Province of Alberta and the Grande Spirit Foundation determine the financial amount required and the County is required to collect and send these funds to each of them, respectively.

MUNICIPAL TAXES 61.04% | \$2,468.94

County of Grande Prairie
Used to fund the budget

SENIORS LODGING 1.26% | \$50.84

Grande Spirit Foundation
Allocated towards seniors housing

EDUCATION TAX 37.7% | \$1,525.02

Province of Alberta*
Allocated towards education

*In Budget 2025, the Province of Alberta increased the education property tax rates after being frozen in 2024-2025.

County of Grande Prairie No. 1
10001 - 84 Avenue
Clairmont, AB T8X 5B2

2025 PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AND TAX NOTICE

DUE DATE: June 30, 2025

Date Mailed: May 9, 2025
Notice of Assessment Date: May 22, 2025
Final Date of Complaint: July 16, 2025

----- Please retain this portion for your records -----

ROLL NUMBER	ACCESS
PROPERTY ADDRESS	
LEGAL DESCRIPTION	
LOT SIZE	

ASSESSMENT CLASS	LAND	IMPR	OTHER	NET
32 - RESIDENTIAL MARKET VALUE	143,750	431,250	0	575,000
Assessment Totals	143,750	431,250	0	575,000

Separate School Support % Public School Support 100%

Provincial School Taxes are collected on behalf of the Province of Alberta. The Tax rate is determined by the Province.

DESCRIPTION	PERIOD OF TAXATION	RATE	AMOUNT
GENERAL MUNICIPAL RESIDENTIAL	Jan 1, 2025 to Dec 31, 2025	4.29380	2,468.94
GRANDE SPIRIT FOUNDATION	Jan 1, 2025 to Dec 31, 2025	0.08841	50.84
PROVINCIAL SCHOOL RESIDENTIAL	Jan 1, 2025 to Dec 31, 2025	2.65220	1,525.02
TOTAL CURRENT TAX LEVIES			4,044.80
TOTAL OUTSTANDING TAXES			4,044.80

Extended hours for tax payments only:
June 26, 27, & 30 8:00AM - 6:00PM

DUE DATE: JUNE 30, 2025

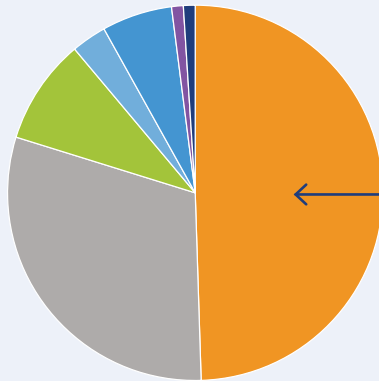
AMOUNT DUE

\$4,044.80

Note: A phased tax rate reduction is in place for the Hamlet of Hythe, bringing them in line with the rest of the County. The reduction will take place from 2022 to 2025 and applies to all properties, including residential, non-residential and farmland. Hythe taxpayers will also pay an additional amount to repay the Hamlet's long term debt, at the time of dissolution, until the debt is paid in full.

WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM

Funding for the County's programs and services comes from several sources, with most coming from property taxes.



49%
MUNICIPAL TAXES
YOUR PROPERTY TAXES

30%
TRANSFER FROM RESERVES*
SAVINGS SET ASIDE FOR SPECIFIC PROJECTS

9%
GRANT REVENUE
FROM OTHER ORDERS OF GOVERNMENT

3%
DEBT FUNDING

7%
USER FEES, SALE OF GOODS,
LEVIES & MISC. REVENUES
FOR EXAMPLE, EQUIPMENT RENTAL,
ANIMAL RECLAIM, GARBAGE COLLECTION

1%
RETURN ON INVESTMENT
EARNINGS ON COUNTY INVESTMENTS

1%
LEVIES, FINES & PENALTIES
FOR EXAMPLE, DEVELOPMENT LEVIES

*A portion of municipal taxes are put into reserve accounts, similar to savings accounts. Money is transferred from reserves when needed for critical capital and operational projects. Reserve accounts provide additional funding for the County as interest builds up on a large portion of the balance.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
→ countygp.ab.ca/budget

MUNICIPAL TAX DOLLARS AT WORK

Wondering how much of our sample residential property tax bill went towards County operational and capital expenses? The municipal tax portion of \$2,468.94 is broken down as follows:

TRANSPORTATION NETWORK



\$1,333.22

- 32.7%** ROAD CONSTRUCTION & BRIDGE PROGRAM
- 10.7%** ROAD MAINTENANCE, SIGNAGE & CONSTRUCTION
- 9.0%** FLEET & MAINTENANCE
- 1.6%** TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES ADMINISTRATION

COMMUNITY, RECREATION, CULTURE & SAFETY



\$523.42

- 11.6%** REGIONAL ENFORCEMENT, FIRE & EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
- 3.4%** RECREATION & CULTURE SERVICES
- 2.2%** FAMILY & COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES
- 2.0%** COMMUNITY GRANTS
- 2.0%** AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

RUNNING THE MUNICIPALITY



\$362.93

- 14.7%** ASSESSMENT, ASSET MANAGEMENT, COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING, COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE, FINANCIAL SERVICES, PEOPLE & ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, INSURANCE & RISK MANAGEMENT, LEGISLATIVE SERVICES, PROCUREMENT

RECYCLE & WASTE MANAGEMENT; WATER SUPPLY & DISTRIBUTION, AND WASTEWATER COLLECTION & TREATMENT



\$172.83

- 4.0%** WATER SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION
- 2.3%** RECYCLING & WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITIES & SERVICES
- 0.7%** WASTEWATER COLLECTION & TREATMENT

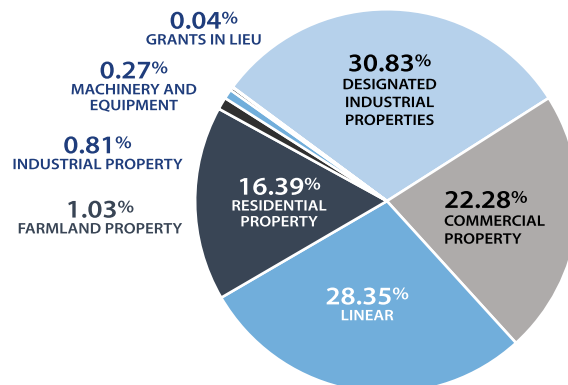
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT



\$76.54

- 2.6%** LAND USE, PLANNING, ZONING & DEVELOPMENT
- 0.5%** ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

SOURCE OF MUNICIPAL TAX PORTION



MyProperty

Convenient access to your utility and property tax information

Key features:

- **Online access:** Easily view your utility and property tax information online.
- **Online payments:** Conveniently pay your utility and tax bills online.
- **E-billing:** Sign up for e-billing to get notified when your utility bill and property tax notice are available.
- **System access:** Create a profile to access the system.
- **Account access:** Add your utility and property tax accounts to your MyProperty profile after setting up your profile.

For more information and step-by-step instructions, visit www.countygp.ab.ca/myproperty



Pay Your Property Taxes by the End of June

Property owners are encouraged to pay their property taxes on or before the last business day of June to avoid late penalties. The County of Grande Prairie collects property taxes to help pay for services, facilities, and projects in the County. Your property tax notice includes municipal taxes along with taxes for education and seniors lodging as determined by the Province of Alberta and the Grande Spirit Foundation. To learn more about how your tax dollars are used, read 'Making Sense of the Budget' on pages 4-5.



Property Assessment Appeal

If you have questions about your assessment, talk to one of your local assessors. You can reach them at 780-513-3952 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday. Find information about assessment appeals, including the County's deadline, at www.countygp.ab.ca/assessment. To avoid penalty charges, you must pay your taxes by the deadline, even if you plan to appeal your assessment. For more information about the appeal process, contact Legislative Services at 780-532-9722.

Here's a TIPP! Sign Up for Our Tax Installment Payment Plan

Tired of juggling your property tax payments? Join our Tax Installment Payment Plan (TIPP) and spread your payments over the year – no more big lump sums! To get started, make sure your account is fully paid and then submit your application along with a void cheque or direct deposit sheet. Find the application at www.countygp.ab.ca/payments.

Need to opt out? Just call our tax team at 780-532-9722.



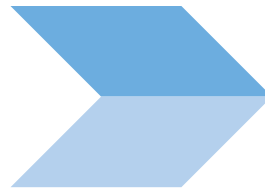
Update Your Mailing Address Today!

Have you recently moved? Here are two things you need to do:

1. Update your address with the County.
2. Update your address with Alberta Land Titles.

Don't risk missing out on important information from the County of Grande Prairie – update your address today. Fill out the change of address form found at www.countygp.ab.ca/AddressChange.

Please note that changing your address with the County does not update your information with Alberta Land Titles. To do that, contact them at 780-427-2742 or visit www.alberta.ca/land-titles-overview to find the change of address form.



Supporting Business Growth in the County of Grande Prairie

The County of Grande Prairie's Economic Development team works to strengthen local businesses, attract investment, and support workforce growth. Our focus includes:

1. **Business Retention and Expansion** – Helping local businesses thrive with resources and support.
2. **Investment Attraction** – Showcasing the County's advantages to potential investors.
3. **Investment Readiness** – Ensuring infrastructure and services are in place for business success.
4. **Workforce Development and Attraction** – Helping employers find and retain skilled workers.

We also collaborate through two key regional partnerships:

INVEST NW ALBERTA

GRANDE PRAIRIE-GREENVIEW CORRIDOR

- **Invest NW Alberta** – A partnership with the City of Grande Prairie and MD of Greenview, promoting investment in the Grande Prairie-Greenview Corridor.

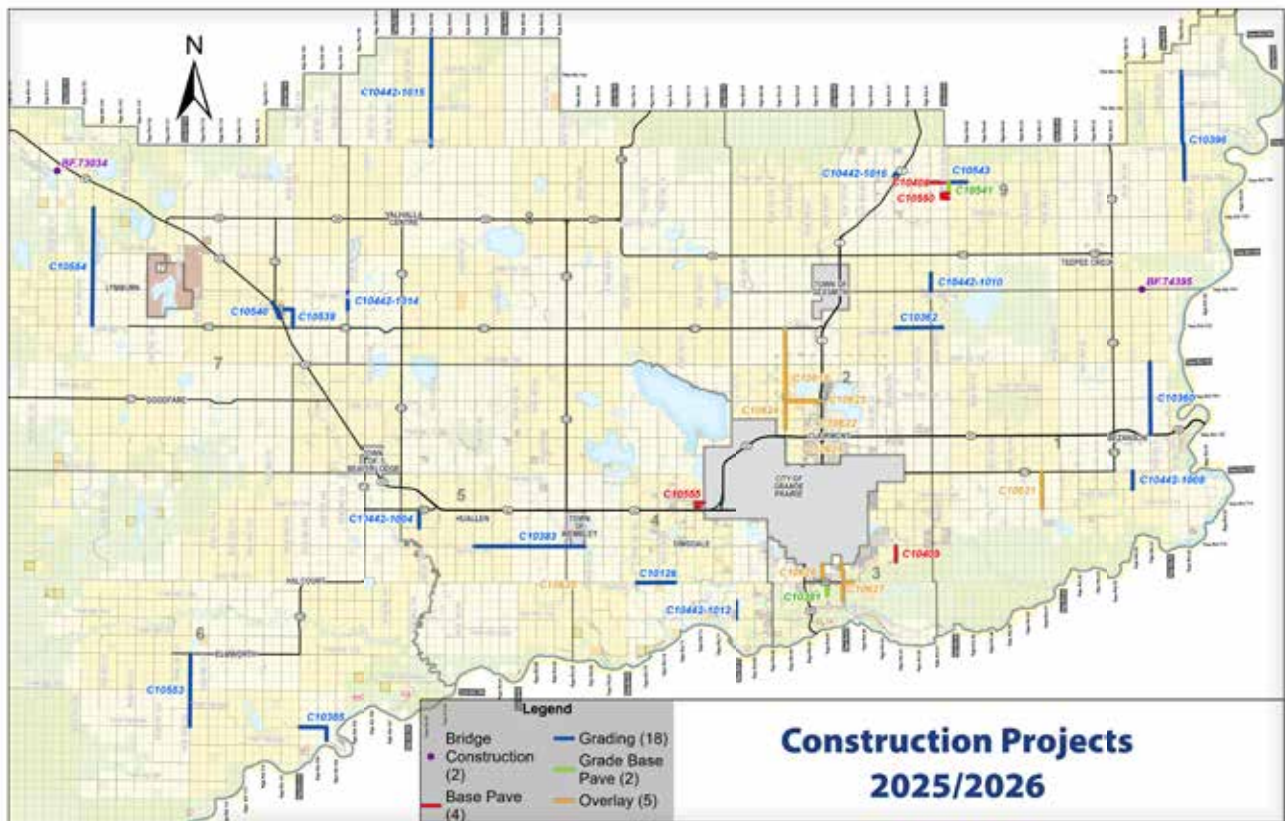
WORK NW ALBERTA

GRANDE PRAIRIE-GREENVIEW CORRIDOR

- **Work NW Alberta** – A collaboration with local governments, the Grande Prairie and District Chamber of Commerce, and Northwestern Polytechnic to address workforce needs.

If you're a business owner, investor, or employer looking for support, our team is here to help. Connect with Work NW's new Work Integrated Learning Specialist to help access talent support. To explore opportunities in the County, email us at ecdev@countygp.ab.ca

Construction Projects 2025/2026



County of Grande Prairie Council approved the 2025 budget to align with public feedback which consistently identifies roads and public safety as key priorities. We're pleased to share a line-up of construction projects for 2025 and 2026.

Council approved approximately 70 per cent of the \$216.5 million budget as an investment in road and bridge projects. Projects include surface road overlay work, re-construction road projects, and bridge culvert replacements.

Grant funding is estimated at \$19.9 million, including an estimated \$5.6 million Canada Community Building Fund, an

estimated \$10.7 million in funding from the Local Government Fiscal Framework Grant, and an estimated \$3.6 million Alberta Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program Grant.

See page 7 for a list of County construction projects which are also pinned on the map above.

Visit www.countygp.ab.ca/roadconstruction to view a map and detailed list of projects along with potential traffic impacts. Thank you for your patience through this construction season.

ALL ABOUT ROAD WORK:

GRADING: Digging out an existing road structure to re-align, level or widen the road and building a new road from the bottom up.

OVERLAY: Adding a new layer of pavement. This type of work can also include minor spot fixes and milling the surface on occasion.

BASE PAVING: Removing the top layer of gravel, repairing the base of the road, if needed, then packing the current road surface and paving a layer of asphalt.

CURB AND GUTTER: Constructing concrete curbs and gutters along street sides to ensure proper stormwater drainage.

INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS: Can involve installing traffic lights and/or improving, extending, expanding, or adding traffic lanes.

BRIDGE CULVERT REPLACEMENT: Replacing an underground steel tunnel, known as a culvert, which carries stream water.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS 2025/2026

Visit www.countygp.ab.ca/roadconstruction to view the project map, timelines and potential traffic impacts.

Project #	Road Project	Type of Work
C10409	Range Road 53, south of Township Road 712	Base Paving, 1.4 km
C10408	Township Road 744 between Range Roads 51 to 50	Base Paving, 1.6 km
C10550	Morgan's Mountain Estates	Base Paving, 2.07 km
C10555	Richmond Hill Estates west	Base Paving, 1.6 km
C10381	Range Road 61, south of Highway 668	Grading, Base Paving, 1.2 km
C10541	Range Road 50, south of Township Road 744	Grading, Base Paving, 1.5 km
C10621	Range Road 41 between Township Road 714 to Highway 670	Overlay, 3.2 km
C10624	Township Road 724 between Range Road 63 to Highway 2	Overlay, 3.2 km
C10626	Range Road 61 between Highway 668 to City limits	Overlay, 1.6 km
C10627	Resources Road & Township Road 710, selective improvements	Overlay, 3.6 km
C10554	Range Road 125 between Township Roads 742 to 732	Grading, 10.5 km
C10540	Range Road 110 between Township Road 733 (Hythe east)	Grading, 2.4 km
C10360	Range Road 31 between Highway 43 to Township Road 730	Grading, 6.6 km
C10362	Township Road 732 between Range Road 53 to west of Range Road 50A	Grading, 4.3 km
C10396	Range Road 25 between Township Roads 754 to 744	Grading, 9.6 km
C10383	Township Road 712 between Range Roads 92 to 82	Grading, 9.8 km
C10543	Township Road 744 between Range Roads 50 to 44	Grading, 3.2 km
C10538	Highway 43 Service Road & 98th Avenue drainage (Hythe)	Grading, 0.5 km
C10385	Township Road 694, east of Range Road 110	Grading, 4.5 km
C10553	Range Road 120 between Highway 722 to Township Road 694	Grading, 6.5 km
C10126	Township Road 710 between Range Roads 73N to 75A	Grading, 3.5 km
C10442-1008	Range Road 32, south of Township Road 720	Grading, 1.6 km
C10442-1010	Range Road 51, north of Township Road 734	Grading, 1.6 km
C10442-1012	Range Road 70 between Township Roads 704 to 710	Grading, 1.6 km
C10442-1004	Range Road 95 between Township Road 713 to Highway 667	Grading, 1.6 km
C10442-1014	Range Road 103, south of Township Road 734	Grading, 1.6 km
C10442-1015	Range Road 94, north of Township Road 750	Grading, 9.6 km
C10442-1016	Township Road 744A to Highway 2, north of Webster Hall	Grading, 0.7 km
C10583	Township Road 745 and Range Road 131	Bridge Culvert Replacement
C10582	Township Road 734, east of Highway 733	Bridge Culvert Replacement



Apply For Community Capital Grants Starting August 1

Starting August 1, organizations providing recreation or cultural services to County residents can apply to the Capital Grant program for facility improvements or repairs.

In 2025, the County awarded a \$50,000 community capital grant to the Grande Prairie Minor Baseball Association to assist with ball diamond repairs.

Executive Director of Grande Prairie Minor Baseball, Lyneah Watson-Gruise expressed gratitude for the County funds, noting

their impact on enhancing the safety and maintenance of the ball diamonds near Evergreen Park.

“We are resurfacing the outfields to deal with any of the dips and ankle twisting spots,” says Watson-Gruise. “On two of the diamonds, we are pulling out the clay, fixing the lips along the diamonds and re-adding shale to help with drainage and safety.”

Evergreen Park has twelve diamonds: five junior diamonds for children ages 3-9, two medium diamonds for children ages 9-14, and the remaining are used for older age groups.

The ball diamonds hosted three age divisions for Provincials last year, with hopes to add more this year. Since 2022, Grande Prairie Minor Baseball has grown by 40 per cent and the number of competitive teams has doubled.

“We’re really hoping that people will come up and see these diamonds and want to come play in Grande Prairie,” says Watson-Gruise. “If we can get more space, attract more people and spread the word of baseball, it’s one of the best ways we can drive community and that’s why I got involved.”

Ball diamond repairs began in early March and were completed at the end of April 2025.

Two Capital Grant Options

Capital grants support local groups who help make the County a great place to live, work, and play by creating enjoyable spaces for residents and visitors. Two grant options are available for applicants:

Up to 50 per cent of project costs, to a maximum of \$50,000, to improve or repair a physical facility. Must be a recreational or cultural facility that serves County residents.

OR

For projects valued over \$100,000, including new construction, rehabilitation, repairs, or improvements to recreation or cultural facilities that serve the County.

The County awards capital grants annually. At 2025 interim budget, Council approved over \$4.98 million in community contributions through Recreation and Culture grants, including more than \$1.65 million in Capital Grants to support important projects throughout the County and the region. For more information, visit www.countygp.ab.ca/grants.

Approved 2025 Capital Grants

- 1.5 million to the La Glace & District Agricultural Society for the Tamarack Valley Regional Recreation Centre “dry fit” out – \$500,000 per year over three years (2023-2026)
- \$551,000 to the Nitehawk Year-Round Adventure Park for capital equipment replacement – over four years (2023-2026)
- \$300,000 to the Grande Prairie Youth Emergency Shelter Society for the new Sunrise House – \$100,000 per year over three years (2023-2025)
- \$200,000 to Rising Above for a new building – \$100,000 per year over two years (2024-2025)
- \$50,000 to the Grande Prairie Baseball Association for facility improvements
- \$25,000 to Beaverlodge Elementary School for a new playground
- \$25,000 to Robert W. Zahara Public School Booster Club for playground improvements
- \$25,000 to the Royal Canadian Legion Hythe Branch No. 93 for hall and lounge updates
- \$21,000 to the Beaverlodge Curling Club for an accessibility improvement project
- \$20,000 to the Spring Lake Ski Hill Association for ski rental equipment
- \$20,000 to the Bezanson Agricultural Society for the Memorial Hall bathroom renovation project
- \$15,000 to the Saskatoon Lake Agricultural Society for new hall chairs and tables
- \$12,500 to the Beaverlodge Area Cultural Society for a window replacement project
- \$10,000 to the Beaverlodge Boys and Girls Camp Society for a tree removal project
- \$10,000 to the Royal Canadian Legion Grande Prairie Branch No. 54 for a window replacement project
- \$10,000 to the Rio Grande Sports Association for a pavilion heating project
- \$10,000 to the Peace Area Riding for the Disabled Society (PARDS) for facility upgrades to security and surveillance

Election Workers Needed: Submit Your Application Today!

The County of Grande Prairie is seeking election workers for the 2025 Municipal Election.

Election workers will ensure:

- Polling stations open on time, are set up with all necessary supplies, and closed in accordance with legislative requirements
- Voters receive accurate voting instructions
- Voters provide required identification
- The secrecy of the vote
- Supplies are transported in accordance with all County processes.

Interested applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Legally entitled to work in Canada
- County resident (preferred)
- Valid driver's licence and/or ability to get to and from a designated voting station
- Experience dealing with the public
- Previous election experience is an asset
- Maintain confidentiality

New In 2025: You Must Register To Vote

Voters will now be required to register to vote in municipal and provincial elections, as outlined in Alberta's Local Authorities Elections Act, the province's guidelines for elections. Register today and be ready to vote on Election Day, October 20!

Register now at:

✉ voterlink.ab.ca or scan the QR code

☎ Call toll-free: Dial toll free 310-0000, then 780-427-7191

ELECTION 2025

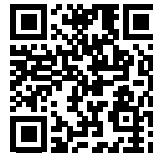


- Be polite, courteous, and professional
- Attend a mandatory training session (date to be announced)
- Available to work on **Election Day, Monday, October 20, 2025**, from approximately **8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.** and at least one advance voting date.



September 1, 2025
– Deadline to apply to become an Election Worker.

Scan the QR code or visit www.countygp.ab.ca/election. Complete the online application or print a copy and drop off the completed form at the County Administration Building, 10001- 84 Avenue, Clairmont, Alberta.



September 22, 2025 – Nomination Day
Nomination papers must be filed by noon.



October 20, 2025 – Municipal Election Day



Presenting to Council

How to Submit a Delegation Request

Residents or groups wishing to address Council may submit a delegation request through the online form found at www.countygp.ab.ca/delegations. The form is then submitted to Legislative Services and the request is reviewed by Administration. Once approval has been granted, Legislative Services will contact the resident or group to schedule the presentation for the appropriate meeting. Questions? Contact Legislative Services at legislativeservices@countygp.ab.ca or 780-532-9842, ext. 3393.

Two Meeting Types: Regular Council Meetings and Committee of the Whole

County Council meets twice a month for Regular Council meetings where they vote on decisions and take action on County matters.

The same Councillors meet once a month for their Committee of the Whole meeting to discuss County matters to formulate further direction to Administration or make recommendations to Council.

How to Attend

- Start time: 9:30 a.m.
- Location: Council Chambers, County Administration Building, 10001 - 84 Avenue, Clairmont
- Open to the public.
- Livestream option: Council and Committee of the Whole meetings are available to the public via livestream. Find connection instructions and meeting agendas under Council Meetings at www.countygp.ab.ca/council

FireSmart™ Your Property for Spring Wildfire Safety



Winter burning is common in our community for clearing debris like brush, trees, and crop residue. Whether it's a small pile or a larger windrow, these burns help clear land and reduce fire risks. When done correctly, they are safe and helpful. However, if not managed well, they can lead to holdover fires—smouldering fires hidden under the snow that can reignite when the temperature rises or with strong winds.

Here are some FireSmart tips to help reduce risks and keep things safer this spring:

1. Monitor Burn Sites: Check burn sites often for smouldering or heat pockets. Fires can burn deep in the soil and stay active even after the snow melts. The most reliable practice is soaking, stirring, and soaking the pile again. Insert a steel rod to check for heat. If it comes out warm, your fire is still burning and it needs to be extinguished.

2. Maintain a Buffer Zone: Create a safe zone around the burn site by keeping flammable materials and dry plants clear. This can help stop a fire from spreading.

3. Have Fire Suppression Tools Ready: Keep tools like water tanks, hoses, or fire extinguishers nearby. Acting quickly can stop a small fire before it gets bigger.

4. Follow Up with Tillage: Tilling the area can help bury any remaining embers under the soil, cutting off the oxygen needed for the fire to reignite.

5. Collaborate with Neighbours: Talk to your neighbours about planned burns and the risks by sharing information to help everyone stay safe and ready.

Following these steps and staying alert can prevent holdover fires and keep your property and community safe. Report any suspicious fire activity by calling 9-1-1.

2025 Wildfire Mitigation Strategy Update and Future Plans



The County of Grande Prairie's Wildfire Mitigation Strategy has changed over the past 10 years to deal with our region's increasing risks of wildfires. These risks are caused by more

people moving to the area, new buildings, and living near forested Crown land.

The strategy started in 2010 under the Mountain Pine Beetle program and focused on rural subdivisions like Wapiti Dunes and Aspen Ridge. The County worked with Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, local businesses, and private landowners to reduce the risk of wildfires as they became more frequent. Since its inception, the 2015 strategy has helped protect lives, property, and the environment.

In 2023, the County started the first phase of vegetation management, focusing on reducing fuel in the Dunes West area. Although the Dunes West wildfire caused some delays, progress was still made, and the final cleanup was completed in 2024. This important work is supported by grants and revenue from timber harvesting, ensuring that the County's residents stay safe and that wildfire risks are managed more effectively.

The updated 2025 Wildfire Mitigation Strategy continues to focus on preventing wildfires, educating the public, and working together. It helps residents, community groups, municipalities, and industry partners take action through ongoing FireSmart projects. The County will continue to use methods like thinning trees, pruning, and selective timber harvesting to reduce wildfire risks in areas such as the Highway 40 West corridor.

Your Path to a Rewarding Firefighting Career Starts Here



Are you starting your firefighting career or seeking hands-on experience? The County of Grande Prairie offers firefighter recruitment programs for all skill and experience levels. Learn how our fire stations are structured and the recruitment programs and opportunities offered.



Understanding Our County's Fire Halls

Our fire stations are structured to ensure safe and efficient emergency response within the County and its neighbouring towns. While some stations are fully staffed, others operate on a paid responder model, and some are entirely volunteer based. Across nine stations, the County has 40 full-time firefighters, including eight captains, 10 part-time firefighters, a Fire Marshal and Fire Prevention Officer. We wanted to provide a clear picture of how our fire halls function and the dedicated teams that staff them.

Clairmont and Dunes fire stations are fully staffed, with Clairmont having one part-time and five full-time firefighters, while the Dunes has five full-time firefighters. Three contract stations—Sexsmith, Wembley, and Beaverlodge—operate under a County-managed fire service contract. Sexsmith has two full-time firefighters, Wembley has two full-time firefighters and one captain, and Beaverlodge has a full-time captain.

La Glace, Hythe, Teepee Creek, and Bezanson fire stations rely on paid on-call volunteers who report to the station when an emergency call comes in. Each station is led by a captain and supported by lieutenants who manage teams of firefighters and medical first responders. Horse Lake operates independently but partners with the County through mutual aid.

The County Regional Fire Service department is led by one Fire Chief, three Deputy Chiefs overseeing training, logistics, and operations, two district chiefs managing eastern and western regions, and two administrative staff.

Join Our Team: Become a Part-Time Firefighter

Join our team as a part-time firefighter at the Clairmont or Dunes stations. NFPA Certified Firefighters gain experience, training, mental health support, and personal growth opportunities. Most part-time firefighters can work close to full-time hours or balance the role with another job.

Make a Difference as a Paid On-Call Rural Responder

Help your community as a Paid On-Call Rural Responder. No prior training is needed. Responders are key in fires, rescues, medical emergencies, and more, receiving internationally recognized firefighting and rescue skills training. Paid responders are compensated for their training and emergency calls and participate in community events.



ATCO Fire Cadet Program

For high school students in the County of Grande Prairie, Beaverlodge, Sexsmith, and Wembley, the ATCO Fire Cadet Program offers hands-on firefighting experience. This semester-long program lets cadets earn high school credits while working with professional firefighters. Cadets learn leadership and firefighting skills while gaining knowledge in emergency medical response.

Learn more about firefighting opportunities at www.countygp.ab.ca/fire recruit and join our team dedicated to protecting and serving the community.



Alde Family Recognized as 2025 Farm Family of the Year



The County is proud to announce Kreg and Lee-Anne Alde of Broken Tine Orchard as the 2025 Farm Family of the Year. Their commitment to agriculture, community and value-added products were celebrated at the Farm Family Awards banquet on March 7.

Do you know a deserving family with a commitment to farming and community engagement? Nominations for the 2026 Farm Family of the Year will open later this year.

For more details, contact Tracelle Hinze, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman, at 780-532-9727.

Register Your Rented Land and Weed Management Plan

The Agriculture Department offers annual programs for producers to participate in:

- **Register Your Rented Land** – Do you rent land in the County? If you'd like to be the primary contact for any weed control matters on the land you rent, register today at www.countygp.ab.ca/registeryourplan.
- **Register Your Weed Management Plan** – Create a tailored weed plan for your farm. Inspectors will contact only those without a plan. Register at www.countygp.ab.ca/registeryourplan.

Due to change in crop types, weeds and rentals, annual registration is required. You can register online or call the Agriculture Department at 780-567-5585.

Livestock Emergency Response Plan Update



The County is updating its Livestock Emergency Response Plan (LERP) database to better support livestock owners during disasters such as wildfires, floods, and vehicle accidents. LERP is part of the County's Emergency Preparedness Plan, focusing on domestic livestock like cows, horses, chickens, and sheep. It helps coordinate resources, reduce risks, and protect both people and animals.

This information is used only to assist those impacted during emergencies. To update your details or learn more, contact the Agriculture Department at 780-567-5585.

County Beautification and Mowing Services

In 2021, the Village of Hythe officially became a part of the County as a hamlet, joining other communities that benefit from services like beautification mowing. The Agriculture Department now manages all County mowing, including:

- **Legislated Mowing** – Roadsides and ditches
- **Beautification Mowing** – Cemeteries, County residential areas, rural estates and hamlets, and County buildings

For the summer 2025 mowing plan and areas covered, visit: www.countygp.ab.ca/mowingservices



Spring and Summer Programs for Communities



Hythe and Area Community Programs

Seniors Intergenerational Lunch – Free

Monday, June 2
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Hythe Regional School Gym
To register, call 780-933-7212 or email agreene@countygp.ab.ca by May 29

Digital Device Help & Resume Writing Clinic – Free

Hosted by SPRCL and FCSS
Tuesday, May 6
10:00 a.m. to noon
Hythe & Area FCSS Office
Drop-in (first come, first serve)

Babysitter Basics – Cost \$40

Friday May 23
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. | Ages 11-15
Hythe & Area FCSS Office

Board Game Buddies – Free

Thursday, June 26
12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. | Ages 8-12
Hythe & Area FCSS Office

Home Alone – Cost \$10

Friday, Sept. 19 (tentative)
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. | Ages 9-11
Hythe & Area FCSS Office

Service Canada Drop-in Outreach Clinic – Free

Second Tuesday of the month
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Hythe & Area FCSS Office

For more information on the above community programs, visit www.countygp.ab.ca/hythe or contact the Hythe Community Program at 780-933-7212.

Wellington Resource Centre (WRC) Community Programming

Youth Drop-in Support Group – Free

Second Thursday of the month
June to December
6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. | Ages 10 to 15
Wellington Resource Centre

Babysitter Basics – Cost \$40

Friday, Sept. 19 (tentative)
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. | Ages 11-15
Clairmont Community School

Seniors Intergenerational Luncheon – Free

Thursday, June 5 | 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Clairmont Community School
Call 780-567-2843 to register by June 1

Sexsmith and Area Food Bank, Clairmont Location

Wednesdays | noon to 2:00 p.m.
by appointment only.

Community Volunteer Income Tax Program – Free

Year-round help to prepare and file your tax return. Open to students, seniors, families or single parents with a modest income and simple taxes. For more information, www.countygp.ab.ca/wrc or contact the WRC at 780-567-2843.



Parent and Tot Programs

Parents, caregivers, and children aged 0-6 are welcome to join our FREE parent and tot playgroups. These drop-in sessions offer a fun, social environment with crafts, stories, songs, and playtime, along with opportunities for learning and connection. Learn more at www.countygp.ab.ca/EarlyChildhoodDevelopment.

Knelsen Centre, Bezanson

Tuesdays | 10:00 a.m. to noon
Start Date: September 9

Wellington Resource Centre, Clairmont

Thursdays | 10:00 a.m. to noon
Start Date: September 11

Five Mile Hall

Second and fourth Wednesday of the month | 10:00 a.m. to noon
Start Date: September 10

Hythe FCSS Office

First and third Wednesday of the month | 10:00 a.m. to noon
Start Date: September 24

Saskatoon Lake Community Hall

Second and fourth Monday of the month | 10:00 a.m. to noon
Start Date: September 8

Community Groups Corner

The Power of Volunteerism: Your Community Needs You!

According to a 2022 report by Imagine Canada, nearly 45.7 per cent of Albertans volunteer, contributing a remarkable 227 million hours annually – equivalent to almost 175,000 full-time jobs. This dedication is a powerful force in fostering stronger, more connected communities. Volunteering is a rewarding way to give back while also gaining valuable experiences.

Resources For Community Groups

Looking for information? Visit the Community Groups webpage www.countygp.ab.ca/communitygroups for funding resources, including links to toolkits, a crowdfunding platform and a Learning Centre for board members, volunteers, and service providers.

Stay Informed

Subscribe to our monthly Community Groups newsletter for up-to-date information delivered straight to your inbox on topics such as the location of our roving office, County and community-hosted training opportunities, suggestions for timely funding sources, and more.



Kids Can Catch

Come fish with your kids at the summer 2025 Kids Can Catch event. In partnership with the Alberta Conservation Association and the County of Grande Prairie, the event will be held at the J.D.A. County Sportsplex Pond, 7407-108 Street, Clairmont. Stay tuned to the County's Facebook page and website for event details and times.

Open to all families, feel free to bring fishing gear or use the provided County fishing poles. Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult and be registered to participate. Regular fishing regulations apply.

Summer Camps and Library Time



Adventure Awaits at Summer Kids Camps!

Join us from July 2 to August 20 for exciting summer programs in the County. With a mix of single-day activities, two-day camps, and family-friendly pop-up events, there's something for everyone.

Follow the County's Facebook page or visit www.countygp.ab.ca/summercamps for details and registration.

STEAM Programs at County Libraries

County Libraries are offering exciting STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) activities for children and teens this July and August.

- Tuesdays at La Glace Community Library
- Wednesdays at Hythe Community Library
- Thursdays at Elmhurst Community Library
- Fridays at Valhalla Community Library

Registration opens June 16. Please visit www.countygplibraries.ca/events for more details and to sign up.



Celebrate Alberta Day on September 1

Join us on Alberta Day on Monday, September 1 at the Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum and Wembley area to celebrate who we are as Albertans and what we can achieve together. This Alberta Day festival gives us the chance to celebrate our heritage and cultural identity in a family friendly atmosphere. Stay tuned for more details at www.countygp.ab.ca/RecreationPrograms.



It Takes a Volunteer Celebrates Third Year Honouring Local Volunteers

The County of Grande Prairie's It Takes a Volunteer program returned for its third year, celebrating the outstanding contributions of volunteers, organizations, and groups making a difference in our region.

"Volunteers are the heart of our community," says Reeve Bob Marshall. "We encourage nominations of all ages – from youth to seniors – to recognize their support of others."

Since launching in 2023, the program has recognized 19 organizations and 24 individuals, with 2024 seeing a rise in youth nominations. The County looks forward to honouring even more volunteers in 2025.

It Takes a Volunteer Hall of Fame

Find past honourees at www.countygp.ab.ca/volunteers.

The 2025 nominees were recognized during National Volunteer Week, April 27 to May 3, and received a recognition package from the County.

Follow the County's Facebook page for more stories and videos highlighting the impact of local volunteers.



Kristy Williams, Featured Volunteer

Kristy Williams' dedication to education and community service shines through her volunteer work. She has led the Alberta Teachers Association Social Studies Council (ATASSC) as President and Treasurer for over six years, providing resources and professional development. A longtime board member of Saskatoon Lake Agricultural Society, Kristy also works with the Peace Country Historical Society and Grande Prairie Royal Canadian Legion #54, bringing history to life for youth. Her passion for preserving Canada's heritage has made a lasting impact on the County.

Beaverlodge 4-H Beef Club, Featured Volunteer Organization

The Beaverlodge 4-H Beef Club has been instrumental in the community for 75 years, instilling leadership and civic responsibility in rural youth and adults. The club fosters intergenerational connections and community engagement through initiatives like the Fire Truck Food Drive, Christmas Craze, Hythe Legion Supper, Highway Clean-Up, and Christmas Cards for Seniors. These efforts support local families, seniors, and the environment while inspiring a culture of giving back, demonstrating the lasting impact of 4-H values.



Judy Wilson, Featured Volunteer

Judy Wilson's commitment to supporting seniors in Hythe and Beaverlodge is truly inspiring. As a volunteer with Alberta Health Services for the past four years, she provides companionship, palliative care support, and outing assistance. She also drives the bus for the Hythe Pioneer Home and Hidden Potential Society, helping seniors stay engaged in their community. Her kindness and dedication have profoundly improved the lives of many seniors.

Playschool Registration Now Open!

Give your little one a great start with our child-centered playschool programs, designed for three- and four-year-olds. Children can join the program the month they turn three and must be potty trained. Programs are available in Bezanson, Clairmont, Elmworth, La Glace, Valhalla, and Whispering Ridge. Applications for the 2025-2026 school year opened on March 1. Learn more and apply at www.countygp.ab.ca/playschool.





J.D.A. Ventures Ltd. Welcomed as New Naming Sponsor for County Sportsplex

In February, the County of Grande Prairie welcomed J.D.A. Ventures Ltd. as the new naming sponsor for the County Sportsplex.

This long-term sponsorship agreement will support ongoing improvements and maintenance of the County's premier sports and recreation facility, ensuring it continues to meet the needs of the growing community.

"Naming sponsorships are essential to the sustainability and enhancement of our community facilities," says County Reeve Bob Marshall. "The J.D.A. County Sportsplex will play a vital role in bringing people together—whether it's young athletes developing their skills, families enjoying recreational activities, or regional tournaments drawing visitors to our area."

For J.D.A. Ventures Ltd., this partnership aligns with their values of teamwork, community, and fostering a healthy lifestyle.

"Fitness is integral for fostering a strong and healthy community, as well as teaching valuable lessons to youth that they will carry throughout their lives," says Jarvis Dawson, President of J.D.A. Ventures Ltd. "We want to associate that journey with our brand. While we hold family values to heart, we here at J.D.A. operate as a team—the J.D. 'A' team. Work hard, play harder."

In welcoming this new partnership, the County also extends gratitude to Crosslink Leaseholds Inc. for their decade of support as the facility's original naming sponsor, helping grow the Sportsplex into the hub it is today.



Join Us! County Open House Events

County Councillors and staff look forward to connecting with residents during three County Open House events in June. Join us from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for fun, food, and friendship. Talk to staff and learn about County programs and services. Stop by the location nearest to you:

Harry Balfour School

Monday, June 16

Goodfare Hall

Wednesday, June 18

Saskatoon Lake Hall

Thursday, June 19

It's Building Season

Applications are available for building, electrical, gas, plumbing, and private sewage permits in the County and towns of Beaverlodge, Sexsmith, and Wembley. If you're planning to host an outdoor event with a temporary building, such as an event tent, a permit may be required.

Applications are accepted at the County Administration Building at 10001 - 84 Avenue in Clairmont or by emailing plan@countygp.ab.ca. Visit www.countygp.ab.ca/permits to learn more or contact Planning & Development staff at 780-513-3950.

Be a Good Neighbour This Spring

Springtime unveils the County of Grande Prairie's beauty but also reveals regular seasonal tasks. Please remember to bag pet waste on County trails, collect litter around your property after snowmelt, and repaint fences for curb appeal. Let's all do our part! Read our Community Standards Bylaw to learn more about keeping our communities safe and enjoyable for all:

www.countygp.ab.ca/csb



County Residents Weigh in at Crime Prevention Town Halls

In January, the County's Regional Enforcement Services hosted Crime Prevention Town Halls in Beaverlodge and Clairmont. The first in-person town halls since 2022, these events provided residents and business owners with a valuable platform to engage with County staff, law enforcement representatives, and security experts.

An online survey seeking community feedback ran from October 31, 2024, to January 24, 2025. Responses provided insights into community safety perceptions, with some residents expressing concerns about issues such as vehicle theft, break-ins, and speeding, particularly in specific neighbourhoods. Many also emphasized the need for enhanced crime prevention efforts and additional support to improve safety in their communities.

The valuable feedback gathered through both the town halls and the survey will help shape future crime prevention initiatives and safety programs across the County.



In April, two more Crime Prevention Town Halls were held in Dimsdale and Webster. For more information on future events and town halls, visit www.countygp.ab.ca/crimeprevention

Reporting unsightly properties:

Have concerns about an unsightly property in your community? You can report properties that may not be meeting local upkeep standards. Submit your report at www.countygp.ab.ca/complaints.

**APP
EMAIL
TEXT
LANDLINE**

The Choice is Yours!

Receive critical alerts and day-to-day communication from the County of Grande Prairie like fires or floods, road construction notices, and more!

 **VOYENTALERT!**



countygp.ab.ca/alerts



AI Safety

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is playing an increasingly larger role in our daily lives, from virtual assistants to smart home devices that offer support and convenience. It is important to understand the risks and understand how to stay safe while using AI.

Here are some tips to protect yourself:

- Avoid sharing sensitive personal information with AI.
- Use only reputable AI applications and services.
- Understand your AI provider's privacy policies.
- Verify information provided by AI, as it may not be accurate
- Do not rely solely on AI and stay informed.



Plan Your County

The County of Grande Prairie is updating the bylaws, policies and plans that make up the planning and development process. The goal of this initiative is to ensure that the County's long-term vision continues to align with the values of the community, to improve processes to make them easier to understand, and to reduce 'red tape.'

What is Plan Your County?

The planning process launched in 2023 as Plan Your County. The idea behind grouping all the document updates under one overarching project was to make it easier for residents to see how all the elements work together, to follow the project, and to participate.

In 2024, the project team completed a second round of consultation on the Municipal Development Plan. In this phase, residents were invited to participate in workshops or complete a survey about the future land use concept for the entire County and the potential conditions for certain types of development. This feedback has been used to prepare a draft update to the plan.

Completed Projects:

Last year, the County also completed several other Plan Your County projects: the Hamlet Resiliency Strategy, Intermunicipal Development Plans with the Town of Beaverlodge and the City of Grande Prairie, and some updates to the administrative section of the Land Use Bylaw.

Ongoing Projects:

In 2025, the County is working on completing the Municipal Development Plan update. The next step will be presenting the draft update at open houses across the County in the spring. The County will also continue working on updates to the administrative section of the Land Use Bylaw to update and simplify our processes.

Want to get involved? Sign up for project updates at www.countygp.ab.ca/planyourcounty.

Campgrounds and Parks Open for the Season

All County campgrounds and parks are now open and ready to welcome visitors! Visit www.countygp.ab.ca/campgrounds to book your campsite and browse photos and details of any of our eight campgrounds including Pipestone Creek, Hythe Municipal, Bear Lake, Demmitt, Hommy and Kleskun Hill campgrounds. We also offer exclusive group camping at Bear Hill Park and Old Bezanson Townsite. To keep our campgrounds safe and enjoyable for everyone, please follow all posted campground rules during your stay. A \$7 nightly fire permit fee applies to all County campgrounds to help cover firewood handling and firepit maintenance. Fire restrictions are subject to change throughout the season; check www.countygp.ab.ca/firebans for updates.

June Is Recreation and Parks Month



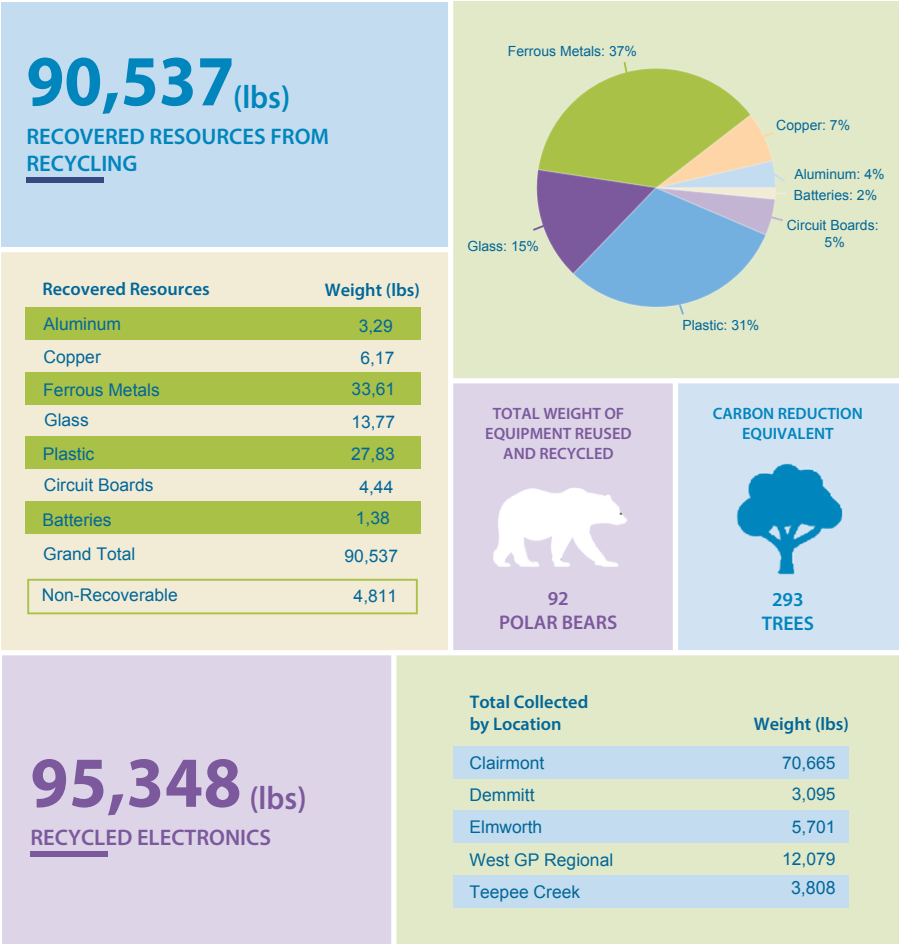
Get out and enjoy the summer weather at one of the County's premiere campsites and parks. Paddle along the shores of Bear Lake in a kayak (pictured) or take a walk through the wooded trails of Pipestone Creek and Hommy campgrounds, where you'll also find amenities the whole family can enjoy. Discover the rich history of Kleskun Hills, or, if you're headed west, take a break at Hythe Municipal Campground or explore the natural beauty near Demmitt. Check out upcoming activities by visiting the 'Recreation Events and Programs' section at www.countygp.ab.ca/recreation.

Celebrate the Reopening of Old Bezanson Townsite

Join us on Saturday, June 7, from noon to 3:00 p.m. at the Old Bezanson Townsite for a fun-filled afternoon celebrating the grand reopening of this historic campground. Enjoy a barbecue, scavenger hunt, geocaching, an archaeological presentation, and more. To help us prepare, register and let us know you're coming at www.countygp.ab.ca/bbqevent.

Recycling Corner: County of Grande Prairie Sustainability Report

Congratulations, County of Grande Prairie residents! In 2024, a whopping total of 95,348 pounds of electronic waste was diverted from our landfills to be recycled. The following infographic, prepared by the County's processor, Quantum Lifecycle Partners LLC, shows that iron-based metals, plastic and glass made up the bulk of the recovered materials from electronic waste.



Don't forget: If it has a cord or battery, recycle it!

Remember, any items with a battery or cord are accepted through the County's Electronic Recycling Program at any of our transfer stations. Help keep old TVs, computers, laptops, tablets, printers, copiers, scanners, and fax machines out of the landfill. Find more information at www.countygp.ab.ca/recycle



County Curbside Recycling Transitioning to Circular Materials

On April 1, 2025, the County, as part of Alberta's Regulated Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) framework, transitioned curbside recycling to Circular Materials, a national not-for-profit organization. With this change, Circular Materials is now the designated producer responsible for the cost and collection of recycling in Alberta.

What's changing?

The physical and financial burden of collecting, sorting, processing, and recycling waste will shift away from local governments and taxpayers. Recycling costs will now be covered by the organizations that produce and sell packaging and paper.

What does this mean for me?

Previously, the County collected a fee for recycling collection on a cost-recovery basis. Now, County residents who currently pay a monthly recycling fee on their utility bill should see the fee reduced or removed. Residents who use community collection bins for recycling will not be affected.

What do I need to do?

County residents do not need to do anything different. Curbside service will remain the same – the same materials will be collected on the same day.

To learn more about recycling in the County, scan the QR code or visit www.countygp.ab.ca/recycle.



The J.D.A. County Sportsplex has a Program for Everyone!

780-830-7407 | info@cgpsportsplex.com | www.jdacountysportsplex.com

KIDS SUMMER CAMPS

Kids aged 5-12 can enjoy seven weeks of fun activities at our camps this summer. Learn to participate, work as a team, build confidence, independence, and communication skills. Camps run from July 7 to August 22 with a new fun theme every week.

Registration fees are per week. Participants should bring a water bottle, four snacks, a big lunch, change of clothes, swimsuit, towel, ice skates (optional), helmet, and appropriate outdoor wear. Drop-off is from 7:45 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., and pick-up is from 4:00 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. To register, visit jdacountysportsplex.com or call 780-830-7407.

SUMMER CAMPS 2025

SAFARI ADVENTURE
Week 4 | July 28 - August 1
\$250



SUPERHERO SUMMER
Week 1 | July 7 - 11
\$250



J.D.A. OLYMPICS
Week 5 | August 5 - 8
\$200



BEACH BASH
Week 2 | July 14 - 18
\$250



NATURE EXPLORERS
Week 6 | August 11 - 15
\$250



CHRISTMAS IN JULY
Week 3 | July 21 - 25
\$250



SPORTS MANIA
Week 7 | August 18 - 22
\$250





PHILIP J. CURRIE
DINOSAUR MUSEUM

SUMMER PROGRAMMING

EXPLORE THE PREHISTORIC PAST WITH US!

The Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum offers unique experiences for all ages. This summer, go beyond the walls of the museum and join us at the bonebed or on the Wapiti River for an unforgettable journey!

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF DISCOVERY

This September, our museum turns 10 years old. Be a part of our special year by participating in our monthly giveaways, new exhibits, themed scavenger hunts, and 10-Year Anniversary Party in September.

COME FACE TO FACE WITH 'BIG SAM'

Weighing in at 1,000 pounds, come see one of the largest *Pachyrhinosaurus lakustai* skulls ever discovered, excavated from the Pipestone Creek bonebed in September 2024.

PALAEONTOLOGIST FOR A DAY

Become a paleontologist for a day, working shoulder-to-shoulder with researchers at one of the densest bonebeds in North America. Uncover 72 million-year-old mysteries of a world lost to time. Ages 12+.



SECRETS OF THE WAPITI

Discover the natural history of the region on this gentle guided river tour. Learn from palaeontologists, touch newly exposed fossils, explore sites only accessible by water, and dine on a picnic-style lunch provided by Café on 43.

DINO SUMMER CAMPS

Sign up your dino enthusiast for a fun and educational day camp this summer! Our camps are for kids aged 4 to 12+ and run through July and August, with individual camps spanning three, four, or five days. Campers will learn about dinosaurs, science, and nature as they explore our museum, and Pipestone Creek Park, and Saskatoon Island!

PALAEO PALOOZA - BACK FOR A FIFTH YEAR

Come out and experience our two-day science festival, August 9-10, featuring carnival games, dino-riffic educational booths, and experts from around the world. Ask questions, have fun, and discover the world of dinosaurs!

Visit www.dinomuseum.ca for more information and follow [@curriemuseum](https://www.instagram.com/curriemuseum) on



RETURN UNDELIVERABLE ITEMS TO
THE COUNTY OF GRANDE PRAIRIE NO.1
10001 - 84 AVENUE
CLAIRMONT, AB T8X 5B2



County Contact Information

EMAIL:

info@countygyp.ab.ca

ADDRESS:

10001 - 84 Avenue, Clairmont, AB T8X 5B2

WEBSITE:

www.countygyp.ab.ca

OFFICE HOURS:

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., including over the lunch hour. Closed on statutory holidays.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDINGS

Administration, Assessment, Asset Management, Corporate Services and Strategy, Economic Development, Financial and Business Planning Services, Information Technology, Insurance/Risk Management, Legislative Services, Procurement, Communications and Marketing, People and Organizational Development, Transportation and Utilities, Planning and Development Services

780-532-9722

COMMUNITY SERVICES BUILDINGS

Agriculture, Family and Community Support Services, Regional Enforcement Services, Regional Fire Service, Recreation and Culture

780-532-9727



LEFT TO RIGHT: Councillor Brian Peterson, Councillor Karen Rosvold, Councillor Bob Chrenek, Reeve Bob Marshall, Deputy Reeve Amanda Frayn, Councillor Leanne Beaupre, Councillor Kurt Balderston, Councillor Steve Zimmerman, Councillor Peter Harris

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Deputy Reeve Amanda Frayn

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