

# COUNTY CONNECTIONS



**FALL 2024**



County of  
Grande Prairie No. 1

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## REEVE'S MESSAGE



As summer transitions into fall, I want to share some recent highlights, opportunities we have had to spotlight the County, and what we are doing to shape the future of our community.

In partnership with the Alberta Enterprise Group, we had the honour of hosting RJ Sigurdson, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, in June. This

event provided a fantastic opportunity for local businesses and the agricultural community to connect, learn, and influence their industries' future. It was also a chance to showcase our vibrant County to a key decision-maker in the agricultural sector.

The 2023 Annual Report also showcases our County and is now available for your review. It details how your municipal tax dollars were invested throughout the year in projects, programs, and services to support our vibrant and healthy communities. Learn more about our efforts to maintain high-quality services and advance important projects for residents, businesses, and community members. Find out how to get a copy or read it online on page 14.

### WILDFIRE SEASON AND SAFETY

This wildfire season has been particularly busy, especially with the Kleskun Creek and Valhalla fires beginning within minutes of each other in May. The County of Grande Prairie, Alberta Wildfire, and the MD of Greenview worked together to manage the incidents, with additional assistance from the City of Grande Prairie, MD of Smoky River, Town of Slave Lake, and Big Lakes County.

The number of human-caused fires in the County this season is concerning. While fire season may seem to be winding down, it's critical that we continue implementing FireSmart™ practices. Remember to practice safe burning when gathering around your firepit this fall and prune your trees to at least two meters from the ground.

Complete these and other FireSmart actions on your properties this fall, including booking a free FireSmart Home Assessment or downloading the FireSmart app. For more information and tips, see pages 6-7.

### RECOGNIZING OUR VOLUNTEERS

A heartfelt thank you to the volunteers and community groups who are the backbone of our communities. We were pleased to recognize their valuable contributions with support from our grant program. This year, the County of Grande Prairie awarded \$252,790 in operating assistance and cemetery grants to 68 non-profit organizations and volunteer groups. Additionally, \$420,190 in grants to cover utility and other operating expenses were allocated to organizations that operate sport, recreation, and cultural facilities in the County.

### BUDGET 2025

A significant investment in roads, 70 per cent of the capital budget, was made in Budget 2024, and we expect additional investment to be made in Budget 2025. Given this and the current state of the economy, we are looking at another tough budget season. Council and administration will consider how to ensure you receive the services you expect and need while balancing the current inflationary conditions. This will include looking at efficiencies and other cost savings.

### PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

In our spring newsletter, we shared opportunities for you to participate in Plan Your County to help shape the plans, strategies and other documents that will guide County growth. Your input helped us develop and update plans and policies, including the draft Hamlet Resiliency Strategy for our nine rural hamlets and the completed Intermunicipal Development Plan (IDP) with the Town of Beaverlodge. We continue to work on the IDP with the City of Grande Prairie and the Municipal Development Plan Update. Find details on page 15.

## CENSUS AND ELECTORAL BOUNDARY REVIEW

This spring, the 2024 census was extended to achieve our desired 95 percent completion rate. The census closed on July 2, 2024, and official results will be available later this year. More information is available on page 5.

Using data from the municipal census and your input from the first phase of public feedback, we are now reviewing the boundaries for the County's nine electoral divisions. Phase 2 of engagement is nearing completion, so please provide your thoughts today. See page 4 and 5 for more information and how to provide your input.

## CRIME PREVENTION

We were thrilled to recruit a new Community Safety Coordinator as part of our Crime Prevention Committee Annual Work Plan. This one-year position will work with County residents and business owners to implement crime prevention and community policing initiatives. See page 13 for more details.

## NEW INITIATIVES

A new event permit program launched on July 8, 2024. If your event or planned activity takes place on County-owned land or involves ticket sales, you must obtain approval from the County of Grande Prairie. Read more on page 21.

Council directed County administration to explore developing an agreement with the City of Grande Prairie and MD of Greenview for health care professional recruitment.

The Workforce Development Partnership continues to bring the region together to support workforce development, securing support from the Northern Regional Economic Development Program through Jobs Economy and Trade. Details are available on page 14.

## STAY INFORMED

The County offers many ways to stay connected to the information you need as a County resident. Use the links below to find out more and reach out to your Councillor:

- News: [www.countygp.ab.ca/subscribe](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/subscribe)
- Voyent Alert (see page 3): [www.countygp.ab.ca/alerts](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/alerts)
- Engage and provide feedback: [www.countygp.ab.ca/engage](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/engage)
- Events calendar: [www.countygp.ab.ca/events](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/events)
- County Councillors: [www.countygp.ab.ca/council](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/council)

## SEASONAL UPDATES AND EVENTS

With harvest underway and the approaching back-to-school season, please watch out for slow-moving farm equipment and stay safe in school zones. Find school zone safety tips on page 12.

Thank you for engaging with us at the three County Open Houses in June. Council and staff were happy to meet with 480 residents at these events and we look forward to seeing you at Alberta Day on September 1. See details below.

Wishing you a wonderful Labour Day long weekend and an enjoyable fall season in the great outdoors. We encourage you to experience all that the County has to offer, including trails, camping, and day-use parks.



# CELEBRATE ALBERTA DAY ON SEPTEMBER 1

Join us on Alberta Day on Sunday, September 1, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Bezanson Community Event Centre to celebrate who we are as Albertans and what we can achieve together. This Alberta Day festival gives us the chance to take pride in our province and celebrate our heritage and cultural identity in a family friendly atmosphere. Find event details online at [www.countygp.ab.ca/RecreationPrograms](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/RecreationPrograms).



# REGISTER FOR **FREE TODAY**

Voyent Alert! is a multi-purpose communication service provided by the County of Grande Prairie to keep you informed of critical events like fires or floods and day-to-day communications such as road maintenance and service disruptions.

## **1. MOBILE APP USERS:**

Get the Voyent Alert! app from the App Store or Google Play.

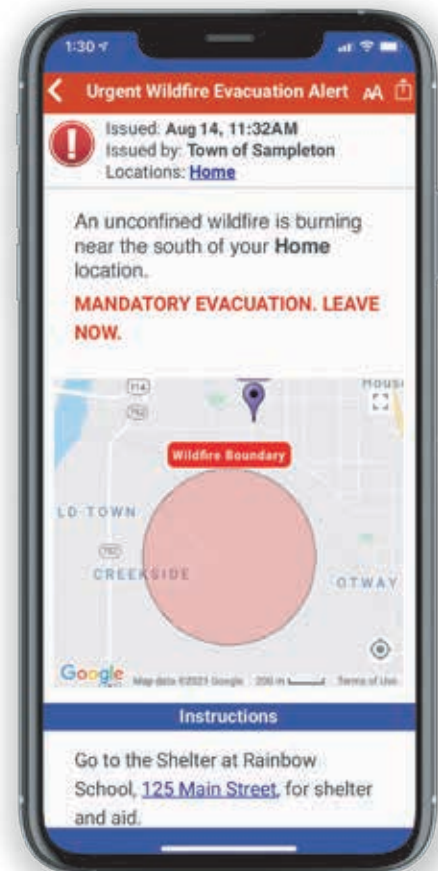
## **2. EMAIL OR TEXT (SMS) USERS:**

Register online to receive email or text-based alerts.

## **3. LANDLINE PHONE USERS:**

Register online to receive text-to-voice alerts.

**Sign up for all today to ensure you never miss an alert!**



Download the app or register for alerts at  
**[www.countygp.ab.ca/alerts](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/alerts)**

*The service includes land within the County of Grande Prairie boundaries only. This does not include the City of Grande Prairie or the towns of Beaverlodge, Sexsmith, and Wembley. Addresses are provided by Google Maps. Please check to ensure the location of your pin is accurate and reflects your home, work, or any other address you are registering for alerts.*



# EXPLORING EQUITABLE REPRESENTATION: AN UPDATE ON COUNTY ELECTORAL BOUNDARY REVIEW

In 2021, we welcomed the Village of Hythe as a hamlet within the County of Grande Prairie. Despite this change, the existing nine electoral divisions have remained untouched, prompting the Government of Alberta to mandate this review.

## THE REVIEW PROCESS SO FAR

The review began with the municipal census, providing insights into demographic changes and population distribution. The census was completed in early July, see below for a census update.

Other research revealed that six out of nine County divisions are outside the optimal population range of between 2,052 and 3,420. The population in divisions ranged from just over 1,000 residents to more than 5,000.

The County of Grande Prairie is also expected to grow at a faster rate than the rest of the province with a projected population of 45,400 by 2046.

## PHASE 1 ENGAGEMENT COMPLETED

Phase 1 engagement included an online survey from June 3-23, 2024. Key findings:

- Desire for equal representation with easy-to-understand boundaries.
- No change in number of councillors and divisions.
- While more than half of respondents feel fairly represented, a quarter stated that they do not feel fairly represented.
- Respondents suggested that the Hamlet of Clairmont should either be split into two or more electoral divisions and include part of the surrounding rural land, or be its own electoral division.

## NUMBER OF COUNCILLORS AND DIVISIONS

In June, Council decided to keep the number of councillors and boundaries at nine each.

## PHASE 2 ENGAGEMENT - SURVEY NOW OPEN

Phase 2 of the public engagement asks respondents to identify a preference for the location of the boundaries for the nine electoral divisions. There are four options to choose from, including keeping the current boundaries.

The online survey closes on August 27, so don't delay in providing your thoughts. Access the survey at [survey at \*\*www.countygp.ab.ca/EBR\*\*](http://survey.at.countygp.ab.ca/EBR) or scan the QR code. The survey results are expected in September.




## THANK YOU FOR YOUR INPUT

Thank you to everyone for taking the time to participate in the engagement process. Your feedback is invaluable in shaping our electoral boundaries.

By September 23, 2024, Council will decide on potential boundary changes and give the bylaw first reading. A 60-day petition period will allow residents to submit a petition for the bylaw to be reconsidered. Petition requirements will be communicated in September and October. Second and third reading of the bylaw will take place in December.

Subscribe to [\*\*www.countygp.ab.ca/EBR\*\*](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/EBR) for further updates.

A photograph of a man and a woman walking a small white dog on a paved path that runs along a body of water. The scene is captured in a blue-tinted, low-key style, with the couple's reflections visible in the water.

## CENSUS 2024: COUNTY OF GRANDE PRAIRIE COUNTS ON COMMUNITY

# ENGAGEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

## Phase 1 Engagement Outcomes

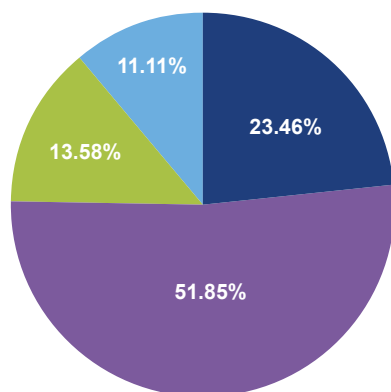
Survey Period: June 3-23, 2024

Responses: 118

### Survey Highlights:

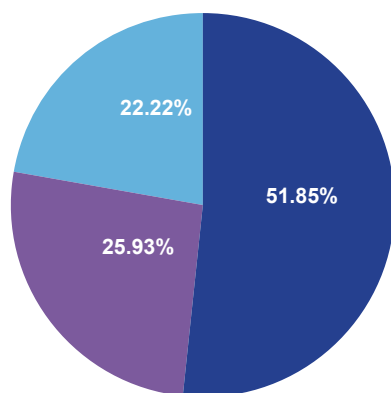
How many councillors should the County have?

- 7 (remove 2)
- 9 (no change)
- 11 (add 2)
- I don't know



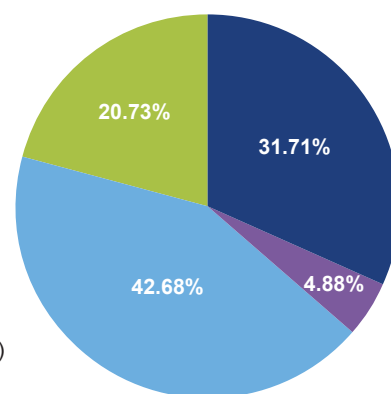
Do you feel you are currently represented fairly under the existing electoral boundary structure?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know



In your opinion, should the Hamlet of Clairmont:

- Be its own electoral (council) division, regardless of population size
- Be split into two electoral (council) divisions within the boundaries of the hamlet only
- Be split into two or more electoral (council) divisions. Each division has part of the hamlet and part of the surrounding rural lands.
- No opinion



### Phase 2 Engagement

- Two open houses held in late August.
- Online survey available between August 6 and 27.
- Results will be available in September.
- For details on Phase 2 engagement, visit [www.countygp.ab.ca/EBR](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/EBR).

For the first time since 2012, the County of Grande Prairie conducted a municipal census, beginning on April 3 and running until July 2, 2024. This census aimed to gather up-to-date information to help plan for future community needs and services.

The community's response was enthusiastic, and the data collected will provide invaluable insights into our population, helping guide future developments and services.

Our unofficial population is 26,747, up more than 26 per cent from 21,157 in 2012. The official detailed results are expected later this year.


The census data provides valuable insight for the electoral boundary review, as it relates to changes in population distribution and specific division populations.



For more information and results, visit [www.countygp.ab.ca/census](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/census).







## FIRESMART TIPS FOR FALL







**FireSmart™  
Begins at Home  
GUIDE**



FireSmart, Intelli-feu and other associated Marks are trademarks of the Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre (CIFFC).

As wildfires become more frequent and severe, it's crucial to take proactive steps to protect your home and property. We've highlighted some top tips from the FireSmart™ Begins at Home Guide. You can pick up a free copy of this guide at the County's Community Services Building, 10808 100 Ave, Clairmont or read it online at [www.firesmartcanada.ca](http://www.firesmartcanada.ca).

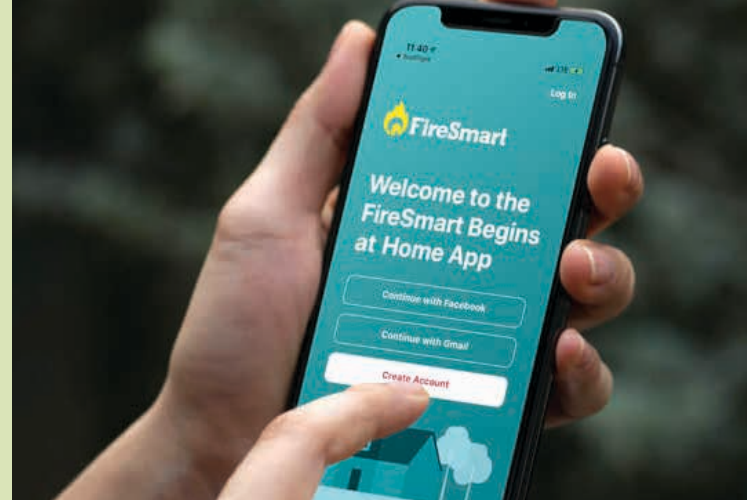
### Here are some of the key recommendations:

- Maintain a 1.5 metre zone around your house and deck, ensuring it's free of combustible materials (including underneath the deck).
- Regularly clean decks, balconies, gutters, and roofs to remove leaves and debris.
- Keep grass and weeds trimmed regularly, ensuring they are no taller than 10 cm.
- Plant wildfire-resistant vegetation on your property to minimize flammability.
- Use non-combustible 3 mm screens to prevent embers from entering external vents (excluding dryer vents).
- Prune trees to at least 2 metres from the ground.
- Store firewood at least 10 metres away from your home.
- Construct sheds and other structures to meet the same safety standards as your home.
- Develop a household wildfire evacuation plan

## SECURE YOUR HOME: FIRESMART ASSESSMENT MADE EASY

Ensuring your home is FireSmart is crucial for protecting your property and community. Take action today with our easy-to-use tools.

- Download the 'FireSmart Begins at Home' app and complete your own home assessment. Find it on the App Store and Google Play to download it today.
- Schedule a FireSmart Home Assessment. Visit [www.countygp.ab.ca/firesmart](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/firesmart) or call County Regional Fire Service at 780-532-9727 to book an assessment today.



## 2024 FIRE SEASON: EARLY CHALLENGES AND DEDICATED EFFORTS

County Regional Fire Service has been busy with an early start to wildland fires this year due to a dry winter and spring. Many spring fires were preventable, such as winter burn piles that reignited in dry, windy conditions. Residents are reminded to check and dig up burn sites in late winter and early spring to ensure no remaining heat is present.

### FIRES OF NOTE

The following is a timeline of fires fought in 2024.

#### APRIL 2024



##### Two-Hectare Fire

Cause: Open pit burning next to dry grass in windy conditions.



##### One-Hectare Grass Fire

Cause: Tree on a powerline that quickly spread.



##### 82-Hectare Holdover Fire

Cause: Winter burn pile that spread in hot, dry, windy conditions, requiring helicopter bucketing.



##### 30-Hectare Fire

Suspected cause: Ember from a flare stack landing in dry grass, which threatened homes and prompted local evacuations.



##### One-Hectare Fire

Cause: Ember from a bee smoker igniting dry grass.



##### Vegetation and Equipment Fire

Cause: Unpermitted use of a burn barrel during a fire restriction that ignited dry grass.



##### Deployment

County Fire Service supported the MD of Peace with a large wildland fire in the Shaftesbury area of the Peace River Valley.

#### MAY 2024



##### One-Hectare Fire

Cause: Holdover fire that reignited.



##### Assistance on a 100-Hectare Fire

Alberta Wildfire requested assistance to protect structures and suppress fires in the Provincial Fire Protection Area.



##### 1,298-Hectare Kleskun Creek Fire East of Teepee Creek

The fire grew rapidly beyond resources and required Alberta Wildfire assistance, spreading into the Forest Protection Area in the MD of Greenview on the east side of the Smoky River. The County of Grande Prairie, Alberta Wildfire, and the MD of Greenview worked together to manage the incident. Additional assistance was provided by the City of Grande Prairie, MD of Smoky River, Town of Slave Lake, and Big Lakes County. The fire was classified as extinguished on June 28, 2024.

#### JUNE 2024



##### Deployment

Four members of the County Regional Fire Service were deployed to Zama City to support Alberta Wildfire, Mackenzie County and the High Level Fire Department with structural protection and suppression of an out-of-control wildfire.



##### Fires in Grande Prairie

County Regional Fire Service supported fire suppression on multiple fires at and around the Grande Prairie Golf and Country Club. The cause of the fires is under investigation.



## FIRE PREVENTION WEEK 2024

### Understanding the Vital Importance of Smoke Alarms

Fire Prevention Week is October 6-12, 2024. This year's theme, "Smoke alarms: Make them work for you!", strives to educate everyone about the importance of having working smoke alarms in the home. For more information visit [www.nfpa.org/fpw](http://www.nfpa.org/fpw).



# LET IT SNOW



## ALL ABOUT SNOW AND ICE CONTROL

Snow and ice control is the County's priority throughout the winter season. Dedicated equipment and crews work to keep everyone moving safely across paved and gravel roads, and trails. Crews dedicated to snow removal operate 20 graders, eight plow trucks, one large tractor, and three loaders to clear and maintain over 3,700 km of roads across the County.

### After a snowfall event, crews follow a priority system for clearing to manage snow and ice on winter roads.

- High-volume and high-speed roads (also known as arterial or hard-surfaced roads) are cleared first, once 8 cm of snow has collected. A reasonable effort will be made to ensure these roads are cleared within three business days.
- Gravel roads are cleared once 15 cm of snow has collected. A reasonable effort will be made to ensure these roads are cleared within five business days.
- Intersections, curves on roads, and hills are salted, sanded, and/or gravelled, also starting with priority roads.
- Hamlets and residential subdivisions (subdivisions with a concrete curb and gutter) are cleared by a dedicated crew once 15 cm of snow has collected. Within these areas, high-volume (main) roads and school zones are priority, and a reasonable effort will be made to ensure these roads are cleared within a 12-day cycle.

## WHAT ABOUT LARGE SNOWFALL EVENTS?

Crews aim to clear all rural roads within five days of significant snowfall, and hamlets and residential subdivisions within 12 days. Multiple snowfalls in a short period of time, or frigid temperatures, may affect this cycle. Crews work as efficiently as possible. Want to learn more? The Winter Road Maintenance policy is available at [www.countygp.ab.ca/snowremoval](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/snowremoval).

## SUBSCRIBE TO VOYENT ALERT! STAY IN THE KNOW ABOUT RESIDENTIAL SNOW REMOVAL

Hamlets and some residential neighbourhoods in the County are cleared by a specific crew and equipment. Neighbourhoods with curb and gutter along the streets have temporary parking bans put in place throughout the winter to allow crews to clear snow safely and efficiently.

### Areas include:

- The Hamlet of Clairmont, from 100 Avenue to 116 Avenue
- Subdivisions of Whispering Ridge & Westlake Village in the Hamlet of Clairmont
- Subdivision of Wedgewood
- Subdivisions of Maple Ridge & Taylor Estates
- The Hamlet of Hythe
- The Hamlet of La Glace

Watch the digital signage at the entrance to your neighbourhood. When the No Parking sign is lit, a temporary parking ban is in effect and vehicles must be moved from roadways between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. for snow removal.







Do you live in one of the hamlets or residential neighbourhoods listed on page 8? Visit [www.countygp.ab.ca/alerts](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/alerts) to subscribe to Voyent Alert, the County of Grande Prairie's new notification service, for the latest on residential snow removal in the County. Receive notifications on progress and temporary parking restrictions in some County hamlets and residential neighbourhoods via the Voyent Alert app, or by email, text, or landline phone (text-to-voice). Read more about the County's Voyent Alert communication service on page 3.

### WHAT ABOUT OTHER NEIGHBOURHOODS LIKE CARRIAGE LANE AND GOLDENROD ESTATES?

The residential snow removal process with temporary parking restrictions is in place in areas with a concrete curb and gutter and street parking. Rural residential areas and subdivisions with ditches are cleared on a separate schedule. For questions about clearing in those areas, contact Transportation and Utilities at 780-532-7393.

### CLEARING PAVED TRAILS

County crews also maintain the network of paved trails through the winter season with snow and ice control. Visit [www.countygp.ab.ca/trails](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/trails) for up-to-date status reports on trail conditions and maintenance.

### PROVINCIAL HIGHWAYS

Clearing snow from provincial highways is done by Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors. Provincial highways are always numbered with one, two or three digits, e.g., Highway 2, Highway 43, and Highway 672. For updated highway reports, visit 511 Alberta or call 780-538-5310.

### DO YOUR PART FOR SAFE SNOW REMOVAL

To ensure we can clear snow quickly and safely, residents and businesses are asked to do their part.

- During periods of heavy snowfall or other extreme weather conditions, please have patience as crews work to clear snow from your area as quickly as possible.
- Please use extreme caution and reduce your speed when approaching plows, graders, and other snow removal equipment.
- Remember to keep snow and ice off roadways. County bylaws prohibit pushing snow onto or across roadways, or onto any other property other than your own. If windrows freeze, they can cause accidents, or damage County equipment and private vehicles.

### SENIORS AND SPECIAL NEEDS SNOW REMOVAL PROGRAM

Residents aged 65 or older or individuals with disabilities, who live on two or more acres of land and have difficulty clearing their driveway, can apply to the Senior Snow Removal Program.

Following a snowfall event, once County roadways are cleared, crews will clear the driveways of the over 400 residents supported by this program. Private driveways cannot be cleared upon request, so make sure to register for the program if you qualify.

### AGE 65+

To register, complete the online form at [www.countygp.ab.ca/seniorssnowremoval](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/seniorssnowremoval) or contact Transportation and Utilities at 780-532-7393.

### RESIDENTS WITH A PHYSICAL DISABILITY

Contact Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) at 780-567-5586 to register.



# BE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR THIS WINTER

## FOLLOW THE COMMUNITY STANDARDS BYLAW

The County's Community Standards Bylaw sets guidelines for homeowners and residents to help ensure our communities remain safe during the snowy season.



## CLEAR YOUR SIDEWALKS WITHIN 24 HOURS

Once it snows, you must keep the sidewalk in front of your property clear, whether you own or rent.

Property owners and occupants must remove snow and ice from public sidewalks adjacent to their property within 24 hours of snowfall.

Keep the snow on your property. It is illegal to push snow onto roads as it can freeze and create significant safety hazards.



## KEEP FIRE HYDRANTS CLEAR & ACCESSIBLE

Access to water is crucial when responding to a fire, making the difference in saving homes and lives.

If you live near a fire hydrant, you must keep it clear of snow and accessible for emergency services personnel.

"Clearing hydrants is an important duty, ensuring quick access to water during emergencies," says Fire Chief Trevor Grant. "Every second counts in firefighting; by keeping hydrants clear, you're aiding not just your own safety but that of your entire community."



## DIRECT YOUR DRAINAGE

Sump pumps, eavestroughs, and any type of pump drainage on your property must stay within your property lines. To prevent ice patches and other hazards, do not drain onto trails, sidewalks, or public lands. Failure to follow this rule can result in fines or other penalties for repeat offenses.

## REPORTING

Concerned that the Community Standards Bylaw or other County bylaws are not being followed? Report an incident to Regional Enforcement Services at 780-532-9727 or online at [www.countygp.ab.ca/report](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/report) using the "Report an Occurrence" form. Read more about the Community Standards Bylaw at [www.countygp.ab.ca/csb](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/csb).



# 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](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/myproperty)



## PROPERTY TAX REMINDERS

### SECOND PENALTY DATE

**When:** October 31, 2024

**Penalty:** 12% penalty on current and overdue balances

**More info:** [www.countygp.ab.ca/taxes](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/taxes)

### TAX RECOVERY SALE – PUBLIC AUCTION

**When:** October 15, 2024, at 2 p.m.

**Details:** Auction for properties with a tax recovery lien due to unpaid taxes for over three years. This sale aims to recover unpaid property taxes.

**More info:** [www.countygp.ab.ca/public-auction](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/public-auction)



## UTILITY BILL REMINDERS

### INTEREST FEE

Unpaid bills will have 3.5% interest added monthly.

### UNPAID BILLS

Starting in September, delinquent utility accounts will be added to the property tax account each quarter and charged a \$25 transfer fee.



# MAKING SCHOOL ZONES SAFER TOGETHER



**\$567 + 6 demerits**

Failing to stop for a school bus with flashing red lights



**\$810 + 4 demerits**

Failing to yield to pedestrians in a crosswalk



**\$81 - \$2,000 + 2 to 6 demerits**

Speeding in a school zone



Driver's licence suspension if speed is 50+ km over the posted rate.

Although school buses are safe modes of transportation for kids, it's imperative that community efforts ensure their safety outside the bus. Superintendent Stuart Rempel, Manager of County Regional Enforcement Services, shares some great tips on how we can ensure a safe back-to-school season:

- **Drivers need to be extra vigilant:** Reduce speed, stay alert for school buses and pedestrians, and be mindful of school and playground zones. Always follow speed limits and slow down at crosswalks, making eye contact with pedestrians to confirm they are seen.
- **Pedestrians must also remain cautious.** Keep an eye on traffic, make eye contact with drivers, and wait for vehicles to stop before crossing. Demonstrate safe behaviour to children by putting away phones and removing earphones before crossing streets.
- **Plan your mornings to avoid rushing.** Teach your children to stay alert when getting on and off the bus and to follow the driver's instructions.

"As we enter the busy back-to-school season, everyone's cooperation is essential to maintain a safe environment," Rempel advises. "Together, we can make a difference in protecting our children."

Rempel notes that County Peace Officers conduct school zone patrols throughout the year, with increased attention during the first two weeks of school to ensure safety. Hefty fines and demerits are designed to help you to remember.

## NEW PARKLAND PATROL UNIT BOOSTS COMMUNITY SAFETY YEAR-ROUND



The County's new Parkland Patrol unit, established to enhance community safety, operates year-round.

Since February 2024, Peace Officers Mark Morrical, Hailey Kirby, and Colton Renschler have patrolled full-time using vehicles, snowmobiles, ATVs, quads, mountain bikes, and on foot. The patrols cover a wide range of areas, including trails, the Dunes, unoccupied crown land, green spaces, and County parks and campgrounds.

Many patrols are joint operations with the RCMP and Alberta Conservation Officers. These collaborative efforts have successfully detected criminal activities, numerous unattended or unreported fires, illegal squatters and encampments, illegal dumping, and unsafe use of ATVs and vehicles.

"Fire Services' role often intersects with the work of the Parkland Patrol, especially in detecting unattended fires and addressing fire safety issues in remote areas," says Fire Chief Trevor Grant. "Their patrols have been instrumental in preventing potential fire hazards and ensuring the safety of our natural environments."

The Parkland Patrol unit also engages with the community through the Safety City initiative and school visits that include educating youth on the safe operation of ATVs.



# NEW COMMUNITY SAFETY COORDINATOR ROLE APPROVED

Following the approval of the 2024 Spring Budget, the County is excited to announce the creation of a new role within the Regional Enforcement Services department: the Community Safety Coordinator. This enhancement to the team underscores Council's commitment to community wellness and safety.

Rural crime is a provincial government priority and an ongoing concern within our community. In response, the County has formed a dedicated crime prevention committee and is actively planning initiatives to tackle these issues head-on.

The County's Regional Enforcement Services department is a multidisciplinary law enforcement agency that focuses on improving community, traffic, and infrastructure safety through proactive patrols, cooperative partnerships, crime prevention, education, and community policing initiatives.

Stay tuned for an announcement on the successful candidate in September. The Community Safety Coordinator will work together with County residents and business owners to implement crime prevention and community policing initiatives, fostering a sense of shared responsibility and community spirit. They will also connect with community safety groups, police and law enforcement agencies, and residents to set up conversation cafes and deliver crime prevention messaging and training to the community.



## HOW TO REACH COUNTY REGIONAL ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

Do you have questions, concerns, or complaints? Would you like information regarding traffic safety and enforcement? The following is a list of important contacts in the event you ever need to reach Regional Enforcement Services. Feel free to tear away this contact information and place it in a familiar place for your reference.

**PHONE:** 780-532-9727 | **EMAIL:** [enforcementservices@countypg.ab.ca](mailto:enforcementservices@countypg.ab.ca)  
**ONLINE:** [www.countypg.ab.ca/OccurrenceReporting](http://www.countypg.ab.ca/OccurrenceReporting)  
**SECURE FAX:** 888-779-5895

## HOW TO REACH THE GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL ANIMAL POUND

For Pound Services:  
**PHONE:** 780-830-0199 | **EMAIL:** [regionalpound@countypg.ab.ca](mailto:regionalpound@countypg.ab.ca)  
**FAX:** 780-532-4745

## CRIMESTOPPERS

**PHONE:** 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) | **ONLINE:** [www.P3tips.com](http://www.P3tips.com)

## FOR EMERGENCIES

Emergencies (Police, Fire & EMS)	911
RCMP Grande Prairie	780-830-5700
RCMP Beaverlodge	780-354-2955
Litter – Crown Land/Trails	310-LAND
Wildlife Emergencies	1-800-642-3800
Public Lands Abuse	310-LAND
Report A Poacher	1-800-642-3800
Safe Communities (Scan)	1-866-960-SCAN (7226)
Wildfire Hotline	310-FIRE (3473)
Environmental Emergencies	1-800-222-6514
Transportation & Utilities Emergencies	780-532-7393
Alberta SPCA	1-800-455-9003
Dangerous Goods	1-800-272-9600
Poison and Drug Information	1-800-332-1414
Pet Poison	1-800-213-6680
Animal Poison	1-888-426-4435
Occupational Health & Safety	1-866-415-8690
Child Abuse Hotline Crisis Unit	1-800-638-0715
Canadian National (CN) Rail	1-800-465-9239

## LOCAL CRIME PREVENTION CONTACTS, FOR NON-EMERGENCIES

Grande Prairie District Rural Crime Watch	780-831-4390
Beaverlodge District Rural Crime Watch	780-882-2584



## COUNTY PUBLISHES 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Have you ever wondered how the County invests municipal tax dollars throughout the year in projects, programs, and services to support vibrant and healthy communities?

Flip through the County's 2023 Annual Report online at [www.countygp.ab.ca/annualreport](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/annualreport) or pick up a copy at the County Administration Building. Read about the work the County did in the last year to maintain high quality services and advance important projects for residents, businesses, and community members.

The report showcases significant projects that began in 2023 such as the Plan Your County initiative, which will modernize the County's planning policies, and outlines Council's strategic priorities along with a commitment to economic development, investment attraction, and business retention.

Each year, the County provides millions of dollars in grants and funding to support community groups, recreation, and facilities. The report outlines how that money is invested in diverse organizations throughout the region.

Publishing the report demonstrates the County's commitment to fiscal responsibility and open communication with the people it serves.

## WORKNWALBERTA.CA: REGIONAL WORKFORCE SUPPORT

### WORK NW ALBERTA

GRANDE PRAIRIE-GREENVIEW CORRIDOR

The Work Northwest Alberta Partnership has launched a new website, [www.WorkNWAAlberta.ca](http://www.WorkNWAAlberta.ca), to address regional workforce development needs within the Grande Prairie-Greenview corridor. The website, a tool to support employers and people considering moving to the region, is part of a multi-year strategy to attract and develop talent in the region. It showcases why the Grande Prairie-Greenview corridor is a great destination for career growth, family well-being, work-life balance, and affordability.



*"The County of Grande Prairie team is working hard with our regional partners to support our local businesses. The Work NW Alberta Partnership was developed specifically to provide our businesses with the support they need to attract and develop the workforce they need to succeed."*

– Reeve Bob Marshall

Work Northwest Alberta's marketing strategy includes social media outreach, job fairs, recruitment events, tailored employer recruitment packages, work integrated learning programming, and upskilling programs. The partnership is a collaboration between the City of Grande Prairie, County of Grande Prairie, Municipal District of Greenview, Grande Prairie & District Chamber of Commerce, and Northwestern Polytechnic. It is funded by these partner organizations and informed by comprehensive research, including engagement with 900 businesses and stakeholders.

The partnership has also been supported in 2024 by the Province of Alberta through the Ministry of Jobs, Economy and Trade's Northern Regional Economic Development grant and the department of Labour and Workforce Strategies.

Northwestern Polytechnic plays a key role in building and strengthening student experiential learning and work opportunities in the region. This initiative is a significant step in connecting skilled professionals with vibrant opportunities, ensuring a prosperous future for the entire Grande Prairie-Greenview corridor.



Access workforce support today by contacting our team!  
[EcDev@countygp.ab.ca](mailto:EcDev@countygp.ab.ca)



# PLAN YOUR COUNTY

The County is updating the plans and policies that shape development in our municipality. We are asking residents to help Plan Your County so we can grow in a way that meets the needs of our community.

Plan Your County is the overarching project that involves updating the County's documents, starting from the high-level vision for growth and development and working our way down to specific standards. The process started with the initiation of a Hamlet Resiliency Strategy and an update to our Municipal Development Plan. Next steps include updating the Land Use Bylaw and Area Structure Plans.

Visit [www.countygp.ab.ca/planyourcounty](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/planyourcounty) for project documents and latest news.

## HAMLET RESILIENCY STRATEGY

The County has completed a draft Hamlet Resiliency Strategy for its nine rural hamlets. The strategy is intended to help identify how the County will support the hamlets' long-term needs in land use planning, infrastructure, and other amenities.

## MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN UPDATE

The Municipal Development Plan establishes a high-level vision for how the County will grow in the long term. It includes policies around where different types of development will be directed, requirements for new development, and preserving natural areas and better agricultural land, among other policies.

County staff have completed two phases of public consultation and are working on a draft update to the plan. The next round of public consultation will take place this fall when the County will be seeking feedback on the draft.



## INTERMUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS

The County completed an Intermunicipal Development Plan (IDP) with the Town of Beaverlodge in the spring of 2024. The IDP establishes a long-term vision for the area surrounding Beaverlodge and policies around future growth, and how the two municipalities will communicate with each other regarding development proposals.

The County is also conducting an update of its IDP with the City of Grande Prairie. As part of the update process, the City and County hosted two drop-in sessions in July. The IDP document identifies a shared vision for the lands surrounding the City and establishes processes, such as how the two municipalities will consult on development concepts. The draft update is available at [www.countygp.ab.ca/engage](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/engage).



# COUNTY CONDUCTING ANNUAL PROPERTY INSPECTIONS

County Assessors are conducting property inspections throughout the County as part of their ongoing annual inspection cycle.

## WHEN WILL ASSESSORS BE IN MY AREA?

Assessors conduct inspections during regular business hours throughout the year. If you are not at home, Assessors may leave a call-back card on your front door.

## HOW WILL I RECOGNIZE THE ASSESSOR?

Staff will be wearing a County ID badge and driving a County vehicle. They may take exterior photos of your property and ask you some questions to verify information already on file.

## QUESTIONS?

Contact the Assessment department at 780-513-3952 or visit [www.countygp.ab.ca/assessment](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/assessment) for more information.



# FALL & WINTER ACTIVITIES FOR COMMUNITIES



## PARENT & TOT PLAYGROUPS

Are you a parent or caregiver of a child, or children, ages 0 to 6? Drop into a parent and tot playgroup near you from 10 a.m. to noon! This free program provides a safe and trusting environment for parents to connect with other parents, children to play and interact, and participants to have fun, learn, and grow together.

### Saskatoon Lake Hall

2nd & 4th Monday of the month  
Starting September 9

### Bezanson Community Event Centre

Every Tuesday  
Starting September 10

### Five Mile Hall

2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month  
Starting September 11

### Wellington Resource Centre in Clairmont

Every Thursday  
Starting September 12

### Hythe FCSS Office

1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month  
Starting September 18

Learn more about Early Childhood Development Programs through County FCSS at

[www.countygp.ab.ca/parentandtoto](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/parentandtoto)

## SENIORS WALK AND TALK PROGRAMS

TENTATIVE DATES:

### Bezanson Community Event Centre Gymnasium

Wednesdays | 10 a.m. to noon  
Start date: October 9

### Happy Trails Track, Crosslink County Sportsplex

Thursdays | 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.  
Start date: October 10

### Hythe Community Centre Gymnasium

Thursdays | 10 a.m. to noon  
Start date: October 10  
Free entry. Find info and updates at [www.countygp.ab.ca/SeniorsWalkAndTalk](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/SeniorsWalkAndTalk) or call 780-532-9727.

## WELLINGTON RESOURCE CENTRE (WRC) COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING

### Community Volunteer Income Tax Program

Free help to file your income tax return. Open to students, seniors, families or single parents with a modest income and simple taxes. Filing for the 2024 tax season begins March 2025.

### Sexsmith and Area Foodbank, Clairmont Location

Wednesdays | noon to 2 p.m.

### Free Youth Drop-In Support Group

Second Thursday of the month  
6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. | Ages 10 to 15  
Location varies, call 780-402-1579 to register.

TENTATIVE DATES:

### Babysitter Basics – Cost \$40

Friday, November 29 | 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Clairmont Community School

### Home Alone – Cost \$10

Friday, December 13 | 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Clairmont Community School

### Home Alone – Cost \$10

Friday, February 28 | 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Bezanson Event Centre

Visit [www.countygp.ab.ca/wrc](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/wrc) for information on the above WRC community programs or contact the Wellington Resource Centre at 780-567-2843.

## HYTHE COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING

TENTATIVE DATES:

### Home Alone – Cost \$10

Friday, September 20 | 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

### Facts & Snacks – CRA Info Session

Wednesday, September 25 | 10 am to noon  
Hythe & Area FCSS Office

Learn about benefits and credits for all: Canada Child Benefit, Disability Tax Credit, GST, Canada Workers Benefit.

Adults 65+: Income, benefits, credits, deductions, and scams

### Babysitter Basics – Cost \$40

Friday, November 8 | 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Visit [www.countygp.ab.ca/hythe](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/hythe) for information on the above Hythe community programs or contact the Hythe Community Program at 780-933-7212.

## PLAYSCHOOL REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Our playschool programs are all about putting your child at the centre of their learning journey. We focus on delivering developmentally appropriate programming for three- and four-year-olds, ensuring every child gets the support and stimulation they need to thrive.

**Age Requirements:** Children can start the program in the month they turn three and must be potty trained.

**Locations:** Bezanson, Clairmont, Elmworth, La Glace, Valhalla, and Whispering Ridge.

Apply today to save your spot for fall: [www.countygp.ab.ca/playschool](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/playschool)



## BACK TO SCHOOL AT THE LIBRARY



County libraries offer several services to support students of all ages. Whether you're starting a new grade, entering college, taking online courses, or re-training for a new career, the community libraries in Elmhurst, Hythe, La Glace, and Valhalla are here for you.

- **Research help** – Access books from across the province, a variety of online research tools, and the expert assistance of librarians.
- **Solaro** – Homework help and practice tests based on Alberta's grades 3-12 curriculum.
- **LinkedIn Learning** – A video tutorial library available to anyone looking to expand their skills, free with your library card.
- **Support** – Access computers, wi-fi, and printing services.
- **A comfortable study environment** – Soft seating, desks, natural light, and self-serve coffee.
- **Exam supervision** – Reach out to your nearest library for more information.

### PLANNING TO SERVE YOU BETTER

The County Library Board has a new Plan of Service, geared toward expanding the impact of County libraries.

- **Accessibility** – Helping residents from all parts of the County understand and make use of library services.
- **Programming** – Offering more activities and events to support residents' interests and encourage a sense of community.
- **Collections** – Improving our collection of useful books and other items, available to borrow for free.

Read the full plan: [www.countygp.ab.ca/libraries](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/libraries)

### OCTOBER IS LIBRARY MONTH!

There's no better time to sign up for a library card. Check with your local library for exciting events and contests planned to celebrate Library Month.

## SAVE THE DATES MUNICIPAL ELECTION 2025

Are you considering running for municipal government? Would you like to become a County of Grande Prairie Councillor? The County's next municipal election will take place on October 20, 2025.



Nominations open. Nomination packages will be available at the County Administration Building.



Candidates must express their desire to run four weeks before the election.



Municipal Election

Questions? Contact Legislative Services at 780-532-9722 or [elections@countygpa.ab.ca](mailto:elections@countygpa.ab.ca).

## FIND GREAT DEALS ON GOVDEALS

Have you ever wondered what happens to County laptops and equipment when it's time for an upgrade?

Gently used items not reassigned to another County department or donated to charities or not-for-profits may be listed on GovDeals.ca – an online auction website that sells government property. The site is open to anyone who wishes to register and all bidders are equal: the person with the highest bid at closing owns the item.

### HOW TO REGISTER AS A GOVDEALS.CA BIDDER:

1. Visit [www.govdeals.ca](http://www.govdeals.ca)
2. Click or tap the Buyer Registration link and complete the form
3. An activation link and temporary password will be sent to you
4. Once you are signed in, enter "County of Grande Prairie" in the search bar
5. Bid! Win! Enjoy!





# FALL FARMING TIPS

## CONTROLLING CANADA THISTLE

Did you know fall is the best time to kill Canada thistle? Applying herbicide in the spring only controls top growth. Numerous plants can grow from a 5 cm section of root. Killing the root in the fall is essential to prevent new growth the following year.

In the spring, the plant is focused on setting seed, pulling resources from the roots to do so. Once flowering is complete, the plant begins to bring carbohydrates down into the roots for storage for next year. Applying herbicide in the fall will kill the entire plant, including the roots, which are the reproductive powerhouse. Less than 10 per cent of Canadian thistle seeds germinate, and the plant is a poor competitor from seed.

## FARM EMERGENCY PLANNING

Due to the increased risk of wildfires and other natural disasters, it is critical to have an emergency plan for your farm, including any livestock. Preparation is vital, especially for emergencies requiring evacuation. Having a clear, well-thought-out plan for a variety of scenarios reduces stress for both people and animals. To support the County's Livestock Emergency Response Plan (LERP), we are offering workshops to help domestic livestock animal owners create their own farm emergency plans for horses, cattle, and more. The County will be hosting workshops in the fall. For more information, visit [www.countygp.ab.ca/LERP](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/LERP).

## RECOGNIZE AN OUTSTANDING FARM FAMILY: NOMINATE NOW!

We take great pride in our agricultural roots and the exceptional farmers who demonstrate dedication and commitment to rural values. Celebrating our farm families honours our heritage and highlights their contributions to the community. By recognizing their achievements, we inspire future generations to continue this legacy.

Know a deserving farm family in the County? Nominate them for Farm Family of the Year by December 15, 2024. Visit [www.countygp.ab.ca/farmfamily](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/farmfamily) or the County Community Services Building. For more info, contact the Agriculture department at 780-532-9727.

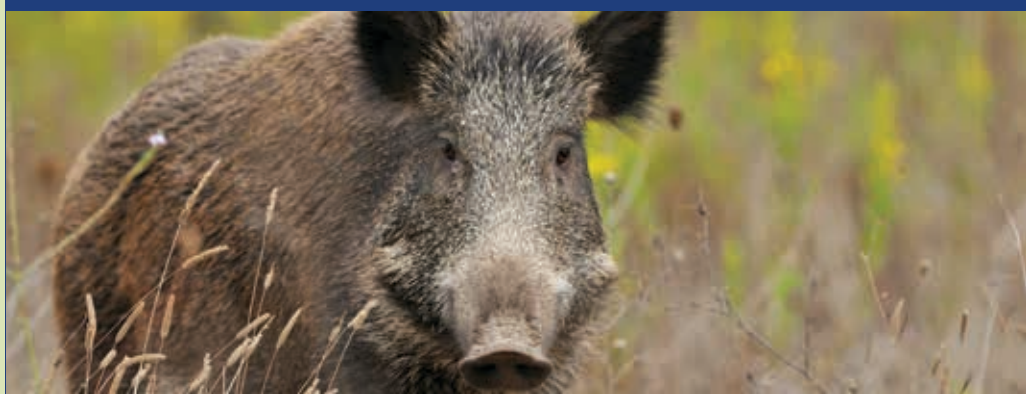
## ISSUES WITH WILD BOAR OR FERAL PIGS?

Wild boars and feral pigs are increasingly problematic in Alberta, damaging habitats and farmland by rooting, wallowing, and contaminating wetlands. They eat roots, vegetation, birds, eggs, and small deer and they're difficult to track and eliminate, changing behaviour in response to hunting.

Although the County of Grande Prairie has no known locations of wild boar, neighbouring counties do. Our Problem Wildlife staff are skilled in wild boar management, and available to assist residents and other jurisdictions should wild boars be found.

'Squeal on Pigs!' is a North American initiative that aims to locate wild boar and raise awareness – learn more at [www.abinvasives.ca/squeal-on-pigs](http://www.abinvasives.ca/squeal-on-pigs).

For more information on wild boars, check out Problem Wildlife Services at [www.countygp.ab.ca/agriculture](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/agriculture).





# RECYCLING CORNER

## FALL CLEANUP TIPS

### SEPARATE RECYCLABLES AND GARBAGE

Make your trip to the Clairmont Centre for Recycling and Waste Management easier and faster by organizing your load in advance! When you arrive, be sure to unload your vehicle in the correct areas.



RECYCLABLES AT ONE END



GARBAGE AT THE OTHER

### ITEMS EXEMPT FROM 1,000 KG YEARLY ALLOTMENT

If specific conditions are met, items such as propane tanks, emptied appliances, batteries, tires, wood, concrete, metal, clean soil/gravel, household hazardous waste, paint, used oil and electronics/power tools do not count towards your annual 1,000 kg disposal allotment.

Residents can separate their recyclable weight from waste weight by scaling in and out twice or making separate trips to the

landfill. Consider composting yard waste at home, such as grass clippings, hay, manure, leaves, flowers, and shrubs.

By organizing your load and following these guidelines, you can take advantage of exemptions for specific items to help keep you below your annual limit. Watch our video and find more information at [www.countygp.ab.ca/recycling](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/recycling).

## QUICK REMINDERS

### HUNTING SEASON

County solid waste facilities classify animal carcasses or parts (bones, hides, organs, etc.) as prohibited waste. Hunters should follow the Alberta Guide to Hunting Regulations: leave the carcass at the kill site or burn, bury, or transport it to a facility that will accept the remains.

### SECURE YOUR LOAD

Ensure road safety for all when transporting recycling/waste to County facilities. Failure to secure your load could result in a \$486 fine for non-commercial vehicles.

- Use a cargo net, rope, tarps, and straps that are in good condition.
- Cover sand, gravel and dirt with a tarp and ensure it is below the top of your vehicle's box or trailer walls.
- Use a tarp to cover loose items or place garbage and yard waste in a covered container or bag.
- If you lose your load, take reasonable steps to recover it safely.





# COMMUNITY GROUPS CORNER

## STAY INFORMED

Subscribe to our monthly Community Groups newsletter by visiting our website at [www.countygp.ab.ca/communitygroups](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/communitygroups) or scan the QR code.



## ROVING OFFICE FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS

Starting in September 2024, the Recreation and Culture department will launch a roving office initiative aimed at enhancing support for community groups. This mobile setup will facilitate face-to-face interactions and provide information and referrals to assist in strengthening your non-profit organization and accessing funding opportunities. Watch for our monthly newsletter for the roving office schedule in your area.

## SHARE YOUR OPINION

This fall, we'll invite County community groups to participate in a survey to voice their needs and suggestions on how we can better support their success. Your feedback is crucial to shaping our services.

## COFFEE AND CONNECTIONS EVENTS

Watch for announcements in the Community Groups newsletter about Community Group Coffee and Connection events hosted by the County. These gatherings provide platforms for networking among groups, sharing event updates, and fostering collaborative efforts to strengthen community bonds.

## COMMUNITY GRANTS REMINDER

Community Capital Grants are available for organizations that deliver recreation or cultural services to County residents.

**Capital Grant Program:** Community groups and neighbouring municipalities can apply for financial assistance to construct, repair, or expand recreational or cultural facilities that serve County residents. These grants are divided into two streams – Major Capital and Capital Assistance. Applications will be accepted until September 15, 2024.

**Community Assistance Grants:** Not-for-profit community groups can apply for funding or donations to support operating costs, fundraising efforts, achievements, and milestones associated with the delivery of programs, services, and events. Funding streams include Multi-Year Operating Funding; Community Wellness and Safety; and Event Sponsorship, Donations, and Community Support. Applications are open throughout the year.

For more information and to apply, visit [www.countygp.ab.ca/grants](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/grants).



# NEIGHBOURHOOD ICE SURFACES – VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Experience the joy of skating outdoors on a sunny winter day. The County of Grande Prairie offers options for volunteers to make that happen.

## TEMPORARY ICE SURFACES

The Neighbourhood Ice Surface Program provides resources for community volunteers to create and maintain temporary ice surfaces. To get involved, apply by December 31, 2024.

## RECREATIONAL USE OF STORMWATER PONDS

Residents can apply to manage their local recreational stormwater pond ice surface. The County provides training and support for volunteers in this role. Applications are due by November 30, 2024.

Help create a winter wonderland for the whole community! Ice surfaces are intended for everyone to enjoy, so invite friends and neighbours to share the winter fun.

For more information, visit [www.countygp.ab.ca/icesurfaces](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/icesurfaces) or contact Recreation and Culture at 780-532-9727.





## COUNTY LAUNCHES NEW EVENT PERMIT PROGRAM

Our new Event Permitting Program is designed to enhance your event experience in County public spaces. Whether you're planning a recreational activity, barbecue, picnic, wedding, or fundraiser, our permit program offers a straightforward framework for hosting a variety of events with safety, simplicity, and efficiency in mind.

This program caters to County and City residents, businesses of all sizes, non-profit associations, and others, providing an accessible online platform for securing event permits, where applicable. Our goal is to ensure that organizing your event is hassle-free while meeting all necessary County guidelines.

### KEY FEATURES OF OUR EVENT PERMITTING PROGRAM INCLUDE:

- **Efficiency:** Streamlined online processes for quick and easy event planning.
- **Safety:** Clear parameters and risk management to ensure the well-being of all attendees.
- **Support and Resources:** Access to tools and assistance for successful event execution.
- **Continuous Improvement:** Your feedback drives ongoing enhancements to our services.

For full details about our program, to apply for a permit, or to determine if your event requires one, visit: [www.countygp.ab.ca/eventpermits](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/eventpermits)



## RECEIVE COUNTY CONNECTIONS IN YOUR INBOX

Keeping up to date with what's happening in the County is much easier with a subscription to the County Connections e-newsletter. Enjoy the convenience of reading on your desktop or mobile device. Subscribe today at [www.countygp.ab.ca/countyconnections](http://www.countygp.ab.ca/countyconnections).

The Crosslink County Sportsplex has a program for everyone!

780-830-7407 | [info@cgpsportsplex.com](mailto:info@cgpsportsplex.com) | [www.crosslinkcountysportsplex.com](http://www.crosslinkcountysportsplex.com)



## LEARN TO SKATE

Pre-school Skate (ages 3 to 5) and Learn to Skate (ages 6 to 12) are offered in blocks of six weeks per session from October to May annually. Skaters receive two lessons per week on Mondays and Wednesdays or Tuesdays and Thursdays. Our instructor has more than 36 years of experience getting kids up and going or refining their skating skills. Register online at [www.crosslinkcountysportsplex.com](http://www.crosslinkcountysportsplex.com)

## TENDER TOTS

Come play in the Trican Fieldhouse from 9 a.m. to noon on Fridays starting October 2024. Walk the track or socialize with friends and/or other parents while your child plays with bouncy castles and a variety of toys and balls on the indoor turf field.

## SPRING BREAK CAMP MARCH 31 - APRIL 4, 2025

Kids aged 5 to 12 are invited for a week of fun-filled activities. Experience games, crafts, recreational sports, and skating on our indoor ice rink. Our camps are designed to spark the imagination, confidence, independence, and communication skills of all our campers. Watch our website for more information and upcoming registration: [www.crosslinkcountysportsplex.com](http://www.crosslinkcountysportsplex.com).

## OTHER PROGRAMS OFFERED AT THE CROSSLINK COUNTY SPORTSPLEX:

- Active Tots - Montessori Sports Academy for 3- to 5-year-olds
- Be Yoga Fly - Aerial Yoga for all ages

For more information, call the Crosslink County Sportsplex at 780-830-7407.

## BOOK YOUR NEXT PARTY OR EVENT AT THE SPORTSPLEX!

The Crosslink County Sportsplex is the place to be for your next party or event. You can book the ice rink or fieldhouse with the option of adding the bouncy castles. Leave the catering to either Quick Meal or the Over-Time Family Sports Lounge. Contact us at 780-830-7407 or email [info@cgpsportsplex.com](mailto:info@cgpsportsplex.com) for more information about party costs, packages, and to secure your booking.

## GET FIT WHILE HAVING FUN!

Sign up or drop in today for one of these exciting programs offered at the Crosslink County Sportsplex:

- Parent & Tot Skate
- Public Skate
- 15+ Stick & Puck/Shinny
- 11 - 14 Stick & Puck
- 10 & Under Stick & Puck
- Learn to Skate
- Indoor Minor Soccer Fun League
- Fieldhouse Drop-Ins
- Tender Tots  
(Friday parent & tot program)
- Seniors Walk & Talk  
(Free on Thursday mornings during October 2024 - May 2025)

To register, or for more information about programs and drop-in activities, including class descriptions, times, and locations, visit [www.crosslinkcountysportsplex.com](http://www.crosslinkcountysportsplex.com).



For more information about the Sportsplex and the programs and events available, visit [crosslinkcountysportsplex.com](http://crosslinkcountysportsplex.com), or contact 780-830-7407 or email [info@cgpsportsplex.com](mailto:info@cgpsportsplex.com)





# PHILIP J. CURRIE DINOSAUR MUSEUM

## FALL PROGRAMMING



### VISIT THE MUSEUM THIS FALL

Our museum hours are Thursday - Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Experience our gallery, lab tours, live reptile shows, movies, and more. Don't forget to check our website for upcoming programming which is great for all ages, like our PD Camps and the fan-favourite "Night at the Museum" sleepover experience. Register or drop in for our dinosaur-themed program, Nesting Grounds, held every second Wednesday from 10:30 a.m. to noon beginning October 2, open to parent and tots aged 0 to 5 years.

### GIFT AN UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE

With the holiday season fast approaching, consider gifting your loved one an unforgettable experience with our palaeo team! Gift cards are available for our Summer 2025 rafting and bonebed programs.

### CHOOSE US FOR YOUR SPECIAL EVENT

Make your special day one of a kind by renting out our entire museum! We also offer facility rentals, company events, and dino-tastic birthday parties. Contact us for pricing and information.

### WHAT'S ON IN THE LAB?

With dig season coming to an end, come see our latest discoveries. Our museum is equipped with a state-of-the-art research lab and collections storage, designed to accommodate specimens brought in from the field.

### BOOK YOUR CLASS VISIT TODAY

We offer museum field trips, in-class visits, and Night at the Museum sleepovers for school-aged children. Book today to experience our K-12 school programs with curriculum connections including palaeontology, evolution, earth changes, social studies, and paleoart.

### MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Did you know your annual PJCDM membership grants you entry to other museums across Alberta and Canada? PJCDM members can enjoy free entry to Telus World of Science in Edmonton and Telus Spark in Calgary. Staying local? Enjoy free admission to our museum, as well as discounts in our gift shop and at several local retailers. Visit our website for more information.



Visit [www.dinomuseum.ca](http://www.dinomuseum.ca) for more information and follow @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@countygp.ab.ca

### ADDRESS:

10001 - 84 Avenue, Clairmont, AB T8X 5B2

### WEBSITE:

www.countygp.ab.ca

### OFFICE HOURS:

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., including over the  
lunch hour beginning September 3, 2024.  
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**



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

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