

COUNTY CONNECTIONS



FALL 2020

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Reeve's Message



It is difficult to describe the past few months without cliché and over used phrases that have dominated messaging from pretty much every organization, but the reality is this: 2020 has been quite the challenging year. Things are very different than they were a year ago, and we are still shifting and adapting to find our "new normal."

One thing that has become readily apparent is the role of municipalities in supporting and building communities. Rural municipalities like the County are often thought of as merely stewards of the roads. As we have seen over the past few months, we are so much more and I am proud to share with you what we have done to support our residents and businesses during this crisis, and the plans we have for the future of our community.

COVID-19: RESPONDING TO COMMUNITY NEEDS

Support for Residents

- Council reversed a proposed 1 per cent municipal tax increase for 2020 and implemented a 1.2 per cent decrease.
- Penalties for late tax payments waived until October 30.
- Ongoing mental health supports – learn more on page 10.

Business Support

We're contributing staff, resources, and funds as partners in the Business Resiliency Taskforce, a partnership between the County, City and Grande Prairie & District Chamber of Commerce.

- Free resources to strengthen local businesses, such as webinars and training.
- Access to a Digital Marketing Training Program to learn how to develop a brand, navigate the digital world, and more.

We Celebrate

- We celebrated the Ray and Dunnigan families as our 2020 Farm Family recipients. Close friends and family, County Council and staff, and our local MP and MLA attended a barbeque where we observed social distancing protocols.
- We also hosted a sold-out, third annual Kids Can Catch Event at the Sportsplex Pond.

Our GPREP Partnership

- The Grande Prairie Regional Emergency Partnership (GPREP) continues to monitor regional COVID-19 cases and function under a Sustained Operations Model.
- GPREP offers continued support through the Community Care, Business Ambassador, Essential Service Resource and PPE4Biz programs.

STAY INFORMED: CHANGES TO OIL & GAS ASSESSMENT

The County continues to advocate for an alternative solution to the Province's proposed changes to the assessment model for oil and gas that, if implemented, could have a major impact on the County's funding, resources, and services.

- Proposed changes could mean a 54% increase in residential tax rates or 15% for non-residential tax rates.
- Council continues discussions with local MLAs and Provincial Ministers regarding impacts of the proposed changes and to identify alternatives that benefit both municipalities and industry.

Residents and businesses with concerns about the proposed changes are encouraged to contact their local MLA. For more information, visit

www.countygp.ab.ca/assessmentmodel.

Please note, municipalities are advocating on this issue and the situation is evolving. This information is current as of August 24, 2020.



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INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

- Together with Aquatera Utilities Inc., we turned on the taps at the new Dimsdale Bulk Water Station and marked the event with a ribbon cutting attended by County Councillors, federal and provincial government reps, and Aquatera. The County contributed \$1.1 million for the transmission line oversizing and booster station construction, as well as \$200,000 for paving.
- We thank the Province for the \$750,000 contribution to help build phase two of the new La Glace Community Water System and \$1.2 million to help cover the costs to replace the bridge culvert located on Range Road 34 and Township Road 735, south of Teepee Creek.
- We formalized cost-sharing agreements with the Province for the twinning of Highway 40 for 19 kilometres, and paving of Highway 724 for nearly 9 km to Highway 59, near La Glace. The County will contribute up to \$2 million to pave Highway 724 and \$10 million to help twin Highway 40. Both projects will improve safety for motorists and drive economic and community development.
- Council is committed to servicing the Five Mile Hall School site, and passed a bylaw to borrow just over \$6.5 million for the work.

REGIONAL COLLABORATION AND CO-OPERATION - ICFS

Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks (ICFs) support collaboration on the funding and delivery of programs and services between municipalities that share a common boundary and are in the best interests of residents from both municipalities.

- The County has completed ICFs with the towns of Beaverlodge and Wembley, Birch Hills County, the MD of Greenview, and Saddle Hills County.
- An ICF with the Town of Sexsmith is currently underway.
- The County continues ICF development with the City of Grande Prairie through the mediation process.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE REGION – MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

- Nauticol's proposed methanol plant has planted its roots in the County. The project will create jobs and economic development opportunities locally and in Alberta.
- The Tri-Municipal Industrial Partnership (TMIP) continues to move forward with the MD of Greenview leading the project. The TMIP is a partnership between the MD of Greenview, the County and City to explore opportunities for a world-class heavy eco-industrial district.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Ensuring safety across our vast municipality also involves upgrading outgrown infrastructure and equipment, as well as reviewing all our operations and policies.

- We recently opened a new fire station in La Glace, which has more flexibility and space for modern equipment. Read more on page 6.

- Regional Fire Service is developing a policy for service levels that better reflects the uniqueness of our geography and delivery model. It will guide effective operations and planning into the future.

TOP MARKS FOR ASSESSMENT PERFORMANCE

An independent audit of our Assessment program confirmed the County meets and exceeds provincial requirements for valuing properties in a manner that is fair, thorough, collaborative, and accurate. Read more on page 14.

PLANNING FOR OUR FUTURE

We are well into 2021 and 2022 budget planning. Stay tuned for opportunities to attend and/or listen to the upcoming budget deliberations on December 2-4 at

www.countygp.ab.ca.

We also updated our Strategic Plan, which directs the work of the County in areas including service delivery, land use planning, infrastructure, citizen well-being, partnerships, and economic development. Review the plan at www.countygp.ab.ca/stratplan. Highlights include:

- Talks with MD of Greenview to develop a second access point to Wapiti River.
- Exploring the possibility of joining the regional airport authority to enhance our regional transportation network.
- Developing a tax and mill rate strategy by late 2021 to better reflect differences among assessment classes.
- Business visitation program results and potential implementation of some of the findings.
- Exploring opportunities to enhance access to broadband and fibre optic internet around the County.
- Developing a safe community strategy for 2021, including work with policing organizations and community safety agencies to enhance safety and security in the County and region.
- Developing an intermunicipal and First Nations government relationship strategy.

Finally, I invite you to check out the County's first ever annual report. Learn the ins and outs of our operations, services, budget, and more. It's another tool we use to be transparent and keep our citizens informed. Find the report at www.countygp.ab.ca/annualreport.

I wish everyone a happy, healthy, and safe fall. Be kind to one another. Watch for children in our neighbourhoods. Always remember we are in this together.



County Operating Assistance Grants at Work: Join Us on a Tour!

This year, the County of Grande Prairie awarded \$186,470 in operating assistance grants to numerous non-profit organizations and volunteer groups as well as \$596,880 in grants to 27 sports, recreation and cultural facilities to help cover utility and other operating expenses. View the complete list of recipients at

www.countygp.ab.ca/operatinggrants.

The grants support non-profit, volunteer and community organizations located across the County, as well as in the City of Grande Prairie, Beaverlodge, Hythe, Sexsmith, Wembley and MD of Greenview. These organizations help create vibrant and connected communities.

We invite you on a tour to learn more about some of our recent grant recipients where representatives from organizations talk about some of the work they do, the people they serve, and how they are putting County funding to work supporting our communities.

CENTRE FOR CREATIVE ARTS



"With County funding, we're able to serve the community, by offering an array of programs for all ages and skills – both free and affordable. Last year, our youngest student was four years old and our most senior student just turned 100! When studios are not busy with classes, students and local artists use them to practice their craft and access specialized equipment.

This Operational Assistance Grant also supports our gift shop and gallery area, which showcases artists from the region and hosts a new exhibition monthly. We've got a lot to celebrate with our upcoming 25th anniversary as a non-profit in January 2021! Watch for our commemorative anniversary exhibition and a year filled with celebrations."

–**Candace Hook**, Executive Director

BEAVERLODGE RECREATION CENTER

"The funding from the County is being directed to the overall

operation of the Recreation Center. We are so grateful for the support from our neighbours. It's extremely important to us because these funds help to cover costs and help our community by keeping user rates affordable and minimizing impact to property tax rates."

– **Rae Cook**, Parks and Recreation Manager, Town of Beaverlodge

BORDERLINE CULTURE FOUNDATION



"From September to April, Borderline Culture Foundation presents six concerts featuring premier artists from a range of musical genres. Local, national, and international talent entertain audiences at monthly shows held at the Demmitt Hall.

We really appreciate the support from the County, which pays for a sound person and light person, and helps cover venue rental. It takes a lot of stress off our organization, especially this year with the impact of COVID-19. Many country halls don't get much use in the winter; our series draws visitors to this area, showcases musicians and brings people together during the colder months."

– **Don Albright**, Chair

HYTHE LEGION

"This year, the Hythe Legion is celebrating our 100th year of incorporation. And with COVID-19 impacting many events, the County funding is especially critical for our non-profit. We're not able to hold our regular fundraising activities to help cover our expenses, so these funds help us pay utility and insurance bills, and other facility operating expenses.

The Legion is where our community gathers to socialize, raise money for local organizations, and just visit and catch up with one another. Due to COVID, people are really missing this connection, so this year we're trying something new by bringing in a food truck and looking for other ways to bring people together. That's really important."

–**Joann Rueckert**, President



CAMP TAMARACK



"Every summer, we host adventure camps for people of all abilities. These camps are about fun, leadership, skill-building, understanding the environment and nature, and so much more. Our youngest camp is for ages four to six, and we have camps for adults that join us from group homes. All are invited to participate to the best of their abilities.

County funding helps keep our programs affordable – that's a real support for parents. We're using the majority of the funding for training staff on the safe use of the high-altitude equipment: a twin zip line, giant swing, 35-foot 3-sided climbing tower, low ropes course, and team-building equipment. It's just wonderful to see the campers support one another, overcome their fears and achieve a personal best in whatever they attempt. There's so much cooperation as they work together, helping and encouraging one another."

– **Dennis Fedeyko**, *Secretary-Treasurer*

BEAVERLODGE BOYS AND GIRLS CAMP SOCIETY

"Starting at Red Willow, our camp became a society in 1955. Today, we have two bunkhouses, a dining hall, new kitchen, covered fire pit area, and powered camping. We're here for the community in so many ways. For two weeks each summer we hold a wilderness survival skills camp for youth aged 9 to 16. Up to 55 children come each week. For some, this camp is a tradition enjoyed by three generations of family! Today we also hold special events like weddings, birthdays and reunions at our facility.

We're grateful for the County's generosity. This grant funding helps us pay for our utilities. As a non-profit, we needed a little extra help, as we had to close the camp for this summer due to COVID-19. These funds support not only a camp or facility; but help us continue to be a place for community-building and family gatherings, learning and fun!"

– **Cindy McNeil**, *Secretary*

GRANDE PRAIRIE BOYS CHOIR



"We appreciate that the County has long been a supporter of our choir. As we near our 20th anniversary, our choir of 7 to 20-year-olds is now at 140 members. We earmark the funds for our annual Symphony and Singing in the City

concert – a presentation of the Boys Choir accompanied by a professional orchestra, which includes 21 professional symphony players from Edmonton. We feel it's important to bring such a high-end classical symphony concert to our community. But it's more than a concert. There's so much collegiality and professional development that comes from this event. Local musicians get to meet these professionals, so university professors now know of the work we do here and have recruited some of our students. Many friendships have been struck between the professional musicians and local residents.

During COVID, we've realized the choir is more than singing together and putting on concerts. It's about the relationships between the boys, their families, the choir, and the larger community. We support each other and give each other hope and encouragement as we mourn the loss of our concerts and being together making beautiful music. This fall, we're making plans to gather together in small groups and learn music, even if we cannot sing. We will be back."

– **Jeannie Vanwynsberghe Pernal**, *Founder/Artistic Director*

SEXSMITH MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

"County funding is directed to our player development fund for players of all skill levels. Skating and goalie instructors from the Peace Region work with the kids at our conditioning camp at the beginning of the season, and also with each team individually throughout the year at no cost to parents. Volunteer coaches also learn ways to maximize fun, teambuilding, and skill development for players. Our teams are mixed, aged 5 to 17 years, with our past year seeing more female hockey players in our younger groups than ever before.

County Operating Assistance funding helps keeps this activity affordable, especially as we are a small hockey association. We really appreciate that, and we know parents do, too. We're not just developing hockey players. We're developing people who can use these skills in other areas of their lives."

– **Dave Jackson**, *Fundraising Coordinator*

TEEPEE CREEK STAMPEDE



"Our Lyons Production Services Events Centre – an indoor riding arena and events centre, which started as a vision in 2010 – is the home not only to one of the largest medium-sized rodeos in Alberta, but is a hive of activity year-round. Our facility hosts about 140 events each year and user groups operate out of the building year-round.

For the most part, our volunteer board use County funding

towards utilities. But the impact of the funds is so much bigger. We bring thousands of people to the area, not just for the rodeo, but for our many year-round events. We host large trade shows and organize a local craft/trade show where local entrepreneurs showcase their crafts and goods. The Centre also links the community together – it's a central place where local residents gather year-round.

– **Kelsi Hollingworth**, Executive Director

TWILIGHT CENTRE OF LA GLACE



The Twilight Centre is an integral building within the Hamlet of La Glace, serving many users including the La Glace Club crafts and ceramics, churches, moms and tots play group, and billiard players. It is also rented out at a reasonable rate for bake sales, 4-H, seminars, classes, wedding and gatherings. The County's funding support over the years is very appreciated. This grant helps us keep our rent reasonable; maintain and upgrade our building; fund the seniors' transportation van; and keep overhead costs low for the ceramics club.

We used 2018 County funding for a basement foundation repair. In 2019, we directed the County grant funding to

improvements on the main floor due to water damage from flooding. With new flooring and paint, new windows, new exterior doors scheduled for replacement, and landscaping completed summer 2020, the La Glace Twilight Centre is an amazing facility.

– **Nancy Schlauwitz**, Treasurer

SILVER AND GOLD PIONEER CLUB OF WEMBLEY

"Our organization is so appreciative of the support from the County. We plan to use the funds for needed repairs to the clubhouse roof. Without this funding, it would have made it much more difficult for us to find the means to do these repairs. Our Club has limited fundraising ability, so having access to this grant is especially important."

– **Pam Decker**, Secretary

ABOUT THE COUNTY'S COMMUNITY GRANTS

These yearly grants provide operating assistance to non-profit organizations and volunteer groups providing recreational or cultural services to their community. Groups must be open to County residents, provide proof of volunteerism and fundraising, and achieve identified goals.

Applications are available through any of the six area County recreation boards to eligible community-based volunteer groups, non-profit organizations, municipalities, schools and sports clubs.

More information about these grants, including when to apply, is available at www.countygp.ab.ca/grants.

County receives over \$2 million in Provincial Funding to Support Core Infrastructure Projects

Earlier this summer, the Honourable Travis Toews, Minister of Finance and MLA for Grande Prairie-Wapiti, on behalf of the Province of Alberta, announced that the County will receive over \$2 million through the Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program (STIP) and the Alberta Municipal Water/Wastewater Partnership (AMWWP) for two projects.

During 2020 Budget deliberations, Council approved \$460,000 to move forward with building the first phase of the La Glace Community Water System. The \$750,000 in AMWWP grant funding will go towards building the second phase of the water system in the Hamlet of La Glace. The Water Treatment Plant will be housed at the former fire hall. Investment in the new La Glace Water Treatment Plant will ensure even more residents and businesses have access to safe drinking water for years to come.

The \$1,278,000 STIP grant will help cover the costs to replace a bridge culvert located on Range Road 34 and Township Road 735, south of the Hamlet of Teepee Creek. The bridge culvert will cost over \$1.7 million to replace. The project will commence in 2021.

Both grants will result in the creation of jobs, support critical infrastructure, and aid in healthy and sustainable community and economic growth within the region.



County Councillors Karen Rosvold and Corey Beck, Reeve Leanne Beaupre and the Honourable Travis Toews, Minister of Finance pictured at the STIP funding announcement, which took place at the new La Glace Fire Hall.



Province Hands Keys over to Alberta Health Services for the New Grande Prairie Regional Hospital



County of Grande Prairie Council was thrilled to be part of a major announcement earlier this summer where the Province of Alberta turned over keys over to Alberta Health Services for the newly built Grande Prairie Regional Hospital.

The new hospital is slated to open in late summer 2021 and will serve as the regional centre, providing specialized and complex care, closer to home and with shorter wait times for northwestern Alberta residents.

County Council has pledged \$1 million to aid in the purchase of the new bedside engagement system to be installed in the new hospital. "Investing in this innovative system is a investment in state-of-the-art healthcare in our community, which will enhance quality of life across the region," explained Reeve Leanne Beaupre. It gives patients and families the opportunity to stay informed about their treatment and includes a video system that that teaches them how to care for themselves when they get home."

For more information about the new hospital, visit www.albertahealthservices.ca/about/northzone.aspx.

New Fire Hall in La Glace Now Operational



Construction of the new fire station in La Glace is now complete. The fire hall has been in operation since the end of June. The value of the new fire hall is felt by County of Grande Prairie Regional Fire Service members and the community, with the station responding to several calls for service the weekend after opening.

The Fire Hall cost just over \$2 million and provides much more workable space than the previous facility constructed in 1994. Fifteen firefighters work out of the station.

"We're excited the new fire hall is complete," said Dale Widsten, District Fire Chief. "We outgrew our former space with adjustments in service delivery, changes in equipment design and more personnel. This building offers much more flexibility and room for growth. We look forward to welcoming residents to visit once COVID-19 precautions are further relaxed."



The building includes space dedicated to training, public education, meeting, maintenance, office needs, as well as equipment and apparatus storage. There is also a dedicated area for equipment to be decontaminated to support the safety of our firefighters.

Construction was made possible with a \$1.57 million Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) grant from the Provincial Government. The project began in 2018.

One additional piece of equipment will call the station home – a new custom fire engine that will replace the current 15-year old truck. The engine will be outfitted with features that make firefighting safer, more efficient, and easier than in regular commercial fire engines, especially for volunteers. The new fire engine is expected to be in use by 2021.

The fire hall continues to recruit for firefighters. Anyone interested can contact District Fire Chief Widsten at dwidsten@countygp.ab.ca

2020 Farm Family of the Year Celebrated at Summer Barbecue Event

The County had a great time honouring the 2020 County of Grande Prairie Farm Family of the Year, the Ray and Dunnigan families of the Halcourt Land and Cattle Company.

We celebrated the Farm Family with a summer barbecue at Red Willow Park in July instead of the banquet in March, which was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Alberta Health Services safety guidelines were followed to ensure the safety of guests and staff.

The Ray and Dunnigan families are recognized for over a century of farming history in the area, their entrepreneurial spirit that has helped shape the local agri-business landscape, and their deep commitment to agriculture and family. Read more about the 2020 Farm Family at www.countygp.ab.ca/farmfamily.

ABOUT THE FARM FAMILY AWARDS PROGRAM

The Farm Family Awards is an annual program hosted by the County Agricultural Service Board, which recognizes a local multi-generational family that has made significant contributions to agriculture and the community. This year marks the 52nd year of the award.

To learn more and to nominate a Farm Family, visit www.countygp.ab.ca/farmfamily or contact the Agricultural Services department at 780-532-9727.



From left to right: The Ray and Dunnigan families with Leanne Beaupre, County Reeve; Peter Harris, County Deputy Reeve; Honourable Travis Toews, Minister of Finance and Grande Prairie-Wapiti MLA; and, Chris Warkentin, Grande Prairie-Mackenzie MP.



Local Artists Beautify Clairmont Adventure Park

Earlier this summer, four original pieces of work from three local artists were chosen to enhance a community space in Clairmont.

A panel of judges selected artwork created by Cassidy Guenther, Daelyn Biendarra and Quinn Goldberg to help beautify the Clairmont Adventure Park through the County's Art for the Park Project. Three pieces were installed along park fences in July.

With the success of the first Art for the Park project, plans are underway to accept more submissions of artwork for this community space. There will also be an opportunity for the public to take part in the installation of the art concept submitted by Quinn Goldberg. This work will visually represent the importance of honeybees and indigenous pollinators to our ecosystem. Stay up to date on opportunities by visiting www.countygp.ab.ca/artforthepark.

The Clairmont Adventure Park is located at 9801-107A Avenue in Clairmont, and is home to a skate and spray park, outdoor exercise equipment, greenspace, and community garden. It was developed in 2014 and operated by the Clairmont Agricultural Society, with County funding totaling \$640,000. The County has operated the venue since early 2020. For park updates, visit www.countygp.ab.ca/adventurepark.

Family and Community Support Services Programs: How we are adapting during COVID-19

Several programs and services provided through Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) were impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. County FCSS has relaunched and readjusted programs with health and safety protocols in place as per provincial guidelines and recommendations to help protect clients, the community, and staff from the risk of COVID-19.

HOME SUPPORT PROGRAM

Home support services resumed on May 4 at a reduced capacity, providing care to high needs clients who had no alternate supports. On June 29, the program relaunched to full capacity providing quality service to all our clients, and accepting new clients.

Safety measures are in place to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Home Support staff:

- complete daily health and temperature checks on themselves and clients;
- wear masks and gloves;
- stay home if unwell;
- physically distance by 6 feet from clients, and when not possible, encourage clients to wear masks.

The Home Support Program provides practical in-home help to individuals and families who are residents in the County of Grande Prairie or Town of Wembley experiencing disruptions of normal family routine. They can help in situations such as:

- Long- or short-term illness
- Pre- or Post-natal care
- Supplemental care for seniors
- Emotional wellness
- Pre- or post-hospitalization

Home Support Workers can provide:

- Light housekeeping
- Meal preparation
- Transportation to appointments
- Companionship
- Home management and budget
- Relief for caregivers

Fees for service are on a sliding scale and are determined by income. There is no charge for an assessment. For more information or to book an assessment, contact Dale Bond, Home Support Coordinator at 780-532-9727 or by email at dbond@countypg.ab.ca.



COMMUNITY SCHOOL LIAISON PROGRAM

The Community School Liaison Program provides information and support to students and families experiencing challenges at home or at school.

Community School Liaison Counsellors work in collaboration with school counsellors, administrators and staff, and community and government agencies to provide support to students from Peace Wapiti School Division schools and the Valhalla Community School. Their services aim to:

- Support children's and families emotional and social well-being;
- Enhance in-school performance; and
- Improve relationships within the school, family unit, and students.

When schools closed in March, the team quickly adapted and continued to provide support to schools, families and students online and by phone. Once it was safe to do so, some students opted for face-to-face sessions held outside, following provincial safety guidelines and recommendations.

The Community School Liaison Counsellor team looks forward to reconnecting with students, families, schools and communities as the new school year begins.

Referrals are accepted from teachers, administration staff, parents, community agencies, peers or students themselves.

For more information, contact FCSS at 780-532-9727, email Melodie McCracken, FCSS Child, Youth and Family Team Lead at mmccracken@countypg.ab.ca, or your child's school.

WELLINGTON RESOURCE CENTRE

The Wellington Resource Centre (WRC) continues to offer services and programs to residents.

Some of the programs the WRC continues to offer include:

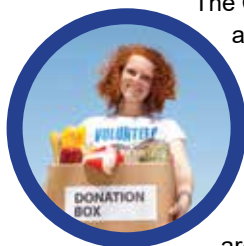


- Access to the Sexsmith and Area Foodbank;
- United Way Emergency Fund intakes and assessments online and over the phone;
- Community Volunteer Income Tax Program;
- Parent & Tot Program Every Thursday 10:00 a.m. to noon (tentatively resumes September 10); and
- Assistance with forms

The WRC is restricted to the public until further notice. To book an appointment or access services and programs, call 780-567-2843, or email wrc@countygp.ab.ca.

Updates on the reopening of the WRC and its programs will be posted to www.countygp.ab.ca/covid19.

SEXSMITH AND AREA FOODBANK – CLAIRMONT LOCATION



The Clairmont location of the Sexsmith and area Foodbank continues to operate every Wednesday from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. with physical distancing and safety measures in place.

If you are looking for ways to give back to your community, donations and volunteers are welcome.

The most needed donations include:

- Canned meat, fruit and vegetables
- Pasta and sauces
- Juice boxes
- School lunch and snack items

As there is limited space to accept perishable items, please call if you have items to donate.

To donate, volunteer or access the foodbank, please contact the Wellington Resource Centre at 780-567-2843 or email wrc@countygp.ab.ca.

PARENT & TOT PROGRAMS



Parent & Tot programs will be back up and running in the communities of Clairmont and Bezanson in September 2020.

Parent & Tot is a free, drop-in program for parents, caregivers and their children ages 0-6. It provides a fun and engaging environment allowing for free and structured playtime, information sharing and socializing with others in the community.

There will be safety measures in place including sanitization of toys and equipment before, during and after play. Parents and caregivers are asked to help ensure everyone's safety by not attending if anyone is experiencing illness or has travelled internationally within the past 14 days.

Parent & Tot Programs will be offered at the:

- Knelsen Centre in Bezanson every Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. starting September 8, 2020 (tentative)
- Wellington Resource Centre in Clairmont every Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. starting September 10, 2020 (tentative)

For more information about Parent & Tot programs, contact Pam Rintoul at 780-933-0964.

PLAYSCHOOL PROGRAMS

Playschool programs are scheduled to run at the Bezanson, Clairmont, Elmworth, La Glace, Valhalla, and Whispering Ridge locations for the 2020-2021 school year.



Please note that playschool programs and start dates are subject to change given the COVID-19 situation and regulations set by the Province. Reopening dates and any required changes will be posted at www.countygp.ab.ca/playschool.

For more information about playschool programs, contact Jolene Nellis, Family and Child Development Coordinator at 780-532-9727 or jnellis@countygp.ab.ca.

SENIORS WALK AND TALK

Seniors have FREE access to two facilities where they can:

- Walk, jog or run indoors
- Enjoy hot coffee, and
- Connect with others



Happy Trails Track at the Crosslink County Sportsplex

Every Thursday from 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Tentative program start date: October 1, 2020 – May 13 2021

Gymnasium in the Knelsen Centre, Bezanson

Every Wednesday from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Tentative program start date: October 7, 2020 – May 12, 2021

Safety measures will be in place to ensure everyone's safety.

For more information about the program, visit www.countygp.ab.ca/walkandtalk or call FCSS at 780-532-9727.

*Please note that FCSS operations, programs and services are subject to change given COVID-19 and Provincial regulations. Visit www.countygp.ab.ca/covid19 for up-to-date information.

Mental Health Resources and Supports for Albertans

If you or someone you know needs emotional support or feels overwhelmed, remember you are not alone. Contact one of the resources below for help. For more information about additional resources and supports available, visit www.alberta.ca/mentalhealth.

RESOURCE	CONTACT	ABOUT
Emergency 9-1-1 Services	9-1-1	Call if you or someone you know is in immediate danger, at immediate risk of suicide, or in need of urgent medical, fire, or police services.
Alberta 8-1-1 Health Link	8-1-1	Health advice from Alberta's medical experts
Alberta 2-1-1	Call or Text 2-1-1 www.ab.211.ca	A helpline that provides information on and referrals to Alberta's community, social, health-related, and government services.
Alberta's Mental Health Helpline	1-877-303-2642	Confidential support for mental health concerns.
Alberta's Addiction Helpline	1-866-332-2322	Confidential support for alcohol, tobacco, other drugs and problem gambling.
Distress Line (Edmonton and Northern Alberta)	1-780-482-HELP (4357)	A confidential, non-judgmental short-term crisis intervention, emotional support and resource for people in crisis or distress.
Kids Help Phone	1-800-668-6868	A phone line to support any youth under the age of 20 who are struggling.
Crisis Text Line	Text: "HOME" to 686868	Text support line for anyone in crisis, where you will be connected with a trained crisis responder.
Indigenous Mental Health Help	1-855-242-3310	Connects the Indigenous community to support and counselling in Cree, Ojibway and Inuktitut upon request.
Adult Bullying Help Line	1-888-456-2323	Support for adults experiencing bullying or harassment. Youth and children are encouraged to call the Kids Help Phone at 1-800-668-6868.
Family Violence Information Line	780-310-1818	Anonymous help in 170 languages related to verbal, physical, emotional, financial and sexual abuse, neglect, stalking or being kept from seeing other people or forced to stay in one place.
Alberta Health Services Integrated Crisis Access Team	587-259-5513	A mental health team is available 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday to Friday, to support urgent and non-urgent concerns about mental health.
Suicide Prevention Resource Centre	780-933-6144	Men's Support Group – free drop-in every Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Nordic Court Room (200, 10019-99 Street, Grande Prairie) Friends from Afar – a program to connect seniors in isolation to families. Email friendsfromafargp@gmail.com .
Help Seeker	www.helpseeker.org	A free location-based help services network to connect you with relevant services for your needs.

Applications Open for \$500 Ron Pfau Post-Secondary Scholarship

Are you pursuing or enrolled in post-secondary studies in Alberta for business, commerce, or public office administration? If so, you may be eligible to apply for the County of Grande Prairie's \$500 scholarship in memory of longtime administrator Ron Pfau. The scholarship is awarded to one qualifying applicant every fall.

CRITERIA

Applicants must be:

- Presently residing in the County of Grande Prairie, or have previously resided and still have parents/guardians residing in the County of Grande Prairie;
- A Canadian citizen or landed immigrant; and,
- Entering or enrolled in an Alberta post-secondary education institution in the fields of business, commerce, or public office administration.

Applicants must provide the following:

- Copy of letter of acceptance or confirmation of enrollment in a business, commerce or public office administration program from an Alberta post-secondary education institution;
- At least one letter of support from community members (i.e. principal, pastor, 4-H leader, teacher, professor, executive director, chairperson of volunteer organization, etc.);
- Academic record – If you are newly entering into post-secondary education, a high school transcript from Alberta Education that includes marks for your diploma exams. Students may request that their transcript be sent directly to fcss@countygp.ab.ca; and,



- Letter or brief essay indicating career plans and current achievements. This part of the application allows the applicant to explain why he or she should be chosen to receive the scholarship.

CANDIDATE SELECTION

Although academic achievement is important, the selection will not be based solely on academic record. Community involvement in clubs; athletic or cultural activities; volunteer activities; personal projects; and other achievements will also be considered.

How to apply:

- The deadline for applications is October 31, 2020.
- Candidates can apply over multiple years; however, individuals can only be awarded the scholarship once.
- Complete the online application form at www.countygp.ab.ca/ronpfauscholarship.

For more information about the Ron Pfau Scholarship, visit www.countygp.ab.ca/ronpfauscholarship or contact Family and Community Support Services at 780-532-9727 or fcss@countygp.ab.ca.

Discover the Crosslink County Sportsplex

For information about programs, amenities available, hours of operation, and safety guidelines in place, please visit www.crosslinkcountysportsplex.com, www.facebook.com/cgpsportsplex, or call 780-830-7407 prior to your visit.



CROSSLINK
COUNTY SPORTSPLEX

*Please note that Crosslink County Sportsplex operations, programs and services are subject to change given COVID-19 and Provincial regulations.

Visit www.crosslinkcountysportsplex.com for up-to-date information.

The Crosslink County Sportsplex reopened as of July 2, 2020 with health and safety measures in place as per the Province's guidelines outlined the Relaunch Strategy.



countygp.ab.ca

2020 Clairmont Volunteer of the Year

Lois Kochendorfer

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Volunteers are the heart of communities across Alberta. Their generosity and contributions create healthier, more resilient communities for all.

Volunteer Lois Kochendorfer selflessly dedicates her time to helping others – what she calls “just wanting to make a difference.” Recently named the 2020 Clairmont Volunteer of the Year for her work with the Sexsmith and Area Foodbank – Clairmont location, and with the Intergenerational Luncheon at the Clairmont Community School, Kochendorfer is humble about the recognition.

“I’m very honoured to receive the award,” said Kochendorfer. “I just wanted to help out – I had retired in 2013 from nursing, so it was nice to work one-on-one with people again and do something for the community.”

The County presents the annual Clairmont Volunteer of the Year award to a nominated individual who has demonstrated dedication and excellence in volunteerism in the community. Area Councillor Daryl Beeston and Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) staff member Melodie McCracken, presented the award to Kochendorfer at the Wellington Resource Centre on June 22.

Rebecca Claeys nominated Kochendorfer for the award. “Lois is the kind of person who’s just a helper, so I inquired if she could come in for a few hours and help out,” said Claeys. “Since then she’s been a regular volunteer, even driving from her home in Valhalla during the winter, in the cold and snow.”

Claeys said Kochendorfer’s willingness to help during the summer months ensured the foodbank was able to stay open.

“It can be difficult to get volunteers during the summer, as many people are away or have other commitments,” she said. “But the need still exists, and it’s really important for people to know they can rely on the foodbank.”

While Kochendorfer said she had an understanding of the type of activities she would be doing at the foodbank (she does an array of tasks including meeting with clients to provide food supports and helping shop for groceries), she said she was unaware of how many families relied on this resource on a regular basis.

“I was quite surprised – I didn’t realize there was such a need for the foodbank in the area . . . the number of people just trying to make ends meet,” she said. “People were just so grateful, and it was really nice to help out.”



Lois Kochendorfer, 2020 Clairmont Volunteer of the Year with Area Councillor Daryl Beeston, and Melodie McCracken, FCSS Child, Youth and Family Team Lead.

Claeys talked about Kochendorfer’s easy rapport with the clients, and her interest in each person coming through the door.

“She isn’t just providing people with food,” said Claeys. “She really takes time to listen to them – really cares.”

Kochendorfer also gives her time to the Annual Intergenerational Luncheon co-hosted by the Clairmont Community School and County FCSS. She said that working with grade six students in the kitchen preparing food and cleaning up gave her the opportunity to teach them some skills, but most of all encourage them.

And while Kochendorfer said her interest in volunteering in roles was driven by her desire to continue to support people in some capacity, she said the entire experience has awarded her unexpected personal benefits.

“I’ve been able to build new relationships with other volunteers and meet some new friends,” she said. Kochendorfer also talked about the strong sense of purpose that came from her role as a volunteer: “Volunteering at the foodbank and working alongside the children at the luncheon makes me feel like I am doing something helpful and useful, it’s just knowing you’re making a difference in your community.”

For more information about nominating an outstanding volunteer for the Clairmont Volunteer of the Year award, visit www.countygp.ab.ca/clairmontvolunteer. The award recipient will receive a \$100 gift card, Certificate of Appreciation, public recognition and their name placed on the Volunteer of the Year award plaque displayed at the Wellington Resource Centre.

Seniors Week Events Successful



Recognizing the seniors of the community over Seniors Week looked a lot different this year due to COVID-19. Instead of hosting a series of in-person Seniors Week celebrations, the County's Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) team put a call out to members of the community to join in on recognizing the value and positive contributions that seniors have provided and continue to provide in our communities.

Residents of all ages and staff worked together to create posters with beautiful images and words of hope, love, and encouragement for Lakeview Seniors Lodge residents. Lakeview residents and staff received over 70 posters that were placed in windows in and around the facility, as well as outdoor hanging flower baskets.

"The flowers and pieces of art made especially for Lakeview Seniors Lodge were very uplifting, inspiring and greatly appreciated by residents and staff," said Jill Jardie, Lakeview Seniors Lodge Assistant Manager. "Thank you for brightening their week during this particularly challenging time."



County FCSS also worked with FCSS teams at the City of Grande Prairie, towns of Beaverlodge and Wembley, Village of Hythe, and Seniors Outreach, with sponsorship support from EverythingGP and 2DayFM, to host a Virtual Seniors Tea from June 1 to 5. Participating seniors received a small gift personally delivered by members of Council and staff (while adhering to safety protocols). A live musical performance was also streamed online on June 5. This event was held instead of the Seniors Tea event, traditionally held every two years, but couldn't take place due to the pandemic.

"The feedback we received from our seniors when we delivered their gift was overwhelmingly positive," said Kathleen Turner, County FCSS Director. "Those of us who made the deliveries enjoyed it as much if not more than the seniors! Bringing some joy into their lives and getting to visit for a few minutes was very rewarding," Turner added.



Seniors Week takes place during the first week of June every year in Alberta. For information about Seniors Week, visit www.alberta.ca/seniors-week.



County Earns Top Marks for Assessment Practices

The County has earned top marks in an independent audit of its assessment performance. The audit, conducted by Alberta Municipal Affairs, is part of the requirements set out by the Municipal Government Act (MGA). It ensures that municipalities are meeting the standards set out in the MGA, Regulations and Minister's Guideline. It also identifies strengths in a municipality's assessment program and opportunities for improvements.

This "report card" reinforces to the County that the work of our Assessment department not only meets legislated requirements, but, in many areas, exceeds them. The review looked at programs and processes, as well as the administration of bylaws, assessment rolls, notices, complaints, and public relations.

"This extensive review wasn't merely about whether or not we get the numbers right or how well we manage the program," said Chris Gardner, Chief Assessor. "It also evaluated how we're listening to property owners and working with them."

"The findings reinforce that the work we're doing to value property is fair, thorough, collaborative and accurate," Gardner added. "That's very important to our Assessment department and to the County."

"We especially appreciate how important this is to County property owners."

The audit made some recommendations for improvements, mostly around best practices. The County will report back to Municipal Affairs once those have been addressed.

HOW DO WE MAKE ASSESSMENTS?

Every year, the County's Assessment department reviews market conditions in the area, to determine an estimate of the value of individual properties in the County. Provincial legislation requires that we conduct these estimates every year. Property taxes are generated when the provincial school and municipal tax rates are multiplied by the assessed value of the property.

You have likely had a chance to meet with a County Assessor. Assessors visit properties throughout the County on a rotation of about five years, taking great care to ensure assessments are thorough and accurate.

For more information about assessments in the County, visit www.countygp.ab.ca/assessment.

Know a County Resident That Goes the Extra Mile out of Kindness?



Keelan Choboter with Area Councillor Karen Rosvold



Heather Hammond with Area Councillor Bob Marshall

In the community of La Glace, Keelan Choboter is well-known for his readiness to step up and help out – shovelling sidewalks for his family and friends, organizing a charity bottle drive for a local non-profit, and sharing his ongoing generous spirit with others.

County resident Heather Hammond is also known for her helpfulness, the person in her community who "shows up" for neighbours in need. Regular check-in calls to see how people are doing, deliveries of casseroles and tasty treats, and a readiness to lend a hand – expecting nothing in return – are just a few of Hammond's neighbourly acts of kindness.

Choboter and Hammond are recent recipients of the County's Kind Heart awards. The awards celebrate the acts of kindness that happen every day throughout the County. They honour those individuals and organizations that go the extra mile with acts of kindness and neighbourliness. These acts – big and small – are all important: they make a difference in the lives of residents, foster community spirit, and make our communities great places to live.

To celebrate these caring individuals, and ensure that their good deeds do not go unnoticed, Choboter, Hammond and all award recipients are recognized by County Council, on the County's social media channels, and placed on the Wall of Honour at www.countygp.ab.ca/kindheartprogram.

WHO CAN BE NOMINATED FOR A KIND HEART?

- Kind Heart Awards are given to nominees who help another resident in need.
- All residents living within the County of Grande Prairie boundaries

HOW CAN YOU NOMINATE A KIND HEART TODAY?

- All residents are encouraged to participate in the Kind Heart Awards Program by nominating anyone who they feel deserves an award.
- Complete the online form at www.countygp.ab.ca/kindheartprogram or call Family and Community Support Services at 780-532-9727.
- Nominations are accepted year-round.

Giving back through the Bottle Donation Program

Giving back to the community can mean many different things. It can mean donating your time, your money or fundraising towards a good cause, random acts of kindness, or being a good neighbour. You can also contribute your empty refundable bottles to community groups. With more safety precautions being taken due to COVID-19, the door-to-door collection of bottles has become less frequent. Instead of allowing those empty bottles to take up space in your home, bring them along with your other recyclable items and waste to any of the following recycling and waste management facilities in the County:

- Clairmont Centre for Recycling & Waste Management
- West Grande Prairie Regional Landfill
- Demmitt Transfer Station
- Elmworth Transfer Station
- Teepee Creek Transfer Station

WHERE DO PROCEEDS FROM THE BOTTLES GO?

All proceeds from these refundable bottles go towards numerous local non-profit and charitable organizations.

Approximately \$2,750 in bottles were contributed to the 2019 Bottle Donation Program. The latest community groups that benefited from the program include:

- Bezanson School Booster Club – funds from bottles were put towards building a new playground for the school
- Clairmont Participarent Society – proceeds helped cover sport fee expenses for Clairmont Community School students
- Peace Country Ringette – used the donated funds to purchase supplies and equipment



- The Worship Center – proceeds were put towards the restoration of their church building
- Village of Hythe Library Board – funds from bottles went towards programs and daily operations

HOW CAN MY COMMUNITY GROUP APPLY FOR THE PROGRAM?

Local non-profit organizations looking for ways to raise money can complete the application form at www.countygpp.ab.ca/bottleprogram, or apply in person at the County Public Works Building or Clairmont Centre for Recycling and Waste Management. Email your completed application form to countybottleprogram@countygpp.ab.ca.

For more information, please visit www.countygpp.ab.ca/bottleprogram or contact the Public Works department at 780-532-7393.



A Bottle trailer to drop your donations off is located at the Clairmont Centre for Recycling and Waste Management.



Drop your bottles in these receptacles that are located at the Demmitt, Elmworth and Teepee Creek Transfer Stations, as well as the West Grande Prairie Regional Landfill. Proceeds from these bottles go towards community groups in their respective communities.



It's time!

The recycling roundup is on!



SPRAY PAINT CANS



PAINT, EMPTY
PAINT CANS



USED OIL, OIL FILTERS,
EMPTY OIL CONTAINERS



HOUSEHOLD
HAZARDOUS WASTE



TVS AND COMPUTER
EQUIPMENT



TIRES



**ARE THESE ITEMS TAKING UP SPACE?
BRING THEM TO:**

**The Clairmont Centre for
Recycling & Waste Management**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3
10 A.M. - 2 P.M.**

During the Recycling Roundup and any time of the year, residents may drop off items for free and safe disposal. Also accepted are household hazardous waste like antifreeze, brake fluid, glue, fluorescent bulbs, batteries, cement, solvent, ant and weed killers, empty propane tanks, and more!

**There will also be prize draws,
snacks and refreshments.**

**For more information, go to
www.countygp.ab.ca/recycling.**

Electronic Recycling Program Expanded at County Recycling Facilities



Our electronic recycling (e-waste) program has expanded! You can now drop off additional electronic items with your e-waste at the Clairmont Centre for Recycling and Waste Management, the West Grande Prairie Regional Landfill and any of the three transfer stations (Demmitt, Teepee Creek, and Elmworth).

New e-waste items now accepted at these facilities include:

- Small home appliances
- Extension cords
- Audio/video equipment
- Musical instruments
- Power tools
- Gaming equipment
- Toys
- Cell phones and other wireless devices

We remind you that the County continues to accept the following e-waste:

- TVs and monitors
- Tablets and Chromebooks
- Computers and laptops
- Printers

The expansion is part of a two-year pilot project taking place across Alberta, hosted by the Alberta Recycling Management Authority (ARMA), that will increase the scope of electronic items that can be recycled. At the end of the two-year program, the program will be evaluated province wide by ARMA.

For more information about the many recycling options in the County, visit www.countygp.ab.ca/recycleprograms.

Talking About Trash: Tips for your Trip to the County's Recycling and Waste Management Facilities

Are you planning a visit to the landfill? Before you leave, make sure you've adequately prepared by securing your trash and recycling. Follow these seven steps to ensure your trip to a County waste and recycling management facility goes as quickly as possible.

1. Prepare loose household garbage in a bag, bin or bundle.
2. Visit www.countygp.ab.ca/recycleprograms for a list of items accepted, and potential tipping fees for specific materials.
3. Separate your household waste from metals, wood, tires, e-waste, propane tanks, batteries, appliances and material that can be recycled. Separating your recyclables before entering the landfill makes off-loading less time-consuming.
4. Tarp and secure your load to help control litter and to avoid a fine and/or an unsecured load fee.
5. Follow posted procedures and instructions at the landfill or transfer station.
6. Talk to a landfill/transfer station attendant to learn where to discard your items.
7. If you are dropping items off at the Clairmont Centre for Recycling and Waste Management, be sure to bring your landfill access tag to avoid tipping fees. Visit www.countygp.ab.ca/landfillaccess for more information.

For more information, visit www.countygp.ab.ca/recycleprograms.



COUNTY RECYCLING AND WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITIES

There are plenty of options for waste management and recycling for County residents. Dispose and recycle various items at the following transfer stations and landfills:

Clairmont Centre for Recycling and Waste Management 724065 RGE RD 63

From the Hamlet of Clairmont, head west on Township Road 724 and north on Range Road 63.

West Grande Prairie Regional Landfill 733003 RGE RD 93

Head west on Emerson Trail and then north on Range Road 93.

Demmitt Transfer Station 742083 RGE RD 131

From Highway 43 on Range Road 131, head south for 3.2 km.

Teepee Creek Transfer Station 745052 Hwy 733

From Teepee Creek, head 1.6 km east to Highway 733 and 8.8 km north.

Elmworth Transfer Station 702068 RGE RD 115

From Elmworth, head west on Highway 722 and north on Range Road 115.

The County also has 12 Recycling Bin locations where items including boxboard, cardboard, glass, plastic, and tin can be dropped off.

Visit our webpage for an interactive map of the locations, and to ensure the location you are visiting offers the service you require at www.countygp.ab.ca/recycleprograms.



Safe Disposal of Animal Carcasses and Offals

Proper disposal of animal carcasses and other animal parts is important for the health of our communities. County waste facilities are unable to accept any animal parts, as our operations are not set up for safe disposal of this waste. However, our regional partner, Aquatera, is permitted by the Canada Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) to accept animal carcasses, bones and offals at its landfill.

If you wish to dispose of this type of animal waste, you must call Aquatera at 780-538-0452 during business hours to arrange a time for disposal. The tipping fee for animal waste is the regular rate of \$95 per tonne. If special handling is required, a special handling fee may be charged at \$190 per tonne.

Specific Risk Materials (SRM) are accepted at \$190 per tonne with appropriate CFIA permitting paperwork. What are SRM?

- the skull, brain, trigeminal ganglia (nerves attached to the brain), eyes, tonsils, spinal cord and dorsal root ganglia (nerves attached to the spinal cord) of cattle aged 30 months or older; and,
- the distal ileum (portion of the small intestine) of cattle of all ages.

For more information about fees and disposal, visit Aquatera at www.aquatera.ca/your-bill/rates/landfill-rates.



Are you interested in energy industry activity in the Wapiti area?

Check out the Wapiti Area Synergy Partnership (WASP) at www.wapitiasp.ca to find out about opportunities to connect with area industry representatives, learn about upcoming projects, attend meetings, and watch expert presentations.

Recycle your Twine and Grain Bags at the Clairmont Centre for Recycling and Waste Management

Earlier this year, the County began accepting twine and grain bags for recycling at the Clairmont Centre for Recycling and Waste Management, as part of a provincial Recycle It! Pilot Program. The program runs until 2022.

If you have grain bags and twine to drop off for recycling, follow the steps below to ensure they are accepted.

GRAIN BAG RECYCLING

1. **SHAKE** off as much organic material (spoilage, soil, etc.) as possible. Extremely dirty or loose/unrolled bags may be rejected. If the grain bag is not rolled properly it may be rejected or you may have to pay a tipping fee upon drop-off.



2. **ROLL and TIE** the bags with twine. Rollers and compactors are available at some Alberta collection sites. For information on these sites visit www.cleanfarms.ca.

3. **RETURN** the grain bag for recycling.

TWINE RECYCLING

1. **SHAKE** as much debris, snow or ice off the twine as possible. Do not include net wrap and make sure twine is knot-free. Excessively dirty twine or knotted twine may be rejected and subject to a landfill tipping fee.



2. **OBTAIN** a Cleanfarms recycling bag from the landfill attendant and place loose twine inside. Poke small holes in the bag to drain water. Secure bag tightly with a twine or zip tie.

3. **RETURN** the bag for recycling.

For further details about the program, check out the frequently asked questions at

www.countygp.ab.ca/agrecycling or call the Clairmont Centre for Recycling and Waste Management at 780-567-4194.

County Connections – Your latest news and info from the County about life in the County

Keeping up-to-date with what's happening in the County is much easier with a subscription to the County Connections e-newsletter. We round up news about important programs, services, initiatives and events that impact people's lives in the County, and feature them in this newsletter, three times a year.

County Connections is full of timely and relevant information, helping residents and businesses stay informed and updated. It's free, and our e-version is delivered to your inbox.

SIGN-UP FOR OUR E-NEWSLETTER

Enjoy the convenience of reading on your desktop or mobile device. Subscribing to the County Connections e-newsletter is easy. Visit www.countygp.ab.ca/subscribe and fill out the information.

Rest assured, the information you provide will be used exclusively for the newsletter. And if you change your mind, you can unsubscribe at any time.



GOT STORY IDEAS? LET'S TALK!

Do you have any ideas for topics you would like covered in upcoming issues of County Connections – ideas or information that will help you and others stay in touch with the latest news in the County? We'd love to hear from you! Send your ideas to communications@countygp.ab.ca.

Sending Mail to the County Office?

Did you know that in September 2017, the postal code for the County of Grande Prairie office changed? Formerly T0H 0W0 is now T8X 5B2. If you are sending mail to the County, please use the following address:



10001 – 84 Avenue Clairmont, AB T8X 5B2

If mail is sent to the County's old postal code, it may be undeliverable by the courier and returned to the sender.

Please note that this is a Canada Post initiative. Canada Post made these changes to its delivery network so that they can continue to provide customers with efficient, reliable service.

Visit www.countygp.ab.ca/contact or call 780-532-9722 for County facility hours of operation and contact information.

New Website Coming Soon: Check it Out!

By the end of the year, you'll see a new website at www.countygp.ab.ca! The site will feature a sleek design with features to meet your needs even better.

TEST AND TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

You are invited to help perfect the almost-finished product by taking part in website testing during the week of October 12.

Are you interested in participating or learning more? Contact communications@countygp.ab.ca or stay tuned to www.countygp.ab.ca and the County's social media channels.



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

Return undeliverable
Canadian addresses to:
The County of Grande Prairie No.1
10001 - 84 Avenue, Clairmont, AB T8X 5B2



TOP ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Councillor Harold Bulford, Councillor Bob Marshall, Deputy Reeve Peter Harris, Councillor Corey Beck

FRONT ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Councillor Linda Waddy, Councillor Daryl Beeston, Reeve Leanne Beaupre, Councillor Ross Sutherland, Councillor Karen Rosvold

COUNCILLOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Councillor Harold Bulford
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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.
Closed from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.
and on statutory holidays

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDINGS

Administration, Assessment,
Economic Development, Finance
& Information Systems,
Communications, Human Resources,
Public Works, Planning and
Development Services

780-532-9722

COMMUNITY SERVICES BUILDINGS

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

780-532-9727

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