

COUNTY CONNECTIONS



FALL 2025

1 2025 County Municipal Election

5 Citizen Satisfaction Survey

6 Your Tax Dollars at Work

7 Plan Your County

8 All About Snow and Ice Control

11 Municipal Police Service Agreement

12 The Real Cost of Wildfires

13 Farm Family Nominations

16 Fall and Winter Activities

17 Recognize a Volunteer

18 Grant Applications Open Feb. 1

19 County Economic Development

20 Recycling Corner

21 County Holiday Hours

22 Sportsplex Programming

23 Dino Museum Programming

Vote on October 20 County of Grande Prairie Municipal Election

www.countygp.ab.ca/election

**VOTE
2025**



IN THIS ISSUE: Find your voting station, candidates, voter identification information, and more. Be ready to vote on Election Day on October 20 or at Advance Voting on October 15 and 18.

Want to Make a Difference in Your Community? Vote!

County of Grande Prairie residents are invited to play a key role in shaping the future of the County. This October, make your voice heard by voting in the County's municipal election.

An estimated 26 per cent of eligible County residents voted in the 2021 municipal election. The County is asking residents to vote during advance voting or on Election Day, ensuring a larger turnout this October.

When can I vote?

Important Dates to Remember

Would you like to cast your vote before Election Day? The County of Grande Prairie is offering two advance voting dates:



Wednesday, October 15

4 p.m. to 8 p.m.



Saturday, October 18

10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Election Day: Monday, October 20, 2025

Voting stations will be open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Find your voting station information on page 3.

Like other municipalities, the County hosts a municipal election every four years. The County is made up of nine electoral divisions, each represented by one councillor who serves a four-year term and is elected by the citizens who live within the division's boundaries.

Voting only takes a few minutes. Keep reading to find out where to vote for your division councillor and what to bring.

For County election information, visit www.countygp.ab.ca/election, or contact the election team at 780-532-9842 ext. 3393 or election@countygp.ab.ca.

Who is eligible to vote?

You are eligible to vote in the election if you meet all the following:

- You are at least 18 years old
- You are a Canadian Citizen
- You live in Alberta and are a resident of the County of Grande Prairie and the division on Election Day
- You have acceptable voter identification
- You have not voted before in this election
- You are listed on the elector register at the voting station and/or you sign a declaration that you meet these requirements.

See the next three pages for everything you need to know about voting.

Be ready for the County of Grande Prairie Municipal Election on October 20



What do I need to vote?

Accepted Voter Identification

All voters must present photo identification (ID) to vote in an election. Voters must also be registered and listed on the permanent electors register in order to vote in the 2025 municipal election.

- **Option 1 – You have already registered to vote.**
 - Bring one piece of photo ID issued by a Canadian government – federal, provincial or municipal. For example, a Driver's Licence, an Alberta ID card, or a Canadian passport.
- **Option 2 – You did not register to vote; or you did register to vote, but do not have a government-issued photo ID.**
 - You must complete a form at the voting station and provide one of the following:
 - Government-issued photo ID that includes your name and address, or
 - A piece of ID from the list that includes your name and current address, or
 - A piece of ID from the list that contains your name, along with an eligible voter who can vouch for you – they must know you and where you live. A person who vouches for you must be eligible to vote, have an acceptable voter ID, be registered to vote, and be willing to complete the statement of voucher at the voting station. They cannot be someone who has been vouched for by another person.

Government-issued ID:

- Alberta Driver's Licence
- Alberta ID Card
- AISH Card
- Alberta Forestry Identification Card
- Alberta Natural Resources (Conservation) Card
- Alberta Service Dog Identification Card
- Canadian Citizenship Card or Certificate
- CATSA Identification Card
- Fishing, Trapping, or Hunting Licence
- Government Cheque or Cheque Stub
- Income/Property Tax Assessment Notice
- Letter from a Public Curator, Public Guardian or Public Trustee
- Métis Nation of Alberta Citizenship Card
- Métis Settlement Membership Card
- Outdoors or Wildlife Card/Licence
- Statement of Government Benefits, such as employment insurance, old-age security, social assistance, disability support, or child tax benefits

Other documents:

Documents, such as financial statements, utility bills, vehicle registration, insurance policies, school/college/university documents, attestation forms, and more may qualify. Visit www.countygp.ab.ca/election for details.

What if I am unable to vote during Advance Voting or on Election Day?

How to Apply for a Special Ballot

Applications for Special Ballots, commonly referred to as mail-in ballots, officially opened August 1, 2025, and will close at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, October 17, 2025. Special Ballots are available only to those who are unable to vote at an advance vote or on Election Day.

If you're eligible, find the Special Ballot instructions under the "Voter Information" section online at www.countygp.ab.ca/election, or request a Special Ballot from the Returning Officer at election@countygp.ab.ca or 780-532-9842, ext. 3393.

Special Ballots will be mailed to voters, or available for pickup, following the close of nominations on Monday, September 22 after 12 noon, and must be returned to the office of the Returning Officer no later than 4:30 p.m. on Election Day, October 20.



Electoral Divisions

Where do I vote?

Eligible voters can cast their vote within their division on Election Day. Unsure which electoral division you live in or where your voting station is located? Review the Electoral Division Map found on page 4. You can also contact a member of the County's election team by emailing election@countypg.ab.ca or calling 780-532-9842, ext. 3393.

Where to vote on October 20 – 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Division	Voting Station
Division 1	Bezanson Memorial Hall 9901-100 Avenue, Bezanson (For School Board Elections only.)
Division 2	Grande Prairie Alliance Church 15502-102 Street, Grande Prairie Whispering Ridge subdivision
Division 3	Clarkson Hall, Evergreen Park 55051 Township Road 710, County of Grande Prairie
Division 4	Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum 9301-112 Avenue, Wembley
Division 5	Saskatoon Lake Community Hall 83007 Township Road 722, County of Grande Prairie
Division 6	Hinton Trail Community Hall 702002 Highway 722, County of Grande Prairie
Division 7	Hythe Legion 9820-100 Avenue, Hythe
Division 9	Webster Hall 52801 Township Road 744A, County of Grande Prairie

Voting at Lakeview Seniors Centre on October 20, 2025

Election workers will be on site to conduct the institutional vote.

- **Lakeview Seniors Centre, Clairmont**
1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Advance Voting Stations – October 15 and 18

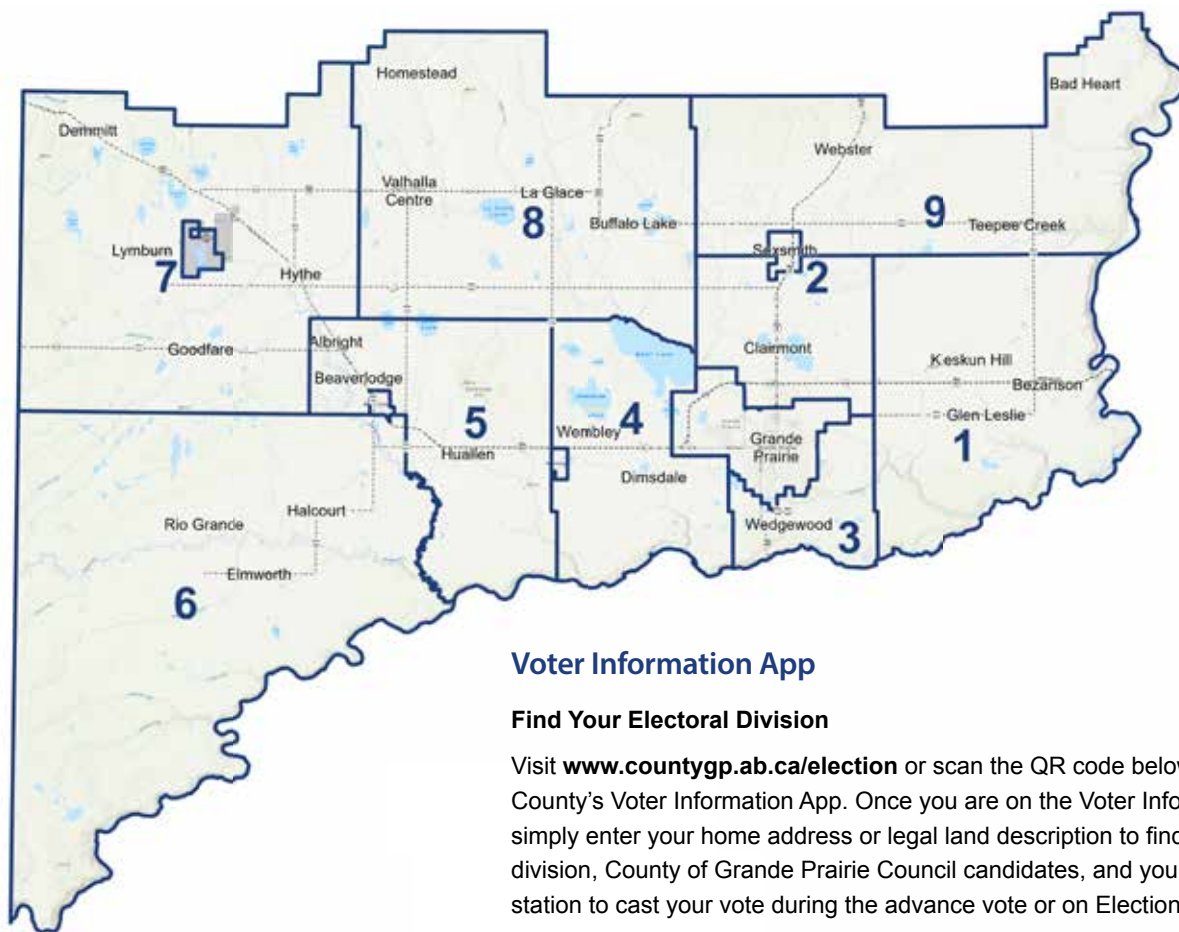
Eligible voters can cast their vote at a voting station of their choice during the advance vote on October 15 and 18.

Locations for all divisions	Hours
Clarkson Hall – Evergreen Park 55051 Township Road 710, County of Grande Prairie Hythe Legion 9820-100 Avenue, Hythe Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum 9301 112 Avenue, Wembley Webster Hall 52801 Township Road 744A, County of Grande Prairie	Wednesday, October 15, 2025 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, October 18, 2025 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Who is running?

Official List of Candidates

Division	Candidates
Division 1	Frayn, Amanda (Incumbent – Acclaimed)
Division 2	Balderston, Kurt (Incumbent) Trudel, Cindy
Division 3	Beaupre, Terri Park, Joel
Division 4	Driedger, Lynn Tissington, Marty Zimmerman, Steve (Incumbent)
Division 5	Hill, Robert Hogg, Carrie Lieverse, Brian Raven, Sonja
Division 6	Blew, Geri Grant, Brian Lindblom, Travis
Division 7	Peterson, Brian (Incumbent) Pierson, Dallas
Division 8	Rosvold, Karen (Incumbent – Acclaimed)
Division 9	Chrenek, Bob (Incumbent) Johnson, L. Allan Sodergren, Rocky



Voter Information App

Find Your Electoral Division

Visit www.countygp.ab.ca/election or scan the QR code below to find the County's Voter Information App. Once you are on the Voter Information App, simply enter your home address or legal land description to find your electoral division, County of Grande Prairie Council candidates, and your nearest voting station to cast your vote during the advance vote or on Election Day.

The Voter Information App also lists school board trustee candidates for Grande Prairie & District Catholic Schools and Peace Wapiti Public School Division.

How can I find out who has been elected?

After voting stations close at 8 p.m. on Election Day, October 20, results will be available on the County website, www.countygp.ab.ca/election.



The Role of a County Councillor

Our councillors are County residents who are interested in setting the direction for our communities and the overall future of the County. They make critical decisions on matters including tax rates, operational and capital spending, road maintenance, recreation and cultural programming, garbage and recycling services, and bylaws for issues such as animal control, regional enforcement services, transportation and utilities projects, and community planning and development.

After the election, Council members participate in an organizational meeting where they are officially sworn in and vote to elect a Reeve and Deputy Reeve, forming the new elected body that makes decisions about policies and programs impacting our communities and our County residents.

Help Shape Council's Decisions Complete the County's Citizen Satisfaction Survey



The County of Grande Prairie is inviting residents to take part in the 2025 Citizen Satisfaction Survey. As in 2023, the online survey will be conducted by independent market research firm Leger 360. Watch your mailbox for a letter near the end of October with the survey website and a QR code you can scan for quick access.

Your feedback is important to us!

This confidential survey is your chance to once again share feedback on County services, programs, and overall quality of life. Your input will help Council understand what's working well and where improvements are needed.

Why your voice matters:

Survey results directly inform Council's strategic planning and decision making. A summary report will be shared with the community once the survey is complete.

Where to find more information:

- Learn more and view past results at www.countygp.ab.ca/satisfaction.
- Your letter, arriving near the end of October, will contain additional details. Please complete the survey by November 28, 2025.

County Launches New Website



Have you visited our website, www.countygp.ab.ca lately? In July, the County of Grande Prairie launched a refreshed website for a better user experience.

It's now easier to navigate on any device—smartphone, tablet, or desktop.

Our improved search engine tool will help you quickly find what you're looking for, from fire bans to road construction projects, election information, council meetings, and more.

We hope you like our new website as much as we do. Take a tour today!



Interim Budget Meetings

Each December, County Council holds meetings to review annual budgets for the upcoming and following years.

Interim Budget meetings provide an opportunity for Council to review the proposed budgets. Final budget meetings are held in the spring to finalize all the numbers.

Watch via public live stream

Find connection instructions and meeting agendas under Council Meetings at www.countygp.ab.ca/council.

Interim meetings for the 2026 budget:

December 10, 11 and 12 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Questions?

Contact Financial and Business Planning Services at 780-532-9722.

Save the Date

DECEMBER 2025

Wed Thurs Fri

10 11 12

Your Tax Dollars at Work

County Council delivered on resident priorities of roads and public safety in the 2025 final budget. With April's final budget deliberations behind us, here's a few highlights on how the budget is being spent.



2025 BUDGET:

\$216.5
MILLION

Municipal taxes cover all items that contribute to quality of life:



Roads



Emergency services



Funding for community programs and facilities

The County and all municipalities must collect two additional levies:



Funding for schools



Support for seniors housing



70% of capital budget =
Road and bridge projects



\$7.8 MILLION
in grants for recreation, health, community, culture, seniors and special needs transportation, and libraries



\$5.2 MILLION
in cost-sharing with neighbouring municipalities



ADDITIONAL \$2.65 MILLION
for new Teepee Creek Fire Hall
(\$4.5 million total cost)



\$2.54 MILLION
for RCMP policing +
\$560,000 for Hamlet of Clairmont policing



\$1.2 MILLION
for Bezanson water main and curb stop replacement



\$600,000
to STARS air ambulance (2025 to 2027)



\$600,000
engineering increase for Range Road 62/Highway 43 Flyover (\$995,051 total cost)

Did You Know?



Municipalities are bound by the *Legislative Act* to produce a balanced budget.

The 2025 budget included a modest 2.4% municipal tax increase = \$4.82/month for a \$575,000 home.



26,701
County population up 26% since 2012. Balanced budget despite inflation and population growth.

Pay Your Property Taxes

The County of Grande Prairie collects property taxes to help fund County services, facilities, and projects. Your property tax notice includes municipal taxes along with taxes for education and senior lodging as determined by the Province of Alberta and the Grande Spirit Foundation.

Notices were mailed in May. The payment deadline was June 30, 2025. Accounts that are still unpaid now face late penalties:

- 3% penalty applied on the last business day of June



- 12% penalty will be applied on the last business day of October



- Total annual penalty: 15% on outstanding balances

Didn't receive your tax notice? Contact the County's Tax team at 780-513-3968 or email taxes@countygp.ab.ca.

Plan Your County

The County of Grande Prairie is updating the documents that set the direction, rules, and overall vision for land development. This process ensures that updates to planning documents reflect the current context of the County and the vision that residents and Council have for the region. These updated documents help support effective land use patterns, efficient use of infrastructure, improved service delivery, and a balanced tax base.

The Plan Your County initiative has spanned multiple years and involved updates to several planning documents; using a single project name highlights their interconnectedness. It also makes it easier for residents to see how elements work together, follow project updates, participate, and provide feedback.

As part of the Plan Your County initiative, the County previously completed Intermunicipal Development Plans with neighbouring municipalities, a Hamlet Resiliency Strategy, and administrative updates to the Land Use Bylaw. In 2025, the County will wrap up updates to the Municipal Development Plan the overarching plan for the entire County that outlines long-term land uses and future development areas. It includes policies around where different types of development will be directed, the requirements for new developments, and how we preserve natural areas and agricultural land. Also in 2025, County planners continued working on updating the Land Use Bylaw, amending the Clairmont Heights Area Structure Plan, and completing the Windsor Area Structure Plan.

In 2026, the County will continue working on updates to the Land Use Bylaw including the first phases of consultation, as well as working on new and updated Area Structure Plans.

Visit www.countygp.ab.ca/planyourcounty to learn more about specific updates, ask questions or share your thoughts.

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 <https://myproperty.countygp.ab.ca>

Winter Building Permits

Colder weather brings challenges to building projects, and many construction sites need heat.

Temporary gas permits are required when either gas or propane is tied into an interim heat source that will be disconnected when the build is complete. More regulations apply to propane being used compared to gas. Reference guides outlining the regulations are available from the County Administration Building at 10001 84 Avenue, Clairmont. Separate building, electrical, plumbing and sewage system permits may also be required.

Learn more at www.countygp.ab.ca/permits or contact Planning and Development at 780-513-3950 or plan@countygp.ab.ca.

All About Snow and Ice Control



The winter season is right around the corner, and our dedicated County crews are switching gears from road maintenance and construction to snow and ice control. Our dedicated snow removal crew operates 21 graders, eight plow trucks, one large tractor and three loaders to clear and maintain more than 3,700 km of roads across the County.

Priority Clearing System

The County uses a priority system to clear snow and ice on roadways. This system is in place to ensure safety and efficiency. When a large amount of snow accumulates, roads are cleared in the following order:

1. High-volume and high-speed roads are cleared first after 8 cm of snow has accumulated. These roads, also known as arterial roads or hard-surfaced roads, are typically cleared within three business days. Salt, sand, and/or gravel is also applied to priority intersections, road curves, and hills.
2. Gravel roads are cleared after 15 cm of snow has accumulated. Generally, gravel roads are cleared within five business days.
3. Hamlets and residential subdivisions with a concrete curb and gutter are typically cleared once 15 cm of snow has accumulated. Within these areas, a priority system is also used to clear high-volume roads and school zones first. These roads are typically cleared within 12 business days.

The Winter Road Maintenance policy is available at www.countygp.ab.ca/snowremoval.

Hamlets and Residential Neighbourhoods

Snow clearing in hamlets and residential neighbourhoods with concrete curbs and gutters requires temporary parking bans.

This allows our dedicated crews and equipment to clear snow safely and efficiently. Areas that will have parking bans for snow clearing include:

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

Snow Clearing Notices

Digital signage at the entrance to these neighbourhoods will be lit when a parking ban is in place. All temporary parking bans are in effect between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. During this time, vehicles must be removed from roadways.





If you live in one of these hamlets or specific rural subdivisions and would like to receive snow clearing notifications directly to your phone, subscribe to Voyent Alert, the County's notification system. Receive notifications and updates on temporary parking bans, emergencies and more via the Voyent Alert app, or by text, email, or landline alert. Visit www.countygp.ab.ca/alerts to sign up.

Neighbourhoods Without Ditches

Snow clearing in rural residential areas without concrete curbs and gutters, like Carriage Lane and Goldenrod Estates, is completed on a separate schedule. For questions about clearing in rural residential areas, contact Transportation and Utilities at 780-532-7393.

Paved Walking Trails

Paved walking trails are also cleared and maintained during the winter months. Up-to-date status reports on trail conditions and maintenance are available at www.countygp.ab.ca/trails.

Provincial Highways

Snow clearing on provincial highways is done separately by Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors. Provincial highways can be identified by their numbering. For example, provincial highways always have one-, two-, or three-digit numbers such as Highway 2, Highway 43, and Highway 672. For highway reports, visit 511 Alberta or call 780-538-5310.

Seniors and Special Needs Snow Removal Program

Following a snowfall, once County roads are cleared, our dedicated crews clear the driveways of more than 400 County residents as part of the Senior Snow Removal Program. Residents over the age of 65, and individuals with disabilities who live on more than two acres of land and have difficulties clearing their driveways, can apply for the service. Private driveways cannot be cleared by request, so make sure to register for the program if you qualify.

Residents 65+ can complete a registration form online at www.countygp.ab.ca/seniorssnowremoval.

Residents with physical disabilities can contact Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) at 780-567-5584 to register.

Let's All Do Our Part

Everyone plays a part in the safety and efficiency of snow removal. We ask residents and business owners to be patient as our crews work to safely clear roads as quickly as possible. Please drive according to conditions, use extreme caution, and reduce speeds when approaching plows, graders, and other equipment. Finally, a reminder that County bylaws prohibit snow and ice from being pushed onto or across roadways. This includes both urban and rural roadways. Snow can only be pushed or shovelled onto your own property. If windrows freeze across roads, they can cause accidents and damage vehicles or equipment. Let's all do our part to keep our roads safe and efficient this winter.



Community Standards in Action 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. Remove snow and ice from public sidewalks adjacent to your 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.

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 offences.

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 using the "Report a Complaint" form. Read more about the Community Standards Bylaw at www.countygp.ab.ca/csb.

Winter Road Safety: Small Habits. Big Impact

Driving in winter isn't just about slowing down, it's about being ready for whatever the road throws at you.

1. **Check conditions** before heading out check the road reports at 511.alberta.ca. Weather and roads can change fast.
2. **Give yourself space.** Icy roads mean longer stopping times—keep your distance.
3. **Stay back from snowplows.** Never tailgate or pass unless it's clearly safe to do so.
4. **Pack a winter kit.** Include warm clothing, water, a charger, and non-perishable snacks.
5. **Don't drive impaired.** Penalties are severe, and it puts everyone at risk.

Stay up to date on County road conditions by signing up for Voyent Alert at www.countygp.ab.ca/alerts.

Plan ahead. Drive smart. Get home safe.

Calling All County and Area Residents—Complete the 2025 Provincial Housing and Service Needs Estimation Survey

The County and the towns of Beveridge, Sexsmith and Wembley are conducting a Housing and Service Needs Estimation survey, led by the Rural Development Network. This survey will help us better understand housing and service needs in our community.

Launched on October 1 and running through October 31, the survey is available online and at participating service provider locations. Complete the survey to share your experiences with housing and necessary services. Your feedback will help inform community policies, practices, and funding decisions on housing and services moving forward.

Help shine a spotlight on the issues of housing and service needs in our community. Find more information and complete the survey at www.countygp.ab.ca/ruralhomelessness.



What the Clairmont Municipal Police Service Agreement Means for the Community

A Municipal Police Service Agreement (MPSA) is a contract between a municipality and the federal government outlining how policing services will be delivered, which includes defining costs, responsibilities, and service expectations. In Alberta, communities with a population of 5,000 residents are provincially required to fund local policing. Communities have several options for local police service delivery, one being to contract the RCMP.

In 2022, the Hamlet of Clairmont reached this population milestone, creating the need for a formal policing agreement. As a result, the Clairmont MPSA took effect on April 1, 2025, with the County contracting the RCMP and working with Public Safety Canada to formalize the agreement.

Under the MPSA, the County funds 70 per cent of the cost for four dedicated RCMP officers—a Corporal Supervisor and three

Constable Investigators—while the federal government covers the remaining 30 per cent. The County provides an additional \$80,000 per year to fund an administrative position to support the RCMP officers.

The officers work under the umbrella of the Grande Prairie Rural RCMP to maintain 24-hour policing for the eastern portion of the County and have designated office space in the County's Community Services Building in Clairmont, enhancing response times and policing coverage. RCMP coverage in the west County is provided by the Beaverlodge RCMP detachment.

To support the transition, Council has sought Ministerial approval to create a Municipal Police Committee as required by the Police Act, to represent the County in policing matters.

Keeping Communities Safe: A Look at County Enforcement

County Regional Enforcement Services is a leader in policy, safety services, and emergency management. It is one of the most comprehensive departments in the province. Multiple types of enforcement work together to provide a safe, and secure environment for residents, businesses, and visitors.

- **RCMP:** Responds to emergencies, enforces laws, prevents crime, and helps keep the peace.
- **Patrol Unit:** Focuses on traffic safety, road protection, and public education.

- **Parkland Patrol Unit:** Focuses on green spaces, campgrounds, and off-highway vehicle safety.
- **Community Standards Unit:** Enforces bylaws like animal control, parking, and unsightly property.
- **Community Safety Coordinator:** Fosters community wellness through collaboration with residents, businesses, volunteer groups and law enforcement agencies to develop and implement crime prevention initiatives.
- **Volunteer Groups:** Your local Rural Crime Watch, and other similar groups, help prevent crime and support law enforcement.

Whether you're at home, at work, or on the road, our team is here to help keep your community safe. For more information, visit www.countygp.ab.ca/enforcement.

No More Lump Sums Sign Up for Monthly Payments Through TIPP

If your property tax account balance is at zero, you can sign up for the County's Tax Installment Payment Plan (TIPP). This program is a budget-friendly way to spread your payments over the year through automatic monthly withdrawals.

How to Enroll:

- Ensure your account is fully paid.
- Submit your completed application along with a void cheque or direct deposit form.
- Apply online at www.countygp.ab.ca/payments.

Need to opt out or ask questions? Call our Tax team at 780-532-9722.

The Real Cost of Wildfires and How We Can Reduce the Risk

Wildfires are a growing concern across Alberta, and the County of Grande Prairie is no exception. That's why the County has developed a Wildfire Mitigation Strategy—a long-term plan to reduce the risk of wildfires and protect our residents, properties, and natural spaces.

The strategy was launched in 2015 and is built on earlier work like the Mountain Pine Beetle Program (2010-2014), which helped clear hazardous trees. Since then, fuel reduction projects have been completed in high-risk areas like Wapiti Dunes and Aspen Ridge. These projects involve thinning dense forests, removing dry brush, and mulching to reduce flammable material—all guided by professional foresters and FireSmart™ principles.

Wildfires Come at a Significant Cost

Beyond environmental damage, wildfires come with significant financial costs. Suppression, clean-up, damage to infrastructure, firefighting efforts, and equipment use can cost hundreds of thousands—even millions—of dollars. And many of these fires are preventable.

Did you know in our region, 65 per cent of wildfires are caused by holdover fires? These are burn piles that were not properly

extinguished and reignite days, weeks, or years later.

These types of fires are entirely avoidable with proper care and attention.

When negligence is found to be a factor, individuals may be held responsible and fined under municipal legislation. The goal is not to punish, but to prevent. Everyone has a role to play in keeping our community safe.

Looking Ahead: What's Next

The County is updating the strategy for 2025 to build on what's been learned and to better prepare for changing conditions. The updated plan will continue to target high-risk areas while expanding public education and community outreach.

What You Can Do

Wildfire prevention starts at home. Small steps like removing dry debris, pruning trees, and choosing fire-resistant plants can go a long way. The County also provides seasonal FireSmart tips, hosts wood chipping events, and shares resources to help you reduce risk. Visit www.countygp.ab.ca/wildfiremitigation to learn more.

ATCO Fire Cadet Follows in Father's Footsteps



Left to right: Chris Johnson, ATCO; Cadet Keelan Choboter; Fire Chief Trevor Grant; Amanda Mattern, ATCO Vice-President of Operations; Corinne Severson, ATCO; Cadet Logan Skarberg; Shannon Horrell.

The ATCO Fire Cadet Program in the County of Grande Prairie invites high school students ages 16 to 18 to learn and work with professional firefighters to gain certification.

County firefighter Keelan Choboter, a 2024 cadet program graduate, was eager to jump right in.

"I am a second-generation firefighter. I always knew I wanted to be one, just like my dad; the program was exactly what I wanted," says Choboter.

One of his favourite memories from the ATCO Fire Cadet program was training in the fire simulator.

"The best experience ever was feeling the heat during the simulation. At that moment, I knew this is what I wanted to do."

Learn more about the ATCO Fire Cadet program at www.countygp.ab.ca/cadets.

Rooted in Service: One Farmer's Firehouse Journey



The County Regional Fire Service is maintained and strengthened by the tireless efforts of paid-on-call, full-time and part-time firefighters in communities around the County. For Evan Letkeman, joining was a way of building connections and roots in his community of Teepee Creek.

"I am a farmer in the Teepee Creek area, and I thought it would be a great opportunity," says Lieutenant Letkeman. "My passion was to be a volunteer and pursue self-improvement. I showed up to one of our local training nights and never looked back. It's a great way to build relationships in your community and meet new people."

Letkeman began his journey in August 2020, worked hard to complete his training with the County as a paid-on-call firefighter, and received his National Fire Protection Association 1001 certification in 2022. He now serves as a paid-on-call Lieutenant at the Teepee Creek Fire Hall and is also a part-time firefighter in Clairmont. Letkeman encourages others to answer the call.

"We are always in need of volunteers; if anyone lives within the 15 km designated range of a rural fire station, they are more than welcome to come by and express interest."

Visit www.countygp.ab.ca/fireservices to learn more about the County's Regional Fire Service.

Farm Family Nominations Opening Soon



2025 Farm Family Award recipients - Alde Family of Broken Tine Orchard

Do you know a farm family in the County of Grande Prairie who exemplifies unwavering dedication to agriculture and actively contributes to their community? Help recognize their contributions by nominating them for the 2026 Farm Family Award!

Nomination Deadline is December 1, 2025

Have a family in mind? Complete the nomination package at www.countygp.ab.ca/farmfamily or pick one up at the County Community Services Building. Our doors are open from Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., excluding statutory holidays. For more information, contact the Agriculture department at 780-532-9727.

Stay Connected with Local Ag News

Don't miss out on what's growing in our County! Sign up for the Rural Report, our new monthly agricultural e-newsletter, to stay informed about upcoming events, timely tips, local programs, and seasonal updates from our agricultural team. Whether you're a producer, gardener, or just want to stay in the know, there's something for everyone.

Subscribe today and stay in the loop! Scan the QR code with your device or visit www.countygp.ab.ca/agriculture-livestock.



Be Black Knot Aware



Black Knot is a fungal disease that affects plants in the genus *Prunus*. Potential host trees include, but are not limited to, chokecherries and other cherry varieties, plum trees, and mayday trees.

What is the Risk?

Although trees may appear healthy, due to the rapid transmission of the disease and the drought conditions we have been experiencing over the past few years, many trees are stressed and prone to infection. Therefore, the risk of infection is high, and the presence of Black Knot is increasing.

Not only does the disease significantly reduce the aesthetic value of the infected plant, but it also spreads quickly, as spores are wind-borne and may result in the eventual death of the tree.

What Should I Look For?

- Black, hard masses that develop on twigs and branches of infected plants:
 - Mature galls may be up to 15 cm (six inches)
 - May be somewhat ruptured
 - Release spores during bloom
 - Branches encircled will die from girdling (removing a ring of bark around the branch)
- Small, olive-green galls at growing points:
 - Develop for two to three years until maturity

What Can I Do?

- Remove infected branches:
 - During late fall, winter, or early spring while trees are dormant and knots are easy to see
 - Prune at least 15-20 cm (six to eight inches) below the knot
 - For scaffold branches or trunks, cut down to good wood, at least 1 cm (half-inch) from the edge of the knot
- Diseased wood must be destroyed by burning when permitted, or by burying or removing it from the site
 - Removed knots can produce and release spores for up to four months after removal
 - Diseased wood can be brought to the County landfill for burning
- Clean and disinfect pruning tools with a two per cent bleach solution during and after branch removal to avoid disease spread from branch to branch
- Monitor regularly
- Ensure plants are healthy and stress-free

Community Groups Corner

Get Involved: Be the Change in Your Community!

Alberta's communities thrive because of people like you. With volunteer participation rates declining across Canada, your time and talents are more valuable than ever.

Whether you have an hour a week or a few days a month, there's a place for you to make a difference. From supporting local events to mentoring youth or helping your local community groups—every action counts.

Roving Office for Community Groups

The Recreation and Culture department has 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.

Stay Informed

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

Resources for Community Groups

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



Step Outside this Winter

Explore Our County Campgrounds This Winter!

Embrace the magic of winter in our beautiful County campgrounds! Whether you're trekking the scenic hills at Kleskun Hill, snowshoeing through peaceful forest trail at Pipestone or along beautiful Bear Lake (pictured below), or gathering around a crackling fire for a cozy hotdog roast, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

Weekend day use is available from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., October 16 to March 31. Bundle up, bring your sense of adventure, and come explore the snowy serenity of our parks!

Winter Programs

The County of Grande Prairie offers numerous opportunities to stay active and spend quality time with family and friends. Head outdoors to explore the diverse natural landscapes and available activities. Stay tuned for information on the 2026 Winter Family Frostival being held at Pipestone Creek campground and other recreational program info at www.countygp.ab.ca/recreationprograms.

Stay Active this Winter!

The County has more than 32 km of paved multi-purpose trails plus natural trails at Pipestone, Camp Tamarack and Evergreen Ridge Recreation Area that are ideal for staying active this winter.

Our user-friendly trail map, at www.countygp.ab.ca/trails, highlights routes that can accommodate any fitness level. Don't own snowshoes? Find rental information and reservation details at www.countygp.ab.ca/SnowShoeRentals.



Call for Volunteers— Create an Ice Surface in Your Community



Would you like to create a great source of winter fun and exercise right in your own neighbourhood? The County of Grande Prairie offers options for volunteers who want to contribute their time to sharing the joy of skating.

Temporary Ice Surfaces

Imagine being able to go ice skating just steps away from home at your local park. The County's Neighbourhood Ice Surface Program provides resources for community volunteers to create and care for temporary rinks. Apply by December 31, 2025.

Stormwater Pond Recreational Ice Surfaces

Transform your local recreational stormwater pond into a skating haven and then invite friends and neighbours to share the winter fun! The County provides volunteer training and guidance to help ensure a safe experience for all. Applications are due by November 30, 2025.

For more information on how you can play an important part in creating winter memories for the next generation, visit www.countygp.ab.ca/icesurfaces or contact Recreation and Culture at 780-532-9727.

Fall and Winter Activities for Communities



Keep Active: Free Seniors Walk & Talk

The winter months can seem long without opportunities to be active and socialize. The Seniors Walk and Talk program runs from October to May each year, providing those aged 60+ with an opportunity to enjoy aerobic activity, coffee, and connection with friends in a safe, ice-free environment over the winter season.

Locations:

J.D.A. County Sportsplex, indoor track

Thursdays | 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
October 9 to May 7

Bezanson Community Event Centre Gymnasium

Tuesdays | 10 a.m. to noon
October 7 to May 5

Free entry. Find info and updates at

www.countygp.ab.ca/seniorstalkandtalk or call 780-532-9727.

Family Day Unplugged Challenge

Open to all County residents
February 15-20

Participate in a virtual photo challenge.

Watch for details coming soon:

www.countygp.ab.ca/communityprograms

Wellington Resource Centre (WRC) Community Programming 10407-97 Street, Clairmont

Free Youth Drop-in

Open to ages 10 to 15
Every second Thursday
6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

Wellington Resource Centre

Call 780-539-7142 or
text 780-402-1579 to register.

Clairmont Community Kitchen

Meal and baking workshops

Clairmont Community School

Watch our website for upcoming details.

Babysitter Basics – Cost: \$40

Open to ages 11 to 15

Friday, September 19

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Bezanson Community Event Centre

Babysitter Basics – Cost: \$40

Open to ages 11 to 15

Friday, October 24 (Tentative)

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Clairmont Community School

Babysitter Basics – Cost: \$40

Open to ages 11 to 15

Friday, November 21 (Tentative)

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Whispering Ridge Community School

Home Alone – Cost: \$10

Open to ages 9 to 11

Friday, December 5 (Tentative)

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Bezanson Community Event Centre

Mega Awesome Spring Fling – Cost: \$10

Open to ages 10 to 13

Tuesday, April 7 (Tentative)

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Clairmont Community School

Sexsmith and Area Foodbank

Clairmont location

Wednesdays | noon to 2 p.m.

Call 780-567-2843 for an appointment.

Visit www.countygp.ab.ca/wrc for

information on the above Wellington

Resource Centre Community programs or

call 780-567-2843.

Hythe and Area Community Program

10011 - 100 Street, Hythe

Home Alone – Cost: \$10

Open to ages 9 to 11

Friday, September 19 | 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Hythe & Area FCSS Office

Internet Safety for Teens – Free

Friday, October 24 | 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Hythe & Area FCSS Office

To register, call 780-539-7142

or email youth@sp-rc.ca

Babysitter Basics – Cost: \$40

Open to ages 11 to 15

Friday, December 5 | 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Friday, March 20 | 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Hythe & Area FCSS Office

Mega Awesome Spring Fling – Cost: \$10

Open to ages 10 to 13

Wednesday, April 8 | 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Hythe Regional School

Visit www.countygp.ab.ca/hythe for

information on the above Hythe Community

Programs or call 780-933-7212.

Service Canada Drop-in Outreach Session

Assistance with Employment Insurance, Canada Pension Plan, Old Age Security, Social Insurance Numbers and Canadian Dental Care Plan.

Wellington Resource Centre:

Friday, September 5, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Friday, November 14, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Hythe & Area FCSS Office:

Wednesday, September 17, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Tuesday, November 4, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Nominations Now Open: 2026 Passionate Heart Awards

The Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) teams at the City of Grande Prairie, County of Grande Prairie, and towns of Beaverlodge, Sexsmith, and Wembley are once again looking to honour deserving locals and groups in the social services sector at the annual Passionate Heart Awards.

We invite you to nominate people and organizations who make significant contributions to their community, enhance social services in the region, and are dedicated to improving quality of life.

- **Nomination forms and information:**
www.countygp.ab.ca/passionateheart
- **Deadline for nominations: January 16, 2026**
- **Ceremony: Friday February 13, 2026**



Recognize a Volunteer in 2026

Volunteers are the backbone of our communities, quietly going about their efforts to improve the quality of life for County residents. They're the people who never ask for recognition but deserve it most. We encourage you to recognize and celebrate your local community volunteers.

Who Are Our Volunteers?

Coaches, youth group leaders, event organizers, food bank workers, school helpers, seniors' workers and transportation drivers, Search and Rescue teams, non-profits, and more!

Celebrate Their Impact!

It Takes a Volunteer: Entering its fourth year, the County's 'It Takes a Volunteer' program continues to shine a light on the invaluable efforts of individuals and organizations. Do you know someone who makes a difference in the County through volunteerism? Help us celebrate the selfless work they do. Nominations open February 2 and close on March 1. To watch inspiring videos of past nominees and see the difference they've made, visit www.countygpp.ab.ca/volunteers.

National Volunteer Week:

April 19-25, 2026: A time to honour the invaluable contributions of volunteers across Canada, including those in our community. Also, if you haven't taken the step toward incorporating volunteerism into your life, consider how you can enhance your life and your community by sharing your skills and time.



Attend Our Free Parent and Tot Programs

Parents, caregivers, and children aged 0 to 6 years old are welcome to join our free parent and tot playgroups. The drop-in style program promotes actively engaging with children in a fun, social environment that combines opportunities for free play, information sharing and structured play activities. Provided at no charge through FCSS funding. Find a program near you at www.countygpp.ab.ca/earlychildhooddevelopment.

Explore Consumer Reports with Your County Library Card

Planning a big purchase or wondering which big brand names are worth the money? Consumer Reports has tested and reviewed thousands of products, including vehicles, appliances, electronics, financial services, and health products. Members of the County of Grande Prairie Community Libraries get free access! Just head to the e-resources tab at <http://countygplibraries.ca> and log in with your library card.



October is Library Month!

There's no better time than October to visit your local library! Memberships are always free and give you access to millions of books, movies, games, e-resources, and more. Sign up for a library card today! Explore all we have to offer. Visit: www.countygpp.ab.ca/libraries.



Grant Applications Open February 1

Each year, the County of Grande Prairie invests millions of dollars in grants to strengthen the well-being of residents and empower passionate citizens who help their communities thrive.

Ready to bring your next idea to life? Recreation and Culture grants are open for applications. Find details and apply online at www.countygp.ab.ca/grants.

Operating and Capital Grants – Apply from February 1 to April 1

Are you part of a local non-profit organization delivering recreational or cultural programming to County residents? Apply today for up to \$5,000 in Operating Funds or Minor Capital funding to support your work. In 2025, the County provided \$227,816 to 64 community groups, and County arenas, halls and curling rinks received \$576,919 in annual operating funding, in addition to support from existing intermunicipal funding agreements with our neighbouring municipalities.

Community Beautification Initiative Grant

Want to improve your community's appearance and enhance community pride through landscaping or a community garden? Community volunteer groups, existing community groups or not-for-profits may receive up to \$1,000 in funding for beautification initiatives.

Cemetery Improvement Grants – Apply from February 1 to April 1

Does your organization manage a cemetery in the County? You may be eligible for up to \$5,000 annually for Operating or Capital projects that help preserve these important community spaces. In 2025, the County provided \$55,904 to 12 cemetery groups, for maintenance, trees, fencing, and funding toward a future columbarium installation.

Community Assistance Grants – Apply Year-Round

Are you part of a not-for-profit organization or group? You may qualify for funding and/or non-cash support to help run programs, services, or events that benefit our residents. Applications officially open on January 1—apply year-round.

Multi-Year Operating Funding Grants

Does your organization serve County residents but falls outside traditional recreation and culture programs? This grant supports operational costs for groups and facilities that enrich community life, even if they aren't classified as halls, arenas, or curling rinks.

Before applying, contact Recreation and Culture at 780-532-9727. In 2025, just under \$2 million was awarded through this funding stream.

Community Wellness & Safety Grants

Is your group or organization helping build a safer, healthier, and connected community? Perhaps you're offering socially inclusive services that may fall outside existing Family Community Support Services (FCSS) social services and community grants? To date in 2025, grants were awarded to the Grande Prairie District Rural Crime Watch Association and Alzheimer Society of Alberta and the Northwest Territories.

Event Sponsorship, Donations & Community Support Grants

Event sponsorships, among other grants, are open to groups or organizations that offer cultural and recreational opportunities or enhance residents' quality of life. Please note that events intended to fundraise for other organizations are not eligible. In 2025, these programs have already helped support major events, including \$25,000 to the Bear Creek Folk Festival, \$25,000 to the Teepee Creek Stampede, \$10,000 the World Jet Boat Racing Championship, and funding for sport hosting events such as the PWA Boys Volleyball Provincial Championships and the 2025 World English Sporting Clay Championships.

Some of the 2025 Multi-Year Operating Funding Recipients:

- \$491,700 to the Grande Prairie Regional Agricultural & Exhibition Society
- \$400,000 to the Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum
- \$200,000 for STARS Operating Funding
- \$86,000 to the Art Gallery of Grande Prairie
- \$79,900 to the South Peace Regional Archives
- \$60,000 to the Grande Prairie Regional Sport Connection
- \$75,000 to the Nitehawk Adventure Park
- \$30,000 for Technical Search and Rescue
- \$20,000 to the Compassion House Foundation

From Local Voices to Global Recognition—County Economic Development

Did you know the County of Grande Prairie has a team dedicated to growing and supporting our local economy?

As your Economic Development team, our job is to help local businesses succeed. When businesses thrive, our entire community benefits with more jobs, services, and opportunities.

One of the key ways we do this is through our Business Retention and Expansion (BR&E) program. This year, we completed our seventh business satisfaction survey to learn what's working and where support is needed.

We're using this feedback to guide future improvements and to follow up with businesses that may need extra support—and we're proud to share that these



Economic Development Officer, Hetti Huls accepted the awards on behalf of the County.

efforts were recently recognized with two international awards from Business Retention & Expansion International (BREI) in the category of Outstanding Multi-Community Initiative.

Here's what businesses told us in 2025:



95% are happy operating in the County



89% are satisfied with available property



87% have a positive relationship with local government

Top challenges businesses shared with us include:



Access to skilled workers



Public transportation for employees



Affordable housing



Welcoming J.D.A. as Our New Naming Sponsor

The County of Grande Prairie is proud to welcome J.D.A. Ventures Ltd. as the new naming sponsor of the J.D.A. County Sportsplex.

This exciting partnership helps support the continued growth and success of the facility, which plays a key role in promoting recreation, community connection, and active living across the region.

On May 15, we marked the beginning of this new chapter with the J.D.A. County Sportsplex Community Launch Party. Residents joined us to celebrate the unveiling of the new branding, enjoy family friendly activities, and share a meal together. A special thank you goes out to J.D.A. for generously providing a complimentary barbecue meal for all who attended, and to the dedicated Sportsplex staff for hosting a successful event.

We're grateful for the community's continued support and are excited to work alongside J.D.A. to ensure the Sportsplex remains a welcoming and inclusive space for all.

Thank you to everyone who came out to celebrate with us!

Supporting County Businesses, Every Step of the Way

Our Economic Development team is here to help. Whether you need help finding grants, navigating government processes, or making the right connections, we've got your back.

Stay in the Know

Subscribe to the County's Economic Development Quarterly Newsletter—your go-to for:

- Economic trends
- Business support programs
- Success stories
- Growth and investment news



Recycling Corner:

Preparing to Visit the Landfill

Recycling and managing waste properly helps protect the environment and extends the lifespan of a landfill. When residents sort their loads and recycle what they can, it helps the landfill run more efficiently and safely.

Before You Recycle

Knowing which items can be recycled and organizing your loads into recyclables and waste before arrival can make your visit quicker and more efficient.

Separating recyclables from waste also helps you take advantage of exemptions for certain items. If specific conditions are met, recyclables do not count toward your annual 1,000 kg disposal limit. To do this, you can either scale in and out twice, or consider making separate trips for recycling and waste.

Recycling and waste management are constantly evolving and the number of materials that can be recycled keeps growing. As a result, our County staff often check loads to help direct you to the appropriate recycling or disposal area.

There are various items including full, or partially full, containers that can be recycled. Some of these items include:

- Propane tanks
- Household appliances (fridges, stoves, microwaves, washers, and dryers)
- Tires
- Concrete
- Metal
- Clean clay and gravel
- Household hazardous waste, chemicals, and cleaning products

- Paint
- Oil, oil filters, and oil containers
- Electronics (phones, laptops, tablets, printers, scanners, fax machines)
- Electronic children's toys
- Small appliances (robot vacuums, cordless vacuums)
- Cords and batteries
- Power tools

Remember, any item with a battery or cord is accepted. Recycling these items properly prevents fires and keeps County staff safe at work. For more information about what can be recycled and how to recycle your items visit www.countygp.ab.ca/recycle.

Before Your Visit

Pre-planning and preparing for your trip to the Clairmont Centre for Recycling and Waste Management can help make your visit faster and easier. During peak months the site can see up to 300 visitors each day. These tips will help you prepare, save time, and take advantage of waste exemptions for recycling.

1. Check before you go

Visit www.countygp.ab.ca/landfill to view hours, applicable fees, and updated lists of materials that can be recycled, diverted, or disposed. Knowing which items to group together can help you plan for any applicable charges and load your vehicle or trailer more efficiently. This also allows you to take advantage of recycling exemptions by scaling in and out as needed. Sorting loads also helps staff direct you to the appropriate disposal areas.

2. Time your arrival

During the busy season, there may be a high volume of visitors and wait times. Please plan accordingly and leave plenty of time for your visit. All visitors must be unloaded and out of the facility by 6 p.m.

3. Bring your scan card

Have your landfill scan card when you arrive.

4. Use the correct areas

Only place items in the designated waste, recycling, or diversion zones. If you are not sure where something belongs, ask staff and they will direct you.

5. Prepare fridges and freezers

Please empty these units beforehand. If you're unable to empty it and there is still food inside, let staff know and tape doors shut.

6. Follow instructions

Active disposal areas change frequently. Please follow signs and staff directions, even if you have visited before.

7. Stay fire safe

Fires are a constant danger. Remember that anything with a battery must be recycled. Smoking and vaping are also prohibited.

8. Have questions? Ask us!

If you have any questions or need help, our staff will be happy to help. Thank you for helping us keep the landfill safe and clean for everyone.



Recycling and Waste Management Facilities: Regular and Holiday Hours

Clairmont Centre For Recycling & Waste Management

REGULAR HOURS: Monday to Saturday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

CLOSING EARLY: November 29 at 3 p.m., December 24 at 4 p.m., and December 31 at 3 p.m.

CLOSED: December 25-26, January 1, and February 16

Demmitt Transfer Station

REGULAR HOURS: Tuesday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Elmworth Transfer Station

REGULAR HOURS: Wednesday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

CLOSING EARLY: November 29, December 24 and December 31 at 3 p.m.

Teepee Creek Transfer Station

REGULAR HOURS: Tuesday and Thursday from noon to 6 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

CLOSING EARLY: November 29 at 3 p.m.

CLOSED: December 25 and January 1, 2026

West Grande Prairie Regional Transfer Station

REGULAR HOURS: Tuesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. including January 1.

CLOSING EARLY: December 24 and December 31 at 4 p.m.

CLOSED: December 25 and January 1

Regular hours of operation will resume December 26.

Hunting Season Reminder

A friendly reminder this hunting season that animal carcasses, bones, hides, and organs are not accepted at County landfills and transfer stations. Hunters should follow the Alberta Guide to Hunting Regulations and leave the carcass at the kill site. If transporting the remains, they must be burned, buried, or taken to a facility that accepts them. Before burning, remember to check the status of County fire bans at www.countygp.ab.ca.



County Office Holiday Hours

County Offices will be closed to the public from Wednesday, December 24, 2025, to Thursday, January 1, 2026, inclusive.

All essential services will be maintained during office closures. Online services can be accessed at any time at www.countygp.ab.ca.

Regular office hours will resume on Friday, January 2, 2026. Questions? Please call 780-532-9722.



Visit www.countygp.ab.ca/recyclingprograms to learn more about the County's recycling and waste management facilities and various recycling programs. For landfill and transfer station information, please call our Landfill Information Line at 780-513-3967.

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

780-830-7407 | info@cgpsportsplex.com | www.jdacountysportsplex.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 20 years of experience getting kids up and going or refining their skating skills. Register online at www.jdacountysportsplex.com/register.

TENDER TOTS

Come play in the Trican Fieldhouse from 9 a.m. to noon on Fridays starting October 2025. Walk the track or socialize with friends and parents while your child plays with bouncy castles and a variety of toys and balls on the indoor turf field. Schedule can be viewed online at www.jdacountysportsplex.com/calendar.

SPRING BREAK CAMP APRIL 6-10, 2025

Kids ages 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.jdacountysportsplex.com.

OTHER PROGRAMS OFFERED AT THE J.D.A. COUNTY SPORTSPLEX:

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

BOOK YOUR NEXT PARTY OR EVENT AT THE SPORTSPLEX!

The J.D.A. 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. Bring your own food, or catering options are available from either Quick Meal or the Bulldogs Sports Lounge. Contact us at 780-830-7407 or email 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 J.D.A. County Sportsplex:

- Public Skate
- 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.jdacountysportsplex.com.



For more information about the Sportsplex and the programs and events available, visit www.jdacountysportsplex.com, contact 780-830-7407, or email info@cgpsportsplex.com.



PHILIP J. CURRIE DINOSAUR MUSEUM

FALL & WINTER PROGRAMMING

COME VISIT US THIS FALL

We're open Thursday to Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Come explore our gallery, enjoy a lab tour, catch live reptile shows, and much more. Be sure to visit our website for details on upcoming programs for all ages—like our Nesting Grounds parent-and-tot sessions and the popular 'Night at the Museum' sleepover experience.

WHAT'S NEW IN THE LAB?

With our summer dig season now over, explore our latest discoveries with a tour of our lab and collections facility. Go behind-the-scenes with our experts and learn all about the fascinating range of local dinosaur fossils buried at the Pipestone Creek bonebed—like Big Sam, the *Pachyrhinosaurus* skull!



GO CRETACEOUS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Consider gifting your loved one an unforgettable experience with our rockstar palaeo team! Gift cards are now available for our Secrets of the Wapiti rafting and Palaeontologist for a Day guided excavation programs, returning Summer 2026.

DINO-RIFIC UPCOMING EVENTS

Join us December 31 for a holiday party of prehistoric proportions—Noon Years Eve! Featuring a thrilling balloon drop, crafts, refreshments, and tons of fun for the whole family. Come ring in the New Year a little early with us!



BOOK YOUR CLASS VISIT TODAY - SPOTS FILL UP FAST!

This fall, take part in one of our field trips, in-class visits, or Night at the Museum sleepovers, perfect for school-aged children. Book early to secure our K to 12 programs, which connect to curriculum topics such as paleontology, evolution, earth sciences, social studies, and paleoart.

MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Did you know that your annual PJCDM membership grants you entry to other museums across Alberta and Canada? Under Canadian Association of Science Centre's Reciprocal Agreement, 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 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@countygyp.ab.ca

ADDRESS

10001 - 84 Avenue, Clairmont, AB T8X 5B2

WEBSITE

www.countygyp.ab.ca

OFFICE HOURS

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

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDINGS

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

780-532-9722

COMMUNITY SERVICES BUILDINGS

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

780-532-9727

 Watch us on YouTube

 Like us on Facebook

Subscribe to
Our Newsletter



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

Councillor Contact Information

Deputy Reeve Amanda Frayn

Division 1
780-518-3197
afrayn@countygyp.ab.ca

Councillor Kurt Balderston

Division 2
780-814-8404
kbalderston@countygyp.ab.ca

Councillor Leanne Beaupre

Division 3
780-814-3121
lbeaupre@countygyp.ab.ca

Councillor Steve Zimmerman

Division 4
780-831-0864
szimmerman@countygyp.ab.ca

Reeve Bob Marshall

Division 5
780-933-2053
bmarshall@countygyp.ab.ca

Councillor Peter Harris

Division 6
780-933-3074
pharris@countygyp.ab.ca

Councillor Brian Peterson

Division 7
780-228-0034
bpeterson@countygyp.ab.ca

Councillor Karen Rosvold

Division 8
780-831-0902
krosvold@countygyp.ab.ca

Councillor Bob Chrenek

Division 9
780-897-3577
bchrenek@countygyp.ab.ca

Senior Administration

Joulia Whittleton, County Manager
780-933-8712 | jwhittleton@countygyp.ab.ca

Nick Lapp, General Manager
Planning and Development Services
780-532-9722 | nlapp@countygyp.ab.ca

Ryan Konowalyk, General Manager
Transportation and Utilities
780-532-9722 | rkonowalyk@countygyp.ab.ca

Rob Beaupertuis, General Manager
Financial and Business Planning Services
780-532-9722 | rbeaupertuis@countygyp.ab.ca

Charlotte Bierman, General Manager
People and Organizational Development
780-532-9722 | cbierman@countygyp.ab.ca

Lee Brachmann, General Manager
Community Services
780-532-9727 | lbrachmann@countygyp.ab.ca

Rory Tarant, General Manager
Corporate Services and Strategy
780-532-9722 | rtarant@countygyp.ab.ca