COUNTY CONNECTIONS

FALL 2026

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Reeve's Message



As the seasons change, I'm reminded that what makes the County of Grande Prairie such a special place isn't just what we build, but the people who call it home. I'm proud of what we've achieved together across the County. From the work of Council and administration to the contributions of our community organizations and residents, it's the collective effort of so many that makes our communities strong and vibrant places to live, work and raise a family.

The arrival of winter gives us a chance to reflect on the progress we've made, recognize the people behind that progress and look ahead to what's next for our County. Through thoughtful planning, responsible financial stewardship and continued collaboration, we're building on what makes our communities special and working to ensure the County remains a great place for generations to come.

Municipal Development Plan Adopted

One of the accomplishments I'm particularly proud of this year is the adoption of the County's new Municipal Development Plan (MDP). Shaped by extensive public engagement, the plan guides how and where our County grows, how we protect valuable agricultural land and how we preserve the rural character that makes our communities unique.

It provides a long-term framework for balancing new development and economic opportunities with the needs and priorities of the people who call the County home. I'm grateful to everyone who shared their perspectives and helped shape this important plan for our future.

Investing in Our Communities

Throughout the spring and summer, crews worked across the County to complete road, bridge and other infrastructure projects that keep our communities connected, support local businesses and provide reliable services residents count on every day.

These investments take more than funding. They depend on the dedication of County staff, the work of community organizations and regional partners. Together, these efforts strengthen our communities, from supporting recreation and emergency services to advancing economic development and supporting the organizations that bring our communities to life.

As Council makes these decisions, responsible financial stewardship remains at the forefront. We have a responsibility to ensure taxpayer dollars deliver lasting value, meet the needs of residents today and help build strong communities for generations to come.

Budget 2027

I also encourage residents to learn more about the County's upcoming Interim Budget and the plans and priorities shaping the year ahead.

Turn to page 9 for the upcoming budget meeting dates, times and information on how you can watch Council meetings virtually.

Advocating for Our Region

County Council continues to advocate for the needs of our residents, businesses and communities through its 2026 Advocacy Plan. Key priorities include addressing electricity distribution cost disparities, advancing Highway 40X and advocating for improved health-care support.

Council and administration are working with municipal partners, industry and other stakeholders to raise awareness with provincial and federal governments and secure support for projects and services that strengthen our region's quality of life and economic future.

Growing Together

The County of Grande Prairie continues to be one of Alberta's fastest-growing regions. Families, businesses and industries

choose our region because of the opportunities available here and the exceptional quality of life our communities offer.

Managing that growth responsibly remains one of Council's top priorities. Through careful planning and continued investment in infrastructure and services, we are preparing for the future while maintaining the rural lifestyle and strong sense of community.

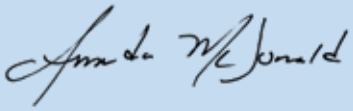
Stay Connected

As we move into the winter season, I encourage everyone to stay informed by signing up for Voyent Alert, with instructions on page 11. This free notification service sends important emergency alerts, road closure information, fire bans and other County updates directly to your phone, email, or landline.

You can also stay connected by visiting the County website, following us on social media and reading County Connections to learn more about programs, projects and services throughout the year.

As the holiday season approaches, I hope you have time to slow down, enjoy time with family and friends and appreciate the people and places that make our communities special. Whether you're volunteering, supporting a local business, helping a neighbour or simply being there when someone needs a hand, these everyday acts of kindness and community spirit make a real difference. They are a big part of what makes the County of Grande Prairie such a wonderful place to call home.

On behalf of County Council, thank you for the many ways you contribute to our communities and for all we've accomplished together this year. I wish you and your loved ones a safe and joyful holiday season and all the best in the New Year.





The County of Grande Prairie's 2026-2030 Strategic Plan sets out Council's priorities for the next four years and provides direction for how the County will work toward a strong, safe and sustainable future.

The plan focuses on what matters most to our communities, including quality of life, economic opportunity, thoughtful growth, transportation and accountable governance.

These priorities will help guide decisions, programs, services and future initiatives through 2030.

Council and administration regularly monitor the plan, track progress and report to the public annually. This process ensures the County can adjust to accommodate change, challenges and new opportunities that arise.

The strategic priorities, which are part of the Strategic Plan, are reviewed and updated to ensure they continue to reflect the needs and views of the County.

Find the County's 2026-2030 Strategic Plan online at **www.countygp.ab.ca/StrategicPlan**.

Strategic Priorities

Quality of Life

Support safe, active and connected communities.

Economy

Capitalize on our economic strength to sustain long-term prosperity.

Transportation

Enable the movement of goods and people to and through our County.

Land Use and Management

Make disciplined land decisions reflecting County priorities.

Governance and Organizational Excellence

Lead responsibly to maintain trust and stability.





County of Grande Prairie
75 Years. One Unforgettable Celebration.

What a weekend! Residents, families, friends and visitors gathered at Evergreen Park for two memorable days, August 21-22, marking the County's 75th anniversary.

The event kicked off on Friday with horse-drawn wagon rides, face painting, roaming puppets, classic cars, local performers, food trucks and the Rooted in the County Market, offering something for all ages.

A delicious pancake breakfast on Saturday marked the start of a full day of festivities. The evening program featured live performances, remarks from dignitaries, an Indigenous cultural presentation, a concert by Alberta country music artist Brett Kissel and a spectacular drone light show.

Thank you to everyone who joined us and to the many staff and volunteers who worked behind the scenes. Your energy and enthusiasm made this milestone one to remember.

Here's to 75 years and the next chapter!









Value for Services



YOUR TAXES HELP PROVIDE:

- Agricultural Services
- Community Grants Programs
- Economic Development Opportunities
- Family Programs
- Fire and Emergency Services
- Parks and Trails
- Planning and Development Services
- Protective Services
- Recreational Facilities
- Regional Partnerships
- Roads and Bridges
- Services for Seniors
- Wastewater and Utilities

Your Tax Dollars at Work

Investing in the Services That Keep the County of Grande Prairie Moving

Every day, County crews maintain roads, firefighters stand ready to respond, recreation facilities provide places for families to gather and staff plan for the County's future.

Many of these services happen behind the scenes, but together they help create safe, connected and thriving communities.

When you receive your property tax notice, it can be easy to focus on the dollar amount. Your taxes are more than a bill—they are an investment in the services, infrastructure and the vibrant communities residents rely on every day.

More than Roads

Transportation represents the largest share of the County's operating budget. With more than 3,700 kilometres of roads and more bridge structures than any other municipality in Alberta, maintaining this network takes significant planning, maintenance and investment.

Reliable infrastructure supports school buses, emergency responders, agriculture, businesses and families travelling throughout the region.

But your tax dollars support much more than roads.

Supporting a Growing County

Since 2021, the County's population has grown by 12.33 per cent. At the same time, the County continues to maintain an extensive geographic area.

This means planning for today's needs while investing in the infrastructure and services required to support future growth.

Every investment is about maintaining the quality of life residents rely on today while preparing for tomorrow.

> *"Municipal taxes aren't simply about paying for services today. They're an investment in safe roads, vibrant communities and a strong future for everyone who calls the County of Grande Prairie home."*
>
> – Reeve Amanda McDonald



YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK

Investing in services that keep the County of Grande Prairie strong.

Wondering how your residential property tax dollars are spent? Here's how the municipal portion of your property tax bill is allocated to the County's operating and capital expenses:

TRANSPORTATION NETWORK

52.7%

- 31.6% Road Construction & Bridge Program
- 12.1% Road Maintenance, Signage & Construction
- 7.6% Fleet & Maintenance
- 1.4% Transportation & Utilities Administration

COMMUNITY, RECREATION, CULTURE & SAFETY

24.4%

- 1.9% Regional Enforcement Services
- 1.9% Provincial Policing
- 6.9% Regional Fire Service
- 0.1% Emergency Preparedness
- 7.0% Recreation and Culture
- 2.7% Community Grants
- 1.9% Agriculture Services
- 2.0% Family and Community Support Services

RUNNING THE MUNICIPALITY

13.1%

- 13.1% Assessment, Asset Management, Communications & Marketing, County Manager's Office, Economic Development, Financial Services, People & Organizational Development, Information Technology, Insurance & Risk Management, Legislative Services, Procurement

WATER AND WASTE

Recycle & Waste Management;
Water Supply & Distribution and Wastewater Collection & Treatment

7.7%

- 3.7% Water Supply And Distribution
- 1.6% Recycling & Waste Management Facilities & Services
- 2.4% Wastewater Collection & Treatment

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

2.1%

- 2.1% Land Use, Planning, Zoning & Development

Proposed Data Centre District Introduced for Public Review



What is a Data Centre?

A data centre is a facility that houses large numbers of computers and related equipment used to store, process and transmit digital information. Data centres support many of the technologies people use every day, including websites, cloud services, online banking, artificial intelligence (AI) applications and digital communications.

Modern data centres can vary significantly in size and design. Larger facilities may include multiple buildings, cooling systems, power generation and other supporting infrastructure.

Data centres have become a topic of significant public interest, prompting Council to review how these developments are regulated in the County.

On October 5, 2026, Council approved first reading of proposed Land Use Bylaw amendments that would create a new district specifically for data centres. The proposed changes are not yet approved – bylaws require three readings to pass. The proposed district, known as the Data Centre Campus (DAT) District, is intended to provide planning rules that better reflect how modern data centres are designed, built and operated.

When the County's Land Use Bylaw was adopted in 2003, data processing establishments were included as a permitted use in most industrial districts. Since then, data centres have evolved significantly. Modern facilities are often much larger in scale and may include cooling systems, power generation, utility infrastructure and multiple buildings operating as a single campus. The proposed amendments would create a dedicated district for data centres.

In practical terms, future data centre proposals in the County will be reviewed under rules created specifically for data centres. Approval would be required from the Municipal Planning Commission (MPC), a subdivision approving authority made up of County Councillors. Projects may also require approvals from provincial agencies such as the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC), Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (AEPA), the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) and the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER), depending on the nature of the development. The County's role is limited to municipal land use, zoning and development approvals.

The proposed amendments are intended to:

- Provide a framework specifically designed for modern data centres.
- Create greater clarity for residents, landowners and applicants.
- Support consideration of factors unique to data centre development.
- Provide opportunities for public input before Council/MPC makes a final decision.

Council has approved first reading only. The proposed amendments are now being shared with residents for review and feedback before going back to Council for consideration of second and third readings on December 2, 2026.

Feedback will help Council understand community perspectives before making a final decision on the proposed bylaw changes. Residents can review the proposed amendments, learn more about the proposed changes and provide feedback through the County's online engagement platform. Feedback received will be summarized and presented to Council before second and third readings are considered.

Have Your Say

Review the proposed Data Centre Land Use Bylaw changes and submit your comments: **www.engagecountygp.ca**
Email comments or questions to datacentres@countygp.ab.ca

Participate in the public hearing:

- December 2, 2026 at 1 p.m. in Council Chambers
- Registration is required to speak at the public hearing. Registrations will be accepted until November 27, 2026.

How to register:

> Email: legislativeservices@countygp.ab.ca
> Call: 780-532-9842, Ext. 3393
> Visit the County Administrative Building at 10001-84 Avenue, Clairmont and ask to register
> Register to participate remotely: **www.countygp.ab.ca/council**

Learn More: **www.countygp.ab.ca/DataCentres**

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE ABOUT A LAND USE BYLAW?

Over the past four years, the County's Planning and Development Services team has been engaging with residents to update the documents that guide growth and development.

Two major projects have been completed to-date: the Hamlet Resiliency Strategy and the Municipal Development Plan (MDP). Together with other planning documents, they provide the framework for managing growth, protecting agricultural and natural areas, planning infrastructure and services and supporting new development.

While overarching plans like the MDP set the direction for growth, the Land Use Bylaw (LUB) brings that direction to the property level. It applies to land and development across the County and outlines what types of development can go where, how properties are zoned and what is allowed on a property. Updating the LUB is the next major step in the Plan Your County project.

What does the Land Use Bylaw mean for you?

It may sound technical, but this document deals with things that can have a direct impact on your property and your neighbourhood.

It helps determine what you can build or do on your property and the types of development that may happen around you. It addresses everything from secondary suites and different types of housing to parking, infill development, home-based businesses, backyard chickens and more.

For builders and developers, the LUB also provides the rules used when planning projects and applying for development approvals. Clear, easy-to-understand requirements help applicants know what is expected earlier in the process and can make it easier to move from an idea to an application.

Updating the LUB ensures that the bylaw aligns with the planning work already completed and reflects the vision and land uses that matter to residents.

Most importantly, residents help shape it.

Over the next year, there will be opportunities to share your thoughts about what matters to you, what you want to be able to do on your property and the types of development you want to see in your community. Feedback will help inform the updated bylaw before it is finalized.

Stay tuned to **www.countygp.ab.ca/PlanYourCounty** to follow the Land Use Bylaw update and find upcoming opportunities to participate.

IMPROVED ONLINE SERVICES

Along with updating our guiding documents, Planning and Development is improving its webpages and online services to make planning information easier to find and services faster to access. With fewer clicks, simpler processes and more convenient ways to connect, it will be easier to find the information and resources you need to:

PLAN — Thinking about subdividing your land to keep your extended family close to home? Find your zoning, explore your options and learn what steps to take next.

BUILD — From weekend projects like fences and decks, to shops, additions and new homes, find the information and permits you need to get your project started.

WORK — Ready to turn an idea into a business? Find out what you need to get started.

CONNECT — Have questions or want to talk through your plans? Book a consultation with the Planning and Development team online and choose a time that works for you.

Whatever you're dreaming about, planning, or starting, improved online services will make it easier to take the next step.
Stay tuned for updated Planning and Development webpages and online services coming soon!

IMPROVED PLANNING SERVICES

Planning and Development is resetting how planning services work in the County, from the framework that guides growth and development to the everyday processes and services residents, businesses and developers use.

Along with the improved online services, the team is reviewing processes and improving services to make planning information easier to understand, requirements clearer, applications faster and staff easier to connect with.

The goal is to make planning easier to navigate. Whether you're building a deck, subdividing land, opening a business, or planning a large development, you should be able to understand what you can do where, what you need and what comes next.

Together, these improvements are helping to create a planning framework that better serves residents and supports responsible growth and development that reflects what matters to the County and all its residents for generations to come.










Incivility: It's Not OK

Every Employee Is Someone

Every day, County of Grande Prairie employees are out in our communities maintaining roads, mowing ditches, answering questions at the front counter, responding to emergencies and delivering the services residents rely on.

They're also our neighbours, friends, coaches, parents, grandparents and volunteers.

Lately, we've seen an increase in abusive and aggressive behaviour directed toward County employees while simply doing their jobs. Incidents have included verbal abuse, threats, intimidation and even damage to County equipment. Some incidents have been serious enough to require RCMP assistance, indicating the severity of the behaviour our employees are facing.

We understand that residents may have questions or frustrations about County services. We welcome respectful conversations and constructive feedback. In fact, hearing from residents helps us improve.

What isn't acceptable is yelling at, threatening, or intimidating the people who are here to serve our community.

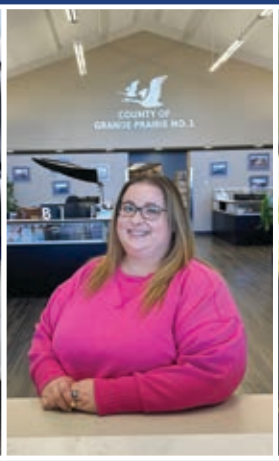
The person operating a grader may be coaching your child's hockey team on the weekend. The seasonal employee mowing roadsides could be working hard to save for university. The customer service representative helping you at the front counter might be your neighbour or a volunteer in your community.

Everyone deserves to feel safe and respected at work.

The County is committed to creating a respectful environment for both employees and residents. Through our 'It's Not OK' campaign, we're raising awareness, providing additional training to assist staff and reinforcing the message that abusive behaviour toward employees will not be tolerated.

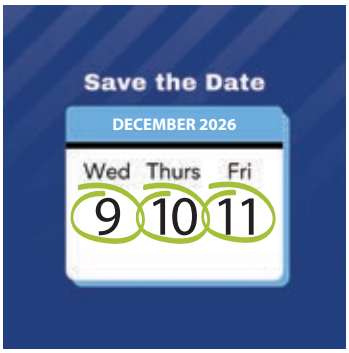
Kindness, patience and respect go a long way. By treating one another with courtesy, we can continue working together to build a safe, welcoming and respectful community for everyone.











Interim Budget Meetings

Each December, County Council meets to review the proposed budgets for the upcoming and following years.

Interim Budget meetings give Council an opportunity to review proposed operating and capital budgets before final decisions are made. Final budget meetings are held in the spring to finalize the budgets.

Watch via Public Livestream

Find livestream information and meeting agendas under the 'Council Meeting Calendar' link at **www.countygp.ab.ca/council**.

Interim Budget meetings for the 2027 budget:

December 9, 10 and 11, 2026
9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Questions?

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



Holiday Hours

County Offices will be closed to the public from Thursday, December 24, 2026, to January 1, 2027.

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 January 4, 2027. Questions? Please call 780-532-9722.

Tax Instalment Payment Plan

Make Property Tax Payments Easier

Spread your property tax payments throughout the year with the **Tax Instalment Payment Plan (TIPP)**. TIPP allows you to make pre-authorized monthly payments instead of paying your property taxes in one lump sum.

To qualify, your property tax account **must be paid in full**. You'll also need to provide a void cheque or direct deposit form with your application.

The annual deadline to apply is **April 15**. Applications for the current year will not be accepted after this date.

To sign up, complete the Tax Instalment Payment Plan application form at **www.countygp.ab.ca/taxes**.



Property Assessment

Annual Property Inspections

County assessors conduct property inspections throughout the year as part of the annual assessment cycle.

When will assessors be in my area?

Assessors visit properties during regular business hours throughout the year. If you are not home, they may leave a call-back card at your door.

How will I recognize an assessor?

Assessors carry County identification and drive County vehicles. They may take exterior photos of your property and ask questions to verify the information on file.

Residential Requests for Information (RFIs)

In early November, the County's Assessment department will mail Residential Requests for Information (RFIs) to property owners west of Range Road 100 and Highway 723, as well as to property owners in the Town of Beaverlodge. These requests help ensure property assessment records are accurate and up to date.

Questions?

Contact the Assessment department at 780-513-3952 or visit **www.countygp.ab.ca/assessment** for more information.





Snow and Ice Control: What You Need to Know

Be ready this winter season by learning how County crews prepare for snow removal and ice control each year. County snow removal crews operate 21 graders, eight plow trucks and three loaders to clear and maintain more than 3,700 kilometres of roads across the County.

Who Clears Your Road?

The County has two types of roads: provincial highways and County roads.

Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors maintains and clears all highways. 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.

The County's Transportation and Utilities department maintains County roads such as range roads, township roads and roads in most rural hamlets and subdivisions.

In addition to snow removal, sand and salt are utilized on hard surfaced roads.

Within the County's hamlets and subdivisions, snow clearing methods can also vary depending on how the roads and drainage are designed.

How County Snow Clearing Works

With more than 3,700 kilometres of roads to maintain, crews divide the County road network into designated areas known as 'beats'.

Think of a beat as a snow removal crew's assigned route. Each beat includes a set of roads a crew is responsible for clearing after a significant snowfall.

The starting point within each beat is staggered with each clearing cycle. This helps ensure the same roads aren't always cleared first or last and that snow clearing is completed consistently and fairly across the County.

What About Large Snowfall Events?

Crews aim to clear all rural roads within five days of a significant snowfall and hamlets and residential subdivisions within 12 days. Multiple snowfalls in a short period of time, frigid temperatures, wind and drifting may affect this cycle. Learn more about the County's Winter Road Maintenance policy at **www.countygp.ab.ca/SnowRemoval**.

Snow Clearing in Hamlets and Residential Neighbourhoods

Snow clearing in hamlets and residential neighbourhoods with concrete curbs and gutters requires temporary parking bans to give crews and equipment the space needed to clear snow safely and efficiently.

Areas where temporary parking bans are used include:

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

In areas with residential-style curbs and gutters, snow is typically cleared with a grader, loaded into trucks and hauled away.

In other areas, sometimes even within the same neighbourhood, such as Maple Ridge, snow can be pushed off the roadway to the side where there are ditches and culverts.

Rural Roads, Residential Areas and Approaches

Snow clearing works differently in rural residential-style subdivisions with ditches and culverts instead of concrete curbs and gutters. These areas include Carriage Lane, Aspen Ridge and portions of Maple Ridge and Taylor Estates.

In these areas, snow can be pushed off the roadway to the side rather than loaded and hauled away. Snow clearing is completed on a separate schedule from residential areas with concrete curbs and gutters.

Different Methods for Different Drainage

The different clearing methods also help accommodate how water will drain during spring melt. In areas with ditches and culverts, snow needs to be placed where it can properly drain away when melting.

Knowing where the ditches and culverts are near your property can help you prepare for spring melt. Keeping culverts and drainage areas clear of snow where possible helps water flow and can reduce the risk of localized flooding.

Residents living on range roads, township roads and in rural residential areas also have an important role to play in keeping roads safe.

Snow and ice cleared from private approaches and driveways must remain on your property. **Do not push** snow from your approach onto the road, the right-of-way, or across the road into the opposite ditch. Doing so can leave a windrow that becomes a traffic safety hazard and may damage roads and road maintenance equipment.

> ***When clearing your approach and facing the roadway, move the snow to the right side of your approach so graders can push it away. Avoid piling snow on the left side, as this can cause a windrow to form across your entrance when the grader passes.***

Residents and businesses are also reminded that snow cleared from private driveways, parking lots and sidewalks must remain on private property.

Failure to comply with County bylaws and provincial legislation may result in fines, an order to clean up snow or ice pushed onto the road, or charges for County time and resources needed to clean up or repair damage.

For questions about snow clearing in rural residential areas, contact Transportation and Utilities at 780-532-7393.

Other Snow Clearing Services

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**.

Seniors and Special Needs Snow Removal Program

After a snowfall, County crews first focus on clearing all roadways before moving on to the Senior Snow Removal Program.

The program is a free service provided by the County of Grande Prairie to help eligible seniors and residents with physical disabilities clear their private driveways.

Seniors 65 and older and residents with physical disabilities who live on properties larger than two acres and have difficulty clearing their driveways may qualify.

County crews only clear driveways for residents who are registered in the program. Private driveways cannot be cleared by request after a snowfall.

Residents 65 and older 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 780-567-5586 to register.

Working Together for Safer Winter Roads

Winter road maintenance is a team effort and everyone has a role to play. Our crews work around the clock to clear roads and keep travel routes safe and we appreciate your patience while this work is underway.

When you encounter snowplows, graders, or other maintenance equipment, please slow down, leave plenty of space and drive according to conditions. Operators are working to keep roads safe for everyone.

Residents can help by moving vehicles during temporary parking bans, ensuring snow from private property is off public roadways and keeping culverts and drainage areas are clear. By doing our part and looking out for one another, we can help keep our roads safe all winter long.

VOYENTALERT!

Temporary Parking Bans

Digital signs at the entrances to affected neighbourhoods will be lit when a temporary 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 the roadway so crews have enough room to work safely and efficiently.

If you live in one of these neighbourhoods and would like to know when crews are coming, sign up for Voyent Alert, the County's notification system.

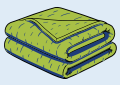
Voyent Alert provides notifications and updates about temporary parking bans, emergencies and more through the Voyent Alert app, text, email or landline alert.

Visit **www.countygp.ab.ca/alerts** to sign up.



Vehicle Emergency Kit

Staying Safe in the Cold



Extra blankets to stay warm



Non-perishable food with high protein and extra water



Small shovel, scraper and snowbrush



Spare clothing, such as: sweaters, gloves, wool socks and boots



First Aid Kit and emergency contact list



Sand or salt to help with traction and getting "unstuck"



Battery-powered or crank flashlight or lamp

County's Agriculture Emergency Preparedness Program Helps Agricultural Producers Stay Ready

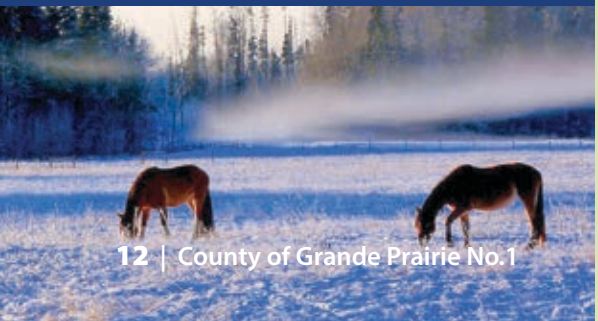
If you are an agricultural producer, now is the time to sign up for the Agriculture Emergency Preparedness Program (AEPP). Formally known as the Livestock Emergency Response Plan (LERP), this County program helps bring peace of mind when disaster hits.

Based on feedback we heard, the program has been expanded to include various other agricultural producers. This change helps better protect agricultural producers in times of emergency events and provides them with the tools and information they need to make decisions affecting their operations.

Benefits to agricultural producers enrolled in the AEPP:

- Receive regular updates from Agriculture staff during emergency events and evacuation orders affecting their property.
- Connect with other AEPP participants to share resources and support during an emergency.
- Access a more streamlined re-entry permit process to care for livestock and carry out other agricultural operations during evacuation orders.

Learn more about the program at w**ww.countygp.ab.ca/AEPP**.





Make a Big Difference in Small Ways

Be a Good Neighbour This Winter

The County's Community Standards Bylaw helps keep our neighbourhoods safe, accessible and enjoyable for everyone during the winter months. Residents are encouraged to do their part by following winter maintenance and snow-clearing requirements.

Clear Your Sidewalks Within 24 Hours

Property owners and renters must clear snow and ice from public sidewalks adjacent to their property within 24 hours after snowfall. Please keep cleared snow on your property and never shovel it onto the road. Snow deposited on roadways can freeze, creating serious safety risks for drivers and pedestrians alike.



Keep Fire Hydrants Clear and Accessible

A clear fire hydrant can make all the difference in an emergency. Residents who live near a hydrant are responsible for keeping it visible and accessible by removing surrounding snow. Your efforts help emergency responders act quickly to protect homes, property and lives.



Direct Your Drainage

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



Reporting

Concerned that the Community Standards Bylaw or other County bylaws are not being followed? Report an incident to Regional Enforcement Services at 780-532-9727 or online at **www.countygp.ab.ca/report** using the “Report a Complaint" form. Read more about the Community Standards Bylaw at **www.countygp.ab.ca/CSB**.

Your Voice. Our Action. Supporting County Business.

Every year, County businesses tell us what's working, what's challenging and what they need to grow. Those conversations help guide how the County of Grande Prairie's Economic Development team supports our local business community.

The results of the 2026 Business Retention and Expansion (BR+E) Survey are in, marking the eighth consecutive year the County has reached out directly to local businesses.

What County businesses told us:

154 businesses participated in the 2026 BR+E Survey

45% expect revenues to increase over the next 12 months

37 participating businesses are planning to expand

94.6% are satisfied with the County as a place to do business

93.9% would recommend the County to a business looking to expand or relocate

At the same time, businesses told us where challenges remain. Labour availability remains a concern, along with internet and cellular connectivity, access to financial supports and making it easier for businesses to know who to connect with at the County when they need assistance.

For Economic Development, those findings aren't where the conversation ends. They're where the work begins.

When Feedback Becomes Action

We've seen what can happen when businesses speak up.

Feedback gathered through the 2025 BR+E Survey helped identify infrastructure and technology investments as an area where businesses could benefit from additional support. In response, the County introduced the Business Retention and Expansion Infrastructure and Technology Grant, offering matching funding of up to $2,000 for eligible projects.

In its first year, eight businesses received a total of $13,000 toward approximately $68,000 in projects, helping local businesses invest in everything from software and communications technology to equipment and energy-efficient improvements.

For The Homestead, funding supported the purchase of a temperature-controlled trailer that increased capacity to store and transport fresh and frozen products.

> *"The freezer trailer has been fantastic and enabled us to expand our operation."*
>
> — The Homestead

Emerson Trail Veterinary Services used the program to help implement a new phone system, improving communication with clients and between staff working at different locations throughout the County. Highmark Homes invested in updated technology to improve project management, communication and productivity.

These investments look different for every business, but that's the point. Local businesses know what they need. Our role is to listen and find ways to help.

Let's Keep Talking

BR+E is one way we stay connected, but the conversation happens year-round.

The County Business Support Network brings businesses together through networking mixers and targeted industry discussions, creating opportunities to make connections, share experiences and learn about resources available to support your business.

You can also stay informed through the County's quarterly Economic Development e-newsletter, featuring local economic updates, funding opportunities, events and resources.

Subscribe Today

Whether you're growing, navigating a challenge or have an idea to share, we want to hear from you. Your feedback helps shape what's next for business in the County.

780-933-8012 | Ecdev@countygp.ab.ca
www.countygp.ab.ca/EcDev



Local Internet Antenna Tower Removal

Have an Internet Antenna Tower on Your Property?

The County of Grande Prairie is winding down its longstanding internet antenna tower program and is reviewing the towers located on private properties throughout the County.

If you have a tower on your property, please visit **www.countygp.ab.ca/towers** for more information about the program, what this means for property owners and how to get in touch with the County.

Garbage & Recycling Across the County



There are several garbage and recycling options available across the County to help you manage household waste and recycling. These services are provided by the County and through provincial programs and service providers, including Circular Materials and Prairie Disposal.

Alberta's Recycling System: Circular Materials

All Albertans can now recycle more materials than ever through Alberta's enhanced recycling system that launched in October. The list of materials accepted for recycling has expanded provincewide and now includes foam food packaging, pet food bags, laundry detergent containers, aerosol containers, personal hygiene packaging and more.

Circular Materials, a national not-for-profit organization, manages Alberta's enhanced recycling system and oversees and facilitates recycling for producers and residents. Alberta's Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) program collects recycling fees at the time of purchase, which means there's no cost for residents or municipalities.

The County of Grande Prairie's recycling program has been managed by Circular Materials since 2025.

For a detailed list of materials, visit **www.circularmaterials.ca/resident-communities/grande-prairie-no-1**.

Curbside Collection

Curbside garbage and recycling collection is offered in several hamlets and subdivisions by the County's collection provider, Prairie Disposal.

Curbside collection is currently offered in:

- Carriage Lane
- Clairmont
- Hythe
- Maple Ridge
- Taylor Estates
- Wedgewood
- Westlake
- Whispering Ridge



Residents can place their garbage bins, recycling bags and yard waste at the curb on their scheduled pickup days for collection by Prairie Disposal.

To help make sure your materials are collected:

- Place all accepted recycling in clear blue bags. Recyclables do not need to be sorted into separate bags.
- Place garbage, recycling and yard waste at the curb by 7 a.m. on collection day.
- Place recycling and yard waste bags at least one metre (three feet) away from garbage bins and other objects.
- Place grass clippings, leaves and plant trimmings in a clear or blue bag. Yard waste bags must weigh less than 22 kilograms (48.5 pounds).
- Branches are accepted if they are securely bundled, less than one metre long and weigh less than 22 kilograms.

For questions about curbside collection, including collection schedules, missed collections or service delays, contact Prairie Disposal at 780-539-5950 or visit **www.prairiedisposal.com**.

For new or replacement garbage bins, contact the County's Transportation and Utilities department at 780-532-7393.

Batteries & E-waste

Remember to NEVER dispose of batteries and e-waste in your garbage bin or recycling bags. Designated areas for proper e-waste disposal are available at the Clairmont Centre for Recycling and Waste Management and County Transfer Stations. **Check out page 18 tips on safely charging batteries safely in extreme cold.**

County Garbage & Recycling Facilities

Several garbage and recycling facilities are available to all County residents, including the Clairmont Centre for Recycling and Waste Management (CCRWM), County Transfer Stations and recycling depots. See the map for garbage and recycling facilities across the County.

Residents and approved municipalities may dispose of 1,000 kg of household waste per year at no cost at the CCRWM. A landfill access card is required. There are no limits for recycling.

Learn more about landfill access cards and the CCRWM on our website at **www.countygp.ab.ca/RecyclingAndGarbage**

Transfer Stations

There are four Transfer Stations in the County:

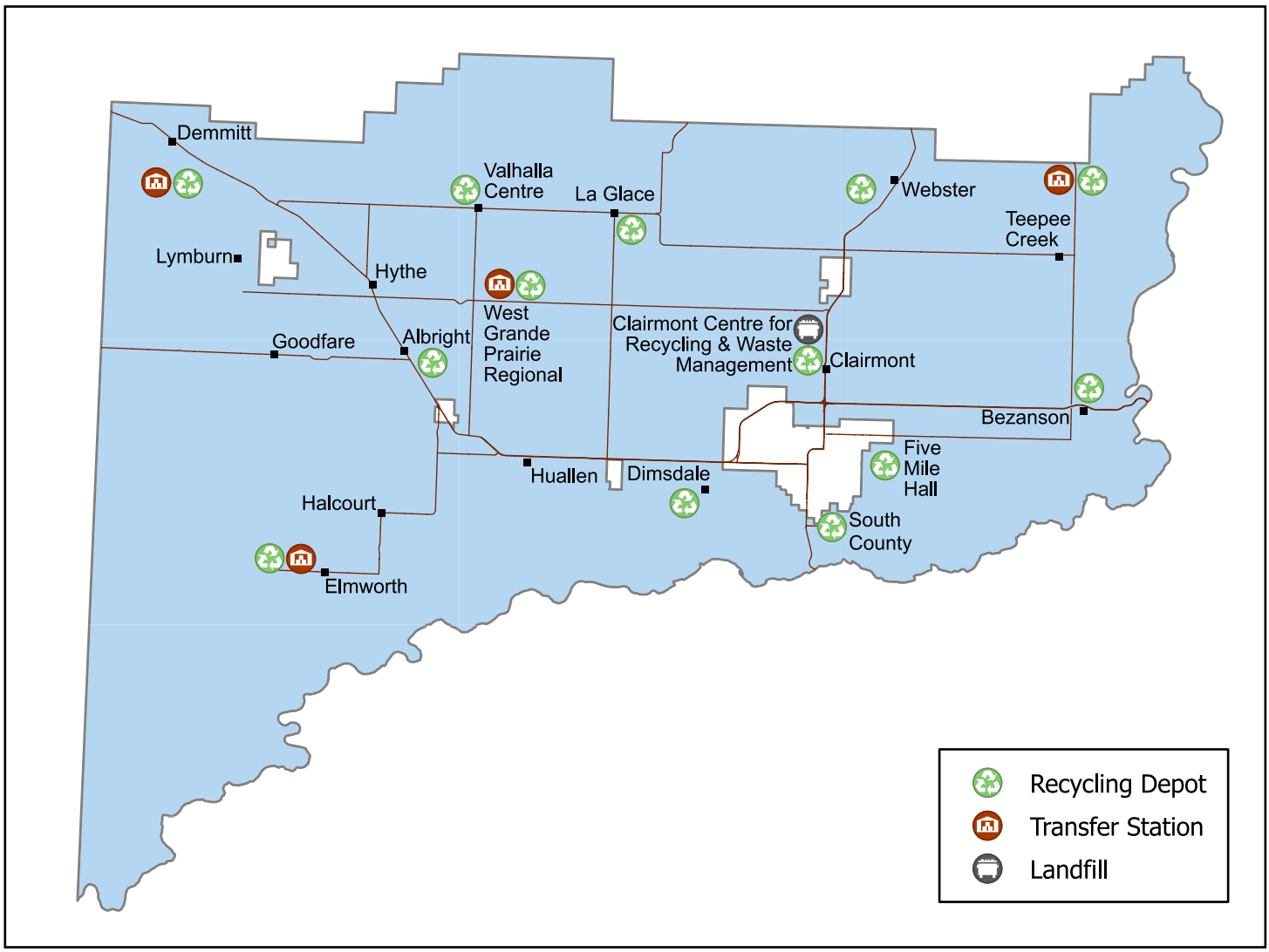
- Demmitt Transfer Station
- Elmworth Transfer Station
- Teepee Creek Transfer Station
- West Grande Prairie Regional Transfer Station

The West Grande Prairie Regional Transfer Station is a regional partnership between the County and the towns of Beaverlodge, Sexsmith and Wembley.

Transfer Stations use large bins where residents can dispose of household waste and recycling. Residents must be physically able to lift their materials into the appropriate bins. Waste and recycling are then either transferred to the CCRWM or diverted to a recycling facility by Circular Materials.

Visit **www.countygp.ab.ca/RecyclingAndGarbage** for details about the materials accepted at each Transfer Station, locations and hours of operation.

Questions? Contact the County's Transportation and Utilities department at 780-532-7393.



A Ticket Worth Smiling About:
Summer Program Rewards Youth for Positive Choices





As they approach the crosswalk on a sunny Tuesday afternoon, two youth get off their bikes, look both ways and cross the street. Helmets securely fastened under their chins, they head towards the local ice cream shack. It was a typical summer day–or so they thought.

Community Peace Officer (C.P.O.) Colton Renschler signals toward the youth, who look back with wide-eyed worry. Getting out of the patrol vehicle, he quickly reassures them.

“Don’t worry, you’ve done nothing wrong. It’s actually the opposite, you’ve demonstrated good behaviour and I’m giving you a Positive Ticket as a reward.”

After handing each a ticket for free ice cream and an entry pass to the Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum, C.P.O. Renschler thanks them for demonstrating safe bike riding practices. It’s one of many interactions he’s had with youth over the summer.

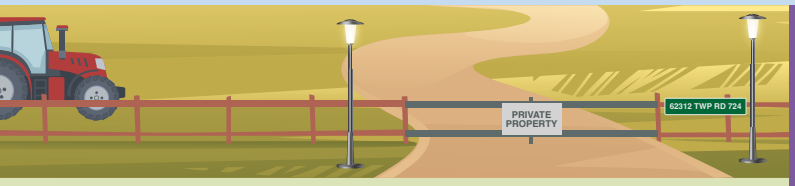
Under the newly piloted Positive Ticket program, youth caught doing good acts in their communities were awarded with a prize generously donated by local businesses, including treats, activities and small rewards that made a big impression.

Good behaviours included making safe choices, helping a neighbour or showing kindness to others.

For C.P.O. Renschler, the program was about much more than handing out rewards.

“Too often, young people only see enforcement officers when something has gone wrong,” said Renschler. “This program gives us an opportunity to connect with youth in a positive way and recognize the great choices they make every day. It helps build trust, encourages safe behaviour and reminds kids that their actions matter.”

While the program has come to an end for the season, the lessons learned will have a lasting impact, helping inspire local youth to keep making positive choices in their schools, neighbourhoods and communities.



Property Security and Safety Assessment

Property theft can happen to anyone, at any time. One way rural owners can stop crime before it happens is through a Property Safety and Security Assessment. This free assessment highlights vulnerabilities around your property and suggests practical steps to improving security. This includes:

- Keeping driveways and property entrances shovelled
- Ensuring your property is well-lit
- Locking up valuable equipment

Learn more and book your assessment at **www.countygp.ab.ca/security**.

24PetConnect: Reuniting lost pets and their owners faster than ever



The County is offering a new tool, 24Petconnect—an online centralized database to post and search for lost and found animals in the region.

With the tool, residents can:

- See pets brought into the Regional Pound
- Post lost and found pets
- Create lost pet flyers and receive alerts of found animals that match their pet’s description

Visit **www.countygp.ab.ca/LostPets** for more.

Activities for Families and Seniors

fcss
County of Grande Prairie
Family and Community
Support Services

Hythe and Area Community Programs

Service Canada Outreach Clinic
Tuesday, November 17, 2026 &
Tuesday, December 8, 2026
Drop in anytime between 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Hythe & Area FCSS Office

Facts & Snacks – Resume Building & Digital Device Help
Tuesday, November 24, 2026
1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
Hythe & Area FCSS Office

Babysitter Basics – Cost $40
Friday, February 12, 2027
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Ages 11 to15
Hythe & Area FCSS Office

Family Day Photo Connection Challenge
February 12-21, 2027
Open to all County residents.

The FriendZone – Enjoy some time creating and relating
Thursday, March 4, 2027
1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Ages 9 to 12
Hythe & Area FCSS Office

Home Alone Safely – Cost $10
Thursday, April 1, 2027
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Ages 9 to 11
Hythe & Area FCSS Office

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

Wellington Resource Centre Community Programming (WRC)

Babysitter Basics – Cost $40
Friday, March 19, 2027
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Ages 11 - 15
Bezanson Community Event Centre

Home Alone – Cost $10
Friday, March 19, 2027
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Ages 9 to 11
Bezanson Community Event Centre

Spring Fling – Cost $10
Thursday, April 1, 2027
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Ages 10 to 13
Clairmont Community School

Babysitter Basics – Cost $40
Friday, April 16, 2027
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Ages 11 to 15
Whispering Ridge Community School

Service Canada Outreach Clinic
Friday, January 22, 2027 and
February 19, 2027
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Friday, March 19, 2027 and April 30, 2027
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Future Works – Job Search Supports & Resource Centre
Thursday, December 10, 2026
Tuesday, January 12, 2027
Thursday, March 18, 2027
Wednesday, May 12, 2027
1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Community Volunteer Income Tax Program
Free, year-round help to file your income tax return. Open to students, seniors, families or single parents with a modest income and simple taxes. Call 780-567-2843 to book an appointment.

Sexsmith and Area Foodbank, Clairmont location
Wednesdays noon to 2 pm.
Please call 780-567-2843 to schedule an appointment.

Christmas Hamper Applications
Christmas Hamper Applications are now open for the Sexsmith and Area Christmas Hamper Program.

Applications will be accepted until December 1, 2026. To apply or obtain more information, please contact the Wellington Resource Centre at 780-567-2843.

Seniors Walk and 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, indoor environment over the winter season

Locations:

J.D.A. County Sportsplex, indoor track
Thursdays 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
October 8, 2026 to May 6, 2027

Bezanson Community Event Centre Gymnasium
Tuesdays 10 a.m. to noon
October 6, 2026 to May 4, 2027

FREE Youth Drop-in Support Group
2nd Thursday of the month – excluding December, July and August.
6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.
Ages 10 to 15
Wellington Resource Centre

Parental/guardian consent required prior to attending the first session. Contact 780-539-6680 or youth@sp-rc.ca

For more information on the above community programs, visit **www.countygp.ab.ca/WRC** or contact the Wellington Resource Centre at 780-567-2843.

DID YOU KNOW? You can now drop off food donations at the County Administration Building located at 10001 - 84 Avenue in Clairmont.



Think Before You Charge: Battery Safety in Extreme Cold

As winter approaches, it's important to take care of lithium-ion batteries. Extreme cold can make batteries lose power faster and charge more slowly. Charging a battery that is frozen or exposed to extreme temperatures can be dangerous and may increase the risk of overheating, fire or explosion.

To help keep batteries safe and working properly:

- Store devices indoors when possible.
- Let cold batteries warm up before charging.
- Follow the manufacturer's charging instructions.
- Avoid using damaged batteries.
- Recycle old, damaged batteries and other e-waste at the Clairmont Centre for Recycling and Waste Management or your closest County Transfer Station. For a list of facilities visit, **www.countygp.ab.ca/RecyclingAndGarbage**
  > Check out page 14 for more helpful recycling tips!

A few simple steps can help your batteries last longer and work safely all winter. Learn more about lithium-ion battery safety at **www.countygp.ab.ca/FirePrevention**.

Intergenerational Pen Pals Program Builds Friendships Across Generations



A handwritten letter may seem simple, but for participants in the Intergenerational Pen Pals program, it can spark something much deeper: friendship, connection and a sense of belonging.

The program brings seniors and elementary students together through letters exchanged over several months, giving them time to share stories, interests and experiences. What begins as an introduction on paper often grows into a meaningful relationship that both generations look forward to year after year.

For longtime participant Mort Timanson, (pictured above) the program has become one of the highlights of his year. Since joining in 2021, he has had seven pen pals and keeps every letter he receives.

"To me, it's the joy of having a relationship with a child," said Mort. "They're like my little grandkids."

Mort takes time to learn about each student's hobbies and interests through their letters. At the end of the school year, he creates a personalized painting inspired by what he has learned about his pen pal. This year, he painted a baseball-themed portrait of a student's steer named Beau.

"It means a lot to the seniors," he said. "We take it to heart, we enjoy it."

Each May, students and seniors meet for a wrap-up celebration where they share a meal, visit and finally meet the person behind the letters. The event is a reminder that meaningful connections can flourish at any age, strengthening community one friendship at a time.

Interested in becoming a pen pal? Email fcssreg@countygp.ab.ca.

Safety Starts with You: Winter Burning

Winter burning remains a common and valuable tool for farmers looking to clear brush, trees, crop residue and other organic materials from their land. Although the practice has been part of agricultural operations for generations, every burn carries the potential for fire to spread beyond its intended boundaries, making safety precautions essential.

- **Monitor burn sites, even after they appear out.** Do this by inserting a steel rod or pry bar into the pile – if it's hot, the pile is still burning inside or underground. Stirring the burn pile helps ensure it's completely extinguished.

Did you know you can be charged bylaw rates for the cost of firefighting a holdover fire? A single air tanker water tank drop costs $30,000.

Learn more at **www.countygp.ab.ca/HoldoverFires**





Kitt Family's Organic Farming Legacy Recognized

Jerry, Donovan and Lisa Kitt of First Nature Farms and The Homestead in Goodfare continue a shared commitment to organic agriculture. They were selected as the 2026 Farm Family Award recipients, an honour that recognizes their multigenerational stewardship, land care and commitment to feeding their region. Do you know a farm worth celebrating? Nominations for the next Farm Family of the Year close December 1, 2026. Find the application form at **www.countygp.ab.ca/FarmFamily**.

Your Library, Closer Than Ever

Library services are now easier to access in Bezanson. The new pop-up library offers residents books, printing, email access and one-on-one help from a librarian, all without leaving the community. Locals can browse a growing collection, request items from across the library system and pick them up locally. Visit the Bezanson Community Event Centre on Tuesdays from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Thursdays from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Community feedback is welcome through their Facebook page @BezansonCommunityLibrary.

Unlock Your E-Reading Experience!

COUNTY OF GRANDE PRAIRIE COMMUNITY LIBRARIES

CloudLibrary

Your library card unlocks thousands of free e-books, audiobooks and magazines. Browse popular collections through Libby (also known as OverDrive) and CloudLibrary on your phone, tablet, laptop, or e-reader. Simply sign in with your library card barcode and PIN to get started. Need help? Visit **www.CountyGPLibraries.ca/eResources** for tutorials or stop by your local library. Waiting for a popular title? Try Libby's "Skip the Line" collection or filter your search to "Available Now." Don't have a library card yet? Visit your nearest library to sign up.



Bring Your Story to Life with ITAV

Every non-profit has a story worth telling. Whether it's the lives your organization has changed, the volunteers who make your work possible, or the impact your community group has on the region, sharing that story can open doors to new opportunities.

Through the County's It Takes A Volunteer (ITAV) program, selected non-profits and community organizations receive a professionally produced video that captures their mission and showcases their work. More than just a marketing tool, these videos become valuable resources that can be used to support grant applications, attract volunteers, engage donors and raise awareness.

Know an organization worth highlighting? Visit **www.countygp.ab.ca/ITAV**

Snowshoe Rentals: Step Into Winter Adventure

One great thing about being a County resident is enjoying the multiple outdoor opportunities that the colder months bring. Whether you're a seasoned trekker or first-time free ranger, our snowshoe rentals can help you get back to nature and enjoy our snowy landscapes.

Rental details:

- Available while there's snow on the ground
- Pick up at 10808 - 100 Avenue, Clairmont from Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Daily, weekend and weekly rental options available
- Sizes available for everyone: small, medium and large

Group adventures? Contact Recreation and Culture at 780-532-9727.



Good Ice, Great Community

There's something magical about the moment a patch of frozen water becomes a gathering place.

It starts quietly. A few volunteers pull on their winter boots and step out into the crisp air. Hoses are rolled out, boards are checked and the first careful layers of water are sprayed across the surface.

Creating an outdoor ice surface is more than just "building a rink." It's about creating a place where children learn to skate for the first time, where neighbours meet on long winter evenings and where friendships are strengthened through shared experiences.

When the rink finally opens, the reward is immediate. The sounds of laughter and skates carving across fresh ice fills the air. Families bundle up and head outside together. Friends gather for unplanned shinny games.

It takes work, time and dedication to build a rink. The result? A source of community pride that helps neighbours get active and stay connected.

To start an outdoor skating rink, there must be an existing neighbourhood association or volunteer group with at least four dedicated residents named on the application.

This group handles the construction, maintenance, operation and removal of the ice surface. The County will provide oversight but will not be involved in the operation of the rink.

The group may also apply for a one-time grant up to $1,500 to assist with the initial costs of setting up the ice surface, or a grant of up to $750 annually for maintenance costs. Applications are accepted until December 31, 2026. For more information, visit **www.countygp.ab.ca/IceSurfaces**.

Celebrate the Season at Winter Frostival

The County of Grande Prairie is inviting residents to Winter Frostival at Pipestone Campground, on February 20 from 1 to 4 p.m. Enjoy a fun-filled afternoon of winter activities, including campfires, wagon rides, snow painting, snowshoe walks and s'mores and hot chocolate. Bring your family and friends to celebrate the season and enjoy the outdoors. For details and updates, visit the County's Recreation Events and Programs page: **www.countygp.ab.ca/parks-recreation-community/recreation-events-and-programs.**

County Grant Programs: New Opportunities and Resources for Community Groups



Strong communities are built by dedicated volunteers, local organizations and residents who invest their time and energy into making a difference. Each year, the County of Grande Prairie supports their work through grant funding that helps strengthen local programs, improve community spaces and enhance quality of life across the region.

To better serve community organizations, the Recreation and Culture Department recently reviewed and updated its grant-related policies. These improvements are designed to make funding programs easier to understand, simplify application processes and provide greater transparency for applicants.

Introducing the Connected Community Grant

A new funding opportunity, the Connected Community Grant, has been created to support projects, programs and initiatives that bring people together and strengthen community connections throughout the County.

Funding is available through three categories:

- Community Vibrancy and Wellness
  - > Beautification projects
  - > Community gardens
  - > Neighbourhood ice surfaces
  - > Safety and wellness initiatives
- Sponsorships, Donations and Community Support Requests
  - > Local events
  - > Community programs
  - > Organizational initiatives and special projects
- Emergent Operating Funding Requests
  - > Natural disasters
  - > Critical infrastructure failures
  - > Significant or unexpected funding losses

Applications requesting more than $1,500 will be considered by Council.

Get Ready for the 2027 Grant Season

Organizations looking to strengthen their funding applications are encouraged to attend an upcoming Grant Workshop. These sessions will cover program updates, grant-writing tips and a walkthrough of new grant management software.

All workshops will be held at the Emergency Coordination Centre in the Community Services Building. See dates and times below.

Prefer one-on-one support? Recreation and Culture staff are available to meet individually with organizations. Contact recreationandculture@countygp.ab.ca to book a session.

To register for a workshop and prepare for the 2027 grant season, contact Recreation and Culture at 780-532-9727.

Grant Applications Open January 1

Recreation Advisory Board Grants

Application period: January 1 to March 1, 2027.

Non-profit organizations that provide recreational or cultural opportunities for County residents may apply for programming funding of up to $5,000.

In 2026, the County awarded nearly $200,000 in funding to 52 local organizations, helping support community programming and services.

Cemetery Improvement Grants

Application period: January 1 to March 1, 2027.

Organizations responsible for operating cemeteries within the County may apply for operating or capital funding of up to $5,000.

Last year, funding supported projects such as cemetery maintenance, fencing improvements and columbarium installation.

Whether you're planning a community event, improving local amenities, or supporting important services, County grant programs can help bring your ideas to life. Now is the perfect time to explore available funding and prepare your applications for the upcoming grant season.

GRANT WORKSHOP DATES:

December 9, 2026	January 12, 2027	January 16, 2027
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.	6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

J.D.A. COUNTY SPORTSPLEX

Come Play!

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

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

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, October 2026 to May 2027)

Visit www.jdacountysportsplex.com to register and find more information about programs and drop-in activities, including class descriptions, times and locations.



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. Walk the track or socialize with friends and parents while your child plays in the bouncy castles and with a variety of toys and balls on the indoor turf field. Schedule can be viewed online at **www.jdacountysportsplex.com/calendar**.

SPRING BREAK CAMP MARCH 29 - APRIL 2, 2027

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

For more information, call the J.D.A. County Sportsplex at 780-830-7407.

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 take advantage of on-site catering options available from 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.

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

PHILIP J. CURRIE DINOSAUR MUSEUM

FALL/WINTER PROGRAMMING



COME EXPLORE THIS FALL & WINTER

We're open Wednesday to Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wander the gallery past towering dinosaur skeletons, hop on a guided lab tour to watch our preparators work on specimens fresh from this summer's collection, or settle in for a prehistoric documentary. Looking for something more? Check **www.dinomuseum.ca** for our full seasonal program calendar, including Nesting Grounds sessions for parents and toddlers, Night at the Museum sleepovers, Prehistoric Saturdays, Makerspaces and our new seniors programming.

WHAT'S NEW IN THE LAB?

Our dig season wraps up as the leaves turn and that's when the detailed work begins. This fall and winter, take a lab tour and watch our preparators carefully clean and study this year's haul from the Pipestone Creek Bonebed, one of the densest dinosaur bonebeds on earth and home to Big Sam, our Pachyrhinosaurus skull. Go behind the scenes with the team turning field finds into museum science.

GO CRETACEOUS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Give the palaeo lover on your list a gift built for adventure—a museum membership, or a gift card toward a Secrets of the Wapiti River float, Palaeontologist for a Day, the Bonebed Tour, or Triassic Teens Dino Camp, our guided, hands-on excavation programs and camps, returning summer 2027. One gift, a whole season of adventure to look forward to.

DINO-RIFFIC UPCOMING EVENTS

Ring in the new year early, family style! Join us December 31, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., for Noon Years Eve! Celebrate with a balloon drop, bubble pop, dinosaur cookie decorating, fossil touch table and a countdown built for kids (and parents who'd rather skip the late night). All ages welcome, members get in free. There's plenty more on the calendar.



BOOK YOUR CLASS VISIT TODAY – SPOTS FILL FAST

Bring your class in for a field trip, or have our educators come to you with an in-class or virtual visit. Booking for the 2026–2027 school year is open now! Our K-12 programs connect directly to curriculum in paleontology, evolution, earth sciences, social studies, paleo-art and hands-on science, creating a lasting impression, in your classroom or ours.

MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Did you know your annual PJCDM membership opens doors well beyond our own? Through the Canadian Association of Science Centres' Reciprocal Agreement, members can use their member ship card for free admission to TELUS World of Science Edmonton and TELUS Spark Calgary, at no extra cost. If you're sticking closer to home, that same card gets you 10% off in our gift shop and at Café on 43, $2 movies in the Aykroyd Family Theatre, plus discounts at a number of local businesses.
Visit **www.dinomuseum.ca/memberships** to see it all.

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
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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, People and Organizational Development, Transportation and Utilities, Planning and Development Services
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LEFT TO RIGHT: Councillor Kurt Balderston, Councillor Brian Peterson, Councillor Terri Beaupre, Councillor Marty Tissington, Reeve Amanda McDonald, Councillor Brian Grant, Councillor Karen Rosvold, Deputy Reeve Bob Chrenek, Councillor Brian Lieverse

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