

COUNTY CONNECTIONS



FALL 2016

Reeve's Message



While we will most certainly miss the long summer days and warm weather, fall in the County kicks off a season of new activities for the entire family. This year, the County directed

over \$5 million into local recreation, culture and non-profit organizations within the County, City and the region to support programs and operations. These are investments into the quality of life and well-being for you and your families. It's important to County Council that these opportunities are easily accessible to our residents and close to home.

Regional Cooperation at Work

We are currently working with many of our neighbouring municipalities on a Regional Recreation Master Plan to assess the current state of the region's recreation programs, services and facilities, and ensure we have a plan that will guide us in the delivery of recreation for years to come. Public consultations took place this over the past year, and we expect the final document to be released this fall.

The Regional Recreation Master Plan is just one of the ways regional cooperation is at work locally. As many of you are aware, we currently have a temporary partnership in place with the City of Grande Prairie to provide animal adoption services while the SPCA works on developing a sustainable business plan. These cooperative initiatives are just a few of the many collaborative relationships the County has in place.

Regional cooperation works effectively because it taps into the individual strengths of local municipalities and recognizes that municipalities can take different paths to achieve common regional goals. As we cultivate new relationships, the County continues to work to ensure that agreements are carefully tailored to meet each municipality's unique needs.

Infrastructure Initiatives

No doubt over the summer, you saw road construction crews hard at work throughout the County. Safe and well-maintained transportation infrastructure is important to our residents, and Council will continue to make that a priority. Council committed \$21.2 million to road construction, with cost savings of \$4.4 million due to decrease in fuel costs and many projects coming in under budget. The County also recently received nearly \$10 million in provincial grants for waterline and wastewater developments. We look forward to working with the Province and our neighbouring municipalities on these projects.

Safety Top of Mind

The groundbreaking ceremony for new Sexsmith Fire Hall took place in June. The scheduled completion of the new fire hall is targeted for early 2017. The County contributed \$500,000 to the facility and waived construction permit fees, with the Province contributing another \$350,000 towards the \$1.4 million facility. The recent signing of the Northwest Alberta Emergency Resource Agreement among the Peace Regional Fire Chiefs group is also very important to safety throughout the region in that it will allow for quicker deployment of emergency resources throughout Northwestern Alberta. Over 20 partners have signed with more pending.

I want to thank all employees in municipalities throughout our region who came together through the Grande Prairie Emergency Partnership (GPREP) to help the citizens of Fort McMurray, High Level and Little Smoky who were affected by wildfire. A sincere thank you to County employees for your work in the Emergency Operations Centre and to those who were deployed to the communities. Our County staff brings much expertise and knowledge in the area of wildfires, recently receiving national recognition for our work.

FireSmart Canada awarded the County with the FireSmart Community Protection Achievement Award for our dedication to lowering the risk of wildfire through our Wildfire Mitigation Strategy.

The County's strategy includes a number of FireSmart tactics to minimize the risk of wildfire, and reduce the risk of loss of life and damage to infrastructure.

Hearing from Us – Listening to You

Thank you to the Grande Prairie & District Chamber of Commerce for hosting the State of the County Address this summer. If you would like to view the speech, which gives an overview of the County's initiatives and priorities, it is posted online on our website at www.countygp.ab.ca/stateofthecounty.

In closing, it was great meeting with so many of you at the County's open houses this past June. We really appreciate these discussions, and invite your thoughts year-round. Please don't hesitate to give your County Councillors a call to discuss your thoughts and ideas, to help us keep in touch with your priorities.

Reeve Leanne Beaupre

What's Inside

> Councillors' Corner	2-4
> 2016 Budget Highlights	5-7
> Safe Burning	7
> Permits	8
> School Zones	9
> FCSS Programs	10, 12
> Grande Prairie Regional Animal Care Facility	10
> Clairmont Community Night	11
> Composting and Digesting Units	13
> Agricultural Update	14
> Railway 100th Year Celebration	15
> Fall Photo Contest	15
> Dino Museum Programs	16-17
> Crosslink County Sportsplex	18-19
> Contact Information	20

Councillors' Corner Councillors' Corner Councillors' Corner

Get to know a few of the County's Councillors; the areas of the County they represent; their priorities; and some of the initiatives, programs and projects underway in our community.



Division 2 Councillor – Daryl Beeston

Box 665
Sexsmith, AB T0H 3C0
Hm: 780-567-4299
Cell: 780-933-3464
Eml: dbeeston@countypg.ab.ca

Hi, I'm Daryl Beeston, Councillor for Division 2 which includes the Hamlet of Clairmont and surrounding area. Being a resident of the County for 28 years and a council member for nearly three years I have developed a strong understanding of the needs of the community. During my tenure as a council member I have been working hard to enhance the services, programs and facilities available to our residents.

The construction of the Grande Spirit Foundation Seniors Lodge in Clairmont is well underway with an anticipated completion date of early 2017. With the opening of this new facility, our community will be even busier than it already is. In preparation, the County has started grading,

basing and paving a new road (Clairmont Parkway Phase 1) to access the Seniors Lodge and other business and residential developments in what will be part of downtown Clairmont. This is all a part of the Clairmont Heights Area Structure Plan. We have provided a grant to the Clairmont Seniors Centre to expand their Parking Lot to meet their needs as the membership and usage of the facility continues to grow.

We are ensuring that community growth it is done so in a responsible and sustainable manner. With more industrial and residential developments sprouting, we are working to ensure services, programs and amenities are in place to support this growth. The province recently provided the County and Aquatera with over \$9 million for a water and sewer upgrades and expansion from the Clairmont Lagoon to the wastewater treatment plant in the City of Grande Prairie. This will further aid us in the sustainable development of Clairmont, and eventually

benefit other communities outside of the County including the north west edge of the City.

Ensuring our community and the region has access to a wide range of recreation opportunities also remains a priority. This year we are continuing to invest in and financially support various recreation and culture facilities and organizations. Specific to Clairmont, the County contributed \$615,000 over the past three years to the Clairmont & District Agricultural Society for the Adventure Park which includes a skate park, spray park and greenspace with picnic tables for outdoor activities and a place for families to gather. Kudos to the Clairmont & District Agricultural Society for your great work in the community. We've also invested in the development of two softball fields at the Crosslink Country Sportsplex.

Improving accessibility is another major priority of Council. Various steps are being taken to achieve this priority including the development of a Transportation Master Plan, revitalization of sidewalks and streets, expansion of our trail system, and the possibility of a transit system for Clairmont. The goal of the Transportation Master Plan is to connect more of our rural roads with our main arterial roads to make travelling in and out of the County more efficient.

We have heard many of the residents' concerns about the condition of the roads in the County. The wetter than average

weather we have experienced this summer has made our roads particularly vulnerable to damage. Council is actively working with Public Works to ensure gravel is applied and repair is completed to these roads to keep them in a safe and driveable condition. If there are any particular roads that require immediate attention, feel free to contact your area councillor or the Public Works department.

We have also invested \$260,000 to develop the second phase of the Wapiti Dunes Trail System which will eventually connect to the planned provincial trail system and the City of Grande Prairie, MD of Greenview trail systems. In the longer term, we are looking into developing a trail system in Westlake and Whispering Ridge that will eventually link to the City of Grande Prairie trail network.

We received a GreenTRIP funding grant from the province of Alberta and are currently looking into the feasibility of partnering with the City of Grande Prairie to provide public transit service for residents in Clairmont to better connect them to services and amenities

We are also working towards providing a health care clinic for Clairmont and surrounding area, as we see there is a need for this and other health care services in our growing community.

The new Peace Wapiti School Division (PWSD) school in Whispering Ridge will serve families in the Clairmont area and will be opening 2018. We have invested \$465,000 into the new playschool which will be

Councillors' Corner Councillors' Corner Councillors' Corner

located in the new school. The playschool will be run by our Family and Community Support Services. We are delighted to be working with PWSD on this project. We look forward to the other doors of opportunity that will open as a result of this development and partnership.

Keeping our communities as safe as possible is another priority of Council. Due to the increase in crime rates locally, and other communities in the province and in the country over the past couple of years, this year we approved the addition of another member to our Enhanced RCMP Unit with another Enhanced RCMP member scheduled to join our Regional Enforcement

Services in 2017. We are relieved that crime rates have reduced since 2015. We've also invested \$500,000 to the Town of Sexsmith for a new fire hall, as well as \$22,500 to the Grande Prairie Technical Search and Rescue Association. We will continue to do our best to proactively plan and anticipate the needs of our community.

I have truly enjoyed hearing from, connecting and working with residents and community groups. I will continue to do my best to represent the residents in Division 2 and the County as a whole. I encourage you to contact me to share any suggestions, questions and concerns you may have.



Division 4 Councillor/Deputy Reeve – Ross Sutherland

Box 1027
Grande Prairie, AB T8V 4B5
Hm: 780-532-8686
Cell: 780-512-5385
Eml: rsutherland@countygpr.ab.ca

It's been a privilege serving as councillor for Division 4 (Wembley and Dimsdale area, and west county) and Deputy Reeve for the County. My overall goal as councillor is to maintain and improve the quality of life

in the County. A few specific areas I have been placing large focus on over this term have been the development of roads, infrastructure and waterlines; as well as tourism and enhancing the services available to our rural residents.

Road construction season is underway. Crews will be working hard until mid-October to complete over 65 km of road surfacing including the paving of gravel roads, surfaced road

overlays, re-construction and divisional road projects. The roads being worked on in Division 4 this year are the basing and paving of Range Road 74 from Highway 43 north to Township Road 715; grading of Range Road 75 from Highway 43 north to Township Road 720; and microsurfacing in the rural subdivisions of Westridge Estates and Heritage Point. Resurfacing for Lakeview Estates has been moved to 2017. The complete list of projects can be found on page 6.

We are also working with Administration on the development of a Transportation Master Plan, a framework that will guide the County in improving our road network by connecting more rural roads to main paved roads to ease travel for our residents.

Despite the slowdown in economy, we are still experiencing growth in the County and as a result, more stress has been placed on our roads, bridges and other infrastructure. We will continue lobbying the provincial government for grant funding to improve our roads and infrastructure.

I am very pleased that the province through the Water for Life Program, will be providing funding for Phase One of the Regional West County waterline. A waterline will be installed to run from Aquatera in the City of Grande Prairie connecting through the County and into the Town of Wembley. This project is currently in the engineering and route selection phase. This will improve utility

services for current and future landowners and residents in the West County and in Wembley area. We will continue to lobby the government to complete the remaining phases to expand further west to Beaverlodge, Hythe and Horse Lake First Nation.

Access to high speed internet for rural residents has been a priority of Council's over the past decade. We have installed over 300 high speed internet towers throughout the County to provide residents with access to internet. We recognize there are some limitations to this system. Fibre optics is a relatively new technology that has enhanced internet speed that we are looking further into. As there are very few areas of the County where fibre optics have been installed, we will be encouraging internet providers to install more fibre optics in our rural areas where internet service is limited.

The Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum has been open for nearly one year. The displays, programs, tours and events have attracted the local community, students from schools, and tourists from all over the world. We are happy to share the great news that the museum has seen over 100,000 visitors as of June.

Several residents have expressed their dismay with the work that was recently completed by a company at Cutbank Lake to draw water out for a fracking operation. Although this lake is in the County, the usage and allocation of water is a responsibility of the Province. We are aware that there was

Continued next page

Councillors' Corner Councillors' Corner Councillors' Corner

little consultation between the company, the province and landowners prior to the work being done. The County values our open spaces, natural habitat, clean air and clean water and advocates for responsible use by all parties. We have sent our concerns to the Province asking that more consultation occurs prior to this type of activity to ensure landowners and the County are aware of the potential impacts and have the opportunity to share their concerns.

Evergreen Park is in the midst of creating a long term operational business plan to

retain and attract more business opportunities. Upgrades to the facility are also nearly complete. I serve as a member on the Evergreen Park Board of Directors Committee on behalf of the County. It has been a pleasure being involved in the planning process.

With summer nearing an end, I hope you enjoy what is left of it. I wish the farmers a bountiful and safe harvest season! I look forward to continuing conversations with the residents of Division 4 and the County. If you have any questions, concerns or ideas, please feel free to contact me any time.

past president for the Suicide Prevention Resource Centre.

Over the remainder of this term my main priority will be to continue to help make our rural communities stronger, more vibrant and more independent. A few examples of the projects I'd like to focus on to ensure these goals are achieved is the increased accessibility to recreation and cultural opportunities such as a new multi-use recreational facility for La Glace. The Joint Recreation Master Plan will be finalized later this fall and will serve as a guide for improving, enhancing, and planning the future in parks and recreation in the County as well as the City of Grande Prairie, the towns of Beaverlodge, Sexsmith and Wembley, Village of Hythe and parts of the MD of Greenview. Expanding sports, recreation and cultural opportunities also extends to the several organizations in the region that we support through grants annually.

Our Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) department's motto is to enhance the spirit of communities by inspiring individuals and families. This is a philosophy I wholly support. I would like to continue emphasizing the services ranging from community school liaison, early childhood development, several community programs, to home support and beyond that are available to our residents; as well, look for ways to enhance our current services and partnerships with neighbouring municipalities, the provincial government and local non-profit social organizations.

Safety is another top priority of mine. I am proud that our community has come together through the Grande Prairie & District Rural Crime Watch Association, the Beaverlodge Rural Crime Watch Association, Citizens on Patrol and other related community forums to help keep our communities as safe and protected from crime as possible by being watchdogs and reporting suspicious activity. County Regional Enforcement Services has been closely involved in crime prevention and reduction measures.

Advocating for the ongoing maintenance and improvements to roads and infrastructure is also at the top of my list of priorities. We are actively lobbying the provincial government to pave Secondary Highway 724 north to the Saddle Hills border as it is a heavily travelled road. We are pleased that the provincial government has approved grant funding to replace the lift station Valhalla. The County has also approved funding to upgrade the water and sewer system in La Glace.

I am truly looking forward to the learning experiences in my new role as the Division 8 Councillor. I will do my best to be the strong voice that represents the best interests of residents of Division 8 and the County.

Feel free to contact me anytime if you any questions, concerns, or feedback.



Division 8 Councillor – Karen Rosvold

Box 54
La Glace, AB T0H 2J0
Cell: 780-831-0902
Eml: krosvold@countypg.ab.ca

Hello, I'm Karen Rosvold, the new councillor for Division 8 which includes the La Glace and Valhalla area. I would like to thank those who voted in the byelection this May and placed their confidence in me to act

as your new representative for Division 8. Although I may be relatively new to the world of municipal government, I have been a resident of La Glace for nearly 30 years and have been very engaged in the community. Over the many years into present time, I have also been an active member of many local organizations including the La Glace Agricultural Society, the Valhalla Charter School, 4H; as well as served as chairperson for the Beaverlodge Rural Crime Watch Association and the



2016 BUDGET

Investing in the Present and the Future

The 2016 Final Budget has been approved by County Council.

The \$120.8 million budget includes estimated expenditures of \$72.2 million for general operations and \$48.6 million for capital, 44 per cent of which is being allocated to capital road projects.

Council and administration were able to find cost savings of over \$4.4 million due to road construction projects tenders coming in under the previously budgeted amount, as well as in fuel savings.

The overall 2016 taxable assessment increased \$427 million (5.4 per cent increase over 2015) representing an estimated \$332 million in new growth and an increase of \$95 million in market value assessment.

What impact does the budget have on taxes?

The average residential rate payer will see their total municipal tax bill increase by 2 per cent not including requisitions. For example:

- An average home assessed at \$415,500 will see an overall increase of \$96 per year. Of this, \$64 is the provincial education tax requisition; \$1 is the Senior's Foundation requisition; and \$31 is the County's municipal tax portion, which supports the provision of municipal programs and services. This sample property will pay a total of \$2,583 per year in taxes—\$1,587 for the municipal services portion plus \$996 in requisitions for Provincial Education and Senior's Foundation. Individual properties will vary depending on the different market values of property throughout the County.

Provincial Education and Senior's Foundation Tax Explained

All Alberta municipalities are required to collect education taxes on behalf of the Government of Alberta. The County also collects on behalf of the Senior Foundation. Approximately 23.3 per cent of residential taxes are transferred to the province for education purposes and 1 per cent for Senior Foundation purposes. The County's education requisition has increased 10 per cent for the year.

Overall, farmland taxes will remain virtually the same as 2015.

Non-residential properties including machinery & equipment may experience an increase based on individual property assessments and changes to the market value.

The budget focuses on quality of life where investments have been made into safety including the hiring of an additional Enhanced RCMP member, contributing \$500,000 to the Town of Sexsmith's new fire hall and \$22,500 to the Technical Search and Rescue Association to name a few.

Council and administration understands the importance of well-maintained and connected roads and bridges to help residents move more efficiently and have invested \$21.2 million into road construction projects and bridge rehabilitation. Due to the continuous growth in the region, over \$3.3 million was put towards infrastructure development for projects such as waterline improvements to make our communities more sustainable in the long term.

Ensuring our community and the region has access to a wide range of recreation opportunities also remains a priority. Approximately \$5.07 million has gone into funding local recreation, culture and non-profit organizations within the County, the City and the region to help support their programs, services and operations. Furthermore, \$157,000 (with commitment of \$100,000 from the South Peace Ball Association) will be invested into the development of two softball fields for the Crosslink County Sportsplex, with City of

"The County Council is very proud of our 2016 Budget. This budget takes into consideration the current economic circumstances by providing residents with services, programs they need and planning for the future, while keeping tax rates very reasonable for residents and businesses. It reflects fiscally responsible management of our resources while ensuring that the County remains an attractive place to live and do business."

*- Leanne Beaupre,
County Reeve*

Grande Prairie Administration agreeing that this addition will add to the overall capacity of the ball community by alleviating user groups' league play on neighbourhood diamonds. As part of our commitment to the planned provincial trail system, approximately \$260,000 of funding will be invested to develop part of Phase 2 of the Wapiti Dunes Trails that will link the County, City of Grande Prairie and MD of Greenview networks.

Council and administration also discussed the Fiscal Plan for 2017 in preparation for the 2017 interim budget deliberations that will take place in December of 2016. The County's two-year Fiscal Plan allows for a longer-term and more sustainable approach to planning. Flexibility is built into the two-year fiscal plan for adjustments each year in the event major external changes occur that are beyond the County's control and to accommodate ongoing requests for resources and/or funding.

For further information on the 2016 budget and taxation rates, please call 780-532-9722 or contact 780-513-3952 for assessment information.

Continued next page

2016 BUDGET

Investing in the Present and the Future

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Capital Budget

Approximately \$21.2 million is being invested in road construction and bridge maintenance projects.

The proposed new construction includes nearly 65 km of road surfacing including the paving of gravel roads, surfaced road overlays, re-construction and divisional road projects. Grant funding for road projects is estimated at \$2.2 million, including a \$1.2 million Federal Gas Tax Grant and \$1 million in funding from Provincial Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) Grant.

The following is a current list of road projects scheduled:

- Clairmont West Phase 1/101 Avenue from 98 Street to 100 Street – curb and gutter 0.4 km
- Clairmont West Phase 1/98 Street from 100 Avenue North to 102 Avenue – final stage 0.2 km
- 100 Street East from the City Limits to 148 Avenue – overlay 0.8 km
- 156 Avenue from 98 Street to 100 Street – overlay 0.42 km
- Clairmont Parkway/Township Road 725 – grade, base and pave 2 km
- Township Road 730 from Range Road 35 west to Range road 40 – grade 1.6 km
- Township Road 721/Beaverlodge Access – final lift 1.6 km
- Range Road 110/Hinton Trail from Highway 722 South to Township Road 693 – overlay 8.1 km
- Range Road 63 from City limits north to Highway 43X – overlay 2.4 km
- Range Road 92/Radar Base Road from Township Road 720 to top of hill – overlay 2.3 km
- Range Road 92/Radar Base Road from Township Road 720 to Highway 32 – chip seal 3.2 km
- Township Road 710 from Range Road 114 North west to Range Road 120 North – grade, base and pave 3.2 km
- Range Road 62 from River Road Estates entrance south to Township Road 704A – grade, base and pave 1.5 km
- Range Road 61/Dunes North Road – grade, base and pave 0.9 km

- Range Road 74 from Highway 43 north to Township Road 715 – base and pave 1.6 km
- Road Road 75 from Highway 43 north to Township Road 720 – grade 3.2 km
- Township Road 720 from Highway 723 to Range Road 94 – base and pave 3.2 km
- Range Road 51 from Township Road 724 north to Township Road 730 – grade 1.6 km
- Range Road 41 from Township Road 714 to Township Road 715 south – base and pave 1.66 km
- Willowood Estates – microsurface 1.7 km
- Lawra Estates – microsurface 1.7 km
- Westridge Estates – microsurface 0.8 km
- Lakeview Estates – microsurface 2.9 km
- Mountain Side Estates – microsurface 1.4 km
- Heritage Point – microsurface 0.6 km
- Green Acres – microsurface 0.9 km
- Range Road 63 & Bauman Road (extend turning lane) – grade, base and pave 0.3 km
- Woodland Acres – microsurface 2.2 km
- Lawra Estates/Range Road 54 from Township Road 712 North to Woodlake Estates – microsurface 1.2 km
- Eastland Estates – microsurface 1 km
- Horse Lake Road/Township Road 734 from Highway 43 to Range Road 120 – base and pave 7.2 km
- Woodlake Estates – microsurface 1 km
- Sunrise Estates – microsurface 0.6 km

Approximately \$1.2 million (\$500,000 funded by MSI Grant) is being invested on bridge maintenance for 2016, with approximately \$1.3 million going into the reserve to allocate towards bridge maintenance and replacements in the future. The County has a total of 317 bridges, the most in the province. Formerly, bridges were partially funded by the Provincial government. In 2013, the province eliminated its bridge funding program.

The County now has to allocate a larger portion of its linear tax revenue to go towards bridge maintenance and replacement. It is estimated that over \$30 million will need to be allocated for required bridge upgrades, repairs and/or replacements in the next five years.

In addition to road construction and bridge maintenance, the capital budget includes:

- \$3.7 million for replacement of vehicles and equipment
- \$3.8 million for water line development investments including but not limited to the Bezanson Lagoon maintenance and the La Glace Lagoon Restoration project
- \$1 million for University of Alberta Professorship endowment at the Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum for a total investment of \$2 million
- \$465,000 for new playschool in Whispering Ridge as part of new Peace Wapiti school
- \$260,000 for the development of a portion of Phase 2 of the Wapiti Dunes Trail System
- \$257,000 for the development of two softball diamonds at the Crosslink County Sportsplex
- \$250,000 for a backup generator for the Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum
- \$135,000 in information technology software additions and upgrades

Operating Budget

The operating budget proposed for 2016 includes:

- \$5.07 million in Community Grants for organizations such as STARS, Prairie Art Gallery, Nighthawk Year-Round Recreation Park, 18 community halls, six community arenas, seven curling rinks and two swimming pools and all of the following:
 - \$600,000 over three years (2015-2017) for a total contribution of \$1.8 million for the Bezanson Community Centre Phase 1
 - \$200,000 for STARS operations over three years (2016-2018) bringing our total contribution to date to \$1.64 million
 - \$333,334 over three years (2014-2016) for a total contribution of \$1 million to the La Glace Arena Project
 - \$150,000 over three years (2015-2017) to the Teepee Creek Ag Events Centre bringing our total contribution to date to \$900,000
 - \$65,000 for the Clairmont Agricultural Society Adventure Park Phase 2 bringing our total contribution to date to \$615,000
 - \$500,000 for the new Sexsmith Fire Hall
 - \$400,000 for operations to the Grande Prairie Agriculture & Exhibition Society

2016 Budget Continued

- \$500,000 for operations to the Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum
- \$65,000 over four years (2015-2018) for a total contribution of \$260,000 to the Grande Prairie Art Gallery
- \$260,947 to the Grande Prairie Public Library
- \$116,441 for 2016, for Nighthawk Year-Round Recreation Park for equipment replacement (\$177,500 for 2015, \$116,441 for 2016 and \$134,191 for 2017) for a total contribution of \$428,132
- \$50,000 to Evergreen Park for a backup generator bringing the total contribution to \$175,000
- \$37,398 over four years (2015-2018) for a total contribution of \$149,592 to the Grande Prairie Museum
- \$41,600 over three years (2015-2018) for a total contribution of \$124,800 to the South Peace Regional Archives Museum
- \$25,000 over four years (2014-2017) to Grande Prairie Sport Council for a total contribution of \$100,000
- \$20,000 over five years (2012-2016) for a total contribution of \$100,000 to the Compassion House Foundation
- \$15,000 over two years (2015-2016) for a total contribution of \$30,000 for the Grande Prairie Provincial High School Rodeo Finals
- \$10,000 over three years (2015-2018) for a total contribution of \$30,000 for Grade Three Reading University
- \$25,000 for the Teepee Creek 100th Anniversary
- \$22,500 for Technical Search and Rescue Association
- \$20,000 for the University of Alberta Geothermal Energy Project
- \$1.07 million to the City of Grande Prairie for the tax sharing agreement (share of municipal tax revenue- 20 per cent from co-generational facility and 10 per cent on any new commercial/industrial development in areas serviced by Aquatera) to reflect County residents use of City facilities
- \$205,000 for County Growth Study
- \$135,000 for Commercial Investment and Attraction Strategy
- One Enhanced RCMP Officer

For more information, please contact Bill Rogan, County Administrator at 780-532-9722.

Safe Burning: Protecting your property, your community, and your pocketbook

As we move out of summer and into the fall season, outdoor burning is still occurring regularly in our community. Because many fires in the County are caused by human error, the County would like to remind everyone to follow safe burning practices at all times and to ensure you have an up-to-date fire permit as well as valid insurance. Failure to do so not only impacts your own homes and buildings, but also your pocketbook and the community at large.

In the past, the Regional Fire Service has required assistance from outside agencies to suppress fires started unlawfully. As a result of these unnecessary increases in costs, in 2014, Council approved a motion that allows County Administration to bill citizens for any third-party expenses incurred while battling fires that have been caused by not following safe burning guidelines.

An example of an unlawful burn occurs if winds are over 12 km/hr. Even if you have

obtained a permit, if winds of 15 km/hr cause an out-of-control blaze, you could be responsible for the cost of bringing in any necessary additional resources to help put out the fire. In the past, these third parties have included Alberta Agriculture and Forestry as well as security companies.

The County is also encouraging residents to check with their insurance broker to ensure appropriate fire coverage is in place. Coverage types for a home or farm are commonly known as Forest Fire Fighting Expense Coverage and/or Firefighting Expense Coverage.

The best way to protect yourself, your family and your community is to ensure that you have the proper fire permit and insurance, and that you familiarize yourself with safe burning guidelines prior to lighting any fire. These guidelines can be found at www.countygp.ab.ca/fire.

Thank you Veresen Midstream



From left to right: Councillor Karen Rosvold; Councillor Harold Bulford; Councillor Ross Sutherland; Bill Kirkham, Veresen Midstream Operations Manager; Terry Dueck, County Facility Coordinator, Darby DeSchipper Veresen Midstream Hythe Plant Coordinator; Councillor Brock Smith; Jordan Pomeroy, Veresen Midstream Measurement Technician; Bonnie Fletcher, Veresen Midstream Plant Administrator; and Councillor Peter Harris

The reconstruction of the shelter at the Demmitt Campground is now complete. Demmitt Campground visitors can now take advantage of this shelter during their next day or thanks to Veresen Midstream's \$15,000 donation. A big thank you to Veresen Midstream for investing in quality of life and recreation and tourism opportunities in our community. It's greatly appreciated!

It's My Land, Why Do I Need Permits to Develop?

Put simply, permits are required in order to ensure your development complies with various legislation.

Development permits are issued by the County under its Land Use Bylaw authorizing development, including excavation, stockpiling, building, additions, and a change in use or intensity of the use of the land or building, to proceed. They are used to regulate and control uses within the County. Development Permits are governed by the County's Land Use Bylaw and should not be confused with Safety Codes Permits which fall under provincial legislation.

Safety Codes Permits are governed by the Alberta Safety Codes Act and Permit Regulations and cover the areas of Building, Plumbing, Gas, Electrical, and Private Sewage. Permits issued under the Alberta Permit Regulations grant permission to proceed with the work requiring a permit and ensure safety by requiring construction to be done in accordance with the Alberta Building Code and other codes and/or practices. To better guide landowners through the permit application process and to gain a greater understanding of why permits are necessary for developing within your land, be sure to visit our website at www.countygp.ab.ca/permits or pick up various brochures available at the Planning Office located in the Administration Building at 10001 84 Avenue in Clairmont.

Busy construction season underway in the County

Another busy and successful construction season is almost behind us.

Construction crews will be working on select County roads until mid-October. Motorists are reminded to obey all signs, flag persons, posted speed limits and exercise extreme caution when travelling through the construction zone and when near crews and equipment.

The County thanks residents and travellers for their patience and cooperation as we work to improve our road system.

County Honoured with FireSmart Canada Community Protection Achievement Award



Left to right, front: Councillor Daryl Beeston, Ken Atamanchuk – County of Grande Prairie Fire Marshall, Tom Burton – Secretary with FireSmart Canada, Reeve Leanne Beaupre, Kelly Burke – Alberta Agriculture and Forestry Information Officer, Councillor Brock Smith, Councillor Karen Rosvold, Councillor Corey Beck

Left to right, back: Councillor Harold Bulford, Councillor Peter Harris, Councillor Bob Marshall, Forrest Barrett – Alberta Agriculture and Forestry Wildfire Operations Officer, Councillor Ross Sutherland

FireSmart Canada has awarded the County of Grande Prairie with the FireSmart Community Protection Achievement Award for their dedication to preventing the risk of wildfire impacting their community through the development of a Wildfire Mitigation Strategy.

"Keeping our community protected from the risk of wildfire remains top of mind for the County," said Leanne Beaupre, County of Grande Prairie Reeve. "We thank all of those who were involved with the development and roll-out of the plan for their exceptional work on helping make the County safe."

The FireSmart Community Protection Achievement Award is a program that recognizes communities throughout Canada who have gone above and beyond to complete a FireSmart Plan for their community and begun to implement solutions. In Canada there are 10 communities, including the County of Grande Prairie, who have received this award. The program has been running annually since 2012.

"Congratulations to the County of Grande Prairie for your efforts to understand the potential impacts wildfire can have on your community and putting plans in place to reduce the threats," said Laura Stewart, FireSmart Canada President. "The proactive steps you have taken through education, planning and vegetation management are

commendable and we look forward to your continued efforts."

For the past several years, the County of Grande Prairie has been working closely with Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (formerly Sustainable Resource Development) to minimize the fire risk on crown land within the County's boundaries. With the continued growth in population and development within the County, the need for a more formal, approved approach to wildfire mitigation has not only increased dramatically, but is essential to all that work, live and play on or near forested land.

In 2015, the County developed the wildfire mitigation strategy which includes a number of FireSmart tactics to minimize the risk of wildfire, and reduce the risk of loss of life and damage to infrastructure caused by wildfire. The plan includes planning and vegetation management strategies; and close partnerships with the Alberta government, local municipalities, private land owners, community/user groups, aboriginal groups and businesses to prevent wildfire risks. A large portion of the plan includes programs and events to educate the community and landowners about the steps they can take to prevent the risk of wildfires.

For more information about the County's fire prevention programs as well as the Wildfire Mitigation Strategy, visit www.countygp.ab.ca/fire.



REGIONAL ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

SERVING OUR COMMUNITIES FOR NEARLY 40 YEARS

School Zones soon take effect – *Slow down and watch for pedestrians*

School zones will be in effect on the days school is in operation throughout the County at the following locations and times:

Rural and Community School Zones:

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Town of Sexsmith & Town of Wembley:

7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.



The school season is on the horizon, and so are school zones. With that being said, drivers are reminded to watch for pedestrians and students walking to and from school; pay attention; drive safely; obey all traffic safety signs and laws; and, slow down – especially in school zones.

Also, students need to take precautions and practice crosswalk safety and watch for traffic.

Peace Officers and RCMP will be frequently patrolling school zones, especially during the first few weeks of school to re-enforce safe driving habits.

The County Regional Enforcement Services will continue to collaborate with the media, its traffic safety partners groups, and the

Office of Traffic Safety to educate drivers about traffic safety; and, will enforce all traffic laws to ensure our roads and neighbourhoods are as safe as possible.

Motorists can be ticketed and penalized for a number of offences including but not limited to: speeding in a school zone; passing a school bus; failing to yield to a pedestrian in a crosswalk; and, overtaking or passing a vehicle stopped at a crosswalk. These fines range from \$57 to \$575.

For more information on Alberta's traffic safety laws visit www.transportation.alberta.ca. For more information on school zones or traffic safety programs, please contact the Regional Enforcement Services department at 780-532-9727.

How to reach County Regional Enforcement Services

Do you have a question, concern or complaint regarding traffic enforcement, animal control and/or regulatory bylaws enforced by the County?

THE COUNTY REGIONAL ENFORCEMENT SERVICES CAN BE REACHED THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

Phone: 780-532-9727

Fax: 780-567-5576

Email: enforcementservices@countygp.ab.ca

In person: Community Services Building – open Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Closed between noon and 1:00 p.m. and statutory holidays.

Occurrence Reporting form:

pick up a pamphlet at any local municipal office, complete and submit it.

Online: go to the County's website at www.countygp.ab.ca. Click on the heading "I want to", then select "Report" and choose "A traffic, animal, or bylaw complaint".

HOW TO REACH THE REGIONAL ANIMAL CARE FACILITY

For animal shelter, pound services, and adoptions. Do you have questions about a lost pet? Do you think it has been picked up and may be in the pound? Are you interested in adopting a

dog or cat? The Regional Animal Care Facility services the County and City of Grande Prairie as well as many other municipalities in the region. The Regional Animal Care Center can be reached the following ways:

Phone: 780-830-0199

Fax: 780-532-4745

Email: regionalpound@countygp.ab.ca

In Person: – Brochu Industrial Park, 12220 – 104 Avenue, Grande Prairie.

Animal Pound Services and Shelter Services: Monday to Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Sunday Noon to 4:00 p.m. Closed between noon and 1:00 pm and statutory holidays.

Animal Adoption Services:

Tuesday to Friday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Closed between noon and 1:00 p.m. and statutory holidays.

HOW TO REPORT A DRUG HOUSE

Phone: 780-830-5889

Report a drug house form:

pick up a pamphlet at any local municipal office, complete and submit it.

Online: go to the County's website at www.countygp.ab.ca. Click on the heading "I want to", then select "Report" and choose "A Drug House".

Permit Required for Fireworks

Wanting to light off fireworks? You will require a permit before you do so. Permit applications must be made in person at the County Community Services Building. There is no fee for a consumer permit; however, there is a \$100 annual fee for businesses to sell, offer for sale and store for the purposes of selling fireworks. For more information, please refer to the Fireworks FAQs at www.countygp.ab.ca/fireworks.

Early Childhood Programs Starting Up Again in the Fall

The County of Grande Prairie FCSS department offers a variety of early childhood development programs for families throughout the County. Currently, there are Playschool programs in Bezanson, Clairmont, Elmworth, La Glace, and Valhalla Centre, as well as Parent and Tot programs in Bezanson, Clairmont, Beaverlodge and Hythe. For more information on these and other play programs the County offers, please contact FCSS at 780-532-9727 or visit the Family and Community Support Services department section on our website www.countygp.ab.ca.

Please contact the instructors for more information about registration and fees.



The following Playschools will offer programs this upcoming 2016-17 year:

Program	Instructor	Contact	Days/Time	Start Date
Bezanson Playschool	Theresa McLeod	780-518-0981 bps@countygp.ab.ca	M/W: 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.	October 3
Clairmont Playschool	Tracy Johnston	780-567-3553 cps@countygp.ab.ca	3 programs - varying days and times	October 6
Elmworth Playschool	Angie Sanderson	780-354-6538 eps@countygp.ab.ca	M/W: 12:30 – 3:30 p.m.	October 3
La Glace Playschool	Elissa Moe	780-505-0785 lps@countygp.ab.ca	M/W: 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.	October 3
Valhalla Playschool	Reanna Stockman	780-380-4542 vps@countygp.ab.ca	T/TH: 12:40 – 3:40 p.m.	October 4



GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL ANIMAL CARE FACILITY TO THE RESCUE!

The Grande Prairie Regional Animal Care Facility is now open to temporarily replace the services offered by the Grande Prairie and District SPCA. The Facility will ensure the continuation of safe and humane animal care by delivering Pound, Adoption, and Animal Shelter Services.

Pound Services

The animal pound provides temporary holding of animals that are lost or stray, picked up by animal control, or are the subject of an investigation because of a bite or a necessary quarantine. The main goal of the pound is to return animals to their owners.

Animal Shelter Services

Animals that are surrendered by owners will go up for adoption immediately.

Adoption Services

Approximately 1,000 animals will be adopted in the Grande Prairie region this year! All animals available for adoption are checked by a veterinarian, dewormed, micro-chipped and given a first set of vaccinations.

All animals come with a 50% off voucher for spaying or neutering services.

Adoption Rates

At the Grande Prairie Regional Animal Care Facility, animal adoption fees are affordable!

New Adoption Rates

Puppies	\$200	Adult Dogs	\$175
Senior Dogs	\$100	Kittens	\$90
Adult Cats	\$80	Senior Cats	\$50

Please see our Facebook page www.facebook.com/gpracf to view some of the animals up for adoption!

Contact Information

Contact us with any questions about surrendering animals, animal adoption, a lost pet, or if you want to find out if your pet is in the pound.

Phone: 780-830-0199

Facebook: www.facebook.com/gpracf

Email: regionalpound@countygp.ab.ca

In Person: 12220-104 Avenue, Grande Prairie (Brochu Industrial Park)

Website: www.countygp.ab.ca/animalcare
www.cityofgp.com/animalcare

Animal Shelter and Pound Services

Hours of Operation are as follows:

Monday to Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Closed between noon and 1:00 p.m.
Sunday noon to 4:00 p.m.
Closed on all statutory holidays

Animal Adoptions Services

Hours of Operation are as follows:

Tuesday to Friday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Closed between noon and 1:00 p.m.
Closed on all statutory holidays

Stay tuned for the possibility of expanded adoption service hours!



Clairmont Community Night and Teacher Meet & Greet

Join us on Thursday, September 15, 2016 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Clairmont Community School for a fun and social evening!

Meet and greet the Clairmont Community School teachers from 6:00 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. in the gymnasium.

Get answers to your questions by visiting the agency and community organization displays as they showcase their services.

Explore volunteer opportunities in your community.

For more information contact the Wellington Resource Centre at 780-567-2843.

Supporting Our Youth and Families with the Community School Liaison Program

It is not uncommon for students who experience difficulties in life to act out at home and at school. Common problems for grade school-aged children, including those within our community, include behavioural concerns, issues with emotional health, difficulties with friends or peers, concerns about school, family conflict, separation and divorce, and family-school relationships.

To support the needs of children experiencing these difficult situations, the County's Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) department administers the Community School Liaison Program.

The Community School Liaison Program is a tremendous asset for the students and families connected to Valhalla Community School and the 14 schools within the Peace Wapiti School Division No. 76. The Program provides support for children and their families when difficulties arise either at home or at school. This includes providing information and referrals to community resources, assessments and consultations, counselling and parenting support services.

The primary goal of the program is to increase youth's success at school by supporting their emotional

needs, increasing in-school functioning, enhancing the relationship between the student, school and family, and improving family functioning and well-being.

This goal of increasing school success is accomplished by connecting Community School Liaison Counsellors in order to provide support and to act as a liaison between community agencies, schools and families. We know that this coordination of resources leads to better outcomes for youth, and this is why the Liaison role is so essential to building and maintaining our thriving and successful communities.

Youth who are having difficulty reaching their true potential can be referred to the program by teachers, school administrators, parents, community agencies and by students themselves. This wide array of people who can make referrals ensures speedy access to help, and increases the chance that students who need assistance will be identified early.

For more information or to provide a referral for a family or child who may be in need of this community enhancement program, contact 780-532-9727, email fcss@countyp.ab.ca, or talk to your child's school.



Family and Community Support Services Is Turning 50 Years Young

In 1966, the Social Credit Government created a new entity to address preventive social services in the Province of Alberta. This new Legislation, the Preventive Social Services (PSS) Act and Regulations allowed a partnership between the province and municipalities to look at the social needs of their own communities and design preventive programs to meet them. In 1981, the Act was renamed Family and Community Support Services (FCSS). The province provides funding to municipalities which they must match with at least 20 cent dollars (an 80/20 split).

The County of Grande Prairie was quick to get in on this new initiative and joined with the City of Grande Prairie, the towns of Beaverlodge and Sexsmith and the Village of Hythe to establish a multi-municipal FCSS program. They held the first meeting of their regional board in 1967. Initially the program offered Family Service Counselling, playschool programs, and Home Making – now called Home Support.

The partnership continued until 1981 when the County decided to forge their own program and withdrew from the partnership.

Today FCSS programs are located in 207 communities across Alberta, serving almost 100 per cent of the population! The total population residing in municipalities not participating in FCSS is less than 3,800.

The uniqueness of FCSS is its ability to adapt to the needs of its community and citizens. The regulations provide guidelines for types of services and programs and identifies the desired outcomes for society/individuals including:

- Self-reliance, resilience and function in a positive manner
- Positive social relationships
- Social engagement and contribution to their community
- Remaining active participants in their communities, and
- Addressing social issues and influence change

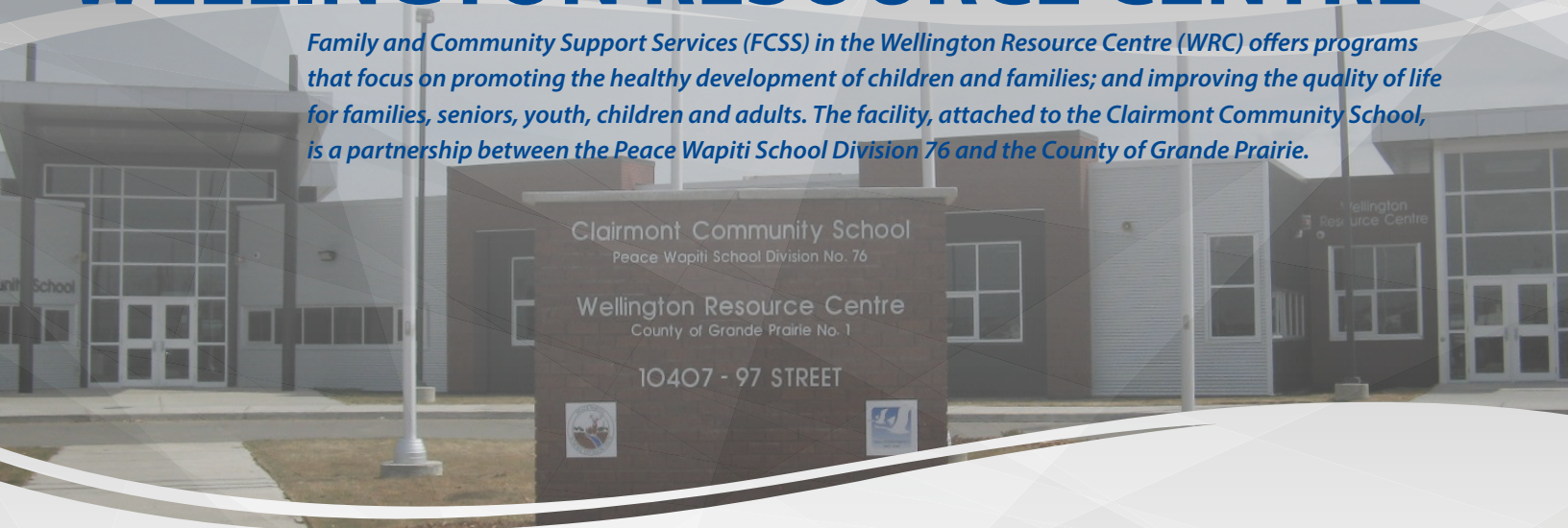
The province of Alberta can take great pride in this innovative program that has stood the test of time. We are the envy of other provinces as no other province has anything similar!

The County of Grande Prairie FCSS offers a variety of direct services and programs and provides funding to partner agencies. We're excited about our 50th anniversary serving our residents. Stay tuned for more information about various 50th anniversary events that will be held in the coming year.

Seniors Walk and Talk Program runs every Thursday morning from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. starting October 27, 2016 through April 27, 2017 at the Crosslink County Sportsplex. Take a walk, jog or run around the 240 metre Happy Trails Track, meet and greet other seniors, and enjoy a coffee. Admission is free.

WELLINGTON RESOURCE CENTRE

Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) in the Wellington Resource Centre (WRC) offers programs that focus on promoting the healthy development of children and families; and improving the quality of life for families, seniors, youth, children and adults. The facility, attached to the Clairmont Community School, is a partnership between the Peace Wapiti School Division 76 and the County of Grande Prairie.



PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS, FAMILIES AND CHILDREN:

Parents and Tots

- Drop in. Admission is free, donations welcomed
- Open to children ages 0-6 and caregivers
- A great opportunity to bring your child out for crafts, games, play and story time, sing along and to make friends
- Available in Clairmont starting on September 15 and Bezanson on September 13

Alberta Health Services Immunizations

- Second Tuesday of every month
- For appointment, call the Health Unit at 780-513-7500



South Peace Family Literacy Programs

St. Johns Ambulance babysitting course

- Ideal for youth ages 11 and up
- Learn necessary skills to care for infants, toddlers and preschoolers while babysitting
- Enhance awareness and safety skills needed when babysitting and caring for others

Babies Best Start

- The program is available for pregnant women and parents of all ages with a focus on promoting healthy pregnancies and healthy child development. It also empowers expecting or current mothers to make healthy lifestyle choices by offering nutritional counselling, one-on-one support, peer support, education, breastfeeding information and community connections
- Contact 780-532-5766 for more information

South Peace Rural Community Adult Learning Opportunities

Visit www.sprcl.ca for list of courses and programs

Food Bank

- Drop items off between noon and 2 p.m. every Wednesday
- Christmas Hampers applications accepted in November

Home Alone

- Open to children ages 9-11
- Teaches self-care and safety skills that build confidence to stay home alone for short periods of time

Parenting Workshops

Community Volunteer Income Tax Program

- Provide income tax services to low income residents

Clairmont Snow Angel Program

- Available to anyone who is experiencing disruptions in their ability to shovel their walkways or driveways
- People of all ages can take part and volunteer to become a Snow Angel

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AVAILABLE

FOR THE RETIRED OR SEMI-RETIRED:

- Referral services and advocacy for seniors
- Assistance completing government forms including AOS, CPP, and GIS applications
- Assistance completing Alberta Special Needs applications
- Home support services through County of Grande Prairie FCSS

MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM AND OFFICE SPACE FOR NON-PROFIT AND COMMUNITY GROUPS:

- Free for non-profit and community groups
- Ideal for meetings, training, seminars, exercises, crafts and more (no birthday parties)
- To book contact the WRC at 780-567-2843

OTHER ONE-STOP SERVICES:

- Information and referral services to various agencies and programs
- Resume faxing and printing

WHAT OTHER ORGANIZATIONS OPERATE IN THE WRC?

Clairmont Preschool
780-567-3553

YMCA Daycare
780-567-3347

CONTACT INFORMATION:

10407 - 97 Street
Clairmont, Alberta, T0H 0W0

Phone: 780-567-2843
Email: wrc@countygpr.ab.ca

Ideas for new opportunities and programs are always welcome!

COMPOSTING AND DIGESTING UNITS FOR SALE!

Interested in reducing waste and giving back to the environment? Purchase your very own Earth Machine Composting Unit or Green Cone Digester Unit to use in your yard at home today!

EARTH MACHINE COMPOSTER



Cost: \$60

- Accepts grass clippings, leaves and debris and fruits and vegetables
- Easy to use and assemble
- Converts organic material to nutrient-rich soil
- Easy to remove composted material
- 10-year warranty
- Rodent Resistant

GREEN CONE FOOD DIGESTER



Cost: \$120

- Accepts kitchen scraps including meat, bones, dairy, cooked and processed foods, grains, and pet waste
- Simple and easy to use
- No need to stir
- No by-product
- Converts material to liquid and enters surrounding yard providing nutrients to the soil

How to make requests for sponsorship

Are you a community group or organization looking for support whether it is through sponsorship for a fundraising or community event? If so, the County may be able to help you. In order for your request to be properly processed and possibly granted by the Recreation Advisory Committee and County Council, the following steps must be completed:

- Complete the Council Meeting Sponsorship and Silent Auction Items Request Form available online at www.countygp.ab.ca by searching "Event Sponsorships", or grab a hard copy at the Community Services Building located on Township Road 724 (1 mile west on Highway 2).
- Submit the completed form by email to parksandrecreation@countygp.ab.ca or in person to the front reception of the

Community Services Building between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. excluding the lunch hour and holidays.

- Requests will only be accepted quarterly. Submit the request form for sponsorship by the following deadlines:

Deadline: September 1, 2016

Event date: October, November, December 2016

Deadline: December 1, 2016

Event date: January, February, March 2017

Deadline: March 1, 2017

Event date: April, May, June 2017

Deadline: June 1, 2017

Event date: July, August, September 2017

For more information, visit www.countygp.ab.ca or contact the Parks and Recreation department at parksandrecreation@countygp.ab.ca or 780-532-9727.

Have a vision for your culture or recreational facility or program but don't have the funds to make it a reality?

If so, then you may be eligible for grant funding through the County's various recreation and culture grant programs!

Check out the various grants available to non-profit community groups and facilities:

The Capital Assistance Grant

The Capital Assistance Grant assists groups who own or operate a recreational or cultural facility that needs facility or infrastructure improvements. Groups may apply for up to 50 per cent of their total project cost.

Amount available: Between \$5,000 and \$50,000

The Major Capital Grant

The Major Capital Grant assists groups who own or operate a recreational or cultural facility that need facility or infrastructure

improvements that exceed \$50,000.

Amount available: \$50,000 or more

The 100th Anniversary Grant

The 100th Anniversary Grant supports communities that are celebrating their 100th year with a special event or commemorative capital improvement.

Amount available: up to \$25,000

The Capital Assistance Grant, the Major Capital Grant and the 100th Anniversary Grant are accepting applications until October 1, 2016.

To start the application process visit www.countygp.ab.ca

For more information and to purchase a unit, visit www.countygp.ab.ca/homecomposting

Agriculture Update

The Agriculture department is having another busy summer. While the weather has greatly benefited crop growth, we have also experienced a big increase in weed growth. Our vegetation management program is well underway with crews having made their first rounds on most of our roadsides and industrial areas. We have had help from various community groups who were participants in this year's Weed Warrior Program – a fundraising program for non-profit groups. These groups spend an hour learning about noxious weeds and why they matter before going out to help our weed picking crew combat noxious weeds in the County in exchange for \$500. For more information about this program visit the Agriculture section on www.countygp.ab.ca.



In spite of all of the rain, mowers have gotten well over half of the roadsides cut in the County, and have also assisted Alberta Transportation with mowing the median between Highway 43 and the railroad tracks in Clairmont.

With the weeds come weed inspectors, who provide people with information packages if they see weeds on their property that need to be addressed. Thank you to everyone who has cooperated with our weed inspectors. If you spot any noxious weeds in the County, please give us a call at 780-532-9727.



Noxious Oxeye Daisy

Youth Agriculture Discovery Tour a Hit

On June 2nd, we hosted our first Youth Agriculture Discovery Tour. The grade threes from Wembley Elementary School were taken on a tour of the Scenic Heights Farm where they learned about lamb, poultry and grain operations. After a BBQ lunch, they went to the Balisky Farm where they learned about pigs, cattle handling, 4H, gardening, and riding. Judging by the big grins and enthusiastic chatter, it was an exciting day for the kids, filled with learning about where their food comes from, and the hard work that goes into producing it.

The Agricultural Service Board has expressed the need for more educational opportunities for children, with regards to agriculture, and has tasked our Agriculture department to provide and expand on our current agricultural education for youth. Hosting the Youth Agriculture Discovery Tour is one of the programs the County will begin to offer as part of this initiative. We are looking forward to hosting more events and programs for our youth to participate in.



Annual Agriculture Tour

The County's annual Agriculture Tour took place on August 25. It was a resounding success. After the hearty breakfast, guests were taken on a tour of a grain farming operation that grows barley in their rotation, and a cattle feeding operation that uses spent barley from the local brewery. The Tour concluded at the Grande Prairie Brewing Company where they got to sample the beer made from locally produced grain. The next Agriculture Tour will take place in summer of 2017. For more information, contact the Agriculture department at 780-532-9727.



Did You Know?



Did you know that empty dairy-free flavoured coffee creamers can now be returned to any Alberta Depots for a rebate?

The most common non-dairy liquid coffee creamers that will be accepted are the International Delight creamers and the Coffee-Mate creamers. These

products are registered in multiple flavours and several different sized containers, all of which are to be accepted for a 10 cent refund. Don't forget to toss them in your refundable bottle bin.

County Bottle Donation Program Accepts Refundable Bottles

As part of our Bottle Donation Program, all of the County's recycling and waste management facilities as well as transfer stations accepts these creamer containers along with other refundable beverage containers. Proceeds raised from these containers to go directly to several local non-profit organizations. For more information about this program visit www.countygp.ab.ca/bottleprogram.

RAILWAY 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

*Join the Town of Sexsmith as they celebrate
100 years of rail service to the South Peace.*

Sunday, October 16, 2016 from 1-6 p.m.

Downtown Sexsmith

Bring the whole family out for games & activities including:

- Fish pond for children under 6
- Three legged races
- Wheel barrow races for ages 7-12
- Horseshoes
- Raw egg race
- 2 by 4 go-go races for ages 13 and up
- Turkey shoot competition
- Fiddlers' jamboree
- Old railroad stories told by the early railroad employees themselves
- Late lunch by donation

Event is free to attend, however cash
donations are greatly appreciated!
We hope to see you there!

The County of Grande Prairie &
Watson's foto source presents the

Fall Phase Photo Contest

CATEGORIES

Scenes of the County - photos including but not limited to specific scenes and sites.

People at work - photos including but not limited to people at work sites, employee picnics, construction sites, in the office, in the field, in the ward/medical office and in the bush.

Sports, Recreation and Culture in the County - photos including but not limited to indoor and outdoor sports, recreation and cultural activities, events and festivals.

People Engaged in Agriculture - photos including but not limited to individuals and families active in farm work, engaging in agricultural activities such as gardening, farming, harvesting, loading bales, horseback riding, sheep shearing, animal feeding and 4-H events.

Fan Favourite - At the end of each phase, the top photos entered in the specific phase will be posted on the County of Grande Prairie's Facebook Page for the public to vote on. The public will have two weeks to "like" their favourite photo(s). The photos that get the most likes will be announced and awarded with prizes at the County's 13th Annual Photo Contest Evening in March 2017.



Making Memories by Darryl Smith



Here Comes the 4 o'clock Train by Judith Standing



Rail Lights by Wendy Kempert



Barryard Capers by Darla Lukac

Deadline to submit photos November 30th!

Photos must be taken during the season of fall but do not need to be taken in 2016. Photos must be taken within the County of Grande Prairie.

PRIZES:

1ST PLACE

for each of the categories
win a Watson's \$100 gift card

2ND PLACE

for each of the categories
win a Watson's \$50 gift card
for photofinishing

3RD PLACE

for each of the categories
win a Watson's \$25 gift card
for photofinishing

YEAR END PRIZES: Photographer of the overall best picture for the whole year from each of the categories win a \$250 gift card from Watson's Foto Source and a 12" by 18" metal print of their winning photo. Overall best photos will be featured at the Crosslink County Sportsplex. All contestants will also receive a voucher for 25 free prints at Watson's Foto Source. Winning photos will also be featured on the County's Facebook Page, website. All photos will be featured at the 13th Annual Photo Contest Evening in early 2017.

For full contest details and photo upload instructions visit www.countygp.ab.ca/photocontest, or go to the County of Grande Prairie Administration Building at 10001-84 Avenue in Clairmont for print copies.



UPCOMING EVENTS, LECTURES AND PROGRAMS

LECTURE SERIES

SEPTEMBER 24 – 3:00 P.M.

Derek Larson, Assistant Curator at the Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum

Topic: The teeth and diet of modern monitor lizards and extinct meat-eating dinosaurs

About Derek Larson: Derek Larson, Assistant Curator at the Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum, discusses the diet of monitor lizards like the Komodo dragon and what that can tell us about the diet of “meat-eating” dinosaurs and their close relative, the birds, in the Cretaceous.

OCTOBER 15 – 3:00 P.M.

Scott Raymond, Archaeologist

Topic: Andean Civilization before the Incas

About Scott: Working at the University of Calgary. Scott Raymond is an Archaeologist who studies ancient South American cultures.

DECEMBER 10 – 3:00 P.M.

Dr. Jason Donev, Physicist

Topic: Energy, Poverty and Climate Change: Humanity’s Great Challenge

About Dr. Donev: Dr. Donev is a nuclear power, electricity and thermodynamics instructor at the University of Calgary.

If you are interested in attending a lecture, email visitorservices@dinomuseum.ca or call 587-771-0662.

SHOWTIMES

11 a.m.	DEEPSEA CHALLENGE
12 p.m.	SEA MONSTERS
1 p.m.	DEEPSEA CHALLENGE
2 p.m.	LIVING IN THE AGE OF AIRPLANES
3 p.m.	DEEPSEA CHALLENGE
4 p.m.	SEA MONSTERS
5 p.m.	DEEPSEA CHALLENGE
6 p.m.	SEA MONSTERS

FALL HOURS

(September 1 to October 31)

Tuesday-Friday.....10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday, Sunday.....10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Monday.....CLOSED

WINTER/SPRING HOURS

(November 1 to April 30)

Tuesday-Thursday.....10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Friday.....10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday, Sunday.....10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Monday.....CLOSED

ADMISSION RATES

Adult.....\$14
Senior/Veteran.....\$11
Students (with ID) and youth (5-17).....\$7
Children under 5 Free
Family \$40
(2 adults and up to 4 children)
Group of 10 or more people
Adult.....\$11
Senior.....\$7
Youth (5-17).....\$5

ADDITIONAL

National Geographic Film\$2
Special Exhibitions\$2
Alberta Motor Association
Members received 10% off

National Geographic Theatre Only

Adult.....\$5
Students/Seniors/ Youth (5-17).....\$2.50

DINOSAURS IN FLIGHT

NEW

A brand new travelling exhibit Dinosaur's in Flight opens to the public on September 10, 2016 (will be on display until January 6, 2017).

AMBER BALL GALA

Join us in celebrating the Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum's first anniversary for an evening of exceptional ambiance, fabulous culinary cuisine, live entertainment featuring the Jim Cuddy Trio and dancing with DJ Groove N' Tonic. All proceeds raised at event will go towards the Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum. Contact caitlin@dinomuseum.ca or 587-771-0662 extension 407 to register and for more information.

6 p.m. Friday, September 9

Cost: \$250/person

Location: Entrec Centre, Evergreen Park

Dress: Black Tie, Formal Dress



CURIOUS CRITTERS: ROCK AROUND THE MUSEUM

August 24, 25 | 1:00-2:00 p.m.

Open to children ages 4-6

Cost: \$5/child

Learn about geology, listen to a story, learn about different rocks and mineral and make your own miniature volcano to take home! This single session is offered on separate two dates.

Pre-registration is recommended.
Maximum 10 children per program.

SO YOU WANT TO BE A PALAEOONTOLOGIST: METEOR MADNESS WRAP UP PARTY

August 24, 25 | 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Open to children ages 7 to 12

Cost: \$10/child

Join us as we wrap up the summer programming for space themed craft making. This single session is offered on separate two dates.

Pre-registration is recommended.
Maximum 15 children per session.

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

August 26-27, September 16-17 | 7:30 p.m.-9:30 a.m.

Open to ages 7 and up. All youth must be accompanied by an adult

Cost: \$60/person

Here is your chance to spend the night in the world of millions of year ago with life-size, dinosaurs. Not only will you explore the fascinating world of dinosaurs, you will be sleeping right next to the gallery of our ancient creatures! With this event we will take you on an experience that you will never forget. Night at the Museum includes:

- A National Geographic Experience in the Aykroyd Family Theatre
- Story time
- Cretaceous Music
- Snacks and breakfast (Additional food may be ordered)

Please inquire when booking.

It is recommended that you register your child at least one week prior. Space is limited.

PIPESTONE CREEK BONEBED TOUR

August 27, 28 at 10:30 a.m. | 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Open to all ages

Cost: \$5/person

(minimum four participants required for tour to proceed)

The calendar of event is subject to change.

For more information and to register for our programs visit www.dinomuseum.ca or contact 587-771-0662.



CROSSLINK COUNTY SPORTSPLEX



County of
Grande Prairie No. 1



CROSSLINK COUNTY SPORTSPLEX

Whether you are looking to drop in for a skate, join a yoga class, keep your child busy, enroll in one of the many sports leagues offered, or rent any of our various recreational spaces for practices or special occasions, the Crosslink County Sportsplex has activities suited for everyone.

MOTION FITNESS

Located on the second floor of the facility. Visit www.motionfitness.ca, call 780-830-3880, or stop in for membership rates. Try their rice bowls and protein smoothies for a boost to your workout.

ERNIE'S SPORTS EXPERTS

Located on the first floor of the facility for all of your skate sharpening and sporting goods needs.

PLAYERS' BENCH

FAMILY SPORTS LOUNGE

Enjoy some delicious food and beverages in the fully licensed lounge while cheering on your favorite players or watching your favorite game. For catering or to pre-order, call them at 587-299-9001.

TITO'S CONCESSION

Located on the first floor of the facility for quick and healthy food and to give the kids a treat after playing their best game. For catering for your parties or special events, call them at 587-259-0940.

SANTA SKATE

Join us on Sunday, December 11 from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. when we host our Annual Santa Skate in partnership with the Community Foundation for the County of Grande Prairie Firefighters. Come and Skate with Santa, meet your firefighters, and enjoy hot chocolate and candy canes. Admission is by donation of food or cash to the Community Food Bank.

STATUTORY HOLIDAYS & SCHOOL BREAKS

We offer several fun-filled drop-in programs designed to keep the kids busy and active while they are out of school. Check our website or give us a call for more information and for program schedules.

BIRTHDAY AND SPECIAL OCCASION PARTY PACKAGES

Book your party on the ice rink, dry floor rink (seasonal), fieldhouse or outdoor fields. Bouncy castle rentals and pizza parties available. Visit our website for more information on party package options and pricing.

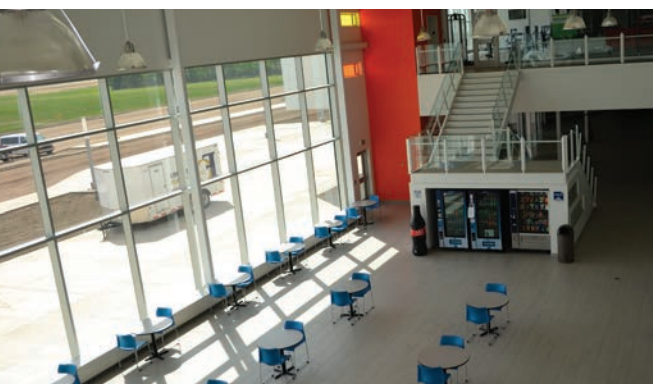
PUBLIC SKATE

Every weekday morning from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Check website for additional public skate times.

SPORTS AND RECREATION AREAS IDEAL FOR:

- hockey
- baseball
- dry-land training (seasonal)
- skating
- ball hockey
- slo-pitch
- skating
- box sports
- short and long distance running
- soccer
- kids camps
- fitness training and classes
- cricket
- tackle & touch football
- lacrosse
- athletic training
- rugby
- conditioning camps
- ringette
- softball
- sports camps

Visit www.crosslinkcountysportsplex.com or call 780-830-7407 for more information including facility hours, services, user rates, facility rentals.



CROSSLINK COUNTY SPORTSPLEX PROGRAMS & SERVICES

CROSSLINK
COUNTY SPORTSPLEX

Northwest Junior Hockey League

The NWJHL is back in action! Come and cheer the JDA County Kings on at the Crosslink County Sportsplex! Find their full schedule at www.nwjhl.com. The Players' Bench Lounge and Tito's are here to provide the Kings' fans with a variety of tasty food and beverages during the games.

U5, U8 and U11 Indoor Soccer Fun Leagues

Enroll your child in the fall league from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Saturday. U5 is for children born between 2011 and 2013, U8 is for children born between 2008 and 2010, and U11 is for children born between 2005 and 2007. The next session runs from September 24 to November 19 (excluding Thanksgiving weekend). Please register early, and let us know if you would like to coach or volunteer to receive a \$30 discount.

Seniors Walk n Talk

Take a walk, jog or run around the track, and meet and greet with other seniors Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to noon. \$3 for drop-in, or purchase a 10-punch convenience card for \$30. The County of Grande Prairie sponsors this for free admission every Thursday morning from October 27, 2016 until April 20, 2017.

Tender Tots

In the Trican Fieldhouse from 9:30 a.m. to noon every weekday - walk the track or socialize with friends or other parents while your child plays with our variety of toys on the field. Bouncy castles will be set up on Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays.

Bouncy Castle Days

Bring the kids in for extreme fun on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays when we set up our bouncy castles during Tender Tots! Older kids that are out of school on Friday afternoons can come and join the fun until 2 p.m. Come and check out our new Jungle Run and Dragon Blast!

KnockerBall Rentals

Rent our KnockerBalls for birthday parties, company outings, fundraisers, youth groups, camps, corporate events, team building and more! Choose from many different games such as Knocker Soccer, Red Rover, Last Man Standing and more. Ideal for people ages 9 and up (minimum height requirement - 4 ft). Check website or give us a call for more information and pricing.

Learn to Skate

Our next sessions of Pre-School 1, Pre-School 2, Level 1 and Level 2 will run from Monday to Thursday starting on October 4. Visit our website for lesson schedule.

Adult Non-Contact Hockey League

We are proud to host the NCHL, which is new to our region. Late registrations for free agents are welcome. For more information, visit www.nchl.com or contact Nick Fleeht at 587-432-5955.

Indoor Batting Cage

Enjoy using our new drop-down batting cage in the Trican Fieldhouse during drop-in times or rent it for your own group. Baseball pitching machine, bats and helmets are also available for rent. Visit our website for drop-in times and pricing.

Adult Shinny and Stick & Puck

Check website for drop-in schedule.

Lunch Time Stick & Puck

Open to all ages from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. weekdays. Check website for additional drop-in times.

13 & Under Stick & Puck

Open to people ages 13 and under. Work on your shooting, stick handling, passing or general skills. No shinny during this session, skill development only. Goalies permitted to practice taking shots. Check Ice Calendar on website for program times.

Vinyasa & Hatha Yoga

These classes are smooth flowing and are ideal for every age of beginner to intermediate Yogis looking to relieve stress, increase energy, improve flexibility and get into deep relaxation. Purchase a 10-punch pass or drop in to the variety of classes to find out which one is right for you.

Beginner Gentle Flow Drop-In: Tuesdays & Fridays from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and encompasses a full hour of a variety of poses and stretches for any level of yogi to relieve stress and get a deeper stretch.

Community Drop-In Power Class: Tuesdays from 6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. All levels of yogis can say hello to happy hips and a happy spine while "kicking it up a notch" and getting into amazing shape.

Yoga-ssage (Pre-registered only): Fridays for five weeks beginning September 23 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. All of these classes can be modified to meet any individual needs. *Check our website and Facebook for additional classes or schedule changes.



"Like" us on Facebook or "follow" us on Twitter at [cgpsportsplex](https://www.facebook.com/cgpsportsplex) for updates on our events and programs



Top row from left to right: Councillor Corey Beck, Councillor Harold Bulford, Councillor Daryl Beeston, Councillor Peter Harris, Councillor Karen Rosvold.

Front row from left to right: Councillor Brock Smith, Reeve Leanne Beaupre, Deputy Reeve Ross Sutherland, Councillor Bob Marshall.

Councillor's Contact Information

Councillor Harold Bulford

– Division 1
Hm: 780-567-4119
Cell: 780-876-9009
hbulford@countygyp.ab.ca

Councillor Daryl Beeston

– Division 2
Hm: 780-567-4299
Cell: 780-933-3464
dbeeston@countygyp.ab.ca

Reeve Leanne Beaupre

– Division 3
Hm: 780-538-3809
Cell: 780-814-3121
lbeaupre@countygyp.ab.ca

Deputy Reeve Ross Sutherland

– Division 4
Hm: 780-532-8686
Cell: 780-512-5385
rsutherland@countygyp.ab.ca

Councillor Bob Marshall

– Division 5
Hm: 780-766-2161
Cell: 780-933-2053
bmarshall@countygyp.ab.ca

Councillor Peter Harris

– Division 6
Hm: 780-354-2823
Cell: 780-933-3074
pharris@countygyp.ab.ca

Councillor Brock Smith

– Division 7
Cell: 780-831-0902
krosvold@countygyp.ab.ca

Councillor Karen Rosvold

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

Councillor Corey Beck

– Division 9
Hm: 780-568-2223
Cell: 780-831-6394
cbeck@countygyp.ab.ca

COUNTY CONTACT INFORMATION

E-mail: info@countygyp.ab.ca
Address: 10001-84 Avenue,
Clairmont, AB T0H 0W0
Website: www.countygyp.ab.ca
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Note: Closed during
12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

County Administration Buildings

(Administration, Assessment, Economic
Development, Finance & Systems,
Communications, Human Resources, Public
Works, Planning & Development Services)
Phone: 780-532-9722

Community Services Building

(Agriculture Services, Regional Enforcement
Services, Regional Fire Service, Parks &
Recreation) Phone: 780-532-9727

Dunes Fire Hall

(Family & Community Support Services)
Phone: 780-532-9727



Like us
on Facebook



Follow us
on Twitter



Watch us
on YouTube

SENIOR ADMINISTRATION

Bill Rogan Administrator

780-532-9722
brogan@countygyp.ab.ca

Nick Lapp Director of Planning & Development Services

780-532-9722
nlapp@countygyp.ab.ca

Arlen Miller Community Services Director

780-532-9727
amiller@countygyp.ab.ca

Dale Van Volkingburgh Director of Public Works

780-532-9722
dvan@countygyp.ab.ca

Dawn Sauvé Director of Corporate Services

780-532-9722
dsauve@countygyp.ab.ca



Return undeliverable
Canadian addresses to:
The County of Grande Prairie No. 1
10001-84 Ave., Clairmont, AB T0H 0W0

