



A sister publication to **The Free Press**, Morinville, Alberta

## Celebrating the legacy of Can-Dale Vacuum Services

By **Brandie Majeau**

Can-Dale Vacuum Services has been a pillar business of the Thorhild County community since its inception in 1994. Founded by Dale Gabbey, the business not only became known for its reliable industrial and residential vacuum services but also for Dale's himself and his presence

roles in the community. This year marks the retirement of himself from owning Can-Dale Vacuum Services and as a dedicated school bus driver. From September 1997 until June 2025, he served Aspen View Public Schools, demonstrating his commitment to both community service and family-oriented values.

Over the years, Dale successfully operated five different vacuum trucks, establishing a reputation for quality service throughout Thorhild County and adjacent areas. His commitment to his clients was reflected in his willingness to go the extra mile, often working in challenging



Dale Gabbey pictured with his family as he embarks on his retirement journey. Photo courtesy of Christina Gabbey

Continued on **page 12**

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## Open House a refreshing twist on "Meet-the-Teacher"

By **Brandie Majeau**

The Lakeland Catholic School Division warmly invited students and parents to come and gear up for the upcoming school year by attending their open houses on August 27. At the Holy Family Catholic School in Waskateneau, there was a palpable sense of excitement as families arrived, greeted with smiles and an eager atmosphere.

This marks the second year that the school has chosen to hold its open house a day before the first day of classes, departing from its traditional "Meet the teacher" night, which typically occurs a few weeks into the school year.

This revised schedule allows students and parents to engage directly with their



Ashton and Massey stop by the Holy Family Catholic School Open House in preparation of the August 28 "back-to-school" day



Leo makes himself comfortable in the kindergarten room, ready for his first day of school!

Continued on **page 3**

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# Town of Smoky Lake Appoints Molly Fyten as Chief Administrative Officer

## Experienced Municipal Leader Brings Strategic Vision and Community Spirit

The Town of Smoky Lake is delighted to announce

that Molly Fyten has been appointed as Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), effective July 28, 2025. Bringing over 20 years of experience in the municipal

sector, Molly is recognized for her natural leadership, strategic planning, focus on clear communication, and community focus.

### About Molly Fyten

Molly's career in local government has equipped her with extensive municipal knowledge and a proven ability to guide organizations through growth and change. Over the course of her career, she has held various positions in local government, developing a robust understanding of municipal operations and the unique challenges and opportunities they present. She is widely respected for her approachable leadership style and her commitment to transparent, collaborative decision-making.

Her dedication extends beyond her professional roles—Molly is an active community volunteer, known for her enthusiastic involvement in local initiatives and her strong belief in civic engagement.

### Professional Recognition and Qualifications

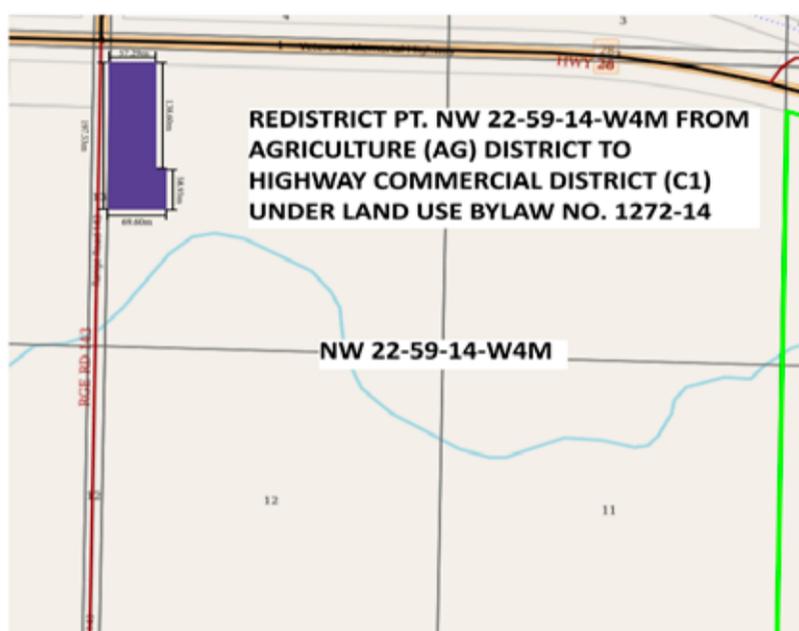
Molly has earned numerous accolades, including the "Award of Excellence" from the International Association of Business Communicators, reflecting her achievements in communication and public engagement. She holds the Certified Local Government Manager (CLGM) designation from the Society of Local Government Managers—a credential that attests to her expertise in municipal management, ethical standards, and commitment to ongoing professional development. Further, she has earned a Certificate in Municipal Management and Leadership (CMML). Molly also holds a Bachelor of Science degree, providing her with a broad and analytical perspective that she leverages in problem-solving and decision-making.

### Vision for Smoky Lake

Council is confident that Molly's blend of expertise and passion for community will help Smoky Lake thrive. Mayor Cherniwchan stated, "We are pleased to welcome Molly Fyten as our new CAO, marking an important step forward for Smoky Lake. Her dedication to municipal service, proven experience, and commitment to communication and collaboration align well with the Town's vision for the future."

As CAO, Molly will lead the Town's administration, support Council's priorities, and ensure effective delivery of municipal services. Molly is committed to open communication, prudent financial management, and fostering community partnerships.

## Smoky Lake County NOTICE – PUBLIC HEARING on Proposed Bylaw #1482-25



**TAKE NOTICE THAT** in accordance with sections 216.4, 606 & 692 of the *Municipal Government Act*, the Council of Smoky Lake County is giving consideration of Bylaw #1482-25:

- To redistrict portions of the lands legally described as NW 22-59-14-W4M,, from AGRICULTURE (AG) DISTRICT to HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL (C1) DISTRICT, under the County's Land Use Bylaw #1272-14; &

A Statutory Public Hearing will be held in relation to Bylaw 1482-25, both in-person and via videoconference on **Thursday, September 11, 2025, at 9:15 a.m.** (or as soon as practical thereafter) at: Smoky Lake County Council Chambers, 4612 McDougall Drive, Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0 or online:

<https://video.businessconnect.telus.com/join/191952852> Meeting ID: 191952852 or via phone: 1-844-511-2074

#### In-person Speakers:

If you intend on participating in person, you are encouraged to pre-register for the Public Hearing by contacting Chyenne Shaw at 780-656-3730.

#### Speakers participating through Telus Business Connect videoconference:

If you wish to speak at the Public Hearing via videoconference, you are asked to register 24 hours prior to the opening of the Public Hearing by contacting Chyenne Shaw at 780-656-3730. This is to ensure that virtual participants receive instructions to access the videoconference.

#### Requirements for all Speakers:

All speakers will be given a 5-minute time limit and are encouraged to provide a written copy of their submission in advance of the Public Hearing.

#### Written Submissions:

All interested parties are encouraged to express their views by providing a written submission to Legislative Services by email at [cshaw@smokylakecounty.ab.ca](mailto:cshaw@smokylakecounty.ab.ca).

Persons wishing to view the Bylaw and/or the Public Hearing are invited to attend in person or view the Meeting at the County website at <http://www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca> or view the Bylaw <https://www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca/notices>

#### Questions? Contact:

Jordan Ruegg Planning & Development Manager, Smoky Lake County at 780-650-5207 / [jruegg@smokylakecounty.ab.ca](mailto:jruegg@smokylakecounty.ab.ca)



Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act: By submitting comments on this bylaw, either orally or in writing, the personal information you provide may be recorded in the minutes of the Public Hearing, or otherwise made public. This information is collected in line with section 33(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. If you have any questions, please contact the Smoky Lake County Access and Privacy Officer at 4612 McDougall Drive Box 310, Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0, 780-656-3730, or [county@smokylakecounty.ab.ca](mailto:county@smokylakecounty.ab.ca).





Continued from **page 1**  
 teachers in a relaxed setting before the school year officially begins. During the open house, families had the opportunity to bring in school supplies, locate their lockers, and familiarize themselves with classroom seating arrangements. This kind of approach significantly alleviates

the stress that many students face. The common anxieties of “Which door should I enter?” and “Where is my desk?” were removed, so there was no question where each student should be the following day. As students returned to classes on August 28, they found that their backpacks—and their hearts—felt

just a little bit lighter, thanks to this supportive introduction to the school environment. Adding to the cheerfulness, the open house featured complimentary sundaes, a sweet treat for everyone who walked through the school doors, fitting the soaring temperatures that coincided with the beginning of the school year.

With over 100 students already registered for the upcoming year and significant progress already being made on the groundwork for the new school building, Holy Family Catholic School is looking with anticipation toward a bright future, not just for itself but for all its students and their families.

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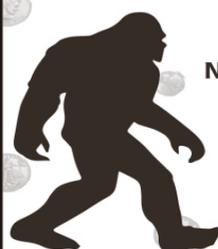
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**21113 TWP RD 574 STURGEON COUNTY**



**\$599,900**

147.81 Acres Just Minutes from Redwater! This versatile property offers approximately 114 seedable acres currently in canola, 30 acres of bush/pasture, and a 3-acre home site featuring an older home and older shop. There are 2 wells on the property, providing valuable water access. Conveniently located just 1 mile off pavement and only 5 minutes from the town of Redwater, this property is ideal for farming, livestock, or future development opportunities. Lots of great locations to build a new home.

**62209 RR 201 THORHILD COUNTY**



**IMPROVED PRICE \$624,900**

This Nelson Homes-built RTM bungalow sits on a ICF basement and offers the perfect blend of comfort and functionality. Located on 10 acres, the property features a double attached garage and a 36x48 drive-through shop—ideal for hobbyists, mechanics, or those that just need more storage. The home's layout is thoughtfully designed, starting with a spacious mudroom complete with a sink and stove—perfect for canning, prepping, or cleaning up after outdoor work. The main floor boasts an open-concept kitchen, dining area, and walk-through pantry, creating a seamless flow for everyday living. You'll also find main floor laundry, a 2-piece bath, a 4-piece main bath, and 3 bedrooms including the primary suite with a walk-in closet and private 4-piece ensuite. The basement with in floor heat is nearly complete—just flooring and drop ceiling remain. It includes a 4th bedroom, 4-piece bath, family room, den and wet bar area. Step outside onto the deck off the kitchen and take in your own private paradise.

**58531 RR 200 RURAL THORHILD COUNTY**



**\$409,900**

Beautifully Renovated 3-Bedroom Bungalow on 4.4 Acres! This stunning bungalow has been extensively updated in recent years, with the entire main floor taken down to the studs and rebuilt with new plumbing, electrical, windows, doors, and more. The gorgeous kitchen features stainless steel appliances, quartz countertops, and soft-close cabinetry. The spacious primary suite offers a walk-in closet, electric wall fireplace, and a luxurious 5-piece ensuite. Two additional bedrooms and a 4-piece main bath with attached laundry complete the main level. The basement is a blank canvas, ready for your personal touch. Set in a private, serene setting, the property has seen over 80 trees recently planted and includes a heated double detached garage—perfect for vehicles or a workshop. Move in and enjoy modern living with all the benefits of country life!

**215 LABONTE DRIVE, SKELETON LAKE**



**\$499,900**

Lake View Bungalow on a Huge Lot – Perfect for Summer Fun! Enjoy stunning lake views and peaceful surroundings in this fantastic 3-bedroom bungalow, set on a massive lot with greenspace along one side and in front of the lake. The functional layout features 3 bedrooms, a 4-piece main bath, and a 2-piece ensuite. Unwind on your deck as you watch the sunset over the lake. The playground, volleyball courts, and shoreline store are all within walking distance, and the golf course is just a 5-minute drive away—perfect for a quick round or a relaxing lunch. Recent upgrades include shingles and eaves, stainless steel fridge and stove, hot water tank with pressure tank and filtration system, garage door opener, and a freshly stained deck. The large driveway has been refreshed with new rock and newly planted trees—ideal for welcoming guests with RVs. A double detached garage offers plenty of room for your lake toys. This is lakeside living at its best—move in and start making memories!

**23217 TWP RD 594 RURAL THORHILD COUNTY**



**\$549,000**

5-Bedroom Walkout Bi-Level on 11.89 Acres! Looking for space for a few horses, some cattle, or simply room to escape the city? This property offers it all! The home has seen many updates over the years, including a metal roof, windows, and some flooring. The main floor features 3 bedrooms, including a primary with its own sunroom and 2-person hot tub, a 4-piece bathroom, a bright living room with a wood-burning fireplace, a dining area, and a functional kitchen. The walkout basement adds 2 more bedrooms, a large rec room with another wood fireplace, a utility room, and laundry area. Each level has its own furnace for added comfort. This home also includes a double attached garage for parking or extra storage. Outside you'll find a shop, barn, calf shelter, multiple water hydrants, and additional outbuildings, making this property ideal for hobby farming or country living.

**433 5TH STREET THORHILD**



**IMPROVED PRICE \$139,900**

Charming 1-Bedroom Home with Recent Upgrades! This cozy home is perfect for first-time buyers or anyone looking to downsize. Enjoy peace of mind with many recent updates, including most main floor windows (2024), shingles (2022), high-efficiency furnace and hot water tank (2021), newer doors, fresh paint and trim, vinyl plank flooring (2023), an updated kitchen, and a beautifully renovated 4-piece bathroom. Situated on a large corner lot with plenty of space to build a garage or design your ideal outdoor retreat. A great opportunity to own an affordable, move-in-ready home!



**ASPEN VIEW PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
NOTICE OF NOMINATION DAY  
LOCAL AUTHORITIES ELECTION ACT (SECTION 26)**

LOCAL JURISDICTION: The Aspen View Public Schools  
Province of Alberta

Notice is hereby given that Nomination Day is Monday, September 22, 2025 and that nominations for the election of candidates for the following offices will be received at the location of the following jurisdiction offices set out below from January 1, 2025 until 12:00 noon on Nomination Day.

Office(s)	Number of Vacancies	Electoral Subdivision
Aspen View Northwest Trustee	1	Ward 1
Aspen View North Central Trustee	2	Ward 2
Aspen View Northeast Trustee	1	Ward 3
Aspen View Southwest Trustee	1	Ward 4
Aspen View South Central Trustee	1	Ward 5
Aspen View Southeast Trustee	1	Ward 6

Location (Address) of the jurisdiction office:  
Aspen View Public Schools  
Second Floor, Room 251  
1 University Drive  
Athabasca, Alberta T9S 3A3

Nomination papers for the position of Trustees in the Aspen View Public School Division are available online at [www.aspenview.org](http://www.aspenview.org)

Dated at the Town of Athabasca in the Province of Alberta, this 2nd day of September, 2025.

*Amber Oko*

Amber Oko  
Returning Officer

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## What Do Trustees Do?

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## Important Details

- ✔ Nominate yourself before 12:00 PM on Sept. 22/2025
- ✔ Election Day is **Oct 20, 2025**
- ✔ Trustees receive **\$22K–\$23K/year** + expenses + PD opportunities + benefits
- ✔ You *don't* need to be an educator — just someone who cares about public education

## Next Steps

To access forms and learn more, head to:  
<https://www.sturgeon.ab.ca/board/trustee-elections-2025>

Questions? Email: [corporate.services@sturgeon.ab.ca](mailto:corporate.services@sturgeon.ab.ca)



**Smoky Lake County  
NOTICE – PUBLIC HEARING  
on Proposed Bylaw #1486-25**



**TAKE NOTICE THAT** in accordance with the *Municipal Government Act*, the Council of Smoky Lake County is giving consideration of Bylaw #1486-25: A Bylaw to close and dispose of portions of Government Road Allowance.

**A Statutory Public Hearing will be held in relation to Bylaw 1486-25, both in-person *and* via videoconference on Thursday, September 11, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. (or as soon as practical thereafter) at:** Smoky Lake County Council Chambers, 4612 McDougall Drive, Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0 or online: <https://video.businessconnect.telus.com/join/191952852> Meeting ID: 191952852 or via phone: 1-844-511-2074

**In-person Speakers:**

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**Questions? Contact:**

Jordan Ruegg Planning & Development Manager, Smoky Lake County at 780-650-5207 / [jruegg@smokylakecounty.ab.ca](mailto:jruegg@smokylakecounty.ab.ca)



Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act: By submitting comments on this bylaw, either orally or in writing, the personal information you provide may be recorded in the minutes of the Public Hearing, or otherwise made public. This information is collected in line with section 33(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. If you have any questions, please contact the Smoky Lake County Access and Privacy Officer at 4612 McDougall Drive Box 310, Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0, 780-656-3730, or [county@smokylakecounty.ab.ca](mailto:county@smokylakecounty.ab.ca).

# Namao Museum celebrates 100 years with family-friendly fall event

By Haylee Winger

This fall, residents and visitors alike are invited to step back in time as the Namao Museum and Community Hall celebrates its 100th anniversary. On Saturday, September 13, 2025, from 10 a.m. to noon, the heart of Sturgeon County will come alive with stories, games, and hands-on heritage activities that bring local history to life.

Hosted as part of Alberta Culture Days, the centennial event offers something for all ages. Guests can enjoy guided tours of the Namao Museum, Namao United Church, and the historic Johnny's Store—landmarks that have helped shape the community's rural identity for generations. In addition to exploring the museum's rich collection, visitors can take part in Family Bingo with fun prizes or try their hand at classic games like Cornhole and Giant Jenga.

No celebration would be complete without refreshments, and attendees are invited to stay for cake, coffee, and a chance to reconnect with neighbours and friends in a welcoming, community-focused atmosphere.

"This is more than just a celebration of a building—it's a celebration of the people, the stories, and the spirit of rural Alberta," organizers say.

The event takes place at the Namao Museum and Community Hall, located at 24400 AB-37 in Sturgeon County. It is hosted by Sturgeon County in partnership with the Namao Museum & Archive Society and the Namao Agricultural Society.

Whether you're a lifelong local, a history enthusiast, or simply looking for a fun and meaningful way to spend your Saturday morning, the Namao Museum's 100th anniversary celebration promises an engaging and memorable experience.

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# VTAS Fair Days a fun-filled weekend



By Brandie Majeau

The Victoria Trail Agricultural Society (VTAS) proudly hosted its annual VTAS Fair Days in Waskatenau. The weekend festivities kicked off on Friday evening, August 8, with an exciting, week-end-long slow pitch tournament that drew teams from local and neighboring communities, in a spirited competition and camaraderie among participants.

As the weekend progressed, guests enjoyed a whirlwind of engaging activities. Saturday morning began with a hearty breakfast served in the Senior's Drop-In Centre, followed by a variety of delicious concessions and a mouth-watering barbecue, which kept everyone fueled for fair days and all it had to offer and do. The parade featured creative and colourful floats and a procession that perfectly blended vintage and modern, community organizations, so fantastically showing the wonderful diversity of Waskatenau and its surrounding area.

One of the highlights was the pig scramble, where children eagerly jumped at the chance to try their hand at catching a pig, an animated contest that had everyone laughing. Additionally, there were numerous children's activities and competitions, including face painting,

a petting zoo, and crafts, ensuring that families had plenty of opportunities to engage in fun and imagination.

This year, VTAS marked the second year of a game show inspired activity, "What's the Price?", styled in a fun country format, which took place at the Waskatenau Community Centre. This free family event offered over \$5,500 in cash and prizes, creating an atmosphere filled with excitement and anticipation as participants put their luck and knowledge to the test.

The weekend was a huge success, marked by high participation rates across all activities. Both locals and out-of-towners got into the fun and made the VTAS Fair Days even more enjoyable. The fair thrives on the efforts of dedicated volunteers, and a sincere thank you goes out to the Victoria Trail Agricultural Society's team for their countless hours of preparation and dedication. Their hard work, organization, and unwavering commitment are what make this event possible year after year.

Finally, another huge thank you is extended to all the sponsors who's generous contributions helped to make this year's fair an amazing success. Their support ensures that VTAS Fair Days will continue to be a cherished annual event.

Volunteers worked hard to make the fun come alive with the "What's the Price" game show held at VTAS Fair Days in Waskatenau Photos courtesy of Victoria Trail Agricultural Society

**YOUR AD  
HERE!**

**CALL  
780-222-2016**

[www.theredwaterreview.com](http://www.theredwaterreview.com)

## Village of Vilna

Notice is hereby given that, under the provisions of the Municipal Government Act, the Village of Vilna will offer the following lands for sale, by public auction, in the Village Administration Office at 5135 50 Street, Vilna, Alberta, on Wednesday, September 17, 2025, at 11:00 a.m.:

LOT	BLOCK	PLAN	LINC
12	1	1022CL	0017016958
4	7	1999HW	0015792963
17	3	1887CL	0020182432
18	3	1887CL	0020182440
4	5	829HW	0020896221
9	1	772-2146	0010072585

Each parcel will be offered for sale, subject to a reserve bid and to the reservations and conditions contained in the existing certificate of title.

The land is being offered for sale on an "as is, where is" basis, and the Village of Vilna makes no representation and gives no warranty whatsoever as to the adequacy of services, soil conditions, land use districting, building and development conditions, absence or presence of environmental contamination, or the developability of the subject land for any intended use by the purchaser. No bid will be accepted where the bidder attempts to attach conditions precedent to the sale of any parcel. No terms and conditions of sale will be considered other than those specified by the Village of Vilna. No further information is available at the auction regarding the lands to be sold.

The Village of Vilna may, after the public auction, become the owner of any parcel of land not sold at the public auction.

Terms: Payment can be made by cash, bank draft, or certified cheque, e-transfer or debit. Credit cards will be accepted with a 3% additional charge. A minimum 25% deposit will be required at the time of sale and the balance within 10 business days of the date of public auction. Bidders or their agents must be present at the public auction. This list is subject to deletions. Redemption may be effected by payment of all taxes and related costs arrears, or an agreement thereto as per S.418 of the Municipal Government Act, at any time prior to the sale.

Dated at Vilna, Alberta, September 3, 2025

Loni Leslie, Chief Administrative Officer.





**Division 1**  
Richard Filipchuk  
Office: 780-656-0522  
richard.filipchuk@thorhildcounty.com

**Division 2**  
Angela Zilinski  
Cell: 780-307-5846  
angela.zilinski@thorhildcounty.com

**Division 3**  
Joyce Pierce  
Cell: 780-271-8458  
joyce.pierce@thorhildcounty.com

**Division 4**  
Reeve Janine Paly  
Cell: 780-307-5978  
janine.paly@thorhildcounty.com

**Division 5**  
Deputy Reeve Trevor Dafoe  
Office: 780-656-8165  
trevor.dafoe@thorhildcounty.com

## COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS AUGUST 26, 2025

Below is a brief summary of decisions made at the August 26, 2025, Regular Council meeting:

**Unfinished Business - Third Reading for Bylaw 08-2025 Municipal Development Plan**  
Council gave third and final reading to Bylaw 08-2025 Municipal Development Plan including attached Schedule A of the Bylaw.

**Unfinished Business - Road Use Agreements Overview**  
Council directed Administration to bring back to a future Council meeting, further information regarding Road Use Agreements, and to refer to the August 12, 2025, Council Meeting Resolution 492-2025..

**Silver Horizon Drop-In Centre Funding Request**  
Council approved funding in the amount of \$500 to the Silver Horizon Drop-In Centre towards their commercial upright dishwasher.

**CAO 2026 Budget Planning Sessions**  
Council set the following tentative dates for Special Council Meetings for the purpose of CAO Budget Planning Sessions commencing at 9:30 a.m. in Council Chambers:

- November 4, 2025
- November 5, 2025
- December 2, 2025
- December 3, 2025
- December 9, 2025
- December 10, 2025

**CAO Report**  
Council directed Administration to bring back information pertaining to the fire on Range Road 211 and Township Road 622. Information requested should include cost of potable water that was used, cost of apparatus that was utilized, and manpower used to operate the pumper and the tenders, as well as cost of running a forestry pump to supply the same volume of water that was used including manpower, fuel, and any other related costs to using a forestry pump.

**Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program (STIP) Funding Request - MLA Glenn van Dijken**  
Council approved the three highest ranking projects as provided by Administration in accordance with Attachment 5.1, Bridge Structure Ranking.

**Correspondence for Action - Thorhild Ag Society Trade Show Report 2025**  
Council accepted for information the 2025 Thorhild Trade Show Report, received August 12, 2025, and further to provide funding for advertising costs of \$716.58 to the Thorhild and District Agricultural Society.

**Correspondence for Action - Municipal Affairs**  
Council directed Administration to respond to the invitation to meet with Honourable Dan Williams, Minister of Municipal Affairs with the following three topics of discussion:

1. STIP Funding
2. Education - Bill 53 Changes
3. Alberta Health Services - Future Plan

**Correspondence for Action - Thorhild Ag Society Trade Show Report 2025**  
Council accepted for information the 2025 Thorhild Trade Show Report, received August 12, 2025, and further to provide funding for advertising costs of \$716.58 to the Thorhild and District Agricultural Society.

## WASTE MANAGEMENT OF CANADA CORP. COMMITTS TO DOUBLE SYNTHETIC LINER

During the August 26, 2025, Regular Council meeting, Thorhild County Council made the following statement:

Thorhild County Council would like to thank Waste Management of Canada Corporation for being responsive to the community's concerns and withdrawing their request for a single liner in development permit application DP24-2670, which can be viewed on the Thorhild County website in the August 26, 2025 Amended Agenda Package.

This decision demonstrates a continued commitment to environmental stewardship and to working collaboratively with residents and municipal leaders. Waste Management has chosen to continue using double liners at the Thorhild Landfill, reaffirming their dedication to protecting groundwater, land, and the long-term health of our community.

Thorhild County Council looks forward to a continued partnership as this project advances, ensuring it reflects both sustainable practices and the values of the people who live here and future generations.

**In addition to the statement, Council made the following motion:**  
Moved by Deputy Reeve Trevor Dafoe that Council approves Waste Management of Canada Corporation Development Permit Application DP24-2670 with Schedule "A" to amend the existing Development Permit, dated July 14, 2011. CARRIED

The development permit is available on page 327 of the August 26, 2025, Council meeting agenda at [www.thorhildcounty.com](http://www.thorhildcounty.com). To find it, click on the Government tab and select Council Meetings, then Council Agendas.

## NOTICE OF NOMINATION DAY Local Authorities Election Act Section (26)

LOCAL JURISDICTION: THORHILD COUNTY, PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

Notice is hereby given that Nomination Day is Monday, September 22, 2025, and that nominations for the election of candidates for the following offices will be received at the location of the local jurisdiction office set out below within the period beginning on January 1, 2025, and ending at 12 noon on Nomination Day.

Thorhild County Administration Building will be open between Nomination Hours 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon.

Office(s)	Number of Vacancies	Electoral Division Number
Councillor	1	Division 1
Councillor	1	Division 2
Councillor	1	Division 3
Councillor	1	Division 4
Councillor	1	Division 5

Location (address) of Local Jurisdiction Office:

Thorhild County Administration Building  
801-1 Street, Thorhild, Alberta, T0A 3J0

DATED at the Hamlet of Thorhild, in the Province of Alberta, this 27th day of August, 2025.

Carol Revega, Returning Officer

## THORHILD COUNTY IS SEEKING ELECTION WORKERS FOR THE 2025 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

You can be an Election Worker if you are:

- Eligible to work in Canada, and
- 18 years of age or older.

For all positions, prior election experience will be considered a definite asset.

- All positions are paid
- Training is mandatory, September 29, 2025 (time to be determined)
- Positions will be filled after the job posting closing date - September 5, 2025 at 12 noon.

Applicants are asked to fill out the application form and return to:

Thorhild County  
Carol Revega, Returning Officer  
801 – 1 Street, Thorhild  
Or email [election@thorhildcounty.com](mailto:election@thorhildcounty.com)

Application form and additional information is available at [www.thorhildcounty.com/Government/Election/Municipal-Election-2025](http://www.thorhildcounty.com/Government/Election/Municipal-Election-2025) or 780-398-3741 ext 2808. Thorhild County thanks all applicants for their interest, however, only those chosen will be contacted.

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### SENIOR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES DRIVER

Relief Position

### Long Lake Ski Area - Various Positions

SKI AREA MANAGER

RENTAL SHOP (TECHNICIANS & CASHIER)

LIFT OPERATORS

CAFETERIA (COOKS & CASHIER)

SKI INSTRUCTORS

SNOWBOARD INSTRUCTORS

Visit our CAREERS page at [www.thorhildcounty.com](http://www.thorhildcounty.com) for details.





## Smoky Lake County is Hiring MUNICIPAL ELECTION WORKERS

Smoky Lake County is seeking reliable, community-minded individuals 18 years or older to join our Election Team for the upcoming 2025 Municipal Election.

- Knowledge of *Local Authorities Election Act* is an asset
- Must be able to attend mandatory training on either October 7 or 14.

**Deadline to apply is September 12, 2025**

Pick up an application at the Smoky Lake County Main Office or visit our website for details and an application form.

[www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca/electionworker](http://www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca/electionworker)



Dora L'Heureux, Stakeholder Relations Manager, Stakeholder Engagement with FortisAlberta, presents a commemorative plaque to Redwater Legion President Rob Olsen in recognition of FortisAlberta's generous \$7,500 contribution to the Legion's lighting upgrade project. The funding will help modernize and improve energy efficiency within the Legion facility, ensuring a brighter, more welcoming space for members and the community. The plaque will be proudly displayed inside the Legion as a reminder of FortisAlberta's continued commitment to supporting local organizations. **Royal Canadian Legion Br 251 Redwater photo**

## Your Community Awaits

*Where Friendship, Health & Joy Come Together*

Tired of feeling isolated? Ready to rediscover the joy of genuine connections, better health, and engaging activities designed just for you?



### Find Your Person

Friendship matching & safe dating platform for meaningful connections



### Stay Active & Healthy

Fitness programs, health tracking & wellness tips tailored for seniors



### Share & Discover

Recipe exchanges, community events & photo sharing with new friends



### Daily Inspiration

Challenges, tips, Canadian history moments & wisdom sharing

## JOIN FREE TODAY!

No credit card required • Cancel anytime • 100% Canadian

### PUZZLE PARADISE - NO ADS, PURE FUN!

Play Your Favorites - COMPLETELY FREE: Solitaire • Scrabble • Daily Crossword • Sudoku • Word Search • Checkers  
Want Even More Brain Games? UPGRADE TO PREMIUM PUZZLE SUITE: Bridge • Crib • Cryptogram • Dominos • Mahjong • Chess

🌟 ZERO ADS • ZERO INTERRUPTIONS • UNLIMITED PLAY 🌟

From casual word games to strategic classics - your brain deserves the best!  
Perfect for: Daily brain training, relaxing game sessions, challenging your mind

Ready to Join Canada's Fastest Growing Seniors Community?  
[SeniorsPortal.ca](http://SeniorsPortal.ca)

- ✓ Safe, secure platform built for Canadians 45+
- ✓ Easy-to-use interface designed with you in mind

## Upcoming auctions

### Live Sat Sept 13 10:AM

Linda's Market Garden  
59314- Hgwy 28 Smoky Lake AB  
Commercial Restaurant equipment, antiques, giftware, green house items, shelving + more

### Online closes Sept 25-26 estate of Blake Missal

9123- Twp Rd 580 St. Paul AB.  
Highline 8000 bale processor, 1590 case hay bine, 3 851 NH balers, older vehicles for parts or repair + more  
Viewing Sept 19 + 20 Sept 12-6 pm

### Live Sat Sept 20 10:00AM

Baronic Family  
58304- RR 134 Vilna AB  
2012 Kia Ronda, 1997 Ford F150 4+4, JD E130 mower, antiques, new generators + tools + more

### Live Sat Sept 27

Ron McConnell  
11319 Twp Rd 604 Ashmont AB  
cub cadet side x side, 2006 Suzuki SUV, Trailers, boats, 3 pth equip and more.

"A Bid Above the Rest!"

DOUBLE D AUCTIONS  
VILNA, ALBERTA

Dan Gawalko  
780-645-1589

VISIT US ONLINE AT  
[WWW.GLOBALAUCTIONGUIDE.COM](http://WWW.GLOBALAUCTIONGUIDE.COM)



## Ad Booking Deadlines

11:00 am Thursdays  
Contact

780-222-2016 or  
[redwaterreview@gmail.com](mailto:redwaterreview@gmail.com)



## MIKE SELLS LAND

COMMERCIAL FARMS HOMES

RE/MAX ELITE  
the place to be

GET TOP \$\$\$

CALL:

Mike Ouellet  
780-880-0101

# New archery range set to open in Smoky Lake County

By Haylee Winger

A lifelong passion is taking shape in Smoky Lake County as local archer Dean Cooney prepares to open Prodigy Archery—the areas only full-service archery range. Located at 59213 RR190, just off Highway 28 and next to the Iron Horse Trail, the range sits in a prime location, designed to be accessible for both locals and visitors. For Cooney, the project started from something simple: “I’ve been shooting for 40 plus years now and basically when we moved to this farm we had a nice field in the back and I was shooting all the time here, and we found out that there is a big local community for archery and decided that we wanted to turn our back field into an archery range.”

With decades of archery experience and having visited numerous ranges across Canada, Cooney brought that knowledge to the design of Prodigy Archery. Paired with the tremendous support and amazing business knowledge of Deana Sonnleitner, this is

surely to be a fantastic collaboration for a successful archery range. “Without Deana helping me, it wouldn’t be possible. Our setup is top notch, targets are top notch and hand built by me, our design and layout are spectator and shooter friendly.” The outdoor range includes stationary targets from 30 yards up to 100, a 3D field course with lifelike animal targets, and even a single crossbow lane to accommodate guests with mobility challenges. There is lots of parking available, and efforts are underway to make the facility wheelchair accessible.

An indoor, all-season facility has also been ordered and is expected to arrive in about six weeks. The new building will be heated and fully lit, allowing archers to train year-round regardless of the weather. Weekly events will include target leagues, hunting leagues, and creative activities like “Countdowns,” a poker-style game where archers aim at marked targets to score.

One of the defining features of Prodigy Archery is its

accessibility and flexibility—membership isn’t required to use the range. “If you are driving by for the day, you can stop at our place and you can shoot for a bit, take off and go enjoy the scenes of Smoky Lake County and then come back. If you buy a daily pass, you can come and go all day long.” In addition to daily passes, the business will offer three-day passes, annual memberships, and family pass options.

The range’s name carries a personal story. “The reason we called it Prodigy Archery is because my son was a prodigy archer when he was young, he was super good in competitions and winning all the time and everything. He was the little prodigy, that’s for sure.”

Cooney is also looking ahead to partnering with local schools. “We are trying to get organized so we can have students come in so they can shoot. Instead of filling their auditoriums up all the time in schools, they could come here. We are so close to multiple surrounding towns, our location is very practical

for schools. For everybody that wants to shoot a bow, we are going to be there to make it happen.”

Opening the business, Cooney says, has felt like the right move. “This feels right. It feels good. Even though there has been a lot of challenges, it’s been paying off so far. With my experience of being at all these other ranges I am well informed of what our community seems to need. When we get opinions and suggestions from other people, we will implement them too if they fit our needs.”

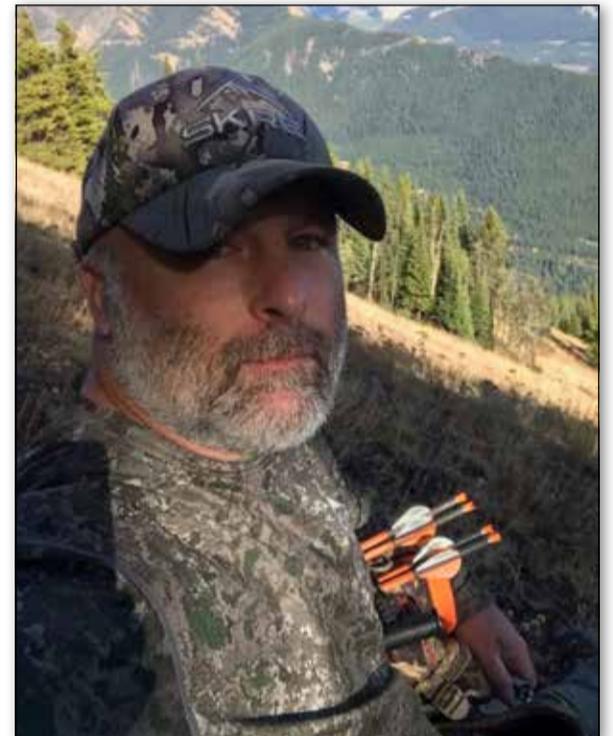
The business operates under the motto: “Strive for success – aim for perfection.” Cooney emphasizes that the goal is to support and build the local archery community, not compete with others. “Making sure there were no other ranges in the area was important to us,” Cooney added, “because being an archer and knowing how tight knit archery communities are, I didn’t want to step on other people’s toes and take business away from others or cause hardships to other people. Where we are at, it is a

good fit.”

Though the range was initially set to open in mid-August, some equipment issues caused a slight delay. A grand opening is now anticipated for the second weekend of September. “It’s getting super close, so we are getting really excited about it,” Cooney said. “We initially planned for mid-August, but we had equipment break

down. It always breaks when you need it,” he chuckled.

With a clear vision, hands-on craftsmanship, and a strong sense of community, Prodigy Archery is poised to become a new cornerstone for archers in Smoky Lake County and beyond. You can find more information, updates, and event details by visiting [www.prodigyarchery.ca](http://www.prodigyarchery.ca).



Dean Cooney, owner of Prodigy Archery, prepares to open the region’s first full-service archery range in Smoky Lake County. With over 40 years of experience, Cooney is dedicated to building a welcoming, top-quality facility for archery enthusiasts of all skill levels. **Prodigy Archery photo**



Map of the Prodigy Archery Range property at 59213 RR190. The layout is designed to be accessible and shooter-friendly for archers of all levels. **Prodigy Archery photo**



The Prodigy Archery Range office, welcoming archery enthusiasts in Smoky Lake County. **Prodigy Archery photo**



Prodigy Archery Range banners are set in place. **Prodigy Archery photo**



**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Take notice that the following Development Permits have been approved on August 28, 2025 in accordance with Land Use Bylaw No. 1272-14 of Smoky Lake County:

**Permit Number: DP 031-25**

**Legal Land Description:** PLAN 2321787, BLOCK 6, LOT 3 (PT. SW 34-59-13-W4M)

**Area:** BONNIE LAKE

**Division:** 1

**Land Use District:** MULTI-LOT COUNTRY RESIDENTIAL (R1) DISTRICT

**Use Type:** DISCRETIONARY USE

**Proposed Development:** SHIPPING CONTAINER

**Permit Number: DP 033-25**

**Legal Land Description:** PLAN 2321586, BLOCK 7, LOT 15 (PT. SW 34-59-13-W4M)

**Area:** BONNIE LAKE

**Division:** 1

**Land Use District:** MULTI-LOT COUNTRY RESIDENTIAL (R1) DISTRICT

**Use Type:** DISCRETIONARY USE

**Proposed Development:** SHIPPING CONTAINER

For information or to view these Development Permits, please contact Jordan Ruegg, Development Authority & Planning and Development Manager at 780-656-3730 to arrange an appointment.

Persons wishing to appeal the above decisions must do so by filing a written "NOTICE OF APPEAL" along with the \$250.00 appeal fee, to the Clerk of the Intermunicipal Subdivision and Development Appeal Board (ISDAB) 4612 McDougall Drive, Box 310, Smoky Lake, Alberta T0A 3C0, no later than **Friday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.** The appeal letter should indicate the Development Permit number, contact name, phone number, mailing address, and reason(s) for appeal.

**Jordan Ruegg**  
**Development Authority Officer/  
 Planning and Development Manager**

**YOUR AD  
 HERE!**

**CALL  
 780-222-2016**

www.theredwaterreview.com



*Waskatenau & District  
 Community Centre*

**BINGO  
 BONANZA**

**\$1,347<sup>00</sup> IN 54  
 NUMBERS**

**LOONIE POT #1 \$175 + SALES  
 LOONIE POT #2 \$175 + SALES**

**WASKATENAU COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
**Thursday September 4<sup>th</sup>**

Doors Open 6:00 PM • BINGO Starts 7:00 PM

# Minor hockey soon returns to Redwater: giving all kids a chance to get in the game

By Shelley Winger

After a summer pause, minor hockey is soon back in Redwater, bringing excitement, teamwork, and skill-building to local rinks once again. For children in the area, hockey is more than just a sport — it's a chance to stay active, make friends, and develop important life skills that will benefit them both on and off the ice.

Playing hockey helps children develop coordination, balance, and fitness, while also teaching teamwork, communication, and resilience. Young players learn how to set goals, handle both wins and losses, and

work collaboratively with peers — skills that extend far beyond the rink. Hockey also provides an important social outlet, helping children build friendships and connections that can last a lifetime.

Despite the many benefits, participation in organized sports can be expensive. Registration fees, equipment costs, and travel expenses can create barriers for families. KidSport Canada addresses this challenge by helping children from families with financial need access organized sports. In Alberta, KidSport provides funding to cover registration costs and equipment expenses.

Families can apply directly through [kidsportcanada.ca/alberta](http://kidsportcanada.ca/alberta), while community members can volunteer or donate to help more children get into the game.

Since its founding, KidSport Canada has helped thousands of young athletes participate in organized sports, fostering confidence, teamwork, and a sense of belonging. By making sports accessible to all children, the organization helps ensure that no child is left on the sidelines because of financial limitations. Local sports associations and volunteers are also vital to keeping programs running and supporting

families in need.

The return of minor hockey in Redwater provides an opportunity for the community to come together. Parents can register their children for the upcoming season, while community members can attend games, volunteer with local teams, or contribute to KidSport programs. Schools, local businesses, and municipal organizations often collaborate to provide additional support, ensuring that hockey programs remain accessible and sustainable.

Hockey is more than just an athletic activity — it is a tool for teaching life lessons. Through the game, children

learn discipline, perseverance, and how to work as part of a team. They also develop problem-solving skills, practice strategic thinking, and experience the importance of sportsmanship. These lessons stay with children long after the season ends and can positively impact their academic performance, social development, and future success.

For families concerned about the cost of participation, KidSport Canada offers a straightforward and confidential application process. Funding can cover everything from registration fees to equipment costs,

giving children the chance to learn and grow through sport. By volunteering or donating, residents of Redwater can help ensure more children have access to these opportunities. More information is available at [kidsportcanada.ca/alberta](http://kidsportcanada.ca/alberta).

As the hockey season kicks off, the message is clear: everyone benefits when children have access to sport. By supporting minor hockey and programs like KidSport, Redwater residents can help foster confidence, social connections, and lifelong skills in the next generation. The call to action is simple: #SoALLKidsCanPlay.

**HALFMOON LAKE CAMPGROUND CLOSES SOON**

Halfmoon Lake Campground closes on **September 30th**. Gates are locked from October 1 to May 15.

Thank you to all our patrons for making this another successful camping season. We hope to see everyone again next year!



Dale Gabbey hands over the keys to his nephew Ryan Gabbey who will be taking over Can-Dale Vacuum Services in Thorhild County and surrounding areas. **Photo courtesy of Christina Gabbey**

**Goodbye Summer**

**Thorhild Swimming Pool is closed for the season**

**THANK YOU**  
to all our amazing patrons and staff for making this summer pool season fantastic!

**SPECIAL THANKS TO:**  
**Pembina Pipelines,**  
**U7 Thorhild Minor Hockey & Thorhild Lions Club**  
**FOR THE FREE SWIMS & North Corridor Co-op**  
 for sponsoring the two BBQs  
**FOTSPA** for donating a water fountain and inflatable tube

We look forward to seeing everyone at the next season opening in May 2026!

Phone: 780-398-3741 | www.thorhildcounty.com  
801 - 1st Street, Box 10, Thorhild AB ToA 3J0

Continued from **page 1**

conditions. There are accounts of him arriving on-site during severe weather conditions, including frigid -30 temperature, to help a client deal with a septic emergency when their pump failed. This dedication earned him immense respect and appreciation from those he served.

Dale's passion for helping others extended well beyond his business. Through the years, he generously supported local events and clubs, embodying the spirit of community involvement. His acts of kindness and dedication to strengthening community ties have made lasting

impacts, inspiring others to take part in similar endeavors.

As Dale Gabbey prepares to enter retirement, he looks ahead to a new chapter filled with opportunities to spend more time with family and friends. Known for his love of conversation, he's always up for sharing a cup of coffee and catching up with those around him. In this new phase, he also plans to pursue his hobbies, such as tinkering in his workshop, while remaining available to assist his nephew, Ryan Gabbey, during the transition of ownership.

Ryan is set to take over Can-Dale Vacuum Services, ensuring that the legacy of quality and service continues

in the Thorhild area. Dale couldn't be more excited about this transition, knowing that his company will be in capable hands, and he looks forward to supporting Ryan and even lending a hand if he needs it. He also looks forward to helping his own son, William, in his own trucking business.

As family, friends, and clients celebrate Dale's retirement, they honour his dedication to his customers, his remarkable service to the community, and the values he instilled as Can-Dale Vacuum Services. Congratulations, Dale Gabbey, on a well-deserved retirement, and best wishes for the next phase of your life!

**TWO 3.09 ACRES ADJOINS EACH OTHER IN STURGEON COUNTY**

Great building site in pinewood estates less than a half hour from Edmonton. **Asking \$89,900 for one lot and \$94,900 for the adjoining lot. Call Janine at 7803490361 for more info.**

**THORHILD BUNGALOW**

This well built 2+2 bedroom bungalow has all its original vintage decor from 1967 when it was built. It features original mahogany cabinets, doors and trim along with built in decorative shelving. There is a small pantry in the kitchen and a clothes chute from main floor to basement. Basement has a large family room, two bedrooms, cold room and laundry/furnace area. There is roughed in plumbing for a future bathroom in basement as well. Shingles around 10 years old and hot water tank is only a few years old. Newer vinyl plank flooring in kitchen. Large 50'x130' lot with lots of mature trees and perennial flowers, storage shed, and concrete block patio. Move in and upgrade the home to your own personal preferences when you choose to. Located in Thorhild, just under an hour to Edmonton. Thorhild has everything you need including a grocery store, hardware store, dental office, K-9 school, restaurants and even an outdoor swimming pool. **\$169,900. Call Heather to view.**

**5 BEDROOM 3 BATH BUNGALOW NEAR WESTLOCK**

Beautiful 3 acres with 1770 sq ft 2+3 bdrm, 3 bath bungalow with fully finished bsmt and 30'x28' attached heated garage just a few minutes NW of Westlock, about a half hour to St Albert. Home has had substantial upgrades over the past 20 years including siding, soffits, paint, HOT WATER ON DEMAND, high efficiency furnace, wood stove, and back deck. In 2018 CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING was added along with a GENSET SYSTEM which automatically turns on if the power goes out and powers the whole house and at that time new flooring and a maintenance free front deck were also added. Other features are in floor heating in basement, pantry, 3 pce ensuite with soaker tub, main floor laundry, main floor office, back up sump pump system. Heated garage built in 2016 has 2 floor drains and a handy back porch area for boots and coats. Main floor also has a large flex room and office space. Garden area and raised garden beds, storage sheds, mature trees and view from front deck of a small lake complete this great property. **\$534,900. Call Heather to view.**

**COMMERCIAL LOT IN THORHILD**

1.24 acres of open land ready to develop into your commercial endeavor. High level land on the outskirts of the Hamlet of Thorhild. Paved road in front, gravel road on one side. Utilities are nearby. Thorhild is a small hamlet with lots of potential for growth and new business. Located approximately an hour NE of Edmonton. **\$59,900. Call Heather for more info.**

**FAMILY HOME IN FORT SASKATCHEWAN**

Welcome to over 1900 sq feet of space for your family! The main floor features an open-concept kitchen, dining, and living room with **HARDWOOD FLOORS**, 2-piece bath and laundry/mud room with access to the double attached garage. Upstairs are the bonus room, two bedrooms, a 4-piece bath, and the primary bedroom with a walk-in closet and 5-piece ensuite including a jacuzzi tub. The unfinished basement is ready for customization to your needs. Walk onto the 18'x14' deck from the dining room to overlook your sunny south facing back yard - with access to a walking trail perfect for dogs, a morning jog, or taking the kids to the nearby playground. **\$375,000. Call Tara to view.**

**GLENN FISHER TEAM**

**RE/MAX REAL ESTATE**  
Each office independently owned & operated. **IRP Approved Agent**

10018 - 100 Avenue, MORINVILLE  
Website: www.glennfisher.com Email: glenn@glennfisher.com

**GLENN FISHER:**  
780-913-2493  
**HEATHER MOELLER:**  
780-699-7914  
**TARA FISHER:**  
780-932-0196  
**JANINE PEQUIN:**  
780-349-0361



SEPTEMBER 2025

# GRAPEVINE

## SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Visit our 'Agendas & Minutes' web page for Council meeting information and the 'Calendar' web page for the complete list of other scheduled meeting dates and community events.

**Regular Budget Meeting**  
September 4, 2025 @ 9:00 AM

**Regular County Council Meeting**  
September 11, 2025 @ 9:00 AM  
September 25, 2025 @ 9:00 AM  
October 9, 2025 @ 9:00 AM  
October 23, 2025 @ 9:00 AM

**Organizational Meeting followed by Regular County Council**  
October 23, 2025 @ 9:00 AM

*A Public Q & A Period is held during each Council Meeting 11:30 AM to 12:00 PM*

Smoky Lake County Main and Public Works Offices will be

**CLOSED**

**September 1, 2025 for Labour Day and**

**September 30, 2025 for National Day of Truth and Reconciliation**

## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Council Highlights provide a snapshot of Council decision making and the progress made on Smoky Lake County programs and initiatives. For more details visit [www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca/highlights](http://www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca/highlights)

- First Reading to Bylaw 1483-25 for the purpose to repeal Bylaw 1413-22: Authorize Lending Money to a Municipal Controlled Non-Profit Organization. The MCC for Smoky Lake Development Corp. has repaid the loan principal.
- Appointed Warren Young as a Community Peace Officer for Smoky Lake County, pending provincial appointment by the Ministry of Justice and Solicitor Generals, Public Security Division under the *Peace Officer Act*.
- First Reading to Bylaw No. 1486-25, a Bylaw to close all those portions of the Government Road Allowance west of W ½ 7-61-18-W4M & to consolidate said closed portions with said lands, with a Public Hearing scheduled for September 11, 2025 at 1:00 PM.
- First Reading to Bylaw No. 1482-25: A Bylaw to amend Land Use Bylaw No. 1272-14 to Redistrict part of the lands legally described as NW-22-59-14-W4M, from District to Agriculture (AG) District to Highway Commercial (C1) District, with a Public Hearing scheduled for September 11, 2025 at 9:15 AM.
- Final Reading to Bylaw No. 1488-25: Smoky Lake County Regional Fire Rescue Services, for the purpose of establishing an Inter-Municipal Regional Agreement for the provision of a Smoky Lake County Regional Fire Rescue Services, effective January 2026.
- Adopted Policy 08-26: Community Capital Grants Program.
- Amended Policy 03-16: Road Closure Policy.
- Approved the Smoky Lake County 2025 - 2030 Five Year Financial Plan.

### Donations

- Remainder of FCSS funds in the amount of \$687 to the Warspite Community Hall Association for a Community engagement and volunteer appreciation event.
- \$1,000 to the Smoky Lake Town and County Golf Club for the 2025 Junior Golf Lessons program.
- \$1,500 sponsorship and in-kind work to the Smoky Lake Pumpkin Growers Association in support of the 35th Annual Smoky Lake Pumpkin Weigh-off and Fair.

## JOIN THE ELECTION TEAM! WE'RE HIRING ELECTION WORKERS

Smoky Lake County is seeking reliable, community-minded individuals 18 years or older to join our 2025 Municipal Election Team.

- Knowledge of *Local Authorities Election Act* is an asset
- Must be able to attend mandatory training on either October 7 or 14.

**Deadline to apply is September 12, 2025**

Pick up an application at the Smoky Lake County Main Office or visit our website for details and an application form.

[www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca/electionworker](http://www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca/electionworker)

## 2025 Municipal Election REGISTER TO VOTE

Register at: [voterlink.ab.ca](http://voterlink.ab.ca)



[www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca/election2025](http://www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca/election2025)



## NOTICE OF NOMINATION DAY Local Authorities Election Act (Section 26)

LOCAL JURISDICTION: **Smoky Lake County**, PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

Notice is hereby given that Nomination Day is September 22, 2025 and that nominations for the election of candidates for the following offices will be received at the location of the local jurisdiction office set out below with the period beginning on January 1, 2025 and ending at 12:00 noon on Nomination Day.

Offices	No. of Vacancies	Electoral Division #
Councillor	1	Division 1
Councillor	1	Division 2
Councillor	1	Division 3
Councillor	1	Division 4
Councillor	1	Division 5

Location of Local Jurisdiction Office:

**Smoky Lake County  
4612 McDougall Drive  
Smoky Lake, Alberta T0A 3C0**

DATED in the Town of Smoky Lake in the Province of Alberta, this 28th day of August, 2025.

Stephanie Mahon, Returning Officer  
Smoky Lake County

View Smoky Lake County Councils Proclamations for the month of September

[www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca/proclamations](http://www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca/proclamations)

Main Office  
Box 310  
4612 McDougall Drive  
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

Public Works Shop  
Box 310  
5004-50 Street  
Smoky Lake, AB T0A 3C0

Toll Free 888-656-3730  
Main Office 780-656-3730  
Public Works Shop 780-656-3755



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

## G & S Office Cleaning



### Office cleaning position (casual)

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Last week's Redwater in Bloom winner: Les and Joyce's beautiful yard. **Town of Redwater photo**

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# Paying the cost: Obstacles facing Alberta businesses heading into the fall

By **Rob Roach, ATB ECONOMICS**

Costs remain top of mind for Alberta businesses, according to a recent survey.

Conducted from July 2 to August 6, 2025, the latest results from the Canadian Survey on Business Conditions indicate that half of the Alberta respondents think inflation will be an obstacle for their business or organization over the next three months with a fifth identifying it as the most challenging obstacle.

Combining the cost-related obstacles\* together, about two-thirds of Alberta respondents say costs will be an obstacle over the next three months (it was 70% the previous quarter) with a third citing a cost-related

issue as the most challenging obstacle they are facing.

The concern over inflation and the cost of doing business may, at first glance, seem odd given that the headline inflation rate in Alberta has averaged just 2% (year-over-year) since January.

It makes more sense when you consider that the inflation rate we hear about refers to a basket of specific consumer goods and services rather than the things for which businesses tend to pay such as machinery, chemicals and packaging materials. One measure of the latter is the Industrial Product Price Index which has increased by an average of 3.3% (year-over-year) since January.

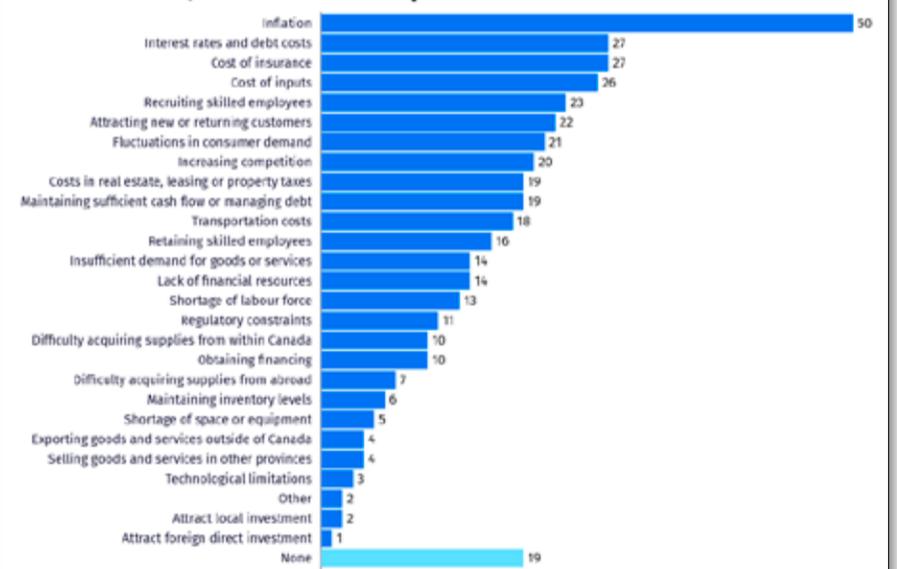
And, as is the case with consumer

inflation, past spikes in operating costs (the monthly Industrial Product Price Index grew by an average of 13.4% in 2021 and 2022) mean that today's prices are much higher than a few years ago even though the rate of increase has slowed.

How much of the concern regarding costs is related to tariffs is hard to determine, but the survey did find that 4 in 10 Alberta businesses say the U.S. tariffs are having a negative impact on them and the same number say the Canadian tariffs are having a negative impact.

Also interesting is the share of businesses worried about labour availability with about a third of Alberta respondents citing this an obstacle over the coming three months.

### Obstacles expected by the business or organization over the next three months, % of Alberta respondents



The results in this chart are based on the survey that was in collection from July 2 to August 6, 2025. Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Survey on Business Conditions, third quarter of 2025 (Table 33-10-1019-01) and ATB Economics

Recruiting/retaining skilled employees was cited by 9% of Alberta respondents as their most challenging obstacle. If we add in the "shortage of labour force" obstacle, this rises to 13%. This

suggests that finding workers with the right skills, in the right place and willing to take the job on offer, remains an issue despite the upward trajectory of unemployment in Alberta and the country as a

whole.

\*Cost-related obstacles consist of inflation; cost of inputs; interest rates and debt costs; cost of insurance; cost of real estate, leasing or property taxes; and transportation costs.



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## Alberta RCMP gives tips to curb mail theft and encourages Albertans to subscribe to RAVE

Your Alberta RCMP is giving tips to help prevent mail theft and is encouraging Albertans to subscribe to RAVE.

In order to curb mail theft, consider the following tips:

- Install a locking mailbox. A locked mailbox can help perturb thieves from taking your mail.
- Collect mail promptly. Don't let mail accumulate in your mailbox. Pick it up as soon as possible after delivery.
- Consider a package delivery box. These boxes provide a secure place for packages, reducing the risk of theft from your doorstep.
- Or sign for deliveries. If expecting a package, choose a shipping option that requires a signature.
- Secure your mailbox. Ensure your mailbox is securely

attached to your property and not easily accessible to thieves.

- Advise neighbours. Let your neighbours know when you're going away. Have a trusted neighbour collect your mail or have your mail delivery suspended for that period.
  - Shred mail. Shred any mail that contains personal or financial details.
- Along with giving tips to help prevent mail theft, this August your Alberta RCMP is reminding community members of the benefits of RAVE Mobile Safety, the mass notification system that allows the Alberta RCMP to fanout real-time information.

Information given from RAVE includes ongoing crimes, traffic advisories, and missing people, as well as information on current crime trends and preventative measures

community members can take to protect themselves and their property. Invitations to community presentations are also provided through the platform. You can sign up for RAVE notifications for any RCMP jurisdiction here: <https://www.getrave.ca/smart911/ref/login.action?pa=Crime-WatchAdvisoryAB>

If you see something suspicious, report it to your local police service. If you see a crime in progress, call 911. If you wish to remain anonymous, you can contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS), online at [www.P3Tips.com](http://www.P3Tips.com) or by using the "P3 Tips" app available through the Apple App or Google Play Store.

Formoreinformation on RAVE and preventing mail theft, please follow us on Facebook @RCMPinAlberta, X @RCMPAlberta, and on YouTube @RCMP-GRC Alberta.

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