

Radway Pioneer Days an annual heritage tradition



By **Brandie
Majeau**

Radway Pioneer Days was held on July 25 and unfolded beneath a radiant, cloudless sky, a perfect canvas for a day devoted to celebrating heritage and community.

As sunshine bathed the landscape and the warmth of summer intensified, the Radway Agri-Centre and its grounds became a beacon, drawing families, friends, and neighbours to spend a day together. Eager to embrace the pioneering spirit, attendees were greeted by a sense of anticipation that seemed to shimmer in the air. The annual parade burst forth with colour and energy. Vintage tractors and historic farming implements rumbled proudly down the street, each one a living

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Sturgeon County honoured by Invest Alberta for Economic Development Leadership



By **Haylee
Winger**

Sturgeon County has been recognized by Invest Alberta for its leadership in advancing investment opportunities, receiving

a special belt buckle award during the Calgary Stampede on July 8.

The award celebrates organizations that have demonstrated exceptional commitment to promoting Alberta as an investment destination and building the

partnerships needed to attract new business and economic growth.

According to Invest Alberta, the belt buckle symbolizes hard work, earned respect and the pioneering spirit that has long defined

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Sturgeon County photo

Chins up: Business confidence in Alberta

By Rob Roach, ATB Economics

From U.S. tariffs to slowing population growth, there is no shortage of negative economic news that could undermine business confidence in Alberta. At the same time, strong oil prices, forward momentum on major projects, and resilient consumer spending are significant patches of blue sky amid the dark clouds.

Two surveys provide a sense of how Alberta businesses are feeling about all this.*

The first is the Business Council of Alberta's inaugural Alberta CEO Pulse Survey. Conducted from June 25 to July 7 with CEOs of companies that are members of the BCA, the survey found that "Alberta business leaders are upbeat about the year ahead and are preparing to invest, hire, and grow over the coming year."

About two-thirds (65%) of the business executives who responded expect economic conditions in Alberta to improve over the next

12 months; 28% expect them to stay the same; and only 8% expect them to deteriorate.

Given everything going on around the world, that is a strong vote of confidence regarding what's next for the Alberta economy. The BCA points to improving business conditions in the oil and gas sector as a key reason for the high level of optimism.

The confidence is spilling over to hiring plans, with 50% of respondents saying they are planning to increase their workforce; 39% planning to keep things as is; and just 11% expecting to cut jobs. This finding comes despite the fact that over half (55%) of executives expect input costs to rise at a faster rate than over the previous 12 months.

As the BCA notes, "There are a number of new projects under construction or on the horizon, including the recent announcement of a major data centre north of Edmonton and the proposal to build a pipeline to the west coast. But, at the same time, debate over the October referendum on separation is

intensifying. Amid it all, the mood among Alberta business leaders is remarkably positive."

The second survey is the Monthly Business Barometer from the Canadian Federation of Independent Business. Conducted from July 7 to 13 with a random sample of CFIB members (who skew more toward the small business end of the continuum than BCA members), the results show that small business sentiment in Alberta dipped slightly in July, but remained optimistic overall with a reading of 54.2. (Measured

on a scale between 0 and 100, an index above 50 means owners expecting their business's performance to be stronger over the next 12 months outnumber those expecting weaker performance.)

The index for the 12-month outlook among Alberta small businesses has been hovering around 55-58 over the first half of the year, which is a significant improvement over last year's average of 49.2. Sentiment was particularly low in the spring of 2025 when President Trump's tariff threats were in full swing.

Just under half (48%) of the Alberta respondents cited insufficient demand as a factor limiting their ability to increase sales or production. Second on the list at 44% was a shortage of skilled labour. It's a different question, but there is some overlap here with the BCA results, which found that 47% of respondents were experiencing difficulty finding or retaining employees.

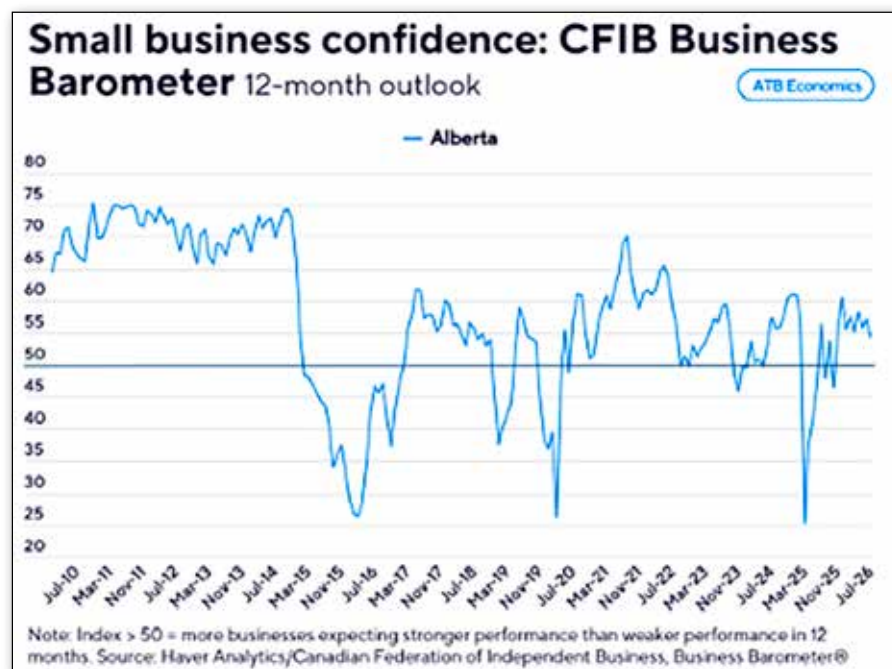
Almost three-quarters (73%) of small businesses in Alberta report that tax and regulatory costs are a problem, with 68% citing fuel costs as a difficulty for

their business.

Hiring plans are not as robust among CFIB members in Alberta as they are in the BCA survey, though the time frame is shorter, with 15% expecting employment levels outside normal seasonal variation to go up over the next 3 to 4 months. Most small businesses expect employment levels to stay the same with only 8% expecting them to go down (an improvement over previous months).

Bottom line: While we have to be careful lumping two different surveys together, the general picture painted by both the BCA and CFIB is one in which business optimism in Alberta currently outweighs pessimism. The results also point to continued employment growth in the province in the months ahead. At the same time, finding skilled workers remains a key challenge as does the cost of doing business.

*Both surveys were conducted before the latest round of U.S. tariff threats, so we will have to wait and see what effect that has on confidence going forward.



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the province. The organization presents the award to partners that have gone above and beyond in championing Alberta while strengthening the relationships that help drive investment.

The recognition highlights Sturgeon County's ongoing collaboration with municipal, provincial and industry partners to encourage business investment and create long-term economic opportunities for residents and employers.

"Partnerships are essential to economic development, and this recognition reflects the collective efforts of the many organizations and leaders working together to grow Alberta's economy," said Alanna Hnatiw, Mayor of Sturgeon County. "We are proud to work alongside partners who share our commitment to responsible

investment and sustainable prosperity in our region."

Invest Alberta noted that strong partnerships help showcase Alberta's competitive advantages, provide investors with confidence as they explore opportunities, and demonstrate a coordinated approach to supporting investment across the province.

ThoughtsEconomic Development team and the Invest Sturgeon program, Sturgeon County continues to work with regional, provincial and industry partners to attract investment, support business expansion and strengthen the region's position as a destination for economic opportunity.



Smoky Lake RCMP Report



By Haylee Winger

Members of the Smoky Lake RCMP detachment responded to a wide range of calls during the week of July 20, including traffic collisions, property crimes, wellness checks, disturbances, and several reports of livestock wandering onto local highways.

Police were called at approximately 3:30 a.m. following a report from a third party regarding a dispute at a residence in the Town of Smoky Lake. Later that morning, officers responded to another residence after receiving a complaint about an unwanted man outside the home. The individual had left before members arrived.

Motorists reported loose cattle on several occasions throughout the week. Calls were received about cows on Highway 28 near Spedden, Highway 28 near Bellis, and Highway 859. In one case, the animals returned to their pasture before officers arrived. Members were unable to locate another loose cow reported near Bellis later in the week.

A semi-truck hauling pipe entered the ditch on Highway 831 north of Highway 28. No damage was reported to the vehicle or surrounding property. Another commercial driver attended the Smoky Lake RCMP detachment to report concerns about motorists crossing double solid lines on Highway 28. Police also responded to complaints

of speeding vehicles on Highway 28 and conducted patrols in the area. Emergency crews, including RCMP, fire, and EMS, attended a two-vehicle collision on 44 Avenue near the Esso station. Investigation determined a truck turning onto 56 Street was struck by a vehicle exiting the Esso parking lot. The driver of the vehicle leaving the parking lot was issued a provincial violation ticket for failing to stop before entering the intersection.

Officers also responded to several requests for wellness checks. In one instance, a concerned wife contacted RCMP after being unable to reach her husband because his telephone line remained busy. Members determined

he was safe and that a power outage had caused the issue. Another wellness check was requested by an employer after an employee had not reported to work for 13 days. Police located the individual and confirmed they were safe.

RCMP attended Mon's Lake at approximately 1:50 a.m. to conduct a wellness check on a woman. No concerns were identified. On Sunday morning, officers conducted another wellness check that resulted in a person being apprehended under the Mental Health Act and transported to St. Paul Hospital for assessment.

A seasonal property at Garner Lake was broken into during

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From the Mayor's Desk

By Dave McRae,
Redwater Mayor

Regularly, administration and sometimes councilors get an email, phone call, message or converse with a concerned citizen over an issue or problem. I enjoy those types of communication especially when the tone is polite, informative or questioning. From time to time the interaction isn't respectful, but that is another sideline.

In many cases when I talk to the constituent about their concern, I realize that the municipality hasn't done a great job of communicating on how we do our job. This means whomever I am communicating with doesn't have all the facts and doesn't understand how we approach or fix a problem. That is because the conversation about what we do and how we do it is often done at the Council table during Council meetings that nobody comes to. Few watch on You Tube or Live Stream and fewer attend our Public Hearings. I won't blame social media as it is

simply a tool used well by some and abused by others. Honestly, part of the problem is me but equally important is that I am part of the solution.

Let me explain. Municipalities don't work in vacuums! There are many resources we depend on daily to assist in decision making. Here are some examples! Recently we experienced severe flooding like the majority of the region and in fact much of the province. Our infrastructure was put to a severe test, and although successful, improvements can be made. Those improvements won't be made simply because the mayor or a councilor tells someone to put in a 12" pipe. That infrastructure is designed, installed and inspected by engineers who specialize in storm water and who train our staff to maintain it.

A problem exists because someone fell on the pool deck and got hurt. Their claim is it is the town's fault because we were negligent. Perhaps or perhaps not! That isn't a decision made by the

pool staff or a supervisor. The matter goes to our legal firm for investigation and recommendation. A citizen advises a tree in one of our parks is dead or dying. They want the tree removed as they feel it is unsafe. Given the beautiful foliage we have in Redwater we have all our trees inspected by certified arborists and we follow their recommendations. Another oddity is that every year our staff walks every sidewalk in town looking for faults. To assist them Council has created a Policy outlining how breaks in the sidewalk must be handled. Based on the inspection and the criteria created we hire a specialized company to remediate areas of concern through grinding and we proactively replace weak or damaged sections of our sidewalks.

The list is exhaustive! From playground hazard inspectors to Occupational Health and Safety your town works with unlimited experts to provide utilities, recreation, operations and projects. We regularly spend

money on staff training and development to ensure best practices and prevention are forefront in our planning and operations. Equipment is serviced by trained and licensed mechanics while outside laboratories test our water and wastewater for safety. It isn't a one man show orchestrated by the Mayor or CAO, it is a team of experts in their field that are ready and willing to step in to ensure we are doing it right, maintaining fiscal responsibility and ensuring the municipality isn't being exposed to undue risk or liability. Always ask the question but listen to the answer!

I wrote recently about floods so thought fire might be a good topic. Fires, like floods, are devastating and permanent. Once fire takes hold it seldom releases its prey. Once extinguished home or business owners have usually lost everything. If a paper filing system is used either the fire or the water used to suppress the blaze has destroyed any receipts, bills or account payable information to ash. In addition to trying to put the pieces back together, there

are often added costs of some significant value. One of those costs is the actual cost of fighting the fire.

Municipal taxation pays for the fire hall, the fire trucks, personnel equipment, training, and supplies. Municipal taxation does not pay for the cost of fire fighters attending to your home to extinguish a blaze. This cost may be absorbed by your homeowner's insurance policy, but policies differ and once your policy limit is reached any additional charges levied by the municipality become your responsibility. This is also true if your policy does not contain a clause that supports fire response.

During a council discussion on this topic, three of us reviewed our policy contents and were surprised that even within the same company payouts varied dramatically. My policy paid out 100% of the fire fighting cost with no limitations while another councilor's policy was capped at \$50,000.00. Imagine how devastating it would be to lose your home, contents and perhaps a vehicle

parked in the garage and then receive a bill for fire fighting costs that your insurance won't cover in whole or in part.

There is a simple proactive option to prevent this from ever happening to you. Read your policy! Don't just get the document in the mail, pay the premium and file the envelope in the drawer marked "later." Actually, look at what is and isn't covered and talk to your agent to determine what options you can add or subtract to the policy. What are the current best practices and industry standards. Insurance isn't a stagnant abstract, it changes and flows and needs careful attention. This will help secure your property investment and protect your future financial security. It will take an hour or two of your time but may save you dollars and time in the future.

Be fire smart. Protect your property by following simple steps outlined online under the Fire Smart - Alberta google search. This is a topic where the old cliché of "an ounce of prevention" holds very true.

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the week, with several items reported stolen. The investigation remains ongoing.

Police are also investigating damage at the County of Smoky Lake transfer station in Bellis after unknown individuals drove through the facility's gate.

Officers responded to a report that multiple sections of fence had been cut along Township Road 600, with tire tracks leading into a pasture. Members searched the property with the owner's permission but were unable to locate any suspects.

RCMP were called to the Village of Vilna at approximately 4 a.m. following a noise complaint. The noise had stopped before officers arrived, and members later followed up with the resident.

A report involving an alleged breach of a restraining order

remains under investigation after police spoke with both parties involved.

Police also responded to a report of a vehicle striking a black bear on Highway 652 and assisted EMS with a potentially violent patient at a residence within the County of Smoky Lake.

Sunday evening, officers investigated a complaint of people allegedly drinking alcohol while fishing at the Garner Lake boat launch. After attending the scene, members determined no provincial legislation was being violated.

Later that evening, RCMP responded to a disturbance at a residence where two individuals were arrested and lodged in cells until sober.

Anyone with information about a crime is encouraged to contact the Smoky Lake RCMP at 780-656-3550 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).



On Wednesday, July 22, 2026, a representative from Fortis Alberta visited the Redwater Library to present a \$2,553 Save Energy Grant. This funding will support an LED lighting upgrade throughout the library, helping to reduce energy consumption and lower electricity costs. The project is an important step toward making the library more energy efficient and environmentally sustainable. Pictured from left to right: Mel Smith (Redwater Town Council), a representative from Fortis Alberta, Linda Kuzik (Redwater Library), and Tina Cosby (Redwater Town Council). **Redwater Library photo**



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Alberta

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Sturgeon
COUNTY

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12:00PM - 8:00PM

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Accepting cash donations for local food banks.

Smoky Lake County issues road closures amid widespread flooding



By Brandie Majeau

Significant flooding and ongoing water-related disruptions have led to hazardous and unsafe driving conditions on numerous roadways in Smoky Lake County. Persistent and heavy rainfall over several days has resulted in saturated ground, overflowing ditches, and high-water levels across the region. These conditions have forced the closure of multiple roads and a bridge, as county officials work to ensure public safety and prevent accidents. As of July 28, 2026, Smoky Lake County has issued official closure notices for several roads and bridges. The effects of excessive rainfall have been severe, with water covering both paved and gravel roads, washing over low-lying areas, and in some locations, eroding shoulders or washing out portions of the roadway.

These unsafe conditions have made several routes impassable and pose significant risks to motorists. County work crews are currently deployed to monitor and assess affected sites, placing barriers and warning signs where necessary to prevent further incidents. The situation remains ongoing, and additional road closures may occur as further assessments are completed and as water levels continue to change. All motorists are strongly urged to obey posted signs, barricades, and detour instructions. Traveling through flooded roads is highly dangerous, as water can conceal hazards such as deep ditches, eroded pavement, or strong currents that can sweep vehicles off the roadway. Residents are reminded never to attempt to bypass roadblocks or drive through standing or moving water, regardless of how shallow it may appear.

If anyone encounters new areas of flooding or spot road damage that has not yet been addressed in Smoky Lake or any county, contact the Public Works Shop to ensure that problem areas can be addressed. Prompt reporting will help crews respond quickly and track new problem areas as conditions evolve. Smoky Lake County has posted a notice on their Facebook page to thank residents for their patience, cooperation, and vigilance during this challenging period. Community awareness and timely reporting are critical for ensuring safety and minimizing disruption while crews work diligently to resolve these issues.

For ongoing updates on road closures and conditions, residents are encouraged to monitor official County announcements, visit the County website or social media pages, and follow all travel advisories until the situation improves and the affected routes are deemed safe for travel.

PUBLIC SALE OF LAND THORHILD COUNTY

Notice is hereby given that under the provisions of the Municipal Government Act, Thorhild County will offer for sale, by public auction, in the County Administration Office, Thorhild, Alberta, on Tuesday, August 11, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. the following lands:

Lot	Block	Plan	Hamlet	Legal Land Location	Acres	Cert of Title	Reserve Bid
A		1297 KS	Radway			082 440 483	\$29,600
5	10	1346 HW	Thorhild			246D176	\$11,050
1	1	092 0794		SW-8-59-21-4	4.00	122 181 304	\$78,200
				NE-25-58-22-4	3.50	082 286 408	\$65,000
				NE-29-58-22-4	157.97	202 150 753+1	\$351,550
				NW-29-58-22-4	159.00	195F262	\$325,450
				(W1/2) SE-29-58-22-4	79.50	752 020 244A	\$186,325
				(E1/2) SE-29-58-22-4	78.47	202 150 753	\$185,225
				SW-29-58-22-4	159.00	193F262	\$353,325

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. These properties are being offered for sale on an "as is, where is" basis and Thorhild County 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 environment 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 on the sale of any parcel.
No terms or conditions of sale will be considered other than those specified by Thorhild County.

Thorhild County may, after the public auction, become the owner of any parcel of land not sold at the public auction.

Terms: Cash or Certified Cheque and GST will apply on lands sold at the Public Auction. A 10% deposit is payable upon the acceptance of the bid at Public Auction. The balance of the accepted bid is due within 30 days.

Redemption may be affected by payment of all arrears of taxes and costs at any time prior to the sale.

Phone: 780-398-3741 | www.thorhildcounty.com | 801 - 1st Street, Box 10, Thorhild AB T0A 3J0

VTAS Fair Days in Waskatenau

AUGUST 7 - 9, 2026

FREE ENTRY INTO THE GROUNDS | CASH ONLY EVENT

Friday, August 7

Activities:

Slo-Pitch Tournament
6:00pm – 11:30pm | Ball Diamond

Food & Drinks:

Concession Hosted by Waskatenau Senior Citizen's Association | 6:30pm – 9:00pm | Ball Diamond

Saturday, August 8

Activities:

Wife Carrying Contest | Registration - 10:30am | Event Start – 11:00am | VTAS Indoor Arena

Pig Scramble | Registration – 1:00pm | Event Start – 1:30pm | VTAS Indoor Arena

“What’s the Price” Game Show
7:00pm – Doors open | 8:00pm – Game begins
Waskatenau Community Centre
(Must be 18 years and older to be eligible to participate)

Slo-Pitch Tournament
8:30am – 11:00pm | Ball Diamond

Food & Drinks:

Breakfast Hosted by Waskatenau Senior Citizen's Association | 8:30am – 11:00am | Seniors' Drop-In Centre (Plates purchased at the door)

Concession Hosted by Waskatenau Senior Citizen's Association | 11:00am – 4:00pm | Ball Diamond

Waskatenau Volunteer Fire Department BBQ
5:30pm – 7:00pm | Waskatenau Community Centre
(Plates purchased at the door)

Sunday, August 9

Activities:

Sunday Market | 10:00am – 2:00pm
Waskatenau Community Hall

Parade | Kids' Bike & Pet Parade begins at 10:45am | Full parade begins at 11:00am
(Registration and line up at the Village office at 10:00am)

Kids' Zone | 12:00pm – 3:00pm | School Yard
(Petting zoo, sand dig, and bird house painting)

Slo-Pitch Tournament
9:30am – 3:30pm | Ball Diamond

Food & Drinks:

Parade Lunch (following the parade)
Waskatenau Community Centre
(Plates purchased at the door – Age 17+ = \$25 | Age 7-16 = \$10 | Age 6 and under = free)

Concession Hosted by Waskatenau Senior Citizen's Association | 8:00am – 10:00am (closed during parade) and 12:00pm – 3:00pm
Ball Diamond

My Spidey (and Princess) senses are tingling



By **Brandie Majeau**

Newbrook Public Library recently hosted its first ever Princess and Superhero Tea Party, marking a unique day for Newbrook Library. While the library is no stranger to having its space invaded by less-than-quiet events, it was transformed into an enchanting space, bursting with excited children and their families. Over a dozen young guests arrived dressed in sparkling princess gowns, tiaras, and shimmering capes, while others donned the unmistakable red and blue of Spiderman, each one eager to match their favourite superhero.

The tea party hosted professional entertainers from A Charmed Affair, an Edmonton-based group known for their interactive character performances. These talented entertainers brought beloved princesses and superheroes to life, captivating the young group (and their parents) with engaging crafts and games and imaginative activities. The children were eager to participate their laughter ringing through the library as their imaginations came to life, becoming the heroes and heroines of their fantasies. A Charmed Affair came well prepared with stories and superhero training...but the little guests had them so wrapped up in other activities that they ran

out of time for everything. Maybe they will have to come back next year to complete the training. No tea party would be complete without a delectable spread, and Newbrook Library delivered in style. The tables were elegantly adorned with a selection of sweet and savory treats and goodies. Little paper teacups and Spiderman-themed dishes added a whimsical touch, ensuring each child found something to enjoy. The sight of the young guests carefully sipping their tea and sampling treats was a dreamlike experience. Throughout the afternoon, the library was filled with playful princess poses, heroic web-slinging, and endless photo

opportunities. Many parents expressed their gratitude for the chance to create magical memories with their children in such a way. It was a celebration of imagination and a wonderful opportunity for families to spend the afternoon together. A special thanks goes out to the Friends of Newbrook Library, whose generous sponsorship made the event possible. Their commitment to supporting family-friendly programming ensures the library remains a special place for community engagement and lifelong learning. The success of the Princess and Superhero Tea Party promises exciting future events at Newbrook Public Library.

Celebration of life for John Sheldon "Jack" Clarke

February 6, 1937 – December 1, 2025

Family and friends are invited to a Celebration of Life for John Sheldon "Jack" Clarke on Saturday, August 8, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. at the Westlock Memorial Hall, 9903 106 Street, Westlock, Alberta.

Please join us as we gather to share memories and honour Jack's life.



"MEAT" AND GREET SUMMER BBQ

DATE: Sunday, August 16th
TIME: 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm
NEW LOCATION: St. Albert Legion Parking Lot
6 Tache Street, St. Albert

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Photos courtesy of Newbrook Library

Smoky Lake RCMP reports decline in Crime Severity Index

Media Release

The latest Crime Severity Index (CSI) released by Statistics Canada shows a positive trend across Alberta RCMP jurisdictions, with a 10.4 per cent decrease in 2025 compared to 2024. The results reflect an overall decline in the volume and severity of police-reported crime across RCMP jurisdictions in the province.

The CSI is a statistical measure developed

by Statistics Canada that considers both the volume and seriousness of police-reported crime. It is calculated using the number and severity of Criminal Code offences reported within a community in relation to its population.

Locally, Smoky Lake RCMP also saw a positive trend. The detachment's CSI decreased from 2024 CSI of 299 to 2025 CSI of 190, representing a 63 percent decrease.

While the CSI provides valuable insight into crime trends, the results should be considered within the context of each community. Jurisdictions with smaller populations often experience greater year-to-year fluctuations in the CSI because even relatively small changes in the number of reported crimes can have a significant impact on the overall score. Larger jurisdictions typically experience less

variation year to year due to their population size, although many of Alberta's larger RCMP jurisdictions also reported decreases in their CSI this year.

For the Smoky Lake RCMP, the CSI is one of several tools used to understand local crime trends, inform intelligence-led policing, and guide operational priorities aimed at reducing crime and addressing repeat victimization within the community.

Recent initiatives and successes informed by those priorities include:

- Bait Assets Projects, which lead to the arrest of habitual offenders
- from surrounding areas
- Working with local Citizens on Patrol and Peace Officers to patrol hot spots
- Sharing Information on Social Media via RAVE and Facebook

These initiatives reflect the Smoky Lake

RCMP's ongoing commitment to reducing crime, strong community partnerships, and delivering policing services that meet the evolving needs of Albertans.

Sgt. Doktor states "Crime has decreased, which is encouraging, but we cannot become complacent. By continuing to work together and look out for one another, we can help keep our community safe now and in the years ahead"

Residents play a role in keeping Sturgeon County roads safe



By Haylee Winger

Sturgeon County is reminding residents that reporting road concerns is an important way they can help support safe and reliable travel throughout the municipality.

County crews work year-round to maintain, repair and improve local roadways,

but residents are often the first to notice changes or issues while travelling. By sharing concerns with the County, residents can help staff identify areas that may require attention and determine where maintenance efforts are needed.

Through the County's online road concern reporting portal, residents can provide details about

roadway issues they encounter. The service is available without creating an account, making it quick and convenient for anyone wishing to submit a report.

Concerns reported by residents help provide Transportation crews with valuable information about road conditions across Sturgeon County's extensive network of paved and gravel

roads. Reports can assist staff in monitoring issues and planning future maintenance activities.

Sturgeon County encourages residents to report concerns as they are noticed, helping the municipality respond to changing road conditions and continue improving transportation infrastructure.

Residents can submit a Road Concern



through the Sturgeon County website by visiting the "Report a Road Concern" section under Roads and Transportation. No account is required to make a submission.



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visual to the perseverance and innovation of those who came before. Cheers erupted from the crowd, while the delighted laughter of children rang out and bubbles filled the air and parade marchers offered icy freezies to the spectators lining the streets.

After the parade, the celebration blossomed into a beautiful blend of past and present. The car show invited guests to wander among gleaming

vehicles, each one reflecting a unique chapter of automotive history and sparking conversations between generations. The aroma of burgers and hot dogs drifting from the grills mingled with the sounds of laughter and storytelling, as people gathered around picnic tables to share a meal and memories.

Inside the Agri-Centre, the kitchen was a constant motion hub of activity, sending out a steady stream of perogies and sausages...dishes that spoke

of cultural roots and recipes handed down through time. The marketplace offered treasures both handmade and homegrown, intricate jewelry, fragrant baked goods, local art, and more. Volunteers, dressed in recreated vintage outfits, moved through the crowd, in a true visual of Radway Pioneer Days.

Outdoors, the festival grounds pulsed with the boundless energy and curiosity of young explorers. Children gathered around the petting zoo

as they snuggled up to the gentle animals. The balloon artist transformed simple tubes into fantastical shapes, bringing with it awe and laughter with each twist and turn. At the Radway Lions sand pile, little hands sifted eagerly through grains in search of hidden treasures, their discoveries met with triumphant shouts and shared excitement. Nate the Magician also moved seamlessly through the throng, captivating audiences of all ages. With a

deft touch and a twinkle in his eye, he invited eager volunteers (perhaps some of them aspiring young magicians) to join him in creating moments of pure enchantment that left even some adults scratching their heads.

The seamless orchestration of events, the laughter echoing across the grounds, and the bonds rekindled among friends all spoke to the heart of what Radway Pioneer Days represents. None of this would have been possible without

the tireless dedication of volunteers whose efforts wove together a day of joy, and the co-operation of glorious weather that seemed to smile on every activity. In every corner of the celebration, there was a reminder that the true heart of a community is found in its ability to come together, honour its roots, and create lasting moments of connection. Radway Pioneer Days was a brilliant example of how tradition and togetherness can light the way forward.



Division 1
Neil Halun
Phone: 780-938-6345
neil.halun@thorhildcounty.com

Division 2
Deputy Reeve Angela Zilinski
Phone: 780-307-5846
angela.zilinski@thorhildcounty.com

Division 3
Scott Nedeljak
Phone: 780-819-0907
scott.nedeljak@thorhildcounty.com

Division 4
Janine Paly
Phone: 780-307-5978
janine.paly@thorhildcounty.com

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

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS
JULY 28, 2026

Below is a brief summary of decisions made at the July 28, 2026, Regular Council meeting:

- Council and Committee Procedure Bylaw**
Council gave first reading to Draft Bylaw 08-2026 Council and Committee Procedure Bylaw, as presented.
- Responsible Dog Ownership Bylaw**
Council gave first reading to Draft Bylaw 07-2026 Responsible Dog Ownership Bylaw, as amended.
- Community Grants Policy**
Council approved Policy 1405 Community Grants (Option 2) and directed Administration to prepare a draft Youth Groups Assistance Policy for future consideration.
- Tax Incentives**
Council directed Administration to identify and report back on additional economic development initiatives, including new residential, commercial, and expansion of existing commercial tax incentives.
- Non-monetary Support Policy**
Council directed Administration to bring back Draft Policy 1407 Non-monetary Support with the discussed amendments for future consideration.
- Family School Liaison Program**
Council approved the Family School Liaison Program Master Service Agreement with Aspen View Public Schools.
- Family Resource Program**
Council approved a 2026 budget amendment to increase the Family Resource Program facility rental budget, allowing dedicated program space to support the two-year funding agreement.
- Halfmoon Lake Campground**
Council approved increasing the seasonal camping fee from \$2,000 to \$2,300 (plus GST) per site, effective for the 2027 camping season. As well as amend Policy 606 Community Services Schedule of Fees, and directed Administration to notify seasonal site holders prior to the December 31, 2026 renewal deadline.
- Budget Meeting**
Council directed Administration to schedule a budget planning workshop for August 31, 2026.

NEWBROOK HISTORICAL
SOCIETY MUSEUM



The Newbrook Historical Society Museum is open every Saturday throughout the summer from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Visitors can explore the history of the Newbrook Meteor Observatory, view the historic Super Schmidt Meteor Camera, hear the famous Sputnik radio signal, and discover local pioneer stories and historic photographs.

DID YOU KNOW?



The Thorhild Pool is required to close if thunder and lightening are present. The Pool will be closed for 30 minutes each time that thunder is heard or lightning is seen. It must also close if extreme weather warnings are issued, such as a severe thunderstorm warning or tornado watch.

Please watch our social media platforms for up-to-date closure notifications.

HALFMOON LAKE CAMPGROUND

Make the most of summer at Halfmoon Lake Campground. Spend the day swimming, relaxing on the beach, launching your boat, or enjoying a picnic with family and friends.

The campground also features a playground, concession, cook shack, washrooms, and day-use amenities, making it the perfect spot for a summer outing.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Equipment Operators
Planning Clerk



For details, please visit our Careers page at
www.thorhildcounty.com.

PUBLIC SALE OF LAND
THORHILD COUNTY

Notice is hereby given that under the provisions of the Municipal Government Act, Thorhild County will offer for sale, by public auction, in the County Administration Office, Thorhild, Alberta, on Tuesday, August 11, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. the following lands:

Lot	Block	Plan	Hamlet	Legal Land Location	Acres	Cert of Title	Reserve Bid
A		1297 KS	Radway			082 440 483	\$29,600
5	10	1346 HW	Thorhild			246D176	\$11,050
1	1	092 0794		SW-8-59-21-4	4.00	122 181 304	\$78,200
				NE-25-58-22-4	3.50	082 286 408	\$65,000
				NE-29-58-22-4	157.97	202 150 753+1	\$351,550
				NW-29-58-22-4	159.00	195F262	\$325,450
				(W1/2) SE-29-58-22-4	79.50	752 020 244A	\$186,325
				(E1/2) SE-29-58-22-4	78.47	202 150 753	\$185,225
				SW-29-58-22-4	159.00	193F262	\$353,325

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. These properties are being offered for sale on an "as is, where is" basis and Thorhild County 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 environment 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 on the sale of any parcel. No terms or conditions of sale will be considered other than those specified by Thorhild County.

Thorhild County may, after the public auction, become the owner of any parcel of land not sold at the public auction.

Terms: Cash or Certified Cheque and GST will apply on lands sold at the Public Auction. A 10% deposit is payable upon the acceptance of the bid at Public Auction. The balance of the accepted bid is due within 30 days.

Redemption may be affected by payment of all arrears of taxes and costs at any time prior to the sale.



Bus EXCURSIONS

AUGUST 10
Giant Roadside Attractions Tour
Head to Glendon to see the largest Perogy, Vilna for the largest mushrooms, Andrew for the largest duck, Mundare for the largest Ukrainian Sausage and Vegreville for the largest Pysanka. Stop for lunch along the way.
Pickup 9:00 am in Thorhild | 9:30 am in Radway.

AUGUST 21
Cheese and Wine Tasting
Stop in at Grange Farmstead to check out their farm fresh cheese and butter! Then head on over to Reveresque for some wine tasting! (\$10 additional fee per person).
Pickup in Newbrook 9:00 am | Thorhild 9:30 am

AUGUST 27
Fort Saskatchewan shopping trip
Pickup Thorhild at 8:30 am | Radway at 9:00 am

ALL ADULTS OVER 18 WELCOME!
\$20 + GST for County Residents
\$30 + GST for Non County Residents

All trips require pre-registration no later than the day before the excursion date.
To register, please contact Kelly at 780-307-4436 or kelly.patry@thorhildcounty.com



John Oleksyn

It is with great sadness and much love that we say goodbye to our beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, John, who passed away on July 22, 2026, at the age of 94 years.



then in 1980 he ventured into the sand and gravel business known as Mill Creek Sand & Gravel, in the 1990's the restaurant known as Sunset and then Clark & Jane's are remembered by many in the community. Many fondly

John is survived by his wife of 67 years Sheila (nee Rounceville), children Nelson (Joan), Shane (Debbie), Cathy (Tony), Tim (Shelly), Tammy (Coby), Shanna (Greg), Mark (Amber), Katrina (Harlyn), Jason (Jayde), Tasha (Matthew). Grandchildren: Jordan, Jesse, Giancarlo, Zacari, Jake, Emma, Kaleb, Nevada, Madison, Braden, Logan, Tekle, Julia, Wyatt, Aliza, Jude, Jackson.

Great Grandchildren: Trenton, Hudson, Bennet, Abigail, Samuel, Tessa. Along with nieces and nephews and dear friends.

John was predeceased by his parents Kuzma, Anna (Feniak). Siblings James, Peter, Mary, Margaret, Dorothy, Catherine, Pearl, Jean.

Born and raised in Opal, Alberta area (Peaskie), John married Sheila in 1959. Together they raised five sons and five daughters on their farm just NW of Opal. John always jokingly said he was the King of Opal City and mom would just agree.

One of John's greatest accomplishments was his family. John was so proud of his beautiful, hard-working supportive wife Sheila and proud to be the father to ten children, he often encouraged others to have ten kids too. John had a real love for life, and living off the land. He had a green thumb especially in his retirement years gardening was his hobby, along with fencing, picking mushrooms and blueberries when the season arrived.

John had a tireless work ethic; he worked hard for his family alongside his wife Sheila on their cattle farm for many decades. John truly had an entrepreneur spirit, in his early days in Bon Accord there was the gas station and vehicle repair shop, water well digging,

remember waving to John in his pickup truck with the John Deere license plate as he was out and about on his daily tour of the local countryside, sand pit, auctions and stopping at a favorite coffee shop for lunch.

John was baptized as one of Jehovah's Witnesses and out of love for his God Jehovah and neighbour he willingly shared the good news of God's Kingdom with others. John was generous soul. He gave to others because he wanted to, not for any recognition. He truly practiced giving Acts 20:35 "There is more happiness in giving than there is in receiving," and he reaped the benefit of the happiness that comes from giving.

John will be deeply missed by both family and friends. We look forward to seeing him again when his cherished scriptural hope is realized. Revelation 21:3, 4 "And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away."

From the family a special thank you to the wonderful care team of doctors, nurses, caregivers, administration, chefs, custodians at Aster Gardens on Unit #3 who extended such kindness, respect and dignity to our dad, we are forever grateful.

A Memorial Service will be held on August 5, 2026, at 11:00 am at the Redwater & District Pioneer Club located at 4916 50 ST, Redwater Alberta. John will have been laid to rest in a private family interment on August 5, 2026.

The family would like to thank you for all the love and support shown as we say goodbye.

As an expression of sympathy plant a tree or pay it forward with an act of kindness to someone.



Be aware of outdoor pool closures



By Brandie Majeau

Local residents may be surprised to find their neighborhood outdoor pools occasionally closed this summer, as various weather and safety factors prompt temporary shutdowns. Outdoor pools are a popular hot spot for families and individuals seeking relief from the summer heat, but sudden closures can catch swimmers off guard if they are not monitoring the latest updates from pool operators. That built-up anticipation of diving into the relief of cool water could be met with disappointment and heading home.

The summer of 2026 has so far had fluctuating temperatures, poor air quality, and severe weather, including tornado and thunderstorm watches, which has impacted pool operations throughout the region. According to municipal guidelines, outdoor pools are required to close during extreme weather events or when Environment Canada issues severe weather warnings. The presence of thunder or lightning also mandates an immediate closure for a minimum safety period, with pools remaining closed until conditions are deemed safe for swimmers. Air quality is another critical factor. If the Air Quality Health

Index categorizes conditions as high risk, pool managers must close outdoor facilities to protect public health. This is the same for unusually low summer temperatures. If outdoor temperatures drop below a certain threshold, the pool may remain closed to protect the safety of swimmers. Aside from weather-related issues, mechanical failures, water contamination, or loss of essential utilities can also force outdoor pools to close unexpectedly. In these cases, repairs or remediation must be completed before the pool can safely reopen. For residents who live within walking distance, a spontaneous trip to the pool

can still be a pleasant outing, swim bags packed and a brisk walk still gets the body moving. Those traveling from out of town are advised to call ahead or review the facility's social media channels to avoid disappointment and unnecessary travel if they are uncertain of operation protocols or current weather/air conditions. Local authorities emphasize the importance of staying informed about pool status during the summer months. By checking official announcements before heading out, swimmers can avoid disappointment and be assured that their cannonball into the cool is still a go.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Join Us and Shape The Future Of Our Club!
Invitation is open to all members, parents, and interested community members. We are currently seeking new board members.
Date: August 10th, 2026
Time: 7pm
Location: Thorhild Agriplex
We look forward to seeing you there!

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Take notice that the following Development Permit has been approved on July 23, 2026 in accordance with **Land Use Bylaw No. 1272-14** of Smoky Lake County:

Permit Number: DP 029-26
Legal Land Description: LOT 10 & LOT 11, VICTORIA SETTLEMENT
Area: VICTORIA SETTLEMENT
Division: 3
Land Use District: VICTORIA COMMERCIAL (C2) DISTRICT
Use Type: DISCRETIONARY USE
Proposed Development: (SOLAR ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEM, PERSONAL)

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

Persons wishing to appeal the above decision 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 **Monday, August 17th, 2026, 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/
Director of Community Services

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780-222-2016**

www.theredwaterreview.com

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2026-2027
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Register today at **hfs.lrcssd.ca**

**School office reopens
August 17, 2026**

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Waskatenau, AB
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AUGUST 2026

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.

Agricultural Service Board Meeting
August 11, 2026 @ 9:00 AM

Special Council Meeting
August 11, 2026 @ 1:00 PM

Committee of the Whole Meeting
August 11, 2026 @ 2:00 PM

County Departmental Meeting
September 10, 2026 @ 9:00 AM

Regular County Council Meeting
September 17, 2026 @ 9:00 AM
A Public Question Period is held during each Regular Council Meeting from 11:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Council Highlights

Council Highlights provide a snapshot of Council decision-making and the progress of County programs and initiatives. For more details visit www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca/highlights

- Approved Policy 15-10: Responsible Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Council approved the policy and directed Administration to bring it back to the next scheduled Committee of the Whole meeting for further review.
- Rescinded Policy 02-16: Infectious Disease Management Plan. Relevant information, procedures, and operational planning components will be incorporated into the County’s Emergency Response Plan.
- Amended Policy 03-13: Haul Rate Adjustment.
- Approved Policy 03-56: Equipment Storage, Availability and Compensation.
- Third and Final Reading was given to Bylaw 1510-26: Procedural Bylaw.

Donations

- \$1,500 to Vilna and District Agricultural Society to support the Annual Boomtown Fair Days, taking place August 14-15, 2026.
- One tandem load of gravel, delivered within Smoky Lake County, donated as a silent auction prize for the Vilna/Bellis Citizens on Patrol fundraiser.
- \$5,000 to the Smoky Lake Fire Department to support the Drone Light Show, on August 2, 2026 held in conjunction with Smoky Lake Heritage Weekend.
- \$500 sponsorship as an Activity Sponsor for Ukrainian Day 2026, hosted at Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village on August 16, 2026.
- Promotional items valued at \$100 to Bellis Board of Trade for their Scavenger Hunt.

**PAPER WEIGHING
YOU DOWN?**

You can receive your monthly Natural Gas bill by email. To sign up to receive your Smoky Lake County Natural Gas bill through Paperless Billing, contact us today!

CALL US
780-656-3730

EMAIL US
dmoric@smokylakecounty.ab.ca

**FIREWORKS
REQUIRE PERMITS**

Fireworks permits are required year-round, and there is **NO CHARGE** to obtain one.

To obtain a fireworks permit please call Smoky Lake County at 780-656-3730.

Smoky Lake County
Main and Public Works
Offices will be

CLOSED

Monday,
August 3, 2026
for Heritage Day

AAAF Memorial Bursary

The Association of Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen, as an ongoing tribute to active or retired AAAF members who pass away, and in the spirit of continuing education valued by our Association, created the AAAF Memorial Bursary.

The bursary is intended for students continuing their education at a College or University and enrolled in an agricultural or environmental science program.

There is a \$1000 bursary available in each calendar year for each of the 5 provincial regions of the Association of Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen.

For more information and to download the application:
<https://aaaf.ab.ca/AAAF-Bursary>

Deadline to apply is **September 1, 2026**

Please submit applications to sdutrisac@smokylakecounty.ab.ca or brieden@smokylakecounty.ab.ca

View Smoky Lake County Council’s Proclamations for the month of August
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
Main Office
Public Works Shop

888-656-3730
780-656-3730
780-656-3755

www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca



Participants in Sturgeon County's Youth Emergency Services Academy visited RCMP Headquarters during the academy, held July 20–22, where they took part in fitness testing, experienced a portion of the Physical Abilities Requirement Evaluation (PARE), toured the Real Time Operations Centre, and learned about specialized RCMP units. The hands-on program gave youth an inside look at careers in emergency services while emphasizing teamwork, leadership, and public safety. **Royal Canadian Mounted Police in Alberta photos**



4608 48 AVE REDWATER

\$279,900

Well-maintained 3-bedroom bungalow with a functional and family-friendly layout. The main floor features a bright kitchen, dining area, comfortable living space, three bedrooms, and a 4-piece bathroom. The basement is mostly undeveloped, offering excellent potential for future development, and includes a 2-piece bathroom with a shower already started. Situated on a spacious lot with plenty of room to enjoy the outdoors, the property also features a 24' x 20' double detached garage, providing ample space for vehicles, storage, or a workshop.

20116 TWP ROAD, RURAL STURGEON COUNTY

\$799,900

One-of-a-kind 78-acre property offering approx. 50 acres of pasture, 2 dugouts, and a picture-perfect yard site. The custom-built 2-story home features a walkout basement and thoughtful design throughout. Enjoy 2 upper-level decks, including a private deck off the primary suite. The main floor includes laundry, a 2-pc bath, and a galley-style kitchen with high-end appliances, flowing into a spacious dining area, living room, and cozy sitting space. Outside, the property is equally impressive with an 82' carport, a 16x21 workshop, a 12x14 bunkhouse, and a 25x40 vegetable garden.

4419 47 ST GIBBONS

SOLD
\$389,900

Pride of ownership shines throughout this original-owner 3+1 bedroom bungalow, ideally situated on a large lot with a town easement behind for added privacy. This well-maintained home offers the perfect blend of classic charm and valuable modern upgrades, including triple-pane windows, a high-efficiency furnace, newer hot water tank, shingles, exterior doors, garage door, front vinyl siding, driveway, and rubber sidewalk. The main floor features a bright living room, a dining area open to the kitchen, a 4-piece bathroom, and three bedrooms, including the primary with a convenient 2-piece ensuite. The fully finished basement offers a spacious recreation room, a fourth bedroom, a den, a 3-piece bathroom, and plenty of storage space. Outside, the beautifully landscaped, partially fenced yard features a large deck with a gazebo, raised garden beds, a spacious side driveway with plenty of parking, and a double detached garage. With the added privacy of the town easement behind, this property offers an ideal.

58024 RR 210 THORHILD COUNTY

\$199,900

Escape to the peace and beauty of this stunning 4-acre mature yard site, where every tree was lovingly planted by the current owners over 40 years ago. Whether you're looking for a weekend retreat or the perfect location to build your dream home, this property offers endless potential. Located just 10 minutes east of Redwater, you'll enjoy the privacy of country living with the convenience of nearby amenities. The existing 2-bedroom cabin sits on a concrete slab and features a spacious living room, kitchen, a wood-burning stove for heat, and a second wood-burning cook stove for preparing meals. An outhouse serves as the bathroom. Additional features include a double garage, with half converted into guest accommodations, an original farmhouse, storage shed, horseshoe pits, and a beautiful tree-lined driveway. A rare opportunity to own a picturesque acreage with mature landscaping and endless possibilities.

Tools | Vehicles | Equipment & More
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WARD'S AUCTIONS

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Near Morinville

Bayliner Boat, BMW 440i, Lincoln MKX, Honda CRV, Quad, 3-Point attachments, Mini-Skid, trailers, lathe, milling machine, hand tools, antique Ford tractor etc.

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BACK TO SCHOOL
2026-27





REGISTRATION
New to Aspen View?
Register online.



aspenview.org/for-students-parents/registration-forms



TRANSPORTATION
Students requiring transportation must register annually.



transportation.aspenview.org/workflow/



SCHOOL CALENDAR
The 2026-27 school calendar is available online.



aspenview.org/download/565753

WELCOME BACK!

We look forward to welcoming our students back for another year of learning, growth, and success.

Our dedicated staff are ready to support every learner in a safe, caring, and inclusive environment where all students can thrive.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES



Visit your school's website for school supply lists.
<https://www.aspenview.org/about-us/school-directory>



POWERSCHOOL
Access grades, attendance, and important updates online.
<https://sis.aspenview.org/public/>



SCHOOL COUNCILS
Get involved! School councils support student success and strengthen our communities.

OUR SCHOOLS

ATHABASCA

Whispering Hills Primary School

Amber Kratko

Landing Trail Intermediate School

Treena Michalski

Edwin Parr Composite School

Brenna Kowalchuk

Alternative Student Programming & Education Network (ASPEN)

Brenna Kowalchuk

BOYLE

Boyle School

Sam Dumoulin

GRASSLAND

Grassland School

Karen Davies

SMITH

Smith School

Brian Potts

SMOKY LAKE

H.A. Kostash School

Murray Lalonde

THORHILD

Thorhild Central School

Lenore Lamouche

VILNA

Vilna School

Ashley Bodnar

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WARD 2
Maria Smosarska
780-675-3553
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Candy Nikipelo
780-689-3794
candy.nikipelo@aspenview.org



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April Bauer
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Review

Auctions
WARD's AUCTIONS. Sturgeon County Online Auction of Vehicles, Tools, Equipment, etc. on August 8th. Preview August 7th. Current items include Bayliner Boat, BMW 440i, Lincoln MKX, Honda CRV, Quad, 3-Point attachments. Mini-Skid, trailers, lathe, milling machine, hand tools, antique Ford tractor, etc. WardsAuctions.com. Brad Ward 780-940-8378.

Buildings For Sale
INTEGRITY POST FRAME BUILDINGS since 2008 BUILT WITH CONCRETE POSTS. Barns, Shops, Riding Arenas, Machine Sheds and more, sales@integritybuilt.com 1-866-974-7678 www.integritybuilt.com.

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32 Registered Red Angus yearling bulls, quiet, easy calving (43-88# BW with high CE scores), great WW's, lots of length and growth. From 6 herd sires. EPD's available. Selling quality bulls for heifers and cows since 1992. Cleveley Cattle Company

780-689-2754.
Coming Events
FIREARMS WANTED FOR OUR 2026 AUCTION PROGRAM: Firearms, Ammunition, Accessories, or Militaria. Collections, Estates or single items. For Auction, or Possible Purchase: Contact us: 1-800-694-2609, Email: sales@switzersauction.com or Visit us @ www.switzersauction.com for Auction Dates & Details.

For Sale
1 Year old Free run Brown Laying hens. \$3 each, these hens still lay 90%. Pick up April 17-18, Near Two Hills. Call or text 780-603-9047
Polished Alberta rocks for sale. Please contact Thorhild Lodge at 780-398-3556 to leave a message for the seller.

Farming
Plain Lake Farming
 Free Run Brown Eggs & Natural Grown Chickens, Eli C Hofer. Legal address NW-35-53-12-W4. Box 370, Two Hills, AB, T0B-4k0. For sale 1 year old free run brown laying hens, \$3 each, Pick up April

17-18, Near Two Hills
 Call 780-603-9047.

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Travel

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Staying tick-smart during Alberta's outdoor season



By Haylee Winger

Summer in Alberta brings plenty of opportunities to enjoy the outdoors, whether it's hiking local trails, camping with family, walking the dog or spending time in the garden. Along with those activities comes the possibility of encountering ticks, making awareness and prevention an important part of any outdoor adventure.

Ticks are tiny parasites that survive by feeding on the blood of animals and people. They are most commonly found in grassy areas, shrubs, forest edges and other places where they can latch onto a passing host. Although they are small, ticks can transmit diseases, making it worthwhile to check for them after spending time outside.

The species residents are most likely to encounter in Al-

berta is the Rocky Mountain wood tick. While blacklegged ticks—often called deer ticks—are occasionally found in the province, Alberta Health says the overall risk of contracting Lyme disease within Alberta remains low because established populations of Lyme disease-carrying blacklegged ticks have not been confirmed. Even so, health officials encourage people to take precautions and remove any attached tick promptly.

Reducing the chance of a tick bite starts before heading outdoors. Wearing long sleeves, long pants and closed-toe footwear can help create a barrier between skin and ticks. Light-coloured clothing also makes it easier to spot ticks before they attach. Insect repellents containing DEET or icaridin provide an added layer of protection when used according to the man-

ufacturer's directions. Once back indoors, a thorough tick check is one of the simplest and most effective prevention measures. Ticks often attach to warm, hidden areas of the body, including behind the knees, under the arms, around the waist, along the hairline and behind the ears. Children should be checked carefully, and pets should also be inspected since they can carry ticks into homes and vehicles.

If an attached tick is discovered, experts recommend removing it with fine-tipped tweezers. Grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible and pull upward slowly and steadily without twisting. The bite area should then be washed with soap and water or cleaned with an antiseptic. Folk remedies such as applying petroleum jelly, nail polish or heat are not recommended because they may make removal more

difficult. People should monitor their health in the weeks following a tick bite. Anyone who develops symptoms such as fever, fatigue, muscle aches or an expanding rash should seek medical attention and tell their healthcare provider about the tick exposure. When Lyme disease is diagnosed early, it is typically treated successfully with antibiotics. Albertans can also help provincial surveillance efforts by submitting photographs of ticks through the eTick program, which assists experts in identifying tick species and tracking where they are found across the province. Ticks are a natural part of Alberta's environment, but they don't have to spoil a day outdoors. By dressing appropriately, using insect repellent, checking for ticks after outdoor activities and removing them correctly, Albertans can continue to enjoy parks, trails and campsites with confidence.

Sturgeon County continues Street-Level Imaging Program



By Haylee Winger

Residents in northeastern Sturgeon County may notice camera-equipped County vehicles travelling local roads over the coming months as the municipality continues its street-level imaging program in the area.

The initiative, which began last year, is designed to support the County's property assessment process by providing assessors with current im-

ages of roads, homes and neighbourhoods. The updated imagery helps staff prepare for inspections, verify property information and better identify areas where in-person visits may be needed. According to Sturgeon County, the vehicles will operate on public roads during regular business hours and will be clearly marked. Employees completing the imaging work will also carry official Sturgeon County identification. Maintaining accurate property infor-

mation is an important part of Alberta's assessment system. Sturgeon County regularly reviews properties through inspections, permit follow-ups, property sales reviews and scheduled reinspection programs to help ensure assessments remain current and accurate. The street-level imagery provides assessors with an additional resource to support this work. The images will also benefit residents by providing updated views of roads

and neighbourhoods through Google Maps' Street View, making it easier for people to view locations throughout the County. Sturgeon County notes that street-level imaging does not replace in-person inspections when they are required. Property owners selected for an inspection or reinspection will continue to be contacted directly by Assessment Services. Residents looking for more information about property inspections and the assessment process can visit the Sturgeon County website or contact Assessment Services.

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THIS WEEK'S TIPS

TIP #1

POSITIVE COMMUNICATIONS TIP

Put your phone away
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TIP #2

CONFLICT RESOLUTION TIP

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**Sturgeon
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August Meetings
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County Centre Office
Ph: 780-939-4321
Toll Free: 1-866-939-9303
Emergency After Hours:
780-939-4321

Meeting schedule is subject to change. Members of the public are welcome to observe or listen in. For teleconference details and links to the livestream, click on the meetings notice in the following locations:

Council Meetings: SturgeonCounty.ca/CouncilMeetings
Board and Committee Meetings: SturgeonCounty.ca/Boards
Public Hearings: SturgeonCounty.ca/Notices

<i>Holiday Closure - Heritage Day</i>	<i>Aug 3</i>	<i>Closed</i>
Subdivision and Development Appeal Board	Aug 4	2:00 PM
Subdivision and Development Appeal Board	Aug 18	2:00 PM
Regular Council/Committee of the Whole	Aug 25	9:00 AM

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PUBLIC NOTICE
VILLAGE OF WASKATENAU

Take notice that the following Development Permit has been issued under Land Use Bylaw #686-2021 of the Village of Waskatenau:

Proposed	Legal Description	Street Address
Renovation to Com/Res. Split	Lot 9, Block 1, Plan 4934 CD	5052 - 50 Street Waskatenau, Alberta

Any person claiming to be affected by the said development may appeal to the Intermunicipal Subdivision and Development Appeal Board (ISDAB) by serving written Notice of Appeal to the ISDAB Clerk of the Intermunicipal Subdivision and Development Appeal Board at Box 310, Smoky Lake, Alberta T0A 3C0 within fourteen (14) days.

Dated: July 30, 2026

Bernice Macyk
Development Authority, Village of Waskatenau
Box 99, Waskatenau, Alberta, T0A 3P0, Phone (780) 358-2208



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