



COMMUNITY VOICE

YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER

Serving: Alberta Beach, Barrhead, Calahoo, Cherhill, Darwell, Glenevis, Gunn, Lac Ste. Anne County, Mayerthorpe, Onoway, Rich Valley, Rochfort Bridge, Sangudo, Whitecourt, Spruce Grove and Stony Plain.

March 18, 2026

PARKLAND RCMP PROACTIVE TRAFFIC STOP RESULTS IN DRUG SEIZURE

Submitted by Parkland RCMP

On Mar. 12, 2026, Parkland RCMP made proactive patrols in Spruce Grove, and conducted a traffic stop on Campsite Road for a vehicle with a male driver to complete a document check. Police arrested the individual on his outstanding warrant and conducted a search of the vehicle.

Police located the following:

- A loaded pistol,
- An unloaded rifle,
- Ammunition,
- 396.2 grams of cocaine,
- 12.8 grams of crack cocaine,
- And 8 grams of methamphetamine.

Michael Andrusiak, (38), a resident of Whitecourt, Alta, has been charged with the following offences:

- Possession for the purpose of trafficking (co-

- caine),
- Possession for the purpose of trafficking (meth),
- Possession of weapon for dangerous purpose (x2),
- Possession of firearm in motor vehicle (x2),
- Unsafe storage of firearms.

Andrusiak was remanded into custody with his next court appearance on Mar. 16, 2026 at the Alberta Court of Justice in St Albert.

ALBERTA RCMP WARN THE PUBLIC OF SPRING SCAM SEASON

Submitted by Alberta RCMP

The Alberta RCMP is advising that with the change of season comes an increase in certain scams. RCMP are already responding to reports of paving and distraction/gold scams.

Paving scams are very common. Contractors claim to have leftover materials from previous jobs and offer to pave driveways

and parking lots at reduced pricing. Companies may use business names that suggest they are affiliated with a government road maintenance department and typically provide false addresses or contact information. After contractors collect payment and disappear from the area, customers discover the materials used are poor quality and the work is unprofessional. Victims are sometimes left

unable to contact the scammers and face expensive asphalt repairs or in other incidents, the contractors attempt to intimidate the customer into paying after the work is completed for poor product and services.

Keep the following tips in mind to avoid falling victim to a paving scam:

- Ask for names of previous customers and

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SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES

Continued on Page 2



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(Zone 1 & 2) AND
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news@com-voice.com

Alberta RCMP Warn The Public Of Spring Scam Season

Continued from Page 1

verify that they were satisfied with the work.

- Research the company through the Better Business Bureau in Alberta, the Consumer Investigations Unit, your local Rural Crime Watch, or on social media.

- Obtain a written quote that includes the full business name, address, phone number, GST number, as well as provincial and municipal license numbers, if applicable.

- Quotes should specify the quantity and quality of materials being offered. Be skeptical if contractors decline to provide this information.

- Seek estimates from reputable companies to compare costs.

- Do not agree to a contract if you feel pressured or if the contractor refuses to take "no" for an answer.

- Be leery of unsolicited offers. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!

- Do not pay for services upfront, before the work is done.

Distraction/Gold scams mostly occur in retail parking lots. Victim is approached by a seemingly stranded motorist. Scammer claim they need money for food, gas, or airfare to get home, and offer fake gold or jewellery for exchange. The scammer often cites hardship, such as the recent death of a family member, or referencing sad-looking children in their vehicles in order to solicit a sympa-

thetic response from victims. The scammers will sell what turns out to be fake jewelry or use distraction techniques to remove real jewellery from a victim.

Keep the following tips in mind to avoid falling victim to distraction/gold scams:

- Always remain vigilant
- Secure your valuables.
- Be cautious of strangers in your personal space or attempting to hug or touch you.
- Trust your instincts and don't be afraid to say no or yell for help if you feel uncomfortable.
- Walk away from any suspicious person or behaviour.

WHITECOURT TOWN COUNCIL UPDATE

Submitted by Town of Whitecourt

Whitecourt is now accepting nominations to the 2026 Volunteer Awards Program. Tell us who is making a difference in our community by recognizing them with a nomination. Nomination forms are available at www.volunteerwhitecourt.ca. National Volunteer Week is April 19 to 26, 2026, and Whitecourt will be recognizing and thanking volunteers from across the community for the time and energy they contribute to our community. Watch for information on our website and social media sites on events and activities planned to celebrate our volunteers.

Whitecourt will be a sponsor of the Alberta Cham-

ber of Commerce Annual General Meeting that is scheduled for May 27 and 28 in Whitecourt, and is also exploring partnership opportunities with Woodlands County for the event. The event will increase awareness of Whitecourt with business leaders, policy-makers, and Chamber representatives from across Alberta.

Whitecourt has allocated \$3,500 under the Sports Hosting Program to the Whitecourt Minor Hockey Association to host the U13 Provincial Championship event this month. The Sports Hosting Program provides an opportunity for the municipality and sport community to work together to maximize the economic and community benefits derived from host-

ing provincial sport events. Whitecourt Town Council has approved an application for a seasonal eating and drinking establishment (ice cream stand) at 5115 Highway 43 (Brooke's Creek).

The Whitecourt & District Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a series of Night-time Farmers Markets over the spring and summer in downtown Whitecourt. Temporary street closures have been approved along 51 Avenue and 50 Street to accommodate the events.

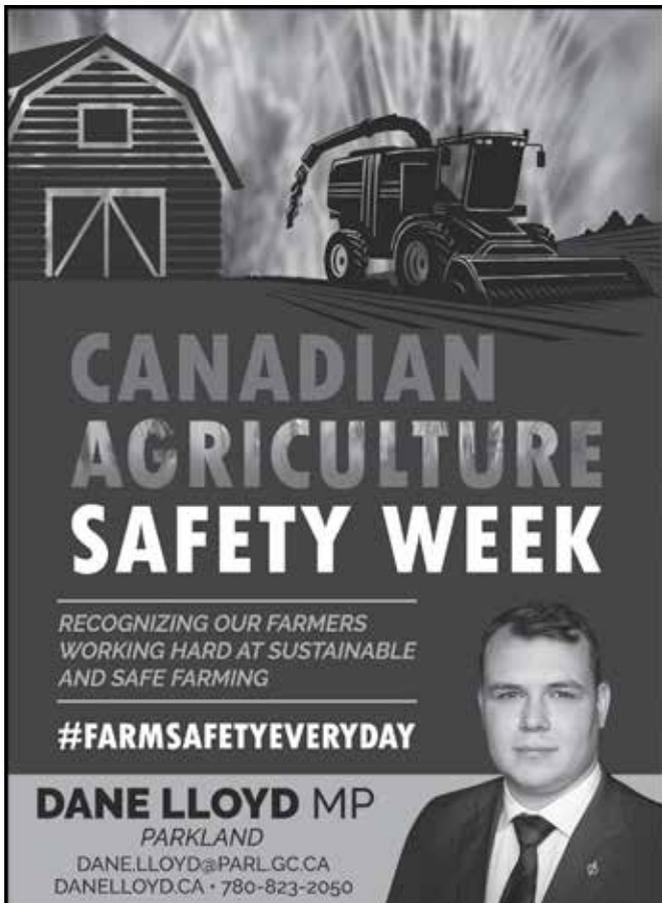
Follow the Whitecourt & District Chamber of Commerce Facebook page for details.

The Whitecourt & District Chamber of Commerce will be hosting the annual Carnival in downtown Whitecourt May 8-10, 2026.

Temporary street clo-

sures from May 5-11 in the downtown area have been approved to accommodate the event. Watch for further information on the Carnival on the Whitecourt & District Chamber of Commerce Facebook page.

Whitecourt has approved a Municipal Access Agreement with Slave Lake Communications Ltd. (operating as Whitecourt Communications) for non-exclusive use of the municipal right of ways to construct and operate a fibre optic network in the area immediately surrounding Whitecourt. This agreement will allow the company to install fibre to serve residents in surrounding Woodlands County.

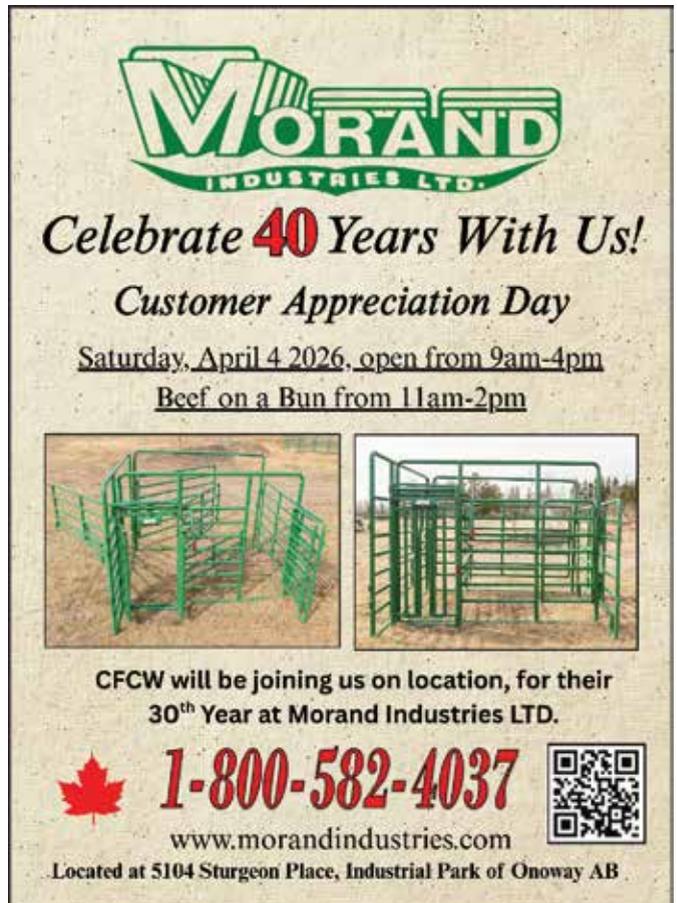


CANADIAN AGRICULTURE SAFETY WEEK

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IS IT TIME FOR YOUR MAMMOGRAM?

Submitted by AHS

Screen Test is coming to Stony Plain March 27 to 31, 2026 and Enoch Cree Nation April 1, 2026

Screen Test is a free service provided by Primary Care Alberta that offers screening mammograms. Our mobile screening units

travel to 120 communities throughout Alberta to provide convenient access to breast cancer screening.

Having regular screening mammograms is the best way to find breast cancer early, before symptoms appear and when treatment may work better.

Who should have a

screening mammogram?

If you're 45 to 74, you don't need a referral to have a mammogram. Make screening part of your regular health routine. Plan to have a mammogram every 2 years or as decided by you and your healthcare provider.

If you're 40 to 44 or over 75, discuss the risks and benefits of screening with your healthcare provider. You will need a referral if you're 40 to 44 and it's your first mammogram, or if you're over 75.

Call toll-free to book an appointment: 1-800-667-0604

Breast density scores are now included in your Screen Test result letter

Breast density is the amount of dense tissue compared to the amount of

fat in a person's breasts. It can be harder to find cancer in dense breasts because this tissue appears white on a mammogram, the same colour as many kinds of breast cancer. It's common to have dense breast tissue.

Dense breasts are only one of many risk factors for breast cancer. Other factors, such as age and genetics, have a bigger impact on your overall risk. You can't tell how dense your breasts are by size, look or feel. The only way to find out is by having a mammogram.

Talk to your healthcare provider about your breast density score and your personal risk of breast cancer.

For more information on Screen Test and breast cancer screening, visit screeningforlife.ca/breast

Public Works Foreman Position

For the period on or about May 4th, 2026 through on or about October 2nd, 2026, working Monday through Friday, 8 hours days (weather permitting). Wages between \$23 - 30/ hour. Position is temporary and seasonal, though renewals may be possible.

- physically demanding
- requires working outdoors in a variety of weather conditions
- safety gear (including CSA steel toed footwear, hearing and/or eye protection, and lifejackets) required
- minium Class 5 motor license

Formore info, please go to www.svnakamun.com.



Please forward resumes by April 17, 2026 and inquiries to:

Summer Village of Nakamun Park, c/o Wendy Wildman, CAO
P.O. Box 1250, Onoway, AB. T0E 1V0

780-967-0271 (office), cao@svnakamun.com

We thank all applicants for their interest, however only those selected for interviews will be notified.

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BUILDING HOMES FOR ALBERTA SENIORS

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Alberta's government is committing more than \$200 million to build and upgrade seniors housing across the province.

As Alberta's seniors population grows at an unprecedented pace, Alberta's government is investing record amounts to support seniors and ensure the province's seniors housing stock grows along with it. Alberta's government created the Seniors Lodge Modernization Program and is committing hundreds of millions of dollars to build new seniors lodges and upgrade existing ones, ensuring Alberta seniors can age with dignity in the communities they've helped build.

"Seniors have made enormous contributions to the communities we live in today,

and they deserve housing that reflects that. By investing more than \$200 million to modernize and expand seniors lodges, Alberta's government is helping ensure seniors can continue living in the communities they helped build, with the comfort, dignity and support they deserve."

Jason Nixon, Minister of Assisted Living and Social Services

If passed, Budget 2026 would commit \$150 million over the next three years for the Seniors Lodge Modernization Program. This is in addition to the almost \$54 million already allocated to six projects across the province - all of which are in small communities across Alberta. This total more than \$200-million commitment would support more than 1,000 units for seniors across

the province.

"ASCHA appreciates the Government of Alberta's investment in the Seniors Lodge Program. Modernizing lodge infrastructure will help ensure seniors continue to have community environments that improve well-being and support seniors to maintain their independence in a home setting."

James Nibourg, president, Alberta Seniors & Community Housing Association (ASCHA)

The Seniors Lodge Program is unique to Alberta and is the province's oldest social housing program. There are currently about 11,000 seniors lodge units across the province, which serve as important community hubs - especially in rural communities. The Seniors Lodge Modernization Program brings together partners from public and non-profit organizations

to provide comfortable, supportive housing for seniors in the communities where it's most needed.

"Affordable housing for seniors is more important than ever. The Government of Alberta's continued support helps us provide more affordable options for residents and improve the quality of life for seniors. This funding supports the development of a new 102-unit subsidized seniors supportive lodge in Spruce Grove, a first of its kind in the city."

Lori-Anne St. Arnault, CEO, Meridian Housing Foundation

The next intake for Seniors Lodge Modernization Program applications is expected to open in fall 2026.

Budget 2026 focuses on what matters, makes disciplined choices and takes decisive action.

STONY PLAIN FARMERS' MARKET
'ALBERTA APPROVED'



OPEN FOR THE SEASON



Saturday, April 4th
9am - 1pm
Stony Plain Community Centre
5008-51 Ave
Downtown Stony Plain

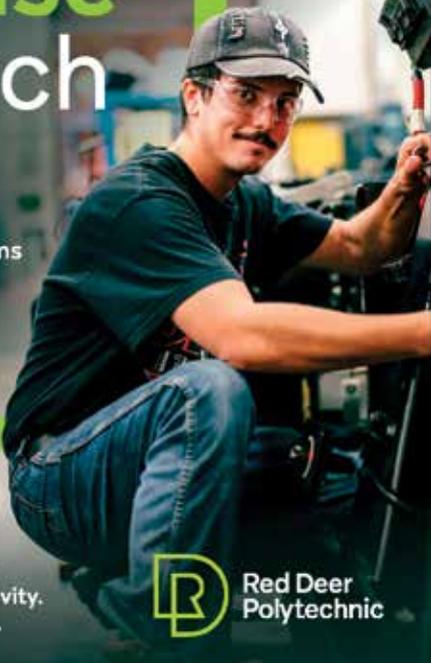
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Lac Ste. Anne County 56521 Range Road 65, Box 219 Sangudo AB T0E 2A0 Phone 780 785 3411 Toll-free 1 866 880 5722 Email LSAC@LSAC.ca

County News Highlights

MEETINGS & HEARINGS

[LSAC.ca/meetings](https://www.lacsteanne.ca/meetings)

Meetings and public hearings are held at the County Administration Office near Sangudo, they are open to the public and available remotely. Explore the County's online calendar for agendas, minutes, and meeting details.

Budget Meeting

Friday, March 20, 2026 at 9:30 am

Council Meeting

Thursday, March 26, 2026 at 9:30 am

Council Meeting

Thursday, April 9, 2026 at 9:30 am

COUNCIL REINFORCES COMMITMENT TO TRANSPARENT DECISION-MAKING

[LSAC.ca/council](https://www.lacsteanne.ca/council)

Council is reaffirming its commitment to transparent governance by ensuring proposed bylaws receive careful consideration and opportunities for public input before final decisions are made.

Under Council's approach to decision-making, bylaws are not rushed through the legislative process. Instead, when a proposed bylaw shows merit, Council may grant first reading and then direct Administration to bring the bylaw back at a later meeting. This process allows time for additional review, clarification, and engagement with residents and stakeholders.

Providing a first reading signals that Council believes the proposal warrants further consideration, but it does not mean the bylaw has been approved. Subsequent readings give Council the opportunity to review the updated information and hear feedback from the public before making a final decision.

"Council believes that good governance requires openness and time for thoughtful

discussion," said County CAO Ann Mitchell. "By allowing space between readings, we ensure residents have the opportunity to understand proposed changes and share their perspectives."

Residents are encouraged to stay informed about proposed bylaws by reviewing Council meeting agendas and minutes, which are available on the County's website. Opportunities for public participation, including public input and written submissions, are available through the review process.

Council remains committed to maintaining a transparent and inclusive legislative process that supports informed decision-making and community involvement.

COUNTY TREE PRUNING WORKSHOP COMING SOON

[eventbrite.ca](https://www.eventbrite.ca)

Ready to sharpen your pruning skills? Join us on the farm for a day of hands-on tree and shrub pruning with Toso Bozic. Dress for outdoor work and bring your favourite pruning tools!

Date: Saturday, April 25

Time: 9 am – 3 pm

Location: Lysachok Family Farm, 56510 RGE RD 54, Lac Ste. Anne County

Cost: \$20, lunch is provided

Registration: is required – at [eventbrite.ca](https://www.eventbrite.ca) – please search **Tree Pruning Workshop with Toso Bozic**

SEASONAL COYOTE PREDATION MANAGEMENT is Available for Livestock Producers

The County's Problem Wildlife Officer is focussed on coyote management for the fall and winter season. Increased coyote activity is common this time of year as food sources change and young animals disperse to establish new territories.

Producing livestock has many challenges — and coyote predation is one of them. Although they are important to the ecosystem, coyotes can cause problems when they injure or kill domestic livestock or domestic pets like dogs.

If you're dealing with problematic coyotes, there are ways the County can help. Contact the Agricultural Services team to get started.

For more information visit [LSAC.ca/agriculture](https://www.lacsteanne.ca/agriculture).

LAC STE. ANNE MINOR SOFTBALL LEAGUE REGISTRATION: This co-ed league's season runs from April 27 — approximately mid-June. Online registration and in-person registration events and are happening now throughout the region!

For details and community registration links please visit [LSAC.ca/softball](https://www.lacsteanne.ca/softball)



Lac Ste. Anne County 56521 Range Road 65, Box 219 Sangudo AB T0E 2A0 Phone 780 785 3411 Toll-free 1 866 880 5722 Email LSAC@LSAC.ca

DISCRETIONARY DEVELOPMENT PERMITS

LSAC.ca/permits

The development permits below have been conditionally approved under the provisions of the Land Use Bylaw (LUB). This list does not include permitted uses. Please contact County Planning & Development to request additional information on permits listed.

Anyone who claims to be affected and who wishes to lodge an appeal against any of these developments must do so in writing, using the applicable form on or before 4:30 pm on the noted date(s) to the appropriate appeal body:

Subdivision & Development Appeal Board (SDAB)
 Secretary of the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board
 Box 219, Sangudo, AB T0E 2A0 Email: appeals@LSAC.ca
 or

Land and Property Rights Tribunal (LPRT)
 2nd Floor, 1229 91 Street SW Edmonton, AB T6X 1E9
 Email: lprt.appeals@gov.ab.ca

25-D0207

Lot 33, Block 2, Plan 7821410; Lakewood Estates
 SE 32-53-02 W5M; 181, 53510 Hwy 43
 Garage detached 45.0' x 60.0' (2700.0 sq. ft.) 16.0' Walls with garage size variance request to section 10.1.29 of LUB regulation: Required 1200 sq.ft. Request 2700.0 sq.ft. Variance of 1500.0 sq.ft. AMENDED from Garage detached 42.0' x 60.0' (2520.0 sq. Ft.).

Appeal to SDAB by March 30, 2026

26-D0013

Lot 3, Block 1, Plan 0940604
 SE 35-56-04 W5M; 56504 RGE RD 41
 Shipping Container 2.44 m x 13.19 m (32.18 sq. m.) walls 2.9 m with Front Yard Variance Request Regulation: 25.0 m Requested: 11.0 m Variance: 14.0 m and Amendment for Power/Utility Shed from 12'x14'; 168 sq. ft. to 14.6' x 18.3'-267.18 sq ft.

Appeal to SDAB by March 30, 2026

26-D0020

Lot 3A, Block 15, Plan 862-2884; Losie Glade
 SW 35-56-02 W5M; 18, 2120 TWP RD 565
 Existing Cabin with as built deck, Main 32.0' x 32.0' (1024 sq. ft.) Deck 30.0' x 12.0' (360.0 sq. ft.) Rear Yard Variance Request Regulation: 7.5m Requested: 2.98m Variance: 4.52m

Appeal to SDAB by March 30, 2026

26-D0028

NW 19-59-08 W5M; 8529 TWP RD 594
 New primary stick build home on basement, Main 30.0' x 50.0' (1500.0 sq. ft.) 8.0' walls, Basement 30.0' x 50.0' (1500.0 sq. ft.) 8.0' walls

Appeal to LPRT by April 6, 2026

**NOTICE OF JOINT PUBLIC HEARING
 of Lac Ste. Anne County Bylaw 27-2019-01-2026
 and Town of Mayerthorpe Bylaw 1071-01/2026**

LOCATION OF HEARING

Lac Ste. Anne County Office
 Council Chambers
 56521 Range Road 65

DATE & TIME

March 26, 2026
 10:00 am

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 692 of the *Municipal Government Act*, the Councils of Lac Ste. Anne County and Town of Mayerthorpe are considering an application for amendment to the Mayerthorpe Intermunicipal Development Plan (IDP) in accordance with attached Schedule "A" and "B" of Bylaw #27-2019-01-2026 and Bylaw 1071-01/2026:

- Redistricting the lands legally described as Pt. SE 29-57-08 W5M from "Urban Residential" to "Country Residential" and comply with Country Residential Policy Area (Policy 6.7).

Written comments on the above proposed bylaw may be provided prior to 4:30 p.m. on March 24 2026, to:

Lac Ste. Anne County, 56521 RGE RD 65, Box 219, Sangudo, AB T0E 2A0
 Attn: Tanya Vanderwell, Senior Development Officer, or email at devassistant@LSAC.ca

Participate in the Public Hearing

Interested individuals may attend the public hearing to voice their comments. To schedule an appointment, please contact Tanya Vanderwell at 780.785.3411. Appointment times shall be in accordance with the Procedures (and Committee) Bylaw #12-2025.

Attend This Public Hearing via Zoom

To attend via zoom please use the following link:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81137054983>

WONDERING HOW TO OBTAIN A DOG LICENCE?

Visit us online to complete the application. It's free of charge, easy to apply, and comes with built-in peace of mind!

We'll mail you a dog tag for your pooch upon approval of your application. Please ensure your dog always wears a valid dog tag while off your property.

Please visit LSAC.ca/dog-licences for more information, to view the Animal Control Bylaw, and to fill out your Dog Licence Application.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LAC STE. ANNE COUNTY RAISES CONCERNS ABOUT INCREASING PROVINCIAL COSTS IMPACTING LOCAL TAXPAYERS

Lac Ste. Anne County, AB – Tuesday, March 10, 2026

Lac Ste. Anne County Council is raising concerns about increasing provincial costs that are affecting municipal budgets and local taxpayers. Recent changes to the provincial education property tax and continued increases in policing costs are contributing to growing financial pressures for communities across Alberta.

County Reeve Jurgen Preugschas says residents often see only the final property tax bill, even though some costs are determined outside municipal control.

"Residents receive one property tax bill from the County, but not all of the costs on that bill are decisions made locally. It's important that residents understand which portions of their tax bill are determined by the province. Clear communication helps ensure taxpayers know where their money is going."

Provincial Education Property Tax

In Alberta, municipalities are required to collect the provincial education property tax on behalf of the Government of Alberta. While the tax appears on municipal property tax notices, the rates are set by the province, and the funds are forwarded to the Alberta School Foundation Fund to support K-12 education across the province.

For example, on a residential property assessed at \$400,000, the provincial education property tax will increase from approximately \$1,040 to \$1,108 per year, an increase of about \$68, before any changes to related property assessment. While the rate increase is approximately 6.5 percent, it contributes to a significantly higher total requisition from municipalities across Alberta.

Rising Policing Costs

Council is also highlighting the continued rise in provincial policing costs for services provided through the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Alberta's designated provincial police service. In Alberta, municipalities are required to contribute toward the cost of contract policing, with those costs collected through municipal property taxes.

As a result, a portion of the property taxes collected in the community is directed toward policing services and remitted to the Government of Alberta for that purpose. This means that a share of every property tax dollar paid by residents supports policing services in the community.

Calculating again, based on a residential property assessed at \$400,000, the provincial policing portion will increase from approximately \$108 to \$144 per year, increasing by roughly \$36, via a rate increase of approximately 32.9 percent.

Because both the provincial education property tax and provincial policing costs are largely outside municipal control, these increases make it more difficult to manage the local taxation level.

"Council understands the importance of funding essential services like education and policing," said Reeve Preugschas. "However, when provincially driven costs continue to rise, it limits the flexibility the County has to manage property taxes and keep them affordable for residents."

Council will continue to advocate for transparency and sustainable funding approaches so residents clearly understand how their property tax dollars are being allocated.

Residents with questions about property taxes or municipal services are encouraged to contact the County.

— 30 —

Media Contact:

Jurgen Preugschas | Reeve

Lac Ste. Anne County

TEL 780.204.2500

jpreugschas@LSAC.ca



ALBERTANS HELP SHAPE DISABILITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Alberta's government continues to make progress on the Alberta Disability Assistance Program, thoughtfully designing the program based on feedback from Albertans.

Albertans with disabilities and the organizations that support them have consistently called for social services that better reflect the diverse needs, abilities and goals of people living with disabilities. Many have also highlighted the importance of creating opportunities for individuals who are able to pursue employment while still receiving the supports they rely on.

In response, Alberta's government announced in February 2025 that it would develop the Alberta Disability Assistance Program (ADAP). Offered in addition to the Assured Income for the Severely

Handicapped (AISH) program, ADAP will empower Albertans with disabilities to pursue meaningful employment while continuing to receive the supports they need.

"I want to thank each Albertan who took the time to participate in the engagement and provide feedback on the new Alberta Disability Assistance Program - your feedback is directly helping to shape this program, and helping ensure we get this right for our friends and neighbours who will rely on it." Jason Nixon, Minister of Assisted Living and Social Services

ADAP is being thoughtfully designed, based on the input of Albertans with disabilities. As the Ministry of Assisted Living and Social Services reviews the feedback provided by Albertans, some key decisions have been made, informed by the engagement:

1. Increasing the employment

income exemption for single clients on ADAP to \$700 per month:

oThis means individuals on ADAP will be able to earn up to \$700 per month before it begins to affect financial benefits.

oAlbertans on ADAP will be able to earn more than \$45,000 in employment income while continuing to receive financial benefits. This will be the highest limit for employment income while receiving financial benefits of any comparable disability income assistance program in Canada.

oAlbertans on ADAP will continue to receive the health benefits they need, regardless of employment income.

oDetailed calculations for ADAP employment income exemptions will be set out in a ministerial order later this spring.

2. Current AISH clients who meet one or more of the below criteria will automatically

remain on AISH, unless they choose to transition to ADAP to benefit from ADAP's higher employment income exemptions:

oIndividuals with a severe and profound developmental disability, and/or who are deemed eligible for or are receiving Persons with Developmental Disabilities services

oIndividuals with palliative or terminal medical conditions

oIndividuals living in continuing care homes

oIndividuals 60 years of age or older

3. Alberta's government will cover the cost of one medical assessment for current AISH clients who transition to ADAP July 1, and later choose to be reassessed for AISH.

oThis support is not time-limited and will be available whenever clients choose to access it.

SPRING MACHINERY CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

RIMBEY SALES YARD

Starts April 17th - Closes April 22nd, 2026

We Are Now Accepting Listings For This Sale. Any Items Prelisted By March 19th, 2026 Will Be Included In Our Sales Posters, Newspaper & Radio Advertising, Web Page & Social Media And Extensive Mailing List

Rimby Sales Yard: 3940 50th Avenue
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ELECTIONS ALBERTA ADDRESSES PETITION CANVASSER CONDUCT, HARASSMENT, AND MISINFORMATION

Submitted by Government of Alberta

Since the first citizen initiative petition was approved on June 30, 2025, Elections Alberta has observed and addressed significant misinformation about recall and citizen initiative petition processes, legislation, and campaign and canvassers' requirements.

Over the same period, Elections Alberta has received canvasser harassment reports from nearly every recall and citizen initiative petition campaign. While these concerns have been present over the last eight months and addressed on our social media channels and website, the marked increase in recent weeks, along with increasingly inflammatory actions and online commentary, compels our Office to address the following topics again.

Canvassers conduct

All petition campaigns are advised of both Elections Alberta's and their own role, responsibilities, and requirements in detail as their campaigns begin. During their campaign, Elections Alberta makes every effort to advise them of reported conduct that may not align with the requirements so that they may correct their or their representatives' conduct. The Recall Regulation and Citizen Initiative Regulation set out the conduct and duties of petition canvassers, supplemented by the Canvasser Code of Conduct and direction by the Chief Electoral Officer. These are applied equally and consistently to all petition campaigns and canvassers.

Registered canvassers represent the citizen initiative proponent or recall petition applicant for whom they are

canvassing only. They do not represent Elections Alberta and may not represent themselves as Elections Alberta in any way, including verbally, in advertising, or on signage. Verifiable instances of canvassers not complying with this, or any other requirement of the relevant Act or Canvasser Code of Conduct, should be reported to Elections Alberta.

Harassment of canvassers

As noted above, nearly every petition campaign has reported instances of canvasser harassment, including abusive, derisive, threatening, insulting, offensive or provocative statements, gestures, or actions.

Any canvasser who experiences harassment or feels unsafe should contact local law enforcement. Elections Alberta cannot assist in these matters. There are no provisions or penalties under the Recall Act or Citizen Initiative Act related to harassment of canvassers and neither the Referendum Act nor the Election Act provisions apply; petition campaigns are not elections, votes, or referendums.

To be very clear, Elections Alberta does not condone these behaviours in any way nor is this behaviour unique to any one group or political position. We urge all Albertans to conduct themselves in a civil and respectful manner when engaging with their fellow Albertans in person or online, particularly as it relates to electoral processes and events.

Rights of access

There are no provisions under the Citizen Initiative Act or Recall Act requiring public or private facilities, landlords, businesses, or organizations to provide access or space to petition canvassers or campaign events. Permission must be obtained from the property

manager, local government, or business owner, or other individual responsible for the property, and campaigns and canvassers must comply with the facility's or organization's processes and rules.

Misinformation

Elections Alberta is an independent, non-partisan office of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta responsible for administering provincial elections, by-elections, and referendums. We administer electoral processes as set out in the relevant legislation and ensure compliance with legislation. We are the source of credible, accurate information about electoral processes in Alberta.

Elections Alberta actively monitors media and debunks misinformation on our social media channels regularly. Albertans are encouraged to visit our social media channels and website for accurate, non-AI-generated information related to electoral processes and events in Alberta.

The following addresses some of the most persistent misinformation and disinformation:

- All citizen initiative and recall petitions have been conducted according to the relevant legislation in force at the time. Several amendments have been made to this legislation since July 4, 2025, adding or removing requirements. This in no way suggests campaigns and verifications conducted before those changes were enacted are less accurate or credible.
- No fraud has been reported or detected during any petition verification process.
- The petition validation, count, and verification processes are consistently applied by Elections Alberta

and reflect the requirements of the relevant legislation. This includes reviewing every signature on every sheet and contacting a statistically valid random sampling of electors who signed petition sheets to verify their information.

- Our Office and staff are not involved in and do not attend canvassing or events supporting or opposing any petition campaign.

- Elections Alberta does not endorse or sanction petitions, campaigns or their activities, nor canvassers or their activities during the canvassing period.

- Petition proponents and applicants are responsible for sending canvasser applications to Elections Alberta for registration and processing canvasser ID. Elections Alberta sends out approved canvasser ID within 3 business days of receipt of complete applications from proponents via Canada Post Xpresspost. If canvassers have not received their ID in a timely manner, they should contact the proponent to determine the status of their application.

- Proponents/applicants are sent the approved official signature sheet template at the beginning of their campaign and are responsible for providing canvassers with the approved petition signature sheets.

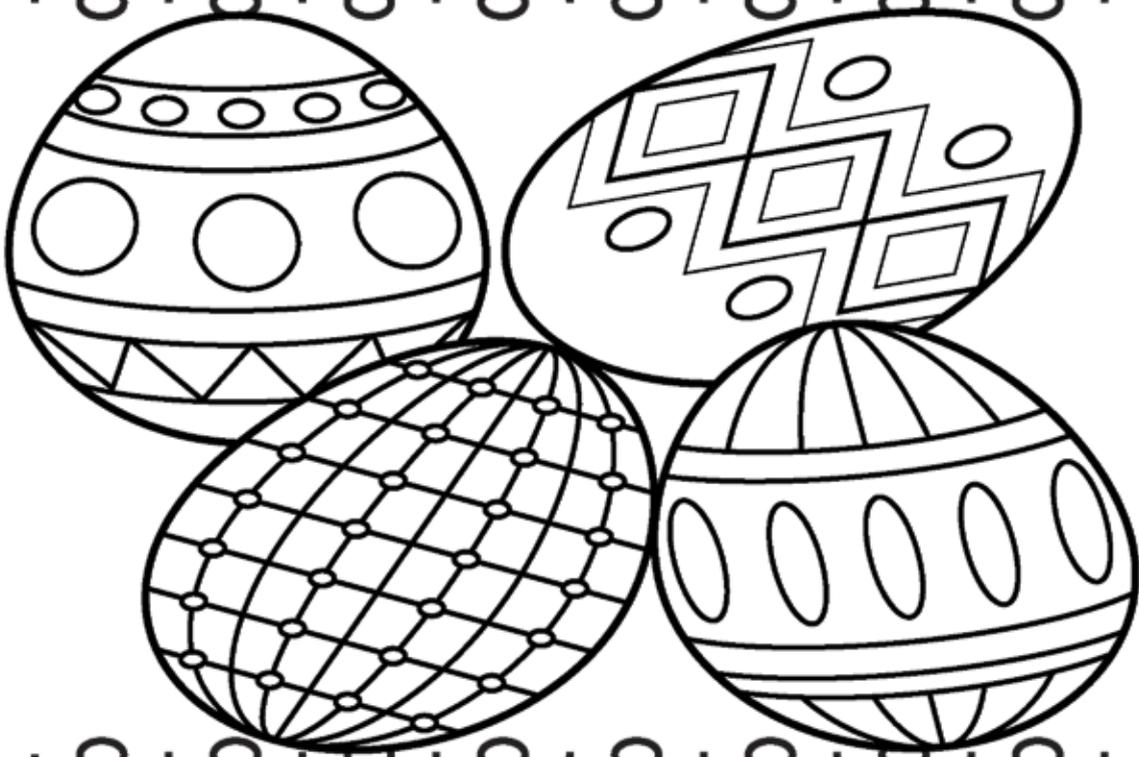
- Proponents and applicants are solely responsible for answering canvassers' and the public's questions about their campaign during the canvassing period.

- Canvassers providing refreshments or entertainment is not an inducement unless they require individuals to sign a petition to receive the refreshment or entertainment.

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Gunn Hall (G.A.R.S.) 780-951-9452

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gmail.com, contact:780-725-2533

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Mayerthorpe Diamond Centre, Charlotte at 786-4659

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SUDOKU

of the week



Here's How It Works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box.

ANSWER: Last Weeks

9	1	6	3	4	8	5	7	2
3	2	4	7	1	5	9	6	8
7	8	5	9	2	6	4	1	3
8	3	9	4	5	1	6	2	7
1	5	2	6	7	3	8	9	4
6	4	7	2	8	9	1	3	5
2	6	3	8	9	4	7	5	1
5	9	8	1	3	7	2	4	6
4	7	1	5	6	2	3	8	9

4	7				8	5	1	3
			4	1				
8	1		2	3			9	
		7				6		
	4	9	2		6			
				5	9	4	7	
2	5	8	3					
6				8				2
7			6	9	2	8	4	5

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