

AGENDA

A Regular Council Meeting of the Town of Bowden
to be held in Council Chambers, at 2101 – 20 Avenue, Bowden,
on **Monday 10 March 2025**, at 7:00pm.

1. CALL TO ORDER	
2. ADDITIONS / DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA & ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA	
3. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES	Pages
3.a February 24, 2025, Regular Council Meeting	2 - 5
4. PUBLIC HEARING	
None scheduled.	
5. DELEGATION S/Sgt Warren Wright, RCMP Olds Detachment Commander.	6
5.a RCMP Crime Stats & Community Report	7 - 18
5.b RCMP Municipal Policing Priorities	19 - 21
6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES	
CLOSED SESSION OF COUNCIL	22
6.a Policing Matter (Confidential).	
This closed meeting of Council is permitted by section 197 of the MGA. An exception to disclose under Division 2 of Part 1 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, RSA2000, Chapter F-25 (as amended over time) therefore applies on the basis of: Section 20 "harmful to law enforcement".	
6.b Property Matter (Confidential).	
This closed meeting of Council is permitted by section 197 of the MGA. An exception to disclose under Division 2 of Part 1 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, RSA2000, Chapter F-25 (as amended over time) therefore applies on the basis of: Section 27 "deemed to be privileged information".	
OPEN SESSION OF COUNCIL	
6.c Key Dates.	23
6.d Council Resolutions Follow Up Action Summary	24 - 26
6.e FCSS Rebranding	27 - 29
7. BYLAWS & POLICIES	30 - 33
7.a Borrowing Bylaw 02/ 2025	
8. NEW BUSINESS	
8.a Elected Officials Orientation Training	34 - 39
9. FINANCIAL	
No agenda item	
10. CORRESPONDENCE	40 - 45
As per content page	
11. REPORTS	
11.a CAO's Report	46 - 49
11.b Council Committee Reports.	50 - 52
11.c Society & Other Reports.	53 - 99
12. MEETING ADJOURNMENT	



**Town of Bowden – Regular Council Meeting
held on Monday February 24, 2025
at Town of Bowden Council Chambers.**

MINUTES (unapproved)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Robb Stuart called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

PRESENT	Mayor	Robb Stuart
	Councillor	Paul Webb
	Councillor	Deb Coombes
	Councillor	Randy Brown
	Councillor	Wayne Milaney
	Councillor	Marie Flowers
ABSENT	Councillor	Sandy Gamble

ADMINISTRATION	CAO	Arno Glover
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2. ADDITIONS / DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA & ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Motion 2.a

Moved by Councillor Randy Brown that Council adopts the agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Motion 3.a.

Moved by Councillor Wayne Milaney that Council adopts the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of February 10, 2025, as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. PUBLIC HEARING

There was no public hearing.

5. DELEGATION

5.a Property Matter (Confidential).

CLOSED SESSION OF COUNCIL (“in camera”)

Section 197(4) of the MGA applied: Exception to disclose under Division 2 of Part 1 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, RSA2000, Chapter F-25 (as amended over time) on the basis of: Section 27 “is deemed to be privileged information”.

Motion 5.a

Moved by Councillor Marie Flowers at 7:03 p.m. that Council moves to an “in-camera” session as per section 27 of the FOIP Act.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion 5.b

Moved by Councillor Paul Webb at 7:32 p.m. that Council return to an “open meeting” of Council.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

There was no motion made in respect of agenda item 5.a

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Agenda item 6.a Council Resolutions Requiring Follow Up Action

Administration provided Council with a summary of Council resolutions that remain as work in progress / ongoing.

Motion 6.a

Moved by Councillor Randy Brown that Council accepts agenda item 6.a as information.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Agenda item 6.b Key Dates

Administration provided Council with forthcoming key dates.

Motion 6.b

Moved by Councillor Randy Brown that Council accepts agenda item 6.b as information.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. BYLAWS & POLICIES

Agenda item 7.a Borrowing Bylaw 01 / 2025

Administration submitted to Council an updated Borrowing Bylaw as a Request for Decision.

The current bylaw requires updating annually to approve the operating loan facility provided by ATB Financial and in accordance with the requirements of section 256 of the MGA.

Motion 7.a Moved by Councillor Paul Webb that Council gives first reading to Borrowing Bylaw 01 / 2025.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion 7.b Moved by Councillor Marie Flowers that Council gives second reading to Borrowing Bylaw 01 / 2025.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion 7.c Moved by Councillor Paul Webb that Council give consideration to a third reading of Borrowing Bylaw 01 / 2025.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion 7.d Moved by Councillor Randy Brown that Council gives third and final reading of Borrowing Bylaw 01 / 2025.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Borrowing Bylaw 01 / 2025 received third reading of Council and was passed accordingly.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Agenda item 8.a Deputy Mayor Oath of Office

Councillor Randy Brown took the Oath of Office for Deputy Mayor for the period from February 25, 2025, to October 27, 2025.

9. FINANCIAL

Agenda item 9.a Operating Revenue & Expenditure Report 2024 (Q&A's)

Administration provided Council with information in response to questions raised at the RCM of 10th February in regard to Arena Operating Costs.

Motion 9.a

Moved by Councillor Deb Coombes that Council accepts agenda item 9.a as information.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Agenda item 9.b Capital Budget Cost Summary

Administration provided Council with a summary of reconciled expenditures on the 2024 completed capital projects.

Motion 9.b

Moved by Councillor Marie Flowers that Council accepts agenda item 9.b as information.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. CORRESPONDENCE

Agenda item 10.a Correspondence.

Motion 10.a

Moved by Councillor Randy Brown that Council accepts the submitted item of correspondence as information.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11. REPORTS**Agenda item 11.a CAO's Report**

CAO Arno Glover provided Council with an overview of the items included within the CAO's report.

Motion 11.a

Moved by Councillor Deb Coombes that Council accepts the submitted CAO report as information.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Agenda item 11.b Council Committee Reports

No reports submitted

Agenda item 11.c Society & Other Reports

- i. FCSS Community Navigator Report (February 2025)
- ii. Mountain View Regional Water Services Commission (report February 12, 2025)
- iii. South Red Deer Regional Wastewater Commission (January analysis)
- iv. Water / Wastewater Comparative Statistics (2022 – 2025)

Motion 11.c

Moved by Councillor Deb Coombes that Council accepts agenda items 11.c as information.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12. MEETING ADJOURNMENT**Motion 12.a**

Moved by Councillor Marie Flowers at 8:20 p.m. to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Meeting Adjourned

Minutes signed by:

**Mayor
Robb Stuart**

**CAO
Arno Glover**

DRAFT

Regular Council Meeting: March 10, 2025.	Agenda Item: 5.a / 5.b
Prepared by: Arno Glover	Approved by:
Report Type: Information	Attachment(s): 1 RCMP Crime Stats & Community Reports

Delegation**S/Sgt Warren Wright – Detachment Commander (Olds RCMP Detachment).****5.a RCMP Crime Stats & Community Reports**

Staff Sergeant Warren Wright will provide Council with an overview of the:

- i. Quarterly Crime Statistics October 1 to December 31, 2024,
- ii. RCMP Provincial Policing Report.

Crime Stats - please note:

a

The provincial statistics are not specific to the Town of Bowden.

These cover the entire Olds Detachment Provincial area which covers 3 Counties and 1 Municipality:

- Red Deer County (southern sliver south of Highway 587 to Twp 340 / 342),
- Mountain View County (northern half),
- Kneehill County (eastern sliver west of Range Rd 260), and,
- Town of Bowden.

b

The local (rural) geographical area statistics are not specific to the Town of Bowden.

Crime hotspots could occur outside of and away from the Town.



February 11, 2025

Mayor Robb Stuart
Bowden, AB

Dear Mayor Robb Stuart,

Please find attached the quarterly Community Policing Report covering the period from October 1st to December 31st, 2024. This report serves to provide a quarterly snapshot of human resources, financial data, and crime statistics for the Olds RCMP detachment.

In the coming weeks and months, we will be engaging with the community and holding town hall meetings as we have done in the past. This will provide us with an opportunity to interact with the community we serve and hear from them directly about what policing issues or priorities they would like our detachment to focus on. I look forward to attending these meetings to connect with our community and will be providing more details as we organize the town hall meetings.

I also want to inform you of the Real Times Operations Centre (RTOC) that is supporting RCMP detachments across Alberta. In October 2022, RTOC was established to optimize our response to incidents around the province. RTOC involves senior police officers monitoring policing operations in real-time, assessing incident risk, coordinating specialized and expert resources, and managing the response. They provide members on the ground with guidance, direction, and support. It is also used to coordinate the deployment of all RCMP resources – federal, provincial, and municipal, both within Alberta and, if required, nationally. The RTOC facility uses cutting-edge technology to provide real time support during emergency situations to RCMP officers across Alberta and is another measure used to enhance public and police officer safety.

I always remain available to discuss your community-identified priorities and any other ideas you may have that will enhance our service delivery to address the priorities that are important to you. As the Detachment Commander for your community, I invite you to contact me should you have any questions or concerns.

Best regards,



S/Sgt. Warren Wright
Detachment Commander
Olds RCMP Detachment





Alberta RCMP - Provincial Policing Report

Detachment Information

Detachment Name

Olds

Detachment Commander

S/Sgt. Warren Wright

Report Date

February 13, 2025

Fiscal Year

2024-25

Quarter

Q3 (October - December)

Community Priorities





Priority #1: Property - Theft

Updates and Comments:

On track.

2024-11-19 a warrant roundup was completed by Olds RCMP. 24 addresses were checked leading to 5 persons arrested and 11 arrest warrants cleared. 9 persons remaining on warrants were determined to have left the area.

2024-12-09 to 13, a joint forces operation was completed in Mountain View County involving the Olds Crime Reduction member and the District CRU team, resulting in the arrest of 2 people and recovery of stolen copper wire.

Town of Bowden

1 offender was identified as having court enforceable conditions and 1 compliance checks was completed.

Mountain View County

1 offender was identified as having court enforceable conditions and 5 compliance checks were completed.

Kneehill County

No offenders were identified as having court enforceable conditions.

Red Deer County

No offenders were identified as having court enforceable conditions.

Priority #2: Police / Community Relations - Police Visibility

Updates and Comments:

On track. As detailed below in Community Consultations.

Priority #3: Violence - Violence in relationships

Updates and Comments:

On track. Efforts to address domestic violence and mental health include:





This Q3 efforts were indirect, through contributing time & energy to raise \$10,000 for a local charity "Olds Christmas Angels" which provide family support throughout the year to low income families or those families who are struggling, thereby reducing/mitigating stress, conflict and disharmony within the families that reside in Old and surrounding rural area.

Priority #4: Traffic - Safety (motor vehicles, roads)**Updates and Comments:**

Off track, (as this Priority pertains to Kneehill County only) in that no JFO traffic operations were conducted with Kneehill CPO's this past Quarter 3.

Single member and multiple member proactive traffic enforcement patrols were undertaken during regular scheduled shifts yielding results consistent from the last reporting period in written warnings, traffic tickets and mandatory alcohol screening - immediate roadside sanctions throughout the Detachment area.





Community Consultations

Consultation #1

Date	Meeting Type
October 21, 2024	Town Hall
Topics Discussed	
Town of Bowden Town Hall	
Notes/Comments:	
Detachment Commander attended in support of Mayor, Council and Administration, and was available to answer policing related questions or hear concerns.	

Consultation #2

Date	Meeting Type
October 31, 2024	Community Connection
Topics Discussed	
Halloween Pedestrian Safety	
Notes/Comments:	
Det Commander completed pro-active patrols throughout the Town of Bowden to enhance public pedestrian safety during the Halloween evening.	

Consultation #3

Date	Meeting Type
November 4, 2024	Meeting with Elected Officials
Topics Discussed	
Crime Reduction Unit	
Notes/Comments:	
Det Commander and Town of Olds Protective Services Director attended to the Mountain View County Office to meet with elected officials and CAO's from Didsbury, Carstairs and Mountain View County to discuss the future of a regional Crime Reduction Unit.	





Consultation #4

Date	Meeting Type
November 6, 2024	Community Connection
Topics Discussed	
Remembrance Day Ceremony	
Notes/Comments:	
Det Commander & member attended to the Bowden Grandview School Remembrance Day Service in Bowden in red serge.	

Consultation #5

Date	Meeting Type
November 25, 2024	Meeting with Stakeholders
Topics Discussed	
ICS 300 Training with Kneehill County	
Notes/Comments:	
2024-11-25 to 27 Det Commander took the Kneehill County sponsored ICS300 course in Three Hills with Kneehill County employees and firefighters.	

Consultation #6

Date	Meeting Type
December 9, 2024	Meeting with Elected Officials
Topics Discussed	
Q2 MPSA Policing Report	
Notes/Comments:	
Det Commander presented the Q2 PPSA Policing Report at the Town of Bowden Council Meeting.	



Consultation #7

Date

Click or tap to enter a date.

Meeting Type

Choose an item.

Topics Discussed

Click or tap here to enter text.

Notes/Comments:

Click or tap here to enter text.





Provincial Service Composition

Staffing Category	Established Positions	Working	Soft Vacancies	Hard Vacancies
Regular Members	5	4	1	1
Detachment Support	2	2	0	0

Notes:

1. Data extracted on December 31, 2024 and is subject to change.
2. Soft Vacancies are positions that are filled but vacant due to maternity/paternity leave, medical leave, etc. and are still included in the overall FTE count.
3. Hard Vacancies reflect positions that do not have an employee attached and need to be filled.

Comments:

Police Officers: Of the five established positions, four officers are currently working with one on special leave (Leave Without Pay). The position has been backfilled to ensure coverage. There is one hard vacancy at this time.

Detachment Support: Of the two established positions, two resources are currently working with none being on special leave. There is no hard vacancy at this time.





Olds Provincial Detachment Crime Statistics (Actual) January to December: 2020 - 2024

All categories contain "Attempted" and/or "Completed"

January 6, 2025

CATEGORY	Trend	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	% Change 2020 - 2024	% Change 2023 - 2024	Avg File +/- per Year
Offences Related to Death		1	1	1	0	0	-100%	N/A	-0.3
Robbery		1	1	0	0	0	-100%	N/A	-0.3
Sexual Assaults		1	9	6	2	5	400%	150%	0.1
Other Sexual Offences		0	1	6	1	0	N/A	-100%	0.0
Assault		23	39	46	27	19	-17%	-30%	-2.0
Kidnapping/Hostage/Abduction		0	0	1	0	1	N/A	N/A	0.2
Extortion		0	0	1	0	1	N/A	N/A	0.2
Criminal Harassment		10	11	13	13	10	0%	-23%	0.2
Uttering Threats		12	17	17	9	7	-42%	-22%	-1.8
TOTAL PERSONS		48	79	91	52	43	-10%	-17%	-3.7
Break & Enter		37	38	38	26	27	-27%	4%	-3.2
Theft of Motor Vehicle		27	29	31	20	17	-37%	-15%	-2.9
Theft Over \$5,000		6	15	5	6	15	150%	150%	0.9
Theft Under \$5,000		63	56	57	38	42	-33%	11%	-6.0
Possn Stn Goods		45	17	19	5	4	-91%	-20%	-9.4
Fraud		25	30	36	30	15	-40%	-50%	-2.0
Arson		0	1	3	1	1	N/A	0%	0.2
Mischief - Damage To Property		39	66	51	27	21	-46%	-22%	-7.5
Mischief - Other		24	16	23	14	5	-79%	-64%	-4.0
TOTAL PROPERTY		266	268	263	167	147	-45%	-12%	-33.9
Offensive Weapons		7	7	11	5	3	-57%	-40%	-1.0
Disturbing the peace		10	8	4	16	9	-10%	-44%	0.6
Fail to Comply & Breaches		12	20	15	8	9	-25%	13%	-1.8
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE		18	16	19	17	11	-39%	-35%	-1.3
TOTAL OTHER CRIMINAL CODE		47	51	49	46	32	-32%	-30%	-3.5
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE		361	398	403	265	222	-39%	-16%	-41.1



Olds Provincial Detachment Crime Statistics (Actual) January to December: 2020 - 2024

All categories contain "Attempted" and/or "Completed"

January 6, 2025

CATEGORY	Trend	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	% Change 2020 - 2024	% Change 2023 - 2024	Avg File +/- per Year
Drug Enforcement - Production		0	1	1	0	0	N/A	N/A	-0.1
Drug Enforcement - Possession		7	6	2	1	0	-100%	-100%	-1.9
Drug Enforcement - Trafficking		4	0	7	7	2	-50%	-71%	0.3
Drug Enforcement - Other		1	1	0	1	0	-100%	-100%	-0.2
Total Drugs		12	8	10	9	2	-83%	-78%	-1.9
Cannabis Enforcement		1	3	3	1	0	-100%	-100%	-0.4
Federal - General		1	4	3	3	4	300%	33%	0.5
TOTAL FEDERAL		14	15	16	13	6	-57%	-54%	-1.8
Liquor Act		10	10	3	8	2	-80%	-75%	-1.8
Cannabis Act		17	6	3	0	0	-100%	N/A	-4.0
Mental Health Act		47	46	46	51	28	-40%	-45%	-3.3
Other Provincial Stats		77	85	59	62	83	8%	34%	-1.1
Total Provincial Stats		151	147	111	121	113	-25%	-7%	-10.2
Municipal By-laws Traffic		0	2	3	0	3	N/A	N/A	0.4
Municipal By-laws		13	20	17	10	9	-31%	-10%	-1.8
Total Municipal		13	22	20	10	12	-8%	20%	-1.4
Fatals		0	0	0	1	1	N/A	0%	0.3
Injury MVC		25	24	34	35	22	-12%	-37%	0.5
Property Damage MVC (Reportable)		239	222	346	279	165	-31%	-41%	-9.1
Property Damage MVC (Non Reportable)		31	30	62	50	63	103%	26%	8.4
TOTAL MVC		295	276	442	365	251	-15%	-31%	0.1
Roadside Suspension - Alcohol (Prov)		0	14	9	11	10	N/A	-9%	1.7
Roadside Suspension - Drugs (Prov)		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Total Provincial Traffic		3,455	2,800	1,575	1,274	1,318	-62%	3%	-580.0
Other Traffic		7	4	4	3	6	-14%	100%	-0.3
Criminal Code Traffic		53	43	38	42	30	-43%	-29%	-4.7
Common Police Activities									
False Alarms		16	15	10	11	8	-50%	-27%	-2.0
False/Abandoned 911 Call and 911 Act		40	28	23	28	39	-3%	39%	-0.2
Suspicious Person/Vehicle/Property		158	103	84	63	86	-46%	37%	-18.4
Persons Reported Missing		2	4	5	5	5	150%	0%	0.7
Search Warrants		2	3	1	0	0	-100%	N/A	-0.7
Spousal Abuse - Survey Code (Reported)		37	48	45	15	15	-59%	0%	-7.7
Form 10 (MHA) (Reported)		1	6	6	5	2	100%	-60%	0.1



Olds Provincial Detachment Crime Statistics (Actual) October - December: 2020 - 2024

All categories contain "Attempted" and/or "Completed"

January 6, 2025

CATEGORY	Trend	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	% Change 2020 - 2024	% Change 2023 - 2024	Avg File +/- per Year
Offences Related to Death		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Robbery		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Sexual Assaults	▲	0	2	0	0	1	N/A	N/A	0.0
Other Sexual Offences	▲	0	1	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	-0.1
Assault	▲	6	8	5	7	4	-33%	-43%	-0.5
Kidnapping/Hostage/Abduction	▲	0	0	1	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Extortion		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Criminal Harassment	▲	0	4	5	2	2	N/A	0%	0.2
Uttering Threats	▲	2	3	5	4	1	-50%	-75%	-0.1
TOTAL PERSONS	▲	8	18	16	13	8	0%	-38%	-0.5
Break & Enter	▲	10	7	3	8	7	-30%	-13%	-0.5
Theft of Motor Vehicle	▲	9	4	5	4	3	-67%	-25%	-1.2
Theft Over \$5,000	▲	1	0	0	1	2	100%	100%	0.3
Theft Under \$5,000	▲	13	7	7	8	10	-23%	25%	-0.5
Possn Stn Goods	▲	12	3	1	1	1	-92%	0%	-2.4
Fraud	▲	6	11	10	7	2	-67%	-71%	-1.2
Arson		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Mischief - Damage To Property	▲	8	10	9	6	3	-63%	-50%	-1.4
Mischief - Other	▲	4	3	4	3	0	-100%	-100%	-0.8
TOTAL PROPERTY	▲	63	45	39	38	28	-56%	-26%	-7.7
Offensive Weapons	▲	1	2	5	2	0	-100%	-100%	-0.2
Disturbing the peace	▲	3	0	0	5	2	-33%	-60%	0.3
Fail to Comply & Breaches	▲	2	4	6	1	2	0%	100%	-0.3
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE	▲	2	4	6	7	3	50%	-57%	0.5
TOTAL OTHER CRIMINAL CODE	▲	8	10	17	15	7	-13%	-53%	0.3
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE	▲	79	73	72	66	43	-46%	-35%	-7.9



Olds Provincial Detachment Crime Statistics (Actual) October - December: 2020 - 2024

All categories contain "Attempted" and/or "Completed"

January 6, 2025

CATEGORY	Trend	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	% Change 2020 - 2024	% Change 2023 - 2024	Avg File +/- per Year
Drug Enforcement - Production		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Drug Enforcement - Possession		1	2	0	1	0	-100%	-100%	-0.3
Drug Enforcement - Trafficking		4	0	1	1	0	-100%	-100%	-0.7
Drug Enforcement - Other		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Total Drugs		5	2	1	2	0	-100%	-100%	-1.0
Cannabis Enforcement		0	1	1	0	0	N/A	N/A	-0.1
Federal - General		0	1	1	1	1	N/A	0%	0.2
TOTAL FEDERAL		5	4	3	3	1	-80%	-67%	-0.9
Liquor Act		0	2	1	0	0	N/A	N/A	-0.2
Cannabis Act		1	1	0	0	0	-100%	N/A	-0.3
Mental Health Act		17	16	15	9	5	-71%	-44%	-3.1
Other Provincial Stats		24	19	9	16	20	-17%	25%	-1.1
Total Provincial Stats		42	38	25	25	25	-40%	0%	-4.7
Municipal By-laws Traffic		0	0	1	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Municipal By-laws		5	2	2	0	3	-40%	N/A	-0.6
Total Municipal		5	2	3	0	3	-40%	N/A	-0.6
Fatals		0	0	0	1	0	N/A	-100%	0.1
Injury MVC		8	11	14	18	5	-38%	-72%	0.1
Property Damage MVC (Reportable)		82	73	98	122	33	-60%	-73%	-4.9
Property Damage MVC (Non Reportable)		9	11	17	23	15	67%	-35%	2.4
TOTAL MVC		99	95	129	164	53	-46%	-68%	-2.3
Roadside Suspension - Alcohol (Prov)		0	2	4	5	1	N/A	-80%	0.5
Roadside Suspension - Drugs (Prov)		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Total Provincial Traffic		758	697	341	328	218	-71%	-34%	-144.9
Other Traffic		2	0	0	1	1	-50%	0%	-0.1
Criminal Code Traffic		9	4	7	5	4	-56%	-20%	-0.9
Common Police Activities									
False Alarms		7	6	2	2	0	-100%	-100%	-1.8
False/Abandoned 911 Call and 911 Act		13	6	3	8	9	-31%	13%	-0.6
Suspicious Person/Vehicle/Property		33	20	17	11	22	-33%	100%	-3.1
Persons Reported Missing		0	0	1	0	1	N/A	N/A	0.2
Search Warrants		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Spousal Abuse - Survey Code (Reported)		6	17	7	7	2	-67%	-71%	-1.8
Form 10 (MHA) (Reported)		1	3	2	1	0	-100%	-100%	-0.4

Delegation (continued)**5.a RCMP Crime Stats & Community Reports****Suggested Motion:**

Motion by Councillor _____ that Council accepts the RCMP Crime Statistics and Provincial Policing Report as information.

5.b RCMP Municipal Policing Priorities

With reference to the correspondence dated February 18, 2025 (attached) Town Council are requested to identify the policing priorities for 2025 / 2026.

The deadline for this is stated as being March 21, 2025.

Council is therefore requested to make a decision on policing priorities during this RCM.

Note:

During the RCM of March 11, 2024 Council requested that there be no special attention or focus on "youth" as a subset of the traffic safety priority.

The policing priorities for 2024 / 2025 were decided as follows:

- 1 Police Visibility
- 2 Crime Reduction
- 3 Traffic Safety



Royal Canadian Gendarmerie royale
Mounted Police du Canada

NCO i/c RCMP
Olds RCMP Detachment
5110 - 65 Avenue
Olds, Alberta
T4H 1L8

Your File

Mayor Robb STUART
Town of Bowden
Box 338
Bowden, Alberta
T0M 0K0

Our File

February 18, 2025

Dear Mayor STUART,

**Annual Performance Plan - 2025 / 2026
Town of Bowden - Municipal Policing Priorities**

In preparation of the 2025 / 2026 Annual Performance Plan for the Olds Detachment, I am requesting that the Town of Bowden please provide me with their policing priorities for the coming year. Last year (2024 / 2025), the Town identified their policing priorities as:

1. Crime Reduction - Persons & Property
2. Police Visibility - Community Engagement
3. Enhance Traffic Safety

If possible, can you please reply to my request for your policing priorities by March 21, 2025, as my intent is to have the entire Annual Performance Plan completed by April 1, 2025. If you have any questions or require further clarification on my request, please contact me at (403) 556-3324 or warren.wright@rcmp-grc.gc.ca.

Thank you



S/Sgt. Warren WRIGHT
Detachment Commander
Olds RCMP Detachment
(403) 556-3324

Delegation (continued)

5.b RCMP Municipal Policing Priorities

Motion by Councillor _____ that Council set the policing priorities for 2024 / 2025 as follows:

- 1
- 2
- 3

Regular Council Meeting: March 10, 2025.	Agenda Items: 6.a / 6.b
Prepared by: Arno Glover	Approved by: Mayor Robb Stuart

Agenda items 6.a & 6.b Business Arising

CLOSED SESSION OF COUNCIL (“in camera”)

Council will enter closed session to discuss matters in confidence as follows:

6.a Policing Matter (Confidential).

This closed meeting of Council is permitted by section 197 of the MGA. An exception to disclose under Division 2 of Part 1 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, RSA2000, Chapter F-25 (as amended over time) therefore applies on the basis of: Section 20 “harmful to law enforcement”.

6.b Property Matter (Confidential).

This closed meeting of Council is permitted by section 197 of the MGA. An exception to disclose under Division 2 of Part 1 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, RSA2000, Chapter F-25 (as amended over time) therefore applies on the basis of: Section 27 “deemed to be privileged information”.

Motion 6.a

Moved by Councillor _____ at _____pm that Council moves to an “in-camera” session.

Motion 6.b

Moved by Councillor _____ at _____pm that Council return to an “open meeting” of Council.

Motion 6.c

Resolution(s) if required

Moved by Moved by Councillor _____ at _____pm that Council _____

Regular Council Meeting: March 10, 2025.	Agenda Item: 6.c
Prepared by: Arno Glover	Approved by: Mayor Robb Stuart
Report Type: Information	Attachment(s):

Content:

6.c Key Dates *(for information)*

- Date tbc RCMP Open House

- March 12 CAO's Review (6:30pm Council Chambers)

- March 17-19 Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA)
2025 Spring Convention (Edmonton)

- March 24 MPC Meeting (6:30pm Council Chambers) **tbc**
March 24 Regular Council Meeting (7:00pm Council Chambers)

- April 14 Regular Council Meeting (7:00pm Council Chambers)
Delegation to Council BDO Canada (Auditors)

- April 15 Emergency Advisory Committee (7:00pm Council Chambers)

Alberta Municipalities

- May 1 & 2, 2025 Public Risk Conference (Location TBD)
- June 11, 12, 25 & 26, 2025 Summer Municipal Leaders Caucuses (Various locations)
- November 12 to 14, 2025 Alberta Municipalities Convention and Trade Show
(Calgary TELUS Convention Centre)

Recommended Motion:

Motion by Councillor _____ that Council accepts agenda item 6.c as information.

Regular Council Meeting: March 10, 2025.	Agenda Item: 6.d
Prepared by: Arno Glover	Approved by: Mayor Robb Stuart
Report Type: Information	Attachment(s): 1 Council Resolutions Follow Up

Matters arising from past minutes.

6.d Council Resolutions Requiring Follow Up Action

A summary of past Council resolutions that require follow up action is attached.

Administration submits the revised document for Council to review.

Town of Bowden
COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS REQUIRING FOLLOW UP ACTION
 (updated 5 March 2025)

Meeting Date	Resolution	Action By Whom	Date back to Council
24 Apr 23	Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Motion 8.a ICF to be delayed for 2 years pending Provincial Government guidelines	Council / CAO	ongoing
26 Jun 23	Water & Wastewater Connections Matter to be b/fwd in future discussions on capital asset planning	CAO	ongoing
25 Jun 24	Bylaw Enforcement Motion 6.c Administration to explore further options regarding bylaw enforcement Target date for new agreement Quarter 2, 2025	CAO	ongoing
26 Aug 24	Firehall Flag Poles Motion 8.c Administration to liaise with RDC Protective Services	CAO	ongoing
27 Jan 25	Emergency Management Bylaw Motion 8.e an updated bylaw is to be submitted to Council	CAO	ongoing
10 Feb 25	Property Matter Motion 5.c CAO to contact Red Deer County and Alberta Environment. Red Deer County to be present at RCM of 24 February. Alberta Environment (no update)	CAO	completed
10 Feb 25	Operating Revenues and Expenditures Administration to provide further information to Council Update provided as agenda item 9.a of this RCM (24 February 2025)	CAO	completed

Agenda item 6.d Council Resolutions (continued)

Recommended Motion:

Motion by Councillor _____ that Council accept agenda item 6.d as information.

Regular Council Meeting: March 10, 2025.	Agenda Item: 6.e
Prepared by: Arno Glover	Approved by: Mayor Robb Stuart
Report Type: Information	Attachment(s): 1 FCSS Rebranding

Matters arising from past minutes.

6.e FCSS Rebranding

The approved minutes of the RCM of February 10, 2025 state that *Council “agreed to the rebranding request subject to receiving notice of an estimated cost of replacing the outdoor sign”.*

With reference to the attached document title FCSS Signage the proposed cost of a 2-sided aluminum sign is \$375.00.

This cost is not within the 2025 Operating Budget.

There are no costs associated with design work (this work was done inhouse).

A conceptual design of the sign is provided.

FCSS Signage.

Cost of 4'x4' 2-sided sign on 080 aluminum is \$375.00 net of GST.



Agenda item 6.e FCSS Rebranding (continued)

Recommended Motion:

Motion by Councillor _____ that Council accept agenda item 6.e as information.

Regular Council Meeting: March 10, 2025.	Agenda Item: 7.a
Prepared by: Arno Glover	Approved by: Mayor Robb Stuart
Report Type: RFD	Attachment(s): 1. Borrowing Bylaw 02 / 2025

Borrowing Bylaw 02 / 2025

7.a.i Background:

The attached draft Borrowing Bylaw is submitted to Council as a Request for Decision.

Borrowing Bylaw 01 / 2025 was passed by Council during the RCM of 24th February.

This bylaw was submitted (by requirement) to ATB Financial.

ATB Financial subsequently informed Administration of an error in the bylaw with regard to the lending interest rate.

This therefore requires the Borrowing Bylaw to be resubmitted to Council with a revised rate.

Administration has confirmed with ATB Financial that Bylaw 02 / 2025 is now correct as presented to Council.

7.a.ii Amendment

The revision to this bylaw (highlighted yellow) is as follows:

The lending interest rate has been amended from prime minus 0.25% to prime plus 1%.

7.a.iii Recommended Action:

That Council:

- i. grants first reading to Borrowing Bylaw 02 / 2025 as presented,
- ii. grants second reading to Borrowing Bylaw 02 / 2025,
- iii. after second reading unanimously vote in favour of allowing a third reading,
- iv. adopt Borrowing Bylaw 02 / 2025.



Town of Bowden
Box 338, 2101 20th Ave
Bowden, Alberta, T0M 0K0

Town of Bowden – Province of Alberta BORROWING BYLAW 02 /2025

Whereas the Municipal Government Act, RSA2000, Chapter M-26 section 251 provides that a Municipality may only make a borrowing if the borrowing is authorized by a Borrowing Bylaw,

And whereas, the Municipal Government Act, RSA2000, Chapter M-26 sections 256(1), (2) & (3) provides that a Municipality may make a borrowing for the purpose of financing operating expenditures,

And whereas, the amount of taxes estimated to be levied for the year 2025 by the Town of Bowden for all purposes is estimated to be the sum of One Million, Four Hundred and Forty-Three Thousand, Three Hundred and Sixty Seven dollars, (\$1,443,367),

And whereas, the Municipal Council of the Town of Bowden deems it necessary to authorize the short-term borrowing for the sum of up to Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) to finance budgeted operating expenditures,

And whereas, the amount of borrowings made for the purpose of financing operating expenditures will not exceed the amount of taxes estimated to be levied for the year 2025 by the Town of Bowden,

Now therefore, the Municipal Council of the Town of Bowden hereby enacts as follows:

1 SHORT TITLE

This bylaw may be known as and cited as the "Borrowing Bylaw".

2 AGREEMENT

2.1 That the Municipal Council of the Town of Bowden borrow from ATB Financial up to the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) an "operating loan facility" to meet the operating expenditures and obligations of the Town of Bowden for the year 2025, and further agree to pay interest on the daily outstanding principal at "prime" **lending rate plus 1.00%** per annum, payable on the last day of each month.

2.2 That the Chief Elected Official and the Chief Administrative Officer of the Town of Bowden are authorized to:

- i. arrange with ATB Financial for the amount of a loan of \$200,000, and for the terms and conditions of the loan to be entered into agreement with ATB Financial,
- ii. as security for the loan, provide ATB Financial all such promissory notes as may be required to provide evidence of the debt,

iii. as security for the loan, provide ATB Financial all such securities as may be required to provide to secure repayment of the loan and interest thereon,

2.3 The source of money to be used to repay the principal and interest owing under this borrowing agreement are reserves, and revenues received from the collection of property taxes.

2.4 The facility is payable in full, on demand, by the Lender.

2.5 The amount to be borrowed and the term of the loan will not exceed the requirements set out within the Municipal Government Act.

3 BYLAW PRECEDENCE

This Bylaw supersedes and takes precedence over all previously passed bylaws that are referred to as the Borrowing Bylaw.

Bylaw **01 / 2025** and all amendments thereto are hereby repealed.

This bylaw will come into effect on the final day of passing and signature thereof.

Notes:

- 1 All references in this bylaw to an act, statute, regulation, or other bylaw refer to the current version of that enactment, as amended or replaced from time to time including all successor legislation.
- 2 This bylaw does not have to be advertised as per section 256(3) of the MGA.

Read a first time in open council this 10th day of March 2025,
Read a second time in open council this 10th day of March 2025,
and finally passed by unanimous consent of the Councillor's present.
Read a third time in open council this 10th day of March 2025.

Robb Stuart
Mayor

Arno Glover
Chief Administrative Officer

Agenda Item 7.a Borrowing Bylaw 02 / 2025 (continued)**7.a.iv Proposed Motions:**

Motion by Councillor _____ that Council give first reading to Borrowing Bylaw 02 / 2025.

Motion by Councillor _____ that Council give second reading to Borrowing Bylaw 02 / 2025.

Moved by Councillor _____ that Council unanimously give consideration to a third reading of Borrowing Bylaw 02 / 2025.

Motion by Councillor _____ that Council give third and final reading to Borrowing Bylaw 02 / 2025 and is adopted accordingly and made effective once duly signed.

7.a.v Future Actions:

Upon adoption of the bylaw, Administration is to:

- publish a copy of the bylaw on the Towns' website,
- provide a copy of the revised bylaw to ATB Financial.

Regular Council Meeting: March 10, 2025.	Agenda Item: 8.a
Prepared by: Arno Glover	Approved by: Mayor Robb Stuart
Report Type: RFD	Attachment(s): 1 Municipal Affairs Factsheet 2 EOEP Course information

Content:

8.a Elected Officials Orientation Training

Each elected official (new or returning) must attend a councillor training course prior to or on the same day as the organizational meeting following a municipal election.

This is a new requirement for 2025.

The Munis 101 course offered through the Alberta Elected Officials Education Program (EOEP) satisfies the legislative requirements for training.

The schedule below provides two alternatives:

- Online training (October 25 or 26 or 27) \$295.00
- An in-person event to be held in Olds on Sunday November 2, 2025. \$395.00

Munis 101 Course Schedule in 2025

(subject to change)

Date in 2025	Day	Location	Time
October 25	Saturday	Online	9:00 am – 4:00 pm
October 26	Sunday	Online	1:00 pm – 8:00 pm
October 27	Monday	Online	9:00 am – 4:00 pm
October 30	Thursday	Fort Saskatchewan	9:00 am – 4:00 pm
November 1	Saturday	Lethbridge	9:00 am – 4:00 pm
November 1	Saturday	Grande Prairie	9:00 am – 4:00 pm
November 2	Sunday	Olds	1:00 pm – 8:00 pm
November 14-15	Friday & Saturday	Calgary – ABmunis Convention	Friday 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm Saturday 8:00 am – 12:00 pm
November 17	Monday	Edmonton – RMA Convention	8:30 am – 4:00 pm

Administration recommends that a block registration is made on behalf of the Town of 7 persons.

Individual online registration will be difficult to coordinate in advance of the election. Furthermore, an online course of 7 hours duration may be undesirable / unsuitable / impractical for many.

Administration therefore seeks approval from Council to register 7 places on the in-person course on Sunday November, 2, 2025.

Councillor Orientation

Changes to the *Municipal Government Act (MGA)*

This fact sheet has been developed as an explanatory resource. It is not legal advice and cannot be used in place of consulting with a lawyer.

What changed?

Municipalities are required to offer orientation training and each councillor is now required to attend orientation training offered by the municipality. Previously, the municipality was only required to offer training to councillors.

What topics must be covered in the training?

The topics that must be covered are broken into two parts.

The topics in the **first group** are:

- role of municipalities in Alberta;
- municipal organization and function;
- roles and responsibilities of council and councillors;
- the municipality's code of conduct; and
- roles and responsibilities of the chief administrative officer and staff.

The topics in the **second group** are:

- key municipal plans, policies and projects;
- budgeting and financial administration;
- public participation; and
- any other topic prescribed by the regulations.

What are the timelines for the training?

Training on the **first group** of topics must be held prior to or on the same day as the organizational meeting following a general election. In the case of a by-election, training on the first group of topics must be held on or before the day the councillor takes the oath of office.

Training on the **second group** of topics must be held prior to or on the same day as the first regularly scheduled council meeting, or in the case of a councillor elected via by-election, within 90 days after that councillor takes the oath of office.

For the second group of topics, council has the authority to extend the time for this training, by resolution, by up to 90 days.

Who is impacted by the change?

Councillors and municipal staff are both impacted by changes to councillor orientation requirements. Councillors are required to attend the training and administrative staff will have to ensure training materials are available and delivered with these timelines in mind.

Who can I contact for more information?

If you have questions about new councillor orientation requirements, please contact municipal advisory at 780-427-2225 (Toll-free by dialing 310-0000 first) or via email at: ma.advisory@gov.ab.ca.

Where can I find additional resources?

- The ministry will develop a further resource on this topic and notify municipalities when the training is available.
- The *MGA*, available on the King's Printer: https://kings-printer.alberta.ca/1266.cfm?page=m26.cfm&leg_type=Acts&isbncln=9780779846009
- Bill 20: Legislative Assembly of Alberta: <https://www.assembly.ab.ca/assembly-business/bills/bill?billinfoid=12039&from=bills>

Munis 101

Learn the foundations of serving on municipal council and satisfy Alberta's orientation requirements after getting elected.

Recent changes to the *Municipal Government Act* ([section 201.1](#)) now mandate that every municipal elected official must attend orientation training on key topics that are essential to serving on council. All new and returning municipal elected officials must complete orientation training per the following timelines after being elected:

Part A	Part B
Before or on the same day as the first organizational meeting after the election	Before or on the same day as the first regularly scheduled council meeting*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Role of municipalities ▪ Municipal organization and function ▪ Roles and responsibilities of council ▪ Roles and responsibilities of councillors ▪ Code of conduct ▪ Roles and responsibilities of the CAO and staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Key municipal plans, policies and projects ▪ Budgeting and financial administration ▪ Public participation ▪ Any other topic prescribed by the regulations <p>*A council may pass a resolution to extend the time for Part B training by up to 90 days.</p>

EOEP's one-day Munis 101 course meets all legislative requirements for the MGA's mandated post-election training.

The Munis 101 course, offered through Alberta's [Elected Officials Education Program](#) (EOEP), is designed to provide the fundamental information that any new or returning municipal elected official needs to govern their community. You can pre-register your council for any of the Munis 101 courses that will be held immediately after the election and then supplement that training with information that is unique to your own organization (e.g. local plans and policies).

Munis 101 Course Schedule in 2025 (subject to change)

Date in 2025	Day	Location	Time
October 25	Saturday	Online	9:00 am – 4:00 pm
October 26	Sunday	Online	1:00 pm – 8:00 pm
October 27	Monday	Online	9:00 am – 4:00 pm
October 30	Thursday	TBD - Near Edmonton	9:00 am – 4:00 pm
November 1	Saturday	Lethbridge	9:00 am – 4:00 pm
November 1	Saturday	Grande Prairie	9:00 am – 4:00 pm
November 2	Sunday	TBD - Near Calgary	1:00 pm – 8:00 pm
November 14-15	Friday & Saturday	Calgary – ABmunis Convention	Friday 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm Saturday 8:00 am – 12:00 pm
November 17	Monday	Edmonton – RMA Convention	8:30 am – 4:00 pm

Quality Content

All EOEP courses are developed using subject matter experts from the municipal sector and reviewed by Alberta Municipalities and Rural Municipalities of Alberta.

Experienced and Independent Instructors

Take advantage of having councillors learn from independent instructors who are experienced in the municipal sector and reinforce concepts without any perception of bias. EOEP instructors represent a mix of individuals from consulting firms, law firms, and current and retired municipal staff and elected officials.

Cost Per Person

Online: \$295 + GST
In-Person: \$395 + GST

What you receive

Each participant will receive a course workbook, presentation materials, and the ability to ask questions during the course.

Other Benefits

One of the key benefits of Munis 101 is the opportunity to connect with peers from municipal councils across Alberta. This course not only provides valuable knowledge but also creates a space for networking and collaborative discussions, allowing attendees to share experiences and build relationships that will support them throughout their council term.

Can administrators take Munis 101?

Yes! CAOs and senior administrators can benefit from taking the course to understand the concepts being taught to your council so you can be on the same page.

Request to Host a Course in Your Region

If you are looking for greater flexibility in scheduling, our [Hometown EOEP](#) program gives you the option to bring expert training directly to your council at a time and location of your convenience. Choose from online or in-person delivery and you can invite neighbouring municipalities to share in the experience and cost.

Questions and to Register for Munis 101

Visit eoep.ca or email Registrar@eoep.ca.

The Elected Officials Education Program is a non-profit proudly operated through a partnership of [Alberta Municipalities](#) and the [Rural Municipalities of Alberta](#) to support Alberta's municipal elected officials to serve their community effectively.



What is covered in the Munis 101 course?

Munis 101 meets all legislative requirements for mandatory post-election training by offering essential strategies and concepts for effective municipal governance.

Role of Municipalities

- The purpose and autonomy of municipalities
- Provincial authority over municipal governments
- Introduction to the *Municipal Government Act*
- Types of municipalities and structures

Municipal Organization & Function

- The municipality's role in delivering service
- Governance structure and council proceedings
- Decision making processes
- Understanding actions of council including voting and in camera sessions

Roles & Responsibilities of Council, Councillors, CAOs, and Staff

- Roles and responsibilities of council as a whole
- Duties of individual councillors, including pecuniary interest and disqualification
- Roles and mandated duties of the CAO
- Council's role as an employer
- Understanding council/staff relationships and dynamics to promote accountability and collaboration
- Building an effective council and CAO relationship

Code of Conduct

- Legislated requirements for a council code of conduct
- Importance of implementation of codes of conduct
- Addressing and resolving code of conduct complaints and violations

Key Plans, Policies & Projects

- Policy frameworks for service delivery
- Managing key municipal plans, policies and projects
- Introduction to planning & development processes
- Hierarchy of planning documents and structures

Budgeting & Financial Administration

- Funding sources: assessment, taxation, grants and user fees
- Responsibilities of elected officials and administration in financial oversight
- Key components of municipal finances, including asset management, business plans, operating and capital budgets

Public Participation

- Importance and value of public engagement to build trust and foster collaboration with residents and taxpayers
- Differences between communication and engagement
- The role of elected officials in public engagement processes

The Elected Officials Education Program is a non-profit proudly operated through a partnership of [Alberta Municipalities](#) and the [Rural Municipalities of Alberta](#) to support Alberta's municipal elected officials to serve their community effectively.



8.a Elected Officials Orientation Training (continued)

Recommended Motion

Motion by Councillor _____ that Council instructs Administration to register for 7 places for the elected officials orientation training course to be held in Olds on Sunday November, 2, 2025.

Regular Council Meeting: March 10, 2025.	Agenda Item: 10
Prepared by: Arno Glover	Approved by: Mayor Robb Stuart
Report Type: Information	Attachment(s): as per content

Agenda item 10**Content:**

- 10.a** Ric McIver, Minister, Municipal Affairs (Letter dated February 26, 2025)

- 10.b** Ric McIver, Minister, Municipal Affairs (Letter dated February 27, 2025)

- 10.c** Red Deer County Protective Services (February Enforcement Contract)



ALBERTA
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Calgary-Hays*

AR118277

February 26, 2025

Dear Chief Elected Officials/Associations/Library Boards/Regional Services
Commissions/Municipally Controlled Corporations:

In May 2024, our government passed the *Provincial Priorities Act* to establish a process for provincial oversight of agreements between provincial entities and the federal government. The *Act* will come into force on April 1, 2025, and will ensure Ottawa is not undermining the province's jurisdiction to make decisions about what is best for Alberta and Albertans. Under the *Act*, provincial entities, such as municipalities, are required to obtain prior approval from the Alberta government before entering into, amending, or renewing an agreement with the federal government.

Throughout last summer, Alberta's government led a comprehensive stakeholder engagement with provincial entities to inform the supporting regulations. The Provincial Priorities Regulation (attached), which also comes into force on April 1, 2025, designates additional municipal entities that are subject to the *Act*. These entities include library boards, regional services commissions, municipally controlled corporations, and any entity that is established by bylaw, with the exception of business improvement areas. In addition, the regulation sets out the approval process for proposed intergovernmental agreements and includes some exceptions for the municipal sector where no provincial approvals will be needed. Examples of these exceptions include agreements under \$100,000, agreements that are in-kind contributions only, agreements with the Canadian Armed Forces, and agreements for disaster response and assistance; these will not require provincial approval.

Effective April 1, 2025, municipalities and municipal entities will be required to submit information on all new agreements with the federal government, agreement amendments and agreement renewals, along with a copy of the agreement, to Municipal Affairs, regardless of the monetary value of the agreement. Information on agreements eligible for an exception must also be submitted to Municipal Affairs in order for the exception to apply. Additional details on the process for submitting required information on federal agreements to Municipal Affairs will be shared in March.

I am looking forward to working together with you to ensure Alberta municipalities maintain access to federal dollars while protecting areas of provincial jurisdiction.

Sincerely,

Ric McIver
Minister

cc: Chief Administrative Officers

320 Legislature Building, 10800 - 97 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B6 Canada Telephone 780-427-3744 Fax 780-422-9550



ALBERTA
MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

Office of the Minister
MLA, Calgary-Hays

AR117795

February 27, 2025

Dear Chief Elected Officials:

I am writing to share information with you about *Budget 2025*, tabled in the Alberta Legislature by my colleague, the Honourable Nate Horner, President of Treasury Board and Minister of Finance. Below are some details relevant to Alberta Municipal Affairs.

Budget 2025 is meeting the challenges facing Alberta with responsible decisions to fund today's priorities, investing more than \$1 billion to build stronger communities provincewide. Through these investments, my ministry will continue to support local governments in providing fiscally responsible, collaborative, and accountable services to Albertans.

Last year, Municipal Affairs introduced the Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF), delivering predictable capital infrastructure funding to municipalities and Metis Settlements across Alberta. The LGFF represents years of collaboration between the province and local governments, replacing the Municipal Sustainability Initiative with a modern and predictable model.

LGFF funding allocations for the 2025/26 fiscal year have been known to communities for several months. Thanks to the LGFF's revenue index factor, which ties the funding level to provincial revenue from three years prior, *Budget 2025* increases LGFF capital funding by more than 13 per cent, from \$722 million to \$820 million. This increase will help your communities achieve their local infrastructure priorities. *Budget 2025* also maintains LGFF Operating funding at \$60 million to assist with operational costs and help respond to inflationary pressures. This grant was doubled in 2023 to reflect lost municipal revenue through the Grants in Place of Taxes program.

Budget 2025 also increases funding for the Grants in Place of Taxes program (GIPOT). Over the last few years, we heard loud and clear from municipalities that have provincially run buildings within their boundaries about the need for stronger recognition of the impact provincial properties have on municipal services. Starting in the 2025/26 fiscal year, GIPOT will be paid to municipalities at 75 per cent of the property tax amount that would be owed if the properties were subject to municipal taxation. Next year, in 2026/27, GIPOT will be fully restored to 100 per cent.

.../2

- 2 -

In light of these increases, the Local Growth and Sustainability Grant (LGSG) program will not continue. Introduced in *Budget 2024*, this three-year, \$60-million grant program aimed to alleviate pressures in fast-growing communities. We received numerous applications from municipalities for the initial \$20 million in LGSG funding allocated in 2024. Those funds will still be distributed, with successful applicants notified by the end of March 2025. However, after careful consideration, our government made the difficult decision to discontinue the LGSG program for *Budget 2025* and focus the investment of taxpayer dollars into other areas, including a comprehensive capital plan to enhance public infrastructure.

As in previous years, *Budget 2025* includes capital support through the federal Canada Community-Building Fund and Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program. We are also maintaining funding levels for public libraries, with more than \$33 million going toward operating grants across the province.

Budget 2025 is meeting the challenge of the cost of living by helping families keep more money in their pockets through lower personal income taxes and continuing investments in education and health care. Our municipal partners are integral to our work. As we face global uncertainties, I look forward to working together over the next year as we continue to build strong, vibrant, and sustainable communities that help keep our province the best place in Canada to live, work, and raise a family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ric McIver". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ric McIver
Minister



PROTECTIVE SERVICES44
38106 Range Road 275
Red Deer County, AB T4S 2L9
Phone: 403.343.6301
Fax: 403.347.0572

March 3, 2025

Town of Bowden
2101 – 20 Avenue,
Box 388
Bowden, AB T0M 0K0

Sent Via Email to: cfo@bowden.ca

Attention: Chief Administrative Officer

Dear Sir/Madam:

Re: February Enforcement Contract

Please be advised for the month of February, Red Deer County Patrol Officers spent 10 hours and 46 minutes in the Town of Bowden.

The 5 tickets were issued during patrols conducted between 0600-2100:

- 2025-02-10 at 08:22 hrs - Speeding
- 2025-02-05 at 07:34 hrs - Speeding in a Playground Zone
- 2025-02-13 at 07:38 hrs - Fail to Stop at a Stop Sign
- 2025-02-13 at 07:38 hrs - Drive Unregistered Motor Vehicle
- 2025-02-21 at 15:18 hrs – Drive Unregistered Motor Vehicle

There were 2 complaints received in the month of February.

I trust you will find the foregoing satisfactory, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office.

Sincerely,

Sgt. Irv Heide
Patrol Manager,
Red Deer County, Protective Services

Agenda item 10 (continued)

Recommended Motion:

Motion by Councillor _____ that Council accepts the submitted items of correspondence as information.

Regular Council Meeting: March 10, 2025.	Agenda Item: 11.a
Prepared by: Arno Glover	Approved by: Mayor Robb Stuart
Report Type: Information	Attachment(s) 1 CAO's Report

Content:**Agenda item 11.a (CAO's Report)**

Regular Council Meeting: March 10, 2025	Agenda Item: 11.a
Prepared by: Arno Glover	Approved by: n/a
Report Type: Information	Attachment(s):

CAO's Report

1 Road Traffic Incident (update)

With regard to the road traffic incident involving a town vehicle by the cemetery.

Administration has:

- received an estimate from Command Gate for a new gate,
- instructed Legacy Monuments to assess the work required to restore the damaged headstone.

The Town Insurance Company has been informed and has given approval to commence repairs to the cemetery gate.

2 Community Engagement Software Application (update)

Administration has approved the app layout.

On March 3 the developers at Aivia stated by email that they are working on providing a test version of the application and that the Town will receive a test version very soon.

3 Firehall

The appointed structural engineer has completed his investigation. Administration has not yet received the report.

4 Land Use Bylaw

The Operating Budget for 2025 contains a provision for consultancy services. This provision was made specifically for the re write of the Town's Land Use Bylaw (LUB).

Administration has contacted both an independent professional planner and ISL Engineering to request proposals in respect of the commencement of a project to review both the Land Use Bylaw and the Municipal Development Plan (MDP).

The initial objective is to define the full scope of the project and its requirements.

Project management typically includes some or all of the following tasks:

- setting objectives and deliverables,
- defining a roadmap and timescales,
- allocating available resources (formation of a working party?),
- determining a budget,
- deciding what is in / or out of the project scope,
- communication to stakeholders,

Thereafter work can focus on specific tasks which may include items such as:

- comparatives with other municipal land use bylaws,
- reviewing all of the current LUB definitions,
- correction of zoning errors within the current LUB.
- reviewing permitted and discretionary uses in all zones,
- updates required to make the LUB more relevant to current market conditions (eg: inclusion of new provisions for secondary suites, subdivisions, etc),
- a comparative review of the LUB to the Municipal Development Plan to determine requirements where realignment is required,
- the requirement and cost of GIS data mapping.

This preliminary work will not include:

- the land annexation,
- any public hearing or public consultations.

The commencement of this work throughout 2025 will provide the groundwork and preparation necessary to provide synergy to the newly elected Council for them to be able to continue with the project in early 2026 immediately after the completion of the land annexation process.

5 Request for Proposal

Administration has submitted an RFP document to three contractors for the tender of contracted services for the provision of concrete structures.

This is to fulfill a requirement to:

- i. install 6 concrete swales to assist in the effective stormwater management on 20th Avenue and 21st Avenue,
- ii. construct a sidewalk on 22nd Street that provides a continuous pedestrian walkway between all phases of the walking trail.

This proposal will be formally submitted in detail to Council for approval as part of the 2025 Capital Budget.

6 Request for Proposal

Administration has instructed ISL to prepare an RFP document for the tender of contracted services for the provision of the continuation of the wastewater I & I project.

Following on from the CCTV work completed last year areas have been identified that require:

- i. open trench repair of damaged wastewater pipe
- ii. relining using cured in pipe technology.

This proposal will be formally submitted in detail to Council for approval as part of the 2025 Capital Budget.

7 Ongoing Tasks

An update on the ongoing task is provided below:

- i. 2024 Capital Projects cost reconciliation **completed**,
- ii. Addition of new capital items / disposals to / from Asset Management Plan, **completed**,
- iii. Update of the financial asset schedules (audit requirement), **completed**,
- iv. 2024 Annual Water Report to be submitted Alberta Environment (deadline 28 Feb) **completed**
- v. Emergency Response Plan for Arena (ABSA audit requirement), **WIP**,
- vi. Compilation of a register of residential addresses (for submission to Elections Alberta), **submitted**
- vii. Liaison with Structural Engineer(s) - various projects. **WIP**.

Recommended Motion:

Motion by Councillor _____ that Council accepts the CAO's report as information.

Regular Council Meeting: March 10, 2025.	Agenda Item: 11.b / 11.c
Prepared by: Arno Glover	Approved by: Mayor Robb Stuart
Report Type: Information	Attachment(s): As per content

Agenda Item 11 b / 11.c**Content:****11.b****Council Committee Reports**

- i. Bowden Public Library (Meeting Minutes February 19, 2025)
(report submitted by Deb Coombes)

11.c**Society & Other Reports**

- i. Parkland Regional Library Board (Board minutes November 14, 2024)
(report submitted by Councillor Deb Coombes)
- ii. Parkland Regional Library Board (Budget Update Year End December 31, 2024)
(report submitted by Councillor Deb Coombes)
- iii. Bowden Grandview School Council Meetings (x3)
(report submitted by Councillor Deb Coombes)
- iv. South Red Deer Regional Wastewater Commission (February analysis)
(report submitted by CAO Arno Glover)
- v. Alberta Counsel (Legislative Session Summary)
(report submitted by CAO Arno Glover)

The following report is provided under separate cover (confidential)

An exception to disclose under Division 2 of Part 1 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, RSA2000, Chapter F-25 applies on the basis of: Section 27 "deemed to be privileged information".

- vi. Bowden Friendship Club (Board Meeting Minutes February 20, 2025)
(report submitted by Mayor Robb Stuart)

Note:

All meeting minutes submitted should be assumed to be "unapproved".

Bowden Public Library
Meeting Minutes

Date: Feb. 19, 2025

Attendees: Justina Klassen-Fehr, Deb Coombes, , Shawna MacDonald, Tina Von Hatten, Julie Hamblin (Librarian), Randy Brown

Regrets: Caroline Furman, , Marietta Tuckwell

	Item	Description	Action	Motion	Decision
1	Call to Order			Randy Brown called the meeting to order 7:00 pm	Carried
2.	Adoption of Agenda			Deb Coombes moved to adopt agenda	carried
3.	Adoption of Previous Minutes			Deb Coombes moved to accept minutes	carried
4	Business Arising				
		Review of Financial Statement		Randy Brown moved to accept	Carried
		Signing Authorities: Paul Webb off Linda Toews off Justina Klassen-Fehr (On already) Shawna MacDonald (on already) Add Caroline Furnam, Tina von Hatten & Marietta Tuckwell		Randy moved to accept	Carried
5.	New Business	Deb Coombes moved to go in-camera @ 7:15 p.m. to discuss personnel issue. Deb Coombes moved to come out of in-camera @ 7:37p.m. Approval of Annual Report Justine moved to accept			
6	Next Meeting	April 16 @ 6:30 p.m.			

7	Motion to Adjourn			Tina Von Hatten moved to adjourn at 7:48 pm	Carried
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PRLS Board Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2024

The regular meeting of the Parkland Regional Library System Board was called to order at 10:01 a.m. on Thursday November 14, 2024 in the Small Board Room, Lacombe.

Present: Barb Gilliat, Gord Lawlor, Ray Reckseidler

Present via Zoom: Jackie Almberg, Alison Barker-Jevne, Jul Bissell, Wayne Clark, Laureen Clark-Rennie, Deb Coombes, Edna Coulter, Teresa Cunningham, Cal David, Jeff Eckstrand, Sarah Fahey, Les Fee, Richard Forsberg, Dwayne Fulton, Twyla Hale, Kathy Hall, Pam Hansen, Cody Johnson, Bryce Liddle, Julie Maplethorpe, Philip Massier, Ricci Matthews, Marc Mousseau, Jordon Northcott, Jackie Northey, Jacquie Palm-Fraser, Leonard Phillips, Sandy Shipton, Naomi Tercier, Harvey Walsh, Carlene Wetthuhn, Shannon Wilcox, Janice Wing

Guests: Brenda Dennis, Diane Elliot – Alt., Maia Foster, Paul Peterson, Paul Webb – Alt.

With Regrets: Elaine Fossen, Shaleah Fox, Barbara Gibson, Joy-Anne Murphy, Dianne Roth, Les Stulberg

Absent: Todd Dalke, Tim Field, Cody Hillmer, Dana Kreil, Stephen Levy, Darryl Motley, Jas Payne, Shawn Peach, Ron These, Bill Windsor

Staff: Kara Hamilton, Patty Morrison, Paige Mueller, Andrea Newland, Ron Sheppard, Tim Spark, Donna Williams

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Barb Gilliat. Gilliat reviewed the ground rules of the meeting.

As part of PRLS' legislative compliance procedures, board members who send regrets are excused at the beginning of each meeting.

Motion by Janice Wing to excuse Elaine Fossen, Shaleah Fox, Barbara Gibson, Ricci Matthews, Joy-Anne Murphy, Dianne Roth, and Les Stulberg from attendance at the board meeting on November 14, 2024 and remain a member of the Parkland Board in good standing.

CARRIED

PRLS 43/2024

Agenda

1.1.2 Adoption of the Agenda

Gilliat asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda.



Agenda

1	Call to Order	10:00 a.m.	
	Welcome and layout of ground rules		10 minutes
	Motion to excuse regrets		2 minutes
	1.1 Agenda		2 minutes
	1.1.1. Additions or deletions to the agenda		
	1.1.2. Adoption of the Agenda		
	1.2 Approval of the minutes of the November 14, 2024 meeting*		2 minutes
	1.3 Business arising from the minutes of the November 14, 2024 meeting		
	Explanation and approval of the Consent Agenda		5 minutes
2	Consent Agenda		
	2.1 Budget Update*		
	2.2 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes for December 12, 2024*		
	2.3 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes for January 30, 2025 (draft)*		
	2.4 Business arising from the consent agenda		
	2.5 Approval of the consent agenda		
3	Items for Action/Information		
	3.1 Vacant Seats on the Executive Committee*		15 minutes
	3.2 2024 in Review – Approval of the 2024 Annual Report*		15 minutes
	3.3 Approval of the 2024 Outlet Annual Reports*		10 minutes
	3.4 Advocacy Committee Terms of Reference*		5 minutes
	3.5 Election of the Advocacy Committee*		15 minutes
	3.6 Budget Summary Report*		5 minutes
	3.7 Parkland's Auditor 2025-2027*		5 minutes
	3.8 Woodworkers Guild Joint Project*		8 minutes
	3.9 Staff Engagement Survey*		5 minutes
	3.10 Staff Recognition*		2 minutes
	3.11 Updates		5 minutes
	3.11.1 - Director's Report*		
	3.11.2 - Library Services Report*		
	3.11.3 - IT Report*		
	3.11.4 - Finance and Operations Report*		
	3.12 Parkland Community Update		10 minutes
4	Adjournment	Total:	121 minutes



Motion by Ray Reckseidler to accept the agenda as presented.

CARRIED
PRLS 44/2024

1.2. Approval of Minutes

Gilliat asked if there were any amendments to the September 12, 2024 minutes. There were none.

Motion by Len Phillips to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2024 meeting as presented.

CARRIED
PRLS 45/2024

1.3. Business arising from the minutes of the September 12, 2024 meeting

Gilliat asked if there was any business arising from the minutes. There was none.

2. Business Arising from the Consent Agenda

Gilliat asked if there was any business arising from the consent agenda.

Motion by Gord Lawlor to approve the consent agenda as presented.

CARRIED
PRLS 46/2024

3.1 Board Orientation

Sheppard spoke to the Municipal Council Library Orientation PowerPoint presentation that explained the structure of library service in Alberta.

Sheppard asked the board if they would like to attend board member training in January and when the sessions should be. There were requests for weekends, evenings, and during the day. Sessions will be scheduled in January.

Ricci Matthews entered the meeting at 10:34 a.m.

4.1 Election of Board Chair

Each year at Parkland's November board meeting, the board chairperson is elected for a twelve-month term.

Gilliat turned the meeting over to Sheppard, who asked for nominations from the floor for the position of Board Chair.

Janice Wing nominated Barb Gilliat, who allowed her name to stand.

Sheppard asked for other nominations a second time, and asked a third time for nominations. Motion by Ray Reckseidler to cease nominations.

CARRIED
PRLS 47/2024



Barb Gilliat became Parkland's Board Chair by acclimation. Sheppard turned the meeting back to Barb Gilliat.

4.2 Election of the Executive Committee

Sheppard reviewed. PRLS' Executive Committee has the ten-member maximum allowed by the Libraries Regulation. The Board Chair accounts for one seat on the committee. In accordance with Parkland's master agreement with the municipalities, members of the Executive Committee shall be selected on a geographical basis. Members were divided into "breakout rooms" on Zoom and a representative was chosen from each area. The Executive Committee was appointed as follows:

- Board Chair – Barb Gilliat
- Seat 2 – Carlene Wetthuhn, Camrose County
- Seat 3 – Deb Coombes, Town of Bowden
- Seat 4 – Len Phillips, Town of Rocky Mtn. House
- Seat 5 – Marc Mousseau, Summer Village of Parkland Beach
- Seat 6 – Twyla Hale, City of Lacombe
- Seat 7 – No representative chosen
- Seat 8 – No representative chosen
- Seat 9 – Shannon Wilcox, Town of Carstairs
- Seat 10 - Janice Wing, Town of Innisfail

Those areas that did not select a member for the Executive Committee will have the opportunity to do so at the February board meeting.

Motion by Deb Coombes to accept the Executive Committee as appointed.

CARRIED
PRLS 48/2024

4.3 Marketing and Advocacy Committee Report

Gord Lawlor presented the Advocacy Report. Parkland will not be appointing the Advocacy Committee pending an assessment of the committee's mandate and how to make it a more effective tool of the board.

The committee can be appointed at the February board meeting following a review of the terms of reference with recommendations by the Executive Committee which will meet in December and January. In particular, the role and duties of the Advocacy Committee members will be examined to determine whether a more practical "hands on" approach is needed. Rather than being mainly an advisory body, the Advocacy Committee might better served by working directly with local library boards and liaising with municipal and provincial politicians on public library related issues. Some of the things to consider include a broader scope of representation from around the region when determining the Advocacy Committee's membership. Perhaps it needs to be based on representation similar to that of the Executive Committee.



Overall, the committee has much to be proud of. Over the years the committee has assisted with the development of many training materials and it was instrumental in creating an Advocacy Committee made up of the seven library systems which is still in operation despite meeting infrequently. Given that next year is a municipal election year and the importance of advocacy in the lead up to the elections, the board can anticipate a robust discussion on the future role of the Advocacy Committee in the New Year.

Motion by Wayne Clark to receive the Marketing and Advocacy Committee Report for information.

CARRIED
PRLS 49/2024

4.4 Board Signing Authorities

Sheppard reviewed. According to board policy 4.4.20, Parkland Regional Library System requires that two trustees act as signing authorities for cheques valued at \$45,000 or more, or, if the Director is unavailable to sign.

Barb Gilliat and Twyla Hale volunteered to be Parkland's board signing authorities.

Motion by Gord Lawlor to appoint Barb Gilliat and Twyla Hale as PRLS' board signing authorities for 2024-2025.

CARRIED
PRLS 50/2024

4.5 Strategic Plan Work Plan

Sheppard reviewed. Included in the package was a copy of Parkland's 2023-2027 Strategic Plan Work Plan. We are only on year two of the plan and work is ongoing.

While we have had many successes, we have also observed that despite providing significant resources to libraries, particularly in the areas of advocacy and marketing, it appears they are not utilizing them. Also, as we try to develop a collective identity and cooperation between the libraries as outlined in the plan, there is a tension between those libraries that have a collective vision versus those libraries which prefer to emphasize a local focus.

Motion by Ray Reckseidler to receive Parkland's Strategic Plan Work Plan for information.

CARRIED
PRLS 51/2024

4.6 Budget Approval Update

Sheppard reviewed. As of the date of the meeting, Parkland's budget was approved by 70% of the municipalities representing 85% of the population. The Parkland budget for 2025 has been passed.

Motion by Sarah Fahey to receive for information.

CARRIED
PRLS 52/2024



4.7 Board Member Survey Results

Gilliat reviewed. Included in the package was the results of the three-question survey given to board members at the end of their September 12th meeting. Response to the survey was good and the comments were, in general, gratifyingly positive.

A number of issues raised are related to technology or connectivity problems on the user's end. A couple of other issues could potentially be addressed by amending the "ground rules," and there is one comment which has less to do with how to conduct board meetings and more about disagreeing with a board decision.

Motion by Edna Coulter to receive for information.

CARRIED
PRLS 53/2024

4.8 Letter to the Board by Debra Smith

Parkland Vice-Chair Debra Smith has indicated she will not be seeking further appointment. Her last meeting as a member of the Parkland board was the Executive Committee meeting held on October 17th.

Smith joined the board in 1998 after participating in a restructuring period that ended in 1997 when changes to the School Act resulted in Parkland losing its primary source of income. Remaining on the board continuously since joining, Smith has been Parkland's longest serving board member and was Board Chair from 2011-2023. The Parkland Board and staff thank her for her unwavering support and long-term service.

Motion by Teresa Cunningham to receive Smith's letter for information.

CARRIED
PRLS 54/2024

Jackie Northey left the meeting at 10:52 a.m.
Leonard Phillips left the meeting at 10:58 a.m.
Jordon Northcott left the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

4.9 Updates

4.9.1. Director's Report

4.9.2. Library Services Report

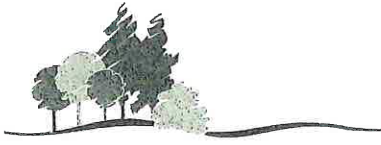
4.9.3. IT Report

4.9.4. Finance & Operations Report

Sheppard asked if there were any questions regarding the Director's Report, Library Services Report, IT Report, or the Finance and Operations Report. There were none.

Motion by Harvey Walsh to receive the Director's, Library Services, IT, and Finance & Operations Report for information.

CARRIED
PRLS 55/2024



4.10. Parkland Community Update

Carstairs Public Library won the Ministerial Award for 2024 for their *Tough Topics* programming boxes. Topics include depression, addiction, and consent.

Cremona Municipal Library partnered with FCSS to host a visit with Santa on November 13th with goodie bags and photo opportunities.

Delburne Municipal Council hosted Director Ron Sheppard and Board Chair Barb Gilliat for a council orientation about library service in Alberta. Council was very appreciative of their time and information.

Penhold & District Public Library hosted a local indigenous chef at their library for an event that partnered with the local school so that children could serve food to visiting dignitaries. The library is also hosting a community Christmas event on November 22nd with Santa and Christmas carols.

Stettler Public Library is gearing up for their annual Wine Survivor fundraiser put on by their Friends group. The event has gone online and continues to be very popular.

5. Adjournment

Motion by Carlene Wetthuhn to adjourn the meeting at 11:22 a.m.

CARRIED
PRLS 57/2024

Chair



Parkland Regional Library System

Budget Update as at December 31, 2024



2024 in Review – Approval of the 2024 Annual Report

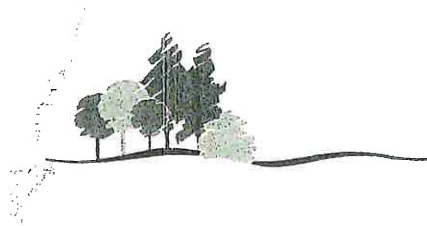
Highlights

History

Each year Parkland is required to submit an annual report to the Public Library Services Branch (PLSB) at Municipal Affairs. The full report has been included in the package for your review and approval.

The following are some highlights worth noting:

Region Wide Summary	2023	2024
Collection Size <i>throughout LeBaron</i>	637,120	664,784
Items Added to the Catalog	41,841	44,398
Circulation	1,266,833	1,310,828
Website and online catalogue visits	262,476	318,298
Parkland Card Holders	24,657	26,029
Non-Parkland Patrons who use PRL Resources	n/a	11,066
WIFI usage	1,422,940	1,269,757
Van Run Item Volume	843,900	925,450
Consulting Sessions (in-person & virtual)	1,310	1,514
Library Manager Meetings	13	16
IT on-site visits	60	52



Library Collections and Usage Statistics

eLibrary Sessions	2023	2024
Pronunciator	467	360
PressReader	37,607	39,515
Cantook Station (Read Alberta eBooks)	32	78
Ancestry Library Edition	13,111	13,632
Cypress Resume	143	156
Bluebird Language app	185	246
CBC Corner	324	192
Grant Connect	221	166
Niche Academy (Public Education Resource)	2,219	1,187
Niche Academy (Library Staff Education Resource)	3,701	2,572
Total	58,010	58,104

Circulation	2023	2024
eBook	65,609	56,643
eAudiobooks	69,770	72,915
eMagazine	20,672	27,281
Total	156,051	156,839

2024 Annual Report Accomplishments

IT Accomplishments:

- Migrated 527 computers from Windows 10 to Windows 11.
- Replaced 144 desktop and 20 laptop computers throughout the region.
- Replaced 16 monitors along with several other peripheral items throughout the region.
- Replaced one physical service at the Parkland Regional Library System (PRLS) office.
- Migrated several servers to the latest version of the Windows Server operating system.
- Migrated the PRLS Support site and equipment booking software to a new Linux operating system.
- Continued development of the website to further enhance it for library patrons throughout the region.
- Assisted the Edberg Municipal Library with their move. Facilitated their SuperNet move and re-configured the network and equipment at their new facility.



- Continued to maintain existing infrastructure for technologies such as; wireless, firewalls, network switches, servers, storage, desktops, laptops, etc.

Finance & Operations Accomplishments:

- Finance staff ordered and processed 26,155 new library materials at a cost of \$525,526
- In 2024 the van drivers made 3,120 library deliveries driving 182,250 kilometers
- The number of bins moved around the system on vans was 32,028
- The operations staff sent and received approximately 1,098 ILL items weekly through the government courier system.

Marketing

Parkland conducted several large-scale marketing campaigns in 2024. We had an extensive internal awareness campaign to increase our members' awareness of PRLS services. Additionally, we collected stories from patrons for our "Because of the Library" campaign. These stories were turned into graphics that were then shared widely through our own channels but also through a paid advertising partnership with Black Press Media. As part of this partnership, Parkland ran a two-month long digital ad campaign that included targeted ads, promotional news stories and print ads for eight member libraries in their local newspapers. The marketing department also facilitated our yearly contests (Library Card Sign Up Season and the Golden Ticket Contest) which were a huge success this year. The Amisk library won a state-of-the-art virtual reality headset and received training on how to use it for their community. Finally, the marketing team continued to support member libraries with a variety of marketing campaigns, content creation and training.

Advocacy

In 2024 Parkland helped galvanize the willingness of the regional systems into focusing on three advocacy goals. Those goals are:

1. Future of Public Library Board Operating Grant Funding Structure for Intermunicipal Library Boards – A proposal for adjustments to the funding model to support intermunicipal cooperation, allowing consolidated boards to remain financially viable while streamlining governance structures.
2. Future of Alberta Library SuperNet – A call to reassess bandwidth allocations for the SuperNet to ensure that library connectivity keeps pace with evolving internet standards, especially for rural communities.
3. Strengthening Library Services through Sustainable Funding – A suggestion for establishing a predictable funding model that reflects population growth and inflation, enabling libraries to continue meeting the expanding needs of their communities.

Other activities included developing training documents. One was for libraries on why they should have financial reserves and how to justify them to municipal council. Two other



documents were created on how to select good library board members. One document was for use with system boards and the other for municipal library boards.

Some very good documents were also created for use during MLA visits which could be used by all seven of the systems. However, only Parkland and perhaps one other system made serious effort to visit their MLAs in 2024. Parkland's visits have met with some success; however, it has proven to be a challenge to obtain visits with our MLAs.

Parkland participated with the other six library systems in a province-wide omnibus survey which sought to measure public support for library service. Results from the survey indicated that 81% of Albertans agree that there is value in public libraries as free spaces to read, learn, have fun, and access the internet, and that 70% of Albertans agree that convenient access to their public library in person or online is important to them.

Library Services Achievements

In 2024, the Library Services Department conducted 1445 virtual and phone consulting sessions, including 69 onsite library visits. We offered 27 various training events and 16 virtual/in-person meetings. We had a total of over 660 participants. Our biggest event was the relaunching of the Parkland Conference in September 2024. It was very well attended and participants enjoyed getting together, in-person, with Parkland staff, member library staff and board members. Planning is already underway for the 2025 Parkland Conference.

At the library service point in Maskwacis, numerous changes occurred since the beginning of their fiscal year on April 1, 2024. An additional staff member was hired, providing the opportunity for the library to diversify and begin offering in-house and outreach programming to the community. Staff have been visiting schools and all four Nations and promoting the services available through the library. We were also able to replace all the flooring within the library. This made a tremendous impact to the overall beautification of the space. We are, however, still advocating for a new library space that would better serve the needs of the community.



Parkland Board Meeting



Other Notable Points to be submitted to the Public Library Service Branch:

2024 PRLS Annual Report Comments and Accomplishments

First, we thank the Government of Alberta for stable operating funding. However, we wish to highlight a number of challenges we are facing.

1. **Future of Public Library Board operating Grant Funding Structure or Intermunicipal Library Boards** – A proposal for adjustments to the funding model to support intermunicipal cooperation, allowing consolidated boards to remain financially viable while streamlining governance structures.



2. **Future of Alberta Library SuperNet** – A call to reassess bandwidth allocations for the SuperNet to ensure that library connectivity keeps pace with evolving internet standards, especially for rural communities. *- Need to purchase further broadband.*
3. **Strengthening Library Services through Sustainable Funding** – A suggestions for establishing a predictable funding model that reflects population growth and inflation, enabling libraries to continue meeting the expanding needs of their communities.

Future of Public Library Board Operating Grant Funding Structure for Intermunicipal Library Boards

Current Situation

- Recent changes to Alberta’s Libraries Act allow up to four municipalities, or all within a regional area, to form an intermunicipal library board. This change has the potential to streamline governance and reduce the number of volunteer board members needed.
- Across Alberta, more than 2,400 dedicated volunteers contribute thousands of hours annually to library governance. This number exceeds the public library workforce in the province, reflecting the high value Albertans place on library services.
- Supporting, training, and developing such a large volunteer force is a considerable investment of resources for regional library systems and the Public Library Services Branch (PLSB).
- The legislative changes open the door for efficiencies in governance and resource allocation, especially by reducing the number of required volunteer board members. However, a structural issue in the Public Library Board Operating Grant funding model poses a barrier to implementing this intermunicipal cooperation effectively.

Problem with Current Funding Model

- The Public Library Board Operating Grant currently provides base funding of \$9,000 to each library board. If multiple boards consolidate into a single intermunicipal board, the consolidated entity only receives one \$9,000 grant instead of individual grants per municipality.



- For example, if a county with four library boards consolidates, its funding would drop from \$36,000 to \$9,000. This significant reduction undermines the financial viability of intermunicipal boards and limits incentives for intermunicipal cooperation.
- Without a change in the grant structure, any meaningful conversation around intermunicipal cooperation of library governance or services is likely to be hindered, particularly in rural Alberta.

Proposed Solution

- Amend the Public Library Board Operating Grant to allocate base funding to each municipality represented within an intermunicipal library board.
- This change would ensure that municipalities do not experience a reduction in funding as a result of forming intermunicipal boards.
- It would also enable libraries to pursue intermunicipal cooperation without compromising their financial stability.

Benefits of Proposed Changes

- Supports the recent legislative intent by making intermunicipal boards a financially viable option.
- Reduces administrative and training demands on both library systems and the PLSB by consolidating governance structures.
- Strengthens library services in rural areas by providing stable funding and supporting municipal cooperation.

Future of Alberta Library SuperNet

Current situation

- The SuperNet rollout to Alberta libraries brought unprecedented internet speeds and a rock-solid, stable connection to many communities, and has been particularly significant for those in less-populated parts of the province.
- This service continues to be the backbone of library telecommunications infrastructure underpinning both internal library operations and public-facing services.
- In particular, the SuperNet provides the foundation for public WIFI service, which is a major core offering of modern libraries, and ensures more equitable access for all Albertans to government services and modern internet applications for business and education.
- As time goes on, and global standards for internet speeds continue to increase, it is essential that SuperNet bandwidth allotments are regularly reassessed and updated accordingly.



Proposed improvements

- Minimum SuperNet bandwidth allocations no longer meet modern patron expectations. As a priority, an update to the minimum bandwidth for each library would be of great value, especially to rural libraries.
- A PLSB/government-issued document laying out a transparent set of rules for SuperNet bandwidth would be very useful, allowing libraries and systems to understand the broader picture and set realistic expectations. Ideally, this document would explain:
 - Minimum bandwidth allotments;
 - Approximate schedule for how often the tiers for bandwidth amounts are revisited and reassessed (e.g. every 2-3 years);
 - Thresholds defining which bandwidth tier an individual library should be expected to fall into, with some clarification on how these tiers work (e.g., based on population served, or other criteria that are explained in this document).

Strengthening Library Services through Sustainable Funding: A Partnership with the Government of Alberta

Introduction: Alberta's libraries are grateful for the Government of Alberta's (GOA) consistent support, which has enabled libraries to serve as community hubs and valuable partners in provincial initiatives, from the SuperNet network to COVID-19 response efforts.

The Need for Predictable Funding: While the 2023 increase in operating grants was much appreciated, it marked the first adjustment since 2017. To sustain high-quality services and meet evolving demands, a predictable funding model is vital. We respectfully request the GOA consider small, regular increases to the operating grant based on adjustments to the per capita rate, population growth, or a combination of both. Such a model would allow libraries to effectively plan, manage inflation, and serve Albertans' growing needs, reinforcing our partnership with the GOA.

Libraries as Service Delivery Partners: Libraries are key players in facilitating access to provincial resources, such as eBooks, training tools, digital materials, and Indigenous collections, in addition to sharing books, equipment, and other items. They also support First Nations reserves and Métis settlements through the On Reserve, On Settlement grant. Libraries actively contribute to six of the GOA's strategic objectives, including:

- Job connections
- Education and skill development
- Community safety and strength
- Support for vulnerable Albertans
- Indigenous partnerships
- Community building

Parkland Regional Library System

Advocacy Committee Terms of Reference

Mandate

The committee works to develop, implement, and monitor an advocacy strategy for Parkland Regional Library System and to make available to the Board and member libraries training, and resources related to advocacy.

Responsibilities

- To raise the awareness of community leaders and elected officials as to the mission, value and importance of Parkland Regional Library System to their communities.
- To identify advocacy needs and resources for the regional library.
- To develop strategies that will contribute to the long-term sustainability of PRLS and its member libraries.
- To develop and monitor progress on PRLS' advocacy plan.
- To inform and make recommendations for action to government officials and others about issues affecting regional and public library services.
- To ensure response to provincial and regional issues that affect PRLS.
- To educate the Board on advocacy and to communicate Parkland's advocacy plan.
- To provide training, knowledge/resources on specific issues/topics that may arise, such as municipal and provincial elections, impact of policy changes, or reductions to public library funding and programs.
- Committee members must be willing to actively engage in advocacy activities which may include meeting MLAs, municipal councils, and library boards.

Membership, Composition, and Term

- Members from the PRLS Board for a one-year term are appointed/elected at the organizational meeting.
- The Board Chair shall serve as a member of the Advocacy Committee.
- The Chair of the Committee shall be elected by the membership of the Committee.
- PRLS' Director (or a designate) is an ex-officio member of the committee. Other PRL staff may attend Advocacy Committee meetings as needed.
- The Committee will comprise of five or six volunteers. ~~As much as possible, the committee will include members representing all geographic regions.~~
- Meetings will be called by the committee Chair with frequency being determined by the committee as a whole. Meetings may be in-person, virtual, or hybrid at the discretion of the committee. ~~A quorum of the committee will be at least 50% of the committee's membership.~~

- Where costs arise, Advocacy Committee members will receive honorarium, mileage, and expense reimbursement for meeting attendance in accordance with PRLS' Finance policy.

Reports

- The Advocacy Committee is an advisory in nature with no power independent of the Executive Committee or board and will endure as a committee for as long as the board deems it necessary.
- While the Advocacy Committee does report to the board, it reports to the Executive Committee between board meetings.

January 21, 2025

BGS School Council Meeting (bgsCouncil@gmail.com)

[Google Meet Link](#)

Present: Alahna Hunter, Karen Hronek, Brittany Houcin, Jennifer Wood, Vanessa Van Sickle, Linda Wagers, Lisa Oulette, Jade Scott, Dawn Weststrate, Deen Lockhat

Executive Report

BGS School Report

7. Athletics
 - a. Fees-covers reffing, equipment, jersey rental, tournament fees
 - b. Gr. 5 & 6-Deen will bring up at ADCOS Principals levels meeting
8. Diplomas/Exam Week-started on Monday with official exam week starting on Thursday.
9. Reddi Mart Closing-January 31 video being made to thank the Reddi

Upcoming Events

- 10) Jan 21 - Social 30 Part B
- 11) Jan 22 - Last day of classes 9-12
- 12) Jan 23 - Elementary Assembly
- 13) Jan 24 - Spellathon Test
- 14) Jan 27 - Family Literacy Day
- 15) Jan 30 - Organizational Day
- 16) Jan 31 - No School
- 17) Feb 3 - First day of semester 2, report cards

	<p>18) Feb 5 - Gr. 8 Renaissance Fair 19) Feb 7 - Spellathon Assembly</p>
<p>CESD Trustee Report</p>	<p>Trustee Report for BGS for January 21, 2025</p> <p>The Board is currently in the midst of selecting the new superintendent for Chinook's Edge School Division. We have utilized a company from Calgary to seek out and vet possible candidates and to this point we have selected and gone through our first round of interviews. We are now getting prepared for in-person interviews. We then will select our best candidate and negotiate terms, etc.</p> <p>We are also close to begin searching for our next position to be filled in the Superintendent Office; that is for the Corporate Secretary position</p> <p>There was a breach to the Power School marks program in many school divisions in Alberta, but CESD was one that was not affected due to how our top technical people are operating and overseeing our website. It is also asked that all users with the CESD email access be very careful in any suspicious emails. Some suggestions from our Tech Department:</p> <p>Everytime you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Use caution when viewing email with the [External] tag in the header.● Remember to use BCC when you are sending out group emails.● Question a suspicious link in an email. (Maybe even reaching out to the sender via a phone call.)● Request the tech team to review the validity of an email.● Use caution when sending Personally Identifiable Information (PII) about yourself or students <p>Parents Matter meeting January 29th at 6:30 - 8:00 pm - confirm that BGS rep will be there...</p> <p>Discussions:</p> <p>*Key messages for the new Superintendent - this is your opportunity to make some suggestions</p>

	<p>*Artificial Intelligence (AI) - how CESD is incorporating it into use throughout the division</p> <p>*Sharing ideas from school to school</p> <p>Municipal Elections are this year (Fall 2025). Anyone interested in running or finding out more info about the election for trustees can check out the information on CESD website. There are some boundary changes but not for Ward 5 (which includes BGS).</p> <p>Board E-news: Has been really well received and our communications office, Laurette Woodward has been recognized by her amazing work done to help promote the school division and individual schools.</p> <p>Bus pick up changes for transportation. Next year, students from K-6 will be changed from 1 Kilometer distance to 1.6 kilometer distance from the school. Students in grades 7-12 still will remain the same distance of 2 kilometers</p> <p>The Ministry of Education will conduct its annual telephone and online satisfaction surveys from January 20th to May 2025, gathering feedback from over 6,000 random participants, including parents, students, teachers, and employers. The surveys aim to assess satisfaction with the quality of education, student support, school safety, preparation for future success, and system effectiveness. Results will help identify strengths and areas for improvement to enhance Alberta's education system. PLEASE participate if you are selected to take part in this survey!</p>
<p>Town of Bowden Report</p>	<p>No report-not in attendance</p>
<p>Parents</p>	<p>Alahna is going to the meeting on January 29, 2025</p>

<p>Matter Report</p>	<p>FCSS Report</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the beginning of December, FCSS had the opportunity to help a few kiddos with their Grade 5 market items. Cotton Candy & popcorn candy bags! 2. Lions Holiday Hamper Program was a success. Thank you to Student Council for its help sorting, and to all the classes who donated to the program. In total, 49 Hampers representing 122 people were given out to individuals & families residing in Bowden and the TOM OKO area. We are already planning toward the 2025 Hamper Program, and ways that we can raise donations, both food and monetary. 3. Thank you to BGS for allowing me to participate in the Little Shoppers program each year. I was only able to help one of the days this year, but it is wonderful to see so many littles & kids find that special gift for family. Thank you also to Tara for her big heart and making this program happen each & every year. I still remember the Little Shoppers gifts from when my kids were tiny. 4. On Friday, Dec. 13 (no school) Y.E.S. & FCSS partnered to offer "Holly Jolly Holiday Baking" in the foods room. Participants made Nuts & Bolts, Hot Chocolate Marshmallow dippers & Rice Crispy treats from scratch. It was a great day. 5. Dec 16. YES & FCSS hosted Holiday Cheer all day in the YES room. Kids in attendance also enjoyed some Rice Crispy treats from the previous baking date. 6. Dec. 18th YES & FCSS ran Holiday Cheer all day in the YES room. K – 12 classes came and made cards, snapped pics in the photo booth and drank hot chocolate with marshmallows. It was fabulous! 7. Dec 19th FCSS was back in action at the BGS Elementary Christmas dance. We set up a photo booth and served popcorn to all the k-6 kids that attended. Christmas spirit filled the gym & foyer. 8. As you are aware, the Reddi Mart will be closing its doors on Jan. 31. This is a major impact to our community. Heather Marshall reached out to ask if FCSS would be interested in partnering in some type of farewell, and we came up with the idea to gather as many video thanks & well wishes as we could get from the community members. So far we have over 20 participants and videos. They will be uploaded to Karen Lentz to create a YouTube video to share. It has been a very heartfelt project, and a pleasure to work on. The loss of the Reddi will be a MAJOR loss to Bowden. So many residents count on the
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<p>groceries that it provides, the support it has given to our events and programs, and further, to the connections that it brings.</p> <p>9. I have received a Practicum student from Red Deer Polytechnic that will be working at FCSS on Tuesday's & Thursdays until mid April. "MJ" is taking her first year of Social Work. You will likely see her with me in the school where possible.</p> <p>10. TONS of programs are happening in Bowden with some of our other organizations:</p> <p>Olds BGC is offering the following in Bowden:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Board Game Palooza (Mondays after school) ● Kid Food Nation (Tuesdays after school) ● Move Your Body Club (Fridays after school) <p>Keystone (Youth HQ/Red Deer BGC) Monday evenings at the Olde Library. January club includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bottle Drive for club activities ● Snow Angels (shoveling for free) ● Youth's Choice - designed by the youth. <p>Innisfail FRN at the Bowden Event Centre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bowden Youth (now Mondays 3-4:30) ● Playschool Pals (Monday 1-2:30) ● Homeschool Happenings (Last Friday of the month 1-3pm) 	<p>Breakfast Program Looks like schedule is being filled. Thank you to all those parents that are doing it. I have a few gift cards for those parents that I did not meet up with at the Christmas Concert. I will send them an email and leave them at the office at the school. The freezers are full and we have been giving a bit of extra food out for the students that are writing exams since they last so long. I have also got some muffin mix and eggs for the Life skills to do this next few weeks for the breakfast program</p> <p>FOG SUPPORT We are supporting the purchase of a new dishwasher for the Life skills/Foods Kitchen \$840 for</p>
<p>FOG Report</p>	

	<p>dishwasher. We are supporting the library for new books for the library and prizes for AVR reading \$3000 requested. Full amount approved. We are supporting for new books for the elementary reading program. Approx \$420+shipping. We are supporting the Cosmetology program to help expand it. Quote came in around \$1902.81 will depend on shipping of product</p> <p>Have been in discussion on possible support of scoreclock. Once we get more details we can discuss this as well.</p> <p>We do have a few questions on the request of the IXL program;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is there a buy in from all the teachers? What are their thoughts? Most interested in starting to use this program at the grade 7-8 level where there are a number of differing literacy levels and a need for some intervention. 2. What is the input from administration? Yes starting at grade 7 /8 and then see how it goes. 3. This is a yearly cost, what is the feasibility to keep a program like this running each year? We would be committed to trying it for one year and then re-evaluating (grade 7 /8) 4. Would there be a benefit to run this in 2 grades (maybe 7 and 10?) rather than all. OR would a back to back be better such as (grades 7 and grade) see above 5. Are there any other financial resources available to help with the program? We could look at the possibility of splitting the cost in next year's budget.
New Business	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. ASCE Grant (link) - \$2000 (Deen) 4. Hand rails at front of school 5. Cake walk plan for the spring
Next Meeting(s)	February 25, March 18, April 15, May 20
Meeting Adjourned	12:45 pm

February 11, 2025

BGS School Council Meeting (bscouncil@gmail.com)

[Google Meet Link](#)

Present:

Executive Report

BGS School Report

1. Spellathon
2. Renaissance Fair
3. Reddi Mart
4. Athletics - Gr. 5 & 6
5. Diploma Results
- 6.

Upcoming Events

- 1) Feb. 26 & 28 - HET Olds college
- 2) Feb 26th - Pink Shirt Day! (Wednesday after break)
- 3) Mar. 3, 4, 5 - Grades 1, 5, 2 PLAD
- 4) Mar. 6 - Grade 7, 8 PLAD (Lit), Junior/Senior Dance 6-9 pm Decades theme
- 5) Mar. 7 - PD Day
- 6) Mar. 10-14 - Substitute Teachers' Appreciation Week
- 7) Mar. 10 - Gr. 8 Try It! Mechanics
- 8) Mar. 14 - Les Bucheron & Winter Carnival

<p>CESD Trustee Report</p>	<p>9) Mar. 18 & 19 - Parent-Teacher Interviews</p> <p>Trustee Report for BGS for February 25, 2025</p> <p>We have selected our new Superintendent for CESD! It was a lengthy process with an initial search/advertising campaign in order to find the best possible candidates. Interviews started and then proceeded through January. Final interviews were in the beginning of this month (February). CESD welcomes Dr. Ryan Sawula.</p> <p>https://www.cesd73.ca/about/news/post/chinooks-edge-announces-appointment-of-dr-ryan-sawula-as-superintendent</p> <p>The Ministry of Education is conducting its annual telephone and online satisfaction surveys since January 20th to go until May 2025, gathering feedback from over 6,000 random participants, including parents, students, teachers, and employers. The surveys aim to assess satisfaction with the quality of education, student support, school safety, preparation for future success, and system effectiveness. Results will help identify strengths and areas for improvement to enhance Alberta's education system. Please do participate if you are selected. This information will vital to help improve our education system.</p> <p>The digital assessment platform (Vretta) will be fully in place for all Part A diploma exams and provincial achievement tests (PATs) for the 2025/26 school year, with paper-based tests available as needed. All other diploma exams will be optionally available on the digital platform in 2025/26, with full implementation across all diploma exams in the 2026/27 school year. There are plenty of tests, practice materials/resources made available for teachers to be using</p>
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to expose and familiarize students to this new platform.

During a recent Board meeting discussion about Diploma exams, there was a special shoutout to BGS for their strong emphasis on collaboration, which has played a key role in achieving outstanding diploma exam results.

The Alberta School Councils Association (ASCA) will hold its annual conference **virtually on April 26**. Previously, the event was conducted in person. To support school councils interested in attending, the Board will cover their registration fees. **Is there interest in having a group of parents meet together?**

<https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/about/annual-conference>
Event brochure: <https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/public/download/files/255305>

The Parents Matter meeting January 29th had a focus on artificial intelligence and discussion was where CESD is with AI at this point. We had Assistant Superintendent Jason Drent speak to this about how it can and will be used to help both students and staff.

Congratulations on another highly successful Spellathon at BGS! It's always wonderful to see students taking pride in their achievements. The strong school spirit was also on full display, with so many participating enthusiastically in "Tropical Day" this year!

	<p>Again, we continue to ask anyone with CESD email access be very careful in any suspicious emails. Some suggestions from our Tech Department:</p> <p>Everytime you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Use caution when viewing email with the [External] tag in the header. ● Remember to use BCC when you are sending out group emails. ● Question a suspicious link in an email. (Maybe even reaching out to the sender via a phone call.) ● Request the tech team to review the validity of an email. ● Use caution when sending Personally Identifiable Information (PII) about yourself or students
Town of Bowden Report	
Parents Matter Report	
FCSS Report	<p>1. Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP) 2025 – We are currently booking for 3 dates through March and April. This is a free service and is ideal for Students with basic returns. Contact FCSS to book</p>

February 25, 2025

BGS School Council Meeting (bgsCouncil@gmail.com)

[Google Meet Link](#)

Present: Jade Prefontaine, Alahna Hunter, Karen Hronek, Brittany Houchin, Linda Wagers, Lisa Ouelette, Deb Coombes

Executive Report

BGS School Report

1. Spellathon-raised about \$6000 for elementary events, field trips etc.
2. Renaissance Fair-grade 8's had an amazing fair
3. Reddi Mart-thank you to the Reddi was held in the library
4. Athletics - Gr. 5 & 6-most schools run intramurals for grades 5 /6 and don't typically participate in league play in CESD.
5. Diploma Results-results were good, provincial average will be shared in the next few weeks
6. Scoreboard-Deen is still researching the best option for BGS, quote for a screen was \$60,000. There is a provincial government grant that our FOG group could apply for. This could cover about half of the total cost. There has been a donation that was made that could go towards this. Jade asked if we could ask community groups for sponsorship.
7. Sound baffles have been put up in the wellness room and it makes a huge difference
8. Vice-Principal-posting has closed and interviews will happen shortly. Should have an announcement in the next week or so.

Upcoming Events

- 1) Feb. 26 & 28 - HET Olds college
- 2) Feb 26th - Pink Shirt Day! (Wednesday after break)

	<p>3) Mar. 3, 4, 5 - Grades 1, 5, 2 PLAD (Professional Learning days for teachers at Division office)</p> <p>4) Mar. 6 - Grade 7, 8 PLAD (Lit), Junior/Senior Dance 6-9 pm Decades theme</p> <p>5) Mar. 7 - PD Day</p> <p>6) Mar. 10-14 - Substitute Teachers' Appreciation Week</p> <p>7) Mar. 10 - Gr. 8 Try It! Mechanics</p> <p>8) Mar. 14 - Les Bucheron & Winter Carnival</p> <p>9) Mar. 18 & 19 - Parent-Teacher Interviews</p>
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<p>Town of Bowden Report</p>	<p>Electronic sign on the highway has led to quite a few enquiries to the town. The Town has responded to this by providing a statement on their website. The board is on private property and it is not controlled by the Town of Bowden.</p>

<p>Parents Matter Report</p>	<p>Parents Matter had their online meeting on January 29. Had guest Jason Drent on the use of AI as a tool for teaching/learning. What does that mean? AI can be used for a variety of tasks. It is a technology to perform tasks, problem solving, understanding situations, research, condense a report, taking 'tone' out of emails/communication. For example to help students with homework. Not to do the homework for them but to remind them how to solve a problem such as a math problem. Asking AI and wording in ways as to give help rather than doing the task. "Please remind me how to solve 'question", but do not give the answer" AI will go through the process step by step and remind the student how to find their outcome. Teachers can use it as tools to help communicate information to many different learners. For example a teacher can input what they want to teach the students and AI can, in seconds, have multiple different strategies available to accommodate many different learning styles in the classroom. AI is learning and actually becoming reluctant to answer questions worded like "write me a paper" or "give me the answer". Through the idea of digital citizenship and putting safety measures in place it will be a useful tool. Researchers are seeing more good than bad.</p> <p>Ideas were shared for spending the School Council grant money that each council is giving. Some ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -online presentations -speakers: nutritionist, social media -bring in more parents to meetings offering prizes, draws -back to school BBQ -intro course for school councils <p>During one of the breakout sessions the question we were to answer was, The key message we want the new superintendent to know.</p> <p>A few items were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -views on screentime -socialization within the school (it seems to be back sliding) -more communication and engagement from division office (would like to see the division newsletter continue) -schools would like to see more consistency throughout the whole division with the same access to core subjects and sports -continue to take this Parent Matters group seriously and listen to the parents needs
<p>FCSS Report</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP) 2025 – We are currently booking for 3 dates through March and April. This is a free service and is ideal for Students with basic returns. Contact FCSS to book your appointment. 2. Retro Bingo – We are excited for 2 Retro Bingo dates in March. First, FCSS will be coming to BGS for a special staff/admin edition of fun bingo on Tuesday, March 4th. Then, the main community event in

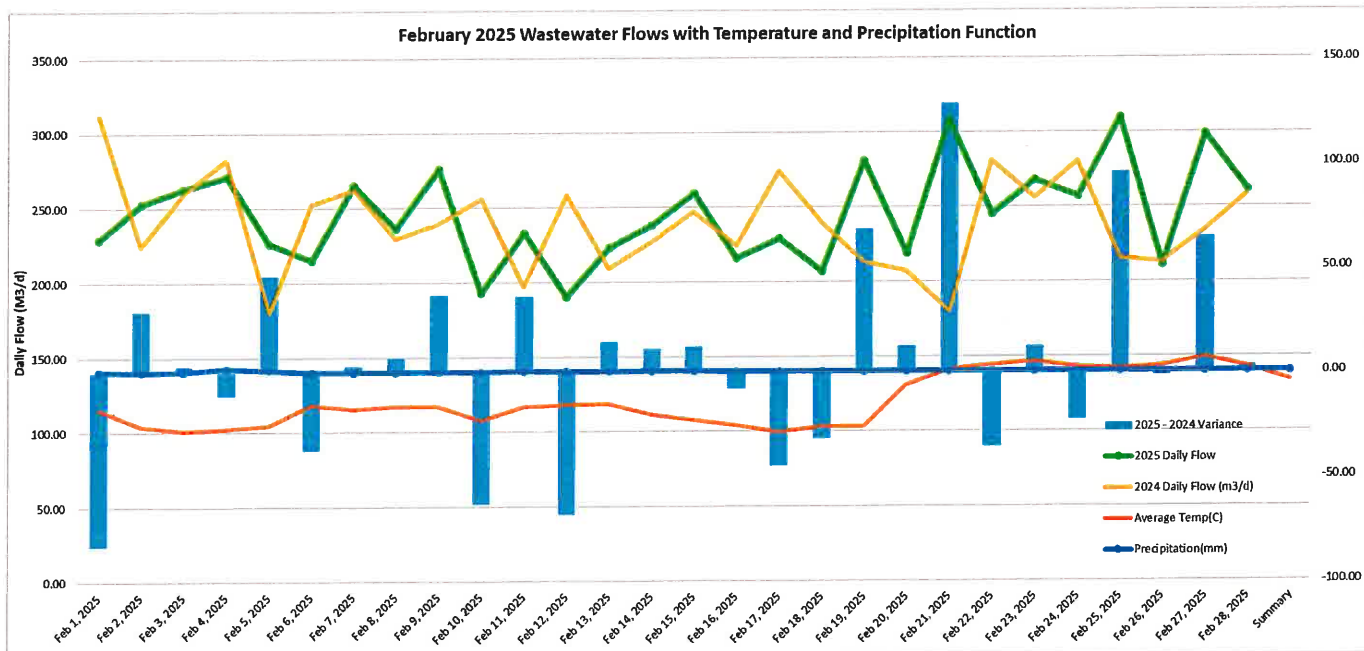
	<p>partnership with Expanding Horizons will take place on Thursday, March 20 at the Paterson Community Centre. Ages 10+. No cash, fun prizes only.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Good Food Box program is available for Bowden residents and is delivered to the Olde Library each month at no extra costs. This is a great way to save some \$\$ on fresh produce. Estimated 50% savings from buying in store. Small box is \$20 and Large is \$30. For more information, contact FCSS. Program partnership with Mountain View Good Food Box & Hope Pointe Church (administrators) in Olds. 4. FCSS/YES will be hosting a painting class throughout March. Grade 5/6 are invited to participate. We are working to finalize what project we will take on. 5. THANK YOU to all the staff who helped with, and participated in the video clips, and to Karen Lentz that made a beautiful video for the "Farewell to Reddi Mart" that was shown at the school on Feb. 6. It was a pleasure to be part of such a heartfelt good-bye to our community pillar. 6. Pink Shirt day T-Shirt project with Rainbow Club took place yesterday, Feb 24. FCSS contributed fabric markers, puff paints and T-shirts to the cause. 7. Red Deer County FCSS/Youth Services would like to arrange a meeting with BGS & FCSS to discuss the potential for additional youth programs in Bowden. Who can participate and a few dates that could work? 8. Programs in Bowden for Youth: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BGC Olds & Area in Bowden Grandview after school programs coming in March: Tuesdays, March 11 to May 6th "Food Art Club", Wednesdays, March 12 to May 7th "Art Club", Thursdays, March 13 to May 8th "Sports Club" • Youth HQ/BGC Red Deer hosts "Keystone" at the Olde Library Monday evenings each month. February included: Feb 3 – Black History Month, Feb 10 – Recipe for Self Care, Feb 24 – Movie Night • Innisfail FRN hosts programs at the Bowden Event Centre and the Olde Library. February Included: Thursdays 9:30 – 11:00 - "Preschool Pals", Friday, Feb. 7 – "Bowden Youth", Monday, Feb 24 – "Homeschool Happenings" 9. Other youth events coming up in Bowden: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bowden Skating Club "Year End Carnival" Sunday, March 23 at Bowden Igloo 1:00pm start. • Bow-Inn 4H Beef Club "Pasta Night Fundraiser" Wednesday, March 26 at Paterson Hall. Contact Ashley Willert for tickets at 403-505-2967 • Bowden Town Theatre presents "Alibis" Dinner theatre May 2 & 3 at Paterson. Tickets available at Bowden ATB> this is a great way to introduce youth to live theatre!
<p>FOG Report</p>	<p>Breakfast program-March schedule is coming out</p> <p>February did well for volunteers</p>

	Alahna shopped and picked up new breakfast program supplies yesterday. Some special days in the spring are being planned for breakfast program-cereal, waffles, sausage etc.
New Business	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ASCA Annual Conference - April 26 (link) 2. Assurance Survey
Next Meeting(s)	March 18, April 15, May 20
Meeting Adjourned	

From: [CAO SRDRWC](#)
To: [CAO; Randy Brown](#)
Subject: Bowden SRD Wastewater statistics
Date: March 4, 2025 2:06:16 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
[20250303 - SRD SRS Bowden Station February 2025.PDF](#)
[20250303 - SRD Bowden Station Daily Readings February 2025.PDF](#)

Hi Arno and Randy,

Here is the SRD flow data for February 2025. Average flows for 2025 compared to 2024 are minimal as shown in the random up/down variance in the year over-year comparison. The only notable issue is the increase in wastewater flow in Bowden aligned with the increase in ambient temperature above 0 C or February 21/22 (see the biggest blue spike!). This implies that you have at least one direct connection to overland runoff water getting into your collection system. It could also be showing the impact of multiple leaks, but the magnitude of the flow increase in one day suggests it could be related to one large contributor.



Total wastewater volumes recorded on SCADA for February 2025 were 6,880 m³ compared to the billing report of 6,927 m³. Variance again is due to differences in opening and closing balances depending on when the operators took the readings. SRS volumes through Bowden were only 29 m³ from 8 l during the month.

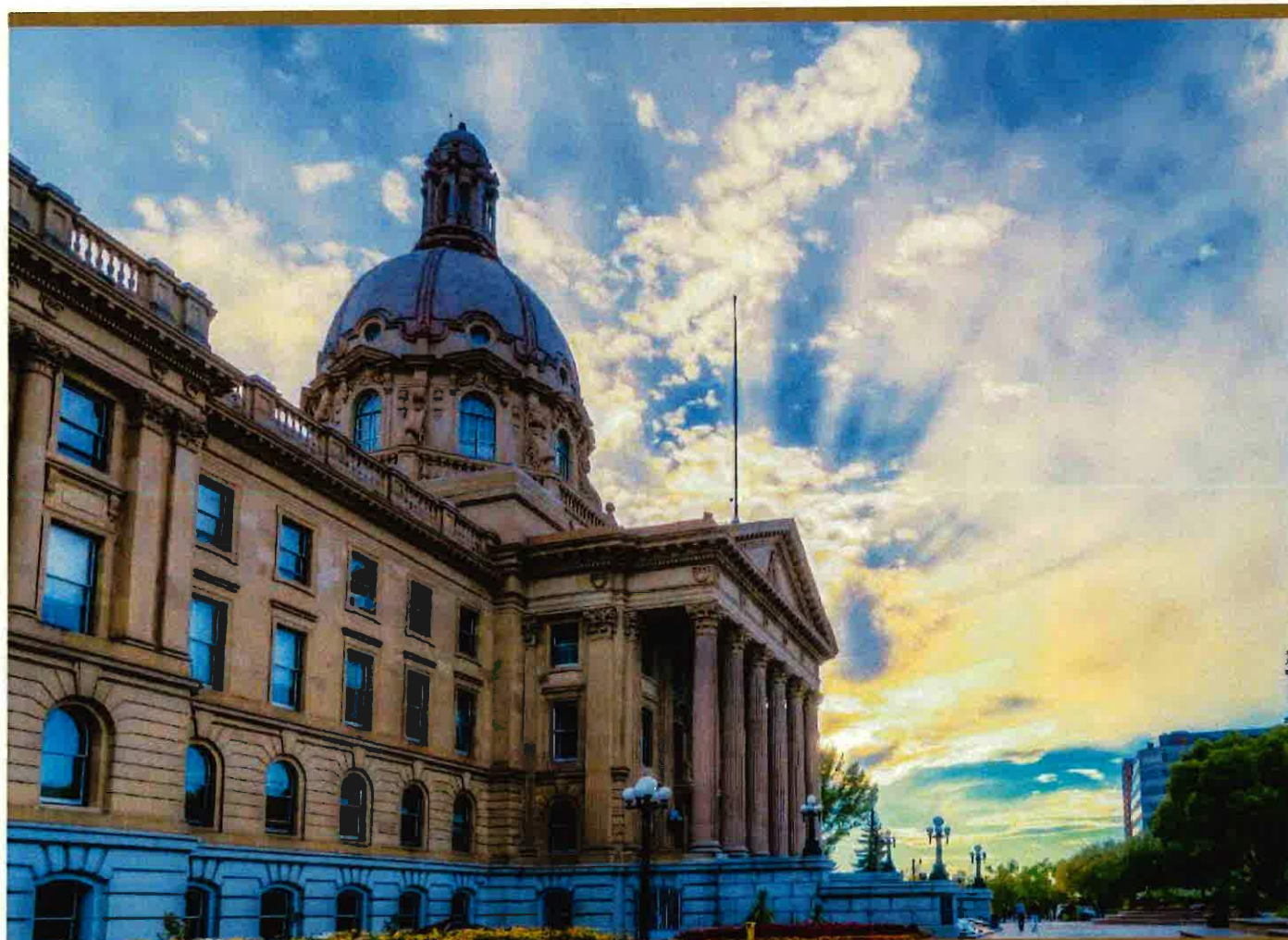
Michael Wuetherick, P.Eng
 Chief Administrative Officer
 South Red Deer Regional Wastewater Commission
 Bay 1, 7889 - 49th Avenue
 Red Deer, AB T4P 2B4
Tel: (403) 507.5139



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Alberta 31st Legislature, Session 1 Summary
February 25th to 27th

Alberta 31st Legislature, Session 1 Summary: February 25 to 27

Bill Updates

Government Bills

- **Bill 37: Mental Health Services Protection Amendment Act, 2025:** proposes revisions to the existing *Mental Health Services Protection Act*. Key changes include updating definitions related to services and service providers, removing certain compliance requirements, and modifying the licensing provisions for specified service providers. Additionally, the bill amends the authority of directors to publish information about service providers, aiming to enhance clarity and oversight within Alberta's mental health services framework.

Status: Adjourned during Second Reading

Bill text: [Bill 37: Mental Health Services Protection Amendment Act, 2025](#)

GOA overview: [Updating Regulation, Licensing of Addiction Treatment](#)

- **Bill 38: Red Tape Reduction Statutes Amendment Act, 2025:** proposes changes to multiple Alberta statutes to streamline administrative processes. Notable amendments include transferring certain ministerial powers under the Charitable Fund-raising Act to a Director of Charitable Fund-raising, revising reporting requirements in the Child and Youth Advocate Act, and updating procedures in the Post-secondary Learning Act to facilitate amalgamations of student associations with societies. Additionally, the bill introduces provisions in the Residential Tenancies Act to allow electronic service of notices under specific circumstances.

Status: Passed First Reading

Bill text: [Bill 38: Red Tape Reduction Statutes Amendment Act, 2025](#)

GOA overview: [RTR Bill Improves Housing, Trades, and Charities](#)

Session Transcripts

Tuesday, February 25, 2025, Afternoon: [Transcript](#)

Wednesday, February 26, 2025, Afternoon: [Transcript](#)

Thursday, February 27, 2025, Afternoon: [Transcript](#)



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ALBERTA LEGISLATURE'S 2025 SPRING SITTING: HIGH DRAMA, BIG STAKES, AND SHARP DIVIDES

Aaron Singleton & Aileen Burke

As the Alberta Legislature convenes for its 2025 spring session, several critical issues are poised to dominate the agenda. Foremost among these are the ongoing restructuring of the province's health care system, the introduction of the 2025 provincial budget, and debates on other significant policy areas. This session will be pivotal in shaping Alberta's socio-economic landscape for years to come as policymakers grapple with competing demands for fiscal responsibility and robust public services.

Health Care Restructuring

The transformation of Alberta's health care system continues to be a focal point in 2025. Following the government's 2023 announcement to overhaul health services, efforts have been underway to decentralize Alberta Health Services (AHS) and establish specialized agencies to improve service delivery. This initiative aims to enhance local decision-making, streamline operations, and ultimately improve patient care across the province.

In January 2025, the government initiated a second round of public consultations to gather feedback on the restructuring process. These sessions sought input on health care access and workforce experiences, with the goal of identifying opportunities to bolster local decision-making. Health Minister Adriana LaGrange emphasized the importance of these consultations, stating "by continuing the conversation, we are ensuring that Albertans' experiences, perspectives, and expertise are reflected in our decision-making."

The passing of Bill 26, the *Health Statutes Amendment Act, 2024 (No. 2)* marked a significant milestone. This act facilitates the creation of "provincial health corporations" designed to deliver and coordinate health services more effectively. However, Bill 26 has also generated large-scale controversy, particularly regarding provisions that prohibit certain treatments transgender youth. Critics argue that these restrictions undermine the rights of vulnerable youth (including their parents) and could have significant physical and mental health implications.

The health care debate is further complicated by recent allegations made by the former CEO of AHS Athana Mentzelopoulos in a recent lawsuit with respect to the procurement of certain contracts with chartered surgical facilities. The allegations have not been tested in court.

The 2025 Alberta Budget

Set to be unveiled on February 27, the provincial budget addresses the challenges posed by Alberta's rapid population growth and economic uncertainties. The province experienced unprecedented population increases in 2023 and 2024, intensifying demands on public services such as health care, education, and transportation. Finance Minister Nate Horner acknowledged these pressures, stating, "Alberta is facing headwinds from every direction right now: cross-border trade issues, volatile oil prices, and pressure on our public services as more people move here to make Alberta their home."

In response, Budget 2025 is expected to prioritize investments in infrastructure, including the accelerated construction of schools and hospitals to accommodate the growing population. However, fiscal prudence remains a priority, especially given the volatility in global energy markets and the financial implications of ongoing public sector contract negotiations, the ongoing tariff threat from the United States, and ongoing geopolitical challenges.

It has been speculated that Alberta should be bracing themselves for the first provincial deficit since the COVID-19 pandemic, but those details will not be known until the budget is released later this week.

Beyond health care and fiscal matters, the spring session is anticipated to tackle several other pressing issues.



AILEEN BURKE

Director of Non-Profit and Voluntary Sector

Aileen holds an MA in Political Science and has been a part of creating and adapting policy and procedure, complex problem solving, and has significant knowledge of the non-profit industry and municipal politics. Aileen has run for all levels of government and has significant experience working on election campaigns.

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ALBERTA COUNSEL

Compassionate Intervention Legislation

Alberta's proposed involuntary treatment legislation, the *Compassionate Intervention Act*, also known as the *Compassionate Care Act*, is also set to be introduced in this session. If passed, this legislation will allow a family member, social worker, psychologist, child protection official, police or peace officer, or medical professional to make a petition to family court for a treatment order wherein a person with severe drug addictions could be placed into treatment without their consent.

Per government documents obtained by the Globe and Mail, this change would give sweeping rights to refer adults and youth to involuntary treatment if they pose risks to themselves and others. The records say drug users could be forced into treatment after committing non-violent criminal or statutory offences primarily as a result of a substance use disorder.

Once implemented, the new framework will also replace the Protection of Children Abusing Drugs Act (PChAD), which allows a parent to have their minor child undergo mandatory detox, assessment, and stabilization.

While the 2024-2027 Alberta Fiscal Plan allocates \$10 million to "Compassionate Intervention Implementation Intake and assessment centres," in an interview in August 2024, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions Dan Williams acknowledges that the funding required to build the compassionate intervention facilities "are big numbers, very big numbers."

With the province bracing for an austerity budget and critics of the proposed legislation already looking at potential charter challenges, it is unclear if the facilities slated to open in Calgary and Edmonton sometime in 2025 will move forward.

Education and Workforce Development

With Alberta's burgeoning population, education has become another critical focus area. The government plans to allocate significant funds for the construction of new schools and the hiring of additional teachers. There is also a growing emphasis on workforce development initiatives to address labor market gaps, particularly in skilled trades and technology sectors. Partnerships with post-secondary institutions are being explored to enhance training programs and better align them with industry needs.

As the session progresses, these debates will shape Alberta's policy landscape, reflecting the government's efforts to balance immediate needs with long-term sustainability. Public opinion is divided on many of the key issues. While some residents applaud the government's focus on fiscal responsibility and economic growth, others express concern about potential cuts to essential services, programs, and non-profit organizations that fill service gaps.

The 2025 spring session of the Alberta Legislature is set to address a spectrum of critical issues, from health care reform and budgetary considerations to support for small businesses and infrastructure development.

With the health care restructuring efforts, budget deliberations, and other legislative priorities taking center stage, Albertans will be closely watching the decisions made during this pivotal session. The spring of 2025 will undoubtedly be a defining moment in Alberta's political and economic history.

BUDGET SERIES

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Photo Credit: Brendan Brown

POLITICAL EVENTS

UCP – Budget Breakfast

Friday, February 28th @ 6:00AM

Location: Royal Glenora Club, Edmonton

- Join Nate Horner and other MLAs for the 40th annual budget breakfast the day after it is released by the provincial government.
- Tix: \$150 (unitedconservative.ca/events)

UCP – Edmonton Leader’s Dinner

Wednesday, March 19th @ 6:00PM

Location: Edmonton Convention Centre

- Join Danielle Smith and the UCP for an evening dinner featuring remarks from the Premier.
- Tix: \$350 (unitedconservative.ca/events)

NDP– Convention 2025

May 2nd – May 4th

Location: Edmonton Convention Centre

- Join the Alberta NDP for their 2025 convention. You must be a member to attend.
- Tix: \$150+ (albertandp.ca/convention)

Alberta Counsel – Non-Profit Day 2025

June 17th

Location: Fantasyland Hotel, Edmonton

- Join Alberta Counsel and ECVO for the third-edition of Non-Profit Day! We will host a day of informative breakout sessions and inspiring speakers designed to help non-profit leaders from across Alberta.
- Tix: \$150 Early Bird (nonprofitday.ca)



AARON SINGLETON
Associate-Digital Campaigns

Aaron brings years of political experience to our already strong government relations team. He leads Alberta Counsel’s digital campaign portfolio which has quickly grown to include public relations support on issues ranging from the grassroots level to national reach. Having been trained by a leading digital organizer in the United States, he is well-equipped to take your digital campaigns to the next level by supporting clients’ existing government relations objectives.

He earned a BA in Political Science from the University of Alberta and brings additional experience supporting progressive campaigns at both the provincial and federal level since 2011.

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KEY INFLUENCER PROFILE
DARREN HEDLEY
ACTING DEPUTY MINISTER OF HEALTH
Cody Mackoway



Source: LinkedIn

Darren Hedley has been selected to serve as the Acting Deputy Minister of Health, previously having served as Assistant Deputy Minister in the same department. Hedley replaces André Tremblay in the role, who will shift to focus solely on his alternate role as Interim CEO and administrator for Alberta Health Services (AHS).

Hedley has spent over three decades working for the Government of Alberta, having started in Family and Social Services in 1994. He has since served numerous senior-level roles, including as assistant deputy minister in Treasury Board and Finance, Transportation, and most recently Alberta Health. Hedley is an alumnus of Grant MacEwan University and has additionally completed the Ivey Senior Public Sector Leader Program.





PASCAL RYFFEL
VP of Corporate
Development and
Government Relations

After completing his MA in Media and International Development, Pascal spent four years with the Alberta NDP Caucus. Pascal has been directly involved in Alberta politics for almost two decades, including as a candidate in 2008, and has a deep and current knowledge of Alberta politics. Pascal has been with Alberta Counsel since 2015.

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AT A GLANCE

In the Media

Expedited Funding for Eleven New Alberta Schools

Minister of Education Demetrios Nicolaides has announced that eleven planned schools were given full construction funding to match Alberta's high population growth. "Alberta is growing and growing fast, so we need to build schools now. That's why we are making a generational investment of \$8.6 billion, and fast-tracking school construction process. Our commitment to building schools will help us build and open 200,000 spaces for students in communities that need them the most all within the next seven years," stated Nicolaides.

Airdrie, Chestermere, and Okotoks are each receiving one new school. Three schools will be built in Calgary's far northeast, and the remaining five will be constructed in Edmonton. It is planned for the schools to be "delivered through two public-private partnership bundles, with next steps being contractor selection and project design."

Deputy Minister of Health Shuffled

Deputy Minister of Health Andre Tremblay is being removed from his position in the ministry. He will continue to serve as the official administrator of Alberta Health Services as well as its Interim-CEO.

Darren Hedley, who was formerly an associate deputy minister, will serve as the Acting Deputy Minister of Health. Commenting on the allegations of improper political pressure on former AHS CEO Athana Mentzelopoulos "She had nothing to do with the procurement process... This was all an internal AHS matter," said Premier Danielle Smith.

Former Energy Minister to Testify on Alberta Coal Mines

Sonya Savage, who previously served as Minister of Energy in Jason Kenny's government, is being called to testify in a lawsuit against the province by a series of coal mining companies. The lawsuit, worth \$14 billion, is based on alleged damages caused by the government's alternating allowance of mining leases in the Rocky Mountains.

The appeal judges on the case state that "It is clear from the record that former Minister Savage has relevant knowledge others do not have, particularly as it relates to the objectives of reinstating the 1976 Coal Policy, prohibiting 'mountain top removal,' and indefinitely suspending coal exploration." Then-environment minister Jason Nixon, however, is not being required to testify.

Alberta Energy Regulator Receives New CEO

Rob Morgan has been selected by the Board of Directors of the Alberta Energy Regulator ("AER") to serve as its next CEO. Morgan replaces former CEO Laurie Pushor, who did not seek to renew his contract. "Rob brings a broad base of expertise, most recently as the President and CEO of Strathcona Resources Ltd. (Strathcona). He is known for his strategic leadership and fostering operational excellence with leading energy companies," stated AER Board Chair Duncan Au.

Morgan, upon the announcement of his appointment, stated "I'm steadfast in my belief that a modern, efficient, and effective regulator can provide the necessary safeguards for the environment while ensuring industry can deliver on the safe and innovative development of Alberta's resources."



JUSTIN GOTFRIED
Senior Associate

Justin is a qualified government relations strategist with a decade of experience building connections within municipal, provincial, and federal government. He previously held roles on Parliament Hill and with the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, in addition to managing winning campaigns at the federal & provincial level. Justin holds a Master of International Business from Queen's University, a Diploma in International Trade via the Forum for International Trade Training, a BBA in International Business from Mount Royal University, and is currently pursuing the Certified International Trade Professional designation.

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EMPOWERING FUTURE LEADERS: INSIDE LAKELAND COLLEGE'S STUDENT-MANAGED FARM

Justin Gotfried

At Lakeland College's Student-Managed Farm (SMF), students don't just learn about agriculture – they live it. Across 3,700 acres of rolling Alberta farmland, students take the reins of a commercial-scale operation, balancing the demands of real-world farm management with the rigors of their studies. This unique, hands-on program, powered by a transformative partnership with New Holland Agriculture, exemplifies the college's commitment to experiential learning and preparing students for leadership in Alberta's agricultural sector.

A Unique Model of Student Leadership

In their second year, students in Lakeland's crop technology and animal science technology programs step into management roles within the SMF. These roles go far beyond classroom theory. Crop technology students handle areas such as production analysis, financial planning, and marketing, while animal science students manage specialized units, including dairy cattle, bison, equine operations, and purebred beef cattle.

These budding leaders are responsible for real-world decisions that mirror those made by professionals in the industry. From setting budgets and marketing strategies to overseeing calving and crop production, students experience the challenges and rewards of running a modern farm. Their work is not just theoretical; it's practical, demanding, and directly tied to the success of the farm. The program's structure ensures students are deeply engaged in every aspect of farm management, offering an unparalleled opportunity to develop critical skills that will serve them well in their future careers.

Cutting-Edge Equipment for Modern Agriculture

A cornerstone of the Student-Managed Farm is its partnership with New Holland Agriculture. This collaboration, which began in 2011 and was renewed in 2021 through a multi-million-dollar agreement, provides students with access to the latest agricultural equipment and technology. From high-tech tractors equipped with precision farming tools to advanced combines and balers, students work with the kinds of machinery that define modern farming.

This access is invaluable in preparing students for a rapidly evolving industry. Precision agriculture, for instance, allows students to optimize yield while conserving resources, reflecting the industry's shift toward sustainability. Hands-on experience with advanced tools and techniques enables graduates to seamlessly transition into the workforce, equipped to meet the demands of modern agriculture.

A Transformative Partnership

The partnership with New Holland Agriculture is more than a sponsorship – it's a collaboration that benefits both the students and the industry. New Holland gains valuable insights into how the next generation approaches farming, while students gain hands-on experience with industry-leading tools and techniques.

"New Holland's support ensures that our students are learning on the best equipment available," says Lakeland College's President, Dr. Alice Wainright-Stewart. "It's an investment in the future of agriculture."

This partnership also symbolizes the importance of public-private collaborations in education. By working together, institutions like Lakeland College and companies like New Holland Agriculture are shaping a more innovative, sustainable, and skilled agricultural workforce.

Real-World Impact

The impact of the Student-Managed Farm extends far beyond the campus. Alumni frequently credit the program with giving them the skills and confidence needed to excel in their careers. Many go on to become leaders in Alberta's agricultural sector, contributing to the province's economic vitality and food security.

The farm's innovative projects, such as the recent addition of a bison herd, further underscore its commitment to staying at the forefront of agricultural education. This new initiative allows students to gain expertise in bison production, marketing, and technological applications, broadening their skill set and understanding of diversified farming practices.

Lakeland College's Student-Managed Farm is more than a learning experience – it's a transformative journey that empowers students to become leaders in agriculture. By combining hands-on management, cutting-edge technology, and a groundbreaking partnership with New Holland Agriculture, the SMF sets a gold standard for agricultural education in Alberta and beyond.

As Alberta faces the challenges of feeding a growing population, programs like the SMF are crucial. They ensure the next generation of agricultural professionals are not only prepared but inspired to lead.

To learn more about Lakeland College's innovative programs and how you can support their mission, visit www.lakelandcollege.ca.



Regular Council Meeting: March 10, 2025.	Agenda Items: 11.c
Prepared by: Arno Glover	Approved by: Mayor Robb Stuart

Agenda items 11.c Society & Other Reports**CLOSED SESSION OF COUNCIL (“in camera”)**

Council will enter closed session to discuss a report in confidence as follows:

11.c Society Report (Confidential).

This closed meeting of Council is permitted by section 197 of the MGA.

An exception to disclose under Division 2 of Part 1 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, RSA2000, Chapter F-25 (as amended over time) therefore applies on the basis of: Section 16 “harmful to the business interests of a third party”.

Motion 11.c.i

Moved by Councillor _____ at _____pm that Council moves to an “in-camera” session.

Motion 11.c.ii

Moved by Councillor _____ at _____pm that Council return to an "open meeting" of Council.

Motion 11.c.iii

Resolution

Moved by Councillor _____ that Council accepts the submitted Council Committee Reports and Society & Other Reports as information.

Meeting Adjournment

Moved by Councillor _____ at _____pm that Council adjourns the RCM of March 10, 2025.