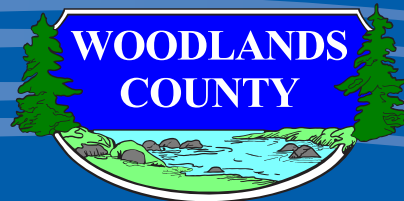


Woodlands Communicator



A newsletter published by Woodlands County

Spring 2018

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For more information about this newsletter contact:

Woodlands County

Box 60, #1 Woodlands Lane
Whitecourt, AB T7S 1N3
P: 780.778.8400
F: 780.778.8402

OR

Woodlands County

Box 33
Fort Assiniboine, AB T0G 1A0
P: 780.584.3866
F: 780.584.3988

www.woodlands.ab.ca



Mayor's Message

Woodlands County is a community I am proud to call home. It takes a strong will and desire to make rural living a lifestyle, and I think most of us can agree, it would be difficult to succeed without the help of our neighbors and community. Woodlands County encourages neighbors to come together and celebrate that sense of community, and we support events doing just this. The Block Party program was established in 2014 with the intention of developing community spirit and promoting safe and caring communities. My own neighborhood on Westridge Acres held one of the first block parties, and it was surprising how many of our neighbors we had never met. Block parties are eligible for \$150-\$500 in funding to coordinate an event for residents to get together, have fun, or work towards a common goal for their area.

Community pride radiates from events like block parties, and sometimes it's surprising the creativity and beauty that gets tucked away behind tree lines and fences. Woodlands County has Rural Beautification Awards that celebrate residents and businesses throughout the county that go the extra mile to make their property a diamond in the community. You can nominate someone in your community for a Rural Beautification Award by contacting our Agriculture Services department before July 6th. Congratulations to the nominees and winners for 2017!

I would also like to encourage residents to help us

welcome newcomers to our region. By contacting either the Fort Assiniboine or Whitecourt office, we will arrange for a New Resident Welcome Basket to be received by anyone that is new to our community. This token contains helpful information about our area, and is just one small step in showing people why Woodlands County is such an amazing place to call home.

In order to keep our county the great place it is to live and work, our council has been working with the provincial government on important decisions regarding the Caribou Range Plan and the impact it will have on our region. Initial success has come from the rally myself and Council were proud to be a part of at the Alberta Legislature in February. Another success has come from the province allowing Woodlands County to assist with Highway 658 road maintenance in extreme weather conditions to keep our roads safe for the travelling public.

Other notable progress is success related to visits to Calgary energy businesses, which allow the Town of Whitecourt and Woodlands County economic development teams to ensure our region is top of mind for developments. This has resulted in greater opportunities for our region than we have seen in recent years. You can see the impact of this with the surge in use at the airport, especially with employees flying in and out for the oil and gas service industry. Additionally, Council is reviewing the Municipal Development Plan, Intermunicipal Development Plan and West Whitecourt Area Structure Plan and making amendments. These documents will be brought forward to an open house and public hearing within the next few months.

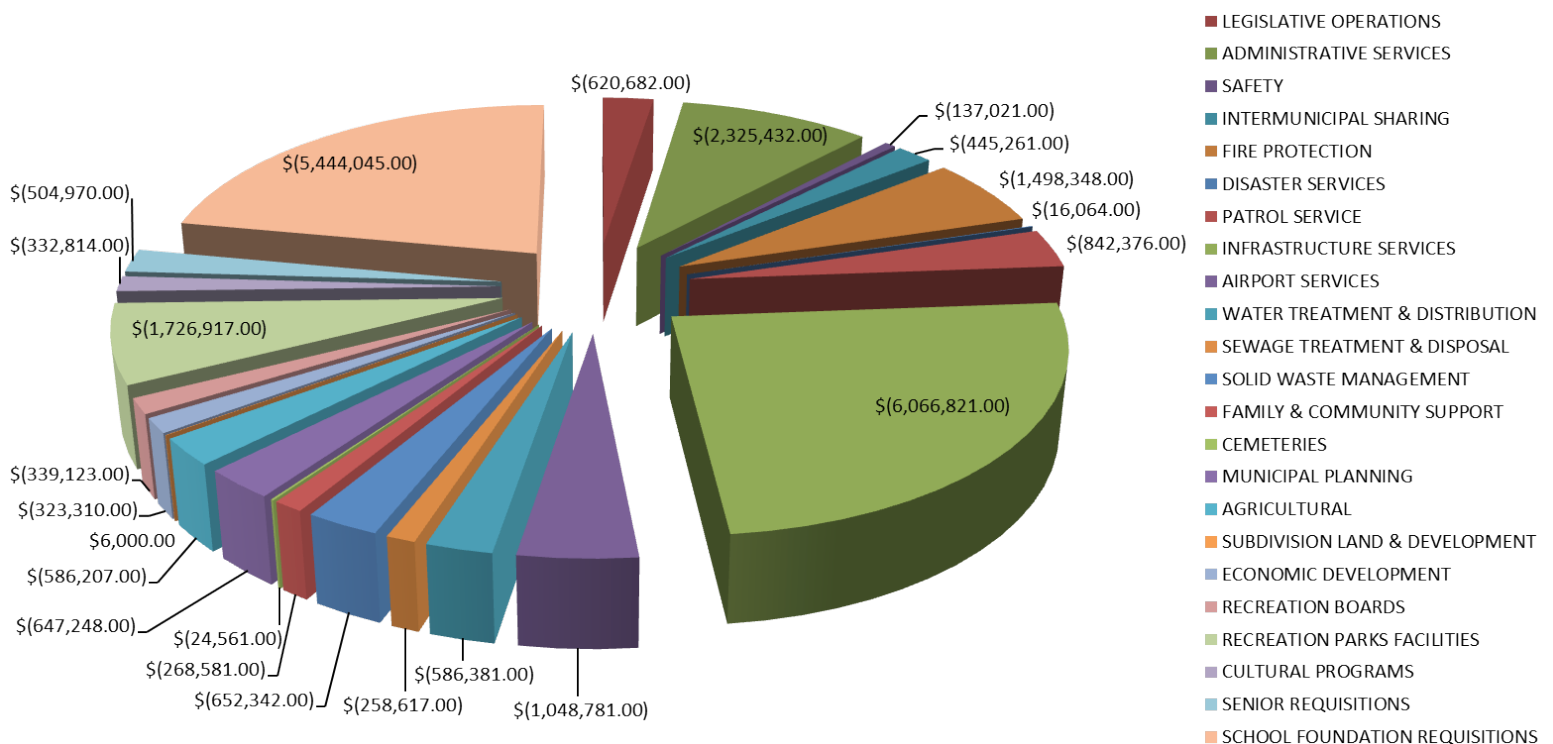
As we are anxiously waiting for summer weather keep watch for parks and rec month activities this June at our various recreation areas and of course mark July 21st on your calendar so you don't miss the annual Blue Ridge Family Fun Day at the Blue Ridge Recreation Area! I look forward to seeing you at the recreations sites, events, and block parties happening throughout 2018. Don't forget to follow me on Facebook!



Corporate Services

Woodlands County 2018 Operating & Capital Expenses = \$24,805,067.00

LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS	\$ 620,682.00	FAMILY & COMMUNITY SUPPORT	\$ 268,581.00
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	\$2,325,432.00	CEMETERIES	\$ 24,561.00
SAFETY	\$ 137,021.00	MUNICIPAL PLANNING	\$ 647,248.00
INTERMUNICIPAL SHARING	\$ 445,261.00	AGRICULTURAL	\$ 586,207.00
FIRE PROTECTION	\$1,498,348.00	SUBDIVISION LAND & DEVELOPMENT	\$ 6,000.00
DISASTER SERVICES	\$ 16,064.00	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	\$ 323,310.00
PATROL SERVICE	\$ 842,376.00	RECREATION BOARDS	\$ 339,123.00
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES	\$6,066,821.00	RECREATION PARKS FACILITIES	\$1,726,917.00
AIRPORT SERVICES	\$1,048,781.00	CULTURAL PROGRAMS	\$ 332,814.00
WATER TREATMENT & DISTRIBUTION	\$ 586,381.00	SENIOR REQUISITIONS	\$ 530,993.00
SEWAGE TREATMENT & DISPOSAL	\$ 258,617.00	SCHOOL FOUNDATION REQUISITIONS	\$5,439,203.00
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT	\$ 652,342.00	DESIGNATED INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY	\$ 51,597.00

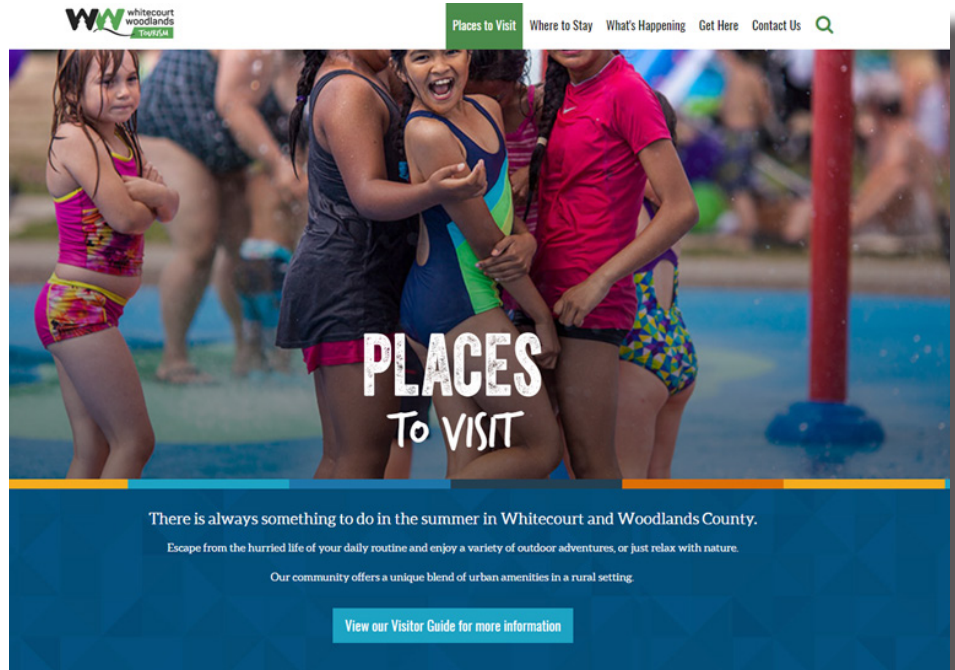


DISCOVER

Whitecourt & Woodlands County

Visit

www.whitecourtwoodlandstourism.com
for information on events and
attactions throughout the region!



Connect With us on

facebook

Are you on Facebook? Connect with Woodlands County!

Stay up to date on County announcements, events and activities going on throughout our area, and notifications of important information that affects you.

We are linked to community groups, committees and organizations, giving our followers real time updates on anything involving Woodlands County.

Understanding Property Assessment & Tax Notice

Properties in Woodlands County are reassessed on an annual basis by professionally qualified Assessors. Your 2018 Assessment reflects your property value as of July 1, 2017. Because of this, the assessment value may change from year to year depending on the market and modifications made to your property.

Since the assessed value is used to calculate your property taxes, it is important to review your assessment BEFORE the Assessment Complaint Deadline. TAX BILLS ARE NOT DISPUTABLE. You must pay your tax bill in full before the deadline, or a penalty will be applied. If an Assessment Complaint changes your Property Assessment, a refund for the difference will be issued.

Taxes are calculated using this formula:

Assessed Property Value X Property Tax Rate = Property Tax Bill

May 2, 2018	Tax Notice is mailed out
June 30, 2018	Tax deadline before penalty is applied
July 1, 2018	Property tax penalty on unpaid taxes = 6% (Except for TIPPes)
July 11, 2018	Assessment Complaint Deadline
September 1, 2018	Property tax penalty on unpaid taxes = 6% (Except for TIPPes)

For more information, please contact us at (780) 778-8400 and ask to speak with our Finance Department.



Parks & Recreation Month

Woodlands County encourages everyone to celebrate June by getting outside, getting active, making new friends, and encouraging others to do the same. Spread the word about June being Recreation and Parks Month, and experience why your community is a great place to live. Visit our website at woodlands.ab.ca or on Facebook at facebook.com/woodlands.ab.ca for upcoming events happening throughout the month of June.



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS Save the Date!

June

- June 15-16 Party in the Park
Rotary Park
- June 22-24 Whitecourt & Woodlands Rodeo
Westward Center

July

- July 21 Blue Ridge Family Fun Day
Blue Ridge Rec Area
- July 28-29 Hometown Heroes Airshow
Whitecourt Airport

August

- Aug 17-19 Hamlet Hoe Down
Fort Assiniboine

September

- Sept 7-9 Blue Ridge Logging Days

Berry Nice Spray Park

Looking for a fun way to beat the heat during the summer months?

Take a trip to the Blue Ridge Berry Nice Spray Park - a great afternoon outing for the whole family. You'll love the quaint hamlet of Blue Ridge, located just 20 kilometres from Whitecourt along Secondary Highway 658, and its spray park with 13 splash-ready water features. Parents will enjoy the relaxing outdoor atmosphere of the park, while children marvel at the assortment of enticing water-play activities.

Best of all, this park is free to visit, making for an economical way to spend the day. New changeroom and washroom facilities are located on site, and picnic tables are there for your leisure when taking a break from the water. The spray park is also an ideal location for birthday parties and other group adventures. To make your day even more convenient, a playground is located nearby - perfect for children of all ages.

Open:
End of May – September, weather permitting

Visit our website at www.woodlands.ab.ca or Facebook to check the park's status.



 @woodlands.ab.ca
www.woodlands.ab.ca

Family Fun Day

Blue Ridge Recreation Area
Saturday, July 21
11:00am-4:00pm



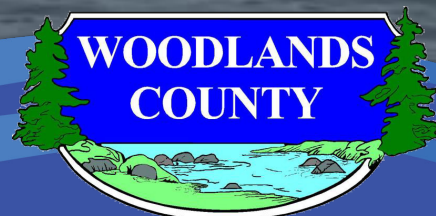
Canoes, crafts, face painting, wagon rides, drumming, a petting zoo and more!
Fun for the whole family!

Refreshments of hot dogs, freezies and drinks will also be offered.

Shuttle service from Whitecourt!

Register by calling (780) 778-8400

Free Event!



Discover

Woodlands County Recreation





Baseball
Diamond



MX Park



Beach



Playground



Boating



Showers



Boat
Launch



Sight Seeing



Camping



Skating
Arena



Canoeing



Skiing



Day Use



Swimming



Fishing



Winter
Staging
Area



Hiking



Washrooms



Mini Golf

1. Hard Luck Canyon
2. Groat Creek Day Use and Group Campground
3. Blue Ridge Recreation Area
4. Schuman Lake
5. Fort Assiniboine Arena
6. Wagon Wheel & Pick
7. Fort Assiniboine Museum
8. Woodlands RV Park & River Marina
9. Carson Pegasus Provincial Park
10. Eagle River Tourism RV Park
11. Eagle River Casino & Travel Plaza
12. Westward Community Hall

13. Anselmo Community Hall
14. Blue Ridge Community Hall
15. Goose Lake Campground/Community Hall
16. East Link Park
17. Whitecourt Airport
18. Goodwin Meadows RV Park
19. McLeod River Tubing Put In
20. Eagle River Staging Area
21. White Ridge MX Park
22. Freeman River RV Park
23. Mouth of the Freeman Day Use Area
24. E.S. Heustis Demonstration Forest
25. Topland Community Hall

For more information visit woodlands.ab.ca

Calling all Experts!

Knowledge is power and Woodlands County wants to power up our communities.

Are you an expert in your field? Do you have a special skill set you would like to share and teach others? Is there a hobby you love and you want to inspire others? For example: gardening, quilting, weaving, wood working, dance instructors, yoga instructors, fly tying experts, story telling tales from history, making homemade ice cream , cooking, panning for gold, bee keeping and so much more.

Woodlands County is looking for instructors and teachers for classes, courses and workshops throughout our community. We are building a database so we can plan learning opportunities in our region using local talent and experts, like you!

Submit your information to Heather Anderson, Community Liaison & Programming Coordinator at heather.anderson@woodlands.ab.ca or for more information call 780-778-8400 or toll free at 1-888-870-6315



Do we have your current mailing address?

If you are new to Woodlands County or if your mailing address has changed, please contact us to be sure we have the correct information.

The rural address on the blue sign at your gate is not a mailing address. The rural address is for identifying and locating rural properties for emergency purposes.



It is important that Woodlands County has your current mailing address on file as we may need to notify you of development/subdivision proposals in your area, for tax notification and more.

It is expected that tax notices will be sent out mid-May of this year. It is your responsibility to provide a current mailing address for tax notification.

Whitecourt Municipal Office:
Toll Free: 1-888-870-6315
Phone: 780-780-8400

Fort Assiniboine Regional Office:
Toll Free: 1-866-584-3866
Phone: 780-584-3866

Email: admin@woodlands.ab.ca

Mail:
Woodlands County
Box 60
Whitecourt, Alberta T7S 1N3



Programming

Our Family Paint nights held at Anselmo Hall, Blue Ridge Community Hall, Goose Lake, Westward Centre and Fort Assiniboine were a huge success. We had moms and sons, dads and daughters, couples on date night, and multi generations participating and everyone reported having a great time and surprising themselves on creating their masterpieces! It didn't hurt that we had an excellent facilitator with Aunt Jennie, from *Aunt Jennies Retro Fashion*.

Do you have something you want to learn, or a class you want to take? Or do you have a skill you want to share?

Submit your ideas to Heather Anderson at heather.anderson@woodlands.ab.ca or call the office at 780-778-8400.

Memorial Tree Grows in Fort Assiniboine Park

Built by Front Step Forge, this new memorial tree will soon stand tall at the Fort Assiniboine Park. Its leaves memorialize residents that have made significant contributions to the community.

Any person or group wishing to honour or memorialize a resident may do so by completing an application form. Residents may be recognized in the following categories:

- Pioneers of the community
- Long term service on a fire department or other emergency services
- Long term service with a community group
- A significant contribution to the community

Upon application approval, a \$100 fee per leaf will be payable by the applicant prior to installation on the Fort Assiniboine Memorial Monument Tree. Applications can be found on our website at woodlands.ab.ca



Planning & Development

Did you know...

a Development Permit is required, by Woodlands County, for any new development or change in use of land within the County as per the Woodlands County Land Use Bylaw?

**Are you planning to construct a new residence, garage, shed?
Moving a mobile home, manufactured or modular home?
Starting a home based or transport contractor business?**

The County Land Use Bylaw sets out rules about the size, type and location of structures on land within the County.

Having a development permit ensures that the proposed structure or use of the land does not conflict with surrounding uses. It will also ensure that the development is setback the appropriate distances from property lines.

Setbacks are required to ensure that the development is located in a safe place so that it isn't too close to road right-of-ways, water courses, steep banks or oil and gas facilities.

Development Permit applications are available at both Woodlands County Offices or online at www.woodlands.ab.ca

Woodlands County Whitecourt Municipal Office
#1 Woodlands Lane, Whitecourt, AB T7S 1N3 780.778.8400

Woodlands County Regional Municipal Office
Hwy #33, Box 33, Fort Assiniboine, AB T0G 1A0 780.584.3988



It is important to consider Development Permit requirements during the planning stages of your project.

A Development Permit will become valid a MINIMUM of 3 weeks after it has been submitted so apply early to avoid delays in your project. Please allow time for review and processing of your application.

For detailed information on whether a development permit is required for any proposed development please call a Development Officer at the Whitecourt Woodlands County Municipal Office 780.778.8400.



Fireworks

Pyrotechnic devices (better known as fireworks) are designed to burn and explode and can cause serious injuries such as burns, lacerations, amputations, and blindness.

In Alberta the use of fireworks is governed by the Alberta Fire Code.

If you plan on purchasing or discharging fireworks this summer please contact the Forestry office at 780-778-7272.

Planning and Development Statistics

Development Permit Stats for the last 5 years

2013 Construction Value: \$33,137,000

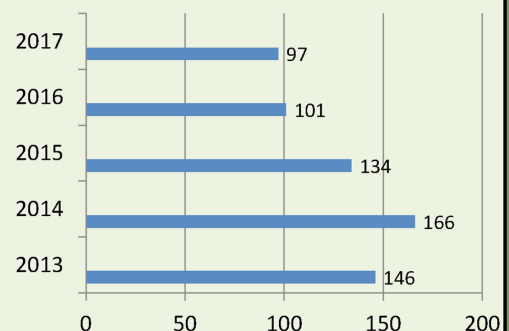
2014 Construction Value: \$25,175,000

2015 Construction Value: \$21,078,000

2016 Construction Value: \$19,515,000

2017 Construction Value: \$35,611,000

**5 Year Stats:
Number of
Development
Permits Issued**



Changes to Municipal Government Act

The Municipal Government Act (MGA) is the guide to how municipalities operate, and is one of the most significant and far-reaching statutes in Alberta. The MGA affects every Albertan, the private sector, and every ministry in the Government of Alberta in one form or another.

Since 2012, the Government of Alberta has been working with municipalities, industry and Albertans to determine what changes needed to be made to modernize the MGA. This MGA Review resulted in three pieces of legislation, and a number of regulations, which have transformed and updated the MGA to better reflect the current needs of municipalities and Albertans. The majority of the changes contained in three MGA Review amending bills and their associated regulations came into force on October 26, 2017.

Specific changes in the MGA that impact planning and development are as follows:



- All Subdivision Development Appeal Board members and clerks must successfully complete the SDAB training as approved by the Minister.
- Subdivision and Development Appeal timelines have changed from 14 to 21 days from approval.
- All municipalities must list and publish all planning & policy documents relating to subdivision, development and land use on their website.
- All municipalities must create a Municipal Development Plan.
- Municipalities must create Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Bylaws and Intermunicipal Development Plans with all adjacent municipalities.
- Council may, when a bylaw needs revision or non-substantive changes, pass a revised bylaw without the need for advertising it to the public.
- Municipalities may choose alternative advertisement methods, including electronic advertising, by passing an advertisement bylaw.
- Municipalities may designate land for a new type of reserve, called Conservation Reserve (CR), in order to protect environmentally significant features such as wildlife corridors, significant tree stands, or other environmentally significant features a municipality chooses to conserve.
- Municipalities may jointly create off-site levy bylaws for projects that benefit portions of two or more municipalities, including the expanded uses (libraries, police stations, fire halls, community recreation facilities, connection of a municipal road to a provincial highway).
- The current MGA land-use policies will continue to be phased out of force as new regional plans under the Alberta Land Stewardship Act come into force.
- The hierarchy and relationship of statutory plans is identified, so that each plan will be consistent with the plans above it and, in the event of an inconsistency, which provisions in what plan will prevail.
- Municipal councillors are no longer able to form the majority of any legislated appeal board hearing panel or municipal planning commission board.
- Municipalities must develop joint use and planning agreements with school boards, though amendments to the MGA and the School Act.

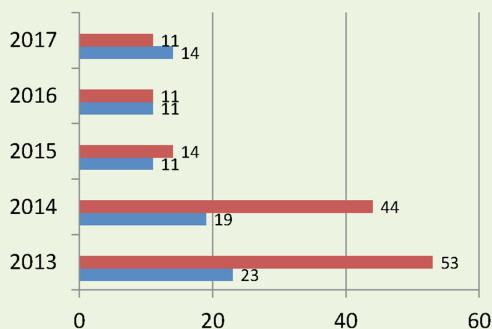
For more information, contact Municipal Affairs at:

- 780-427-2225 (Edmonton and area)
- 310-0000 (toll free in Alberta)

Subdivision Applications Processed Last 5 Years

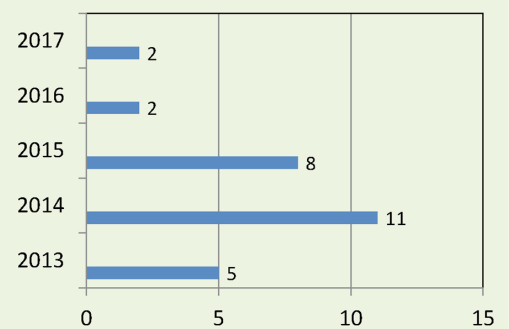
2013 Lots Registered	3	2016 Lots Registered	13
2014 Lots Registered	39	2017 Lots Registered	11
2015 Lots Registered	34		

5 Year Stats:
Number of Subdivision Applications Processed 
Number of Lots Proposed 



Land Use Amendment Applications Processed Last 5 Years

5 Year Stats:
Number of Land Use Amendment Applications Processed 



Community Services

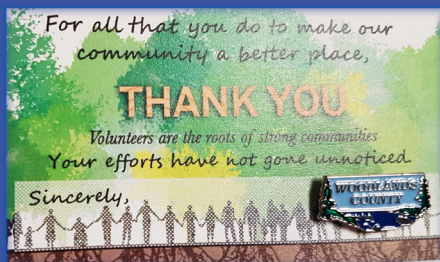
Volunteer Appreciation Week

The National Volunteer Appreciation Week is April 15-21, 2018. According to the National Volunteer website, there are approximately 12.7 million people that volunteer in Canada.

Volunteerism is all around us; take a moment and think about how volunteers have touched your life.

From the coaches that spend hours planning stimulating practises for their players, organizing schedules, travel and accommodations, to the complete stranger that saw a need and helped a person to their vehicle with their grocery bags. We have seniors clubs, community leagues, 4-H groups, recreation societies that plan and organize events, and the groups that maintain public spaces in their community, to the groups that address social needs such as community kitchens, clothing stores and shelters. Local Fire fighters that volunteer their time to attend practises so they are ready to help when the need arises. All of these volunteers are a vital part of our community fabric.

Take a moment during the week of April 15-21, 2018 and thank a volunteer that you know for giving their time to help make your community a better place to live.



Please stop by either the Whitecourt or Fort Assiniboine County offices to pick up a "Volunteer Week Token of Thanks," compliments of Woodlands County to give to a volunteer in your area.

Senior Citizen & Disabled Persons Transportation Grant



Woodlands County would like to remind all seniors and disabled residents to submit their 2018 Transportation Grant Applications, which also include mileage for attending the Healthy Living Program in Whitecourt (registered through the Whitecourt Healthcare Centre), by July 6, 2018.

To assist in the grant process, the application has been updated to allow for clinic stamps or printed appointment confirmations to be used in lieu of physician's signatures. Please read the updated policy to familiarize yourself with any updates. Seniors (65+), physically disabled, and developmentally disabled individuals, who reside in Woodlands County, are eligible to apply for the grant and are reminded to submit their transportation grant forms to:

Woodlands County
Community Services Department
Box 60, #1 Woodlands Lane
Whitecourt, AB T7S 1N3

All individuals applying for the grant must complete the Transportation Grant Form which is available at either of the Woodlands County offices in Whitecourt or Fort Assiniboine. The grant form is also available on the County website at woodlands.ab.ca

For further information, please call Community Services at 1-888-870-6315.

"Welcome to Woodlands" Baskets

Woodlands County would like to remind residents of the "Welcome to Woodlands" Program.



The program is a wonderful way to welcome new residents to Woodlands County by providing a welcome basket.

Please call the Municipal Office in Whitecourt with their phone number so we can contact the resident to arrange a time to drop off the basket.

To obtain further information or to arrange for a basket please contact the Community Services Department.

Help Clear the Way...

Please keep the path to your utility meter clear of debris and snow so County staff can safely reach them to collect the correct data.



Scholarships and Bursaries

Woodlands County is currently accepting applications from students. Applicants or their parents, must be residents of, or own property within, Woodlands County and the applicant must have lived in the County within the past five years to be eligible for either of the following two bursaries:

1. Two Year Post-Secondary Bursary - \$3,000
Year 1 – Semester 1 \$1,000, Semester 2 \$1,000
Year 2 – Semester 1 \$500, Semester 2 \$500

Applicants must be registered and enrolled in a post-secondary educational institution attending full-time courses.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2018 BY 4:30 P.M.

2. Two Year Apprenticeship Bursary

- Year 1 - \$1,500
Year 2 - \$1,500

Applicants must be enrolled in a provincially recognized apprenticeship program.

APPLICATIONS FOR THE APPRENTICESHIP BURSARY WILL BE ACCEPTED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR AND AWARDED ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS.

Bursary application forms are available at either of the municipal offices in Whitecourt and Fort Assiniboine or online at woodlands.ab.ca.

There is no age restriction for applicants. Applicants cannot be receiving a wage or subsidy from their employer while attending school.

For further information please contact:

Community Services Department
Telephone: 780-778-8400
Toll-free: 1-866-870-6315
Email: communityservices@woodlands.ab.ca



2017 Bursary Recipients

Woodlands County has been awarding County students bursaries and scholarships since 2002. Every year the County advertises the program in local newspapers and through the high schools in Whitecourt, Mayerthorpe and Barrhead. The Community Services Committee reviews the applications that are received and awards the bursaries to the selected students.

Congratulations to the 2017 recipients!

Jacob Arcand
Albert Brouwer
Etienne de Jongh
Chelsea Garbanewski
Garrett King
Michael King
Rebecca Lee
Regan Manz
Haley Nickolson
Sara Jay Nogel
Tyler Watson
Bryce Wilkinson



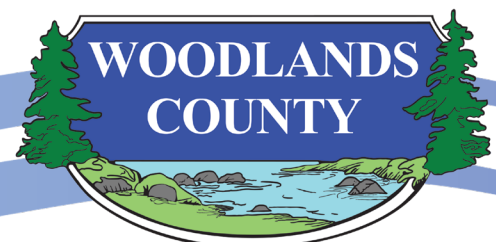
COMMUNITY ANGELS FOR RECREATIONAL ENRICHMENT (C.A.R.E.) PROGRAM

Woodlands County is accepting applications for the Community Angels for Recreational Enrichment (CARE) Program.

CARE offers financial assistance to families and provides recreational funding for children and youth wishing to participate in local recreational activities that would not otherwise be able to afford those opportunities. Applications will be accepted for a wide variety of activities from school sponsored interests, such as, band and sports teams to other alternative activities including dance, skating and swimming.

For further information please contact:

Woodlands County
Community Services Department
Box 60, #1 Woodlands Lane
Whitecourt, AB T7S 1N3
Phone: (888) 870-6315
Email: koren.scott@woodlands.ab.ca



Contractor Truck and Equipment Registration for 2018

Woodlands County is now accepting registrations for the supply of gravel trucks and/or equipment effective January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018.

Forms are available at our Municipal Office in Whitecourt, or our Regional Office in Fort Assiniboine, or on our Woodlands County website at woodlands.ab.ca.

Dust Control Applications

Residents who wish dust control applied adjacent to their residences can now submit an application plus pay a fee of \$200.00 + G.S.T.

The applicants will receive ONE application of the dust control material per year, which shall be applied to approximately 200 meters of road surface.

Please submit an application on, or prior to Friday, May 7, 2018.

Application forms are available online or at either Woodlands County office.

Hamlet Water Meters

Reminder to keep debris away from the water meters to make them accessible for staff.

Road Bans

Road bans will be placed on our road ways, as required, once the weather begins to warm up and the road surfaces begin to thaw. These notifications are announced on the radio stations, in newspapers, and will be posted on our website.

There is also an ongoing contact list if you wish to be added, contact the Infrastructure Services Secretary at debbie.kushnirak@woodlands.ab.ca or 780-778-8400.

Infrastructure

Annual Roadside Clean-up Campaign

Woodlands County is seeking interested volunteer groups to conduct roadside clean-up on Saturday, May 5, 2018 to Saturday, May 12, 2018 (inclusive) on County managed roads only and on Saturday, May 5, 2017 (or Saturday, May 12, 2018 being the alternate date) along Provincial roads. The roadways within Woodlands County are as follows:

Provincial Roads	County Managed Roads
Carson-Pegasus Provincial Park Road Secondary 661 - Esso to Gravel Secondary 661 - Gravel to Ferry Secondary 658 - Goose Lake to Hwy 33 Secondary 658 - Christmas Creek to Goose Lake Secondary 658 - Christmas Creek to Hwy 43 Secondary 751 - Hwy 43 to Secondary 647 Secondary 647 - RR100 and Secondary 751 Road south to TWP560A Hwy 32 South to TWP 580 Hwy 32 North for 35 KM Westridge	Flats/Trestle Road Horse Creek Road Pride Valley Road Secondary 661 - Gravel to Ferry Timeu (RR45) West Mountain Road East Mountain, Tower and Cutacross Old Ferry Road Old Blue Ridge Highway Pavement Bison Robison Schuman Lake Campground

Woodlands County will pay \$100 per kilometer (includes both sides) of roadway cleaned. Woodlands County reserves the right to assign roadway sections.

A mandatory training session for "Road Managers" of participating organizations will be held on Monday, April 30, 2018 at 4:30 p.m. at the Woodlands County Municipal Office in Whitecourt and the Woodlands County Regional Municipal Office in Fort Assiniboine. Volunteer groups will be covered under Woodlands County general liability insurance policy.

Deadline for letter of application: Wednesday April 25, 2018

All interested groups should contact:
 Debbie Kushnirak, Infrastructure Services Secretary
 Box 60, #1 Woodlands Lane
 Whitecourt, AB T7S 1N3
 Telephone: (780) 778-8400
 E-mail: debbie.kushnirak@woodlands.ab.ca



Hamlet Clean-up

Woodlands County staff will be picking up items on the Tuesday or Wednesday after the May long weekend.



The following items must be separated into individual piles:

- wood
- metal
- domestic garbage
- bagged leaves, grass and animal feces

The following will not be picked up:

- large objects such as car bodies
- large chunks of concrete
- building demolition debris
- trees over 3" in diameter

Your contribution to this annual event will benefit yourself and your community!



2018 Project Updates

Transfer Site Hours

Whitecourt Regional Landfill

(780) 648-2273

(Located on Hwy. 43, 11 km southeast of Whitecourt)

Summer Hours: April 1 to Sept. 30

Monday to Thursday - 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Friday and Saturday - 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Closed Sunday and statutory holidays

Whitecourt Transfer Station

(780) 778-5157

(Located on the Old Blue Ridge Highway)

Open 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. 7 days a week

Doris Creek Transfer Site

(780) 778-8400

(Located South of Sec Hwy 661 on Range Road 55,
13 km north of Fort Assiniboine)

Open Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday

Mar. 2 to Oct. 31 - Noon to 6 p.m.

Anselmo Transfer Site

(780) 778-8400

(Located on Sec Hwy 751, 18 km south of Hwy 43)

Open Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday

Mar. 2 to Oct. 31 - Noon to 6 p.m.

Goose Lake Transfer Site

(780) 778-8400

(Located on Twp Rd 614, 2 km east of Sec Hwy 658)

Open Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday

Mar. 2 to Oct. 31 - Noon to 6 p.m.

Soft Spot Repairs:

RR 84 north of TWP 612

RR 60 north of TWP 622

RR 60 south of TWP 622

RR 60A north of TWP

632

RR 61 north of TWP 630

TWP 592 east of Hwy 32

TWP 583 east of RR 120

TWP 584 east of RR 120

Cold Mix to Gravel:

TWP 621

Beaver Creek Estates

Woodlands Estates

Cold Mix Overlay:

Flats Road - Whitecourt

Lagoon to Trestle Road

Old Blue Ridge Highway

Westridge Road

Brushing:

RR 122 south of TWP

591

Tower Road to SRD

Tower

Bridge Capital Repairs

2017:

Horse Creek - TWP 620A

Little Paddle River - TWP

582

Christmas Creek

Tributary to Mink Creek

- Trestle Road

Tributary to Bull Creek -

TWP 594

Bridge Capital Repairs

2018 (to be tendered):

TWP 620B - Goose

Creek

TWP 572 east of RR 101

RR 105 north of TWP

564

RR 114 north of TWP

570

Hamlet Sidewalk Maintenance:

Blue Ridge crosswalk

hatching and ditch

crossing

Railway Ave sidewalk

extension to spray park

Agriculture Services

Woodlands County Agricultural Services Bursary

The Woodlands County Agriculture Services Board wishes to recognize academic achievement and community contributions of local students. Those students wishing to pursue post-secondary education in agricultural or environmental sciences may apply for the Agriculture Services Bursary (one \$500.00 Bursary is awarded annually).

Eligibility Requirements, Bursary Information & Application
Deadline information is listed below:

- Applicants must be enrolled full-time in an Agricultural or Environmental Science Program at a post-secondary educational institution in Alberta.
- Applicants, or their parents, must be residents, or own property, within Woodlands County.
- Applicants must supply a transcript of their marks from the last year of high school attended, together with a letter of acceptance and course of studies planned at a post-secondary institution.
- The Woodlands County Agriculture Services Board will select a bursary recipient based upon scholastic achievements, social and community activities and the chosen program of study.



- High school graduates entering the first year of post-secondary studies will be given priority over students in subsequent years' studies.
- Applications and all supporting documentation must be received by the Agriculture Services Manager no later than October 15, 2018.

For more information, or to obtain an application form, please contact:

Dawn Fortin, Agriculture Services Manager
Fort Assiniboine Regional Municipal Office
Telephone: 780.584.3866 | Toll-free: 1.866.584.3866

Don't miss the October 15 application deadline!

Rural Beautification Awards



The Agriculture Services Board of Woodlands County would like to recognize individuals who take pride in their property within Woodlands County and as such is calling for nominations in the Rural Beautification Awards.

The Rural Beautification Awards recognize individuals

who, through yard maintenance and beautification of their properties, have fostered civic pride, environmental awareness and municipal beautification. Nominating someone recognizes these countless hours spent manicuring and landscaping their yard and beautifying a part of Woodlands County.

Awards will be presented at the Annual Agriculture Services Supper. Nomination forms may be picked up at both Woodlands County offices. Nominations must be accompanied 2 photographs of each nominated yard. **Nomination deadline is July 6, 2018.**

Completed nominations maybe mailed, faxed or dropped off to:
Woodlands County Regional Municipal Office
Box 33
Fort Assiniboine AB T0G 1A0
Telephone: 780-584-3866
Fax: 780-584-3988
Attn: Dawn Fortin



2017 Rural Beautification Award Winners

Division 1 – Glen Plischke & Joanne Stevenson
Division 2 – Jurgen Moll
Division 3 – Kyle & Nicole Labossiere
Division 4 – Lynn & Lorne Bell
Division 5 – Marvin & Juanita Williams
Division 6 – Lorne & Ruby Schmaus
Division 7 – Allan & Bonny Robinson

2017 Agriculture Services Bursary Award: Albert Brouwer

Agriculture Services Rental Equipment

Rental equipment is available to both the Fort Assiniboine and Whitecourt areas, and must remain within the Woodlands County boundaries.

ATV Sprayer	\$5.00/day	Magpie Trap	\$5.00/week
Backpack Sprayer	\$1.00/day	Meter Mizer	\$5.00/week
Bran Bait Appl.	\$20.00/day	Post Hole Auger	\$35.00/day
Calf Cradle	\$20.00/day	Post Pounder	\$30.00/day
Cattle Scale	\$50.00/day	Pruning Equip.	\$1.00/day
Cattle Squeeze	\$40.00/day	Skunk Trap	\$5.00/week
Corral System	\$50.00/day	Soil Sampler	\$5.00/day
Demco Sprayer	\$20.00/day	Tractor Cyclone	
Forage Sampler	\$5.00/day	Seeder	\$5.00/day
Hand Seeder	\$5.00/day	Tree Spade	\$65.00/day
Land Roller	\$75.00/day		

Equipment will only be transported between the Whitecourt & Fort Assiniboine equipment yards through the course of the staff's regular duties. Lessees are responsible for picking up equipment and returning to the same location, unless otherwise instructed.



To book or for more information, contact the Woodlands County Fort Assiniboine Office at:
(780) 584-3866
Toll Free: 1-866-584-3866

Spring Burning

Alberta's wildfire season begins March 1 this year. Starting March 1, all burning activities in Alberta's Forest Protection Area, excluding campfires, will require a fire permit. Fire Permits are required until October 31.

Fire permits are free and can be obtained by contacting:

Whitecourt Wildfire Management Area
5020 - 52 Ave
Whitecourt, AB T7S 1N2
780-778-7237

Beaver Flood Control

Agriculture Services provides a means of alleviating the detrimental effects of the beaver to the natural drainage pattern through cultivated, pasture, hay land, or woodlots (defined as a treed area with a commercial value).

Beaver Flood control is carried out, between May 1 and October 31, upon completion of an application available at either of the Woodlands County offices.

All requests for beaver dam breach will constitute a charge of \$120.00 per dam (plus G.S.T.). Payments must accompany applications.



CAUTION

CROPS IN FIELDS PLEASE KEEP OFF

RESPECT OUR FARMERS



Do You Have Unharvested Crops In Your Fields?

To assist producers who have unharvested crops in the fields, Woodlands County has complimentary "Crops In Fields" signs available.

Signs may be obtained by contacting the Agriculture Services department at 780-584-3866 or toll free at 1-866-584-3866.



Council Highlights

Highlights from September 5, 2017 Council Meeting

Quadel Growers Incorporated

Darrel Renkema, Co-Founder/President with Quadel Growers Incorporated was in attendance and provided council with an overview of the proposed medical marijuana facility, including security requirements and also advised should the project get approval from Health Canada is expected to employ 35 people with a future expectation of over 100.

Drone Regulations

Administration provided Council with the current and proposed regulations from Transport Canada:

Current Regulation

All Drones

- exempt if at a Model Aircraft Association Canada Airfield or Event
- Max Height – 90m
- 5.5km from an Aerodrome
- 1.8km from Heliport
- 9km from Natural Hazard or Disaster
- Away from police or First Responders
- Daytime and not in clouds
- Visual Range
- Within 500m of operator
- Marked -Name, Address and Telephone #
- Right of way to Aircraft

Tiny Drones (0 – 250mg)

- No Regulations – Considered Toys
- Very Small Drones (250mg to 1kg)
- 30m from Vehicles, Vessels and Public

Small Drones (1kg to 35kg)

- 75m from Vehicles, Vessels and Public

Special Flight Operations Certificate (SFOC)

- ANY Work or Research
- Drone over 35kgs

Proposed Regulation

All Drones

- Right of way to Aircraft
- Liability Insurance of 100,000
- Do not operate in Clouds
- If "First Person View" use an observer
- Operate safely
- Can be for work, Recreational or research

Tiny Drones (0 – 250mg)

- No Regulations - Considered Toys

Very Small Drones (250mg to 1kg)

- At least 14 Years old
- Drone Marked – Name, Address, Phone #
- Liability Insurance of 100,000
- 5.5 km from Airport
- 1.85km from Heliport
- 30m from People
- Pass a Basic Knowledge Test

Small Drones (1kg to 25kg) – Rural Ops

- At least 16 Years old
- Drone Marked – Name, Address, Phone #
- Liability Insurance of 100,000
- 5.5 km from Airport
- 1.85km from Heliport
- 30m from People
- 150m from "Open Air Assemblies"
- Pass a Basic Knowledge Test
- 1 km from buildings or houses (Built up area)

Small Drones (1kg to 25kg) – Urban Ops

- At least 16 Years old
- Pilot Permit - (Specific to Drones)
- Drone Registered with Trans Canada
- Liability Insurance of 100,000
- Flight rules similar to Manned Aviation
- 30m from People, Vehicles and Vessels
- 150m from "Open Air Assemblies" unless 90m high

Special Flight Operations Certificate (SFOC)

- Anytime outside the above regulations

NOTE: Proposed Legislation and Regulations keeps changing list is accurate as of August 30th 2017

Highway 658

Council as requested administration to contact Blue Ridge Lumber, RCMP and the Blue Ridge Fire Department to determine the number of accidents on highway 658 in the last 10 years to provide the information to the Minister.

Highlights from September 19, 2017 Council Meeting

Joint Use Agreement

C. Grande, Director of Community Services with the Town of Whitecourt provided council with an overview of the joint use agreement with Northern Gateway Schools.

Mobility Map for Woodlands County

Council directed administration to forward the mobility map to telus showing the areas within Woodlands County that still have little or no mobility service.

Regional Caribou Letter

Council approved endorsing a regional caribou letter drafted by the Town of Hinton which is being sent to federal MP Jim Eglinski and Arnold Viersen regarding concerns with the proposed action plan by the federal government.

Highlights from November 7, 2017 Council Meeting

Whitecourt Woodlands Hawk Foundation

Marc Chayer was in attendance and provided Council with an overview of the Whitecourt Woodlands Hawks Foundation and their endeavour to host a Whitecourt Woodlands Military Tattoo in celebration of the squadron's 20th year of operation on June 9 & 10, 2018, including a request for a \$10,000 grant to develop the event.

Development Permit 15-085-2017 for Rural Industrial Class II Landfill S ½ 17-60-15 W5M
Council approved Development Permit Application 15-085-2017 for a Class II Landfill on S ½ 17-60-15-W5M.

Agricultural Issues of Concern

Council have requested administration to invite the Minister of Agriculture including inviting the ASB members at large to meet with Council to discuss agriculture issues of concern

Meeting with Minister of Transportation at AAMDC Conference

Council made a request to meet with Hon. Brian Mason, Minister of Transportation at the AAMDC convention to discuss:

- Intersection on Highway 43 and West Mountain Road
- Intersection on Highway 43 and Greencourt
- Mowing along highways
- Culverts

Highlights from November 21, 2017 Council Meeting

Eastlink Park

Merv Hilland was in attendance and provided Council with an overview of Eastlink Park operations for the 2017/18 Season as well as the Budget and made a request for funding for \$22,500.00.

Traffic Counts

Council reviewed the traffic counts for Bison Road(RR113A), Old Blue Ridge Highway (TWP 594@ Trestle Rd), Westridge Road (RR 114), Thompson Road (RR 120) and Pine Meadows (Twp 592).

2017 Capital Bridge Repairs

Council reviewed what the cost of bridge repairs is costing the county.

Schedule Meeting with Alberta Justice

Council are looking at scheduling a meeting with Alberta Justice Minister to discuss the Sheriff and Department of Transportation enforcement departments.

Highlights from December 5, 2017 Council Meeting

Food bank Competition

Council has been invited to attend a dart fundraising competition for the food bank at the Legion on Friday, December 8, at the Whitecourt Legion.

Blue Ridge Community League Job Task List

Council has approved a partnership with the Blue Ridge Community League and Woodlands County to provide service for the new library and change room.

Thanks from Topland Cemetery

Council received a note of Thanks from the Topland Cemetery for the donation of \$1000 to complete their fencing project.

Cancellation of January 2, 2018 Regular Meeting

The January 2, 2018 regular council meeting has been cancelled.

Additional Budget Meeting Dates and Public Open Houses

Council schedule budget deliberation meetings at the Woodlands County Council Chambers in Whitecourt on January 10, 2018 from 10 am – 2 pm and on February 5, 2018 from 2-4 pm as

well as Public Consultation Open Houses from 7-8 pm which all residents are encouraged to attend one of the following:

- January 22, 2018 in Whitecourt;
- January 24, 2018 in Fort Assiniboine; and
- January 29, 2018 in Blue Ridge.

Eastlink Funding Request

Council approved an unbudgeted expenditure of \$1250 for Eastlink Park's Canada 150 Closing New Year's Celebration on December 31st, 2017.

Highlights from January 16, 2018 Council Meeting

Bylaw 504/18 – No Parking Bylaw

Council passed Bylaw 504/18 to prohibit vehicles over 4500 kg parking in the Hamlet of Blue Ridge.

FCSS Overview

Chelsea Grande, Director Community Services and Sharon Shannon, Manager of FCSS with the Town of Whitecourt were in attendance to provide Council an overview of the services and programs that are available through FCSS for residents.

Whitecourt Mountain Bike Association

Council directed administration to forward the funding request of \$25,000 from the Whitecourt Mountain Bike Association to the 2018 budget deliberations.

Policy 5102 – Senior Transportation Grant

Council adopted policy 5102 – Senior Citizen and Disabled Persons Transportation Benefits as presented which included changes to identify the types of medical appointments acceptable to claim and appointment verification procedures.

2018 Hometown Heroes Airshow

Council approved the Whitecourt Airshow Society request to host the 10th Anniversary of the Hometown Heroes Airshow at the Whitecourt Airport on July 28 & 29, 2018.

Youth Career Exposure Boot Camps Proposed Budget

Council approved funding the 2018 Youth Career Exposure Boot Camps program for \$5000.

Cancellation of March 20, 2018 Regular Meeting

The March 20, 2018 regular council meeting has been rescheduled to March 27, 2018.

ACP Grant Application Request

Council confirmed support and approved a joint application to the Alberta Community Partnership for the Regional Business Park Feasibility Study with the Town of Whitecourt to act as the managing partner on the project.

Conditions of Hwy 658

Council directed administration to request a meeting with the Minister of Transportation to discuss concerns relating to highway 658.

Log Haul on Hwy 658

Council directed administration to discuss with Millar Western the complaints being received of uncourteous behaviour of log haul trucks on highway 658 not dimming lights, shutting off light bars and being over the centre line.

Timeu Scale

Council directed Mayor Rennie and Councillor Kluin to meet with Millar Western to discuss purchasing the Timeu Scale.

Highlights from February 6, 2018 Council Meeting

Invitation to the ASB Annual Appreciation Supper

Council will be attending the Annual ASB Appreciation Supper on Friday, February 23 at the Blue Ridge Community Hall.

2018 Volunteer Appreciation Event Date

Council approved Friday, April 20, 2018 for the 2018 Volunteer Appreciation Event.

Letter from AAMDC

Council accepted the letter from AAMDC President Al Kemmere to Minister Anderson regarding the freezing of assessment year modifies for the 2018 taxation year.

Highlights from February 20, 2018 Council Meeting

Fortis Program to Convert Lights to LED

Council reviewed the Fortis program and confirmed with administration to proceed with

Woodlands County Council Members



SYLVIA BONNETT

Councillor for Anselmo Electoral Division - Division 1
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780.786.2298



JOHN BURROWS

Councillor for Whitecourt West Electoral Division - Division 2
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780.706.4747



RON GOVENLOCK

Councillor for Whitecourt Central Electoral Division - Division 3
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JIM RENNIE

Woodlands County Mayor
Councillor for Whitecourt East Electoral Division - Division 4
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BRUCE PRESTIDGE

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780.779.3917



DALE MCQUEEN

Councillor for Goose Lake Freeman River Electoral Division - Division 6
dale.mcqueen@woodlands.ab.ca
780.584.2619



DALE KLUIN

Councillor for Fort Assiniboine/Timeu Electoral Division - Division 7
dale.kluin@woodlands.ab.ca
780.584.2610

Council Highlights

Continued from page 19

the implementation of the Fortis Program to convert high pressure sodium lights in the County to LED.

Town of Whitecourt Annexation

Council was advised by the Town of Whitecourt of their intent to proceed with annexation of lands that are currently within the County's jurisdiction.

Highlights from March 6, 2018 Council Meeting

Telus Update

Brian Bettis, Telus General Manager, Alberta North Customer Solutions Delivery, was in attendance to provide an update on cell coverage for Woodlands County. Items discussed included towers, new technology, upgrades in the area, wireline thefts which effected approximately 7600 clients and cost Telus approximately \$320k in repairs and potential joint projects.

Barrhead RCMP Update

Sgt. R.W. (Bob) Dodds was in attendance and discussed the detachment statistical comparison report from 2013-2017, and issues with stolen vehicles including keys being left in the vehicles and Annual Performance Plan (APP) priorities for 2018 for the

Barrhead detachment.

Update – Rational of the Approved 2018 Landfill rates

Council accepted the 2018 landfill rate information and further requested that the landfill authority look at some of the options discussed for larger loads.

Public Hearing Date Change for Community Standards Bylaw 498/17

Council rescheduled a public hearing for bylaw 498/17 community standards bylaw from March 27, 2018 to Tuesday, May 1, 2018 at 7:15 p.m. at the Whitecourt Municipal Office at the regular meeting of Council.

Letter to Council – First Responder Radio System

Council accepted the letter from an anonymous group regarding the first responder radio system as information pointing out that the county is doing its due diligence in the implementation of the system in questions.

Highlights from March 22, 2018 Council Meeting

Bylaw 505/18 – Councillor Code of Conduct

Council approved bylaw 505/18 – Councillor Code of Conduct.

2018 Operating and Capital Budget

Council approved the 2018 Operating and Capital Budget as presented.

Reserve Transfers

Council approved the transfer to and from reserves in 2017 as presented.

Hwy 658 Overlay Project

Council directed that concerns regarding the highway 658 overlay project be forwarded to the director of infrastructure.

School Resource Officer

Council directed administration to confirm Woodlands County's funding commitment and extend the memorandum of understanding for the School Resource Officer with Woodlands County, County of Barrhead, Town of Barrhead, Pembina Hills Regional School Division No. 7 and the RCMP for an additional 3 years until June 30, 2021.

COPA 2019 Convention Proposal

Council directed administration to research options and costs related to hosting the COPA Spring 2019 Convention and submit a proposal for hosting the convention.

For more details on these and other Council agenda items, all Council minutes are available on our website at www.woodlands.ab.ca

Please slow down when passing equipment and workers on roadways! If you see flashing lights, flag people or signs, please SLOW DOWN for the safety of our workers and residents!

