

YOUR PARKLAND

2024 FALL

Keeping you connected with your County

WHAT'S NEW IN PARKLAND COUNTY

Page 4

A BONE-A-FIDE DISCOVERY

Page 7

YOUTH WATER COUNCIL

Page 9

SOMERSET FARMS

Page 15

Cover photo: Somerset Farms

CONTENTS

What's New in Parkland County

4

An Update from the Parkland County Fire Chief

6

The Enchantment of the Arts and Culture

8

Family Farming Feature

10

Protecting Parkland

12

Family and Community Support Services

20

Project Updates

22

UPCOMING OFFICE CLOSURES

OCTOBER 14 – Thanksgiving Day

OCTOBER 24 – All-staff meeting

NOVEMBER 11 – Remembrance Day

PROCLAMATIONS

www.parklandcounty.com/Proclamations



SPRUCE GROVE AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY AGRA FAIR



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS DAY



LADYBUG RELEASE



TRI-REGION MAYORS' GOLF CLASSIC

You can now receive monthly County updates directly to your inbox! Be sure to sign up for our monthly e-newsletter by visiting www.parklandcounty.com/YourParklandMonthly



REACH OUT OR FOLLOW US:

Find out more on what's happening in Parkland County, follow us or visit parklandcounty.com

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday – Friday; 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

T: 780-968-8888

E: hello@parklandcounty.com

53109A HWY 779

Parkland County, AB T7Z 1R1



Allan Hoefsloot

MESSAGE FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Welcome to the fall season in Parkland County. It is a wonderful time to explore amongst the changing colours and picturesque scenery throughout our region. If you're looking for a new spot to visit, be sure to check out www.exploreparkland.com or follow @parklandcounty on Instagram.

The past summer has been a tremendously eventful period, full of ups and downs. In early July, we welcomed the announcement of \$29.9 million in funding from Prairies Economic Development Canada to deliver major projects in Wabamun and Acheson, both of which will have a huge positive impact for communities and industry in Parkland. You can learn more on page 22.

In late July, we felt the impacts of the Jasper wildfires close to home as our fire crews — led by Fire Chief Brian Cornforth — joined others from across Alberta and around the world to protect the iconic townscape. We are immensely grateful for their selflessness and bravery. We encourage you to read the piece on page 6

of this issue which shares some fascinating insights into our crew's involvement and the impacts of the fires.

Finally, however, we'd like to take this opportunity to share a few words about our dear friend, Division 6 Councillor Allan Hoefsloot.

Allan sadly passed away on August 10 after a battle with cancer.

Allan was a wonderful Councillor, colleague and friend and we all feel the weight of this loss. As we reflect on his life, we feel very fortunate to have gotten to know and work alongside someone as genuine and caring as him. He was a teammate who brought a joyful but determined approach to work and we admired his commitment to serving residents and his advocacy as he worked to make positive changes for our community.

Allan was an active member of Parkland County's agricultural and industrial community. He lived with his wife Laila and their family

out west on their farm in Tomahawk, where they raised cattle and farmed hay. His passion for agriculture made him a strong voice for farmers throughout the region and his advocacy for the industry will ensure that future generations will prosper.

Allan will be greatly missed but will always be remembered for his incredibly kind and gentle spirit and his warm smile. We continue to send our love to his beloved wife, children, grandchildren, as well as his many friends throughout the community.

As we look ahead to the remainder of 2024, we will continue to remember Allan as we work together to accomplish more for our County and the people in it.

We appreciate your support as we work to ensure that Parkland County remains a wonderful community to live, work and play. It was a place that Allan was proud to call home.

Parkland County Mayor and Council

We acknowledge that we are located on the lands of Treaty 6 which is the traditional home of the Cree, Dene, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Nakota Sioux nations, members of the Métis nations of Alberta, Inuit and all First Nations sharing this land for generations. We recognize the long history and contributions of Indigenous peoples who've cared for this land from time immemorial to the present. We acknowledge that we are all treaty people bound to one another by the spirit and intent of treaty as long as the sun shines, the grass grows and the river flows.

WHAT'S NEW IN PARKLAND COUNTY

“ Building our economy
and ensuring future
prosperity is key to our
community's well-being.”

– Mayor Gamble



Project renderings





FUNDING FOR THE FUTURE: Parkland County receives nearly \$30 million in funding to support infrastructure

On July 3, 2024, the federal government announced that it would be providing \$29.9 million in funding to support key infrastructure projects as the County's economy shifts away from coal-fired power.

The funding is offered through Prairies Economic Development Canada (PrairiesCan), a department of the federal government whose purpose is to promote economic development and growth in Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

This funding will allow Parkland to diversify our economy while promoting growth and prosperity. The funding will be allocated to two different areas of the County — Wabamun and Acheson.

With \$17.5 million allocated towards Wabamun's wastewater treatment and Waterfront Park, residents can expect to see a variety of improvements in the quaint hamlet. With new upgrades made to the wastewater facility, the area will be able to overcome current operational challenges and ensure long-term service. As for the waterfront's revitalization, the area will soon become a tourist destination complete with an upgraded splash park, shade structures, seating and an expanded beach.

"These improvements will provide new and enhanced public amenities for residents,

support economic transition and encourage future growth and diversification for our local economy," says Mayor Allan Gamble.

Wabamun's future looks incredibly bright and Parkland County is pleased to share that the future looks equally optimistic for Acheson, the County's beating industrial heart. The County is receiving \$12.4 million in funding to update intersections off Highway 16A at Spruce Valley Road and Pinchbeck/Bevington Road. These improvements will encourage new investment opportunities by opening access to approximately 2,600 acres of developable land.

With these new projects underway, we look towards the future knowing that our communities will be able to benefit from the creation of new jobs and opportunities for economic development.

Parkland County would like to thank our federal partners for the funding. We look forward to seeing these investments build a bright future for the County.

For updates and information on these infrastructure projects, visit www.yourparkland.ca



(From left to right): Minister Dan Vandal, Minister Randy Boissonnault, Councillor Rob Wiedeman (Division 5) and Mayor Allan Gamble

AN UPDATE FROM OUR FIRE CHIEF

On behalf of our Fire Crews, I wanted to provide you with an update on the recent support that Parkland County provided during the wildfire in Jasper, Alberta.

On July 22, 2024, with two wildfires threatening the Jasper townsite, our team responded to a call from the Municipality of Jasper to help with structural fire protection. Our crew, consisting of five members, was dispatched with a fire engine and trailer equipped with pumps, hoses and sprinklers to protect structures.

Upon arrival in Jasper, early in the morning of July 23, our crews immediately got to work installing sprinklers around critical facilities in the community and evaluating structural protection at the Jasper Park Lodge. The Lodge, like the Town of Jasper, had many FireSmart measures in place which allowed crews to focus on key areas and assist with critical protection.

Our orders for where to operate came from the Unified Command structure between Parks Canada and the Municipality of Jasper. The collaboration of these two organizations was well-coordinated and resulted in a streamlined response by fire crews and other agencies.

As the fire front approached on the evening of July 24, with winds exceeding 100 km/h and flames reaching over 100 metres high, our crews remained steadfast in their efforts to protect the community. Despite the substantial ember transfer into the area, which allows wildfire to spread quickly, our firefighters took a defensive strategy to minimize losses and prioritize the safety of all involved.

While the fire unfortunately burned into the townsite, causing extensive damage, our Parkland crews worked tirelessly to provide continued support with an engine and tanker, along with six crew members. They remained on site, protecting the immediate forested perimeter of the townsite and structures within by continuing to work on hot spots.

After four days, our crews reported seeing wildlife begin to emerge and wander into town to nibble on plants and flowers in yards. While bear sightings had occurred in and around the townsite, Parks Canada provided safety training and fire crews were equipped with bear spray as a safety measure.



Cornforth residence destroyed in Jasper fire.



Our crew that was deployed to Jasper.



Both the Town and the Jasper Park Lodge had excellent FireSmart measures implemented that were critical in the protection of infrastructure that was saved.

In times of tragedy such as this, people are often left feeling helpless and wondering what they can do to assist. You can help by taking simple steps today — starting with booking a free FireSmart advanced home assessment. Completed by our Parkland County team, the assessment takes about 30 minutes as our assessors work with you to create a customized list of easy measures you can implement to protect your home and community from the damaging effects of an approaching wildfire.

For more info or to book an assessment online visit www.parklandcounty.com/FireSmart



Parkland County Fire Chief Brian Cornforth stands with Former Jasper Fire Chief Greg Van Tighem

I am immensely proud of the dedication and bravery displayed by our team during this challenging operation and know that without their efforts, we would have lost more of this national treasure, which is also my hometown.

With multiple municipalities deploying to Jasper, I must take a moment to recognize those that stayed behind to cover various other jurisdictions to ensure that every community was properly protected. Thank you to the Stony Plain and Devon Fire Departments for protecting Parkland County in our absence.

I can't emphasize enough that the human impacts of this fire were real. There were Jasper firefighters (both paid and volunteer) who showed up and despite personal losses, never put down a hose. They remained strong and committed to protecting their community.

Our thoughts and hearts go out to all those affected by the wildfires in Jasper, including those who lost their homes and businesses and the evacuees who have been displaced. It was an honour for us to stand in solidarity with our fellow firefighters in Jasper and assist in protecting their community during this difficult time.

Sincerely,
Brian Cornforth
Parkland County Fire Chief

A Bone-a-fide Discovery: Horse tooth fossil found in Parkland County

What if we told you that an Ice Age fossil was found in a Parkland County sports park? That's exactly what happened last year when Julian Caners discovered a horse tooth fossil during soccer practice at the Meridian Sports Park.

Julian and his twin sister were rushing off to soccer practice when Julian found a fossil in the parking lot. When they returned home, Julian's parents, Richard and Lisa, closely inspected the fossil and had no doubt that their son had come across a significant find.

"Our family was thrilled by the find," says Richard, "especially due to its size and the fact that it was clearly a herbivore's tooth." According to Richard, his children have a penchant for collecting fossils. "Our kids have always loved hunting for rocks, fossils and other natural history objects when we're out in nature."

Their keen interest in fossils might not be completely random, especially since Richard works as a Curator of Botany (plant sciences) at the Royal Alberta Museum. The next day, Richard brought the fossil to his colleague Christina Barron-Ortiz for consultation.

After sending the fossil for lab testing, Barron-Ortiz discovered the significance of Julian's find. By using radiocarbon dating, the lab determined that the fossil was older than 45,000 years. According to Barron-Ortiz,

“ This horse tooth is one of the few mammal fossils known from Parkland County that predate the Last Glacial Maximum.”

– Barron-Ortiz

about 20,000 years ago, North America (as well as Northern Europe and parts of Asia) were covered in massive ice sheets. This time period is known as the Last Glacial Maximum.

But why was the fossil found in a sports park? Naturally, the answer lies in the ground. The Meridian Sports Park is near a gravel pit and gravel pits often overlie ancient river systems. Over time, rivers weather fossils and break down animal bones, leaving glimpses into our earth's past.



Photo Credit: Matthew Sawchuk, Royal Alberta Museum

Fortunately, the tooth was so well-preserved that Barron-Ortiz and her team were able to extract collagen for further testing. "Horse DNA," you might think to yourself, "so what?" But this is not just any horse. Barron-Ortiz says that the horse would have belonged to a group of horses known as the caballine horses, or true horses. From analyzing other fossils in the Edmonton area, there was another group of horses in North America. The caballine horses migrated to Eurasia, shielding them from the grisly extinction their North American cousins experienced. Barron-Ortiz has yet to learn more about the tooth and plans to analyze the chemical composition of the tooth to learn more about the plants the horse ate and what its environment would have looked like.

You might not find a horse tooth fossil when you're out running for groceries. But as you go about your day-to-day life, take a moment to pause and visualize what Parkland County might have looked like millions of years ago. Who knows what kind of fascinating fossils and bones are lying beneath your feet?



Julian Caners and his twin sister during a tour of the Royal Alberta Museum.



PHOTO CREDIT: JM GALAT

ENCHANTMENT OF THE ARTS AND CULTURE

Joan Marie Galat has a unique way of looking up at the stars. She is well known as the “star-lady” because of her appeal as an author of children’s science books. Her impressive repertoire of writing has made her an award-winning author of more than 25 books, with translations in seven languages. A prolific promoter of reading, Joan is often busy at various speaking engagements across Canada and internationally. She promotes literacy, science and other topics in her books, and encourages the use of storytelling to communicate in corporate settings. She is also a Parkland County Arts & Culture Award of Excellence recipient for 2024.

Parkland County is proud to recognize the athletic, arts and cultural and agricultural achievements of teams or individuals representing the County in provincial, national or international competitions. Our Awards of Excellence Program was developed to acknowledge outstanding achievements. Joan, being a passionate local author, naturally stands out as an exceptional contributor to arts and culture.

Joan has been a proud resident of Parkland County for 20 years. Her literary achievements have been honoured with a vivid accounting of her skill set, thanks to Karen Ann Spafford-Fitz, who nominated her for the award. “Since the inception of her writing career as an underage columnist, Joan has held true to her artistic vision:

to create compelling titles that engage readers while cultivating communities where books and the art of writing are cherished,” says Karen.

The enchantment of the arts and culture is all about the way it makes people feel. Joan is known for taking complicated information and using original approaches to make it engaging and accessible to audiences of all ages. It takes a true artist to visualize something, capture its essence and immortalize it for others to experience.

We are pleased to present the 2024 Arts and Culture Award of Excellence to Joan Marie Galat. We invite you to discover more about her vast array of books, presentation details, videos and resources through her website at www.joangalat.com

To learn more about the County’s Awards of Excellence, or to nominate an individual or team, visit www.parklandcounty.com/AwardsOfExcellence





Parkland's Josie Camilleri makes waves with Youth Water Council

At age 17, Josie Camilleri is a new and emerging local author, alongside eight other passionate high school students on the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance's Youth Water Council whose deep desire to make a difference led to publishing a comic book entitled, "River Time Vortex Extravaganza!"

The project was selected after months of discovery, deliberation and project planning to work towards the improvement of environmental health in the North Saskatchewan River watershed. The book follows two siblings camping near the North Saskatchewan River who are taken on a journey back in time to discover the importance of watershed health and respecting our rivers.

Dive into the story and join them as they make friends and gain a new perspective on the waters that give them life in River Time Vortex Extravaganza! Scan this QR code to enjoy a free copy and support these local creatives or keep an eye out in Parkland County libraries, where the book may pop up as part of the brand new "Water Quality" library kit (more on page 17).



Here's an excerpt from the book: "Water is sacred. Water is what connects us to the world around us. Just as we take from the river, we give something back in return to ensure there is enough for future generations." Poignant and educational. This innovative Youth Water Council initiative aims to inspire readers to feel a greater connection to the watershed and environment.

The Youth Water Council works with the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance (NSWA), a non-profit that is one of 11 Watershed Planning and Advisory Councils in Alberta. Formed 20 years ago, the NSWA is the go-to hub for sharing ideas and teaming up on projects that impact this watershed. To learn more about NSWA, visit www.nswa.ab.ca.

Parkland County is a proud partner of the NSWA.



**YOUTH
WATER
COUNCIL**





Family Farming Feature

Within the beautiful farmland of Parkland County, Carla Rhyant and her son Rhys operate Rhyant Rock Farms. They raise heritage breeds of sheep, pigs and chickens. Carla's passion for sustainable livestock and expanding the genetics of rare breeds has enabled her to offer butcher lambs, breeding stock lambs and Icelandic chicken eggs to other producers.

As a conservationist, when Carla discovered the ALUS program, she instinctively knew that her farm could benefit from a partnership. She was already aware of the sensitive low-lying portions of land on her property and knew that excluding them from her livestock at key points during the growing season could help to maximize the ecosystem services they could produce. With the added benefit of cost sharing with ALUS, she decided to install fencing around three different wetlands on her property. By controlling the disturbance within the fenced areas, she is able to create drought resilience, promote revegetation in bare areas and protect vital wetland habitat.

"Weather is changing all the time, from extreme drought to the other extreme of high amounts of moisture. The nice thing about having the wetlands fenced is that it creates more of a balance to combat weather factors," says Carla. When conditions are wet in spring and summer, she can offer the waterfowl and shorebirds an important nesting habitat while allowing plants to regenerate. In the winter, the wetland area transitions to a grazing area — helping feed livestock and reducing the fire load that may have accumulated.

“ Weather is changing all the time, from extreme drought to the other extreme of high amounts of moisture. The nice thing about having the wetlands fenced is that it creates more of a balance to combat weather factors.”

— Carla

ALUS is a non-profit program that has been offered in Parkland County since 2012 to help agricultural producers develop sustainable nature-based solutions on their land, resulting in the production of ecosystem services.

The ALUS program is implemented across Canada in participating communities and continuously focuses awareness efforts towards helping farmers and ranchers with projects that enhance wetlands, create watering systems for livestock, aid with re-forestation, build shelterbelts, enhance habitat for wildlife and more! When a potential project area is identified, a producer can partner with ALUS to share both the cost of materials and the labour required for installation. Producers are also provided with annual payments based on landscape type of what the area would have previously been used for.

Chad Ritter, Parkland County's ALUS Coordinator and proud local farmer, is excited to work with producers like Carla who understand the impact that this program can have not only in the present, but for future generations. The program follows core principles to ensure projects are targeted, accountable and science-based.

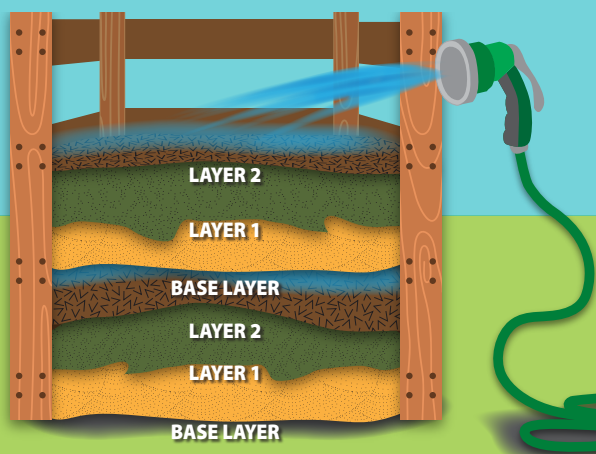
"I feel very fortunate to be able to work for Parkland County as their ALUS Coordinator. As a producer myself, I find it very rewarding being able to help farmers and ranchers benefit both the environment and their agricultural operation by the implementation of ALUS projects," says Chad. "Through working with ALUS participants like Carla, I know it is possible to make a positive difference with nature-based solutions and enhance the ecosystem services, providing benefits to the entire community."

If you're a farmer or rancher in Parkland County and are interested in implementing nature-based solution projects into your operation, please contact Parkland County's ALUS Coordinator Chad Ritter at 780-968-8888 ext. 8286 or chad.ritter@parklandcounty.com.

CREATING COMPOST

ARE YOU LOOKING TO START YOUR OWN COMPOST?

This guide will provide you with the essentials to get started. Composting yields many benefits such as water retention, improved soil microbiome, reduced compaction and better produce yields.



Turn your compost every 3 – 5 days.



MOISTURE

In hot, dry weather, add water to keep your pile as damp as a sponge for better breakdown.



SOIL/BROWNS — 6 INCHES

Add a bit of soil, along with shredded paper, hay/straw, sawdust, dry leaves and cotton/wool scraps, to reduce odors and boost beneficial microbes.



GREENS — 3 INCHES

Lawn clippings, fresh trimmings, green leaves, coffee grounds, hair/feathers and kitchen scraps, including fruits and vegetables.



STRAW

Improves airflow, balances carbon, absorbs excess moisture and adds structure to the compost pile.



DO NOT ADD

- X Animal byproducts (i.e., meat, dairy, bones)
- X Animal waste
- X Seeds of any kind
- X Oils
- X Charcoal
- X Herbicide or pesticide treated plants

Green Acreages Workshop

DO YOU WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT MANAGING YOUR ACREAGE?



Green Acreages

A Land Stewardship Centre Program

Stewardship for Small Acreages

FREE WORKSHOP

Join us on October 6 for the Green Acreages workshop presented by the Land Stewardship Centre. This free, two-part event begins with a workshop at Muir Lake Community Hall, followed by a hands-on demonstration at Sauer Lake. Learn about improving your acreage, mapping property assets and using funding to support your upcoming stewardship projects.

WORKSHOP – PART ONE

Muir Lake Community Hall

Date: October 6 (Part 1)

Time: 1 – 2:30 pm

DEMONSTRATION – PART TWO

Sauer Lake

Date: October 6 (Part 2)

Time: 2:30 – 4 pm

Register for the event at www.shorturl.at/mnxFa

NOTE: this is a two-part event. When you register, please indicate if you will attend the workshop, the field demo or both.



Share the road

Farmers are busy at work, so be sure to keep an eye out and share the road with large farm equipment. Please keep your distance, be patient and make sure kids know to keep a safe distance when using the road for activities such as biking or walking.

PROTECTING PARKLAND

Parkland County is a vast area with multiple communities spread across its boundaries. There is a unique ecosystem of law enforcement within the County that perform different duties, yet all strive to keep the peace.

Parkland County Peace Officers have a valuable role, ensuring the safety and enjoyment of County roads, properties and infrastructure through the enforcement of provincial statutes and municipal bylaws.

Services include:

- Enforcement of the Responsible Pet Ownership bylaw
 - Monitoring traffic safety in school zones
 - Patrolling residential areas, industrial areas and municipal parks to prevent break and enters, vandalism and property damage
 - Proactive partnerships within the community through Crime Watch groups and school programs
 - Targeting unsafe commercial vehicles including overweight and over-dimensional vehicles to protect local infrastructure
- Investigate complaints such as Unsightly Properties, Noise, Graffiti, Littering, Nuisance Properties, etc.

Many offences are enforced by simply educating property owners of the infraction and giving them an opportunity to fix the issue. Every situation is evaluated on a case-by-case basis and at the officer's discretion.

RCMP

With Peace Officers performing these various roles, RCMP officers can remain focused on more complex and serious criminal enforcement activities.

RCMP officers are responsible for protecting life and property, preventing crime and keeping the peace. They have a broad range of duties, with the bulk of the role being law enforcement. RCMP officers investigate, arrest offenders and bring them before the criminal justice system. They also provide a variety of community services such as:

- Crime prevention
- Educational programs
- Assisting in locating missing persons

- Dealing with lost property
- Traffic control
- Victim assistance
- Collision investigation.

The RCMP acts at the federal, provincial and municipal level. Because of the vast size of Parkland County, there are three RCMP detachments in the area — Drayton Valley, Evansburg and Parkland (located in Spruce Grove).

NEED HELP?

For Emergencies, dial 9-1-1

For Non-Emergency Peace Officer assistance, dial 780-968-8400

For the latest news on crime prevention, criminal activity and what our Peace Officers have been doing to make Parkland County a safer place, visit [YourParkland.ca](https://www.yourparkland.ca)



Enhanced RCMP Services

Body-worn cameras can help to greatly increase trust between police and the communities they serve. The video evidence captured by enforcement officers can enhance RCMP services to residents by offering immediate and unbiased views of daily interactions. This system was designed to add value to evidence gathered during an investigation and is attached to a police officer's uniform, sunglasses, or even worn as a headset to record audio and capture video as a record of events from an officer's perspective.

In Alberta, field testing took place with select RCMP detachments commencing February 8, 2024. The Parkland RCMP was one of the detachments chosen for the testing, which has been deemed a success. A nationwide roll out is scheduled to begin this fall.

Other enhancements to the local Parkland RCMP include a greater presence on their social media (www.facebook.com/RCMPParkland) and extended customer service hours to serve the community. Efforts have been focused on enhancing their communication with the public and offering specialized tips for crime

prevention. Please connect with our local detachment if you have questions or comments at 1-825-220-7267.

Peace Officers in our Community

Parkland County Peace Officers had the opportunity to engage with youth in Wabamun when they co-hosted a pancake breakfast alongside the RCMP. They later gave a presentation to students at the Wabamun School before the summer break.

School Resource Officer Jesse Lutz says these events are crucial to building relationships with the people they serve. "We don't want them to be afraid to approach us if they have any issues," he explains. "We aren't just an authority figure. We're here to help as part of the community."

Lutz's presentation included information on the difference between Peace and RCMP officers, what a Peace Officer does in a day and demonstrations of various equipment and vehicles they utilize.

"The kids were really interested and had a bunch of great questions, like if photo radar would work on their bicycles and if we take goats at the animal shelter," says Lutz.



CHAT WITH A PEACE OFFICER

At the Wabamun Satellite Enforcement Office, a Peace Officer is on hand to answer questions about a variety of matters including bylaws, investigative processes (related to a concern or complaint) and RCMP inquiries.

Wabamun Satellite Office
(5124 – 53 Ave)

Every Wednesday,
11:00 am – 2:00 pm



Peace Officer's Travis Henrikson and Jesse Lutz visiting Wabamun School.

DOGS IN PARKLAND COUNTY

Parkland County's Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw is designed to keep all members of our community — including our furry friends — safe and sound.

Under the bylaw, every dog owner must purchase a licence, which includes a dog tag with a number. This makes it very easy for Peace Officers to search the tag number and return the dog to the correct owner if they get lost. A violation ticket may be issued if a dog is not licensed.

Also under the bylaw, it is the owner's responsibility to keep their dog under control and prevent them from wandering at large. Specifically, owners must keep their dog restrained by a leash less than three metres in length or under the physical control of a person if they are at any location other than:

- The owner's property
- Inside the boundaries of an off-leash area; or
- On private property with the consent of the owner of that private property.

If a dog is found at large, it may be impounded at the owner's expense, with a possible fine also issued to the owner.

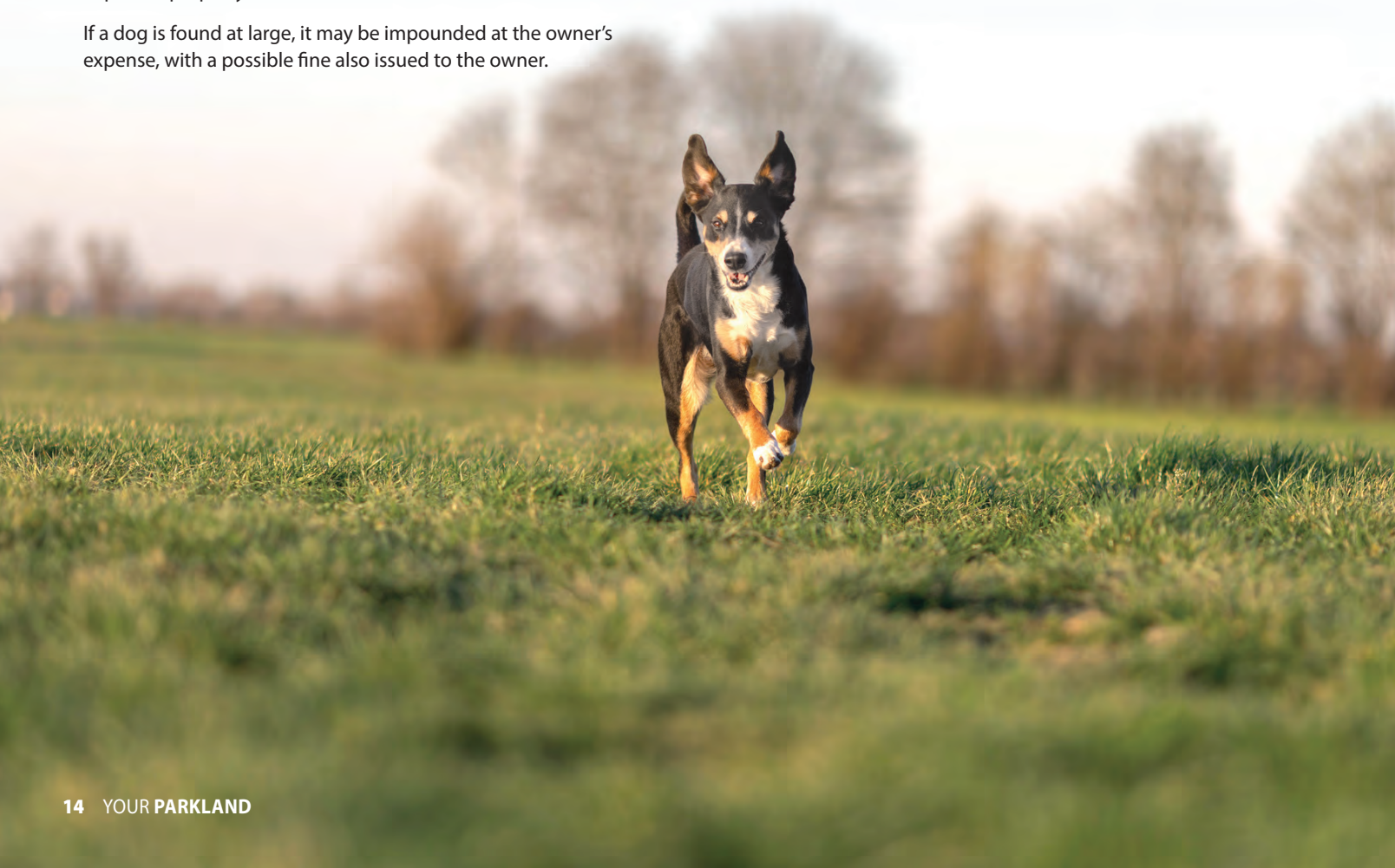
Staying safe around unfamiliar dogs

It's important to remember that all dogs, regardless of their size or breed, can bite. A nervous, fearful or stressed dog may become defensive or aggressive. That's why you should never approach a dog that is without its owner, tied up or in a vehicle.

If an unfamiliar dog approaches you, you should stand motionless, stay calm and be assertive. Do not turn your back on the dog or run away from it. Avoid sudden movements, especially around the dog's head.

If you see a dog at large, you are encouraged to report it to the County. Our helpful Peace Officers will contain the dog and attempt to locate its owner.

For more information about responsible pet ownership in Parkland County, please visit www.parklandcounty.com/AnimalControl





AUTUMN ADVENTURES

As the leaves change and the air turns crisp, there's no better way to embrace fall than getting outside and exploring our beautiful region.

Find your pumpkin spice in Parkland at Somerset Farms — a guaranteed gourd time! Somerset is a local U-Pick Pumpkin Farm that offers a variety of edible and decorative pumpkins perfect for fall decorating, carving or baking.

Visit Somerset Farms with your family and friends to experience a private, safe and relaxing natural setting for outdoor activities. From u-pick berries and pumpkins, picnics and campfires, to outdoor photos — there is something for everyone.

If you enjoy hiking, Parkland County offers breathtaking views and serene trails for all skill levels. Head over to Chickakoo Lake Recreation Area for a peaceful hike through scenic landscapes adorned in autumn colours. The multi-use trails accommodate both leisurely walkers and avid hikers, providing the perfect backdrop for a day of outdoor adventure.

Calling all golf enthusiasts! Enjoy some of the best golfing conditions of the year during the fall season. Parkland County boasts several top-notch golf courses, including the Ranch Golf and Country Club. The cooler weather and stunning fall foliage make for an enjoyable and picturesque round of golf. Don't forget to book

your tee time early, as the fall season is a popular time for golfers looking to squeeze in a few more rounds before winter arrives.

So, join us this fall and Explore Parkland! Whether you're navigating the twists and turns of the corn maze, hiking through the vibrant autumn woods, or enjoying a round of golf, Parkland County offers a plethora of activities to celebrate the fall season. Stay connected with us for more updates and events throughout the season by checking out the Explore Parkland website at www.exploreparkland.com.



National Day for Truth and Reconciliation



Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

Canada

Honouring September 30: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

On September 30, we observe the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, a significant occasion dedicated to acknowledging the profound impact of residential schools on Indigenous people and their communities across Canada. This day is a solemn reminder of the injustices endured and an opportunity to engage in meaningful reflection and education.

In recognition of this important day, Parkland County will present Dennis Saddleman's powerful poem and video, "Monster – A Residential School Experience" which will be played at the Parkland County Centre and Entwistle Community Recreation Centre on September 30 during business hours. Saddleman's words offer a poignant and personal perspective on the trauma experienced in residential schools and we encourage everyone to take a moment to engage with this piece.

Additionally, we invite Parkland County residents interested in a "Truth & Reconciliation Calls to Action (TRC)" booklet, to reach out by calling 780-968-8342 or emailing fcss@parklandcounty.com. The booklets contain the TRC's 10 principles of reconciliation, the 94 calls to action and the 46 articles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). They offer valuable insights into how we can contribute to healing and understanding.

Collaboratively, the Tri-Region will be hosting events on September 30. A space will be created for listening, reflection and connection. For more information, please visit Skydancer Indigenous Cultural Centre at www.skydancerindigenous.com

We invite everyone to join us in observing this day with the respect and reflection it deserves. Together, let's honour the resilience of Indigenous peoples and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of truth and reconciliation.

The Residential School System is a topic that may be distressing or may cause trauma invoked by memories of past abuse. Parkland County recognizes the need for safety measures to minimize the risk associated with triggering.

The National Indian Residential School Crisis Line provides 24-hour crisis support to former Indian Residential School students and their families toll-free at: 1-866-925-4419.

Individuals impacted by the issue of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls are encouraged to contact the MMIWG Crisis Line toll-free at: 1-844-413-6649.

First Nations, Inuit and Métis seeking immediate emotional support can contact the Hope for Wellness Help Line toll-free at: 1-855-242-3310.

Looking ahead: Election 2025

Have you ever thought of being actively involved in the shaping of your community? Does the thought of serving a four-year term as a Parkland County mayor or councillor, or a Parkland School Division school board trustee excite you? Nominations for these roles, will be opening in early 2025. Stay tuned to the County's website and social media — more information coming soon!



Upcoming Council Meetings

Stay up to date with Council meeting agendas, recaps and more by subscribing to receive email updates at www.parklandcounty.com/Meetings

- COUNCIL MEETINGS
- GOVERNANCE AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE MEETINGS

SEPTEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

OCTOBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



To learn more about the program and apply online, visit www.parklandcounty.com/BRP or email us at economicdiversification@parklandcounty.com

Business Revitalization Program

Is your business in need of a little love and attention? Fund your glow up with the support of Parkland County's Business Revitalization Program. The program, back for the second year, is tailored to enhance the visual appeal of storefronts across the County.

Business owners, this is your chance to shine! Apply now and qualify for matching funding up to 50% of your project's total cost, capped at \$3,500. Projects must improve the look and feel of our community. Hurry, as funding is limited and allocated on a first come, first served basis.

SCIENCE FUN FOR EVERYONE

Parkland County's Agriculture and Environmental Services department has created four kits for Parkland Libraries to help local families learn about what's happening in their own backyards. Everything is included in the kit, so head to your library to get started today!

The **ornithology kit** includes all you need to identify and learn about local birds. Discover everything from anatomy to bird calls and more by using the included binoculars, field guides and resources for birds in the County.

Get up close with the **microscope kit** and explore the tiny world around you! This kit will teach you how to use a microscope to see what is invisible to the naked eye, complete with pond water sampling guides, DIY experiments and activities.

The **native plants and trees kit** makes learning about species indigenous to our region fun and interactive with activities and games, a scavenger hunt and a plant press so you can preserve your own specimens!

The **water quality and water sampling kit** will let you explore water in a whole new way. Grab your lab coat and strap on your safety goggles to determine the health of the water in our county by testing water quality factors such as pH, ammonia and nitrate levels. This kit comes with test tubes, a reference guide, seven different test solutions and information on why water sampling is important.

Find your local library branch at www.parklandcounty.com/Libraries to borrow a kit and get exploring!



GOLDEN DAYS IN PARKLAND COUNTY

Get out and explore Parkland County this summer at one of our parks, trails or natural areas.

www.parklandcounty.com/Parks

PARKLAND COUNTY LIBRARY EVENTS

CULTURAL MOVIE DAYS

Alberta Culture Days is the province's month-long celebration of arts, heritage, diversity and community spirit, hosted by community organizations. It is an opportunity for all Albertans to discover, experience and celebrate arts and culture by attending or hosting local events and activities across the province.

Immerse yourself in new cultural experiences and join Parkland County Libraries for Cultural Movie Days. Learn about different cultures through film and cultural food samples.

September 27: Babushkas of Chernobyl

Where: Wabamun Village Office
Time: Doors open at 6:30 pm, movie starts at 7:30 pm

September 28: The Lion King

Where: Wabamun Village Office
Time: Doors open at 1:00 pm, movie starts at 2:00 pm

DIGITAL LITERACY CLASSES

Looking to improve your digital literacy skills? Parkland County's Digital Literacy Classes can give you the skills you need. Visit the link below for a schedule of upcoming classes:

- October: Google Slides
- November: Google Drive
- December: Task and note organization

ENTWISTLE LIBRARY PROGRAMS

- Mindful Mondays
- Tuesday Drop-in Digital Tutoring
- Laughing Yoga Thursdays

WABAMUN LIBRARY PROGRAM

- Thursday Drop-In Digital Tutoring

www.pclibraries.ca/Events

COMMUNITY LEAGUES

Community Leagues are vital in creating and sustaining vibrant communities. Parkland County's 26 Community Leagues have a diverse group of volunteers who provide community recreation and culture opportunities through a variety of programs, events and amenities — each one unique to the immediate community they serve.

Want to get involved? Please contact your local community league if you are interested in joining, volunteering or participating in one of the wonderful events that they host!

For more info on Community Leagues near you, visit parklandcounty.com/CommunityLeagues

Community Events

If you're looking to connect with your community or want to advertise a community event, be sure to check out our Community Events Calendar at events.parklandcounty.com



For more information on various events, please visit your community hall's Facebook page or website.

COMMUNITY LEAGUE EVENTS

ENTWISTLE COMMUNITY LEAGUE WEEKLY BINGO

Wednesdays

Time: 7:15 pm

ENTWISTLE JAMBOREE

**October 19, November 16,
December 21**

Time: 2 pm

DUFFIELD JAMBOREE SUPPER AND DANCE

September 28

Time: Doors open at 5 pm

Contact: 780-892-2425 or
780-722-5058

CLYMONT FALL MARKET AND TRADE SHOW

October 5

Time: 10 am – 5 pm

October 6

Time: 10 am – 3 pm

CLYMONT HALLOWEEN FAMILY DANCE

October 25

DUFFIELD HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARTY

October 25

Doors open at 6 pm

Contact: 780-892-2425 or
780-722-5058

MUIR LAKE HALLOWEEN FAMILY DANCE

October 25

See Muir Lake Community Hall
Facebook page for event details

CLYMONT HALLOWEEN FAMILY DANCE

October 26

DUFFIELD JAMBOREE SUPPER AND DANCE

October 26

Doors open at 5 pm

Contact: 780-892-2425 or
780-722-5083

MUIR LAKE HAM AND TURKEY BINGO

November 3

Doors open at 12:30 pm

WOODBEND PARTNERS' CRIB TOURNAMENT

November 8

Registration opens at 9 am

Register in advance by calling
780-470-3338

CLYMONT UKRANIAN NIGHT

November 9

CLYMONT CHRISTMAS CRAFT SALE

November 23

Time: 10 am – 4 pm

November 24

Time: 10 am – 3 pm

DUFFIELD JAMBOREE SUPPER AND DANCE

November 23

Time: Doors open at 5 pm

Contact: 780-892-2425 or
780-722-5058

MUIR LAKE WINTER MARKET

November 30

Time: 10 am – 4 pm

To book a table, visit
murlakehall.info

WOODBEND CHRISTMAS CRAFTS FOR KIDS

November 30

Time: 2 – 4 pm

Register in advance by calling
780-995-3077

DUFFIELD SANTA'S BREAKFAST

December 7

Time: 10 am – 2 pm

Contact: 780-892-2425 or
780-722-5058

CLYMONT NEW YEAR'S DINNER AND LIVE BAND

December 31

MUIR LAKE NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE

December 31

For details, see Muir
Lake Community League
Facebook page

ROUND DANCE

November 16, 1:00 – 8:00 pm, Wabamun Jubilee Hall

Connect with the community in an effort to promote unity and
renew relationships with one another through connection with the
land, ancestors and the Creator.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

Family and Community Support Services Grants open October 28, please visit www.parklandcounty.com/FCSS



SNOW REMOVAL SUBSIDY PROGRAM

Provides funding support to residents with disabilities for snow removal from their private driveways. To qualify, you must provide a doctor's note stating that you and adult members of your household are physically unable to remove snow from your driveway. Up to \$500 per winter season is available per household. Visit www.parklandcounty.com/snowremoval



Red Cross Youth Programs

We are proud to offer Canadian Red Cross programs to help educate youth on important safety situations; from learning how to Stay Safe when home alone to caring for younger children in the babysitting course.

Programs and courses will be available at various county community league halls throughout the year. A full list of available locations, dates and times can be found at www.parklandcounty.com/redcrossprograms



Parent and Tot Groups

A space to socialize with other parents while your children play in a cheerful, relaxed environment.

Parkland Village

Runs Tuesdays from September 10 until December 3 from 10 – 11:30 am

Entwistle Community Recreation Centre

Runs Fridays from September 13 until December 20 from 10 – 11:30 am
(No group on November 12)



Seniors' Shuttle

Offers weekly transportation from Entwistle for Parkland County seniors (65+) and those with disabilities.

Tuesdays cover West-East area

Thursdays cover West-South area

Visit www.parklandcounty.com/Shuttle

Note: this service is now operating Tuesdays and Thursdays (formerly Wednesdays and Fridays)

Book your seat by calling 780-727-3947



Service Canada — Seniors Benefits Presentation

These presentations are offered by Service Canada in partnership with Parkland County, the City of Spruce Grove and the Town of Stony Plain.

September 23 from 1 – 3 pm at the Entwistle Community Recreation Centre

- Free
- Bussing option available
- Coffee and light refreshments provided

Call 780-727-3947 to register



BRIDGING CONNECTIONS

This program operates in person Wednesdays from 9 am -12 pm at the Wabamun Community Centre. Meet with a community Social Worker who will offer compassionate and confidential support. Assistance will be provided in identifying solutions, connecting residents to resources and navigating many of life's challenges.

Bridging Connections also offers short-term counselling sessions the first Wednesday of every month for residents aged 16+.

Call 780-962-7618 to book an appointment or drop in.

PROJECT UPDATES

Find the complete 2024-2027 Capital infrastructure program at www.parklandcounty.com/infrastructure

For a list of current projects, visit yourparkland.ca

Acheson Intersections — HWY 16A

Exciting enhancements are currently under construction at two locations on Highway 16A in Acheson. Upgrades at Spruce Valley Road and Pinchbeck/Bevington Road include the widening of deceleration and acceleration lanes to enhance traffic flow, installing signal lights to enhance safety and realigning Spruce Valley Road and Pinchbeck/Bevington Road. The estimated completion date is fall 2024.

Entwistle Water Reservoir

Construction of a new water reservoir and pumphouse in Entwistle began in June 2024 and is expected to complete by fall 2025. This upgrade was necessary to replace aging infrastructure and to increase capacity to meet current County standards. The water source will be the new connection to the WILD waterline for the Hamlet of Entwistle.

Land Use Bylaw ReDesign

The Land Use Bylaw (LUB) regulates how and where land within a municipality develops and is key to implementing the Municipal Development Plan. As part of a regular and ongoing process, Parkland County is updating the County's Land Use Bylaw to streamline regulations and create clear and transparent decision-making processes for development in the County.

Next steps will focus on developing a draft Land Use Bylaw and a third round of public engagement. Work on this phase is ongoing and a draft LUB is expected to be completed this fall.

The final phase of the project (early 2025) will include showcasing the final proposed LUB and providing opportunity for the community to submit feedback prior to final approval. The Municipal Government Act (MGA) requires the adoption of the LUB through a formal process. This process will involve three readings by Parkland County Council and one public hearing.

To stay up to date on events and opportunities to participate, you can subscribe to project updates at www.yourparkland.ca/LUB

Municipal Development Plan

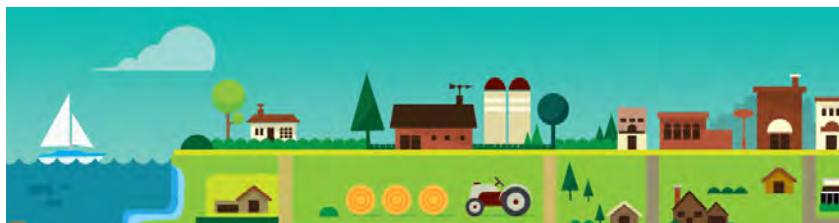
The Municipal Development Plan (MDP) is a high-level plan that establishes a vision for the County's growth over the next 30 years. It sets future direction by identifying where different types of growth and development will occur, including residential, employment, recreation and community service development. In addition to future land use, the MDP sets out policies to guide infrastructure, transportation and environmental protection.

With the phase-out of coal, Parkland County is undertaking an amendment to the Municipal Development Plan to help foster and diversify growth opportunities within the County.

The project recently showcased the draft Municipal Development Plan, Decision-Making Framework, Development Concept and provided an opportunity for the community to submit feedback prior to draft completion.

Next steps will focus on the public hearing and approvals stage (fall 2024 – winter 2025): The Municipal Government Act (MGA) requires the adoption of the MDP bylaw through a formal process. This process involves three readings by Parkland County Council and one public hearing. Members of the public will have an opportunity to provide written comments and register to speak at the public hearing before Council prior to a decision on the adoption of the bylaw. The project team will be advertising information on the public hearing and approvals process once Council dates are confirmed.

To stay up to date on events and opportunities to participate, you can subscribe to project updates at www.yourparkland.ca/MDP

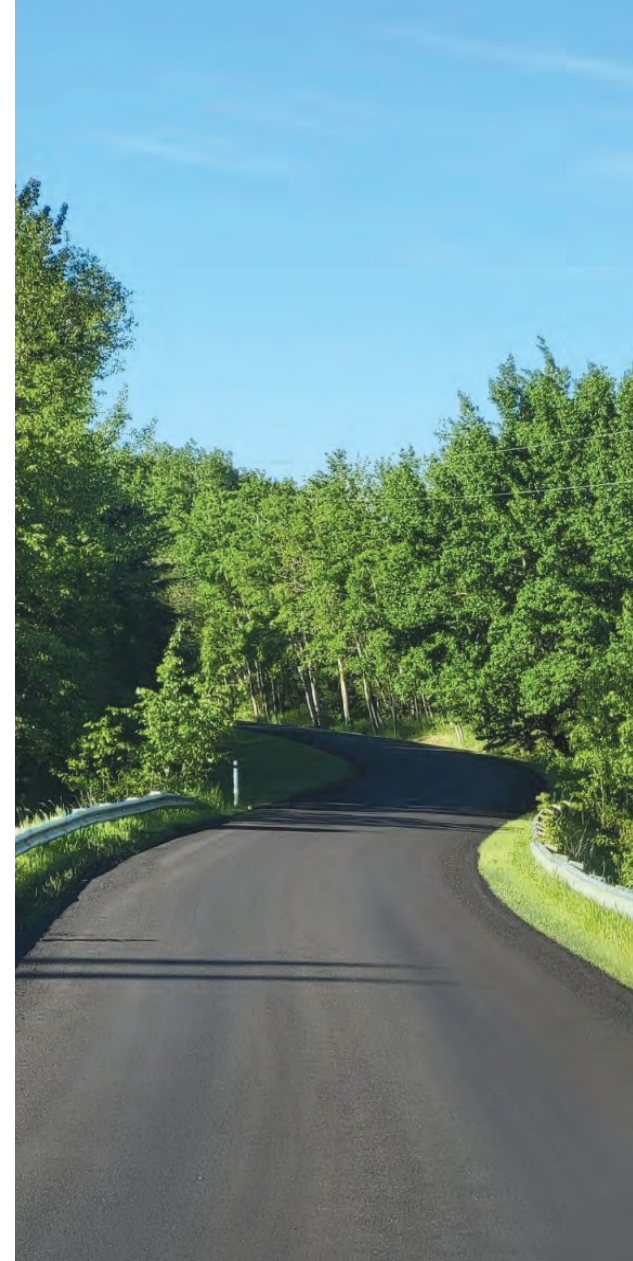


CHAT WITH A PLANNER

Join both the MDP project and LUB ReDesign teams for a virtual session to find out more about each project and ask any questions you may have.

September 18 — 5 – 7pm, Online Zoom Session

Email buildingfutures@parklandcounty.com to get a link to join!



Asphalt Surfacing Projects

The 2024 road upgrade projects included 12 asphalt overlay projects. Work included application of a new asphalt surface, some guardrail replacement and subgrade repairs at select locations.

Graded Aggregate Seal Coat Projects

There were four project locations that received application of an asphalt binder (oil) followed by a thin layer of a fine aggregate (gravel). The material is then packed, swept off and sealed with oil before pavement lines are applied.

Parks and Trails in Parkland County



Find your next adventure at ExploreParkland.com

Are you a tourism business in the County? We'd love your feedback.
Connect with us at economicdiversification@parklandcounty.com