

YOUR **PARKLAND**

2026 FALL

Keeping you connected with your County

PASSING THE TORCH:

A New Chapter for
Parkland County
Fire Services

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FARM FAMILIES

Celebrating
100-Year Farm
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Fungi at Pembina River



parkland
county

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EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING

Parkland County received the Canadian Award for Financial Reporting for its 2024 Annual Financial Report. At the June 23 Council meeting, Council also approved the 2025 Annual Financial Report. This can be viewed at parklandcounty.com/AnnualReport.



UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

Stay up to date with Council meeting agendas, action lists and more by visiting parklandcounty.com/meetings

- COUNCIL MEETINGS – 9:00 am**
- GOVERNANCE AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE MEETINGS – 9:00 am**
- COUNCIL ORGANIZATION MEETING* – 9:00 am**

SEPTEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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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
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

**At the Organizational Meeting, Council will establish the meeting schedule for the term of November 2026 to October 2027. This meeting is open to the public.*



UPCOMING OFFICE CLOSURES

- Labour Day – September 7
- National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – September 30
- Thanksgiving Day – October 12
- Remembrance Day – November 11

Essential services will be maintained



Parkland County Mayor and Council (L – R): Division 1 Councillor – Sally Kucher Johnson, Division 2 Councillor – Jason Doucette, Division 3 Councillor – Ben Jespersen, Mayor – Rod Shaigec, Division 4 Councillor – Corey Kyle, Division 5 Councillor – Kristine Olson, Division 6 Councillor – John McNab

MESSAGE FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL

As we welcome the fall season in Parkland County, we also mark our first year working together as Council, and it has certainly been a busy one!

After transitioning from the campaign trail to Council Chambers, we continued listening to and engaging with residents through the launch of County Chats. These open-house style events gave us an opportunity to connect directly with residents, hear about their priorities and concerns, and highlight the important role local community leagues play across the County. County Chats will continue this fall and in this issue you can find information on upcoming opportunities to join us (pg.16) along with more about our community leagues (pg.12).

This year also offered us several opportunities to celebrate the people who make Parkland County such a special place. We recognized two remarkable families who have farmed in the County for more than 100 years (pg. 20) and expressed our gratitude to former Fire Chief Brian Cornforth as he retired after 10 years of dedicated service to the County (pg. 8).

The wild weather over the past few months has certainly kept things interesting. Heavy rainfall and standing water placed added strain on County systems and local crops (pg. 6). For our agricultural producers, we encourage you to learn more about the support and resources available (pg. 5). While we're grateful for a break from the wildfire risk we experienced earlier in the year, emergency preparedness remains a priority — including recruiting paid on-call firefighters who are ready to serve their communities when they are needed most (pg. 6).

With climate extremes becoming increasingly challenging, the County is also developing a Climate Adaptation Plan to help us prepare for and respond to changing conditions. We want residents

to be part of that work, and we encourage you to share your perspective to inform the plan that best suits all residents (pg. 5).

A variety of workshops and events have been hosted throughout this year to support environmental sustainability and education (pg. 22). Our road maintenance crews worked diligently to keep residents moving and are already preparing for winter (pg. 7), while the County received provincial funding for two important bridge projects that will support the long-term resilience and reliability of our local road network (pg. 10).

Looking ahead to our next year working together, Council is paying close attention to the new legislation of Bill 28 (which introduces changes to provincial oversight of municipal matters) and what that could mean for our community (pg. 23). Strong local decision-making depends on residents being involved, and one way to make a difference is by serving on a County board or committee. Recruitment is now open, and we welcome applications from community-minded residents who want to contribute their experience and perspectives to the future of Parkland County (pg. 4).

On behalf of Council and Administration, thank you to everyone who has connected with us, shared their perspective and contributed to our community over the past year. We look forward to continuing that work together in the year ahead.

Sincerely,
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.

A LIVING SANCTUARY

Along the North Saskatchewan River in Parkland County, near Bunchberry Meadows, a new sanctuary is taking shape: the EALT Medicine Garden, co-owned by the Edmonton & Area Land Trust and the Nature Conservancy of Canada. Co-managed with regional Nations and community groups, the garden restores land access and preserves traditional plants, addressing the decline of native medicine patches in Alberta while creating space for Indigenous ceremony and community healing.

Spanning roughly 1,600 square meters, the garden is laid out as a Medicine Wheel — a circular design divided into four quadrants representing the cardinal directions, seasons, and the balance of physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual life. Each quadrant, aligned with its traditional direction and colour, holds one of the four sacred medicines: sage, sweetgrass, tobacco, and juniper (in place of cedar). These plantings border a central circle set aside for reflection, meditation, and traditional protocols.

INTERESTED IN VISITING THE SITE OR VOLUNTEERING?

Visit www.ealt.ca/kistikan



SHAPE OUR REGION: JOIN A PARKLAND COUNTY BOARD OR COMMITTEE

Passionate about your community? Parkland County is looking for dedicated residents to bring their perspectives and experience to our public advisory committees.

Serving on a board or committee is a meaningful way to collaborate with neighbours, provide strategic input to Council, and help our region's quality of life, rural character, and economy thrive. Whether your interest is environment, development, or finance, your voice matters.

Time commitment is typically a few hours per month, and members are compensated. Applicants must reside within Parkland County.

Recruitment opens September 1, 2026 and runs until March 31, 2027, for the following opportunities:

- **Agricultural Services Board** – 2 vacancies;
- **Alternate Land Use Services Partnership Advisory Committee (ALUS PAC)** – 5 vacancies;
- **Community Sustainability Committee** – 6 vacancies;
- **Economic Diversification Committee** – 3 vacancies;
- **Parkland County Library Board** – 3 vacancies;
- **River Valley Alliance – Community Engagement Committee** – 2 vacancies; and
- **Subdivision and Development Board** – 1 vacancy.

Ready to make a difference? You can review specific requirements, read individual Terms of Reference, and submit an application directly through the Parkland County Committee Portal. Visit us online at parklandcounty.com/committees.

For general inquiries or further details about meeting schedules, please contact Legislative and Legal Services at governanceagendas@parklandcounty.com.



“As a newer resident of Parkland County, joining the Community Sustainability Committee two years ago was a meaningful way for me to become more connected to the area. It has given me the opportunity to better understand the initiatives taking place across the County, the priorities of Council, and the many factors that influence decisions affecting residents. Serving on the Committee has also allowed me to meet fellow residents and neighbours, and better understand the diverse experiences and viewpoints represented throughout Parkland County.”

— Kaeleigh Boiko
Community Sustainability Committee



WEATHERING THE STORM: FLOOD MANAGEMENT AND INSURANCE OPTIONS FOR PRODUCERS

Central Alberta saw record rainfall this past summer, and Parkland County certainly experienced a wetter than normal summer. While the moisture is a benefit for pasture and early seed, significant rainfalls come with challenges for producers who may have issues due to runoff, ponding, flooding, and challenges with delays to seeding.

There are programs and insurance in place to assist with crop loss, apiary loss, hail, wildlife damage, predation, and more. Agriculture Financial Services Corporation works with producers to sustain the agriculture industry and develop risk management plans — some of which are offered as part of the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (SCAP).

If you need help with your Ag business, visit [AFSC.ca](https://www.afsc.ca).



WHAT TO DO ABOUT EXTREME WEATHER?

From endless rain to extreme heat, we are seeing it all, and often these days. We want to hear about what extreme weather events you are experiencing and what you think the County can do to protect our farms, homes, and businesses from these risks.

To prepare for the future and protect our quality of life from the impacts of extreme weather, Parkland County is beginning the creation of a Climate Adaptation Plan.

HAVE YOUR VOICE HEARD

Youth and adults can visit yourparkland.ca to share their thoughts in an online survey until November 16th, 2026. The survey can also be accessed through the QR code, or you can pick up a paper copy at the County Customer Service desk.

We will also be popping up at local events with a chance to win some prizes!

For more information on the project and locations, visit yourparkland.ca.



DEALING WITH DRAINAGE AFTER HISTORIC RAINFALL

This year's historic rainfall has left standing water across many parts of Parkland County. We understand how stressful it can be to see water remaining near homes, fields, roads, and driveways after an extended period of wet weather and saturated ground conditions.

In rural areas, water does not always drain through engineered stormwater systems. Many properties, particularly those in older subdivisions, rely on the natural drainage features such as land contours, roadside ditches, wetlands, and historic drainage routes to move water through the surrounding watershed.

Following significant or repeated rainfall, the ground, ditches, ponds, and wetlands may already be at or near capacity. This means additional water has fewer places to go and may temporarily collect in yards, fields, and other low-lying areas.

Even when water is flowing and drainage

infrastructure is functioning as intended, it can take time for the entire watershed to draw down. In some areas, standing water may take several weeks to recede, particularly when the ground remains saturated or additional rain continues.

The presence of standing water does not necessarily indicate a failure of County drainage infrastructure. In many cases, current conditions reflect a combination of natural topography, historic drainage patterns, and the unusually large volumes of water moving through the regional watershed.

PLANNING FOR FUTURE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

Parkland County's Stormwater Master Plan provides a long-term framework for managing stormwater across the municipality.

As part of implementation of the plan, the County is identifying locations that may benefit from more detailed local stormwater studies. These studies

will help improve the understanding of long-standing drainage challenges, evaluate possible improvements to infrastructure or natural drainage systems, estimate costs, and prioritize future projects based on risk, need, and available funding.

Drainage improvements require careful planning. Alterations to exiting drainage routes, increasing capacity, and flow rates must be fully reviewed as changes in one location can affect neighbouring properties or create concerns downstream. While larger improvements may take time to investigate, design and fund, the Stormwater Master Plan provides a framework to support informed decisions and guide future investment.

We recognize the challenges these unusually wet conditions have caused residents and landowners. As rainfall slows and the broader watershed gradually recovers, water levels are expected to recede across the County.

To view the Stormwater Master Plan, visit parklandcounty.com/StormWater

ANSWER THE CALL

BECOME A PAID-ON-CALL FIREFIGHTER

Looking for a meaningful way to serve your community? Parkland County Fire Services is recruiting paid-on-call firefighters to join crews at our Acheson, Wabamun, Tomahawk and Parkland Village fire stations.

No previous firefighting experience is required.

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

Recruits receive industry-recognized training, along with hands-on experience responding to real emergencies. Training prepares recruits to assist with:

- Vehicle and structure fires
- Medical emergencies
- Motor vehicle collisions
- Other emergency situations

Recruits are paid for weekly training nights, occasional weekend training sessions, and emergency responses. All required gear and equipment are provided.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Anyone (including students, full-time employees, and parents) looking for a rewarding way to contribute to their community are encouraged to apply.

Applicants must:

- Be 18 years of age or older
- Be physically fit
- Live within eight minutes of a participating fire station

LEARN MORE AND APPLY:
parklandcounty.com/recruitment

READY TO GET STARTED?

Applications close September 28, 2026, with written testing and interviews to follow in late October.

Join a supportive team, learn valuable skills, and make a difference close to home!

THE FOUR SEASONS OF ROAD MAINTENANCE

GRAVEL ROADS

Rural living offers wide-open spaces and sweeping landscapes, with urban amenities still just a short drive away. The trade-off is managing thousands of kilometres of gravel roads — a significant, year-round effort for County crews.

The Road Maintenance team works through spring to repair surfaces affected by winter freezing and thaw. This summer brought unusually heavy rainfall in June and July, impacting surface stability and forcing crews to adjust schedules to address high-priority concerns.

Despite these challenges, crews have kept up regular blading, gravelling, and spot repairs, working to address weather-related damage and complete additional repairs. This ongoing effort helps ensure safer, smoother travel for residents as we move into fall.

DUST CONTROL MEASURES

Living along a gravel road often means dealing with dust during dry summer conditions. As part of its annual road maintenance program, Parkland County continued to apply dust suppressant products on selected high traffic routes to help reduce dust for nearby residents and road users.

In addition to minimizing airborne dust, these treatments help stabilize the roadway by binding the surface. This can improve driving conditions, reduce loose gravel, and support the longevity of our infrastructure.

PREPARING FOR WINTER OPERATIONS

Parkland County is preparing for the upcoming snow clearing season. County crews maintain over 2,000 km of roadway using an established priority system to keep the transportation network safe during winter weather.

During snowfall, crews clear high-volume roadways first, then move to local and subdivision roads. Depending on snowfall amount, weather, and storm duration, initial clearing across the entire network can take up to three days after snow stops.

Because winter operations respond to changing conditions, crews may need to return to high-priority routes as weather evolves, which can extend the time needed to finish local and subdivision roads.

SNOW-CLEARING PRIORITIES

The province is responsible for clearing all provincial highways. Parkland County takes care of range roads, township roads, and subdivision roads.

To maximize efficiency and maintain safe travel conditions, roadways are cleared according to the following priority sequence:

Priority 1 — Arterial Roadways: Major corridors with the highest traffic volumes.

Priority 2 — Collector Roads: Connect arterial roads to residential areas, rural developments, and communities.

Priority 3 — Local and Subdivision Roads: Residential streets, rural local roads, and roads in hamlets and subdivisions.

Priority 4 — Parking Lots: County-operated lots and facilities, including community hall parking areas.

NEED HELP CLEARING SNOW THIS WINTER?

Parkland County offers funding support for seniors and residents with disabilities to subsidize the cost of snow removal from private driveways. If you or your household face physical challenges, you may qualify for assistance. Limited spots available — apply early! Visit parklandcounty.com/SnowRemoval for full details and how to apply.



If you have an issue with a road in your area, please submit the details through our reporting system at parklandcounty.com/CountyConcerns or contact Customer Service at 780-968-8888.

“ I saw my dad’s contributions to the community. That inspired my own life’s purpose: serving people, building a capable and strong team, and watching them succeed.

— Brian Cornforth,
Former Parkland County Fire Chief



PASSING THE TORCH: A NEW CHAPTER FOR FIRE SERVICES

After more than four decades of answering the call, including 10 years as Parkland County’s Fire Chief, Brian Cornforth is beginning a well-earned retirement from his career in fire services.

During his time as Chief, Brian helped guide the County through major wildfires, complex industrial incidents, the COVID-19 pandemic and countless other emergencies. For Brian, however, the work has always been more than just a job. It has been about serving people.

That commitment began early. Brian’s father was a member of the Jasper Fire Department, which also operated the community’s ambulance service at the time. Growing up, Brian saw firefighters support their community not only during emergencies, but also through donations, scholarships, mentorship, and local initiatives.

“I saw my dad’s contributions to the community,” Brian says. “That inspired my own life’s purpose: serving people, building a capable and strong team, and watching them succeed.”

People and teamwork remained central to Brian’s leadership. During major emergencies, he saw employees from across Parkland County step beyond their usual roles to support the response and help affected residents.

His experience in Parkland County and communities such as Fort McMurray, High River, and Jasper also made him a strong advocate for emergency preparedness, prevention, FireSmart, and community resilience. While an emergency can happen in moments, Brian knows recovery often takes much longer.

The landscape of Parkland County presents unique challenges for its fire crews. Firefighters serve rural communities, farms, forests, residential subdivisions and some of the region’s largest industrial and commercial facilities. Covering such a large and diverse municipality requires broad knowledge, specialized training, strong partnerships, and the ability to make the most of available resources.

Although retiring as Fire Chief, Brian will continue contributing to the profession through advocacy, leadership coaching, and emergency and wildfire preparedness work.

Despite leaving his day job, Brian won’t have time to be bored! Alongside his ongoing advocacy work, he is looking forward to golfing, fishing, travelling and spending more time with his new grandson.

A Familiar Face Takes the Lead

Newly appointed Fire Chief Robert Malchow may be stepping into a new position, but he is far from new to Parkland County Fire Services.

Robert has served with the County for almost 18 years. He began as a paid-on-call firefighter with District 2 in Parkland Village and continued taking on new challenges throughout his career, eventually becoming Deputy Fire Chief and now Fire Chief.

His interest in emergency services began through the mentorship of a longtime boxing coach who was also a Captain with the Edmonton Fire Rescue Services. Robert later responded to a newspaper ad seeking firefighters, beginning a career that would take him from the frontlines to leading the department.



Lac Ste. Anne County Fire Chief Randy Schroeder awarding Brian Cornforth with Coronation medal.

A LEGACY OF SERVICE

With more than 40 years dedicated to public safety, former Parkland County Fire Chief Brian Cornforth is one of Canada's most highly decorated fire service leaders. His awards recognize a lifetime of community service and leadership:

- **King Charles III Coronation Medal (2025):** in recognition of his leadership and contributions to community safety.
- **Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal (2023):** Awarded in recognition of his commitment to regional protective services.
- **Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal (2012):** Presented for his lasting contributions to his province and community.
- **Fire Services Exemplary Service Medal and Bars:** Recognizing 20, 30 and 40 years of loyal and exemplary service.

Like Brian, Robert says the people and the opportunity to serve have kept him committed to the profession.

"I think it's teamwork, the people, and being able to serve with pride in the work that we do," Robert says. "There are tough days, but it's the team that pulls through and supports each other."

Among the many calls Robert has attended, one of the most memorable had an especially happy ending: Parkland County crews helped deliver a baby along the Yellowhead Highway. "I don't think I've seen a smile on everybody's face at an emergency scene like that before," he recalls.

Robert steps into his new role with a deep understanding of the organization and the communities it serves. He also carries forward lessons learned from Brian, including the importance of remaining calm, fully assessing each situation, and caring for the well-being of the team.

“ I think it's teamwork, the people, and being able to serve with pride in the work that we do."

— Robert Malchow,
Incoming Parkland County Fire Chief

"Leadership is about serving others. It's about people," Brian says. "Never lose sight of the people who need help or the people who respond to the incidents."

Robert believes Parkland County Fire Services has a strong foundation to build upon. One of his priorities will be continuing to strengthen relationships with fire departments, municipalities and other partners throughout the Tri-Region and beyond.

The Next Chapter

Parkland County extends its sincere gratitude to Brian for his leadership, service and dedication, and warmly welcomes Robert into his new role as Fire Chief.

The torch has been passed, but the commitment remains the same: serving and protecting the people of Parkland County.



New Fire Chief Robert Malchow with Former Fire Chief Brian Cornforth



Photo above (L – R): The Hon. Andrew Boitchenko, MLA for Drayton Valley-Devon (third from left) joined Council for the announcement of funding for two projects.

PROVINCIAL FUNDING SUPPORTS TWO ROAD PROJECTS IN PARKLAND COUNTY

Parkland County welcomed the Honourable Andrew Boitchenko, MLA for Drayton Valley-Devon for the announcement of up to \$562,500 in provincial funding for two rural road infrastructure projects.

Mayor Rod Shaigec joined the provincial representatives to recognize the investment, which is being provided through Alberta's Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program.

"We'd like to thank Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors for these important investments to maintain our rural transportation infrastructure," said Mayor Rod Shaigec. "Agriculture, energy, gravel operations, and other important economic activity across the County all rely on being able to move safely and efficiently throughout our region. Safe, reliable routes keep our residents connected and our local economy moving."

Up to \$450,000 will support the replacement of an aging bridge culvert on Range Road 73, between Township Roads 512 and 514. The structure has been in operation for more than 60 years and has reached the end of its service life. The replacement is estimated to cost \$600,000 and is projected to be completed in 2028.

The County will also receive up to \$112,500 for engineering design and hydrologic assessment work for a future bridge culvert replacement on Sundance Road, approximately 1.6 kilometres west of Range Road 42. Design work is expected to begin in 2026, with construction projected for 2029.

"Reliable roads are vital to keeping our communities connected and our local economy moving," said Andrew Boitchenko, MLA for Drayton Valley-Devon. "By supporting these transportation infrastructure projects in Parkland County, Alberta's government is investing in safer,

more reliable roads that residents can count on every day."

"Our government is committed to making strategic investments that keep Alberta's rural communities safe, connected, and economically strong," said Shane Getson, MLA for Lac Ste. Anne-Parkland.

"This funding through the Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program will help Parkland County replace aging culvert infrastructure, ensuring residents, businesses, farmers, and industry can continue to rely on safe and reliable transportation routes. I'm pleased to see this investment supporting the long-term resilience of our local road network and the continued growth of our region."

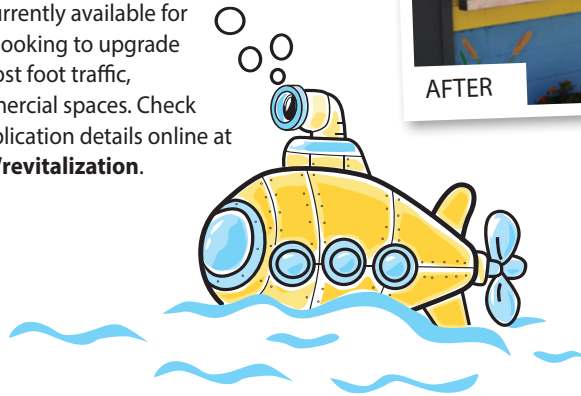
Maintaining Parkland County's rural road network helps residents travel safely, supports the movement of goods and services, and strengthens the agriculture, energy and other industries that contribute to the local economy.

MAKING WAVES: THE NEW FACE OF THE YELLOW SUBMARINE

In the beautiful lakeside Hamlet of Wabumun, the Yellow Submarine is a popular local eatery famous for its large, toasted submarine sandwiches, takeout pizzas and walk-up ice cream servery.

Support from a matching grant through the County's **Business Revitalization Program** has seen the building's exterior wall transformed into a vibrant celebration of lakeside life.

Parkland County congratulates the Yellow Submarine on enhancing its storefront and encourages new applicants to apply for the Business Revitalization program. Funding is currently available for local business owners looking to upgrade their visual appeal, boost foot traffic, and beautify our commercial spaces. Check out guidelines and application details online at parklandcounty.com/revitalization.



GIVE YOUR BUSINESS A BOOST

WITH THE COUNTY'S BUSINESS REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

APPLICATIONS
ARE OPEN!



The County's Business Revitalization Program is back and covers up to 50% of eligible project costs, to a maximum of \$3,500 to help local businesses enhance and refresh the look of their exteriors. Whether you need better signage, more visual appeal or want to take steps to boost your branding, now is the time to consider improvements that will draw in customers and make your business stand out.

Visit parklandcounty.com/revitalization for details and to apply today.



THE HEART OF OUR NEIGHBORHOOD: A NEW LOOK AT YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY LEAGUE

**SHAPE OUR
COMMUNITY**
JOIN A
COMMUNITY LEAGUE

Joining your local community league is a great way to meet your neighbours, make new friends, and keep rural traditions alive.

In Parkland County, community leagues are what bring people together. These volunteer-run organizations are part of the character and charm of rural living.

Parkland County is home to 26 independent, volunteer-run community leagues. Many operate halls, sports fields, and other gathering spaces for residents to enjoy.

Whether you have lived here for decades or recently moved down the road, joining your local league can help you feel more connected to the place you call home.

Did you know that you can join any community league in the County?

There are no restrictions based on location — and you can join more than one!

Bringing neighbours together

Rural living offers space, privacy, and a close connection to the land, but it can also make meeting your neighbours more difficult. Your closest neighbour may live several kilometres away and while you might wave when passing on the road or chat at the mailbox, these brief encounters don't offer a chance to build a connection.

Community leagues help bridge that distance. Attending an event, class, or meeting can introduce you to the people in your neck of the woods. New residents can begin to feel at home, while long-time residents can reconnect and welcome new faces.

Something for everyone

Each league reflects the interests and needs of the area it serves, so programs and events vary from one community to another.

Community leagues host everything from playschools, art classes, and community bingos to garage sales, sports tournaments, markets, and holiday celebrations. They also provide affordable spaces for weddings, memorials, family reunions, meetings and workshops, and fundraisers.



How does a community league work?

A community league is a volunteer not-for-profit organization created to serve residents in a particular area.

Members elect a board to oversee the league's finances, programs, events, and facilities. Volunteers may also coordinate hall rentals, fundraising, maintenance and other day-to-day needs.

Members can attend regular meetings and annual general meetings to hear about upcoming plans, elect board members, and help guide the league's priorities. However, joining does not mean you have to serve on the board or commit hours of your time.

Volunteers can help in a variety of ways based on their interests and skills. From planning and organizing events, to coaching a team, maintaining the grounds, or updating a website and social media, there are plenty of ways to get involved. Other volunteers may simply set up tables, sell tickets, or lend a hand at one activity or another.

Every contribution matters and you can participate in a way that suits your schedule; it takes a lot of work to keep these organizations running so a helping hand is always appreciated!

Keeping rural traditions alive

Community halls have hosted generations of weddings, dances, meetings, tournaments and celebrations. Keeping these spaces open takes funding, volunteers and residents who are willing to get involved. Memberships, rentals, and fundraising help cover costs such as events, utilities, repairs, equipment and programming.

New residents, young families, and fresh ideas help leagues grow, offer activities that reflect today's community, and build a place for the next generation of neighbours. By joining your local league, you can enjoy all the benefits while helping ensure these spaces and traditions continue. It won't be long before the little ones attending playschool today will soon be renting the hall for their wedding!

Start by showing up

Strong rural communities are built through everyday connections. Joining your local community league is one small step that can make a meaningful difference for you, your neighbours and the community you share.

Parkland County's community leagues are listed on the County website, along with hall locations, capacities, and contact information. Visit parklandcounty.com/CommunityLeagues to find one near you.

UPCOMING IN Your Parkland!

Meet your neighbours —
a new series profiling community
leagues in Parkland County



**COMMUNITY
LEAGUES**
HELPING SHAPE YOUR
NEIGHBOURHOOD

COMMUNITY LEAGUE EVENTS

CARVEL HALL

52511 SH770 LOT 3A, CARVEL
Visit carvelhall.org

CELEBRATING UKRAINIAN CULTURE & ALBERTA CULTURE DAYS CELEBRATION (TWO-DAY EVENT)

September 19 – 20
Please check their website for updates

CLYMONT COMMUNITY HALL

51423 AB-60 #1, SPRUCE GROVE
Visit clymont.com for details

COUNTY MARKET AND TRADE SHOW

Enjoy a weekend of shopping, raffles, food trucks and free entry.

October 3
10:00 am – 5:00 pm

October 4
10:00 am – 3:00 pm

CLYMONT FAMILY HALLOWEEN DANCES

Enjoy pizza, dancing and trick-or treating

October 23 – 24

CLYMONT UKRAINIAN NIGHT

Enjoy delicious traditional dishes, a dance performance, and a local Ukrainian band!

November 14

CLYMONT CHRISTMAS CRAFT SALE

Free admission! Enjoy festive cheer and local handcrafted gifts, just in time for the holidays.

November 28
10:00 am – 4:00 pm

November 29
10:00 am – 3:00 pm

FALLIS COMMUNITY HALL

53303 RR 52, WABAMUN
Visit falliscommunityhall.ca

20TH ANNUAL CAR SHOW & SHINE

September 12
10:00 am – 4:00 pm
Cost: Free spectator admission, car registration by donation
Call 780-695-8366 for more information

This event typically attracts over 170 classic cars and provides a fun day for the whole family.

UKRAINIAN DINNER

October 24
Doors open: 4:00 pm
Dinner begins: 5:30 pm
A great dinner of Ukrainian favourites and a fun time with friends.

GOLDEN SPIKE HALL

51302 RANGE RD 275, STONY PLAIN
Call: 780-963-7361

CHRISTMAS MARKET

November 7
10:00 am – 3:00 pm

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

December 5
10:00 am – 12:00 pm

HYCREST PLACE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

51132 RANGE ROAD 13

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOUR BBQ

September 19
Call 780-963-0760 for details

KEEPPHILLS COMMUNITY HALL

15 – 51515 RANGE ROAD 32A, KEEPPHILLS
Visit keephillshall.com for updates

FALL FEST

October 3
11:00 am – 4:00 pm
Cost: Free

Save the date! Featuring indoor and outdoor entertainment for all ages, a market, and a pumpkin judging event!

MOON LAKE COMMUNITY HALL

7302 TOWNSHIP RD 520, ENTWISTLE
Check their Facebook page for updates at: facebook.com/moonlakecommunityhall

COMMUNITY BBQ

September 19
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Cost: Free

NAME THAT TUNE

November 14
7:00 pm

SEWING & CRAFT GROUP

Every Second Thursday
9:00 am – 5:00 pm

COFFEE GROUP

Wednesdays
9:00 am – 11:00 am

MUIR LAKE COMMUNITY HALL

53424 HWY 779
Phone: 780-963-5242 or 780-288-5242 for details

COMMUNITY DAY

September 13
11:00 am – 3:00 pm

HAM & TURKEY BINGO NIGHT

October 2
Doors open: 6:00 pm
Bingo starts: 7:00 pm
Cost: Cards are 3 for \$5 (kids: \$3), 6 for \$7 (kids: \$6), and 9 for \$10 (kids: \$9).

HALLOWEEN DANCE

October 23 – 24

WINTER MARKET

November 21
10:00 am – 3:00 pm

HAM & TURKEY BINGO NIGHT

November 29
Doors open: 1:20 pm
Bingo starts: 2:30 pm
Cost: Cards are 3 for \$5 (kids – \$3), 6 for \$7 (kids – \$6), and 9 for \$10 (kids – \$9).

PARKLAND BIG LAKE AREA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

SITUATED DIRECTLY SOUTH OF BIG LAKE (NO PHYSICAL HALL)

Covers Subdivisions of: Helenslea, Helenslea Heath, and Lakeshore Estates

MEET THE COMMUNITY EVENT & BOTTLE DRIVE

September 20
Email: pblaca.bottledrive@gmail.com to arrange a pickup of your donation.

SMITHFIELD COMMUNITY HALL

53211 RANGE RD 34, DUFFIELD

SUMMER END BASH

September 19

Call 780-717-3714 for updates

TOMAHAWK AND DISTRICT SPORTS AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

51122 HWY 759, TOMAHAWK

Phone: 780-621-8308

TOMAHAWK JAMBOREE

October 16

November 20

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Cost: \$15/person, \$5/entertainer

WESTLAND PARK COMMUNITY LEAGUE

35, 53304 RANGE RD 32, DUFFIELD

END OF SUMMER GET TOGETHER

September 19

visit [facebook.com/](https://facebook.com/WestlandParkCommunityLeague)

[WestlandParkCommunityLeague](https://facebook.com/WestlandParkCommunityLeague)

for updates

WOODBEND COMMUNITY HALL

26002 TOWNSHIP ROAD 514,
SPRUCE GROVE

Visit their website
for updates at:

woodbendhall.com

Call: 780-470-3338

WORKOUT AT WOODBEND

Tuesdays through September,
October, and November

10:00 am – 11:00 am

(September 8, October 6, November 17
at 9:00 am – 10:00 a.m.).

Cost: Free admission with purchase of a
\$20 community league membership.

STORY TIME

Tuesdays through September
and November

10:00 am – 11:00 am

WOODBEND COMMUNITY LEAGUE CONT'D

MACHINE EMBROIDERY CLUB

September 8 – 10,

October 6 – 8,

November 17 – 19

Tuesdays 10:30 am – 5:00 pm

Wednesdays and Thursdays

9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Registration is required as a
package for all three sessions
at a time.

COUNTRY FAIR

September 12

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Cost: Free

CRAFT RETREAT

September 28 – 30,

November 12 – 14

9:00 am – 9:00 pm

Cost: \$50 for hall members, \$75 for
non-members

BUFFET DINNER & SQUARE DANCE FUNDRAISER

October 17

5:00 pm – 11:00 pm

Cost: \$40/person

PARTNERS CRIB TOURNAMENT

November 7

9:00 am – 4:30 pm

Cost: \$25/person

SANTA BREAKFAST & KIDS CRAFTS

November 28

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Please note that the
information above is
provided to Parkland
County by community
leagues, and although
every effort has been made
to ensure it is accurate
at time of publication,
it is recommended to
check community league
websites and social media
for up-to-date information.



Drop-in and appointment-based support

Available in Entwistle, Wabamun,
Spruce Grove and over the phone!

Bridging Connections provides caring and confidential
support to Parkland County and Spruce Grove
residents. Staff are available to listen, talk through
what you need, and connect people of all ages to
helpful programs and community resources. Their goal
is to support residents through life's challenges.

Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

SECOND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH

E Entwistle Community
Recreation Centre
4916 51 St.
Entwistle, AB

ALL OTHER WEDNESDAYS

W Wabamun
Community Centre
5217 52 St.
Wabamun, AB

M	T	W	T	F
		W		
		E		
		W		
		W		

Please call **780-962-7618** to
book an appointment or drop in.

**LOVE
WHERE
YOU
LIVE**

Hosting a 'Love Where You
Live' neighbourhood event
is a fantastic way to connect
with your neighbours and
build a stronger community!

Parkland County's program supports various neighbourhood gatherings,
making it easier than ever to bring people together. We offer a helpful planning
guide, funding, Fun Bag loans, and other resources to assist you.

Learn more: parklandcounty.com/LoveWhereYouLive



COUNTY CHATS BRING LOCAL CONVERSATIONS CLOSER TO HOME



Earlier this year, Parkland County launched County Chats, a series of informal, drop-in events. Residents can connect directly with Mayor and Council to ask questions, share feedback and learn more about County programs, services, and local community leagues.

Giving residents the opportunity to meet County representatives in their own backyard through a relaxed, conversational format has allowed attendees to bring forward practical local concerns and get a more in-depth perspective of the rationale behind program and service delivery. Council is using these opportunities to listen and learn about what's important to those they represent.

County Chat events help build trust, strengthen relationships, and ensure your voices can be heard. Join us at an upcoming event and be part of the conversation!

UPCOMING COUNTY CHATS

Residents are welcome to attend any County Chats event that works for them. No registration is required so stop by and say hello!

Parkland Village Community Centre
Wednesday, September 9

Wabamun Jubilee Hall
Tuesday, October 6

Keephills Community Hall
Wednesday, October 14

Holborn Community Hall
Thursday, November 19

Blueberry Community Hall
Monday, November 23

Visit ParklandCounty.com/Chats for details and event updates.



ALL EVENTS RUN FROM 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm



PARKLAND COUNTY LIBRARIES

Autumn is a season of change with leaves falling, shorter days, and kids returning to schools. Some things though, like Parkland County Libraries' commitment to supporting students and their families, remain the same. Whether homeschooling or in traditional classrooms, we've stocked reading and learning materials and are ready to assist students through our comprehensive e-resources, suited to all-grade levels.

Upcoming Events

As the change in season brings us indoors again, it allows for chances to connect and reflect through various programming options. Come check out all the library has to offer.

ADULT INDOOR WALKING

Location: Duffield Library
Dates: September 14, 21, 28;
October 5, 19, 26;
November 2, 9, 16, 23, 30;
December 7, 14, 21
Time: 1:00 to 2:00 pm

Join us for some exercise and community. Bring a friend, meet some new ones or take some time for just yourself.

PINK TEA

Location: Keephills Library
Date: October 16
Time: 2:00 to 3:00 pm

Come join us to commemorate the Famous Five and their historic advances in making Canada a more equitable country. Tea and light snacks, along with engaging conversations around equality issues past and present.

CLOTHES PIN WREATH MAKING

Location: Wabamun Library
Date: October 8
Time: 6:00 to 8:00 pm
Location: Keephills Library
Date: October 14
Time: 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Everything will be supplied. If you have specific colours or embellishments you'd like to use, please bring them. Contact the library to register.

BOOK CLUBS

KEEPHILLS LIBRARY

Date: 2nd Tuesday of every month
Time: 1:30 pm

TOMAHAWK LIBRARY

Date: 3rd Tuesday of every month
Time: 10:00 am

FAMILY MATINEE

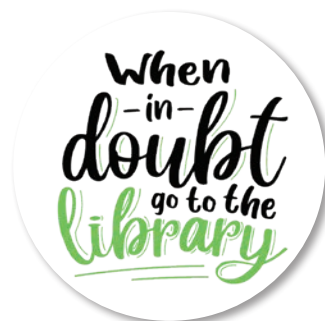
Location: Entwistle Library
Details: The 2nd Saturday of each month, free movie and refreshments provided

Date: September 12 —
How to Train your Dragon
Time: 12:30 – 2:30 pm

Date: October 10 — Paddington in Peru
Time: 12:30 – 2:30 pm

Date: November 14 — Elio
Time: 12:30 – 2:30 pm

Date: December 12 —
The Flight Before Christmas
Time: 12:30 – 2:30 pm



To find out what's happening at your local library, visit parklandcounty.com/libraries

ENHANCED RECYCLING IS COMING OCTOBER 1

New additions to the type of packaging and paper products accepted for recycling are coming to Parkland County, starting October 1. Residents with curbside recycling in Entwistle, Wabamun and Big Lake will continue to place recyclables out for collection. If you use local transfer stations and recycling drop-off locations, please continue to do so and this will not change.

A full list of accepted materials and instructions for disposal will be released soon.

Stay tuned to Parkland County's website and social media for updates.



FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

Linking & Learning —

A 3-part series to help non-profit organizations be as effective and impactful as possible.

GOVERNANCE & VOLUNTEERISM: DOING THE BEST WITH WHAT YOU HAVE

The first session focuses on maximizing resources, strengthening governance, and dividing the work appropriately.

Date: October 15

Time: 6:00 – 9:00 pm

Location: Heritage Park, 5100 41 Avenue, Stony Plain

Cost: \$10/participant

Contact: call 780-962-7618 to register

GATHER FOR IMPACT

Join us for an interactive evening to strengthen local non-profits. We'll explore practical ideas for diversifying revenue, learn simple strategic tools to think outside the box and build meaningful connections. Come ready to discover what's possible when we collaborate and lead with our strengths.

Date: October 29

Time: 6:00 – 9:00 pm

Location: Community Engagement Space, Community Social Development (414 King Street, Spruce Grove)

Cost: \$5/person

Contact: call 780-962-7618 to register

ALBERTA BOARD MEMBER ESSENTIALS (ABME) 2-PART SERIES

The ABME program builds foundational knowledge for new board members to be effective and for developing and seasoned board members to have a broader understanding of their governance role. Facilitated by the Edmonton Chamber of Voluntary Organizations

Dates: November 14 & 28

Time: 9:00 am - 12:30 pm

Location: Community Social Development (414 King Street, Spruce Grove)

Cost: \$10/participant

Contact: call 780-962-7618 to register

Living Well, Aging Well Expo

Date: Thursday, October 8

Time: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Location: Entwistle

Join us for the Living Well, Aging Well Expo, a free community event for adults 50+, caregivers and families to connect with resources and services for healthy aging.

The event spans three Entwistle locations:

the Community Recreation Centre (4916 – 51 Street) hosts the opening ceremony, guest speakers and feature tables from local seniors' organizations; the Community Hall connects visitors with businesses and service providers supporting older adults across Parkland, Brazeau and Yellowhead counties; and the Seniors Centre offers a free light lunch and entertainment.

Whether you're planning ahead, aging in place or caring for a loved one, the Expo is a chance to find local supports and resources.

The event is free to attend, but registration is required. Please register at ParklandCounty.com/Seniors



Save the date!

Wabamun WINTERFEST

Friday, December 4 | 5:00 – 8:00 pm

FREE Family Fun!

JOIN US FOR

- Horse & Wagon Rides
- Ornament Making
- Cookie Decorating
- Craft Corner
- Hot Chocolate Station
- Christmas Market
- Santa Photos

Wabamun Winterfest returns for its third year, and plans are underway for a free family-friendly evening full of festive cheer and a fireworks finale!

Watch for more details coming soon.

Community Round Dance

Join us for Parkland County's third annual Community Round Dance, *Growing the Circle*, in Wabamun. This free, family-friendly gathering is open to everyone and offers an opportunity to celebrate Indigenous culture and traditions, connect with new and familiar faces, and take part in a shared community experience. Whether this is your first Round Dance or you have attended before, all are welcome to come learn and celebrate together.

While ribbon skirts and shirts are encouraged, they are not mandatory. More details are available at parklandcounty.com/IndigenousConnections.

Date: Saturday, October 17

Location: Jubilee Hall, Wabamun (5132 – 53 Avenue)

Event Time: 1:00 pm – 8:00 pm

November is Family Violence Prevention Month: Resource Fair

Join us to help make a safer community for all and support people impacted by domestic abuse.

This free event is open to anyone looking for local information, support, or resources about family violence. Whether you have been personally affected, are supporting someone you care about, or want to learn how to help, you can connect with local service providers, explore available support, and leave with practical resources and clear next steps for yourself or someone else.

Date: Thursday, November 26

Location: Heavy Metal Place, 50 Westwind Drive, Spruce Grove

Event Time: 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm

International Day for Persons with Disabilities

Celebrate International Day of Persons with Disabilities by connecting with those with lived experiences. You'll learn about accessibility and recognize their achievements. Enjoy an inspiring fashion show, take part in interactive activities, and try something new. Ever wondered what it's like to play wheelchair basketball? Come give it a try and experience inclusion in action!

Date: Thursday, December 3

Watch our events calendar for more details

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

These free events are open to everyone — September 30, 2026

TOGETHER FOR TRUTH & RECONCILIATION

Wear your orange shirt and join us for a meaningful day of reflection, learning, and connection as we recognize Indigenous voices, experiences, and resilience.

The event features an engaging presentation, *Reconciliation Moments*, and live music. Guests are invited to enjoy tea and Bannock while gathering in the spirit of reconciliation and community.

Location: Heritage Park, Stony Plain (5100 41 Avenue)

Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

For regional National Day for Truth and Reconciliation event information visit Skydancer Indigenous Cultural Centre online at skydancerindigenous.com

PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE: ECONOMIC RECONCILIATION

Skydancer Indigenous Culture Centre invites the community to enjoy a debut live song performance of "Eagle Whistle Darkness." In addition, this event will feature Indigenous voices and speakers who will be sharing stories and perspectives on truth, healing, and reconciliation to create space for reflection and meaningful conversation. After the program, please stay to enjoy Bannock and refreshments.

Location: Horizon Stage, Spruce Grove (1001 Calahoo Road)

Time: 6:30 pm

Details: watch our events calendar for additional details.

Further details are available online at parklandcounty.com/IndigenousConnections.

Age Restriction: 18+ *content advisory



METIS WEEK

LSAMCA Metis Week Event (Lac Ste. Anne Métis Community Association)

- Date: Friday, November 13
- Time: 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm
- Heritage Park, Stony Plain (5100 – 41 Avenue)
- Fiddling, jigging, storytelling, LSAMCA Cultural Trappers Tent, Bannock & Soup and Indigenous Artisans/Vendors

Details available online at: facebook.com/LacSteAnneMetis

RECOGNIZING 100-YEAR FARM FAMILIES

THE 100-YEAR FARM FAMILY AWARD HONOURS FAMILIES WHO HAVE FARMED, AND CONTINUE TO FARM, THE SAME PARCEL OF LAND FOR 100 YEARS OR LONGER IN PARKLAND COUNTY.



The McDonald Family

Parkland County was proud to recognize the McDonalds in Council Chambers on July 7th. For over 100 years, this local family has lived on, cared for, and preserved the same parcel of land at what is now Hansen's Corner.

Through the decades of early work shaping the homestead and with continued mixed farming, the McDonald homestead remains a place where hard work abounds, and family roots run deep. We're proud of their immense commitment to agriculture and community.



The Pischke Family

Parkland County was proud to recognize the Pischke family for more than 100 years of farming in the Tomahawk area. Since settling on the land in 1914 and receiving title in 1923, generations of the family have lived on, cared for, and worked the same land.

From clearing fields and building the original cabin to operating threshing machines and sawmills, the Pischke family helped shape both their farm and the surrounding community. Today, that agricultural legacy continues, with the family still raising cattle and putting up hay on the land. We're proud to recognize their longstanding commitment.

A FIREFIGHTING FAMILY: PISCHKE IN PROFILE

For many families, tradition means a favourite holiday meal or stories passed down through generations. For the Pischke family, tradition means something a little different: a family history entrenched in Parkland County by giving back to their community, serving those in need.

When we spoke with Leonard Pischke, a longtime member of the Parkland County Fire Services team, and lifelong resident of Parkland County, it became clear that this family's story is deeply rooted in the County's history, both in the land they've farmed for more than a century, and their shared dedication to firefighting.

In the beginning

Parkland County's Fire Services began in 1964, and members of the Pischke family were there from day one. Seeing a need for members, Leonard's father, Henry Pischke, and uncle, Eric Pischke, became part of the original fire crew. As Leonard explains, both his father and uncle "started with Parkland County fire in 1964...so original members, and that just progressed from there."

“We need guys and you're young and able.”

— Eric Pischke to his nephew Leonard.

By the time Leonard joined in 1991, firefighting was becoming a shared family passion. Encouraged by his uncle, "We need guys and you're young and able," Leonard signed up. For the first decade, he served entirely as a volunteer. Later, he balanced paid-on-call firefighting and a 30-year career with Alberta Health Services, eventually stepping into a logistics role at the Tomahawk Fire Hall after retirement.

Generations Answering the Call

The Pischke legacy didn't stop with Leonard. His sons, Mark and Michael, later joined — with the family sometimes responding to calls together. Mark eventually moved to Drayton Valley, where he continues to serve on their fire department. Michael remains with Parkland County. Michael's wife, Heather, began as a dispatcher with Alberta Health Services before joining Parkland County's 9-1-1 centre full-time.

The family's involvement extends even further. Leonard's cousin Verne joined after him, eventually becoming a Fire Captain. Verne's son, Quinn, followed suit, continuing the tradition into yet another generation as he became a full-time Quartermaster in Acheson.

For the Pischke family, home life often blends with work life. As Leonard describes his household, "We always talk shop at home...my wife gets a little tired of it, saying 'OK, you guys need to talk about something else,'" but when a call comes in, everyone's involved, doing what they can to keep the community safe.

A Community Like no Other

Leonard describes the Fire Department as a second family that supports each other through calls, training, and everyday life. Members of the department are often building relationships through teamwork, barbecues, and camping trips. "We're constantly changing, constantly learning, and constantly progressing. We support each other like no other job I've ever had."



The sense of community extends beyond the department itself, connecting them to the County through local events: "You get the rewarding feeling from helping people, making things better for people, and just the community involvement. We get involved in all kinds of things, like we're at Farm Days on the weekend and kids crawl around the fire trucks."

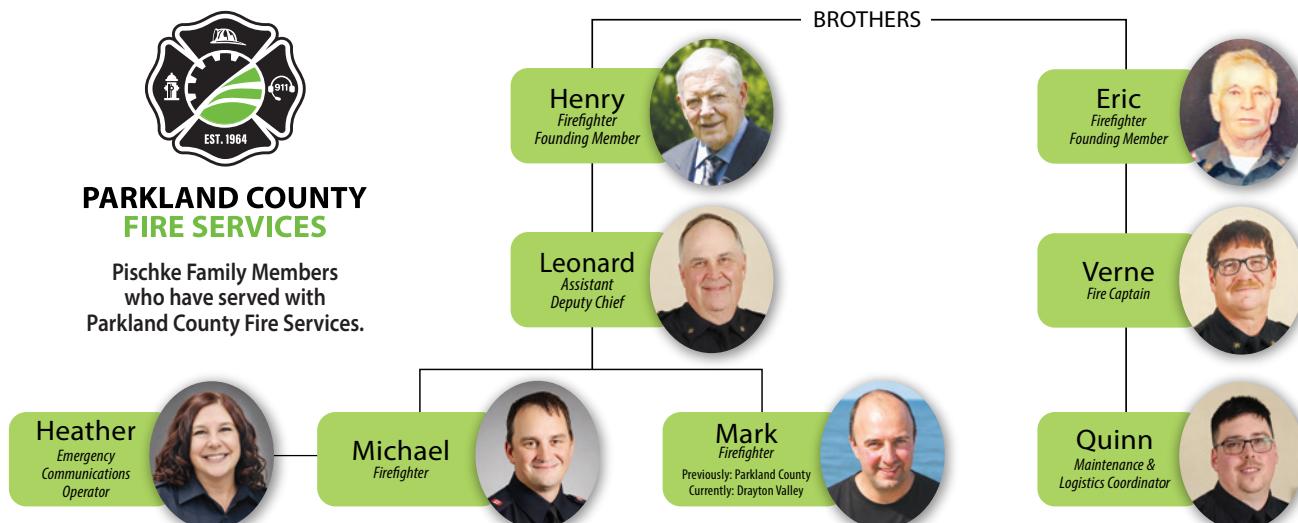
For anyone considering joining the Parkland County Fire Service, Leonard considers it a place for people who want to learn, grow, and be part of team that truly has each other's backs. Having mentored other members of the Fire Department, he feels a sense of pride seeing the team learn and take on new roles. "I'm proud of not just my own family, but I've mentored a lot of people over the years and got to see them grow and actually take on these roles and responsibilities...and it's a very rewarding aspect."

Interested in becoming part of our Fire Family?
See page 6 for details on how you can suit up!



PARKLAND COUNTY FIRE SERVICES

Pischke Family Members
who have served with
Parkland County Fire Services.





Ladybug release



Home Efficiency



Pond Days



Tree Planting

FROM PLAN TO ACTION: HOW THE COUNTY IS DELIVERING ON SUSTAINABILITY

For the past 20 years, Parkland County's Integrated Community Sustainability Plan has guided efforts to protect natural ecosystems and support a resilient community. A key part of the plan is creating opportunities for residents to learn about environmental sustainability and community stewardship.

Through classes and workshops, residents have gained practical tools and knowledge related to water conservation, waste reduction, healthy ecosystems and climate resilience, helping turn long-term sustainability goals into everyday action.

MARCH

Dig into Horticulture — Successful Farm Direct Marketing — First of a two-part webinar co-hosted with Leduc, Woodlands County, and Sturgeon County, highlighting market opportunities for producers. Part two comes late fall/early winter 2026!

APRIL

Tri-Region Rain Barrel Sale — Partnering with Stony Plain and Spruce Grove, this popular annual event paired water conservation info with discounted rain barrels.

Tree Smart — Planning and Budgeting for Planting Projects — With AWES, an evening covering site selection, soil conditions, vegetation competition, and funding for tree projects.

Home Energy Efficiency Kits — Funded by FortisAlberta and offered through Parkland County Libraries, these borrowable kits (thermal scanner, wattmeter, thermometers, air quality monitor, radon detector) help residents spot energy inefficiencies and cut costs.

MAY

Pond Days — Grade 4 & 5 students took learning outdoors at Chickakoo Lake, exploring conservation and riparian health through hands-on stations.

No-Till Gardening Workshop — With the Stony Plain Horticultural Society, a hands-on session on mulching and no-till methods for better soil and yields.

Rolling Meadows Wetland Community Planting — With Sweetflag Environmental, residents planted 400 aquatic plugs while learning about wetland ecology.

Wabamun Lake Bioengineering Workshop — With Sweetflag Environmental and the Wabamun Watershed Management Council, approximately 100 willow and

dogwood stakes were planted along the shoreline to demonstrate soil bioengineering and restoration techniques. Funded by the provincial Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program.

JUNE

Girl Guides Tree Planting — With AWES, local Girl Guides planted 700 saplings to re-vegetate the Rolling Meadows wetland. Known as the 'Embers', these young guides were also working hard toward earning their *Into the Outdoors* and *Take Action* — Your Action girl guide badges.

Tomahawk Farm Days — We joined the fun, connecting with residents on County programs and services.

JULY

Ladybug Release — Now in its fourth year and growing fast (attendance has increased by 300 per cent since it first began!), 35,000 ladybugs were released to help control aphid populations. Co-hosted with Wabamun library, featuring games and crafts for young learners.

Want to read the County's plan for planning, achieving, and reporting on the success of community sustainability initiatives?

Visit [ParklandCounty.com/ICSP](https://www.parklandcounty.com/ICSP)

BILL 28: WHAT IT MEANS FOR MUNICIPALITIES

The Government of Alberta's Bill 28, the *Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act*, changes several laws that guide how municipalities operate. It affects areas such as planning and development, housing, public libraries, municipal utilities, council accountability and public reporting. Some changes are already in effect, while others will depend on future regulations or proclamation.

A key theme of Bill 28 is a larger provincial role in some municipal decisions. The Province will have new or expanded powers to set rules for development approvals, permit timelines, automated permitting systems, and community design standards. Depending on how future regulations are written, municipalities may need to change local plans, bylaws, and approval processes to meet provincial requirements.

The bill also introduces changes to municipal governance. These include a new provincial framework for councillor accountability, with many details still to be set through regulation. The framework may include rules for complaints, investigations, sanctions and appeals. Municipalities could also face new reporting and public disclosure requirements.

AGGREGATE (SAND AND GRAVEL) PITS

One part of Bill 28 that is especially relevant to Parkland County involves aggregate pits, which produce sand and gravel used for roads, buildings, and other projects.

When these provisions come into force, a provincial pit registration will take priority over municipal plans, land use bylaws, and certain development decisions. Parkland County would be required to approve a local application that matches the provincial registration.

This matters to residents because pits can affect:

- Truck traffic and local roads
- Dust and noise
- Nearby homes and land
- Future growth in the area

The County could still address matters that are not covered by the provincial approval as long as local conditions do not conflict with it.

Residents may also have fewer chances to speak about issues that have already been decided through the provincial process. A County hearing would not be able to review those same issues again.

This change may affect how municipalities consider local matters such as land use, roads, infrastructure and nearby development. It may also limit what can be discussed through

a municipal hearing if the Province has already decided the issue through its own approval process.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Many details of Bill 28 will be set through future regulations. Municipalities will continue reviewing the legislation to understand how it may affect local decision-making, services, costs, and long-term planning.

Parkland County will monitor new regulations, take part in provincial discussions and keep residents informed as more details become available. The County will also continue working with the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA). The RMA is an association that represents rural municipalities across Alberta and brings their collective concerns to the provincial government.

Residents can read RMA's Bill 28 Rural Municipal Impact Analysis at: <https://vist.ly/57uy5>

STAY CONNECTED WITH OUR NEWSROOM

Subscribe to our newsroom for the latest updates on Bill 28 and how it affects the County. The Newsroom allows you to subscribe to updates posted directly to parklandcounty.com/news and tailor your subscription to topics that interest you most.

Bill 28 at a Glance

WHAT IS BILL 28?

A provincial law that changes several rules for municipalities.

WHAT AREAS DOES IT AFFECT?

- Planning and development
- Council accountability
- Municipal reporting
- Municipal utilities
- Aggregate pit approvals
- Housing and libraries

WHAT COULD CHANGE?

- The Province may have a larger role in some local decisions.
- Municipal plans and bylaws may need to follow provincial rules.
- New requirements may affect municipal processes, services, and costs.

PARKLAND COUNTY WILL:

- Review new provincial rules
- Take part in provincial discussions
- Represent local interests
- Keep residents informed

FREE!

WABAMUN OUTDOOR MOVIE

Disney · PIXAR
HOPPERS

FRIDAY, SEPT 18

GATES OPEN AT 6 PM • MOVIE STARTS AT 7 PM

COAL DIAMOND SPORTS PARK, WABAMUN

CONCESSION ON SITE • PETS NOT PERMITTED
NON-PERISHABLE FOOD DONATIONS ACCEPTED
YOUTH 12 & UNDER MUST BE SUPERVISED



*Limited parking on site



events.parklandcounty.com

