Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo

A message from Councillor Kyle Vandecasteyen

WARD 4



A Year In, The Work Carries On

October marked a few milestones and brought another busy month of community events, Council work, and conversations across Ward 4. As the seasons change and winter settles in, the work continues on the priorities that matter to our rural communities.

It was great to see community spaces getting some attention this month. The Conklin Multiplex playground reopened following repairs, and in Anzac, we celebrated the opening of the new Anzac Community School playground, completed over the summer. These spaces are important places for children and families to gather, play, and connect.

October 13 brought Council back to Anzac for a special Council meeting to review the community engagement reports related to the four motions passed at the May special meeting. One of the key outcomes was the passage of the Rural Ice and Snow Policy, an important step toward addressing winter maintenance priorities in our rural communities.

I also attended the Invest Alberta event on October 8 and Council Connect in Conklin on October 15. These opportunities to connect with residents, partners, and organizations help keep local priorities part of the broader regional conversation. Council also held a special meeting in Fort Chipewyan on October 21.

There was positive progress on rural emergency services as well. Helipads for Conklin and Janvier are set to be included in the 2027 budget, which would strengthen emergency medical services support and improve access for these communities.

Council also finalized committee appointments for 2027. I will continue serving on the Fort McMurray Wood Buffalo Economic Development and Tourism Board (FMWBEDT) and the Audit and Compliance Committee. I will also be joining the Regional Policing Committee. I look forward to continuing this work and bringing a Ward 4 perspective to these tables.

October 29 marked one year since I was sworn in as Councillor for Ward 4. It's

Upcoming Meetings & Events

November 11th — Remembrance Day

November 12th — Janvier Community Engagement

November 17th — Conklin Clinic Opening

November 18th — Fall Feast, Anzac

November 19th — WLCA Board Meeting

hard to believe how quickly that first year has gone. It has been a year of learning, listening, building relationships, and working through the opportunities and challenges facing our rural communities. I'm grateful for the conversations, feedback, and support from residents across Ward 4, and I look forward to continuing the work ahead.

We also saw our first snowfall of the season. I know highway snow removal has been frustrating in places, and I appreciate everyone's patience as we head into winter. I'm continuing to raise concerns with the Province and advocate for improvements to highway snow and ice control. Within our communities, RMWB Administration is following up on contractor performance and winter maintenance.

Halloween wrapped up the month on October 31, bringing a little fun before the full winter routine sets in. I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable Halloween.

As winter conditions settle in, please take your time on the roads, dress for the weather, and look out for one another.

As always, if you have questions, concerns, or ideas, please don't hesitate to reach out.

– Councillor Kyle Vandecasteyen
Ward 4