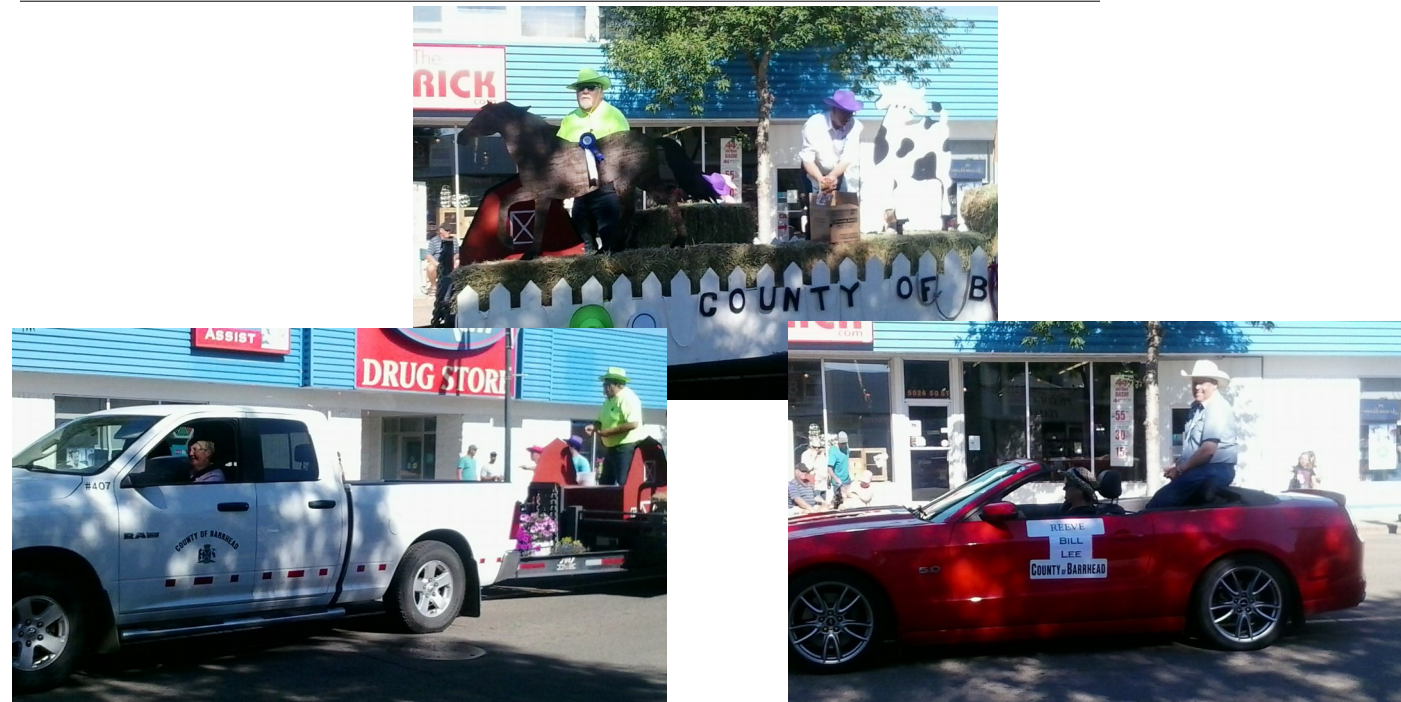


Blue Heron Parade!



GROWTH ALBERTA: YOUR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE

**Purpose:** A Regional Economic Development Alliance (REDA) that consists of 11 municipalities including the Town and County of Barrhead, and one school board, whose purpose is to work collaboratively with local business, the provincial government, and a variety of other stakeholders to address economic opportunities and challenges that face the region.

**Key Initiatives and Successes:**

**WILD Alberta™ Tourism:** Works with visitors, tourism operators, municipalities, community groups and other stakeholders in the region to develop and promote WILD Alberta as *THE* destination for adventure tourism in North Central Alberta. WILD Alberta is striving to be an integral contributor to the Provincial mandate of increasing tourism to a 10.3 billion dollar industry by 2020. Visit our interactive site at [www.wildalberta.com](http://www.wildalberta.com) to find out more.

**Economic Indicator Statistics:** Accessing accurate and timely statistics was a challenge for member municipalities in their strategic planning, demographics and industry retention and attraction priorities. GROWTH Alberta partnered with a statistical provider to acquire real time Municipal and Regional specific data for dissemination and presentation.

**Business Awards and Profiles:** Business leaders within the region are recognized and profiled to celebrate the value of entrepreneurship to the region. The examples showcase the region as a preferred destination for business investment and startup.

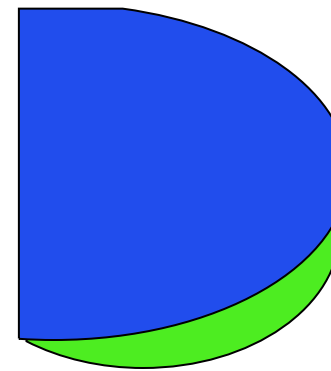
**Investment Opportunities:** The key **Industry Sectors** and specific **Investment Opportunities** for our region include manufacturing, oil and gas, forestry, agriculture, construction, tourism, hospitality and alternative energies. For more information, visit [www.growthalberta.com/invest/opportunities](http://www.growthalberta.com/invest/opportunities).

**Key contacts:** Chad Merrifield: 780.706.2065, Troy Grainger, Manager: 780.674.3140 or [manager@growthalberta.com](mailto:manager@growthalberta.com)



COUNTY OFFICE CONTACTS: Main Office: 780-674-3331 Public Works: 780-674-2619

5306- 49 Street, Barrhead, AB T7N 1N5 [www.countybarrhead.ab.ca](http://www.countybarrhead.ab.ca)



VOLUME 17, WINTER 2015


Bylaw Enforcement ~ Mark Oberg, County Manager

Another year has just begun and we look forward to serving the residents of the County of Barrhead in 2016.

The County of Barrhead has a number of bylaws in place for the regulation and control of various matters including land use, vehicle weight restrictions and speed limits on local roads, dog control, off highway vehicles, noise, unsightly premises, fire control and fireworks. Where citizen activities or property conditions don't meet accepted municipal standards, the County may provide education, warnings, inspections, and apply penalties. This article discusses the manner in which our bylaws are enforced and also includes discussion on some of the bylaws that we receive most inquiries about. If you want to view the County of Barrhead bylaws, they are available at our office, and the most commonly requested bylaws are posted on our website at [www.countybarrhead.ab.ca](http://www.countybarrhead.ab.ca) under the 'Council' tab.

The County does not employ a Community Peace Officer. Our bylaw enforcement services, when required, are provided through contracted services from nearby municipalities. If you have a bylaw complaint, please call me, the County Manager, who will note the details of your complaint and determine the direction to be taken to remedy the problem, which may include utilizing the services of a Community Peace Officer.

The contract with the Town of Barrhead ended in the Spring of 2015. Currently we receive bylaw enforcement services from the Town of Mayerthorpe on a limited basis, which may be expanded in the spring of 2016. Here are a few of our frequently asked about bylaws and a bit of information about them.



**What's Inside?**

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County of Barrhead No.11  
5306-49 Street  
Barrhead, AB T7N 1N5  
P: 780.674.3331  
F: 780.674.2777

[www.countybarrhead.ab.ca](http://www.countybarrhead.ab.ca)

Check us out on  


Upcoming Events & Notices

- Family Day at Misty Ridge Ski Hill - lots of events, treats and more! February 15, 2016.
- Farming for Generations - February 18, 2016 at Hazel Bluff Hall. Amazing speaker sessions! Register at 780.674.3331.
- Northern Lights Snowmobile Club Poker Rally - February 27, 2016 begins at Glenreagh Hall. Contact Maria Wilson at 780.674.1919 or Darren Strawson 780.674.9453 for details.
- F4 Family Fun Fest - February 27, 2016 @ Barrhead Elementary School & Bethel Life Center - 10:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m.
- Solar Workshop at Glenreagh Hall in March 2016, contact 780.674.3331 for details.
- Gardenview Horse Sleigh Rally March 2016.
- Shelterbelt Tree Program starts March 2016, check the Barrhead Leader for details and varieties!
- Tax Notices are typically sent beginning of May. If you have not received yours within a reasonable time frame, contact us with your address to be sure it isn't missed.
- **Check out our 2016 Events Listing** online at [www.countybarrhead.ab.ca](http://www.countybarrhead.ab.ca) for details as they are updated.



## Reeve's Message

Hi Everyone! 2015 has been a very productive year! The County of Barrhead started the year by signing the Capital Funding Agreement with the Town of Barrhead, stating that the County of Barrhead would contribute up to five million dollars for the Town of Barrhead's new aquatic centre.

The drought in the first half of 2015 hit some of our farmers hard, with the west side of the county being hit the hardest. Thank goodness it started raining mid-July in parts of our county, but for some there was no rain; and older pastures and hay fields suffered the most. The County of Barrhead declared an agriculture economic disaster to bring attention to the Province regarding the severity of this drought for the people most affected.

Even with the dry weather, development was strong in the County with Development Permit numbers (to date) up 40%: for a total of 95 - up from 67 in total in 2014.

Thanks to a large contribution of Federal and Provincial funding, one of the big projects the County of Barrhead was able to complete this year was the paving of Range Road 604. We now have 8 miles of top quality hard surface road connecting Highway 769 from Mellowdale to Highway 33.

The County, working with Cathy Goulet of Killick Leadership Group, and the collaboration of elected officials, stakeholders,

County residents and businesses, completed the Visioning Exercise for the Kiel Development Project located 1½ miles east of Barrhead. Core values for the project are identified as:

- Collaborative approach between communities
- Complimentary business to business development
- Diversification
- Growth of a new and sustainable tax base
- Quality of life

With the completion of a full feasibility study planned for 2016, this development will have tremendous potential for our region.

Looking forward to 2016, the new Neerlandia school will be up and running. The Neerlandia Co-op is also working on more features and services for its customers. The Town and County of Barrhead will also be celebrating our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Twinning relationship with Japan. Celebrations to commemorate this occasion will be taking place during the Blue Heron Fair in August of 2016.

From the Council and staff at the County of Barrhead, all the best to everyone in 2016. Thank you all for your collaborations, contributions, assistance and voices in 2015, guiding us in our decisions!

Reeve Bill Lee

## Public Works Department Update

The Public Works Department is asking residents to be cautious when removing snow from drives and yards. **DO NOT** drag it across the public roads, but rather keep it on your own property. Dragging it across creates dangerous bumps that could result in vehicle damages, injury or death. Please have regard for your fellow drivers and remove yourself from potential liability!!

As well, err on the side of caution and stay well back of graders. They are working hard to clear the roads for your safety, but they need room to do this. They will do their best to let you pass when safe, so please be patient and allow yourself more time after large snowfalls. The goal of the Public Works Department is to get to each road and clear it within 3 days of snowfall.

The Grader Plowing program is also in effect - they will come and plow your driveway if you purchase a flag and sign a hold harmless agreement at the County Administration Office **prior** to them entering your land. Be prepared and get set up ahead of time, don't wait until you have to drive and can't get out! The flags don't expire from year to year, so if you have an extra one, just hold on to it for next time.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call Public Works at 780.674.2619. Thanks everyone for your cooperation!



## Agricultural Service Board News

Since the inception of the Rural Beautification Winners, we have honored many outstanding residents for keeping their yards beautiful and keeping our community looking it's best! This years' families are listed below and were honored at the ASB Annual Appreciation Supper on January 7th, 2016. If you run into them, make sure to extend your congratulations as well!

### Division One:

Leonard Card  
Marilyn Waters

### Division Two:

Brian & Kim Geis  
Allan & Merna Strawson

### Division Three:

Lawrence & Millie Miller  
George & Pat Krahn

### Division 4:

Fred & Bertha Wallace  
Marlene Dana

### Division 5:

Arden & Maureen Schmidt  
Erich & Karen Klix

### Division 6:

Hal & Linda Teha  
Doug & Leona Borschneck

### Division 7:

Jerold & Sharon Van Assen  
Shawn & Heather Fisher

### Conservation & Stewardship

#### Award:

Lac La Nonne Enhancement  
& Protection Association  
(LEPA)

### ATB Farm Family Award:

Tuininga Farms

### ASB Recognition Award:

Meadowview Lutheran  
Church

### ASB Service Award:

George Andrews

### GROWTH Business Award of

#### Excellence:

Schmidt Livestock Ltd.



## Bylaw Enforcement - Continued from Page 1...

### Off-Highway Vehicles (OHV) Bylaw No. 7-2010

The County's *OHV Bylaw* regulates the operation and use of off highway vehicles, such as quads or snow machines, on public property and on roadways under the direction, control and management of the County. These rules and regulations are in addition to the regulations under Provincial or Federal law. *OHV Bylaw No. 7-2010* legislates the mandatory use of helmets on public property, maximum speeds, the areas where off highway vehicles may not be operated, and other matters.

### Noise and Pollution Bylaw No. 47-85

*Bylaw No. 47-85* establishes rules and regulations in certain designated districts of the County with respect to prohibiting, eliminating or abating noise, and permissible noise levels for varying periods of the day. More specifically, the rules in this bylaw apply only to hamlets and residential subdivisions - areas where there are heavier concentrations of people. *Bylaw No. 47-85* sets out the rules for such matters as motor vehicle noises, commercial and industrial noises, construction noises, domestic noises (for example: lawn mowers and snow blowers), and also legislates the times of day when some loud noises are restricted.

### Dog Control Bylaw No. 3-2003

The County receives a number of calls each year about barking dogs and dogs that roam the neighborhoods, which are often the same animals. Just like the *Noise and Pollution Bylaw*, the *Dog Control Bylaw* applies only in hamlets and residential subdivisions. The Province's *Dangerous Dogs Act* applies in every part of the County. Some matters regulated in *Bylaw No. 3-2003* include the difference between vicious dogs and dangerous dogs, what happens when a dog is caught running at large, and how many adult dogs can be kept on a property.

These are a few of the bylaws that the County of Barrhead has in place. In most cases, neighbors are able to work things out in a reasonable fashion, which is the best outcome. If you are unable to resolve a matter please check the bylaws posted on our website or call our administration office at 780-674-3331.