

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

(Recess & Convene MPC Meeting)

2.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3.0 MINUTES

3.1 REGULAR MEETING HELD MAY 19, 2026

[Schedule A](#)

4.0 ACTION ITEMS:

4.1 2026 CONSTRUCTION PROJECT #26-440

Administration recommends that Council directs the Reeve and County Manager to sign the agreements for Crop Damages on Backslope Area, Landscape Borrow Area & Crop Damage on Access Road for 2026 Road Reconstruction Project #26-440 – North of NE 32-58-5-W5, North of 33-58-5-W5 and West of 4-59-5-W5.

[Schedule B](#)

**4.2 RECOMMENDATION FOR TENDER AWARD – BF74972 & BF76144
BRIDGE CULVERT REPLACEMENT & OTHER WORK**

Administration recommends that Council awards the contract for Culvert Replacement & Other Work for Bridge File 74972 and Bridge File 76144 to Saddle Valley Ventures for \$613,420.50 including site occupancy, including GST.

[Schedule C](#)

**4.3 ASSESSMENT REVIEW BOARD (ARB) ADDITIONAL OFFICIAL APPOINTMENT –
CAPITAL REGION ASSESSMENT SERVICES COMMISSION (CRASC)**

Administration recommends that Council appoint Braden Lanctot, Certified Panelist, as a Member of the County of Barrhead Local Assessment Review Board and Composite Assessment Review Board for a 1-year term to expire December 31, 2026 with remuneration to be paid as specified by CRASC.

[Schedule D](#)

4.4 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Administration recommends that Council approve the 2025 Annual Report as presented.

[Schedule E](#)

4.5 PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PLAN – NATURAL ASSETS PROJECT

Administration recommends that Council approve the Natural Assets Project Public Engagement Plan as presented, in accordance with Public Participation Policy AD-006.

[Schedule F](#)

4.6 ELECTED OFFICIAL REMUNERATION POLICY HR-001 AMENDMENT

Administration recommends that Council approve Policy HR-001 - Elected Officials Remuneration Policy amendments as recommended by the Policy Committee.

[Schedule G](#)

4.7 IN-CAMERA

4.7.1 EXTERNAL COMMITTEES – ATIA Sec. 26 Intergovernmental Relations & Sec. 29 Advice from Officials

5.0 REPORTS**5.1 COUNTY MANAGER REPORT**

Administration recommends that Council accept the County Manager's report for information.

- Resolution Tracking List
[Schedule H](#)
- Rural Living Expo & Dinner – Post Event Report
[Schedule I](#)
- Update Thunder Lake Subdivision Fire – May 28, 2026

5.2 PUBLIC WORKS REPORT**(9:10 a.m.)**

Administration recommends that Council accept the Director of Infrastructure's report for information.

[Schedule J](#)

5.3 COUNCILLOR REPORTS

[Schedule K](#)

6.0 INFORMATION ITEMS**6.1 Woodlands County - Request for Letter of Support re: West Coast Oil Pipeline Project**

[Schedule L](#)

6.2 ALUS – Request for Letter of Support re: Provincial Cancellation of Watershed Resiliency & Restoration Program (WRRP)

[Schedule M](#)

7.0 DELEGATIONS**7.1 11:00 a.m. CFYE – Michelle Jones, Executive Director & Tara Zeller – Annual Review**
(via Video Conference)

[Schedule N](#)

7.2 11:30 a.m. Barrhead RCMP – Sgt Colin Hack – Quarterly Report

[Schedule O](#)

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL – HELD MAY 19, 2026

Regular Meeting of the Council of the County of Barrhead No. 11 held May 19, 2026, was called to order by Deputy Reeve Preugschas at 9:02 a.m.

PRESENT

Councillor Ray Crisler
Councillor Bill Chapman (joined meeting at 1:00 p.m.)
Councillor Lorrie Jespersen
Councillor Chais Ellwein
Deputy Reeve Walter Preugschas
Councillor Tyson Bergsma

**THESE MINUTES ARE
UNOFFICIAL AS THEY HAVE
NOT BEEN APPROVED BY THE
COUNCIL.**

ABSENT

Reeve Erik Munck

STAFF

Debbie Oyarzun, County Manager	Tamara Molzahn, Dir. Corporate Services
Pam Dodds, Executive Assistant	Ken Hove, Dir. Infrastructure
Dawn Fedorvich, Dir. Rural Development	Layne Mullen, Development Officer

ATTENDEES

Pembina Hills School Division Trustees and Staff
Public Attendees – L. Adams and A. Thompson

Town and Country Newspaper – Daniel Janson

RECESS

Deputy Reeve Preugschas recessed the meeting at 9:02 a.m.

Deputy Reeve Preugschas reconvened the meeting at 9:19 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2026-169 Moved by that Councillor Bergsma the agenda be approved as presented.
Carried 5-0.

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING HELD MAY 5, 2026

2026-170 Moved by Councillor Crisler that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held May 5, 2026, be approved as circulated.
Carried 5-0.

2026 CONSTRUCTION PROJECT #26-340

2026-171 Moved by Councillor Jespersen that Council directs the Deputy Reeve and County Manager to sign the agreements for Crop Damages on Backslope Area, Landscape Borrow Area & Crop Damage on Access Road and Borrow Area & Crop Damage on Access Road for the 2026 Road Reconstruction Project #26-340 – west of 6 and 7-59-3-W5.
Carried 5-0.

2026 CONSTRUCTION PROJECT #26-740

2026-172 Moved by Councillor Ellwein that Council directs the Deputy Reeve and County Manager to sign the agreements for Crop Damages on Backslope Area for 2026 Road Reconstruction Project #26-740 – South of SE 25-62-3-W5.
Carried 5-0.

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL – HELD MAY 19, 2026

2026 ROAD REHABILITATION (SHOULDER PULL) PROGRAM QUOTATION

2026-173 Moved by Councillor Jespersen that Council awards the 2026 Road Rehabilitation (Shoulder Pull) Program contract to Stuber’s Cat Service Ltd. for a total cost of \$162,000 to complete the scheduled 13.5 miles of roadway as per RFQ specifications.

Carried 5-0.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Ken Hove, Director of Infrastructure, reviewed the written report for Public Works & Utilities and answered questions from Council.

2026-174 Moved by Councillor Crisler that Council accepts the Public Works report for information.

Carried 5-0.

Ken Hove departed the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

PROCLAMATION – ALBERTA RURAL HEALTH WEEK MAY 25 – 29, 2026

2026-175 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that Council proclaims May 25 – 29, 2026, as Alberta Rural Health Week.

Carried 5-0.

SPONSORSHIP REQUEST – BOREALIS ACRES SHIRES

2026-176 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that Council receive the request for sponsorship from Borealis Acres Shires for information.

Carried 5-0.

SET DATE, TIME & PLACE FOR 2026 PUBLIC AUCTION (TAX SALE)

2026-177 Moved by Councillor Crisler that Council declares that the public auction, pursuant to MGA s. 418(1), be held Wednesday, November 18, 2026, commencing at 2:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the County of Barrhead Administration Office, and further that the CAO for the County of Barrhead will serve as the auctioneer.

Carried 5-0.

RECESS

Deputy Reeve Preugschas recessed the meeting at 10:16 a.m.

Deputy Reeve Preugschas reconvened the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

COUNTY MANAGER REPORT

County Manager, Debbie Oyarzun, reviewed the CAO tracking list and noted the additional following items:

- Intermunicipal Meeting (networking) confirmed with Town of Barrhead on June 30, 2026
- BDSHA 90+ birthday celebration at Hillcrest Lodge on May 30, 2026
- Barrhead & District 4-H Achievement Day on May 25, 2026

2026-178 Moved by Councillor Ellwein to accept the County Manager’s report for information.

Carried 5-0.

Tamara Molzahn joined the meeting at 10:32 a.m.

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL – HELD MAY 19, 2026

DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

2026-179 Moved by Councillor Jespersen to accept the following Director of Corporate Services written reports for information:

- Cash, Investments & Taxes Receivable as of April 30, 2026
- Payments Issued for the month of April 2026
- YTD Budget Report for 4 months ending April 30, 2026
- YTD Capital Recap for period ending April 30, 2026
- Elected Official Remuneration Report as of April 30, 2026

Carried 5-0.

Tamara Molzahn departed the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillors discussed their written reports and the following was added:

- Councillor Bergsma reported on his attendance at a Misty Ridge Committee meeting
- Councillor Jespersen reported on his attendance at a FCSS meeting
- Councillor Ellwein reported that the Agricultural Society received the gravel
- Councillor Crisler reported on his attendance at a BARCC workshop
- Deputy Reeve Preugschas reported on his work at the FCSS Senior's Lunch and volunteer activities for Northwest of 16 Regional Tourism Committee

2026-180 Moved by Councillor Bergsma to accept Councillor written/verbal reports for information.

Carried 5-0.

INFORMATION ITEMS

2026-181 Moved by Councillor Crisler that Council direct Administration to invite the Lac Ste. Anne Métis District representatives to a future Council meeting.

Carried 5-0.

2026-182 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that Council accept the following items for information:

- Invitation from BDSHA to attend 90+ Birthday Celebrations at Hillcrest Lodge on May 30, 2026
- Letter from Lac Ste. Anne Métis District - Métis Nation of Alberta – dated March 9, 2026
- Misty Ridge Meeting Minutes – March 25, 2026

Carried 5-0.

DELEGATION

Linda Adams and Amanda Thompson met with Council at 10:55 a.m. to address their concerns with communication from Council.

Council thanked the delegation for bringing forward their concerns and they left the meeting at 11:23 p.m.

2026-183 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that Council receive the delegations concerns for information and direct Administration to work with Council to draft a response by mid-June.

Carried 5-0.

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL – HELD MAY 19, 2026

DELEGATION – PEMBINA HILLS SCHOOL DIVISION

Pembina Hills School Division (Brett Cooper – Superintendent, Raime Drake - Deputy Superintendent, Victoria Kane – Board Chair, Judy Lefebvre – Vice Chair, Trustees Nolan Mast, Cindy Carswell and David Truckey) met with Council at 11:30 a.m. to give an overview and update of the school division operations and facilities.

Council thanked the Pembina Hills School Division delegation for their presentation, and they left the meeting at 12:18 p.m.

LUNCH RECESS

Deputy Reeve Preugschas recessed the meeting at 12:19 p.m.

Deputy Reeve Preugschas reconvened the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Councillor Chapman joined the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Councillor Chapman left the meeting at 1:10 p.m. and rejoined at 1:20 p.m.

PROPOSED LAND USE BYLAW AMENDMENT APPLICATION – DATA PROCESSING FACILITIES – AXIOM OIL AND GAS INC.

Administration presented possible amendments to the proposed Land Use Amending Bylaw 2-2026, for Council to consider, based on the feedback received from the public hearing.

2026-184 Moved by Councillor Ellwein that Council directs Administration to bring back 2nd reading on Land Use Amending Bylaw No. 2-2026 to Council with amendments as discussed.

Carried 6-0.

Dawn Fedorvich and Layne Mullen departed the meeting at 2:14 p.m.

IN-CAMERA SESSION

2026-185 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that Council move in-camera at 2:15 p.m. for discussion on:

- External Committee – *ATIA Sec. 29 Advice from Officials*

Carried 6-0.

Pam Dodds and Daniel Janson exited the meeting at 2:15 p.m.

2026-186 Moved by Councillor Ellwein that Council move out of in-camera at 2:25 p.m.

Carried 6-0.

ADJOURN

2026-187 Moved by Councillor Chapman that the meeting adjourns at 2:25 p.m.

Carried 6-0.



TO: COUNCIL

RE: 2026 CONSTRUCTION PROJECT #26-440

ISSUE:

Public Works requires Council to authorize signing of agreements for 2026 Road Reconstruction Project #26-440 – North of NE 32-58-5-W5, North of 33-58-5-W5 and West of 4-59-5-W5.

BACKGROUND:

Public Works has acquired the following landowner signatures on agreements for Crop Damages on Backslope Area, Landscape Borrow Area & Crop Damage on Access Road for 2026 Road Reconstruction Project #26-440 – North of NE 32-58-5-W5, North of 33-58-5-W5 and West of 4-59-5-W5.

Crop Damage on Backslope Areas

- | | | |
|-----|---|--|
| 1. | Wyatt Ronald Branden and Jordon Lea Branden | NE 32-58-5-W5 |
| 2. | Marvin Ronald Branden and Barbara Irene Branden | NE 33-58-5-W5 |
| 3. | Marvin Ronald Branden and Barbara Irene Branden | NW 33-58-5-W5 |
| 4. | Albert Darrold Jensen and Janice Elaine Jensen | SW 3-59-5-W5 |
| 5. | Wyatt Ronald Branden and Jordon Lea Branden | NW 4-59-5-W5 |
| 6. | Marvin Ronald Branden and Barbara Irene Branden | SE 4-59-5-W5 |
| 7. | Wyatt Ronald Branden and Jordon Lea Branden | SW 4-59-5-W5 |
| 8. | Christopher Massa | SW 4-59-5-W5, Lot 1, Plan 9222798 |
| 9. | Jerry Arnold Chase and Jodi Lynn Chase | NE 5-59-5-W5 |
| 10. | 1779516 Alberta Ltd. | NE 5-59-5-W5, Lot 1, Block 1, Plan 0727378 |
| 11. | Gregory Thomsen and Sandra Thomsen | SE 5-59-5-W5 |
| 12. | Chad Thomsen and Rachel Thomsen | SE 5-59-5-W5, Lot 1, Block 1, Plan 1624341 |

Landscape Borrow Area & Crop Damage on Access Road

- | | | |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | Wyatt Ronald Branden and Jordon Lea Branden | NE 32-58-5-W5 |
| 2. | Marvin Ronald Branden and Barbara Irene Branden | NE 33-58-5-W5 |
| 3. | Marvin Ronald Branden and Barbara Irene Branden | SE 4-59-5-W5 |
| 4. | Wyatt Ronald Branden and Jordon Lea Branden | SW 4-59-5-W5 |
| 5. | Christopher Massa | SW 4-59-5-W5, Lot 1, Plan 9222798 |
| 6. | Jerry Arnold Chase and Jodi Lynn Chase | NE 5-59-5-W5 |
| 7. | 1779516 Alberta Ltd. | NE 5-59-5-W5, Lot 1, Block 1, Plan 0727378 |
| 8. | Gregory Thomsen and Sandra Thomsen | SE 5-59-5-W5 |

Council approved rates are as follows:

Crop Damages	\$300 per acre
Landscape Borrow Area	\$500 per acre
Borrow Area	\$1,000 per acre
Fencing	Where there is a fence, the Municipality will supply posts and labour and the landowner will supply the wire

Reconstruction to take place on Range Road 54 south of Highway 18 and Township Road 590 between Range Road 54 and Highway 764.

ANALYSIS:

- Total estimated cost of the agreements for Project #26-440 are included in the total project cost of \$512,557.
- Public Works is scheduled to begin work on this project at the end of August 2026 weather permitting.
- Cost has been accounted for in the 2026 Capital Budget under Road Construction.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:

Road reconstruction is an essential service provided to County residents. Ensuring timely, cost-effective road construction aligns with the County 2022 – 2026 Strategic Plan in the following areas:

- PILLAR 2: Municipal Infrastructure & Services
 - OUTCOME - County has necessary tools & information to deliver Programs and Services efficiently
 - GOAL 1 – Infrastructure & services balance County capacity with ratepayer needs.
- PILLAR 4: Governance & Leadership
 - OUTCOME – Council is Transparent & Accountable
 - GOAL 2 – County demonstrates open & accountable government.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS THAT:

Council directs the Reeve and County Manager to sign the agreements for Crop Damages on Backslope Area, Landscape Borrow Area & Crop Damage on Access Road for 2026 Road Reconstruction Project #26-440 – North of NE 32-58-5-W5, North of 33-58-5-W5 and West of 4-59-5-W5.

TO: COUNCIL

**RE: RECOMMENDATION FOR TENDER AWARD – BF74972 & BF76144
BRIDGE CULVERT REPLACEMENT & OTHER WORK**

ISSUE:

Administration requires Council to award the contract for Culvert Replacement and Other Work for Bridge File 74972 on Range Road 35 south of Highway 654 (NW 8-58-3-W5) and Bridge File 76144 on Township Road 605A within NE 33-60-7-W5.

BACKGROUND:

- Bridge Files 74972 and 76144 were tendered out as 1 contract to increase potential for better pricing.
- **BF 74972** – existing structure consists of an 1,829 mm rise by 1,118 mm span corrugated pipe arch culvert with an invert length of 14.4 m. Culvert was installed with a 20-degree left hand forward (LHF) skew to the road with a 7.1 m wide clear roadway and was constructed in 1958 (67 years old).
 - Recommended option is to replace existing structure with 2 – 1,200 mm CSP culverts with invert lengths of 27 m. Culverts would be installed on a 35-degree LHF skew to Range Road 35 via open cut installation, with an increased burial depth of 0.5 x the culvert diameter (0.6 m) to reduce the grade raise requirements.
- **BF 76144** – existing structure consists of an 1,800 mm wood stave culvert with an invert length of 15.8 m. Culvert structure was built on square to the road with a 4.5 m wide clear roadway, a height of cover of 0.5 m, and was constructed in 1965 (60 years old).
 - Recommended option is to replace the existing structure with a 2,000 mm CSP culvert x 28 m invert length. Structure would be installed on a square via open cut installation. Replacement structure would include standard 610 g/m² galvanizing and a 2.8 mm wall thickness.
- Government of Alberta (GOA) through the Local Road Bridge component of the STIP program provides funding for up to 75% of the costs of project construction.
 - County applied for grant funding for the 2 culverts under the STIP program for a total project cost of \$1,080,000 (excluding right-of-way costs of \$5,000) including engineering costs of approximately \$180,000.
 - August 2025 - County was successful in receiving the 75% grant funding under the STIP program for a total of \$810,000 with the balance coming from reserves.
 - BF 74972 – grant funding of \$405,000
 - BF 76144 – grant funding of \$405,000
 - After the STIP grant is applied the County budgeted cost is approximately \$270,000.
- Project was publicly tendered requesting electronic bids through MPA Engineering Ltd.'s portal ("on-line bidding system") as well as being posted on Alberta Purchasing Connection (APC).
 - Submissions were opened on May 26, 2026.

ANALYSIS:

- Received tenders from 6 contractors.
- MPA Engineering Ltd. recommends that the contract be awarded to Saddle Valley Ventures.
 - Saddle Valley Ventures was the lowest bid at a cost of \$613,420.50, including site occupancy, and GST.
- Summary of tenders received:

Bidder	Total Bid <i>(includes site occupancy, includes GST)</i>
Saddle Valley Ventures	\$613,420.50
K-Rite Construction Ltd.	\$775,341.26
Boss Bridgeworks	\$792,093.75
Prairie Erectors International Inc.	\$870,833.25
Contour Construction	\$899,325.01
Plains Constructors Canada Ltd.	\$1,027,074.30

- MPA has not worked with Saddle Valley Ventures in the past, however after meeting with the contractors, are confident they have the ability to do a satisfactory job.
- Total estimated project cost of \$844,740.50 and includes:
 - Engineering costs of approximately \$182,400
 - **Saddle Valley Ventures contract of \$613,420.50 (including site occupancy, including GST)**
 - 10% contingency of \$48,920
- STIP grant covers 75% (up to a maximum of \$810,000), requiring a County contribution of approximately \$211,185 which is \$58,815 under budget.
 - It is anticipated that site occupancy cost and contingency will be lower than quoted for further savings to the budget.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:

Council review and approval of contracts aligns with the County 2022 – 2026 Strategic Plan as follows:

PILLAR 2 Municipal Infrastructure & Services

Outcome 2 County has the necessary tools & information to deliver programs and services efficiently.

Goal 2.1 Infrastructure & services balance County capacity with ratepayer needs.

PILLAR 4 Governance & Leadership

Outcome 4 Council is transparent & accountable

Goal 4.2 County demonstrates open & accountable government

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS THAT:

Council awards the contract for Culvert Replacement & Other Work for Bridge File 74972 and Bridge File 76144 to Saddle Valley Ventures for \$613,420.50 including site occupancy, including GST.



TO: COUNCIL

**RE: ASSESSMENT REVIEW BOARD (ARB) ADDITIONAL OFFICIAL APPOINTMENT – CAPITAL REGION
ASSESSMENT SERVICES COMMISSION (CRASC)**

ISSUE:

As a member of CRASC, County of Barrhead is required to appoint an additional ARB Official.

BACKGROUND:

- CRASC is governed by the *MGA*, Part 15.1 – Regional Services Commissions.
- October 1, 2024 - County renewed Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with CRASC for 2025-2027.
- CRASC provides full ARB administration service for an independent process for hearing assessment complaints, from receipt of complaints through to distribution of the hearing decisions.
- February 17, 2026 – Council appointed 7 Certified Panelists as Members of the County of Barrhead Local Assessment Review Board and Composite Assessment Review Board for a 1-year term to expire December 31, 2026
- CRASC has requested that another certified panelist be appointed.

ANALYSIS:

- Council is required to appoint the list of CRASC Panelists, chair of Local Assessment Review Board (LARB)/ Composite Assessment Review Board (CARB), and ARB Clerk as provided by CRASC and in accordance with *MGA*, Sections 454.1, 454.2, 456.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:

Councils' appointment of CRASC panelists to fulfill the MOA and requirements of the *MGA* aligns with the County's 2022-2026 Strategic Plan as follows:

PILLAR 4: GOVERNANCE & LEADERSHIP

GOAL 2 County demonstrates an open & accountable government.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS THAT:

Council appoint Braden Lanctot, Certified Panelist, as a Member of the County of Barrhead Local Assessment Review Board and Composite Assessment Review Board for a 1-year term to expire December 31, 2026 with remuneration to be paid as specified by CRASC.



TO: COUNCIL

RE: 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

ISSUE:

Council is required to approve the 2025 Annual Report prior to posting on the County website.

BACKGROUND:

- Council has appointed Greilach Lussier LLP to audit the 2025 Financial Statements.
- April 7, 2026 – Council approved the 2025 Audited Financial Statements.
- Annual Report provides public disclosure of the County’s operational and financial activities over the past year.
- Since 2019, the County Annual Report has been posted on the County’s website, following approval of the Audited Financial Statements.

ANALYSIS:

- 2025 Annual Report includes the following:
 - Introduction (including Reeve’s Report)
 - Strategic Plan Reporting
 - Highlights from each department’s activities in 2025
 - Financial statement analysis & explanation
 - County of Barrhead’s Key Performance Indicators
 - 2025 Audited Financial Statements
- This report can be used to evaluate the municipality’s financial performance and to help make decisions in the best interest of the ratepayers.
- 2025 Annual Report will be posted on the County website once approved by Council.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:

Council approval of the 2025 Annual Report aligns with the County 2022-2026 Strategic Plan as follows:

PILLAR	4 Governance & Leadership
Outcome	<i>4 Council is transparent & accountable.</i>
Goal	4.2 County demonstrates open & accountable government.
Strategy	4.2.1 Council has the tools and information necessary to make informed decisions which are shared publicly.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS THAT:

Council approve the 2025 Annual Report as presented.



2025 ANNUAL REPORT

For year ending
December 31, 2025



JUNE 2026

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2025 COUNTY COUNCIL

Your County Council is committed to representing residents and businesses, delivering good governance, and providing services that enhance our municipality. This commitment is enacted through bylaws or resolutions made at Council meetings, which gives direction for Administration to follow.

Council meetings are usually held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month and are open to the public. Visit our website for meeting schedules and agenda packages. If you would like to formally speak to Council during a meeting, submit a delegation request form to be placed on the agenda. Contact the County office for more information.

Feel free to contact your Councillor! You can find the Councillor for your division and their contact information at CountyBarrhead.ab.ca/p/Council.

County Council

(following Oct 2025 municipal election)

Division	Councillor Name	Role	Contact Information
1	Erik Munck	Reeve, Division 1 Councillor	emunck@countybarrhead.ab.ca 780-284-6048
2	Ray Crisler	Division 2 Councillor	rcrisler@countybarrhead.ab.ca 780-674-1899
3	Bill Chapman	Division 3 Councillor	bchapman@countybarrhead.ab.ca 780-305-1001
4	Lorrie Jespersen	Division 4 Councillor	ljespersen@countybarrhead.ab.ca 780-305-1758
5	Chais Ellwein	Division 5 Councillor	cellwein@countybarrhead.ab.ca 780-206-0189
6	Walter Preugschas	Deputy Reeve, Division 6 Councillor	wpreugschas@countybarrhead.ab.ca 780-674-3307
7	Tyson Bergsma	Division 7 Councillor	tbergsma@countybarrhead.ab.ca 780-674-1485



Erik Munck
Reeve

As Reeve, I am honoured to serve as Council's spokesperson and to introduce the County of Barrhead's 2025 Annual Report on behalf of Council.

This report provides an overview of the County's activities, finances, and priorities over the past year. It is also an opportunity to reflect on where we stand as a municipality and the responsibility Council has to the residents we serve.

Following the 2025 municipal election, six new members joined County Council. While this new Council brings fresh perspectives and ideas to the table, we also recognize that we inherited a County that is in sound financial condition, supported by strong staff, responsible planning, and many years of hard work by those who came before us. Council takes seriously our responsibility to build on that foundation carefully and thoughtfully.

As a rural municipality, agriculture remains the backbone of our community and local economy. Our farmers, ranchers, agricultural businesses, and entrepreneurs continue to demonstrate the resilience, innovation, and work ethic that define the County of Barrhead. Council recognizes the importance of supporting an environment where agriculture and business can continue to grow and succeed.

We also understand that government does not create prosperity on its own. Businesses and families make their own decisions about where to invest, work, and build their futures. Council's role is to ensure that the County remains financially responsible, provides reliable infrastructure and services, and removes unnecessary barriers wherever possible. We want residents and businesses to feel that their interactions with the County are straightforward, respectful, and productive.

At the same time, rural municipalities continue to face challenges beyond our direct control. Rising costs, infrastructure demands, and increasing provincial downloads — including the Police Funding Model — place additional pressure on local taxpayers. Council is committed to approaching these challenges with common sense, careful planning, and a long-term view of what is best for our community.

During this first year of our term, Council has focused on learning to work effectively together, building strong relationships with Administration, and ensuring that residents' voices remain part of the conversation. We know that trust is earned through steady decisions, respectful dialogue, and responsible stewardship of public funds.

On behalf of Council, thank you for taking the time to review this Annual Report and for the trust you place in us. We remain committed to listening, learning, and working hard on behalf of the residents of the County of Barrhead.

We believe our County is in good hands, and we look forward to building a strong future together.

Erik Munck

Reeve, County of Barrhead

ABOUT US

Elected Officials:
7

Population:
5,877

Permanent Staff:
34

Seasonal Staff:
18

Operating Budget:
\$ 19.1 million

Capital Budget:
\$ 10.6 million



Debbie Oyarzun
County Manager (CAO)

On behalf of County of Barrhead Administration, I am pleased to present our 2025 Annual Report. This report highlights many of our accomplishments over the past year and provides details on the County's current financial position.

Council's role is to set the vision and strategic priorities for the County and allocate the necessary resources in the annual Operating & Capital Budgets. County Administration is led by the County Manager. This position is also known as Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). As the County Manager, I am responsible for the

overall management of County operations and oversee the work needed to achieve Council's vision of a "strong, healthy and proud rural community." The Municipal Government Act identifies the CAO as the only employee of Council, and therefore, I take pride in supporting both Council and Administration in serving the County of Barrhead, all while ensuring we remain compliant with policy and legislation.

The information below provides a high-level overview of the County, key department contacts, and the various responsibilities under each department. Not all services translate into on-the-ground programs and services available to County residents and businesses, however, they are part of the overall required governance and function of a municipality.

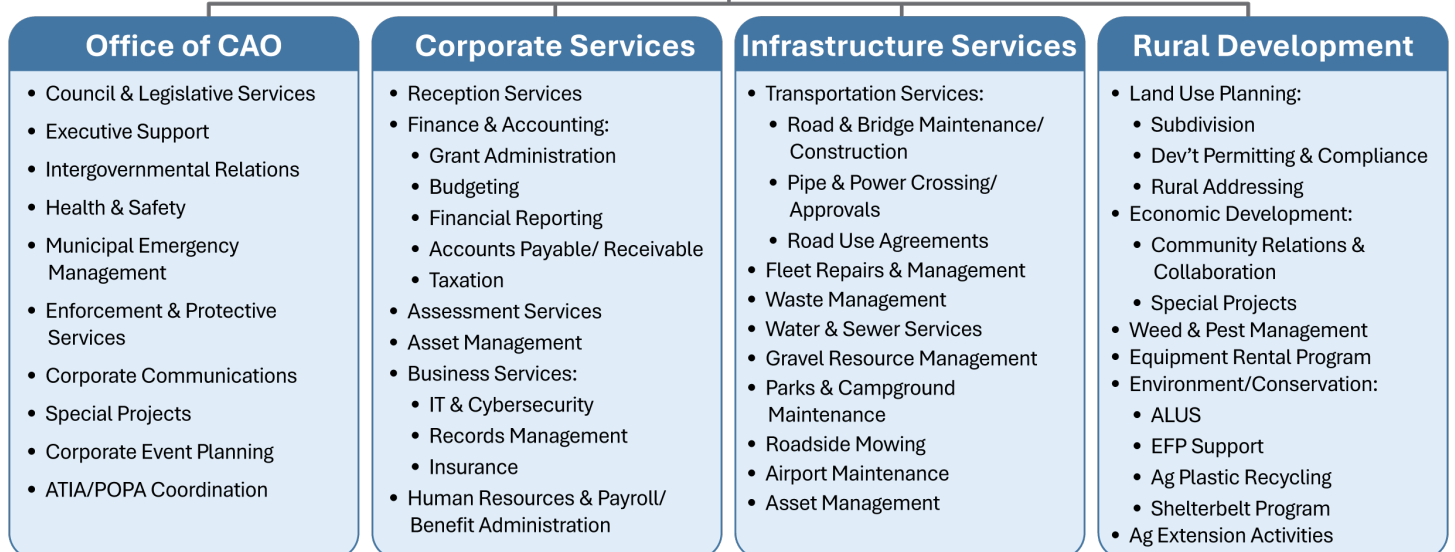
If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions for the County please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly.

Department Contacts:
County Manager (CAO): Debbie Oyarzun
Director of Corporate Services: Tamara Molzahn
Director of Infrastructure: Ken Hove
Public Works Manager: Travis Wierenga
Director of Rural Development: Dawn Fedorvich
Development Officer: Layne Mullen
Agricultural Fieldman: Don Medcke
Community Peace Officer, Sgt.: Vacant

Debbie Oyarzun,
County Manager (CAO)

County Council

CAO



BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Boards and committees play a vital role in the governance of our municipality, by providing advice to Council when making decisions on issues facing our community. County boards and committees are diverse, independent and impartial.

Members at Large


County Council appoints citizens (known as “public members at large”) to certain boards and committees. This ensures committees are made up of individuals with varied skills, backgrounds and experience.

As a resident, serving on a board or committee is an excellent opportunity to learn more about municipal government and make a difference in your community!

County boards & committees with public members include:

Apply this Fall!
In most cases, County Council appoints public members to committees in November each year. Learn how to apply at:
CountyBarrhead.ab.ca/p/Members-At-Large

Agricultural Service Board (ASB)



Advises Council on agricultural matters, including weed & pest control, soil/water conservation, and sustainable agriculture.

Barrhead Library Board



Intermunicipal board that oversees the management and operation of Barrhead and Neerlandia Public Libraries.

Agricultural Pests Appeal Committee & Weed Control Appeal Panel



Hears appeals of notices issued under Agricultural Pests Act and Weed Control Act.

Barrhead Regional Fire Services Committee



Reviews & recommends budget, policies and procedures for efficient operation of Barrhead Regional Fire Services.

Economic & Community Development Committee



Makes recommendations to Council regarding economic & community development.

Subdivision & Development Appeal Board




Hears appeals of decisions issued by Development Authority or Subdivision Authority.

Barrhead Regional Airport Committee



Appointed airport hangar owners sit on this committee and make recommendations about airport operations, budgets, & upgrades.

Barrhead Regional Water Commission



Ensures provision of potable water via operation of a water treatment and transmission system to the County & Town of Barrhead.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

County of Barrhead Strategic Plan is approved by Council and sets the priorities for our community by guiding all of Council's decisions. Administration uses Council's key priorities as a guide to carry out strategic goals.

2025 marks the 4th full year of the County's 5-year Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan outlines Council's strategic priorities for 2022-2026 and identifies 4 key pillars with goals, outcomes, and strategies to accomplish Council's vision.

Vision:

To foster a strong, healthy & proud rural community.

Mission:

Provide good governance & sustainable services to enhance our municipality.



Pillar 1:

Economic Growth & Diversity

County increases tax base.



Pillar 2:

Infrastructure & Services

County has tools & info to efficiently deliver programs & services.



Pillar 3:

Rural Lifestyle

County maintains rural character & is recognized as a desirable place to invest, work, live, & play.



Pillar 4:

Governance & Leadership

Council is transparent & accountable.

Strategic Plan Accomplishments

In 2025, the County of Barrhead had several accomplishments under every pillar of our Strategic Plan. A few key 2025 accomplishments are highlighted below. Learn more on our 2025 Strategic Plan Report Card, available online at CountyBarrhead.ab.ca/p/Strategic-Plan.



----- Pillar 1: -----

Economic Growth & Diversity

County increases tax base.

Goals:

- Attract & encourage investment.
- Meet or exceed CRTC broadband standards.
- Support innovation in agriculture.

✓ Hosted successful LIFT Business Conference to support, energize, & connect with local businesses, supporting 54 local businesses with 97+ in attendance.

✓ Marketed Kiel Industrial Park as ag-processing hub through *Invest Alberta* magazine

✓ Supported worker attraction & retention through Alberta's *Rural Renewal Immigration Stream*, supporting 20 employers to fill 55 positions with qualified workers in 2025.

✓ Explored new opportunities to support & promote tourism.

✓ Sponsored Nature Alive Adventures & Western Directives Inc. to support tourism & marketing opportunities through reality TV show set in the County, as well as produce a tourism commercial about the County of Barrhead.

✓ Supported 8 County or Town hosts for Alberta Open Farm Days, drawing over 260 visitors to our region.

STRATEGIC PLANNING



Pillar 2:

Infrastructure & Services

County has tools & info to efficiently deliver programs & services.

Goals:

- ✓ Balance infrastructure & service capacity with ratepayer needs.
- ✓ Secure a gravel supply for the next 100 years.

✓ Supported Infrastructure Services by replacing 1 light truck, 1 snow plow/tank truck, 1 snow plow/gravel truck, 1 dozer, and 1 motor grader, in alignment with the Capital Plan.

✓ Implemented road maintenance & reconstruction program: 531 km graveled, 17 km dust control (subsidized, user-pay), 18.5 km reconditioned (shoulder pulls), 10 km road rehabilitation, 87.4 km crack sealing on local paved roadways.

✓ 7.5 km permazyme soil stabilization product incorporated in test roads, to improve strength of road and reduce future maintenance costs.

✓ Applied for STIP funding for construction on 3 bridge structures. Land acquisition for 2 bridge replacement projects.

✓ Conducted public engagement for Budget 2026, to receive feedback on current service levels & ratepayer needs.

✓ Sounding of Manola Lagoon to determine capacity & lagoon maintenance requirements.

✓ Supported gravel extraction by working with River Valley Crushing on road closure to responsibly expand operations.



Pillar 3:

Rural Lifestyle

County maintains rural character & is a desirable place to live, work, & play.

Goals:

- ✓ Inventory natural & community assets.
- ✓ Promote & celebrates success/achievements.
- ✓ Preserve community safety through protective & enforcement services.
- ✓ Protect the environment.

✓ Supported request from Neerlandia Sports Committee to construct & operate a community baseball diamond on County land.

✓ Supported community grant applications & funding requests for 3 community grant projects for a total of \$7,047.50.

✓ 250+ attendees at various events promoting rural lifestyle: County Tour, Appreciation Dinner, Rural Living Expo (NEW event).

✓ Created a Commemorative Naming Policy to guide naming municipal assets in recognition of important individuals or community spirit.

✓ Conducted enforcement service level review & hired additional CPO.

✓ Passed Community Standard Bylaw & Golf Cart Pilot Project Bylaw to support enforcement services & promote rural lifestyle.

✓ Hosted or partnered to host 14 extension workshops on a range of agriculture & conservation topics, as well as 181 grade 4 students attended a field trip about riparian ecosystems & conservation.

✓ Continued execution of ALUS program, including support for 5 conservation projects in County of Barrhead, covering +59 acres.



----- Pillar 4: -----

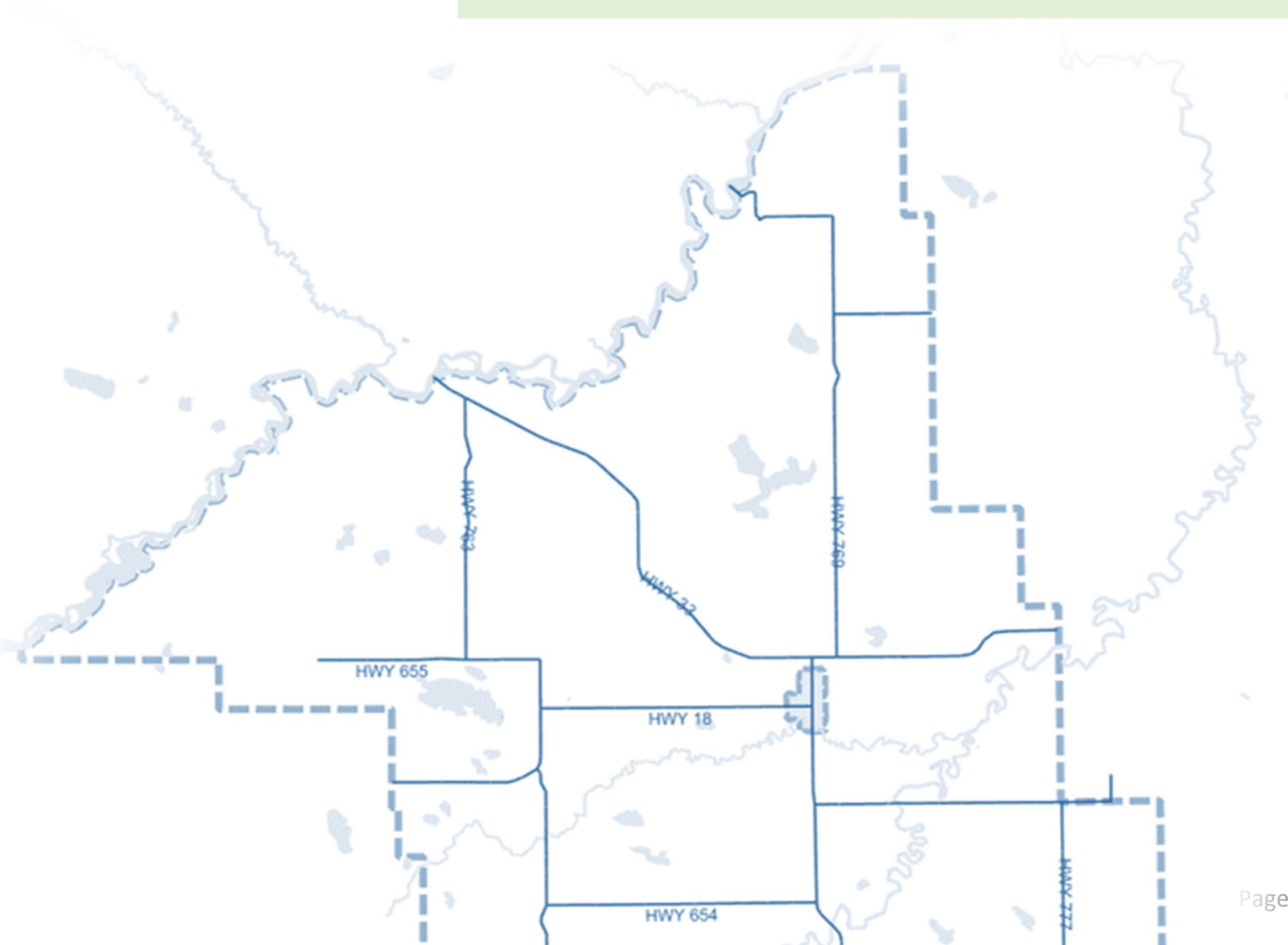
Governance & Leadership

Council is transparent & accountable.

Goals:

- Improve risk management.
- Demonstrate open & accountable government.
- Demonstrate leadership.

- ✓ Reviewed policies: rescinded 12 outdated/obsolete policies, updated/reaffirmed 3 existing policies, approved 5 new policies.
- ✓ Continued participation in robust cybersecurity training program.
- ✓ Council reviewed, discussed, and made decisions on +120 Requests for Decision (RFDs), all shared publicly on the County's website.
- ✓ Approved municipal Financial & Capital Plans.
- ✓ Detailed & comprehensive information available on the County's website (including governance meetings, financial & budget information, public engagement reports, etc.)
- ✓ Continued to work with regional (ICF) neighbours on shared initiatives & budgets.
- ✓ Established Intermunicipal Relations Committee with the Town of Barrhead to support ongoing communications & collaboration.
- ✓ Conducted 2025 municipal election, including agreement with Pembina Hills School Division to conduct school trustee elections.



2025 BY THE NUMBERS

531 km
Roads re-graveled



3,185 km
Sprayed for noxious
& prohibited weeds



18.5 km
Road reconditioning
(shoulder pulls)



122 properties
inspected for
noxious weeds

10 km
Road rehabilitation
(reconstruction)



62
Nuisance beavers
removed



87.4 km
Pavement
crack sealing



52 fields
inspected for Clubroot,
Sclerotinia, Fusarium,
Black Leg

55,240 m²
Water supplied
via BRWC lines



10
ALUS conservation
projects in County
(covering 59+ acres)



14,796 m²
Sewage hauled to
County lagoons



3,140 seedlings
sold in shelterbelt
program

384
CPO calls for service



13,520 kg
grain bags
rolled & recycled



1,141
traffic stops



79
Development
permits issued

815
tickets issued
(plus 798 warnings)



14
Subdivision
applications



174
Fire response calls
in the County



54
businesses attended LIFT
business conference

RURAL DEVELOPMENT: AGRICULTURE SERVICES

Agricultural Services Department is guided by the Agricultural Service Board (ASB), which is mandated by the Province of Alberta to uphold and enforce 4 Acts: Weed Control Act, Agricultural Pest Act, Soil Conservation Act, and the Animal Health Act. In addition to delivering services under these acts, Agricultural Services also coordinates other programming & extension opportunities to meet the needs of our community.

Weed Control:

County of Barrhead works hard to deliver a sustainable weed control program. Ag Services uses an approved residual herbicide to achieve best results with minimal environmental impact, while following all regulations.

- **3,185 km sprayed** with large spray trucks.
 - Combined single pass for brush, Canada Thistle, and other weeds of concern.
 - Handgun spray crew controlled emergent areas of weed infestations on County roads.
 - Spot weed control was arranged on some provincial highways to limit spread of Common Tansy, Field Scabious and Oxeye Daisy to adjacent properties.
- **122 properties inspected** by Weed Inspector for Noxious & Prohibited Noxious weeds.
 - 17 properties requested County support to control weeds.
 - County continues to use GPS mapping to keep digital records of inspections (including weed type, land size, patch area, recommendations, etc.)



Leafy spurge beetles used as biological weed control



Installing a pond leveler to mitigate beaver issues

Pest & Disease Control:

Ag Services works with landowners to control pests like coyotes & pocket gophers, in accordance with provincial legislation.

County also assists with beaver control, but only for problem beavers affecting flooded agricultural land, as outlined in Beaver Program Policy AG-001.

- **Beaver Control:**
 - **62 nuisance beavers removed** from flooded agricultural land & blocked drainage ditches (increase from 55 in 2024).
 - **1 pond leveler** installed in the Tiger Lily area. In certain areas, pond levelers can be effective to maintain consistent water levels without having to remove the beaver.
- **Coyote Control:** County assisted 2 producers in the control of nuisance coyotes.
- **Crop Surveys:** Data from pest inspections are shared with Alberta Agriculture & Forestry to improve the quality of provincial data to develop forecasts and programs.
 - **52 fields inspected** for Clubroot, Sclerotinia, Fusarium, and Black Leg.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT: AGRICULTURE SERVICES

Extension Events:

- **8 workshops** hosted or supported on the following topics:
 - Ag funding opportunities
 - Environmental Farm Plans (x3)
 - Tree health
 - Tree pruning
 - Bay house building
 - Agri-Enviro Showcase: Water Wildlife & Working Lands
- **Student educational programming:**
 - “Pond Days” Riparian Education Program taught 181 local grade 4 students about wetlands, riparian ecosystems, watersheds & water safety.
- **County Tour:** 119 attendees joined us for the County Tour, taking in 5 presentations from local points of interest and agricultural operations.
- **Alberta Open Farms Days:** County supported 8 local producers to participate as hosts in this provincial program to increase awareness of agriculture & farming.
- **Other extension:** Ag Services also supported other events, including:
 - Pembina Hills Region Career fair
 - Farm Women’s Day Conference
 - Open Skies Rural Living Expo
 - Clean Farm Pesticide Round-up
 - 4H Beef Weigh-in



Ag Programs:

- **2025 Shelterbelt Tree Program** was extremely successful!
 - 3,140 tree & shrub seedlings for shelterbelt, ornamental, habitat & pollinator purposes (88 orders).
 - 1,800 hemp squares for mulch applications.
- **Trap & equipment rental:** County continues to offer a rental program. Equipment includes pest traps, seeders, sprayers, grain bag roller, and cattle squeeze.
- **Ag plastic recycling:** Through our Resource Management Partnership, we recycled 13,520 kg of grain bags and 201 kg of plastic twine in 2025!
- **3 aerators** installed in Peanut Lake over the winter (in partnership with Alberta Conservation Association), to increase dissolved oxygen in the water and promote fish survival and biodiversity over winter.
- **Environmental Farm Plans (EFP):** County of Barrhead helped 16 farmers complete their EFP in 2025!
 - An EFP helps local producers protect the environment and take advantage of government programs & funding.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT: ALUS

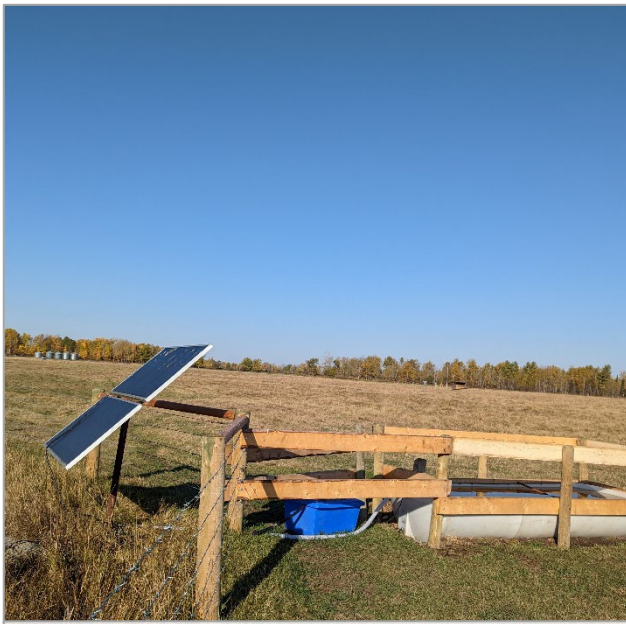
ALUS Barrhead-Westlock-Athabasca

ALUS is a community-developed and farmer-delivered program that supports ecosystem services on marginal agricultural land. ALUS provides funding to establish approved projects, as well as an annual payment for project management and maintenance.

- **ALUS approved 10 conservation projects** across the Barrhead-Westlock-Athabasca region covering a total of 91.45 ac.
 - 5 of these conservation projects were completed in the County of Barrhead, which accounts for approximately 65% of the total area of all projects or 59.77 ac
- **2025 ALUS projects** in the County of Barrhead include:
 - Major shelterbelt projects (x2)
 - Wetland exclusion / offsite waterer placement
 - River exclusion / offsite waterer placement
- **ALUS Funding for 2025 County of Barrhead projects** included:
 - Total project costs covered: \$19,712.90
 - New annual payments made in 2025: \$1,806.60



ALUS riparian fencing project



Offsite waterer to keep livestock out of waterways



Prepping for an ALUS tree planting project

RURAL DEVELOPMENT: PLANNING

Development Activity

Development activity was steady throughout 2025. Majority of permits are in the Agricultural District, as this covers the most land in our County. The Residential Recreation district includes areas around Lac La Nonne and Thunder Lake which continue to see growth and improvements.



<i>DISTRICT</i>	2025		2024	
	# of Permits	Value of Development	# of Permits	Value of Development
Agricultural District	51	\$ 7.07 million	48	\$ 8.7 million
Ag Conservation	2	\$ 620,000	-	-
Country Residential Restricted	5	\$ 300,000	2	\$ 330,000
Residential Recreation	15	\$ 944,000	19	\$ 2.7 million
Rural Conservation	2	\$ 80,000	1	\$ 3,000
Urban Residential	4	\$ 603,000	3	\$ 74,000
Institutional	-	-	-	-
Commercial/Industrial	-	-	2	\$ 2.1 million
TOTAL	79	\$ 9.6 million	76	\$ 13.9 million

Subdivision Activity

In 2025, County Council issued decisions on **14 subdivision applications**. Majority of these applications were for farmstead separations, to subdivide an existing residential yard, buildings & infrastructure off of a larger agricultural parcel. Other subdivision applications in 2025 included vacant residential subdivisions, boundary adjustments, or 80-acre split (dividing a quarter section in half).

Contact Us!

Our Planning & Development team are ready to work with you on your next project. Get in touch with the County of Barrhead to discuss development permits, subdivision options, & other municipal planning needs.



RURAL DEVELOPMENT: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Throughout 2025, work continued on implementation of the 2022-2025 Economic Development Plan. This plan is a tool that sets a clear path towards sustainable growth for business and provides strong direction for economic development policies, programs, and priorities. The Strategy is guided by 3 main areas of focus:

1. Marketing & Attraction

- **Kiel Industrial Park** offers fully serviced commercial & industrial land, ready for new/expanding business, as a low-cost solution to meet business needs.
 - National exposure for the industrial park through continued marketing, including advertisement in Invest Alberta magazine.
- Partner with Community Futures Yellowhead East to begin **Regional Investment Attraction Strategy**.
 - This partnership will provide economic development support for County of Barrhead, including investment readiness assessment and tailored strategies to increase our investment and marketing capacity.
- **Alberta Open Farm Days:** Coordinated a cluster of 8 regional hosts for this province-wide, free event that promotes agritourism and rural sustainability.
 - This initiative served as an incubator for local farm experiences and attracted over **260 visitors** to farms and attractions across the Barrhead region.



Host farm at Alberta Open Farm Days



Kiel Industrial Park

2. Retention & Expansion

- **Worker Attraction & Retention:**
Rural Renewal Immigration Stream
 - 2025 was the final year of a partnership with the Town of Barrhead under the Alberta Advantage Immigration Program's Rural Renewal Stream, aimed at attracting and retaining foreign workers.
 - In 2025, the County supported **20 local employers** address long-term workforce needs while strengthening community growth and sustainability.
 - Over the 3-year program, **200 positions** were filled in the County and Town.
- **Business Incentives:**
Non-Residential Tax Incentive
 - New or expanding businesses can benefit from municipal tax exemptions on new equipment or improvements.
 - In 2025, this program supported 2 businesses, providing a total of \$1,278.72 in tax incentives to new & expanding businesses.

3. Engagement & Partnerships

- **2nd Annual LIFT Business Conference:**
 - On November 6, 2025, this regional event brought together 97 attendees representing **54 local businesses** for a full day of professional development and networking.
 - Participants engaged with 2 keynote speakers, a local business panel, a business support showcase, and an evening networking mixer, all centered on the theme “growth driven by connection”.
 - Strong partnerships made this event possible: conference was supported by Alberta’s Labour Market Partnership Grant and delivered in collaboration with the County of Barrhead, Town of Barrhead, Community Futures Yellowhead East, and the Ministry of Jobs, Economy, Trade & Immigration.
- **Open Skies Rural Living Expo & Awards:**
 - On May 3, 2025, this community event offered residents an engaging showcase of rural living. Open Skies featured 13 exhibitors, municipal service displays, free workshops, and family-friendly activities.
 - The day concluded with the annual Appreciation & Awards Dinner, where **90 attendees** gathered to celebrate and recognize outstanding local achievement & innovation in our municipality.
- **County Tour:**
 - This event showcased local businesses and entrepreneurs to **119 attendees**, highlighting the region’s economic diversity and fostering community engagement.



Keynote speaker at LIFT Conference



Business Support Showcase at LIFT Conference



Appreciation & Awards Dinner



County Tour: Golby Family Farms

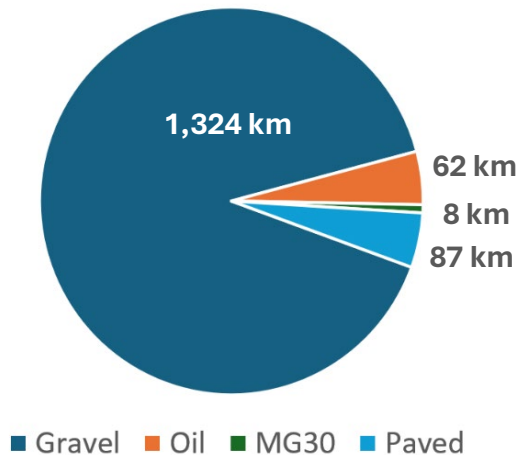


County Tour: Gardenview Estate

INFRASTRUCTURE: TRANSPORTATION

County of Barrhead Public Works provides road maintenance and construction for all local roads, 2 hamlets, and several multi-parcel subdivisions in our County.

Municipal Road Inventory:



2025 Municipal Road Inventory

Gravel roads	1,324 km
Oil roads (MC250)	62 km
Magnesium chloride (MG30)	8 km
Paved (municipal) roads	87.4 km
Standard bridges (including bridge-sized culverts)	140
Major bridges	6

Other County Infrastructure

Waste transfer stations	6
Municipal Campgrounds	4
Barrhead Johnson Airport	



Road Maintenance & Construction

2025 was a good year for construction & maintenance projects. Minimal amounts of rainfall resulted in favourable construction and maintenance conditions.

- **531 km roads gravelled**, utilizing County trucks and many local contract trucks.
- **8.0 km magnesium chloride (MG30)** used as a dust suppression on high traffic roadways.
- **9.25 km MC250 & 7.5 km Permazyme** incorporated on 3 high-traffic local roads (Manola road, Mosside road, & Twp Rd 600 between Rge Rd 45-51).
 - Permazyme is a soil stabilization product that improves hardness & strength of the road when incorporated into the road base, resulting in reduced future maintenance costs.
- **90 residents purchased private dust control** (total of 17 km) under the County's subsidized user-pay residential dust control program.



INFRASTRUCTURE: TRANSPORTATION

- **18.5 km road reconditioning** (shoulder pulls).
 - As local roads age, they often become “pushed out” due to traffic and regular maintenance.
 - When a gravel road top exceeds 9 m wide, it becomes difficult to maintain a proper crown, which can lead to a poor driving surface.
- **10 km road rehabilitation** (reconstruction) using County equipment.
 - Roads are selected for rehabilitation to sustain increased traffic volumes, larger or heavier trucks, and equipment that regularly frequents our roadways.
- **87.4 km crack sealing & 82.6 km line painting** completed on local County paved roadways & Barrhead Johnson Airport.



Construction & Other Projects

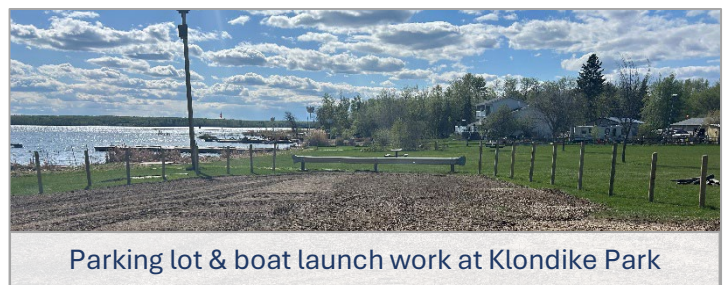
- **3 bridge culvert replacements**, with funding coming from STIP (Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program), and from the County’s Capital Budget.
- **1 structural bridge repair** on SW 17-61-4-W5, which significantly extended the life of the bridge.
- **1,300 km roadside mowing** completed by County forces.
 - Roadside mowing and rock removal from ditch areas improves the safety of travellers.
 - Mowing also helps with weed control, drainage, and improves aesthetics.
- **Culvert repairs & ditch maintenance** was conducted throughout 2025, which is essential to improving drainage in wet areas.



New Equipment

In alignment with the multi-year Capital Plan, purchased 4 pieces of equipment to replace aging fleet:

- Snow plow / tank truck
- Snow plow / gravel truck
- Dozer
- Motor grader



INFRASTRUCTURE: UTILITIES

County of Barrhead Utilities Officer maintains & operates rural water distribution, 2 water treatment plants (Neerlandia & Manola), and 4 wastewater lagoons.

Water Supply: Barrhead Regional Water Commission (BRWC)

- BRWC is a partnership between the County & Town of Barrhead.
- County purchased the following volumes of water from BRWC to provide municipal water services:

Neerlandia Line:

34,359 m³ of water supplied to the Hamlet of Neerlandia & 19 outlying customers.

(4.3% increase from 2024)

Manola Line:

18,399 m³ of water supplied to the Hamlet of Manola & 19 outlying customers

(4.4% decrease from 2024)

MacGill Estates Line:

2,482 m³ of water supplied to the subdivision of MacGill Estates

(4.8% increase from 2024)

- Enroute to Neerlandia, County inspected and serviced BRWC hydrants, booster station and meter vault – all in good condition.
- Enroute to Manola, County inspected meter vault & blow-off chambers and pumped out groundwater seepage.

Municipal Wastewater

Private contractors hauled a total of 14,796 m³ of sewage effluent into County wastewater lagoons:

- **Lac La Nonne (Dunstable) Lagoon: 3,824 m³**
 - Lac La Nonne wastewater lagoon was closed on September 5, 2025, due to evaporative limits being reached.
 - Lagoon is expected to reopen summer 2026, weather dependent (volume will continue to be monitored).
- **Neerlandia Lagoon: 2,477 m³**
 - Neerlandia lagoon was discharged between Nov 24-27, 2026. Approximately 9,500 m³ was discharged.
- **Thunder Lake Lagoon: 5,482 m³**
 - Ongoing monitoring as required.
- **Manola lagoon: 3,013 m³**
 - In September 2025, sounding was carried out at the Manola lagoon. This study found that 29% of the facility's total volume is taken up by sludge.
 - Sludge sampling found that most parameters were in the normal range, except for a presence of hydrocarbons, which is not unusual for an older facility. Future de-sludging will address any hydrocarbons present in this facility.



Manola bulk water station

ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

In 2025, County of Barrhead’s Enforcement Services Department consisted of 1 full-time Community Peace Officer (CPO), who became operational on February 29, 2024. 2025 marked the 1st full year of operation for this department, and the results have been notable.

In June of 2025, County Council approved an additional CPO, who joined our team in January of 2026.

CPO is responsible for patrolling 1,466 km of local roads, as well as 2 & 3 digit provincial highways in the County. Enforcement Services conducts complaint-based enforcement of bylaw issues and provides proactive traffic enforcement throughout the County when time permits. CPO also supports Barrhead RCMP when required and provides emergency response support to Barrhead Regional Fire Services.

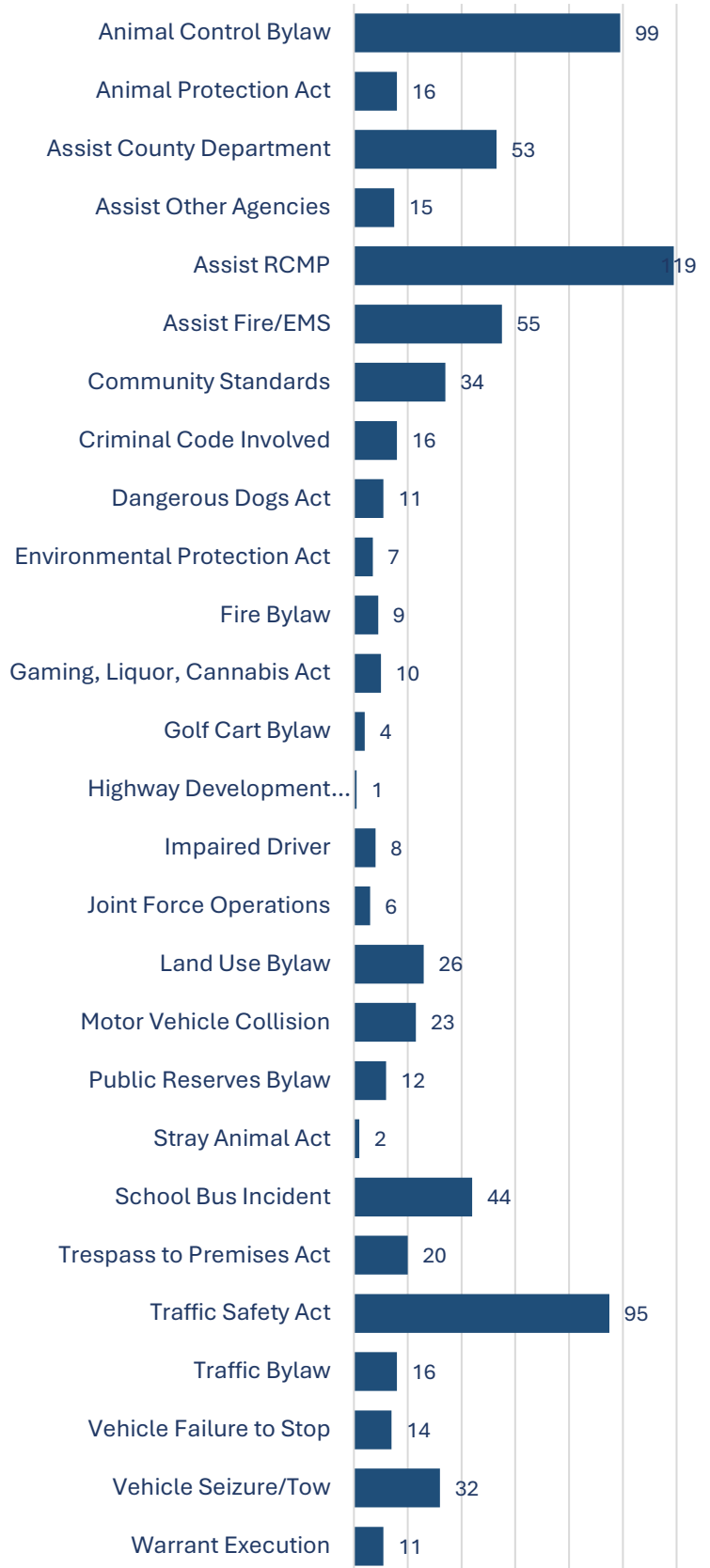
Enforcement Services provides detailed reports to Council throughout the year. Learn more at CountyBarrhead.ab.ca/p/Department-Reports.

File Statistics

In 2025, Enforcement Services actioned 384 calls for service and generated 1,558 files across the County. In total, our CPO traveled 55,165 km across the County in 2025!



File Statistics



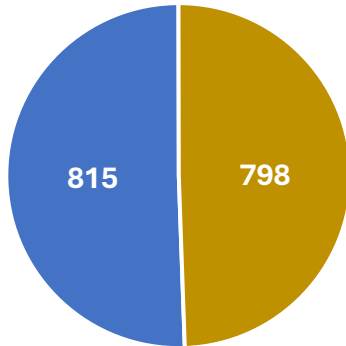
ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

Traffic Enforcement

Did you know? 40% of all ticket revenue is kept by the Province – only 60% is kept by the County of Barrhead.

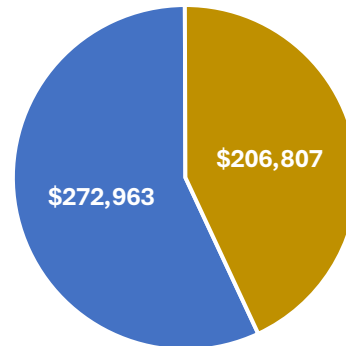
In 2025, a total of 49% of all traffic stops resulted in a warning given to the driver instead of a ticket.

Tickets vs. Warnings Issued



■ Tickets issued ■ Warnings issued

Value of Tickets vs. Warnings



■ Ticket value ■ Warning value

Community Engagement

Attending community events is an important part of Enforcement Services' work. Our CPO attended many events in 2025, including:

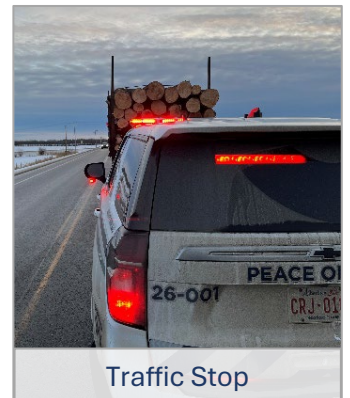
- LEPA Fishing Derby
- LEPA Annual General Meeting
- Barrhead Street Festival
- Neerlandia Bike Rodeo
- Coffee with a Cop
- Annual Pumpkin Walk
- Cram-a-Cruiser Fundraiser
- Barrhead Polar Parade



Community engagement at Barrhead Street Festival



Cram-a-cruiser food & toy drive



Traffic Stop

BARRHEAD REGIONAL FIRE SERVICES

Barrhead Regional Fire Services (BRFS) is a partnership between the County of Barrhead and Town of Barrhead to provide fire & rescue services to the region, operating from the Emergency Response Center in the Town of Barrhead. BRFS also provides other services, including fire prevention, public education, investigation, loss prevention inspections, and public relations.

- County pays 50% of core functions for facility and staff.
- Each municipality pays for fire response in their own jurisdiction.
 - County is able to recover some of this cost by charging up to a maximum of \$3,000 per response (as per policy), expecting that properties are insured.
 - However, full cost of fire response may be charged to the landowner if they are deemed to be non-compliant with permits or law.



BRFS Deputy Fire Chief giving a FireSmart presentation at 2025 Open Skies Expo

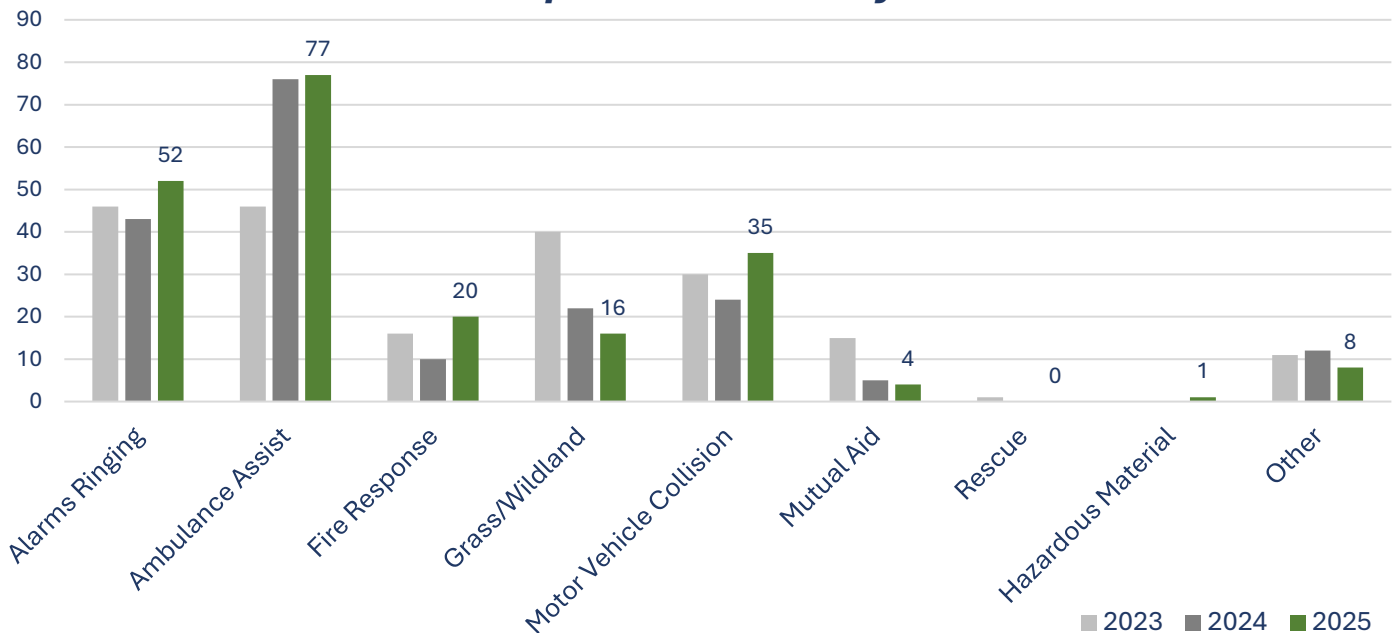


"Pushing in" the new BRFS fire engine

2025 Fire Response

- **174 fire response calls** in the County of Barrhead.
 - Calls in the County of Barrhead accounted for **38%** of all calls to BRFS in 2025.
- **240 hours** of fire response time was spent in the County of Barrhead.

Fire Response in County of Barrhead



Financial Management & Control

County of Barrhead is required by provincial legislation to prepare annual financial statements by May 1st for the preceding year. These statements are consistent with financial reporting standards established by the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada, as required by the Municipal Government Act (MGA).

As a public entity, Canada's public sector accounting standards require that the County's financial statements:

- ✓ Account for the full extent of the **financial affairs & resources** that the County controls.
- ✓ Show the County's **financial position** at the end of the fiscal period (so that the County's ability to finance its activities and provide future services can be evaluated).
- ✓ Describe the County's **change in financial position** during the fiscal period.
- ✓ Demonstrate the County's **accountability** for the management of its resources, obligations, and financial affairs for which it is responsible.

Financial statements should provide readers with a clear understanding of the County's:

- ✓ **Assets**
- ✓ **Liabilities**
- ✓ **Revenues**
- ✓ **Expenses**

County's 2025 Financial Statements include:

- **Statement of Financial Position**
Reports financial assets, liabilities, net financial assets, non-financial assets, and accumulated surplus at December 31. This statement is used to evaluate the County's ability to finance its activities and satisfy its obligations and commitments.
- **Statement of Operations**
Reports revenues earned, expenses incurred, and results of the fiscal year as well as annual surplus. Statement of operations also summarizes the change in accumulated surplus.
- **Statement of Changes in Net Financial Assets**
Reports the changes in net financial assets at year end and provides information regarding the extent to which operating and capital expenditures in the year were met by revenues recognized in the year. This is a key indicator of financial health!
- **Statement of Cash Flow**
Reports how cash was generated and used in the year and classifies cash activities into operating, capital, investing, and financing activities. The net change in cash and cash equivalents are reflected in this statement.

These statements should be read in conjunction with the Schedules & Notes to the Financial Statements.

Municipal Financial Processes:

Accounting Process

County maintains an accounting system consistent with accepted standards for local government accounting in Alberta and Canada (including PSAB guidelines for local governments). Finance and accounting services are administered under the direction of the Director of Corporate Services and/or Chief Administrative Officer.

Audit Process

Pursuant to section 280 of the MGA, County council must appoint 1 or more auditors for the municipality. In April 2025, Greilach Lussier LLP was appointed as auditor for a 5-year term. Preparation, accuracy and integrity of the financial statements is the responsibility of municipal administration. The auditor's responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements, based on their audit results.

Budget Process

County prepares a comprehensive yearly operating & capital budget, and provides monthly updates to Council.

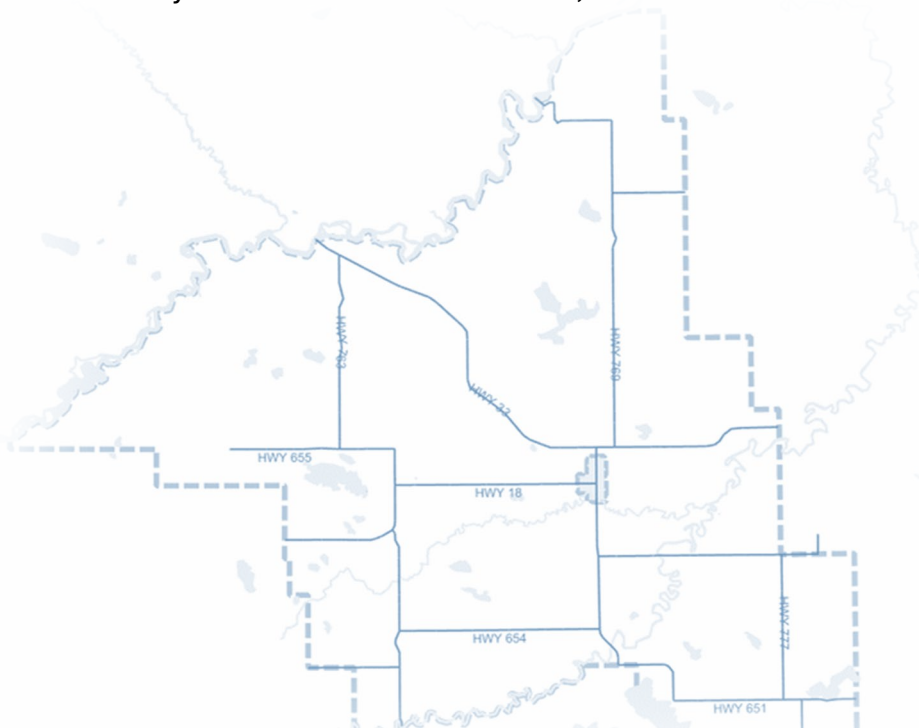
Financial Policies

Council approves several financial management policies which are established to ensure good governance and fiscal responsibility. For more information or to obtain copies of the policies, please contact the County office.

Asset Management Program

In 2022, an Asset Management Committee was formed to develop an Asset Management Program for the County. This Committee is comprised of staff representing Public Works, Utilities, and the Finance department.

In 2023, the Committee developed an Asset Management Policy, which was approved by Council. The policy will provide guidance to develop and maintain the County's asset management capability to support sustainable delivery of services to stakeholders, based on consistent and informed decision making.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: ANALYSIS

Statement of Financial Position

Financial assets are financial resources that are considered cash or could be turned into cash if required to fund the day-to-day operations of the County.

Net Financial Assets:

In 2025, net financial assets increased by \$1,890,188, which included an increase in financial assets of \$2,593,120 offset by an increase in liabilities of \$702,932.

Cash & Investments:

Unrestricted cash increased by \$2,390,759 and restricted cash increased by \$490,270 for a net increase of \$2,881,030. Investments decreased by \$2,290,215 as a GIC matured and was converted to cash.

At December 31, 2025, cash on hand was \$17,514,270 (2024: \$14,633,241).

Taxes:

Outstanding taxes and grants in-lieu at year end were \$1,932,709 (2024: \$819,084) with an allowance for doubtful accounts of \$320,000 (2024: \$145,000) applied for a net estimated collectible of \$1,612,709 (2024: \$674,084).

Collection of taxes levied on oil and gas companies has been a challenge for the County. In the current year, one O&G went into receivership, and one stopped paying its obligations, requiring the allowance for doubtful tax accounts to be increased. An O&G company that had previously entered into the County's Tax Instalment Payment Plan to pay off arrears and current taxes had all its debts paid on December 31, 2024, and removed itself from the TIPP program. This O&G company has not paid any taxes since it removed itself from the TIPP program.

Trade:

Trade and other receivables increased by \$1,135,557. This is primarily due to timing.

Liabilities:

Liabilities include accounts payable & accrued liabilities, deposit liabilities, employee benefit obligations, deferred revenues, long term debt, and asset retirement obligations. At year end, liabilities increased by \$702,932. This change was due to an increase in deposit liabilities, timing on accounts payable & accrued liabilities, and repayment of long-term debt.

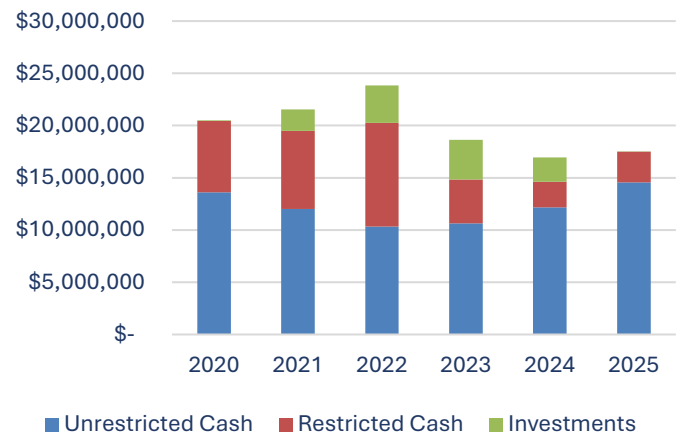
Deposit Liabilities:

Deposit liabilities increased by \$294,994 primarily due to a developer deposit held to ensure a development is completed in accordance with the development agreement.

Financial assets include:

- ✓ Cash & temporary investments
- ✓ Taxes & grants in place of tax receivables
- ✓ Trade & other receivables
- ✓ Agreements receivables
- ✓ Land held for resale
- ✓ Investments
- ✓ Other financial assets

Cash & Investments



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: ANALYSIS

Deferred Revenue:

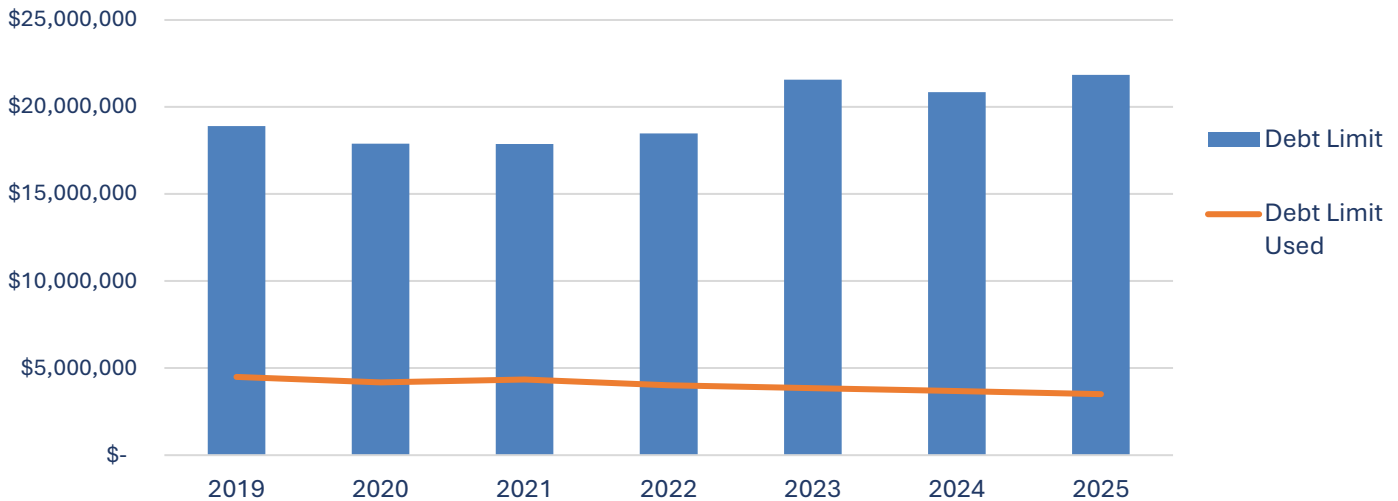
Deferred revenue decreased by \$40,385, due to the use of conditional grants to fund capital projects. Deferred revenue represents unexpended conditional grants which the County plans to use for projects in future years.

Debt:

Long term debt held by the County originates from the \$5 million capital contribution the County made to the Town of Barrhead's Aquatic Center in 2016. The County makes bi-annual debenture payments in a blended principal and interest payment of \$281,974. The loan matures in 2041 and bears interest at 2.881%.

Municipal Government Act (MGA) sets the maximum debt level and debt servicing limits of municipalities. Debt limit is calculated at 1.5 times the revenue of the municipality and the debt service limit is calculated at 0.25 times the revenue. At December 31, 2025, the County has an unused debt limit of \$18,333,647 (2024: \$17,174,771).

Debt Limit Vs Debt Limit Used



Non-Financial Assets:

Non-financial assets are assets that have an economic life that extends beyond the current year and are intended for consumption in the normal course of operations. They are converted into an expense in future periods and include tangible capital assets, inventories, and prepaid expenses.

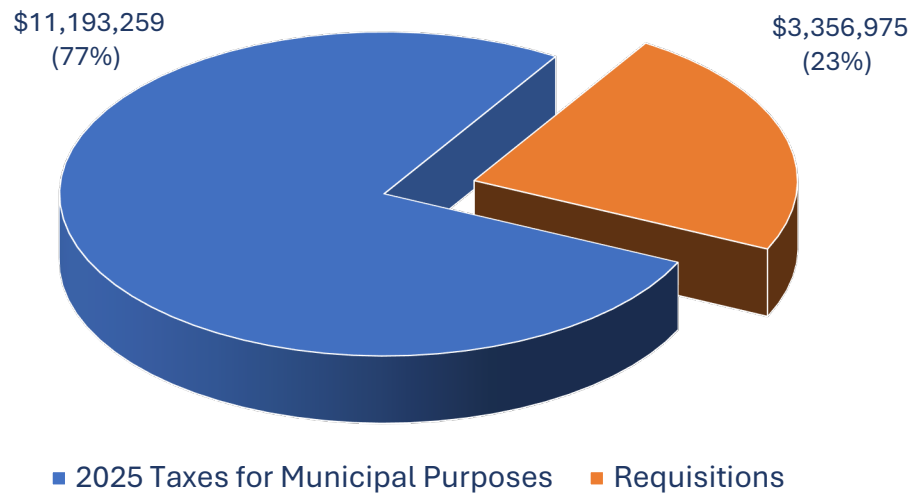
Tangible capital assets increased by \$347,011 from 2024, for a total balance of \$59,403,024. In 2025, the County acquired \$4,295,319 in assets and \$390,742 of construction in progress, which was offset by assets sold in 2025 with a net book value of \$384,787. Amortization of \$3,954,263 (2024: \$3,781,268) was expensed during the current year.

Inventories held for consumption decreased by \$603,641, due to aggregate used and no aggregate crushing undertaken in 2025.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: ANALYSIS

Statement of Operations

Net taxes available for municipal purposes were \$11,193,259 (2024: \$10,440,830). An additional \$3,356,975 (2024: \$3,007,765) was levied for education, social housing, and designated industry properties, and was paid to the requisitioning authority. Requisitioned taxes are collected on behalf of 3rd parties and are paid directly to those parties.



Revenue:

Total revenue for the year was \$14,502,462, which was \$385,022 (or 2.73%) higher than budget and \$662,674 (or 4.79%) higher than prior year. Increase from budget was primarily due to the following items being higher than budgeted: net municipal taxes (\$133,872), penalties and costs on taxes (\$137,768), and licenses and permits (\$75,129).

Expenses:

Expenses for the year were \$14,765,841, which was \$2,200,910 (or 12.97%) lower than budget, and \$401,098 (or 2.79%) higher than prior year. Most department's expenses were lower than budget for various reasons including lower prices, favourable weather, and lower expenses incurred than budgeted.

There were 2 departments with notable differences from budget:

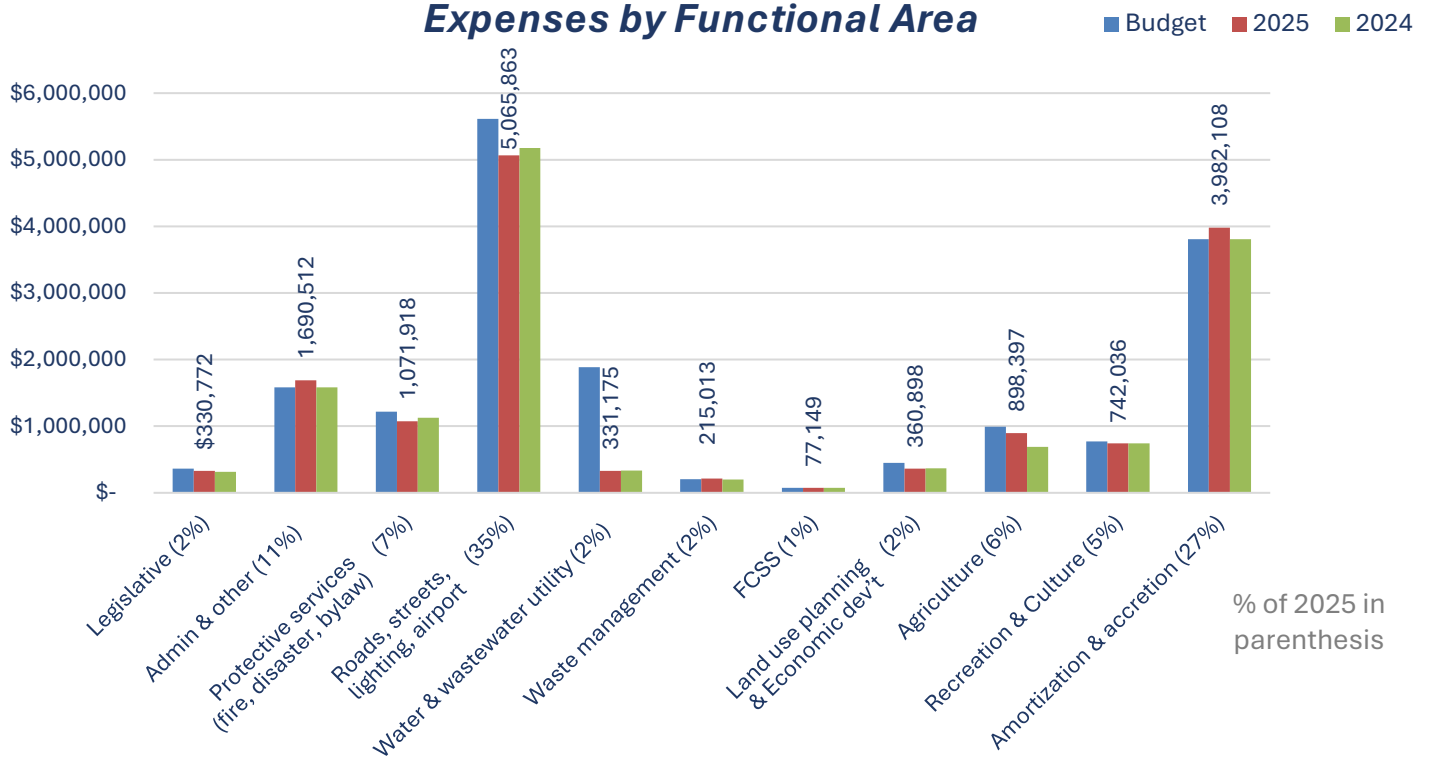
- **Water & wastewater** expenses came in \$1,555,102 lower than budget. Water & wastewater budget included a \$1,500,000 contribution to the Town for Sani Pre-treatment, which did not occur in 2025.
- **Administration** expenses came in \$108,761 higher than budget and includes a \$175,000 provision for allowance for doubtful oil and gas tax accounts.

Shortfall of revenue over expenses before other

Shortfall of revenue over expenses before other was budgeted to be \$2,849,311, while actual was a shortfall of \$263,379 due to the revenue and expense variances noted above.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: ANALYSIS

Expenses by Functional Area



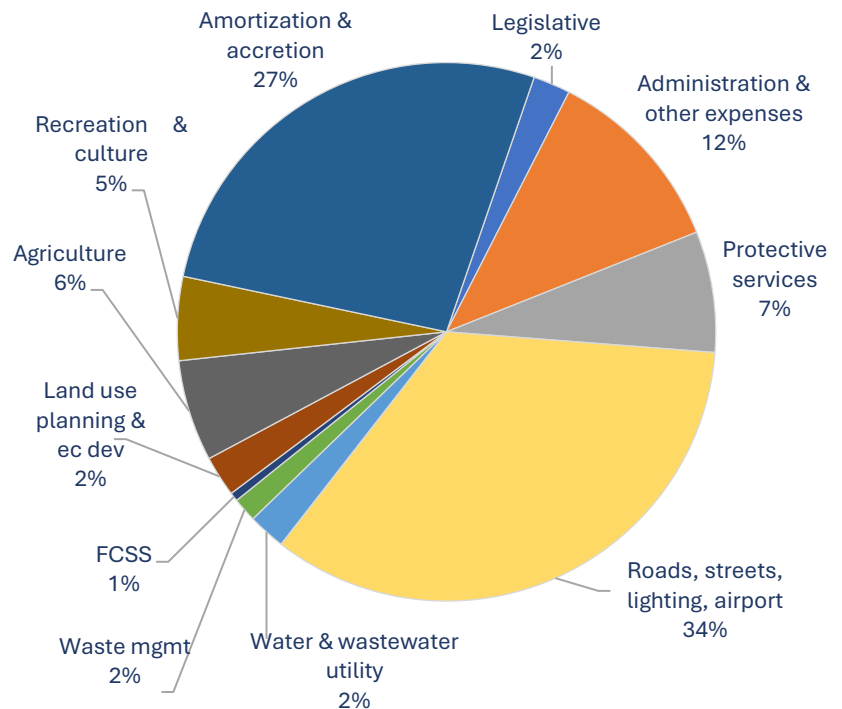
Excess of Revenue vs. Expenses:

Shortfall of revenue over expenses was budgeted to be \$825,598, while actual was an excess of \$1,637,746. In addition to this revenue and expense variance, government transfers for capital were \$119,408 lower than budget. Capital grants from the Government of Alberta and Canada can only be recognized as revenue as the work is completed on the projects the grant funds have been designated to.

Contributed assets of \$5,085 received during the year are not budgeted for and relate to environmental reserve land acquired by the County through the subdivision process.

Gain on disposal of tangible capital assets was \$8,265 lower than budget due to actual proceeds being lower than budgeted.

Functional Areas as Percent of 2025



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: ANALYSIS

Accumulated Surplus

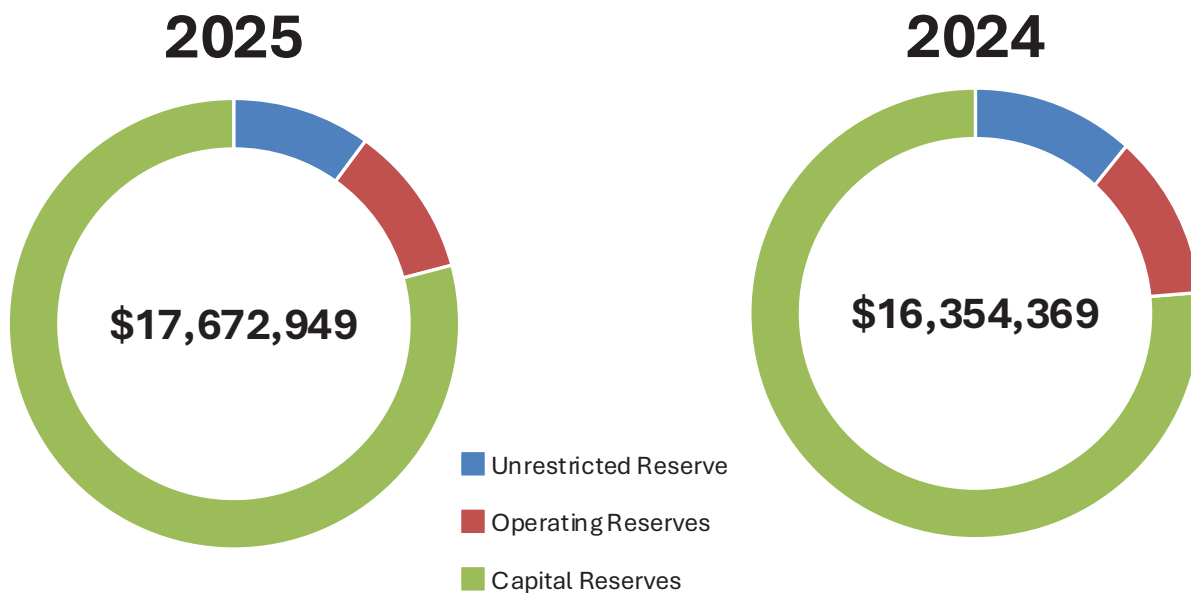
Reserves or accumulated surpluses are set aside to fund future operational costs and capital expenditures. Purpose of reserves is to promote financial stability and flexibility, provide for future capital expenditures, smooth operating expenditures that would cause fluctuations in the operating budget, and adhere to statutory requirements.

Example of Reserves:

Operational Reserves are used for operational expenditures that do not occur on an annual basis. For example, aerial photographs are a useful tool in planning and development. New photographs are retaken every 7 years. Rather than budgeting for the expenditure once every 7 years, the County sets aside an amount every year to ensure there are funds to cover the aerial photographs when they are required.

Capital Reserves are funds set aside for the purchase of capital equipment, such as graders for road maintenance. An amount is set aside each year to ensure enough funds are available to make capital purchases as outlined in the Capital Plan.

County has increased its unrestricted and restricted reserves by \$1,772,478 for a total of \$17,672,949 (2024 - \$16,354,369). Unrestricted reserves account for 10%, operating reserves account for 11%, and capital reserves account for 79% of the 2025 reserves. Unrestricted reserves will help cover projected budget shortfalls in future years.



KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

County tracks several Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). KPIs being tracked were determined by Alberta Municipal Affairs and measure a specific aspect of a municipality's governance, finances, or community. Benchmarks established are a good rule of thumb to assess the viability of the County of Barrhead, as well as confirm that Council is responsible and accountable.

Except for the tax collection rate, the County exceeds all benchmarks set. Tax collection rate is affected by unpaid oil & gas taxes. Unfortunately, the County has little control over the collectability of these accounts. Through the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA), the County continues to lobby the provincial government to resolve unpaid oil & gas property taxes.

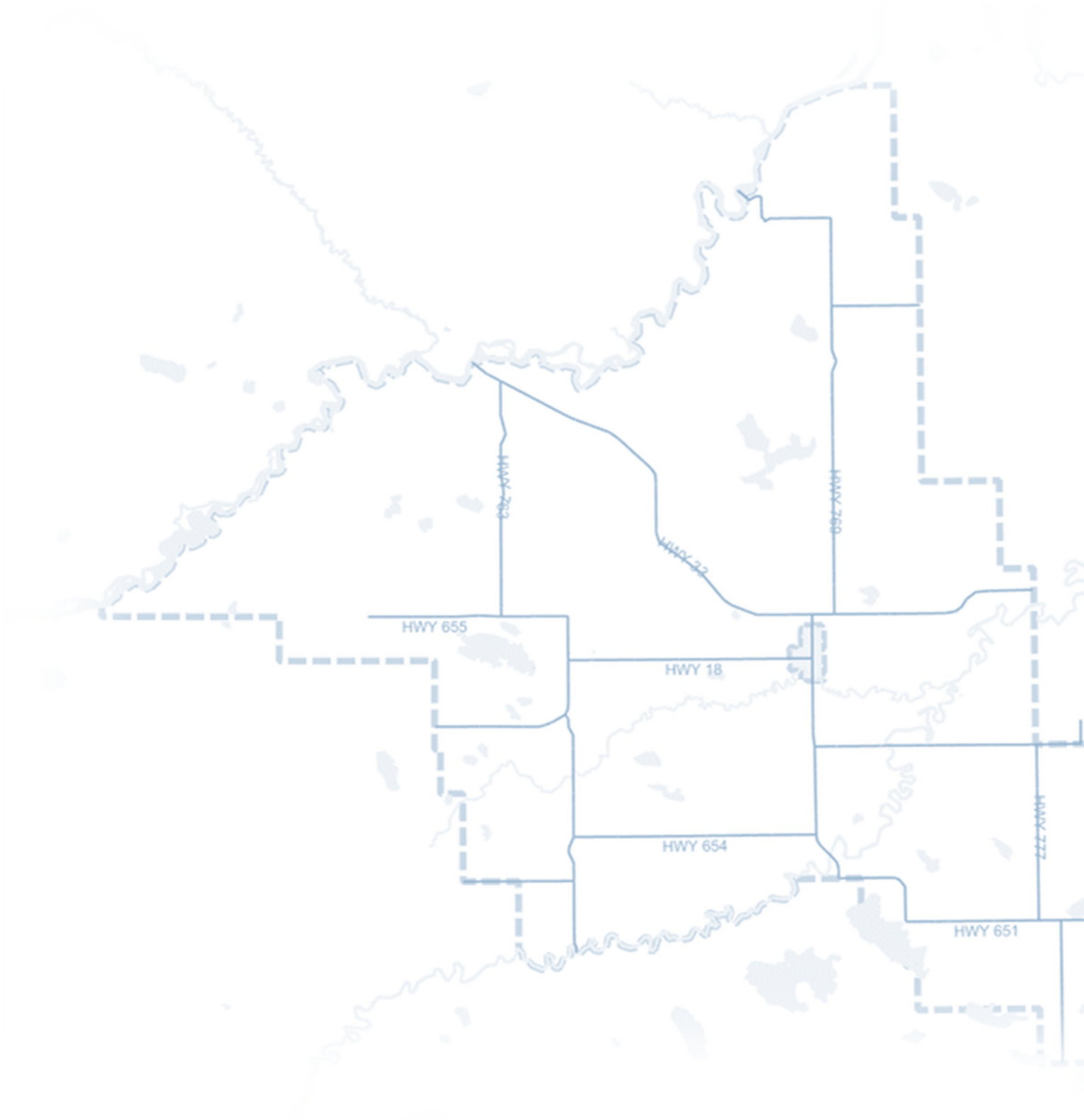
Alberta Municipal Affairs publishes indicators of all municipalities on an annual basis. The following chart summarizes published results for 2024 and 2023. KPIs presented for 2025 were prepared by the County, as they are not yet available through Alberta Municipal Affairs.

Key Performance Indicator	Benchmark	2025	2024	2023
TAX BASE BALANCE: Percentage of total tax revenue that is collected from residential and farmland properties. At risk when more than 95% of the municipality's tax revenue comes from residential & farmland.	< 95%	54.64%	57.36%	60.23%
TAX COLLECTION RATE: Percentage of property taxes collected. At risk when a municipality collects less than 90% of the property taxes it levies in a reporting year.	> 90%	89.54%	96.07%	96.13%
POPULATION CHANGE: Percentage of population change in the municipality over a 10-year period. A risk when a municipality's population declines by 20%.	risk when decline of 20%	(3.59)%	(3.59)%	(3.59)%
CURRENT RATIO: Ratio of current assets compared to current liabilities. At risk when result is less than 1.	> 1	6.13	6.28	3.30
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS/DEFICIT: Total assets minus liabilities of the municipality excluding capital assets and related debt. Should not be below zero.	> 0	\$17,700,343	\$16,354,369	\$15,581,746
ON-TIME FINANCIAL REPORTING: Municipalities are required to submit year-end audited financial statements & financial information returns to Municipal Affairs by May 1 st of the reporting year.	Submitted by May 1	Yes	Yes	Yes
DEBT TO REVENUE PERCENTAGE: Total borrowings as a percentage of total revenue. At risk when a municipality's debt is greater than 120% of its total revenue.	< 120%	24.04%	26.48%	26.80%
DEBT SERVICE TO REVENUE PERCENTAGE: Annual principal and interest payments as a percentage of total revenue. At risk when principal and interest payments on borrowings is greater than 20% of a municipality's total revenue.	< 20 %	1.25%	1.27%	1.20%
INVESTMENT IN INFRASTRUCTURE: Ratio of new investment in capital assets compared to the amortization of existing assets over a 5-year period. At risk if a municipality's capital spending is less than the depreciation of its assets (result of < 1).	> 1	1.74	1.73	1.79
INFRASTRUCTURE AGE: Depreciated (amortized) value of tangible capital assets as a percentage of original cost. At risk when net book value of tangible capital assets is less than 40% of the original cost.	> 40%	52.90%	54.32%	56.07%
INTEREST IN MUNICIPAL OFFICE: Elections votes are only held if there are more candidates than positions. At risk when no vote is held.	Vote held	7	N/A	N/A

COUNTY OF BARRHEAD FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Signed Audited Financial Statements are attached in following pages.

For the Year Ending December 31, 2025





TO: COUNCIL

RE: PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PLAN – NATURAL ASSETS PROJECT

ISSUE:

Council to review & approve a Public Engagement Plan (PEP) to support development of the Natural Assets Project and Parks & Open Spaces Plan, in accordance with *Public Participation Policy AD-006*.

BACKGROUND:

- In previous years, preliminary work began on the County's Parks & Open Spaces Master Plan, which intended to guide development of the County's open spaces & recreation areas.
- 2026 – County received FCM grant to support the *Valuing Natural Assets for Climate Resilience* Project.
 - A key aspect of this project is functional assessment of County owned natural assets, which includes inventory of existing natural assets (assessed, mapped, evaluated), as well as gathering public input on how residents value & use these spaces.
 - Public engagement for this project will help the County understand current use (broad scale) and potential future use of parks & open spaces.
- *Public Participation Policy AD-006* (approved Sept 5, 2023) applies to all County public engagement, including statutory, non-statutory, and other proposed plans, projects, & studies that may have an impact on the public.
 - Under *Public Participation Policy AD-006*, prior to undertaking public engagement activities, Administration must prepare a PEP for presentation to County Council.
- *Public Participation Policy AD-006* outlines 4 guiding principles:
 - Public engagement is proactive
 - Public engagement increases understanding
 - Public engagement is accountable & transparent
 - Public engagement builds relationships

ANALYSIS:

- Public engagement is expected to deliver a reliable assessment of the public's use of County owned green spaces including their experiences, concerns, and recommendations.
 - Public input will help the County prioritize green spaces that have the most value to residents and set criteria to assess how they can be improved.
 - Prioritization of County owned green spaces will help strategically guide decision making on how these sites can be developed to better support public use.
- PEP outlines how the County will consult the public on their use of green spaces, including:
 - Comprehensive background on the Natural Assets Project & demonstrated need for public engagement.

- Roles & responsibilities for staff, council, and stakeholders at public engagement opportunities.
- Methods to ensure inclusive engagement, so that all public members have opportunities to provide feedback.
- Logistics for planned public engagement activities.
- Identifying a reporting structure & committing to transparent follow-up documentation.
- Approving this PEP ensures alignment with policy and supports the County’s strategic goal of demonstrating open & accountable government.
- Following all public engagement opportunities, Administration will summarize feedback in a “What We Heard” Report, which will be presented to Council.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:

Review and approval of a PEP to support the Natural Assets Project and Parks & Open Spaces Plan aligns with the County 2022 – 2026 Strategic Plan as follows:

PILLAR 3 Rural Lifestyle

Outcome *3 County maintains its rural character and is recognized as a desirable location to invest, work, live and play.*

Goal 3.1 County has an inventory of natural and community assets.

Strategy 3.1.1 Develop a Parks & Open Space Master Plan.

PILLAR 3 Rural Lifestyle

Outcome *3 County maintains its rural character and is recognized as a desirable location to invest, work, live and play.*

Goal 3.4 County protects & preserves the environment.

PILLAR 4 Governance & Leadership

Outcome *4 Council is transparent & accountable.*

Goal 4.2 County demonstrates open & accountable government.

Strategy 4.2.1 Council has the tools and information necessary to make informed decisions which are shared publicly.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS THAT:

Council approve the Natural Assets Project Public Engagement Plan as presented, in accordance with *Public Participation Policy AD-006*.



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PLAN (PEP)

Valuing Natural Assets for Climate Resilience in the County of Barrhead

NON-STATUTORY PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:

Public Participation Policy

County of Barrhead's *Public Participation Policy AD-006* is a guiding document for the County's approach to public engagement.

"County of Barrhead is committed to open, accountable, and responsive decision-making, which includes appropriate and timely levels of engagement with the public. Input from public engagement is used to inform decisions about policies, programs, services, and projects that could have an impact on residents & businesses in the County."

Guiding Principles

1. Public Engagement is Proactive
2. Public Engagement Increases Understanding
3. Public Engagement is Accountable and Transparent
4. Public Engagement Builds Relationship

SECTION 1: PROJECT INFORMATION

Background

With increased frequency and severity of extreme weather events, communities all over Canada are feeling the pressure to adapt to a higher level of climate risk. Rural communities are especially vulnerable and require high levels of preparedness due to their isolation and limited infrastructure. Valuing of Natural Assets for Climate Resilience in the County of Barrhead Project aims to support community well-being, resilience and self sufficiency against these weather-related challenges.

County of Barrhead is in possession of many green spaces which currently remain unclassified, and whose use is largely unknown. To better serve the needs of the community and protect residents from future extreme weather events, the Rural Development team aims to classify County owned green spaces into 3 categories:

1. Biodiversity

Green spaces which support local biodiversity and ecological function and should not be intervened with or developed (protected areas).

2. Hazard Mitigation

Green spaces which have potential to support physical infrastructure resilience to weather risks (e.g. enhancing a wetland adjacent to a road which has a history of flooding).

3. Social

Green spaces which are or can be used by residents for recreational uses and community wellbeing (e.g. hiking, birdwatching or snowshoeing).

To better understand how spaces are being used and which spaces could be placed in the "Social" category, the Rural Development team will be engaging the public, gathering feedback from residents on:

- Which County owned green spaces they currently use (excludes private and provincial land).
- How they use these County owned green spaces.
- What could enhance their experience in these County owned green spaces.

Purpose of this PEP is to consult residents about their use of County owned green spaces and to use their feedback to help build the database of natural assets. To ensure all residents can participate in the engagement, this PEP will place a focus on providing opportunities for underrepresented groups to give their feedback. Some of the ways in which the Rural Development team plans to meet this goal is by providing an online survey and virtual meeting, as well as attending events focused on both seasonal and permanent residents.

County hopes to gather information from a representative sample of the community, ensuring final decisions accurately reflect the needs of the public. Involving County residents will develop a relationship of trust, communication and understanding, and will build confidence that residents have direct impact on their community.

Decision Making

Input received during public engagement will be used to construct a summary “What We Heard” Report, which will eventually support how County Council determines which County owned green spaces will be chosen for redevelopment and how these selected spaces will be enhanced in future projects. To clarify, for the purpose of this project, Council will only be making decisions based on County owned green spaces.

Decision makers: Council has decision-making authority for approval of redevelopment plans and budget.

Lead department: Rural Development

Information needed to make decisions: It is anticipated that the following information will be needed to develop the database and redevelop spaces:

- Which green spaces do residents currently use?
- How often are the green spaces being frequented and by how many visitors?
- How are the green spaces being used?
- Are there any problem areas within the green spaces that residents can identify?
- What would residents like to see done to enhance these green spaces?

Public Engagement Team

Primary responsibilities include:

County Manager (CAO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure feedback is considered during decision-making • Review findings with Council • Ensure public engagement plan is implemented
Director of Rural Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support content development • Ensure feedback is considered during decision-making • Review findings with Council • Ensure public engagement plan is implemented
Natural Assets Project Assistant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop survey for Natural Assets Project • Promote engagement opportunities and encourage participation • Host virtual meetings and in-person engagement opportunities • Summarize findings in a “What We Heard” report
Elected Officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote & encourage stakeholder participation • Review and consider stakeholder feedback in decision-making process

Stakeholders

Primary stakeholders of the Natural Assets Project include permanent & seasonal County of Barrhead residents, although visitors will not be excluded from participating in public engagement opportunities.

SECTION 2: STRATEGIC PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Guiding Statements

Purpose: Robust and effective public engagement helps the County be more accountable and responsive to ratepayers. Public engagement consultation engages citizens and helps the County share information, receive constructive feedback, and help guide future decision-making.

Feedback received during this engagement process provides the County with a better understanding of the public use of County green spaces and will inform future decisions on how to improve these spaces to benefit residents. Feedback will also provide insight on public areas residents feel are at risk for floods, wildfires or other weather-related events.

Public participation proposed for this project will contribute to a common understanding, informed decision making, and strengthened relationships.

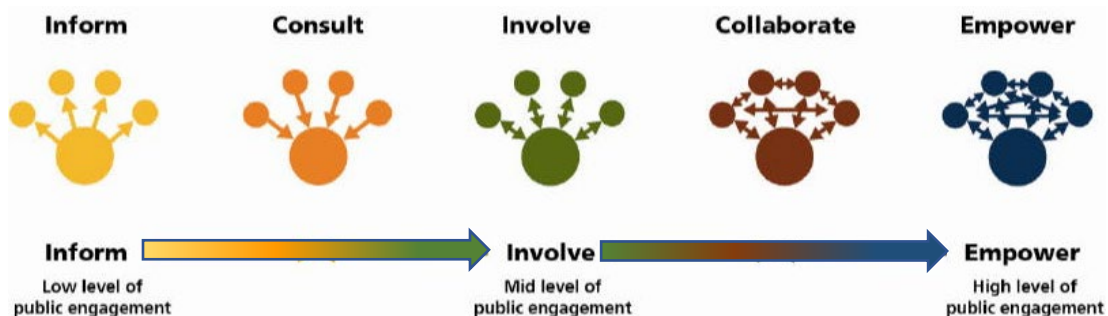
Goal: All stakeholders will have meaningful opportunities to share their concerns and recommendations regarding the use of the County of Barrhead’s municipally owned green spaces.

Objectives: The following objectives ensure public engagement is transparent, focused, and accessible:

1. Inform the public about the Natural Assets Project, including how the project can improve their safety and quality of life.
2. Consult residents on their current use of County owned green spaces and what might enhance their experience at these locations, as well as any areas which may be at risk of flooding, wildfires or other weather-related events.
3. Provide multiple opportunities for feedback, to ensure all County residents have opportunities to participate.
4. Identify high-priority County green spaces, to help decide which spaces are of greatest use/importance to the public.
5. Foster a positive relationship of trust and open communication with the public.

Level of Engagement

International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) has developed a Spectrum of Public Participation for matching engagement goals, objectives, and the community promise with approaches to achieving them. Moving from left to right on the spectrum involves additional rigour and increasing levels of commitment to the public regarding their involvement in decision making.



Under the IAP2 Spectrum, the highest level of engagement for this project is “Consult”. The expectation of this level of participation is to “obtain and consider public input” (IAPP, 2016). To achieve the goals of this project, Administration will utilize INFORM and CONSULT levels of public participation.

Public Engagement Outcomes	Type of Input Required	Level of Engagement	Timeline
Educate residents about the Natural Assets Project and Parks & Open Spaces Master Plan.	Public will ask questions, share their experiences.	Inform	Jun - Aug 2026
Identify which County-owned green spaces are used socially by the public and how they are being used.	Public will share their experiences, provide input to help determine priority.	Consult	Jun - Aug 2026
Identify public areas in the County which may be at risk of flooding, wildfires or other weather-related events	Public will share their experiences, provide input to identify high-risk areas.	Consult	Jun-Aug 2026
Acknowledge and validate public concerns.	Public will identify & clarify concerns, share ideas.	Consult	Jun - Aug 2026
Support how County Council identifies sites for future redevelopment of social spaces in the Parks & Opens Spaces plan.	Public feedback will be summarized into a “What We Heard” Report.	Inform	Aug 2026-Onward

SECTION 3: LOGISTICS

Required Resources

Event	Survey
Date	June 15 – August 9, 2026
Advertising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website • Social Media • BARCC-Connect Alerts (municipal information) • Administration, Council, Word of Mouth • Email distribution list • LEPA • Physical posters •
Venue	Online and hardcopies available
Equipment & Supplies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey tool (online) • Printed copies of survey available upon request

Event	Virtual Meeting
Date	Late June 2026 (date to be determined)
Advertising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website • Social Media • BARCC-Connect Alerts (municipal information) • Administration, Council, Word of Mouth • Email distribution list • LEPA

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County Newsletter • Promote at County events
Venue	Online
Equipment & Supplies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virtual whiteboard • Presentation materials

Event	Neerlandia - Informational Booth
Date	July 2026 <i>(date to be determined)</i>
Advertising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website • Social Media • Signage • Administration, Council, Word of Mouth
Venue	Neerlandia Co-op
Equipment & Supplies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County pop-up tent • Folding table & chairs • Signage/posters • Maps & information boards • Sticky notes, pens, etc. • Flipcharts & display boards
Other notes	Date to be coordinated with Neerlandia Co-op.

Event	Thunder Lake - Informational Booth
Date	July 2026 <i>(date to be determined)</i>
Advertising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website • Social Media • Signage • Administration, Council, Word of Mouth
Venue	Thunder Lake Farmer's Market, Thunder Lake Provincial Park
Equipment & Supplies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County pop-up tent • Folding table & chairs • Signage/posters • Maps & information boards • Sticky notes, pens, etc. • Flipcharts & display boards
Other notes	Date to be coordinated with Thunder Lake Farmer's Market and is dependent on the market operating in 2026.

Event	Lac la Nonne – Informational Booth at Riparian Area Education Event
Date	July 2026 <i>(date to be determined)</i>
Advertising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website • Social Media • Administration, Council, Word of Mouth • LEPA
Venue	TBD
Equipment & Supplies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County pop-up tent • Folding table & chairs • Signage/posters

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maps & information boards • Sticky notes, pens, etc. • Flipcharts & display boards
Other notes	Date dependent on finalization of combined event with Cows & Fish Riparian Management Society

Event	Focus Group – Council Committees
Date	July 2026 <i>(date to be determined)</i>
Advertising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No public advertising – invitation only
Venue	County of Barrhead Council Chambers <i>(or interim meeting room during building renovations)</i>
Equipment & Supplies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maps & information boards • Sticky notes, pens, etc. • Flipcharts & display boards
Other notes	<p>Focus group made up of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic & Community Development Committee • Agricultural Service Board • Emergency Management Representatives • Public Works Representatives <p>Date to be coordinated with members. Location dependant on meeting room availability during County office renovations.</p>

SECTION 4: REPORTING

The following report will be generated to share with participants, Administration, and Council:

- “What We Heard” Report

This document will be available on the County website for public access. For more active involvement, participants can request to be added to a distribution list to receive information directly.

Attached reporting template will also be used to document evaluation and share lessons learned.

Evaluation

Effectiveness of engagement should be reflected in the quality of input received. Therefore, evaluation will be ongoing to improve the PEP as the project moves forward. Evaluation will be based on the following:

- Standard quantitative data will be captured (number of participants, number of responses, etc.)
- Qualitative data will also be captured (informal feedback, opinions, etc.)
- End of project evaluation to determine if goals were met (undertaken by Administration)

SAMPLE REPORTING TEMPLATE – EVALUATION & LESSONS LEARNED

Name of Project	Valuing Natural Assets for Climate Resilience in the County of Barrhead
Lead/Facilitator	
Type of Public Engagement	INFORM, CONSULT
Techniques Used	Surveys, virtual meetings, information booths, focus group
Target Group/ Stakeholders	All residents (permanent and seasonal) - County of Barrhead
# Participants	
Date, Time, Venue	
Purpose of Engagement	To understand which green spaces are used by the public for social purposes and receive feedback on how these spaces could potentially be improved to inform the classification, priority ranking and modification of green spaces as part of the Natural Assets project.
Were goals achieved?	
Were the appropriate stakeholders identified?	
Did the input provide what was needed?	
What worked well? Why?	
What did not work well? Why?	
What to do differently next time?	
How was success measured?	
Participant satisfaction?	
Budget and Timeframe	
Other comments?	



TO: COUNCIL

RE: ELECTED OFFICIAL REMUNERATION POLICY HR-001 AMENDMENT

ISSUE:

Elected Official (EO) Remuneration Policy HR-001 requires review and amending by Council as recommended by the Policy Committee.

BACKGROUND:

- An Elected Official Compensation Review was undertaken in 2019 by an advisory committee made up of community members to review and provide recommendations on the remuneration for elected officials in a fair and transparent manner.
 - Elected Officials Remuneration Advisory Committee (EORAC) was comprised of three (3) qualified County residents who operated at an arm's length from the County and the Elected Officials.
 - EORAC Recommendations were provided to Council on November 19, 2019, with the final report formally accepted March 3, 2020.
- Recommendations included:
 - To balance against fiscal responsibilities Council could consider a phased approach to implementation.
 - Remuneration increases should be implemented no sooner than 2020, meaning no retro-active compensation for 2020.
- Guiding principles of the Review were:
 - Work of the Council for the County of Barrhead is time-consuming and requires commitment.
 - Fair and reasonable compensation should be paid:
 - To elected officials to perform their duties
 - To ensure the County can attract qualified candidates
 - To address affordability for taxpayers
 - Remuneration should be comparable to similar peer municipalities
 - Role of elected officials in the County of Barrhead is part-time
- September 7, 2021 – Council approved Elected Official Remuneration Policy HR-001
 - Schedule A – current rates are updated annually
- A monthly report of EO remuneration is presented to Council and posted to the County website
- February 23, 2026 – Policy Committee reviewed the policy and recommended changes to be presented to Council

ANALYSIS:

- Amended Policy HR-001 is attached with comments and changes shown in red and deletions by strikethrough. Formatting changes are not captured.

Section	Proposed	Comments
Definitions m)	Add "Place of Work"	Required to differentiate between taxable and non-taxable mileage
Monthly Base Salary 1.b)ii	Update examples for attendance at events hosted or co-hosted by the County	Provides current examples of the type of events covered under monthly base salary (e.g. add Appreciation Events, Expo, Business Conference)
1.c)	Update examples of extra levels of commitment for the Reeve & Deputy Reeve	Provides clarity on the type of extra time commitment for Reeve & Deputy Reeve (e.g. add meeting with CAO, cheque signing, parades, opening ceremonies, bringing greetings, etc.)
Per Diems 2.b)ii &iii	Add "alternate" and "appointed"	Provides clarity that only the alternate is paid per diem to attend a committee mtg when invited (e.g. orientation, strategic planning for the committee).
2.f)	Add "if > 1 mtg in same location, total time of all meetings determines per diem.	Provides clarity on determining amount of per diem while remaining fiscally responsible (e.g. 2 mtgs, 1 hr each, same location would be <4hrs and only qualifies for ½ day per diem)
2.g)	Add "includes travel time, unless travel time is > 3 hrs"	Provides clarity on when travel time could be compensated for when travelling to conference
Benefits 3a)i., ii, & iii	Delete "LTD", Add "Dependent Life" Correct name – Health & Wellness Correct availability – "may be"	Provide updates to align with Benefit Program
Mileage 4. b) &c)	Reorganize section – Taxable mileage and Non-Taxable mileage (Reimbursed expense) Add "Taxable (or Non-Taxable) mileage may be claimed for attendance at events	Provides clarity on when mileage can be claimed, type of claim, and proper form to use. Allows for Elected Officials to also claim for mileage to events or activities that

	or activities covered under Section 1. Monthly Base Salary and Section 2. Per Diems	fall under the monthly base salary (New)
Expenses a) & b)	Add – receipts required, meal expenses as per allowance	Provides clarity for when receipts are required and type of receipt Provides clarity that meal expenses do not require a receipt and are paid an allowance.
Exclusions d)	Add – Elected Officials may bring spouse at no charge if hotel room has double occupancy at no additional cost to County	Provides clarity related to hotel bookings to ensure no additional costs are paid by County
Conflicts or Disputes	Change title of section to “Exceptions”	Provides clarity

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:

Review of an Elected Official Remuneration Policy HR-001 aligns with the County 2022-2026 Strategic Plan as follows:

PILLAR 4: GOVERNANCE & LEADERSHIP

GOAL 1 County improves risk management

Strategy 3: Create, review & update County policies

GOAL 2 County demonstrates open & accountable government

Strategy 1: Council has the tools and information necessary to make informed decisions which are shared publicly.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS THAT:

Council approve Policy HR-001 - Elected Officials Remuneration Policy amendments as recommended by the Policy Committee.

Policy Title: Elected Official Remuneration Policy

Policy Number: HR-001 **Functional Area:** Human Resources

PURPOSE

To establish fair and reasonable compensation for Elected Officials to perform their duties of office and provide reimbursement for expenses incurred fulfilling their responsibilities.

POLICY STATEMENT

- a) County of Barrhead will provide fair, consistent and reasonable compensation to Elected Officials for performing the duties of their office and reimbursement of expenses.
- b) Compensation provided to Elected Officials is done in a transparent and cost-effective manner
- c) County of Barrhead will provide fair and reasonable compensation to Elected Officials at a level that will attract community-minded citizens as candidates for public office yet consider affordability to the taxpayer.

SCOPE

This policy applies to County of Barrhead Elected Officials.

DEFINITIONS

In this policy,

- a) *“Chief Administrative Officer”* or *“CAO”* means the individual appointed by Council to the position of CAO, or his/her designate.
- b) *“Conference”* means a formal meeting at which individuals participate in the exchange of ideas, information, and expertise in work-related subject areas.
- c) *“Convention”* means an assembly, usually of members of a professional group or delegates, whose primary purpose is to elect officers, report progress and obtain approval for future activities.
- d) *“Council”* means the collective group of Elected Officials duly elected in the County of Barrhead No. 11.
- e) *“Council Business”* means the activities conducted by Council in keeping with the provisions of the *MGA*. Examples of Council business includes, but is not limited to, attendance at Council and Committee meetings, municipally sanctioned events, meetings with the CAO, and meetings with constituents.
- f) *“COLA”* or *“cost of living adjustment”* means the percentage increase to compensation to account for inflation, as measured by the five-year average of Alberta Consumer Price Index at September 30, published annually on or around October 20.
- g) *“County”* means the Municipality of the County of Barrhead No. 11
- h) *“CRA”* means the Canada Revenue Agency
- i) *“Deputy Reeve”* means the Deputy Chief Elected Official as defined in the *Municipal Government Act*.

- j) “Designated Approver” means either the Reeve or the Deputy Reeve as identified that is responsible for the review and approval of Elected Officials Monthly Reports and Monthly Expense Claims under this policy.
- k) “Eligible Expenses” means the costs incurred by Elected Officials when conducting Council business and includes but is not limited to hotel accommodations, meals, parking, and mileage.
- l) “MGA” means the *Municipal Government Act*, RSA 2000, c. M-26, as amended from time to time
- m) “Place of Work” means the County of Barrhead Administration Building and within approximately 2 km of that building.
- n) “Receipt” means the original documentation provided by a vendor which provides detail about the item(s)/service(s) received and the amount of GST paid. Debit and/or credit card slips are not considered receipts and are not sufficient for reimbursement purposes.
- o) “Reeve” means the Chief Elected Officer as defined in the *Municipal Government Act*.
- p) “RMA” means the Rural Municipalities of Alberta, an independent association representing Alberta’s 69 counties and municipal districts.

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Council shall:

- a) Conduct a periodic review of this policy and remuneration of Elected Officials by either
 - i. appointment of public members to an Elected Officials Remuneration Advisory Committee and approval of the Terms of Reference for the Committee, or
 - ii. engaging professional services to conduct an Elected Officials remuneration review
- b) Approve any amendments to this Policy.

2. Elected Officials shall:

- a) Follow this policy to demonstrate transparency and accountability to the taxpayers
- b) Obtain receipts and/or other required documents to substantiate all expenditures included in their Monthly Expense Claim.
 - i. Only detailed itemized receipts with GST number (if applicable) will be accepted.
 - ii. Debit and credit card receipts do not provide sufficient information to substantiate expenditures; however, in the instance where a receipt could not be obtained (i.e., parking meter), approval will be at the discretion of the designated approver.
- c) Submit their Elected Official Monthly Report and Elected Official Monthly Expense Claim to their designated approver
- d) Not exceed their individual budget without receiving approval of Council
- e) Demonstrate a prudent use of resources focusing on accountability.

3. Reeve shall:

- a) Serve as the designated approver of all Councillors including the Deputy Reeve
- b) Review and approve in accordance with this policy Elected Official Monthly Reports and Elected Official Monthly Expense Claims submitted by Councillors and Deputy Reeve.

4. Deputy Reeve shall:

- a) Serve as the designated approver of the Reeve

- b) Review and approve in accordance with this policy the Reeve's Elected Official Monthly Report and the Reeve's Elected Official Monthly Expense Claim
- c) In the absence of the Reeve, review and approve in accordance with this policy the Elected Official Monthly Reports and Elected Official Monthly Expense Claims submitted by Councillors.

5. Administration shall:

- a) Review and budget sufficient funds during the budget cycle, in consultation with Council, to enable individual Elected Officials and Council as a whole to carry out their respective duties and manage their individual budget.
- b) In consultation with Council, review and update rates in Schedule A based on COLA or any other change to rates Council authorizes through the annual budget cycle.
- c) Process payment of all claims that are approved and fully comply with the provisions of this policy.
- d) Coordinate travel, accommodation, convention and conference activities of Elected Officials to benefit from group rates or discounts to the extent feasible and practical.
- e) Publish financial reports pertaining to Elected Official remuneration monthly.

GUIDELINES

1. Monthly Base Salary

- a) A monthly base salary shall be paid to Elected Officials for the performance of their duties as Elected Officials. Current rates are identified in Schedule A.
- b) Monthly base salary is intended to compensate for:
 - i. Meetings with residents (includes time and mileage),
 - ii. Attendance at events hosted or co-hosted by the County (e.g. **Appreciation Events**, Long Service Awards, **Rural Living Expo**, **Business Conference**, Retirement Events),
 - iii. Home office costs including but not limited to cell phone, office supplies and internet expenses, and
 - iv. Preparation time for all meetings.
- c) Reeve and Deputy Reeve shall receive an additional allocation to their monthly base salary in recognition of the higher level of time commitment and involvement required of these positions, **such as but not limited to, meeting with CAO, cheque signing, parades, opening ceremonies, bringing greetings, etc.** Current rates are identified in Schedule A.
- d) Rate will be effective the month following appointment to the role. For example, if the Organizational Meeting is the 3rd Tuesday of October, the additional allowance will be paid to the incumbent starting November 1.

2. Per Diems

- a) Per diem rate will be reviewed by Administration during the development of the County's annual budget and in consultation with Council. Current rates are identified in Schedule A.
- b) Per diems will be paid for attendance at the following:
 - i. Regular, Special and Organizational Meetings of Council, and Committee of the Whole Meetings
 - ii. Internal committees to which the Elected Official is appointed by Council, or attendance as an alternate when the appointed Elected Official is unable to attend, or when **alternate is** invited by **the appointed** Elected Official or board/committee chair

- iii. External committees, boards or commissions to which the Elected Official is appointed by Council, or attendance as an Alternate when the appointed Elected Official is unable to attend, or when **alternate is** invited by **the appointed** Elected Official or board/committee chair
 - iv. Meetings held with Administration other than Council meetings, this includes but is not limited to Budget Workshops, Strategic Planning sessions, and Road Tours.
 - v. Meetings with other government and government agencies outside of Council or Committee of the Whole.
 - vi. Conferences and conventions
 - vii. Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) meetings, including Pembina Zone meetings.
 - viii. Elected Officials Orientation and training sessions necessary to complete duties, including training necessary or required to be a committee member
 - ix. Where the Reeve chooses to attend a committee in an ex-officio capacity, a per diem will not be paid.
- c) If per diems are provided by external organizations, Elected Official will be paid according to this policy and any per diem received from external organization will be paid to the County of Barrhead.
 - d) Elected Officials are to provide details of meetings that they have attended, including the length of the meeting in 0.5 day increments.
 - e) Meetings are subject to the following per diems
 - i. Meetings up to 4:00 hours – one half (0.5) per diem
 - ii. Meetings 4:01 hours – 8:00 hours – one (1) per diem
 - iii. Total per diem claim cannot exceed 1.5 per diems per day
 - f) **If more than 1 meeting is taking place in the same building location, then the per diem will be applied to the total time of all meetings unless there is over a 1-hour break between the meetings.**
 - g) Elected Officials will receive a maximum of one (1) per diem per day for attendance at conferences and conventions which **includes travel time, unless travel time is greater than 3 hours.**

3. Benefits

- a) Elected Officials will be given the opportunity to join the County Benefits Plan in accordance with the rules and regulations set out in the plan.
 - i. County pays 90% of the following benefits: Group Life, AD&D, ~~LTD~~ **Dependent Life**, Health, Dental, Critical Illness
 - ii. Health **& Wellness** Spending Account - \$750/per year
 - iii. Optional Benefits ~~are~~ **may be** available and **are** paid 100% by the Elected Official
- b) Elected Officials are to provide sufficient information for Administration to determine eligibility for benefits and to register.

4. Mileage

- a) Elected Officials will be required to obtain adequate insurance for business-related use of personal vehicles to claim mileage. Mileage will be reimbursed at a rate established in Schedule A.
- b) Mileage that is claimed from home to **an Elected Officials place of work** ~~meetings at the County of Barrhead Admin office~~ is **taxable mileage**, as per CRA guidelines.

- i. Taxable mileage will be submitted on the Elected Official Monthly Report and paid through payroll.
- i. Taxable mileage may be claimed for attendance at events or activities covered under Monthly Base Salary (section 1.b) ii) & 1.c) and Per Diems (section 2).
- c) Mileage that is claimed for travel to a destination other than what is considered as place of work is **non-taxable or a reimbursed expense**, as per CRA guidelines
 - ii. ~~Non-taxable Reimbursed mileage expenses~~ will be submitted on the Elected Official Expense Claim ~~and will be paid through accounts payable.~~
 - iii. Non-taxable mileage may be claimed for attendance at events or activities covered under Monthly Base Salary Section 1.b) ii) & 1.c) and Per Diems Section 2.

5. Expenses

Councillors shall be reimbursed for direct expenses incurred while undertaking approved County business.

- a) Receipts are required for reimbursement of expenses except for meal expenses.
 - i. Receipts must show breakdown of items purchased.
 - ii. Credit card transaction receipts will not be accepted unless they are itemized.
- b) Meal expenses are paid as per the allowance set in Schedule A

6. Other Compensation

- a) Personal Electronic Device
 - i. Council members require an electronic device such as a laptop or tablet to perform their duties. Each Elected Official will be reimbursed as per Schedule A.
 - ii. Valid receipt is required to be submitted with Elected Official Monthly Expense Claim.
- b) Training & Professional Development / Conferences & Conventions
 - i. Elected Officials are encouraged to participate in professional training and development opportunities to enhance their skills and knowledge to effectively fulfill their governance roles and responsibilities.
 - ii. Elected Officials are expected to represent the County of Barrhead at conferences and conventions.
 - iii. Elected Officials will be entitled to a yearly training / conference and convention budget as identified in Schedule A.
 - Per diems are not included in the calculation of the Elected Official's training/conference and convention budget.
 - All other costs associated with the training and development / conferences and conventions are required to be funded through this budget. These costs include, but are not limited to, registration costs, accommodation, meals, and mileage.
 - iv. Each Elected Official is responsible for not exceeding their individual budget without receiving prior approval of Council.

7. Exclusions

- a) Elected Officials shall not be paid a per diem for attendance at an event hosted by a provincial or federal political party held for the purpose of fundraising or campaigning

- b) County shall not reimburse an Elected Official for, or otherwise directly or indirectly pay for, any political contribution.
- c) County shall not pay a per diem or reimburse an Elected Official for expenses incurred for attending or participating in meetings, or events that the Elected Official is not authorized to attend in their official capacity as a committee member or Elected Official without pre-approval by Council.
- d) County shall not pay for any spousal or guest expenses.
 - i. When a hotel room allows for double occupancy at no additional rate, the Councillor may have spouse or partner occupy room with them at no cost to the County.

8. ~~Conflicts or Disputes~~ Exceptions

In the event that requested remuneration is beyond what is outlined in this policy, or a conflict arises, the details of the matter shall be referred to Council for decision through resolution.

9. Remuneration Review

- a) Elected Officials remuneration is to be reviewed mid-term of each four (4) year Council term by appointment of public members to an Elected Officials Remuneration Advisory Committee or by engaging professional services.
- b) Recommendations of a review will be considered by the sitting Council and if adopted would be effective for the newly elected Council.

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy shall be reviewed mid-term of each four (4) year Council term to ensure transparency and accountability or when Administration becomes aware of any legislation changes or concerns that would warrant a review.

CROSS-REFERENCE

- 1) *Municipal Government Act*
- 2) Elected Officials Remuneration Advisory Committee Recommendations, dated November 19, 2019 and March 3, 2020.

Effective: September 7, 2021

Approved by: Council Resolution No: 2021-324

Reviewed: January 16, 2023 Resolution No: 2023-009

Replaces: Policy 11.21 Councillor Fees
 Policy 11.22 Supplementary Expenses

Last Review: January 16, 2023

Next Review: 2026 (as per resolution 2023-012)



SCHEDULE A – Effective January 1, 2026

Monthly Base Salary

Elected Official	\$1,444.81
Reeve Additional	\$1,243.19
Deputy Reeve Additional	\$ 621.60

PER DIEMS	4 hours or less	Over 4 hours
Elected Officials & Committee Members	\$155.41	\$310.81

EXPENSES

Eligible Expenses	As per receipts submitted
Mileage	\$0.73 / km
Electronic Device	\$1000 per term (eff Nov 5/25 - Resolution 2025-380)
Meal Allowance (no receipt required)	
Breakfast	\$15.00
Lunch	\$20.00
Dinner	\$30.00

Where breakfast, lunch or dinner are provided at the conference or meeting, the meal allowances or meal receipt will not be reimbursed, unless approved by the Reeve.

TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT / CONFERENCES & CONVENTIONS

Budget	\$4,000/year
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Schedule A to be updated annually for COLA increase and in conjunction with the annual budget process.



2026 COUNCIL RESOLUTION TRACKING LIST

(Items beyond the normal course of business)

Resol. #	Resolution Topic	Responsible	Comments	Status
2026-184	Directed Administration to bring back 2nd reading on Land Use Bylaw No. 2-2026 to Council with amendments as discussed.	DO/CAO	Tentatively scheduled to return to Council on June 16, 2026 for further discussion.	Underway
2026-183	Directed Administration to work with Council to draft a response to the delegate's concerns by mid-June.	CAO		Underway
2026-181	Directed Administration to invite the Lac Ste. Anne Métis District representatives to a future Council meeting.	EA/CAO		Not started
2026-177	Set Nov 18 at 2:00pm for Public Auction and CAO to be auctioneer	CAO	Date updated on website	Complete May 21/26
2026-176	Received the request for sponsorship from Borealis Acres Shires for information.	RD	Applicant notified of Council decision	Complete May 19/26
2026-175	Proclaimed May 25 – 29, 2026, as Alberta Rural Health Week.	EA/COMM	Proclamation posted in office and on website	Complete May 20/26
2026-173	Approved contract with Stuber's Cat Service for 2026 Road Rehabilitation (Shoulder Pull) program for a cost of \$162,000 for 13.5 miles	PW/CAO	Contract Signed	Complete May 21/26
2026-172	Approved signing landowner agreements for Road Construction project # 26-740	PW/CAO	Agreement signed	Complete May 19/26
2026-171	Approved signing landowner agreements for Road Construction project # 26-340	PW/CAO	Agreement signed	Complete May 19/26
2026-160	Approved Bylaw 5-2026 Records Management	EA/CAO	Signed and Posted to website	Complete May 6/26
2026-155	Proclaimed May 4-9, 2026, as Safety & Health Week in the County of Barrhead.	EA/COMM	Proclamation posted in office and on website	Complete May 5/26
2026-153	Approved the purchase of herbicide from Advantage VM in the amount of \$112,435.75 to conduct the 2026 spray program.	AG	Herbicide ordered	Complete May 5/26
2026-150-152	Appointment of Weed & Pest Inspectors	AG/CAO	Identification issued	Complete May 13/26

2026-149	Accepted history of additional landfill lands and correspondence from Mr. Sutherland for information	CAO	Priority work completed (May 22/26), Council updated on est. total cost of project (May 19/26); Council accepted for info; site inspected - immediate concern re integrity of perimeter to be completed in 2026, with total project cost exceeding general fencing budget to be discussed during budget wkshops (incl discussion with Town)	Complete May 19/26
2026-147	Approve contract with Marshall Lines 2014 for 2026 Crack Sealing Program on County roadways and the airport for a total cost of \$112,145	PW/CAO	Contract signed; Contractor notified	Complete May 6/26
2026-146	Approved signing landowner agreements for Culvert replacement BF 74972	PW/CAO	Agreement signed	Complete May 6/26
2026-145	Approved signing landowner agreement for Culvert replacement BF 76144	PW/CAO	Agreement signed	Complete May 6/26
2026-144	Approved purchasing 1 Caterpillar motor grader from Finning (\$568K) & trade-in unit #207 2021 JD grader (\$221K); purchasing 2 John Deere motor graders from Brandt (\$571K each) & trading in unit #206 2022 JD grader (\$215K), unit #212 2021 JD grader (\$225K)	PW/CAO	Distributor's notified	Underway
2026-140	Supported FCSS Board's request as discussed in-camera	CAO	FCSS partners advised of decision, preliminary mtg held to discuss transition (more work will be required to support the transition)	Complete Apr 23/26
2026-136,154	Directed Admin to bring back Hemmerling Fire Invoice at next Council meeting	EA/CAO	Landowner phoned May 6/26 w follow up letter sent May 12; Council let their motion stand with no reduction for 25-332-CFR; Scheduled for May 5/26 mtg	Complete May 12/26
2026-133	Adopted 2025 Property Tax Bylaw 3-2026	CS/EA	Posted to website	Complete Apr 23/26
2026-129	Approved 3-Year Financial Plan & 10-Year Capital Plan	CS/COMM	Posted to website April 22, 2026	Complete Apr 22/26
2026-128	Revised 2026 Capital Budget from \$10,624,042 to \$11,017,056	CS/COMM	Posted Operating Budget, Capital Budget, Budget Presentation and Budget Overview to website April 22, 2026	Complete Apr 22/26
2026-127	Adopt 2026 Operating Budget as presented with operating expenditures & revenue of \$20,134,180	CS/COMM		Complete Apr 22/26

2026-126	Approved Emergency Management Plan	CAO	Finalized	Complete Apr 21/26
2026-124	Approve signing landowner agreement for Culvert replacement on Jansen Project SE-8-59-2-W5	AG/EA	Agreement Signed	Complete Apr 23/26
2026-115-116	Updated Library Board appointment to reflect end of term	EA/CAO	Library Executive Director notified	Complete Apr 9/26
2026-110	Rescind 6 obsolete policies	EA/CAO	Updates made in M-Files	Complete Apr 8/26
2026-109	Appointment of Fire Guardians	EA/CAO	Fire Chief & Guardians notified & website updated	Complete Apr 8/26
2026-107	Accepted 2025 Strategic Plan Report Card for info (to be posted on website)	COMM	Posted to website	Complete Apr 13/26
2026-103-105	Approve 2025 audited financial statements(FS) & FIR; post FS to website	CS/COMM	Posted to website	Complete Apr 14/26
2026-096	Support the CAO to participate on Women in Agriculture Panel if schedule permits.	CAO	CAO recognized to participate on Women in Agriculture Panel (no charge to attend); contacts made, shared with staff & to be incl in future Council agenda	Complete Mar 13/26
2026-092	Approved Corporate Use of Social Media Policy	COMM/CAO	Finalized	Complete Mar 4/26
2026-091	Approved Corporate Communications Plan	COMM/CAO	Finalized	Complete Mar 4/26
2026-090	Authorized signing of Misty Ridge 10-year operating agreement	EA/CAO	Fully executed and sent to Misty Ridge Committee	Complete Mar 27/26
2026-089	Approved Community Grant of \$1,600 to Pembina Arts Festival	EA/CAO	Recipient notified and cheque issued	Complete Mar 6/26
2026-088	Approved admendments to Policy AG-001 Beaver Program	EA/CAO	Policy updated	Complete Mar 5/26
2026-087	Appointed 2 additional members-at-large to ECDC	RD	New members notified	Complete Mar 6/26
2026-085	Adopted Bylaw 4-2026 - ECDC Bylaw	EA/CAO	Signed and posted to website	Complete Mar 27/26
2026-080	Include in Dev Agreement for DP 05-2026 that County would build road and make intersection improvements as discussed, and developer would be charged 90% of road builders rates as per County Rates & Fees Bylaw.	DEV/PW	Negotiation of DA underway as authorized by Council	Underway

2026-077	Accepted Boat Launch Maint report for info, Admin to bring back info on engineering & design costs (x2) for 2026 Budget to support permitting for work in 2027	RD/PW/CAO	Incorporated into DRAFT Final Budget for Council consideration.	Complete Mar 26/26
2026-076	Directed RCMP to maintain the policing priorities of Rural Visibility and Prolific Offender Management for the County of Barrhead.	CAO	Council provided input to RCMP on annual policing priorities.	Complete Mar 3/26
2026-074	Approved purchase of a Degelman 1820 Sidearm & Rev 1500 Mower from Horizon Ag & Turf for \$100,650; consign units #326 & #329 to auction.	PW	Consigned units sold; Received new units Apr 7; Ordered new units; consigned old units to Michener Allen to auction April 24	Complete Apr 24/26
2026-072	Tabled discussion on Communities in Bloom Participation until a future meeting and to bring forward budget request.	RD/CAO		Underway
2026-065	Inform the FCSS board that COB preference is 2 representatives from the County on the FCSS board.	CAO	Councillors to share info at earliest convenience; decision made by Council	Complete Feb 17/26
2026-063	CAO to bring back recommendation to rescind outdated resolutions; add context to 2024-225	CAO	Postponed to April 7 due to lack of time; Tentative scheduled in CAO Report to Council on Mar 3/26	Complete Apr 7/26
2026-061	Approved 2025 year-end financial reports subject to audit adjustments and year end finalizations.	CS/CAO	Auditors here beginning of March and presenting to Council on April 7	Complete Apr 7/26
2026-060	Approved Bylaw 3-2026 Records Management	EA/CAO	Signed and Posted to website; Awaiting signatures	Complete Mar 27/26
2026-056	Investigate the costs of livestreaming Council meetings	COMM/CAO	Shared with Council during Budget Workshop, no cost for pilot; Conducting research	Complete Mar 26/26
2026-053-55	Appointed ARB officials for CRASC	EA/CAO	CRASC notified	Complete Feb 18/26
2026-051	Approved purchase 2026 Caterpillar 420 Backhoe from Finning Canada Ltd. for \$220,430 and further, to trade-in Unit #301 to Finning Canada Ltd. for \$47,000	PW	New backhoe received and unit 301 traded in; Dealership notified of Council decision with approx delivery of June 2026	Complete Apr 27/26
2026-050	Approved purchase 2026 Dodge Ram 2500 crew cab 4x4 truck from Stephani Motors at a price of \$68,476.00 plus GST and applicable fees.	PW	Letter sent to dealership confirming purchase with approx delivery of June 2026	Underway
2026-049	Accepted 2025 Annual Enforcement Services Report to be posted	COMM/CPO	Report submitted to GOA and posted to website	Complete Feb 19/26
2026-048	Approved amended Policy PS-016 CPO Ride Along Program & rescinded Policy 26.13	CPO/EA/CAO	Policy submitted to GOA	Complete Apr 10/26

2026-047, 071	Create a public info pkg prior to the continuance of the Public Hearing for Bylaw 02-2026 set for April 7, 2026, at 1:00 pm	DEV/CAO	Info pkg released via website, hardcopy, etc. Research is underway; RFD to Council on Mar 3 for further direction	Complete Mar 13/26
2026-042	Provide a letter of support for MR Ski Hill to apply for Co-op Community Spaces Grant.	EA/CAO	Notified MR Ski Hill that Co-op Community Spaces Grant is not available in 2026; will request Council to rescind	Recinded Feb 17/26 2026-062
2026-040	Directed CAO to draft content for Ministerial Forum question period at Spring RMA convention re: Federal announcement to close Lacombe Research & Development Center.	CAO	BN provided to support Council; Research on commission responses, federal ag committee testimony; Discussion at Pembina Zone	Complete Mar 10/26
2026-038	Supported EAC recommendation to direct ASB to review draft Livestock EMP	AF/CAO	Directed to ASB	Complete Feb 3/26
2026-036	Postponed discussion on scheuling of Council meetings until next Council meeting	CAO	Direction provided to explore cost of live streaming (resol 2026-056); Included in Feb 17/26 agenda pkg	Complete Feb 17/26
2026-035, 120	Recessed the public hearing for bylaw 2-2026 until a future date	DO/CAO	Council closed public hearing; New date (Apr 7/26) brought to Council Feb 17/26 for consideration.	Complete Apr 7/26
2026-034	Denied the request to reduce or cancel the charges for fire incident report 25-332-CFR.	EA/CAO	Letter sent to landowner informing them of the decision.	Complete Feb 6/26
2026-028	Approved the additional funding sources for the 2025 capital projects	CS/CAO	Done	Complete Feb 3/26
2026-025	Approved purchase 2026 John Deere 744P from Brandt Tractor Ltd. for \$620,000 and to trade-in Unit #303 to Brandt Tractor Ltd. for \$86,000	PW/CAO	Notified and expected delivery approx June 2026	Underway
2026-020	Administration to bring a report to Council on snow clearing programs & options for County to support seniors.	PW/CAO	Conducted research on rural municipalites in Pembina Zone (13), prep report to Council Mar/26	Underway
2026-018	Accepted Enforcements Services Report, 2025 Winter Edition for info	CPO/Com	Posted to website	Complete Jan 7/26
2026-017	Approve 2025 cancelled tax transactions as presented.	CS/CAO	Complete.	Complete Jan 6/26
2026-016	Accepted allowance for doubtful accts of \$1,453.39 for info.	CS/CAO	Complete.	Complete Jan 6/26
2026-015	Write off 3 outstanding AR accounts for \$2,250.76	CS/CAO	Complete.	Complete Jan 6/26

2026-013,037	Mtg to be scheduled outside of RMA Conference; Administration to arrange mtg with Minister of Transportation to discuss road maintenance and other concerns regarding provincial highways	CAO	July 13/26 confirmed; Potential dates sent to AT (Apr 28/26); Call for feedback from staff, Council & public underway	Complete May 26/26
2026-012	Sell Engine 33 to Village of Riverhurst, SK for \$45,000 conditional upon their satisfactory inspection.	CS/CAO	Village of Riverhurst inspected unit on January 20, 2026, and deemed it satisfactory. Payment received and Village staff drove unit back to Riverhurst.	Complete Jan 20/2026
2026-011	Approved resolution "Access to Liability Insurance for Agritourism Operators" to be presented at Pembina Zone	CAO	Presented at Pembina Zone & passed	Complete Jan 12/26
2026-010	Respond to Alberta Geographical Names Program, with no objection to naming of water feature	RD/CAO	Reponse submitted	Complete Jan 6/26
2026-009	Appoint Ms. Noble to Barrhead Library Board	EA	Library Executive Director notified	Complete Jan 14/26
2026-008	Appoint Mr. Ruhl to SDAB	EA/DEV	Applicant notified	Complete Jan 14/26
2026-005-007	Appointments made to ALUS PAC	ALUS	Members notified	Complete Jan 8/26
2026-004	Set public hearing for Bylaw 2-2026 for Feb 3 at 1:00 pm in Council Chambers	DEV/CAO	Advertised as per MGA, additional adv also completed.	Complete Feb 3/26
2026-003	1st reading Bylaw 2-2026 amending LUB 4-2024 to add Data Processing Facility	EA/CAO	Decision tracked	Complete Jan 14/26
2025-430	Councillors provide written report to be included in agenda pkg for Regular Council mtg to be submitted by end of day preceding Thursday.	EO/CAO	Shared template with Councillors; incl in agenda pkg	Complete Jan 06/26
2025-416	Authorized Reeve & CAO to sign BRWC Operational Agreement	EA/CAO	Agreement finalized; awaiting signature	Complete Jan 24/26
2025-403	Purchase (3) 2026 Cat motor graders, trade in (2) 2021 Cat motor graders to Finning Canada; sell 2016 Cat motor grader to Wallis Bros. Construction	PW/CAO	Received final 2 graders; Received 1/3 new grader, sold 2016 grader to Wallis Bros. Construction as per Council resolution; Suppliers notified	Complete Apr 10/26
2025-394-400	Appointed Members-at-large to County Committees	EA/CAO	All applicants notified; website to be updated in January	Complete Jan 7/26
2025-383	New initiatives be brought back to a future Project Priority session with Council to explore consideration for the 2026 Budget.	CAO	Discussed at COW, further discussion to occur during budget workshops; Tent. Sched. COW Jan 29/26	Complete Jan 29/26

2025-377	Approved up to a 90-day extension for offering Council Orientation under the MGA s. 201.1(2)	CAO	Info sharing ongoing, leg req. met. w orientation/info on a variety of programs, assets Jan 29/26; Legal session, Assessment 101, Roads 101, P&D 101, CPO program complete; others planned	Complete Jan 29/26
2025-254	Directed Admin to finalize scheduling with NRCB & ILWG - Stock Talk Initiative in the new year; include ASB members	CAO	NRCB (April 7/26); ILWG (Mar 10/26); NRCB has committed, ILWG has provided possible dates; Email sent to ILWG, looking at dates.	Complete Feb 24/26
2025-228	Directed Admin to proceed with prelim geo-technical and develop work plan re partnership project with LSAC.	PW/CAO	Call sched w new LSAC CAO - Feb 2/26; Discussed during budget wrkshp in Nov; LSAC project lead contacted Sep 22/25, Oct 8/25, LSAC advised on July 25/25	Underway
2025-194	Proceed with the acquisition of related vehicle & officer equipment up to \$77,141 to be funded by unrestricted reserves	CPO/CAO	All complete; Tentative completion for Mar/26 (last item is Axon in-car camera); Vehicle equipment has been purchased with installation occurring Oct-Jan.	Complete Mar 20/26
2025-193	Award the contract to Wolfe Chevrolet for the purchase of a 2025 Chevy Silverado SSV at a cost of \$57,359 excluding GST	CPO/CAO	All complete; Starlink installed, testing & inspection of unit underway; Expected to be in service Jan/26; Patrol vehicle received Jun 20/25; scheduled for outfitting on Oct 27/25.	Complete Mar 6/26
2025-190	Engage legal counsel to explore options for alternative access to SE 26-59-06-W5	CAO	Legal counsel has been engaged, file review underway	Underway
2025-189	Directed Policy Committee to review Policy 32.04 Road Construction Standards.	PW/CAO	Admin has started the review of Policy 32.04 & associated policies	Underway
2025-187	Approve Manola Lagoon Sounding & Assessment Project at a cost of \$27,087 with additional funding coming from current year revenue	PW/CS	Final report received, analysis required to dev proj plan; Sounding completed, awaiting final report; Manola lagoon sounding is scheduled for August 18, 2025.	Complete Dec 1/25
2024-449	Bring back options/recommendations on use of sand/salt on County roads in Thunder Lake.	PW/CAO	Draft report submitted to CAO for review; Preliminary discussions with staff	Underway
2024-398	Directs CAO to move forward with exploring/negotiating options with GOA to become anchor tenant of ADLC.	CAO	Formal project complete; Discussed during budget wrkshps in Nov; Mtgs with AB Infrastructure & a developer; Reeve & CAO engaged Minister Infrastructure at RMA, followed up requested by Minister; Mtg rescheduled Feb 25/25; Preliminary contact made with GOA to schedule mtg in new year; Draft Concept Floor Plans complete	Complete Jan 29/26

2024-225	In next LUB review, discuss definition of "Agriculture, Small Scale Operation" and provide examples	CAO/DEV	Topic added to the list of proposed changes and areas for clarification	Underway
2024-149, 179	Approved purchase salt/sand storage building incl installation from Coverco Buildings Ltd. for the price of \$395,426.65 excluding GST.	PW	Door Installed; Door hung (Jan 22/26), door springs to be installed, holdback in place. Complete except for door installation; Contractor currently building structure; Pad constructed by COB; Contracts awarded for paving, building; Company notified	Complete Feb 9/26
2024-062	Council approved signing the land exchange agreement and to cancel the portion of Road Plan 2000MC north of NW 2-62-4-W5 containing approximately 0.938 ha (2.32 acres).	EA/DEV	Submitted to Land Titles for Registration; Approval received and sent to surveyor to finalize road plan; Alberta Transportation contacted for permission to close portion of road plan	Underway
2023-208	Administration to send a letter of intent to Maykut Farms expressing the County's desire to enter into a lease agreement in 2026 for a portion of the gravel pit located in NE 3-63-4-W5.	PW/CAO	Revisions made & resent to pit owner; Letter of Intent sent to pit owner; Discussion with owner to confirm specifications, letter drafted; Gravel pit owner notified verbally of County's intent	Underway
2022-448	Draft congratulatory letter for Reeve's signature to new Min of MA and provide info on County of Barrhead strategic initiatives.	CAO/EA	Recommend to Rescind; New minister, revising message	Rescinded Apr 7/26
2022-166	Preliminary consolidated report on status of wastewater infrastructure	CAO/PW/DF	Manola project approved, to be incorporated into report upon completion; Consolidating all lagoon reports (T.L. received Dec/22); incorporating asset management principles and discussions with LSAC	Underway
2021-174	VSU - letter to MLA re support and current service delivery model	CAO/EA	Recommend to mark as complete Mar 5/24 following VSU presentation to Council thanking CAO for efforts; Met with VSU representative (Jan 16/23) to better understand situation/impact; Rough draft prepared	Complete Apr 7/26
2019-352	Follow-up letter to Minister Municipal Affairs	EA/CAO	Recommend to Rescind - this was a joint meeting with Town related to BARCC; Notes distributed vs. formal letter	Rescinded Apr 7/26
2018-029	Service Contract Review	FIN/EA/CAO	Initial list has been compiled.	Underway

2017-245	Policy for Special Events	CAO/Dev	Admin completed final review of draft bylaw Mar 9/26; Hiring of CPO, Director Rural Development, & new D.O. has moved this bylaw forward and will come to Council in early 2026; Discussion with Council at Dec 5/24 Committee of Whole; Reviewing policies from neighbouring municipalities	Underway
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Overview:

Open Skies Expo & Awards was a vibrant celebration of rural living in the County of Barrhead. On April 11, 2026, public attendees explored a dynamic hall featuring 18 exhibitors, municipal service displays, children’s activities, and more—all highlighting unique aspects of rural living. The day concluded with the County Appreciation & Awards Dinner, where 97 attendees gathered to honour and recognize achievements of outstanding County of Barrhead residents.

Project Goals & Objectives:

- 1) Promote rural lifestyle and celebrate rural achievements.
- 2) Engage & educate the public on services & programs available to support rural living.

Strategic Alignment:

Open Skies Expo & Awards event aligns with County’s 2022-2026 Strategic Plan as follows:



Pillar 3: Rural Lifestyle

OUTCOME: County maintains its rural character and is recognized as a desirable location to invest, work, live, and play.

Exhibitors:

Exhibitors at the Rural Living – Open Skies Expo represented a wide range of service providers & organizations:

1. County of Barrhead municipal services & information
2. 5M Wagon & Sleigh Rides
3. 7 Elements Landscaping
4. Back Home Farms
5. Barrhead Agricultural Society
6. Barrhead Fish & Game Association
7. Belvedere Solutions
8. Country Comfort Cabins & RV
9. Done Right Custom Ag Services
10. Fortis
11. Gateway Research Organization
12. Inheritance Publications



13. Northwest of 16
14. One Shot Bow Shop
15. Pembina West Co-op
16. Quedenbaum Farms/AB Open Farm Days
17. Stalwart Electric
18. Straight Arrow Farms



Expo Spotlight Presentations:

Throughout the day, Gateway Research Organization (GRO) provided free hands-on presentations about soil testing at home.



GRO presenting about soil testing at home

Dinner & Awards Presentations:

Award presentations & recognitions included:

- **Greetings from Province**
 - *MLA Glenn van Dijken*
- **Farm Spotlight: Shire Horses**
 - *Leanne Bombay, Borealis Acres Shires*
- **Certificate of Achievement, Prime Minister's Teaching Excellence Award**
 - *Joanne Wallace*
- **Northern Alberta Farm Family Award, Alberta Association of Ag Societies**
 - *Van Loon Family*
- **Honour Roll, Alberta Association of Ag Societies**
 - *Calvin & Robin Young*
- **Recognition of Provincial & National Livestock & Crop Association Representatives**
- **Rural Beautification Awards**
 - *Barry & Jody Waters, Division 1*
 - *Darren & RaeJean Blum, Division 2*
 - *Jenny & Leonard Spitzer, Division 4*
 - *Peter & Judy Nesterchuk, Division 6*
 - *Craig & Tracy Tiemstra, Division 7*



Farm Family Award Winners - Van Loon Family



Beautification Award Winners - Blum



Leanne Bombay speaking about Shire Horses

“We made many valuable and meaningful connections... I’m so grateful for the experience and the wonderful community that we belong to.”

~ Leanne Bombay,
Dinner Spotlight Speaker

Budget Performance:

Total 2026 Budget for the full day was \$8,000 with an anticipated revenue of \$1,500 for a net cost of \$6,500. Actual costs were slightly under budget and a few more tickets sold than expected leaving a net cost of \$5,505.81 or approximately \$994 underbudget.

Event	Budget	Actual
Rural Living Expo	\$4,000	\$3,485.14
Appreciation Dinner	\$4,000	\$3,735.67
Revenue (Dinner Tickets)	(\$1,500)	(\$1,715)
TOTAL:	\$6,500	\$5,505.81





Graders

- Area graders are blading roads and spreading gravel.
- New grader operator in area 4 started May 25.

Gravel

- Gravelling 2026 Road Maintenance projects out of the Fort Assiniboine Gravel Pit utilizing County forces and 1 contract truck.

Landfill

- Perimeter fence on the landfill pasture property has been repaired and is ready for cattle. Costs for full repairs to be discussed further.

Construction

- Sufficient area has been opened up and ready for the planned crush at Fort Assiniboine Gravel Pit.
- Equipment will be moving to Vega to complete Job #741 on Township Road 624A.

MG30 Dust Control

- Program product application is scheduled to start June 1 and will take approximately 7 days to complete. Program is weather dependent; rain will delay spraying the product.

Drainage

- Utilizing the backhoe and tandem gravel truck, staff continue to repair and replace culverts and build and extend approaches.

Brushing

- Excavator and D2 dozer are brushing on Range Road 42 North of Township Road 610 to improve the width on the machine road allowing better access to crop land.

Labour

- Sign repairs, pothole repairs, tree removal, culvert delivery, campground and transfer station maintenance.

Shop

- Mower rig up, and general vehicle services and maintenance.

Utilities

- Staff have been working to find, expose, and exercise valves that have been identified as part of the Utilities Digitization Project. Non-functioning valves are marked for repairs.
- All other testing and monitoring are being carried out as per normal operations.



TO: COUNCIL

RE: COUNCILLOR REPORT – COUNCILLOR CRISLER, DIVISION 2

DATE: May 1-30, 2026

COUNCIL APPOINTED COMMITTEES/ACTIVITIES:

- Council Meeting May 5, 2026
- Council Meeting May 19, 2026

Barrhead Regional Airport Committee

- No meeting to report this period.

Athabasca Watershed Council

-
-
-

Barrhead Regional Crime Coalition

- Looking at another Fraud Workshop.
- Bring in training workshop on video surveillance, to Woodland County.
- Looking forward doing a Workshop on Trespassing.
- Working on Emergency Phone Number Information Brochure.

RMA Spring Conference March 16, 17, 18 2026

-
-

Barrhead District Seed Cleaning Co-op Committee

- No Meeting this month
-
-

Pembina River District 3 Meeting

-
-

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES/EVENTS:

-
-

OTHER:



COUNCILLOR REPORT

TO: COUNCIL

RE: COUNCILLOR REPORT – COUNCILLOR ELLWEIN, DIVISION 5

DATE: May 20 – Jun. 1, 2026

COUNCIL POINTED COMMITTEES/ACTIVITIES:

Barrhead & District Agricultural Society

- Graveling of new area to store panels was completed, Ag Society would like to thank the County for all the help in completing this project.
- Lots of work going on in prep for the 3 events coming up.
 - o Demolition Derby July 4, 2026
 - o Blue Heron Fair and Rodeo Aug. 8 and 9, 2026
 - o Wildrose Rodeo Finals Sept. 17 – 20, 2026

Fire Services Committee

- Nothing new to report.

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES/EVENTS:

OTHER:

- May need to look at maintaining the 3 (RR23, RR25, RR34) oil band roads better as the ruts in places will high center a car if someone tries to straddle the ruts. This needs to be talked about more with council and some decisions need to be made on a game plan moving forward.



COUNCILLOR REPORT

TO: COUNCIL

RE: COUNCILLOR REPORT – COUNCILLOR PREUGSCHAS, DIVISION 6

DATE: May 15 to 27th, 2026

ACTIVITIES:

Agriculture Service Board:

Economic Development Committee:

Museum:

- AGM planned for June 3rd.
- Hired a student. Now open Tuesdays to Saturdays.

Barrhead Attraction and Retention Committee (ARC):

- Health Care Appreciation Barbecue has been delayed.

FCSS:

- Working on new structure for the organization. Had another meeting in this regard.
- Will be sending out a communication to the community regarding re-structuring of FCSS.
- Helped clean out bins at the Ripple Thrift Shop.

Twinning Committee:

- Provincial Twinning Association AGM held in Lacombe May 22nd and 23rd. Next year Barrhead will be hosting it.
- Met representative of Burman University of Lacombe. Has been there since 1907. Discussed chances of a satellite campus. Will follow up.

Policy Committee:

Budget meetings:

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES/OTHER:

Northwest of 16:

- Toured around a site location manager for Edmonton Screen May 7th and May 20th. Edmonton is looking to expand the film industry from Calgary to Edmonton and the surrounding region. This is potentially a great opportunity for this region.

Other:

- Gave greetings on behalf of county to Beef Achievement Day May 25th
- Concern that Land fill recycle bins are not well managed. Sometimes full and have to take sorted out material to household garbage section.
- Concern that creeks aren't flowing in to and out of Shoal Lake properly.



COUNCILLOR REPORT

TO: COUNCIL

DATE: May 27, 2026

RE: COUNCILLOR REPORT – COUNCILLOR BERGSMA, DIVISION 7

COUNCIL APPOINTED COMMITTEES/ACTIVITIES:

Community Futures Yellowhead East

- Attended the meeting virtually, the board approved a small business loan for a Doggy Daycare and reviewed ongoing business development initiatives.
- Planning a Fall Symposium.
- Selected a performance review report to be used for the Executive Director Performance Review.

Economic & Community Development Committee

- Wasn't able to attend the meeting this month, but ongoing work into creating our next business plan is in progress.
- Seeing a positive result from having the additional members at large.

Misty Ridge Ski Club

- Completed year end clean-up prior to meeting.
- Working on investing Camp Creek monies yet, bit of a challenging process with all the board members having to be involved. Working on changing banks to simplify the process.
- Received rider stats and saw a really great increase - up 34% from last year.
- Discussed rates and made a decision to implement some increases.
- Working on creating more specific board member roles.
- Was able to receive a sponsorship from a local business for up to \$10,000 of diesel fuel (last years total was \$9600 approx).
- Met with Wendy the president of Tawatinaw Ski Club and will continue some conversation with her to try establish a stronger board structure.

Barrhead & District Social Housing Committee

Policy Committee

From: Tracy Mindus <tracy.mindus@woodlands.ab.ca>
Sent: May 27, 2026 10:28 AM
To: Debbie Oyarzun <DOyarzun@countybarrhead.ab.ca>; cao@biglakescounty.ca;
stacey.wabick@mdgreenview.ab.ca; tkulbisky@westlockcounty.com; executive.assistant@mldsr.ca;
Peter Smyl <petersmyl@whitecourt.ca>; lmercier@yhcounty.ca; cao@mayerthorpe.ca;
csteffes@barrhead.ca
Cc: Matthew Ferris <matthew.ferris@woodlands.ab.ca>; John Orwa <john.orwa@woodlands.ab.ca>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] - Letter of Support - West Coast Oil Pipeline Project
Importance: High

Good morning,

On behalf of Woodlands County Council and CAO, please find attached a letter of support regarding the proposed West Coast Oil Pipeline (WCOP) project.

Council, at its recent meeting, directed Administration to seek the support of adjacent municipalities by way of signature on the attached letter. The proposed project is intended to enhance market access for Alberta resources and support long-term economic growth and infrastructure development.

Should your municipality wish to support the initiative, we kindly request that an authorized representative sign the attached letter and return a signed copy by Thursday, June 4, 2026. We also ask that you provide a high-resolution copy of your municipal logo for inclusion on the final joint support letter.

We apologize for the short turnaround time and appreciate your consideration and cooperation on this matter.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your consideration and support.



Tracy Mindus

**Manager, Legislative Services &
Communications**

t 780-778-8400 **f** 780-778-8402
PO Box 60, 1 Woodlands Lane
Whitecourt, AB T7S 1N3

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May 21, 2026

The Honourable Danielle Smith

Premier of Alberta

Email: premier@gov.ab.ca

The Honourable Brian Jean

Minister of Energy and Minerals

Email: fortmcurray.laclubiche@assembly.ca

Re: Joint Municipal Letter of Support: West Coast Oil Pipeline (WCOP) Project and Regional Routing Considerations

Dear Premier Smith and Minister Jean,

On behalf of Woodlands County and the undersigned adjacent municipalities, we are writing to express our collective and unequivocal support for the proposed West Coast Oil Pipeline (WCOP) project, which is being advanced by the Government of Alberta for submission to the federal Major Projects Office. We further wish to formally encourage that the project corridor, staging, and associated infrastructure be advanced through our region, where it will be welcomed, supported, and well-served by established communities and capable local partners.

As municipal leaders representing communities along and adjacent to a logical and advantageous corridor for this project, we recognize that the WCOP is a generational opportunity to strengthen Canada's energy independence, expand access to global markets, and deliver lasting prosperity to the regions we serve. We endorse the project's designation as one of national interest and urge all parties to advance it through the streamlined review process established under the Major Projects Office and to do so in a manner that takes full advantage of the geographic, industrial, and community readiness our area offers.

Strengthening Energy Security and National Interest

The signatories to this letter believe firmly that Canada's long-term economic resilience depends on its ability to move responsibly produced energy products to tidewater. The Memorandum of Understanding signed in November 2025 between the governments of Alberta and Canada rightly identifies a west coast oil pipeline as a project of national interest. Diversifying our export markets beyond a single trading partner is no longer optional; it is essential. The WCOP project would directly reduce Canada's vulnerability to price discounts, transportation bottlenecks, and shifting trade dynamics, while reinforcing our standing as a stable and reliable supplier of energy to allied nations across the Pacific.

Our municipalities have long understood that national infrastructure built in our region carries national consequences and national rewards. We accept that responsibility and are prepared to be active and constructive partners in realizing this project within our boundaries and along our shared corridor.

A Region Ready to Host This Project

We wish to be unambiguous: our municipalities welcome this project and actively encourage its routing, construction, and operation through our area. Our region offers significant advantages to the proponents, the Government of Alberta, and the federal Major Projects Office, including:

- Established energy infrastructure and rights-of-way that can be leveraged or paralleled to minimize new environmental disturbance;
- A skilled local workforce with deep experience in pipeline construction, operations, maintenance, and emergency response;
- Mature service and supply industries capable of supporting major construction logistics, accommodations, and procurement;
- Strong municipal governance and emergency services prepared to coordinate with proponents on safety planning, traffic management, and community liaison; and
- Existing, constructive relationships with neighbouring Indigenous communities, industry, and provincial agencies.

Simply put, this is a region that knows how to host major energy projects responsibly and is prepared to be a willing and capable home for the WCOP.

Economic Growth, Employment, and Local Prosperity

The economic case for the WCOP project is compelling, and its benefits should be felt directly in the rural and adjacent communities that host it. Our regions stand to gain meaningfully from the employment, training, contracting, and procurement opportunities that a project of this scale will generate — both during construction and throughout its decades-long operational life.

Sustained investment of this magnitude will support local employment, expand our tax base, fund community services and infrastructure, and help our municipalities plan confidently for the future. We are particularly encouraged that the project has been structured from the outset to include Indigenous communities as genuine partners with pathways to ownership, and we look forward to working alongside our Indigenous neighbours throughout the corridor to ensure shared, long-term benefit.

Our Commitment

The undersigned municipalities commit to:

- Actively encouraging and facilitating the routing of the WCOP through our region;
- Working constructively with Alberta's government, project proponents, regulators, and Indigenous Nations throughout pre-engagement, regulatory review, and project development;
- Sharing local knowledge of land use, infrastructure, emergency services, and community priorities to support sound planning and route design;
- Communicating transparently with our residents about project progress, opportunities, and concerns; and
- Supporting environmental protection measures and high safety standards consistent with the values expressed in Alberta's engagement framework.

We respectfully ask that you give the WCOP submission your full and timely consideration and give serious weight to our region's readiness and willingness to host this nationally significant project. Projects of national interest require national resolve and willing local partners, and the undersigned municipalities are pleased to offer both.

Should you require further information, wish to arrange site visits, or engage directly with our councils, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Dave Kusch, Reeve Woodlands County



780-778-3030
Box 60, #1 Woodlands Lane Whitecourt AB T7S 1N3

[Name] Mayor/Reeve [Name of Adjacent Municipality #1]
(Insert Logo and contact information)

[Name] Mayor/Reeve [Name of Adjacent Municipality #2]
(Insert Logo and contact information)

[Name] Mayor/Reeve [Name of Adjacent Municipality #3]

cc: The Honourable Rajan Sawhney, Minister of Indigenous Relations.

Dear Reeve Munck,

I hope this message finds you well.

I am writing to you in your role as Reeve of County of Barrhead and as a valued municipal partner in the ALUS program. As you know, your municipality is one of 21 communities across Alberta that have been actively delivering producer-led stewardship through ALUS.

We are reaching out today to request your support on an important matter affecting all of our communities.

With the recent discontinuation of the Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program (WRRP), there is a significant gap in funding that has historically enabled ALUS projects and other watershed initiatives to succeed across the province. WRRP has been a cornerstone program supporting on-the-ground stewardship, helping municipalities and producers work together to improve water quality, reduce flood and drought risk, and enhance environmental outcomes across Alberta.

We have prepared a draft letter for your consideration, which we are asking each of the 21 participating municipalities to send directly to Minister Hunter. The intent of this coordinated outreach is to:

- Highlight the tangible outcomes being delivered by farmers and ranchers on the ground
- Reinforce that land stewardship in Alberta begins on the farm
- Express concern about the loss of WRRP as a key funding mechanism
- Request a meeting to explore how ALUS, participating communities and the Province can work together to maintain and strengthen these programs moving forward

ALUS communities have demonstrated that when producers are supported through voluntary, flexible programs, they deliver measurable results. Across Alberta, ALUS has supported over 36,000 acres and 6,000 projects of nature-based infrastructure, including wetlands, riparian areas, and grasslands, all backed by rigorous reporting and adaptive management.

The strength of this message will come from a unified municipal voice. Hearing directly from Reeves across Alberta will underscore that this is not just a program issue—it is a local government priority tied to economic resilience, water management, and sustainable agriculture in our communities.

We respectfully ask that you send the letter under your signature and copy Christine Campbell (ccampbell@alus.ca) and your MLA in the email.

Thank you for your continued leadership and for the important role you and your Council play in supporting Alberta's producers and landscapes.

Sincerely,



Christine Campbell
Senior Hub Manager (West)



May 25, 2026

ALUS Municipal Advocacy Campaign Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program (WRRP)

Purpose of the Campaign

As you are aware, the Government of Alberta did not renew the Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program (WRRP) in the 2026–27 budget. This decision has created a significant funding gap for voluntary, producer-led stewardship initiatives across Alberta.

In response, ALUS is launching a coordinated advocacy campaign with our 21 municipal partners to ensure Minister of Environment and Protected Areas Grant Hunter understands:

- the importance of ALUS as a proven delivery mechanism for Alberta’s nature strategy,
- the number of municipalities and producers relying on this funding,
- and the measurable stewardship outcomes being delivered on working agricultural lands across Alberta.

Through trusted relationships with farmers and ranchers, ALUS has helped deliver over 36,000 acres of nature-based infrastructure across Alberta, including wetlands, riparian areas, and grasslands that improve watershed resilience, soil health, biodiversity, and carbon sequestration.

This campaign is intended to demonstrate to the Province that:

“Land stewardship in Alberta begins on the farm.”

Campaign Objectives

The advocacy effort has four primary objectives:

1. Demonstrate broad municipal support for continued stewardship funding.
2. Position ALUS as a cost-effective, scalable, community-based delivery model.
3. Reinforce the importance of producer-led conservation and ecosystem services.
4. Request a meeting with Minister Hunter to explore future partnership and funding opportunities for Budget 2027.

Municipal Actions Requested

Reeve Letter to Minister Hunter

We respectfully request that each participating municipality:

- Send the letter under the Reeve's signature
- Copy their local MLA and ALUS leadership – Christine Campbell – ccampbell@alus.ca
- Submit the letter no later than **June 15, 2026**

MLA Engagement Strategy – Summer 2026

Following the Reeve letter campaign, ALUS will begin direct engagement with MLAs across Alberta.

Timeline: June – September 15, 2026

ALUS representatives will contact MLAs within each participating county to request meetings focused specifically on the impacts of WRRP cancellation, importance of producer-led stewardship and the role ALUS communities play in delivering ecosystem services locally.

For each MLA meeting, ALUS hopes to include:

- the Reeve,
- Agricultural Service Board Chair (ASB),
- and a local producer/rancher participating in ALUS.

This local representation will be critical in demonstrating that stewardship outcomes are being delivered directly by producers and communities support these initiatives.

Why This Matters

The removal of WRRP funding risks slowing or halting important stewardship initiatives that:

- improve watershed health,
- reduce flood and drought risks,
- support biodiversity,
- enhance carbon sequestration,
- and strengthen agricultural resilience across Alberta.

ALUS communities have spent close to 20 years building trusted relationships with producers and delivering measurable environmental outcomes through rigorous reporting and adaptive

management. This campaign is intended to ensure government understands both the local impact and the long-term value of continuing this work.

Thank You

We sincerely appreciate the continued leadership and support of participating municipalities, Reeves, CAOs, Agricultural Service Boards, and producers throughout this effort.

A coordinated municipal voice will be critical in demonstrating to the Province that stewardship funding is not simply an environmental issue — it is a rural economic, agricultural, and community resilience priority.

Further updates and supporting materials will be provided as the campaign progresses.

Thank you again for your partnership and leadership.

If you have any further questions, do not hesitate to contact Christine Campbell – Senior Hub Manager (West) – ccampbell@alus.ca 587.894.0666 or Michelle Tetreault – Senior Policy Advisor – mmtetreault@gmail.com 403.519.8651.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christine Campbell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Christine Campbell

County Letterhead

Dear Minister,

On behalf of [County Name], and as one of the 21 municipalities participating in the ALUS program in Alberta, I am writing to express our concern regarding the discontinuation of the Watershed Resiliency and Restoration Program (WRRP), and to request an opportunity to work with you on a path forward.

First, we would like to sincerely thank the Government of Alberta for its leadership and investment in WRRP over the past 8 years. The program has supported more than 6,000 projects for ALUS farmers and producers to improve watershed health, reduce flood and drought risks, and strengthen environmental stewardship across the province.

As a participating ALUS municipality, we have seen firsthand how this funding has translated into real, on the ground outcomes. Through trusted relationships with our farmers and ranchers, ALUS has delivered over 36,000 acres of nature-based infrastructure across Alberta.

It is important to emphasize that land stewardship in Alberta begins on the farm. Producers are the “boots on the ground,” actively managing their land to deliver ecosystem services that benefit all Albertans. These include carbon sequestration, improved soil health and water retention. The success of these efforts has been made possible through a strong partnership between government, municipalities, and producers built over the past 20 years.

The decision not to renew WRRP in the 2026–27 budget creates a significant gap in Alberta’s ability to support voluntary, producer-led stewardship initiatives. This gap risks halting progress on projects that reduce emissions, enhance natural infrastructure, and strengthen watershed resilience at a time when these outcomes are more important than ever.

At the same time, we see this as an opportunity to work collaboratively with your ministry.

Our municipality, along with the other ALUS communities across Alberta, have established a proven delivery model that is community-driven, cost-effective, and scalable. We are committed to continuing this work and want to explore how we can partner with you to:

- Maintain and expand producer-led stewardship initiatives on working agricultural lands
- Continue delivering measurable ecosystem services that align with provincial priorities
- Ensure Alberta remains a leader in sustainable agriculture

We agree completely with your recent comments about the Federal Government’s nature strategy, *“for them not to recognize our farmers and ranchers, who have been stewards of the land – probably the best stewards you’ll ever find.”* Through WRRP, we have been delivering nature-based solutions on agricultural land and delivering significant environmental and economic returns for Alberta communities. We are eager to build on that foundation.

We respectfully request a meeting with you to discuss how we can work together to ensure the continuation of this important work.

Sincerely,

[Reeve Name]

Reeve, [County Name]

Cc:ccampbell@alus.ca

MLA: (county MLA)

N

Community
Futures Yellowhead East

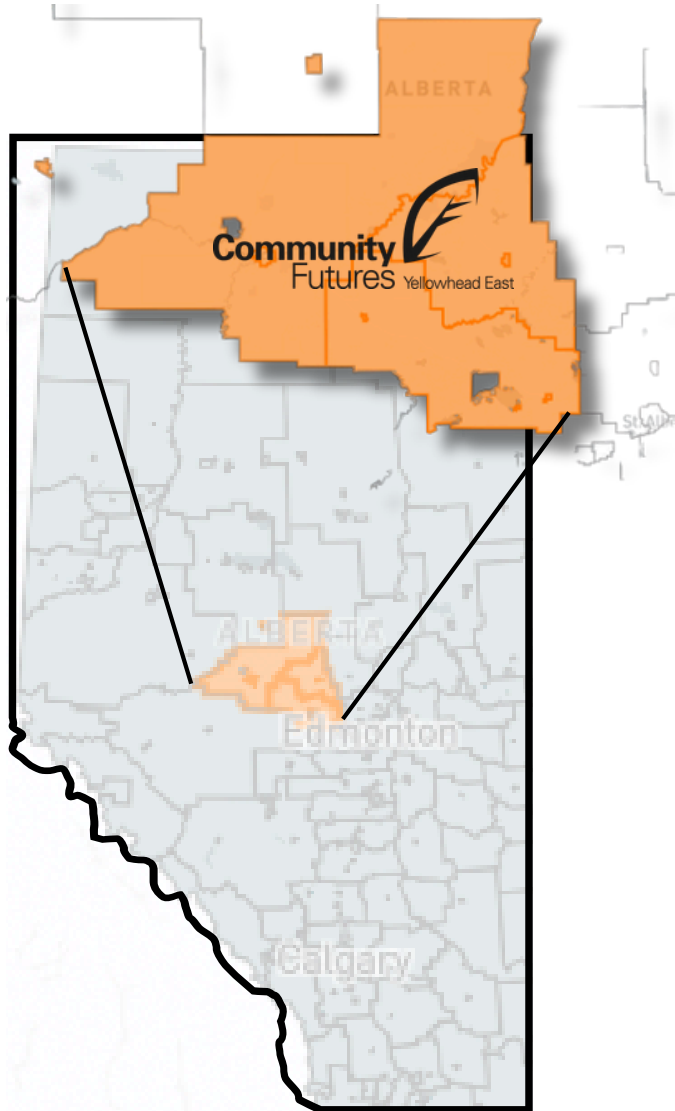


Annual Review 2026

**SUPPORTING BUSINESS GROWTH &
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE REGION**

46 Communities Served

Within 10 Municipalities



Alberta Beach - Barrhead - Benbow - Birch Cove -
Bloomsbury - Blue Ridge - Camp Creek - Castle Island
- Cherhill - Darwell - Fallis - Fort Assiniboine - Fox
Creek - Glenevis - Greencourt - Gunn - Hurdy - Kaybob
- Knight - Lake Isle - Lisburn - Lombell - Lone Pine -
Manola - Mayerthorpe - Neerlandia - Onoway - Pass
Creek - Rich Valley - Rochfort Bridge - Ross Haven -
Sandy Beach - Sangudo - Silver Creek - Silver Sands -
Southview - Sunrise Beach - Sunset Point - Swan Hills
- Tiger Lily - Val Quentin - Vega - West Cove -
Whitecourt - Windfall Junction - Yellowstone



CFYE is Part of Canada's Largest Rural Economic Development Network

We support:

- small business growth
- entrepreneurs
- community economic development
- regional collaboration
- access to capital
- training and advisory services



WHAT WE DO:

CFYE provides:

- business loans
- business coaching and advisory support
- training and workshops
- economic development projects
- regional initiatives
- support for non-profits and community groups
- facilitate strategic planning

HOW WE DO IT:

- local decision-making
- regional partnerships
- practical supports for small communities
- leveraging provincial and federal funding
- collaboration across municipalities

CFYE Board of Directors

- **Serena Lapointe**, Chairperson (*Whitecourt*)
- **Patricia MacNeil**, Vice Chair (*Woodlands County*)
- **Esther Sonnenberg**, Treasurer (*Mayerthorpe*)
- **Charmaine Botros**, - Secretary (*Barrhead*)
- **DecolynneJo Burns** (Barteski), IRC Chair (*Alberta Beach*)
- **Terry Kuyek**, IRC Vice Chair (*Swan Hills*)
- **Grant Johnson**, Director (*Onoway*)
- **Tyson Bergsma**, Director (*Barrhead County*)
- **Edward Gifford**, Director (*Lac Ste. Anne County*)
- **Kerri Hudson**, Director (*Fox Creek*)

CFYE Staff

- **Michelle Jones**, Executive Director
- **Matthew Hartney**, Business Analyst
- **Ian Butler**, Digital Tech Service Advisor
- **Kyrin Doyohim**, Small Business Administrator & Commissioner for Oaths
- **Tara Zeller**, Regional Investment & Attraction Marketing Strategist
- CED, Project Coordinator (Currently Vacant)

CFYE Regional Economic Development

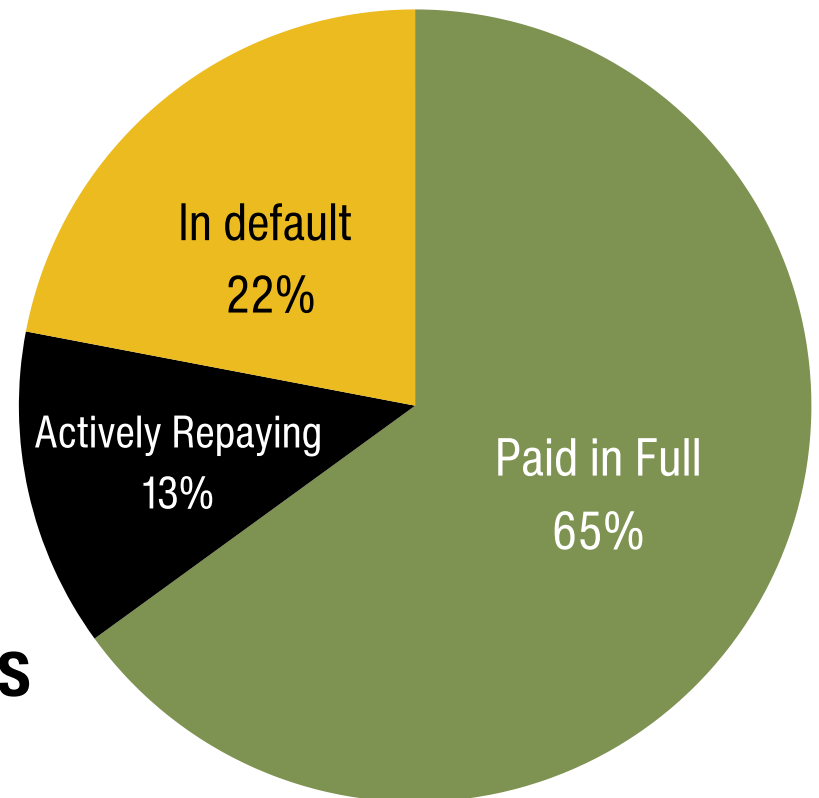
Investment Outcomes:

Regional Relief & Recovery Fund (RRRF)

78 Loans Approved

\$2,560,278

Invested into Regional Businesses





Other Loan Programs

CFYE provides multiple lending programs supporting entrepreneurs.

1 X Women's Loan Program

4 X Youth Loans

2 X Lines of Credit

9 X Regular Term Loans

A stack of four wooden blocks spelling 'LOAN' is shown on the left side of the image. The blocks are light-colored wood with dark letters. The top block has 'L', the second has 'O', the third has 'A', and the bottom has 'N'.

CFYE Annual Lending Results:

Goal

10 loans = \$400,000

MPS target

8 loans = \$400,000

Actual results

16 loans = \$697,000

Annual Economic Diversification Results

Loan distribution across sectors:



Arts, Entertainment, Recreation & Tourism (4)



Other Services (Oil & Gas Service Businesses) (3)



Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (4)



Accommodation & Food Services (5)

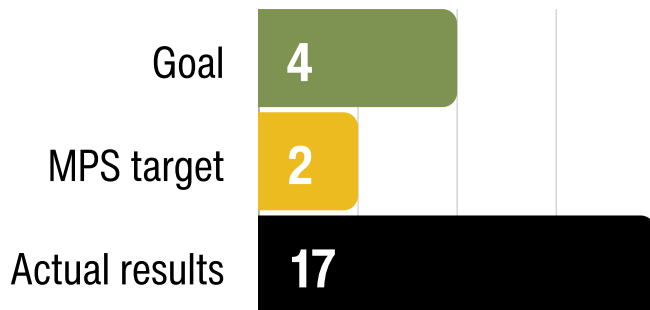


127 jobs created

Community Based Projects

MPS Performance Indicators:

of New community based projects:



of Business Training Session Participants Goal

200

Actual results

387

of Business Advisory Session Provided Goal

200

Actual results

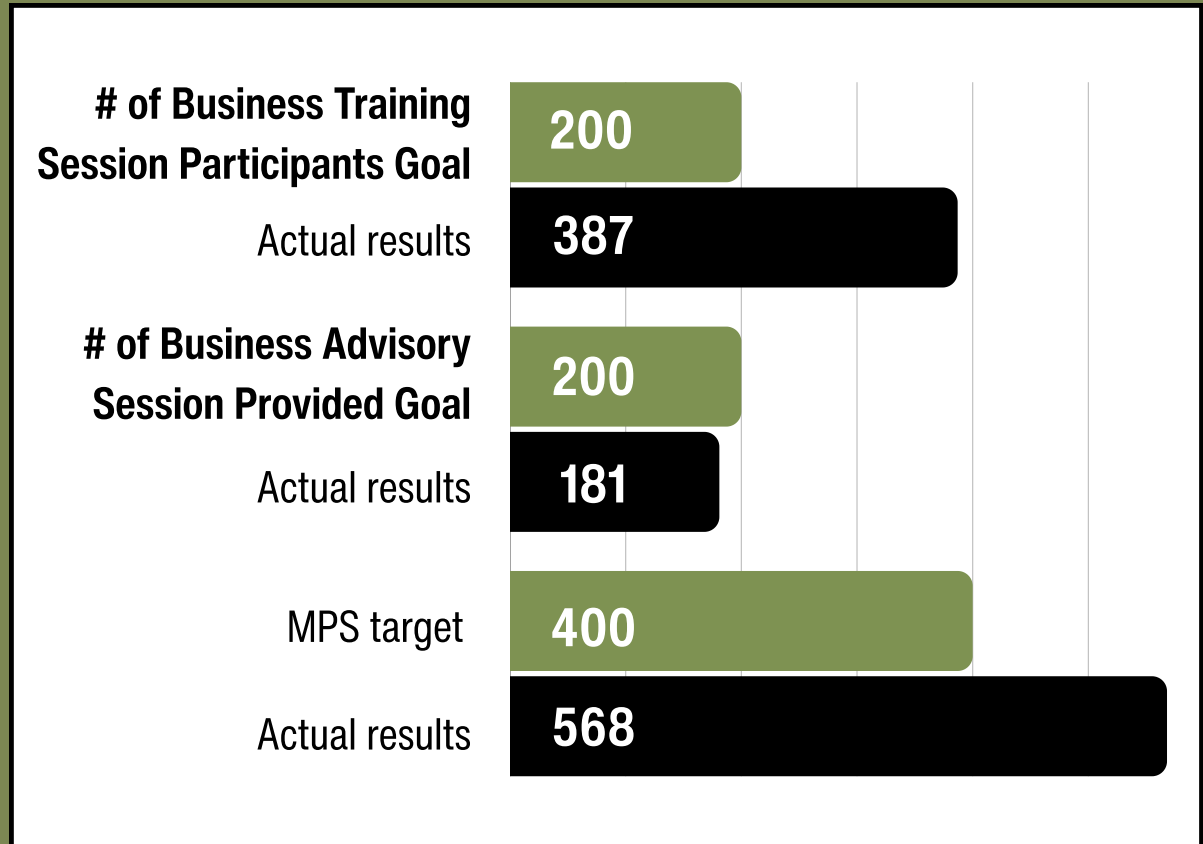
181

MPS target

400

Actual results

568





Recent Projects Supported

- **LIFT Small Business Conference** (Barrhead) - 12 small business support & resources booths + 80 participants
- **Aspire Women in Business Conference** - 40 participants
- **Systems Business Coach Certification** - 3 x CFYE staff trained & licensed. 150 Licenses purchased for new business training / Part of RIAMS
- **Small Business Lunch & Learns** – 4 sessions completed in Barrhead / Barrhead County
- **Strategic Planning** facilitation for 2 organizations
- **Lemonade Day** Youth Entrepreneurship Program (40 registered to date in 10 host communities)
- Sangudo **Entrepreneur Bootcamp** (upcoming)



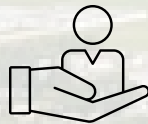
Strengthening the Region's Local Economy

Building the foundation communities need to attract and support investment

Small Communities Are Facing New Pressures



Rising costs



Small staff teams



Seasonal economy

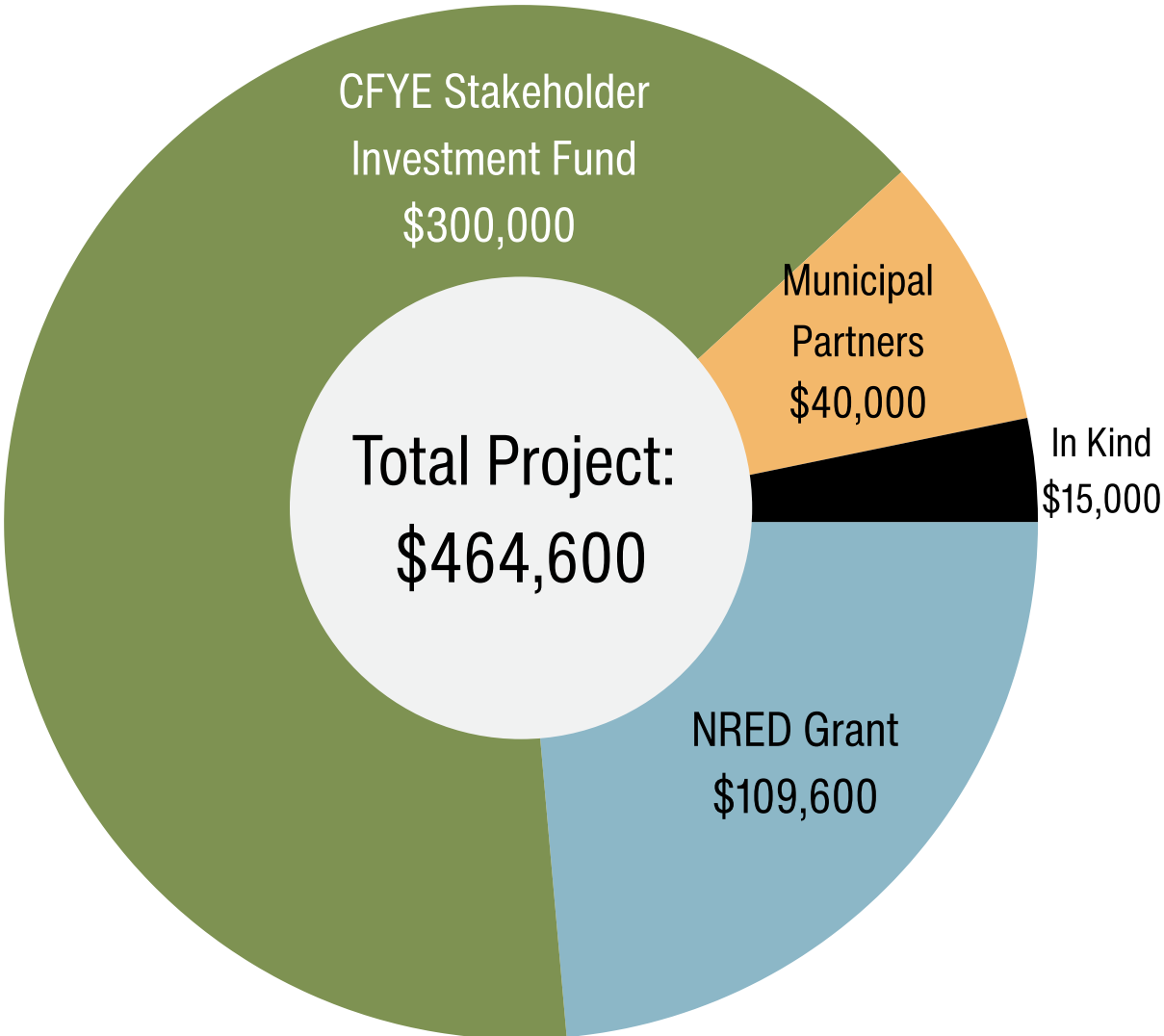


Business challenges



Limited tax base

RIAMS Financial Investment



9

Municipal Partners

Where we are at Today:

Completed:

- 9 Community Investment Readiness (CIR) assessments
- Local Intel data tools secured (regional & municipal)
- Regional collaboration established
- Monthly newsletters and communications
- Business Retention & Expansion (BR&E) project initiated



In progress:

- Regional website
- Municipal investment readiness workbooks
- Business training & engagement activities



Regional Support System



CFYE supports rural communities by:

- helping small businesses
- providing tools and programs
- strengthening local economies



RIAMS is a partnership of 9 municipalities working together for:

- business support
- investment readiness
- regional marketing
- economic intelligence
- collaboration between communities

By Utilizing our Supports, Municipalities can access:

Business support

Access to shared resources

Expertise

**Better understanding of
your local economy**

Tourism support

Investment readiness

Research + Data Tools

Marketing support



Why Support your Local Businesses?

The first priority of economic development is not attraction - it is supporting existing businesses.

Why?

Because:

- 80% of job growth comes from existing businesses
- local businesses keep money in the community
- strong businesses support the tax base





1

Protect your Tax Base

Healthy businesses = stable revenue

2

Reduce Budget Pressure

A stronger economy reduces strain on your municipality

3

Support Local Businesses

They are the backbone of your community

The Opportunity

You've already invested. Now it's about using it.

- stronger relationships with local businesses
- better understanding of the local economy
- improved investment readiness
- attracting new small businesses
- supporting the tourism economy
- protecting and strengthening your tax base
- support the growth of your community



What's Next:

Upcoming:

- continued business engagement
- implementation of CIR priorities
- regional website launch
- training and tools for municipalities
- continued collaboration across region

Future regional initiatives:

- Aspire Conference 2027 (hosted by CFYE)
- CFNA Conference Whitecourt 2027
- Continued project development



TRAINING



2026-04-08

Sergeant Colin Hack
Detachment Commander
Barrhead, Alberta

O

Dear Debbie Oyarzun,

Please find attached the quarterly Community Policing Report for the period of January 1st to March 31st, 2026. This report provides an overview of human resources, financial information, and crime statistics for the Barrhead Detachment and reflects the ongoing priorities identified by the community we serve.

In addition to the information contained in the attached report, I would also like to highlight a significant national development that will impact frontline policing operations in the coming months. The RCMP has recently awarded a contract for a new modernized general duty service pistol, marking an important step in enhancing public and officer safety, as well as operational effectiveness.

The selected model is the Glock 45 MOS 7 Duty Pistol. This modernized pistol will be issued as part of a comprehensive package, including a red dot sight (Aimpoint Acro P-2), a weapon-mounted light (Streamlight TLR-7X), three magazines, interchangeable grip components, a lanyard loop attachment, a Safariland duty holster, and a secure carrying case.

The rollout will occur in phases with priority given to frontline officers. Distribution across RCMP divisions will be based on operational needs, and full deployment is anticipated by summer 2028.

A transition of this scale requires comprehensive training to ensure safe and effective use. A training program has been developed and will begin rolling out to instructors this summer. A mandatory four-day training program for frontline officers is expected to follow in late summer and fall, concluding with annual firearms qualification. Training schedules are being developed to ensure there is no impact to frontline service delivery levels.

This modernization effort reflects the RCMP's ongoing commitment to ensuring officers have the appropriate tools and training to serve their communities safely and effectively. Investments in equipment such as this are essential to maintaining high standards of policing and adapting to evolving operational demands.

We remain committed to transparency and to keeping our municipal partners informed of significant developments that impact policing services in your community. Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this initiative further, please do not hesitate to reach out.



Sincerely,

Sgt. Colin Hack

NCO i/c

Barrhead Detachment



Alberta RCMP - Provincial Policing Report

Detachment Information

Detachment Name

Barrhead

Detachment Commander

Click or tap here to enter text.

Report Date

Click or tap to enter a date.

Fiscal Year

2025-26

Quarter

Q4 (January - March)

Community Priorities

Priority #1: Enter Priority Name

Updates and Comments:

Click or tap here to enter text.





Community Consultations

Consultation #1

Date	Meeting Type
March 24, 2026	Meeting with Elected Officials
Topics Discussed	
(1): Annual Planning	
Notes/Comments:	
Sergeant and Corporal attended Town of Barrhead Council Meeting to discuss the annual performance plan.	

Consultation #2

Date	Meeting Type
March 5, 2026	Community Connection
Topics Discussed	
(1): Education Session (2): Youth	
Notes/Comments:	
Constable hosted Kindergarten class and gave tour of Barrhead RCMP Detachment.	

Consultation #3

Date	Meeting Type
March 5, 2026	Meeting with Stakeholders
Topics Discussed	
(1): Crime Reduction Initiatives (2): Regular reporting information sharing	
Notes/Comments:	
Sergeant attended Barrhead and Regional Crime Coalition meeting to discuss quarterly stats, upcoming workshop for surveillance cameras coming in April, Safer Communities and Neighborhoods program, and upcoming Rural Crime Watch fundraiser.	



Consultation #4

Date	Meeting Type
March 4, 2026	Community Connection
Topics Discussed	
(1): Education Session (2): Youth	
Notes/Comments:	
Constable hosted Kindergarten tour for Canadian Reformed School.	

Consultation #5

Date	Meeting Type
March 3, 2026	Meeting with Elected Officials
Topics Discussed	
(1): Annual Planning (2): Regular reporting information sharing	
Notes/Comments:	
Barrhead Sergeant and Westlock Traffic Services Sergeant attended meeting with County of Barrhead Councilors to discuss community priority plan, provide stats, update on staffing changes and to provide visibility on traffic safety.	

Consultation #6

Date	Meeting Type
February 5, 2026	Meeting with Elected Officials
Topics Discussed	
(1): Crime Reduction Initiatives (2): Regular reporting information sharing	
Notes/Comments:	
Sargant attended a Barrhead and Regional Crime Coalition meeting to share stats from the last quarter and to address any concerns	



Consultation #7

Date	Meeting Type
January 30, 2026	Meeting with Elected Officials
Topics Discussed	
(1): Education Session (2): Regular reporting information sharing (3): Annual Planning	
Notes/Comments:	
Sargent met with elected officials and other Police jurisdictions pertaining to Lac Ste. Anne County.	

Consultation #8

Date	Meeting Type
January 8, 2026	Meeting with Stakeholders
Topics Discussed	
(1): Crime Reduction Initiatives (2): Annual Planning	
Notes/Comments:	
Corporal attended Barrhead and Regional Crime Coalition (BARCC) meeting to discuss the framework of BARCC and to set goals for the coming year.	



Provincial Service Composition

Staffing Category	Established Positions	Working	Temporary Absences	Hard Vacancies
Regular Members	10	7	2	1
Detachment Support	3	3	0	0

Notes:

1. Data extracted on March 31, 2026 and is subject to change.
2. Temporary Absences are positions that are filled but vacant due to maternity/paternity leave, medical leave, etc. and are still included in the overall FTE count.
3. Hard Vacancies reflect positions that do not have an employee attached and need to be filled.

Comments:

Police Officers: Of the ten established positions, seven officers are currently working with two officers on temporary absences (Parental leave). There is one hard vacancy.

Detachment Support: Of the three established positions, three resources are currently working with no temporary absences or hard vacancies.



Barrhead Provincial Detachment Crime Statistics (Actual) January to March: 2022 - 2026

All categories contain "Attempted" and/or "Completed"

April 7, 2026

CATEGORY	Trend	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	% Change 2022 - 2026	% Change 2025 - 2026	Avg File +/- per Year
Offences Related to Death		0	1	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	-0.1
Robbery		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Sexual Assaults		4	1	6	1	1	-75%	0%	-0.6
Other Sexual Offences		3	2	1	0	0	-100%	N/A	-0.8
Assault		25	22	31	14	6	-76%	-57%	-4.6
Kidnapping/Hostage/Abduction		0	1	2	0	0	N/A	N/A	-0.1
Extortion		1	3	2	1	4	300%	300%	0.4
Criminal Harassment		4	4	5	8	12	200%	50%	2.0
Uttering Threats		9	5	7	11	7	-22%	-36%	0.2
TOTAL PERSONS		46	39	54	35	30	-35%	-14%	-3.6
Break & Enter		26	27	17	6	5	-81%	-17%	-6.3
Theft of Motor Vehicle		12	11	12	8	18	50%	125%	0.9
Theft Over \$5,000		1	4	2	3	2	100%	-33%	0.1
Theft Under \$5,000		31	45	46	26	14	-55%	-46%	-5.3
Possn Stn Goods		2	9	6	4	4	100%	0%	-0.1
Fraud		14	18	21	37	39	179%	5%	6.9
Arson		2	0	1	0	1	-50%	N/A	-0.2
Mischief - Damage To Property		16	18	10	16	5	-69%	-69%	-2.4
Mischief - Other		3	0	2	3	7	133%	133%	1.1
TOTAL PROPERTY		107	132	117	103	95	-11%	-8%	-5.3
Offensive Weapons		2	9	2	4	0	-100%	-100%	-0.9
Disturbing the peace		6	8	3	3	7	17%	133%	-0.3
Fail to Comply & Breaches		9	17	25	15	3	-67%	-80%	-1.4
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE		12	10	8	5	4	-67%	-20%	-2.1
TOTAL OTHER CRIMINAL CODE		29	44	38	27	14	-52%	-48%	-4.7
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE		182	215	209	165	139	-24%	-16%	-13.6



Barrhead Provincial Detachment Crime Statistics (Actual) January to March: 2022 - 2026

All categories contain "Attempted" and/or "Completed"

April 7, 2026

CATEGORY	Trend	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	% Change 2022 - 2026	% Change 2025 - 2026	Avg File +/- per Year
Drug Enforcement - Production		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Drug Enforcement - Possession		7	2	3	1	0	-100%	-100%	-1.5
Drug Enforcement - Trafficking		3	8	5	2	0	-100%	-100%	-1.2
Drug Enforcement - Other		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Total Drugs		10	10	8	3	0	-100%	-100%	-2.7
Cannabis Enforcement		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Federal - General		1	4	1	1	1	0%	0%	-0.3
TOTAL FEDERAL		11	14	9	4	1	-91%	-75%	-3.0
Liquor Act		2	6	8	8	1	-50%	-88%	0.0
Cannabis Act		0	1	0	0	1	N/A	N/A	0.1
Mental Health Act		21	25	18	38	29	38%	-24%	2.9
Other Provincial Stats		25	42	33	34	27	8%	-21%	-0.4
Total Provincial Stats		48	74	59	80	58	21%	-28%	2.6
Municipal By-laws Traffic		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Municipal By-laws		11	6	4	3	0	-100%	-100%	-2.5
Total Municipal		11	6	4	3	0	-100%	-100%	-2.5
Fatals		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Injury MVC		5	1	7	5	7	40%	40%	0.8
Property Damage MVC (Reportable)		82	99	49	54	67	-18%	24%	-7.5
Property Damage MVC (Non Reportable)		11	5	5	9	7	-36%	-22%	-0.4
TOTAL MVC		98	105	61	68	81	-17%	19%	-7.1
Roadside Suspension - Alcohol (Prov)		1	4	1	2	0	-100%	-100%	-0.4
Roadside Suspension - Drugs (Prov)		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Total Provincial Traffic		514	783	301	256	254	-51%	-1%	-104.7
Other Traffic		0	0	1	2	0	N/A	-100%	0.2
Criminal Code Traffic		5	8	7	3	6	20%	100%	-0.3
Common Police Activities									
False Alarms		10	14	7	16	13	30%	-19%	0.8
False/Abandoned 911 Call and 911 Act		36	24	13	13	13	-64%	0%	-5.7
Suspicious Person/Vehicle/Property		45	60	56	33	23	-49%	-30%	-7.1
Persons Reported Missing		3	2	3	1	7	133%	600%	0.7
Search Warrants		2	1	0	0	0	-100%	N/A	-0.5
Spousal Abuse - Survey Code (Reported)		12	12	27	5	5	-58%	0%	-2.1
Form 10 (MHA) (Reported)		1	7	1	0	3	200%	N/A	-0.3