



WINTER 2023

COUNTY CURRENTS



County of Vermilion River Newsletter

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Photographer: Rachel Zacharuk

Published: December 19, 2022

COUNTY COUNCIL

GREETINGS FROM THE REEVE AND COUNCIL

It was nice to hear of higher yields for producers which brought a lot of optimism to the fall harvest. Our agriculture producers always hope for no rain during harvest and producers did get their wish, however the County and surrounding area got a little too dry. An abnormal amount of dust in the air made for some amazing sunsets however all of us would rather have had some rain. We received our wish for moisture when we went abruptly from fall to winter the first week of November.

We welcomed our new CAO Alan Parkin to the County of Vermilion River on October 3, 2022. Since then, Mr. Parkin has spent time in each Division and toured with each Councillor to understand the issues being faced and the history of the area.

Areas of concern and road projects were reviewed during Council's annual road tour of the County that took place in the later part of October. Council likes to get out in June and October to see these areas of concern and any projects that are underway or complete.

Council has been meeting with Directors, Managers and CAO Parkin regarding each Department and the larger challenges being faced. It is important that Council understand all aspects of the challenges throughout the budgetary process. The significant reduction in Municipal Sustainability Initiatives (MSI) funding combined with provincial offloading of RCMP costs, the tax exemption for new drilling, carbon tax and the increases in cost of living are high on the list of concerns.

With the Christmas season now upon us on behalf of Council and staff I would like to wish you all the very best. There are many families who are missing loved ones from around the table and so please take time to reach out to neighbours and friends with a caring heart.

Should you have any concerns, please visit our [Report a Concern webpage](#). Compliments are always welcome and can be sent to us at office@county24.com.

Reeve Stacey Hryciuk



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COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS (September-October-November)

COUNCIL

- Council meetings can be attended by the public and registration is made convenient by offering online registration if you cannot attend in person.
- Reviewed quarterly progress with all departments
- Approved Bylaws—Bylaw 22-13 R'Ohan Industrial Park Area Structure Plan amendments, Bylaw 22-16 Rural Addressing amended.
- Approved Policy—PS 006 Fire Hall Funding, PE 031 Years of Service, PE 009—General (Statutory), Optional General and Civic Holidays amended, PE 021 On-Call and Stand-by.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

- Budget presentation from Vermilion Public Library
- Approval of Council Committees, Boards and Commissions.
- Approval of 2023 Council meeting calendar
- Approval of the installation of Fibre Optic Internet services to the County Operations Facilities.

AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

- Received the Final Report Card on 2022 Agriculture Service Board Resolutions for information.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

- Approved School Reserve Funding of \$5,000 for the paving of Marwayne school running paths
- Renewal of Grazing Leases 2023—2027
- Approved 2023 FCSS Funding Allocations
- Approved \$9,000 special capital funding from the General Recreation Reserve for the Dewberry Arena project to repair the arena boards and anchor system.
- Approval of Community Enhancement Funding Grants for Fall 2022.
- Proclamation of Alberta Development Officers Week

PUBLIC WORKS

- Tender awarded for 2022-2023 Gravel Crushing to REDA Enterprises Ltd for a total of \$556,707.38.
- Awarded Schedule "A" of 2023 Aggregate Load, Haul and Stockpile tender to Road to Rail Construction Group Inc. for \$213,365.25 plus GST.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES

- Purchase of tanker truck for the Marwayne Fire Department with a total cost of \$462,000 from Fire Capital Reserves.
- Approval of STARS request for support of two dollars per capita from 2023—2026.
- Accepted the 10-point plan update from the Chief of EMS for the Province of Alberta.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Meetings begin at 9:00a.m.

Council Meetings

January 10	January 24
February 14	February 28
March 14	March 28

Policy & Priorities Committee Meetings

January 31
February 21

Special Meeting of Council

January 20

In addition to attending in person, the public can access Council Meetings via ZOOM. Please access the link on our website should you wish to attend the meetings.

*This is a tentative schedule. Any changes to meetings are posted on our website on the **Events Calendar**.

ADMINISTRATION

NEW PHONE SYSTEM

The County of Vermilion River has implemented a new phone system to better serve the public. To help make the rate payer experience more efficient we would like to draw your attention to the options available and some of the main topics covered by the staff you will be directed to.

1. PRESS 1 FOR PUBLIC WORKS

- Concerns Tracker with concerns about: roads (requiring snow removal, sand, gravel, grading), drainage/culverts, brushing/mulching, dust suppression, beaver control, signs, garbage on roadways
- Road Use Permits (Industry and Agriculture)
- Water & Sewer Utility Inquiries
- Purchase of Garbage Bins
- Industry Requests for activities in the County such as utilizing or building approaches, pipeline crossings, etc.
- Geotechnical Projects
- Road Bans
- Tenders
- Snow Plow Flags
- Bulk Water for Dewberry Only

2. PRESS 2 FOR TAX DEPARTMENT

- Any Tax Related Inquiries (i.e., Assessment Values, Property Tax Inquiries, School Tax Inquiries)

3. PRESS 3 FOR GAS UTILITY

- New Installation of Service
- Secondary Service (wanting to have gas ran from their house to another building or shop)
- Property Changes—new and renters
- Line Locates Inquiries
- Gas Bill Inquiries
- Sale of Goods (regulators)
- Meter Moves
- Gas Line Reroute
- Gas Outages (during work hours and after-hours reporting)
- Smell of Gas

4. PRESS 4 FOR PROTECTIVE SERVICES

- Fire Services
 - Fire Permits
 - Fire Bans
 - Volunteering
 - Fire Department Responses
- Emergency Management
 - How to prepare for an emergency
 - What to do in an emergency
- Public Safety
 - County Bylaw Concerns (note: Peace Officers do not respond to concerns about criminal activity)
 - Dog Concerns and Licensing
 - Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (natural surveillance, access control, natural boundaries, and maintenance to help deter criminal and nuisance behaviour)

ADMINISTRATION

NEW PHONE SYSTEM—CONTINUED

5. PRESS 5 FOR PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

- Development Permit Inquiries
- Land Lease Inquiries
- Safety Codes
- Approach Applications/Road Licensing
- Re-zoning/Subdivisions
- Land Sales
- Bylaws/Policies
- Business Licenses/Home Occupations
- Aerial Photos and Registered Surveys to determine property lines
- Rural Addressing
- Family and Community Support Services
- Recreation and Community Grants
- Libraries
- Cemeteries
- Communications

6. PRESS 6 FOR ADMINISTRATION

- Accounts Receivable
- Accounts Payable
- Human Resources
 - Job Postings

7. PRESS 7 FOR AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

- Noxious Weed Issues
 - Roadside Spraying
 - Roadside Mowing
 - No Spray Zones
 - Haying Ditches
- Agriculture Pests
 - Rats
 - Wild Boar
 - Skunks
- Crop Diseases
 - Clubroot
- Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS)
- Environmental Farm Plans (EFPs)
- Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) and Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (SCAP) Grants
- Ag Plastic Recycling and Grain Bag Rollers



This new phone tree is intended to ensure calls coming into the County Office are directed in a timely, efficient manner and calls are transferred to the correct individual without delay.

We welcome any feedback provided to improve the system.

AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

COUNTY CLUBROOT UPDATE 2022

During the 2022 Clubroot field survey, County of Vermilion River Inspectors identified and confirmed three new clubroot positive fields. This brings the County to a total of 21 positive sites. The new positive sites continue to be spread around the municipality, with one each identified this year in Division 1, Division 5, and Division 7. The landowners and renters of these properties have agreed to a one in three year crop rotation and the use of clubroot resistant varieties on these sites. County Pest Inspectors annually survey about 10% of canola fields in a random survey. This year 2% of the fields surveyed tested positive for clubroot, consistent with average clubroot survey results in this County since 2017.



In addition to the new fields identified, three fields which had tested positive for clubroot in 2019 came back into rotation with canola in the 2022 crop year. In all three fields, no symptoms of clubroot were found during inspection. It is encouraging to note that the clubroot management approach appears to help reduce the risk of crop loss from clubroot when followed. Overall, of twelve positive fields that went at least two years out of canola, nine were removed from Management Plans after three years, with only three continuing under Management for a further three years.

Canola producers should follow Best Management Practices (BMPs) to protect themselves from yield loss to diseases like clubroot and virulent blackleg. Both diseases are becoming more prevalent and can significantly reduce yield if not managed.

BMPs for Canola Disease Management

- Crop rotation (at least two years between Brassica crops)
- Use clubroot resistant, blackleg resistant canola varieties
- Control volunteer canola and cruciferous weeds between canola crops
- Clean equipment to reduce movement of soil and spores from field to field

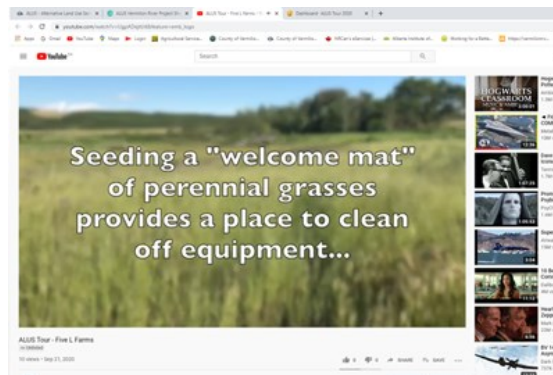
A [Clubroot Map](#) is available on the County website.

PROACTIVE CLUBROOT MANAGEMENT PROJECT

The Canola Council of Canada recommends that producers consider planting a perennial stand at the gate of every crop field to be used as a “welcome mat”. This area is where your equipment cleaning takes place coming into and leaving the field. Knock off visible soil and vegetation here where disease spores will not propagate. Initially this sounds like it will take acres out of production and reduce profits. However, sacrificing these areas will help preserve production on the majority of the field.

The County of Vermilion River and ALUS Vermilion River will work with ratepayers to help establish these “welcome mats” at field approaches, water runoff channels and low lying/wet areas and proactively manage clubroot. The County Agriculture Department can provide participating landowners with up to \$100 of perennial grass/legume seed (enough to seed about 3 acres), and access to small equipment to help with establishment. Participants may also be eligible for assistance with establishment costs from ALUS Vermilion River, and larger projects may even qualify for land payments for ecosystem services provided. Talk to the County Ag Team for more information (Chris Elder or Cathie Erichsen Arychuk).

Have a look at the [ALUS Tour - Five L Farms video](#) and see how their Clubroot “Welcome Mat” project worked.



AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

GRAZING FORWARD

In 2022, the County of Vermilion River took part in a new ALUS initiative called Grazing Forward which supports enhanced grazing projects with local producers. With funding support from Cargill and A&W, the program provides technical and financial resources to implement new grazing management practices on portions of ranches. One of our first grazing participants, Cole Goad, manages 80-90 cow/calf pairs on a half section in the NW part of the County and was eager to take advantage of the new program. "ALUS has really helped us improve our operation, as we are limited on land base, and to rent additional grazing land is near impossible. With ALUS we have been able to graze more cows on the same land base that we have always had."



Enhanced grazing is a suite of management tools that builds rich, healthy soils and increases grass growth. One of those tools, Adaptive Multi-Paddock (AMP) Grazing, uses multiple smaller paddocks, higher stock densities, shorter grazing times, and extended periods of rest in a unique, flexible plan based on careful observation, recordkeeping, and the ability to change along the way – that's the adaptive part.

AMP grazing provides benefits to both the environment and the livestock operation. The ecosystem services produced include soil health, carbon sequestration, cleaner water, cleaner air, and wildlife habitat. For the producer, AMP grazing buffers against flood and drought, increases forage quantity and utilization, lengthens the grazing season, and improves animal nutrition and overall health. "We are seeing increased production from this land since we have start rotational grazing. We started with 60 pairs for the whole grazing season on this half section. We are now up to 80-90 pairs for the grazing season. We are hoping that we can get this increased to 100 pairs in the future," Goad says.

Spring workshops outlined the principles of AMP grazing and gave participants the opportunity to work on grazing plans in the company of local experts as well as their peers. "With ALUS we have been able to take training sessions to learn the increased value of rotational grazing and new ways to look at grazing practices. We have been able to get to smaller paddocks with funding help from ALUS that has allowed for increased rest to each parcel," says Goad.

Once their plans were put in action on the ground, ALUS reimbursed 50% of the establishment cost for things like electric fencing, energizers, portable and temporary fencing tools, permanent wildlife friendly fencing, and pasture water systems. ALUS will also pay an ongoing per acre annual payment for the management and maintenance of the grazing projects.

By the end of this year, seven new projects resulted in 38 new grazing paddocks totaling 460 acres in the County. ALUS Vermilion River is looking to expand on the program in 2023 by adding more producers who are new to enhanced grazing or those who have tried it but need some extra support for their operation. Look for grazing workshops in the Spring or contact the ALUS Coordinator, Chris Elder at 780-853-7844 or celder@county24.com for more information.



Goad's cows turned out on fresh grass. Cole Goad photo.

FIRE PERMITS

When to get a permit

Other than a campfire or a burn barrel, any open fire must have a burn permit.

How to get a permit

Permits are available in person at the County office, by contacting Protective Services (ext. 3313) or emailing fire@county24.com

What you need to know

Anyone who sets a fire under the authority of a permit must follow the conditions of the permit.

Burning Basics

Open burning, in a barrel or not, can release pollutants, reduce visibility, create unpleasant odors and cause toxic contamination.

However, burning can still be an effective way to clear some debris from your yard, farm or work site.

Burnable Debris

- Brush and fallen trees
- Solid waste from tree harvesting
- Straw, stubble, grass, weeds, leaves and tree prunings

The following as long as they do not contain wood preservatives:

- Used power and telephone poles
- Wood or wood products
- Solid waste from post and pole operations

Prohibited Debris

- Animal manure
- Pathological waste
- Wood or wood products containing preservatives
- Waste materials from construction sites
- Rubber
- Plastic, including baler twine
- Oil
- Containers that held pesticides or any other chemicals
- Plastic or rubber-coated materials, including copper wire
- Rail ties

Agriculture Burning

Vegetation or debris in windrows and piles cannot be burned unless:

- windrows and piles do not exceed 60 metres in length and are separated by an 8 meter break between each length.
- windrows and piles are no closer than 25 metres from any uncleared land or vegetation
- windrows are separated from other parallel windrows by not less than 15 metres
- the area containing the vegetation or debris to be burned is cleared of combustible material to a width of not less than 15 metres.

*** As per Alberta Regulation 65/2017

Duties of the holder of a fire permit

The holder of a fire permit who lights a fire under the authority of a permit shall:

- keep the fire under control at all times,
- ensure a responsible person is in attendance at the site of the fire to supervise the fire until it has been extinguished,
- keep the fire permit at the site of the fire,
- show the fire permit to a County employee on request,
- extinguish the fire when ordered, if the permit expires, or if the permit is cancelled or suspended.

*** As per Alberta Regulation 60/2017

PUBLIC WORKS



SNOW REMOVAL PRIORITIES

1. Main Roads
2. Bus Routes
3. Other Grid Roads
4. Laneways (must purchase an annual snow plow flag)

**If multiple snow events occur, the clearing may be interrupted and start back at the beginning.*

SNOW PLOW FLAG PROGRAM

The County offers an Annual Snow Plow Program that provides snow plowing from the approach to the residence for access only.

A Snow Plow Liability Waiver & Indemnity Agreement must be filled out each year. Each new application is subject to a laneway inspection to ensure that there is sufficient room for the equipment to maneuver.

How much does it cost?

\$200 for Ratepayers & Buffalo Trails Public School Division Yard Service "Parental Choice"

\$50 for Seniors & Disabled Persons

If you have a **RED** or **GREEN** flag from last year, place it at the end of your driveway. The grader operator will pick it up when they do the first plow of the season.

**Laneways are the LAST on the Priority List for plowing.*

WINTER STORMS—are you prepared?

1. Bottled Water—each person in your household should have 2 liters of water per day
2. Food—canned food, energy bars and dried fruit (don't forget the manual can opener!)
3. Flashlight and extra batteries
4. Battery Powered Radio
5. First Aid Kit
6. Sleeping Bags and Warm Blankets
7. Candles, Matches or Lighters
8. Basic Hand Tools—hammer, scissors, screwdriver, pliers or pocket knife
9. Special Needs Items—prescription medications, infant formula
10. Toiletries—toilet paper, hand sanitizer or other personal items



DID YOU KNOW?

You can report a concern using the Report a Concern on the County website or by calling Public Works at 780-846-3309 or emailing: publicworks@county24.com.

The Report a Concern is not monitored outside the regular office hours of Monday to Friday, 8:30am—4:30pm. If you need to report an emergency after hours, please call the emergency line at 780-846-2929.

PERMIT RENEWAL TIME

ALL County of Vermilion River Heavy Vehicle Permits expire on December 31, 2022.

Please contact Public Works to renew your permit for 2023. All vehicles registered for 22,500 kg and over require a permit to travel on County roads as per Traffic Bylaw 14-04.

Phone: 780-846-3309

Email: publicworks@county24.com

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

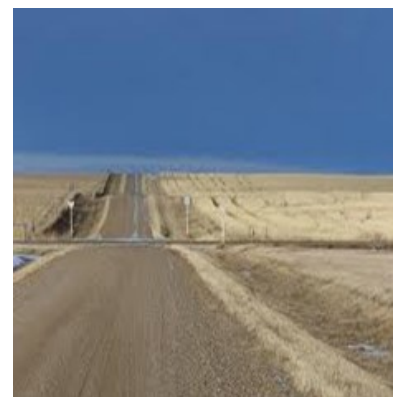
APPROACHES

General Approach Applications:

Did you know that you require an application to put in an approach from the County road into your land?

The reason is to minimize the number of approaches off of roadways, ensure that all approaches are located safely and that they are constructed to County standards.

- o Fill out the Approach Application and submit to the Planning & Development Department
- o Pay the \$300 + GST required application fee (covers the cost of the pre and post inspections by Public Works)
- o Once approved, applicant constructs the approach to the standards and is responsible for all construction costs (the County does not build the approach)



Subdivision Requirements:

A subdivision applicant is required to provide an approach for each parcel created during the subdivision process. For example if you subdivide out one parcel from a quarter section, you are required to ensure there is an approach into the subdivision and to the remainder of the quarter section.

Approaches are a common condition in the subdivision process and the subdivision will not be approved until all approaches are constructed and inspected.

Standards:

- o 300 meter sight line
- o 150 meters from any road intersection
- o Approaches must have the same standard requirements as the road they enter upon (paved roads require paved approaches)
- o One approach per building site
- o One approach to the remainder of the quarter
- o Should an approach be denied because it does not meet any of the requirements, the applicant can appeal the decision in writing to Council.

Approaches must have a minimum 300m sightline

7.5m minimum width for residential approaches

10m minimum width for industrial approaches

COMMUNITY SERVICES

2022 COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT FUNDING

The County of Vermilion River is pleased to be able to support local organizations and facilities that provide recreation, arts and culture opportunities, enhance community spirit, encourage active participation along with community enhancement projects.

The County's Community Enhancement Funding enables recreation and ongoing partnerships throughout the region, supporting access for residents to recreational facility services and programs. This funding is awarded through community grants and operation and capital assistance within the 2022 budget.

Details regarding the approved requests is available within the Council agendas and minutes on the [County website](#). More information on the County's funding programs can be found on the County website under [Recreation](#).

On Friday, November 25, 2022, Council met with a few of the funded organizations in our region for cheque presentations.



NATURAL GAS UTILITY



If you suspect carbon dioxide in your building, contact the Gas Utility or call 9-1-1.

WHY SUBMIT A FIRST CALL?

We often get inquiries directly to our office to locate gas lines. While we are happy to locate your primary gas line and do our best to locate any secondary gas lines we are aware of on your property, it is important to do this through the Alberta One Call/Click Before You Dig process for the following reasons:

- 1) To ensure that all underground facility owners (Electric, Telephone, Oil & Gas) are notified and can locate their lines if necessary. It is very common for property owners to be unaware or forget about underground facilities on their property.
- 2) To protect yourself, and the County, against liability for damaged lines. The One Call/Click Before You Dig system reduces your liability by ensuring that proper records are kept, all applicable facility owners are notified, and you are provided with all of the information required to dig safely.
- 3) It's the rules. All facility owners who participate in One Call/Click Before You Dig are obligated to locate lines only through the System.
- 4) It's free. All locating is done free of charge. In the case of electricity and telephone they may not locate all lines on your property free of charge, particularly secondary lines. But the County will make all efforts to locate any and all secondary gas lines on your property.



CARBON MONOXIDE: INVISIBLE - SILENT - ODOURLESS

In an enclosed space, like a home or garage, exposure to CO can lead to serious illness or even death.

WHAT ARE THE SIGNS?



WHERE DOES CO COME FROM?

When a natural gas appliance does not operate properly, it can generate CO:

Fireplace Furnace Hot Water Heater Range Dryer

CO may also be generated from the exhaust from:

Gas and diesel vehicles
Gas-powered machines
Wood Burning Fireplaces



CHECKLIST TO PREVENT CO



- ✓ Have fuel-burning appliances checked regularly by a qualified technician
- ✓ Check furnace filter monthly and replace as needed
- ✓ Are indoor & outdoor vents and chimneys clear of debris, ice and snow?
- ✓ Is area around fuel-burning appliances clutter-free?
- ✓ Never idle vehicles in a garage, even with door open.

DETECTING CO IN YOUR HOME



Install and Maintain a CO Alarm. Make sure you know what it sounds like.



Replace batteries in CO alarm annually



Vacuum the CO alarm monthly

NATURAL GAS UTILITY

UNDERSTANDING YOUR BILL



COUNTY OF VERMILION RIVER GAS UTILITY

4912 - 50 Avenue
P.O. Box 69
Kitscoty, AB T0B 2P0
www.vermilion-river.com

39333 59999 9324 0020 METER 4321 20 lb
Readings 9655 9779 A OCT 31, 2022
30.680 GJ NE35 50 3 W4M



DUE DATE	AMOUNT NOW DUE	ENTER AMOUNT PAID
DEC 05, 2022	309.80	

JOHN SMITH
123 STREET
KITSCOTY AB T0B 2P0

CNTY OF VERMILION RIVER
PO BOX 55
KITSCOTY AB T0B 2P0

⑆ ⑆ ⑆ 29 ⑆ 900 ⑆

96

PLEASE DETACH AND RETAIN THIS PORTION FOR YOUR RECORDS. WHEN PAYING IN PERSON, PRESENT THE ENTIRE STATEMENT

County of Vermilion River Natural Gas Utility

Ph: 780-846-2244 Office
Ph: 780-846-2929 Emergency Only

CUSTOMER

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES ABOUT THIS BILL, PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT ABOVE PHONE NUMBER MON-FRI 8:30 - 4:30

Read Type

"A" indicates an Actual Read
"E" is an estimate. If your meter is estimating, you can submit your read on or near the 1st of the month for actual usage billing.

Gas Rate

This is the wholesale rate which is set monthly by our gas purchaser, Gas Alberta Inc. + \$1.27 County Distribution Charge

Service Charge

A flat monthly fee to help recover the costs of operating, maintaining and administrating the utility. Charge is incurred even if no gas is used.

Carbon Levy

Gas Utilities must collect Carbon Levy on behalf of the Federal Government.

Amount Due

If your amount due has a "CR" behind it, this means your account has a credit.

Read Date	Previous Read	Current Read	Conv Factor	Adjustment	Gigajoules	
OCT 31, 2022	9655	9779	A	2.473859	0.00	30.68

Conversion Factor = 1 x 2.290 x 0.028316850 x 38.15 x 1.0000 Elevation : 2150
PREVIOUS BALANCE

PAYMENTS/CREDITS: Payment Received OCT 19, 2022 68.42 CR

BALANCE FORWARD 0.00

GAS CHARGES: OCT 01, 2022 to OCT 31, 2022 30.680 gjs@ 6.0100

NONGAS CHARGES: FIXED CHARGE

CARBON LEVY 30.68GJ @ 2.629/GJ

CURRENT CHARGES
GOODS AND SERVICES TAX 5.00%

68.42

68.42 CR

0.00

184.39

30.00 SC

80.66 CL

295.05

14.75

PLEASE REMIT PAYMENT TO THE COUNTY OF VERMILION RIVER GAS UTILITY
FOR GAS UTILITY EMERGENCY AND AFTER HOURS USE ONLY-CALL 780-846-2929
CONTACT ALBERTA ONE CALL PRIOR TO ANY EXCAVATION:
1-800-242-3447 OR www.albertaonecall.com

NE 35 50 3 W4M

Payment must reach your gas utility office by the Due Date to avoid late payment charge calculated at a rate of 1.500 % compounded monthly.

AMOUNT DUE
\$ 309.80

Proud to be serving you since 1979.
Payable at most chartered banks and financial institutions.
Payments may also be made through online banking.
Printed by: RIG Communications 1-855-913-0004

ACCOUNT NUMBER	BILLING DATE	DUE DATE
39333 59999	NOV 15, 2022	DEC 05, 2022

TAXES

DECLARATION OF SCHOOL SUPPORT

In 2022, Government of Alberta made changes to the school support boundaries for the East Central Catholic School division within the County of Vermilion River. The Alberta School Act allows the owners of land located **within** the Separate School jurisdiction to declare their support for either Public or Separate School jurisdictions by directing their taxes towards these school jurisdictions.

What does that mean?

As a payer of the Education levy, each rate payer has an option to direct their education portion of the taxes towards separate school division or public school division.

- If you wish to direct your education portion of the property taxes towards the **Separate schools**, then please fill out attached form and return to our office.
- If you wish to direct your education portion of the property taxes toward the **Public schools**, then please fill out attached form and return to our office.
- If you **do not** return attached form, then it will be considered as a "**Undeclared**" school support and it will be remitted to Alberta School Foundation Fund (ASFF) who would divide these funds between the Public Schools and Separate Schools.

Affected residence should have received a letter in the mail regarding their option for school support. Should you be unsure, please refer to our website under **Living Here, Your Property, Taxes and Assessment, Education Tax/School Support subheading** to access the form and boundary that are affected by this change.

How to fill attached form?

1. Write down all legal descriptions that are eligible to declare on one form ([view the map on the Taxes page](#)), however different ownership combinations need a separate form.
2. Circle "Yes" to support the separate school board or circle "No" to support the public school board, leave blank if you wish to keep your school support as "Undeclared".
3. Sign, date, and state the percentage of ownership.
4. Mail to the County of Vermilion River office, Box 69 Kitscoty, AB T0B 2P0 or email taxes@county24.com.
5. Please indicate your support for the described land and return the declaration to our office no later than December 31, 2022.

Effective Date:

- Your above declaration will be effective starting 2023 and future tax years,
- You have an option to change your support anytime by contacting the County of Vermilion River

TAX PENALTY REMINDER JANUARY 16, 2023

REMINDER: that all outstanding tax balances will have a further 12% penalty applied if not paid by January 16, 2023.

PAYMENT OPTIONS:
County Office
Drop Off Box at County Office
Mail
Online/Telephone Banking
OptionPay Credit Card



NOTICES & UPDATES

TRANSFER SITE CHRISTMAS HOURS

The Vermilion transfer site will close at 2:00 PM on both Saturday, December 24, 2022 and Saturday, December 31, 2022. The Vermilion transfer site will be closed on Boxing Day—Monday, December 26, 2022.

All other transfer sites in the region will close at 2:00 PM on Saturday, December 24, 2022 and Saturday, December 31, 2022. Normal operating hours for all transfer sites will resume beginning Monday, January 2, 2023.

The Waste Commission would like to wish all its patrons a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Vermilion River Regional Waste Management Services Commission



REMINDER:

The County of Vermilion River Offices will be closed on December 26, 2022 and December 27, 2022 in lieu of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day and January 2, 2023 in lieu of New Years Day.



**VERMILION
MENTAL HEALTH
& WELLNESS
SYMPOSIUM**


January 18, 2023

Vermilion Regional Centre
5702 College Drive, Vermilion, AB


8:00 Networking & Exhibits
8:30 Welcome

8:40 **Creating Healthy Professional Boundaries**
when personal work is done professionally

Explore the characteristics of porous, rigid, and healthy boundaries within a variety of contexts. Understand the different types of boundaries and how they apply to a situation. Discover tools to have challenging conversations and strategies to set healthy boundaries.



11:30 Lunch, Networking & Exhibits



Julien Quickstad


12:30 **Signs of Addiction: Out of Plain Sight**

The signs and symptoms of mental illness and addiction can be very difficult to see. Julien will share his personal journey with addictions, trauma and mental health. Be prepared to open your eyes and heart to the perspective of someone experiencing struggles with mental health and addiction.

2:30 **Simple Ways to Build Well-being**

Move and Breathe to Enhance Wellbeing: You will learn breath and movement practices that you can do from the comfort of your chair, at work or at home. These practices will increase your awareness and leave you feeling rested and rejuvenated - ready to tackle the day.

Grounding Practices for the Everyday: Learn techniques that you can implement into your work and life routine that will help you navigate stress, uncertainty, and overwhelm and foster a sense of grounding to your present moment.




4:00 Closing Remarks & Survey

Registration Info

In-person Price: \$50.00
Lunch & Nutrition Snacks included
Post-Access Recording: \$25.00

Scan for more info and to register

Registration closes January 9, 2023





WASTE MANAGEMENT

TRANSFER STATION OPERATION HOURS

Summer Hours: May 1—September 30 & Winter Hours: October 1—April 30

DEWBERRY/CLANDONALD TRANSFER STATION (NE 11-53-5 W4)		PARADISE VALLEY TRANSFER STATION (NW 7-47-2 W4)	
Thursday	12:00pm—4:00pm (year round)	Wednesday	10:00am—12:00pm (year round)
Saturday	9:00am—2:00pm (year round)	Saturday	9:00am—2:00pm (year round)
KITSCOTY TRANSFER STATION (SE 35-50-3 W4)		MARWAYNE TRANSFER STATION (SE 34-52-3 W4)	
Wednesday	2:00pm—5:00pm (winter) 2:00pm—7:00pm (summer)	Wednesday	2:00pm—5:00pm (winter) 2:00pm—7:00pm (summer)
Thursday	1:00pm—5:00pm (summer)		
Saturday	10:00am—4:00pm (year round)	Saturday	10:00am—2:00pm (year round)
TULLIBY LAKE TRANSFER STATION (NW 6-55-1 W4)		PRESTON TRANSFER STATION (SW 30-48-6 W4)	
Wednesday	5:00pm—9:00pm (summer)	Wednesday	4:00pm—8:00pm (summer)
Saturday	10:00am—2:00pm (winter)	Saturday	10:00am—2:00pm (year round)
If you require further information contact the Vermilion River Waste Management Services Commission (VRRWMS) during regular office hours at 780-853-5561.		VERMILION TRANSFER STATION (SW 5-51-6 W4)	
		Monday thru Saturday	9:00am—4:45pm (year round) Closed on Sunday and all Statutory Holidays

KEY CVR CONTACTS

Chief Administrative Officer: Alan Parkin, MBA, CLGM	cao@county24.com
Director of Agriculture: Cathie Erichsen Arychuk, PAg	covragenviro@county24.com
Director of Corporate Services: Viren Tailor, MBA, CPA, CMA	corpservices@county24.com
Director of Natural Gas Utility: Louis Genest	gasut@county24.com
Director of Protective Services: Kirk Hughes, CD	fire@county24.com
Director of Planning & Development: Roger Garnett, CET	planning@county24.com
Director of Public Works: Marshall Morton	publicworks@county24.com

OFFICE HOURS

Regular Hours: Monday—Friday, 8:30a.m.—4:30p.m. Closed Holidays

Upcoming Office Closures:

December 26—27	Christmas Break
January 2	New Years Day
February 20	Family Day

*For your convenience and safety, please contact the Main Office prior to visiting our maintenance yard and work sites.

CONTACT US

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ADMINISTRATION

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AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY

780.846.2929