

**AGENDA**  
**COUNTY OF NORTHERN LIGHTS**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN COUNTY CHAMBERS**  
**ON TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2026, at 9:00 A.M.**  
**COUNTY BUILDING, MANNING, ALBERTA**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84112522908?pwd=G8DDQZwyGJHMmpFBASX9Sboy96ZE1i.1>

- 01.0 Call to Order**
  - 01.1.1 Land Acknowledgement
- 02.0 Adoption of the Agenda**
- 03.0 Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous Regular or Special Meeting(s)**
  - A. Tuesday, April 28, 2026, Council Meeting Minutes*
- 04.0 Delegations**
- 05.0 Policies/ Bylaws**
  - A. Travel Policy*
  - B. Proposed Land Use Bylaw Amendment*
- 06.0 Municipal/CAO & Departmental Reports/Business**
  - 06.1 Government Services
    - 06.1.1 Council/Legislative
      - A. Informal Roundtable Discussion – Forestry Sector and Community resilience in the Region.*
      - B. Blue Heron Support Services Association – Invitation*
      - C. Alberta-NWT Command – Military Service Recognition Book Request*
      - D. Provincial Northern Alberta Living Allowance (NALA) – Advocacy Participation Request*
      - E. Letter from Resident RE: Snowplowing for Private Driveways*
      - F. Council's Monthly Calendar for May 2026*
    - 06.1.2 Administration
      - A. CAO Report*
    - 06.1.3 Assessment
    - 06.1.4 Taxation
    - 06.1.5 Finance
      - A. Director of Finance Update*
    - 06.1.6 Equipment/Supplies
    - 06.1.7 Buildings/Properties
    - 06.1.8 Personnel/Human Resources
  - 06.2 Protective Services
    - 06.2.1 Policing
    - 06.2.3 Fire protection

- 06.2.4 Emergency Measures & Disaster Services
- 06.2.5 Ambulance/First Aid
- 06.2.6 By-law Enforcement
- 06.3 Transportation/Drainage/Public Works
  - 06.3.1 Public Works
    - A. *Director of Public Works Report (verbal)*
  - 06.3.2 Roads
  - 06.3.3 Airport
  - 06.3.7 Drainage Ditches
- 06.4 Utilities/Public Works
  - 06.4.1 Water
  - 06.4.2 Sewage
  - 06.4.3 Solid Waste
- 06.6 Environmental Development
  - 06.6.1 Development [Planning/Zoning/Subdivisions]
  - 06.6.2 Community Services / Economic Development
    - A. *Community Capital Assistance Program (CCAP)*
    - B. *Recreation Board Donations*
    - C. *Hawk Hills Ag Society Request for Support*
  - 06.6.3 Agriculture Services
  - 06.6.5 Natural Resources
  - 06.6.6 Housing / Seniors
  - 06.6.9 Tourism
- 07.0 Ward and/or Committee Reports**
  - A. *Councillor Ward Reports*
- 08.0 Info Items**
  - A. *Tuesday May 12, 2026, Info Package*
- 09.0 Open Mic**
- Decisions on Delegations*
- 10.0 In Camera Items**
  - A. *Damage to County Infrastructure under ATIA s.20*
  - B. *Land Use under ATIA s. 19 (before the proposed Land Use Bylaw Reading)*
  - C. *Boards and Committees under ATIA s. 28*
  - D. *Contract Negotiations under ATIA s.19*
  - E. *CAO Performance under ATIA s. 22*
- 11.0 Adjournment**

**MINUTES  
COUNTY OF NORTHERN LIGHTS  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN COUNTY CHAMBERS  
ON TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2026, at 9:00 A.M.  
COUNTY BUILDING, MANNING, ALBERTA**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84833503333?pwd=TrP7KyvvcAl1iwSWXFUQ0hJsaSeFNH.1>

**PRESENT:**

Gary These	Ward One	Weberville/Stewart
Kayln Schug	Ward Two	Warrensville/Lac Cardinal
Brenda Yasinski	Ward Three	Dixonville/Chinook Valley
Brent Reese	Ward Four	Deadwood/Sunny Valley
Gloria Dechant	Ward Five	North Star/Breaking Point

**REGRETS:**

Terry Ungarian	Ward Six	Hotchkiss/Hawk Hills
Linda Halabisky	Ward Seven	Keg River/Carcajou

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Gerhard Stickling – Chief Administrative Officer  
Josh Hunter – Director of Finance  
Charles Schwab – Director of Public Works  
Teresa Tupper – Executive Assistant/ Recorder  
Dan Archer – Mile Zero Banner Post Reporter

**01.0 Call to Order**

01.1.1 Land Acknowledgement

Deputy Reeve Kayln Schug called the Tuesday, April 28, 2026, Council Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and gave a Land Acknowledgement.

**02.0 Adoption of the Agenda**

**189/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor These to acknowledge receipt of the Tuesday, April 28, 2026, Council Agenda and adopt it with the following additions:**  
**06.1.1-F) Save the Date – RMA District 4 Zone Meeting**  
**06.1.2-A) CAO Report**  
**06.1.5-B) Revisions of page six (6) and nine (9) of the 2025 Audited Financial Statements**  
**06.1.5-C) Director of Finance Update**  
**06.3.2-C) Haul Rates**  
**08.10-f) Alberta Council – At A Glance**  
**08.60-f) Energy Alberta – The Power Source Newsletter April 2026**  
**10.B Personnel under ATIA s. 20**  
**CARRIED**

**03.0 Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous Regular or Special Meeting(s)**

*A. Tuesday, April 24, 2026, Council Meeting Minutes*

**190/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor Dechant to acknowledge receipt of the Tuesday, April 14, 2026, Council Meeting minutes and adopt them as presented.**  
**CARRIED**

**04.0 Delegations**

*A. Trustee - Michael Connell; Superintendent - Victoria Cornick - Holy Family Catholic Regional Division Presentation at 9:00 a.m.*

*Delegation A exited the meeting at 9:23 a.m.*

**05.0 Policies/ Bylaws**

*B. Road Maintenance Policy*

**191/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor Yasinski to acknowledge receipt of the Road Maintenance Policy and adopt it as presented.**  
**CARRIED**

*A. Council Donations and Grants Policy*

**192/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor These to acknowledge receipt of the Council Donations and Grants Policy and adopt it with the changes and updates.**  
**CARRIED**

**193/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor Reese to have administration request a meeting with the North and South Recreation Boards with Council.**  
**CARRIED**

*C. Proposed Bylaw 26-14-506 known as the "2026 Property Tax Bylaw"*

**194/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor Dechant to give FIRST READING to Bylaw 26-14-506; known as the "2026 Property Tax Bylaw".**  
**CARRIED**

**195/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor Reese to give SECOND READING to Bylaw 26-14-506; known as the "2026 Property Tax Bylaw".**  
**CARRIED**

**196/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor These to PROCEED TO THIRD AND FINAL READING of Bylaw 26-14-506; known as the "2026 Property Tax Bylaw".**  
**UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**

**197/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor Yasinski to give THIRD AND FINAL READING to Bylaw 26-14-506; known as the "2026 Property Tax Bylaw".**  
**CARRIED**

*Recessed the meeting at 9:58 a.m.  
Reconvened the meeting at 10:05 a.m.*

**06.0 Municipal/CAO & Departmental Reports/Business**

06.1 Government Services

06.1.1 Council/Legislative

*A. Break-out Session Proposals – RMA 2026 Fall Convention*

**198/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor Dechant to acknowledge receipt of the Break-out Session Proposals Report and authorize administration to send the suggestion of "Ethics" (misappropriation), AI Data education and information and Housing Management Bodies for break-out sessions to the Rural Municipalities of Alberta for their Fall Convention.**  
**CARRIED**

*B. Council's Summer Schedule*

**199/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor Yasinski to acknowledge receipt of the Council's Summer Schedule Report and cancel the Tuesday, July 28 and Tuesday, August 25, 2026, Council Meetings for summer break and advertise the change in the newspaper and County social media.**  
**CARRIED**

*C. Local Home Hardware Grand Opening Invitation*

**200/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor Yasinski to acknowledge receipt of the Grande Opening Invitation and send all Councillors that are available to attend the Home Hardware Grande Opening Event on Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. at the downtown Manning location.**  
**CARRIED**

*D. Manning Handi-van Committee*

**201/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor These to acknowledge receipt of the Manning Handi-van Committee Report and reinstate the Handi-van Committee on the County's Boards and Committees List and appoint Councillor Dechant as the County's representative and Councillor Reese as the Alternate.**  
**CARRIED**

*E. Ordinance Standing Committee Meeting*

**202/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor Reese to acknowledge receipt of the Ordinance Standing Committee Meeting notice and accept May 26<sup>th</sup> after council for the next Ordinance Meeting.**  
**CARRIED**

*F. Save the Date – RMA District 4 Zone Meeting*

**203/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor Dechant to acknowledge receipt of the RMA District 4 Zone Meeting Date Reminder and accept it for information.**  
**CARRIED**

06.1.2 Administration  
A. CAO Report

**204/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor These to acknowledge receipt of the CAO Report and accept the Battle River Pioneer Invitation for after the council meeting on May 12, 2026.**  
**CARRIED**

06.1.3 Assessment

06.1.4 Taxation

06.1.5 Finance  
A. March 2026 Bank Reconciliation

**205/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor Reese to acknowledge receipt of the March 2026 Bank reconciliation and accept it for information.**  
**CARRIED**

*B. 2025 Audited Financial Statements*

**206/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor Yasinski to acknowledge receipt of the 2025 Audited Financial Statements as presented subject to the adjustments with the allocation in the next motion.**  
**CARRIED**

**207/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor Dechant to authorize the reallocation of the unrestricted surplus as follows:**  
**a. 1,728,277 to the Airport Capital Reserve**  
**b. 1,071,677.56 to the Bridge Replacement Reserve**  
**c. 1,067,597.60 to the Fire Protection Reserve, and**  
**d. 2,367,262.83 to the Water Upgrading Reserve.**  
**CARRIED**

*C. Director of Finance Update*

**208/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor Reese to acknowledge receipt of the Director of Finance Report and accept it for information.**  
**CARRIED**

**209/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor Yasinski to authorize the transfer of unpaid wastewater charges from account #2232 to the property taxes owing on roll # 74177 pursuant to section 553 of the Municipal Government Act.**  
**CARRIED**

**210/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor Dechant to authorize the transfer of unpaid water utility charges in the amount of \$491.77 to the property taxes owing on roll #313437 pursuant to section 553 of the Municipal Government Act.**  
**CARRIED**

06.1.6 Equipment/Supplies

06.1.7 Buildings/Properties

06.1.8 Personnel/Human Resources

06.2 Protective Services

06.2.1 Policing

06.2.3 Fire protection

06.2.4 Emergency Measures & Disaster Services

*A. Voyant Alert Discussion*

**211/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor Schug to acknowledge receipt of the Voyant Alert Report and authorize the purchase of a one-year membership with Voyant Alert to test this communication technology and review in one year to determine success and continuation.**  
**CARRIED**

06.2.5 Ambulance/First Aid

06.2.6 By-law Enforcement

06.3 Transportation/Drainage/Public Works

06.3.1 Public Works

A. Director of Public Works Report (verbal)

- Spring run-off and moderate erosion concerns
- On Call Extension
- National Day of Mourning
- Water North Coalition Meeting
- Airport
- Dixonville Sewer System
- Dust Control Deadline and Delay

**212/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor Reese to acknowledge receipt of the Director of Public Works Report and accept it for information.**  
**CARRIED**

06.3.2 Roads

A. Bridge Engineering Award

**213/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor Yasinski to acknowledge receipt of the Bridge Engineering Award Report and award a 3-year contract (2026, 2027 & 2028) to MPA Engineering.**  
**CARRIED**

B. Road Ban Sign Report

**214/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor Schug to acknowledge receipt of the Road Ban Sign Report and stay with the status quo and keep the road ban signs where they are.**  
**CARRIED**

C. Haul Rates

**215/28/04/26** **MOVED BY Councillor Schug to acknowledge receipt of the Haul Rates Report and set the 2026 County of Northern Lights Gravel Haul Rates as follows:**

- \$0.20 tonne km
- \$1.60 loading factor
- \$120.00 per day diesel fuel charge (when over \$1.80 per liter rate based on County UFA confirmed rates); and a
- 5% contingency.

**CARRIED**

06.3.3 Airport

06.3.7 Drainage Ditches

06.4 Utilities/Public Works

06.4.1 Water

06.4.2 Sewage

06.4.3 Solid Waste

06.6 Environmental Development

06.6.1 Development [Planning/Zoning/Subdivisions]

06.6.2 Community Services / Economic Development

06.6.3 Agriculture Services

06.6.5 Natural Resources

06.6.6 Housing / Seniors

06.6.9 Tourism

## 07.0 Ward and/or Committee Reports

## 08.0 Info Items

*A. April 28, 2026, Info Package*

**ADDITIONS:** 08.10-f) Alberta Council – At A Glance  
08.60-f) Energy Alberta – The Power Source Newsletter April 2026

**216/28/04/26 MOVED BY Councillor Reese to acknowledge receipt of the April 28, 2026, Info Package and accept it for information.  
CARRIED**

## 09.0 Open Mic

*Decisions on Delegations*

*Recessed the meeting at 11:45 a.m.  
Reconvened the meeting at 12:01 p.m.*

## 10.0 In Camera Items

*A. Potential Land Purchase under ATIA s. 19, 28 and 30*

*B. Personnel under ATIA s. 20*

**217/28/04/26 MOVED BY Councillor Dechant to have the Tuesday, April 28, 2026, Council Meeting go in camera to discuss Potential Land Purchase under ATIA s. 19, 28, and 30 and Personnel under ATIA s. 20 at 12:01 p.m.  
CARRIED**

*The public, Dan Archer, Reporter and Teresa Tupper, Executive Assistant, exited the meeting at 12 noon.  
Charles Schwab, Director of Public Works and Josh Hunter, Director of Finance, exited the meeting at  
12:30 p.m.*

*Gerhard Stickling, Chief Administrative Officer, exited the meeting at 12:32 p.m.*

**218/28/04/26 MOVED BY Councillor Reese to have the Tuesday, April 28, 2026, Council Meeting come out of camera at 1:18 p.m.  
CARRIED**

**219/28/04/26 MOVED BY Councillor Yasinski to authorize administration to explore and gather information on land purchase.  
CARRIED**

## 11.0 Adjournment

Deputy Reeve KayIn Schug adjourned the Tuesday, April 28, 2026, County of Northern Lights Council Meeting at 1:19 p.m.

---

Deputy Chief Elected Official  
KayIn Schug

---

Chief Administrative Officer  
Gerhard Stickling

# TRAVEL POLICY

**FILE CODE:** GENERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

**DEPARTMENT CODE:** FINANCE No. 15

**DATE APPROVED:** May 12, 2026

**MOTION NO.:** 000/12/05/26

**REPLACED:** 005/16/01/24



## PHILOSOPHY

The County of Northern Lights recognizes that Councillors, Committee Members-At-Large (M-A-L), **Election Workers**, and Staff will be required to travel in the course of conducting business on behalf of the County. It is further recognized that reasonable costs associated with business travel should be assumed by the County.

The County of Northern Lights has established criteria that specifies how travel is to be approved and what expenses are eligible for reimbursement.

## ACRONYMS

**M-A-L** – Members at Large

**CRA** – Canadian Revenue Agency

<https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/businesses/topics/payroll/benefits-allowances/automobile/automobile-motor-vehicle-benefits.html>

## PURPOSE

- 1.1 This policy will apply to Council, Committee M-A-L, **Election Workers**, Staff and other individuals travelling for the benefit/business of the County of Northern Lights (*candidates being interviewed – See Hiring of Staff Policy*).
- 1.2 Councillors/M-A-L/Staff shall make travel arrangements in the most economical means whenever possible.
- 1.3 Virtual options should be considered whenever possible.
- 1.4 Every effort should be taken to use a County vehicle for travelling and to avoid having a number of Councillors/M-A-L/Staff traveling to the same location in multiple vehicles. (*sign-out book at front desk*)
- 1.5 Carpooling should also be considered when there is more than one person attending the same activity/event.
- 1.6 Mileage for Elected Officials and Committee M-A-L is considered a part of the 'entitled benefits' received while conducting "Per Diem" business on behalf of the County and will be claimed on the monthly submitted County Expense Claim Form.
- 1.7 County business travel for Elected Officials will also include Inter-Municipal and/or Joint Municipal Socials.

- 1.8 County business travel for County Staff must be pre-approved by the responsible supervisor, in writing. *(email)*
- 1.9 Accountable advances may be obtained if authorized by the CAO.
- 1.10 Payment for County business travel expenses must be claimed by submitting an expense claim form. All supporting receipts must be attached. If attending a conference or training session, a copy of the itinerary or schedule must also be attached. A statutory declaration may be required in the event a receipt is lost or misplaced. This will be at the discretion of the Director of Finance.
- 1.11 The completed County Personal Expense Claim form must be signed by the traveler and provided to their respective expenditure officer for authorization.
- 1.12 Expense claims will be processed once monthly at a minimum, however wherever possible will be expedited in order to provide payment as soon as possible.

## MEALS

- 2.1 Councillors/M-A-L/Staff that are on County business travel can claim, without receipts, the following amounts for meal expenses at ~~GRA~~ the following rates.
 

Breakfast:	\$20.00
Lunch:	\$25.00
Supper:	\$30.00
Total	\$75.00
- 2.2 These amounts can only be claimed if a meal is not provided as part of the meeting, conference or training session.
- 2.3 No claim for breakfast will be permitted for day trips unless the time of departure is earlier than 6:30am.
- 2.4 No claim for supper can be made unless the time of return is later than 6:30pm.
- 2.5 Lunch can only be claimed if the traveler is on approved duty travel outside the County of Northern Lights boundaries.
- 2.6 Councillors/M-A-L/Election Workers/Staff that are on County business travel may claim the actual cost of meal if supported with a receipt. The reimbursement will include GST and up to 15% of the cost of the meal may be claimed as a tip. The County of Northern Lights will not reimburse the cost of any alcoholic beverages that were consumed by the traveler.
- 2.7 Using a combination of meal rates and receipts to claim different meal expenses is acceptable, but the practice is discouraged.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

- 3.1 Councillors/M-A-L/Election workers/Staff on County business may claim reimbursement for reasonable overnight accommodations if the event is more than one day or if a stop is necessary. If staying at a host hotel/accommodation, "Government rates" or "conference rates" should be used to keep costs reasonable. Expense claims for accommodations must be supported by receipt. If circumstances beyond the one's control results in the cancellation of a trip, every effort must be made to cancel reservations for

accommodation. Any charges subsequent to cancellation may be claimed and will not be unreasonably denied.

- 3.2 Only the room charge, parking and associated room taxes, tourism levies and GST will be considered eligible expenses.
- 3.3 Private overnight accommodation may be claimed without a receipt at CRA rates ~~of \$25.00~~ per night.

#### **PERSONAL VEHICLE TRANSPORTATION**

- 4.1 Councillors/M-A-L/Election workers/Staff may claim a per km rate for the use of their personal vehicle, provided that the travel is required for County business purposes and it is for the sole benefit of the County. They will be reimbursed at the current rate set periodically by the CRA. Should the traveller opt to utilize a personal vehicle, ~~when when a County vehicle is available~~, a per km rate of 50% of the amount prescribed by the CRA may be claimed.
- 4.2 The Councillors/MAL/Election worker/Staff on County business may claim the distance from home, or their regular place of work, to the location of the meeting, conference or training session, whichever is less. The same would apply to the return trip.

#### **AIR TRANSPORTATION**

- 5.1 When traveling within or outside the province, Councillors/M-A-L/Staff will receive reimbursement for the actual cost of airfare upon submission of supporting receipts. ~~which includes the residual portion of the airline ticket and boarding pass~~. The County will not reimburse the cost of flying if the class of ticket exceeds economy class.
- 5.2 There is no reimbursement for cancellation insurance, and it should not be requested. If circumstances beyond the one's control results in the cancellation of a trip or alteration of a flight schedule, these charges may be claimed and will not be unreasonably denied.

#### **TAXI/RIDE SHARING FARES**

- 6.1 Taxi fares can be claimed without receipt up to a maximum of \$8.00 per trip provided the point of departure, the destination, and the purpose of the trip is identified on the travel claim. Taxi fares exceeding \$8.00 must have a supporting receipt.

**ATTACHMENTS/SCHEDULES/APPENDIX**

--	--

**REFERENCES**

Legal Authorities	Municipal Government Act Canada Revenue Agency <a href="https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency.html">https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency.html</a>
Related Policies	Council's Remuneration Policy Council's Hiring of Staff Policy
Other	County Personal Expense Claim Form Statutory Declaration Form

**REVISION HISTORY**

005/16/01/24	
066/08/02/22	

**DOCUMENT CLASSIFICATION UNDER ATIA AND POPA**

Classification 1. A	Public Information
---------------------	--------------------

---

Chief Elected Official

---

Chief Administrative Officer



COUNTY OF  
**Northern Lights**

#600, 7th Ave NW, PO Box 10, Manning AB T0H 2M0  
Phone 780-836-3348 Fax 780-836-3663  
Toll Free 1-888-525-3481

**Report No.**

**Agenda Item No.**

06.1.1- *A*

<b>Subject:</b>	Informal Roundtable Discussion RE: <i>forestry sector and community resilience in the region.</i>
<b>Agenda Date:</b>	Tuesday, May 12, 2026
<b>Attachments:</b>	

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that:

- 1) Council acknowledge receipt of the Report; and
- 2) Authorize the attendance of Councillors \_\_\_\_\_ to attend the proposed meeting on Tuesday, May 26, 2026, with Assistant Deputy minister, Michele Evans.
- 3) And reschedule the Tuesday, May 27, 2026, Council Meeting to begin at 1:00 p.m. instead of 9:00 a.m.

**FOR CONSIDERATION**

Hello,

PrairiesCan Assistant Deputy Minister, Michele Evans, is inviting a small group of community leaders and economic development professionals to take part in an informal roundtable discussion focused on the forestry sector and community resilience in the region.

The purpose of the conversation is to:

- Hear directly from communities about current priorities and pressures
- Discuss challenges faced by the forestry sector and the operational impacts to the Mercer Peace River Mill.
- Gain insight into the community’s preparedness plans in the event of a mill closure, including:
  - Current economic development strategies
  - Opportunities for diversification
  - Infrastructure needs
  - Awareness of available workforce and adjustment supports.

**The proposed meeting date is:**

**Tuesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Time: 9 am-10:30 am**

**Location: TBD**

This will be a non-decision-making, informal exchange to better understand local perspectives and ensure federal discussions are informed by community realities. Further details on the location will be shared shortly. We hope you are able to attend the discussion and contribute your insights.

Kind regards,

**Kamie Currie**  
(She, Her, Elle)

Senior Business Officer, Community Initiatives (North), Alberta Region  
Prairies Economic Development Canada / Government of Canada  
[Kamie.currie@prairiescan.gc.ca](mailto:Kamie.currie@prairiescan.gc.ca) / Tel: 587-545-9061 / TTY: 877-303-3388

Agente principale des services aux entreprises, Initiatives communautaires (Nord), région de l'Alberta  
Développement économique Canada pour les Prairies / Gouvernement du Canada  
[Kamie.currie@prairiescan.gc.ca](mailto:Kamie.currie@prairiescan.gc.ca) / Tél: 587-545-9061 / ATS: 877-303-3388



Prairies Economic  
Development Canada

Développement économique  
Canada pour les Prairies

**Canada**

**Prepared By:**

Teresa Tupper  
Executive Assistant

**Accepted for Council  
Consideration by:**

Gerhard Stickling  
Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)



# BLUE HERON

## Support Services Association

Box 4238  
Barrhead, Alberta  
T7N 1A2  
Ph: (780) 674-4944  
Contact@bhssa.ca  
Website: www.bhssa.ca

Reeve Terry Ungarian  
County of Northern Lights  
Box 504  
Manning, AB T0H 2M0

Dear Reeve Ungarian,

On behalf of Blue Heron Support Services, I would like to extend an invitation to you, or a designated representative, to attend a special community event we are hosting in recognition of Community Disability Support Worker (CDSW) Appreciation Week.

On May 19th, we will be hosting a free community BBQ lunch in Peace River to celebrate and recognize the incredible contributions of Community Disability Support Workers. These individuals play a vital role in supporting people with disabilities to live, work, and participate fully in our community. Their compassion, dedication, and impact often go unseen, and this event is an opportunity to both thank them and raise awareness of the important work they do.

We would be honored to have your presence at this event as a show of community support and appreciation. If you are available, we would also warmly welcome your participation in helping serve or prepare food during the BBQ. Your involvement would send a meaningful message of recognition and gratitude to these valued members of our community.

Event Details:

Date: May 19, 2026

Time: 11:00am-1:00pm

Location: Riverfront Park

We hope you can join us in celebrating and acknowledging the important work of Community Disability Support Workers in Peace River.

Please let us know if you are able to attend or if a representative will be joining on your behalf. If you require any additional information, do not hesitate to reach out.

Thank you for your continued support of our community.

Warm regards,

Katie Magill  
Wellness Committee Representative  
Blue Heron Support Services Association

5123 50 Ave (Main Office) Fax: (780) 674-6294 ~ 4925 51 Ave (New to You Store) Ph: (780) 674-4041



<b>Subject:</b>	Alberta-NWT Command of the Royal Canadian Legion – “Military Service Recognition Book” Request
<b>Agenda Date:</b>	Tuesday, May 12, 2026
<b>Attachments:</b>	

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that:

- 1) Council acknowledge receipt of the Report; and
- 2) Accept it for information. OR;
- 3) Authorize the purchase of a ¼ page full colour ad in the ‘Military Service Recognition Book’ in the amount of \$690.00 from Council advertising in support of this annual Remembrance Project.

**CONSIDERATION**

County Council has supported the Alberta-Northwest Territories Command of the Royal Canadian Legion with recognition of veterans in their “Military Service Recognition Book” for many years. Administration however, was not able to find a motion from 2025.

**BACKGROUND**

- 102/27/02/24 MOVED BY Councillor Dechant to acknowledge receipt of the Alberta-Northwest Territories Command-Military Services Recognition Book Request and that the County purchase a ¼ page full colour ad in the ‘Military Service Recognition Book’ in the amount of \$690.00 from Council advertising in support of this annual Remembrance Project.  
CARRIED
- 077/28/02/23 MOVED BY Councillor Dechant to acknowledge receipt of the Alberta-Northwest Territories Command – Military Services Recognition Book Report and that the County purchase a ¼ page full colour ad in the ‘Military Services Recognition Book’ in the amount of \$595.24 from Council grants in support of this annual Remembrance Project.  
CARRIED
- 097/22/02/22 MOVED BY Councillor Reese to acknowledge receipt of the Alberta-Northwest Territories Command-Military Service Recognition Book Request and that the County purchase a ¼ page full colour ad in the ‘Military Service Recognition Book’ in the amount of \$595.24 from Council grants in support of this annual Remembrance Project.  
CARRIED
- 102/09/03/21 MOVED BY Councillor Loogman to acknowledge receipt of the Alberta-Northwest Territories Command-Military Service Recognition Book Report; and that the County purchase a ¼ page full colour ad in the ‘Military Service Recognition Book’ in the amount of \$570.00 from Council grants in support of this annual Remembrance Project.  
CARRIED

292/25/08/20    MOVED BY Councillor Halabisky to acknowledge receipt of the Alberta-Northwest Territories Command-Military Service Recognition Book Report; and purchase a ¼ page full colour ad in the "Military Service Recognition Book" in the amount of \$570.00 from Council grants in support of this annual Remembrance Project.  
CARRIED

**FINANCIAL/STAFFING IMPLICATIONS**

This item has been approved in the current budget:	Yes	No	N/A
This item is within the approved budget amount:	Yes	No	N/A

\$690.00 debit

**Prepared By:**



Teresa Tupper  
Executive Assistant

**Accepted for Council  
Consideration by:**



Gerhard Stickling  
Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)



**Alberta-Northwest Territories Command  
The Royal Canadian Legion**  
*“Military Service Recognition Book”*

Dear Sir/Madam:

Thank you for your interest in the **Alberta-Northwest Territories Command of The Royal Canadian Legion**, representing **Veterans** in Alberta and the NWT.

The **Alberta-NWT Command** is very proud to be preparing our 20th Anniversary digital **“Military Service Recognition Book”** that helps recognize and honour many of our brave Veterans who served our Country so well during times of great conflict, as well as our modern-day veterans. This annual publication goes a long way to help the Legion in our job as the **“Keepers of Remembrance”**, so that none of us forget the selfless contributions made by our Veterans. Digital copies of past editions are available to view at <https://abnwtleion.com/community/military-service-recognition-books/> or you may scan the QR code below for easy access.

We would like to have your organization’s support for this special Remembrance project by sponsoring an advertisement space in our **“Military Service Recognition Book.”** Proceeds raised from this important project will allow the Command to improve our services to **Veterans** and the more than 170 communities that we serve throughout Alberta and the NWT. The Legion is recognized as one of Canada’s largest **“Community Service”** organizations and we are an integral part of all the communities we serve. This project ensures the Legion’s continued success in providing very worthwhile services.

Enclosed, please find a rate sheet for your review. Whatever you are able to contribute to this worthwhile endeavor would be greatly appreciated. For further information please contact the **Alberta-NWT Command Campaign Office** toll free at **1-888-404-1877**.

Thank you for your consideration and/or support.

Sincerely,

Dave Velichko  
President



MSR Guide



**Alberta-Northwest Territory Command  
The Royal Canadian Legion**

***“Military Service Recognition Book”***

**Advertising Prices**

<u>Ad Size</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>GST</u>	<u>Total</u>
Full Colour Outside Back Cover	\$2,776.19	+ \$138.81	= \$2,915.00
Inside Front/Back Cover (Full Colour)	\$2,414.29	+ \$120.71	= \$2,535.00
Full Colour 2 Page Spread	\$3,861.90	+ \$193.10	= \$4,055.00
Full Page (Full Colour)	\$1,928.57	+ \$96.43	= \$2,025.00
Full Page	\$1,447.62	+ \$72.38	= \$1,520.00
½ Page (Full Colour)	\$1,085.71	+ \$54.29	= \$1,140.00
½ Page	\$842.86	+ \$42.14	= \$885.00
¼ Page (Full Colour)	\$657.14	+ \$32.86	= \$690.00
¼ Page	\$533.33	+ \$26.67	= \$560.00
1/10 Page (Full Colour)	\$395.24	+ \$19.76	= \$415.00
1/10 Page (Business Card)	\$328.57	+ \$16.43	= \$345.00

**G.S.T. Registration # R12 397 0410**

All typesetting and layout charges are included in the above prices.

A complimentary Certificate of Appreciation will be received by all advertisers purchasing space of 1/10 page and up, as a show of appreciation from the Alberta-NWT Command.



PLEASE MAKE CHEQUE PAYABLE TO:  
**Alberta-NWT Command**  
**The Royal Canadian Legion**  
**(AB-NWT RCL)**  
**(Campaign Office)**  
**P O Box 2275, Stn. M**  
**Calgary, AB T2P 2M6**



*06.01-0*



COUNTY OF  
**Northern Lights**

#600, 7th Ave NW, PO Box 10, Manning AB T0H 2M0  
Phone 780-836-3348 Fax 780-836-3663  
Toll Free 1-888-525-3481

**Report No.**

**Agenda Item No.**

06.1.1- **D**

<b>Subject:</b>	Provincial Northern Alberta Living Allowance (NALA) – Advocacy Participation Request
<b>Agenda Date:</b>	Tuesday, May, 12 2026
<b>Attachments:</b>	Request Letter, Rationale for a provincial Northern Living Allowance (NADC Boundary), Champion Letter, Organizational Endorsement and Participation Form

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that:

- 1) Council acknowledge receipt of the Report; and
- 2)

**CONSIDERATION**

Dear Reeve Terry Ungarian and Council,

I am writing to invite **County of Northern Lights Council** to consider participating in a coordinated Northern Alberta advocacy effort to advance a Provincial Northern Alberta Living Allowance (NALA).

Community Futures Lac La Biche has issued formal advocacy to Northern Alberta Ministers, MLAs, and the Northern Alberta Development Council (NADC) requesting leadership and a champion to advance this resident-focused, place-based affordability mechanism. Northern Alberta Ministers and MLAs have been provided with the supporting rationale and advocacy materials.

Recognizing that this initiative will take time, our objective is to ensure that a Northern Alberta Living Allowance (NALA) is part of upcoming provincial budget and policy discussions, particularly as affordability, workforce attraction, and regional competitiveness continue to be provincial priorities.

Attached is a formal letter requesting organization participation, along with the supporting NALA Rationale, the Letter of Advocacy, issued April 1, 2026, seeking a northern Alberta champion (attached for information purposes), and a participation form.

We would welcome your organization’s consideration and involvement as this regional discussion continues to build. Everyone is encouraged to share this information with interested parties.

*06.1.1-D*

Note\* Municipalities, towns, chamber of commerce, community futures, Indigenous organizations, and other critical organizations are being requested to participate in this advocacy.

Please do not hesitate to reach out should you wish to discuss this further.

Respectfully,



**Peter Mahowich**

General Manager  
Community Futures Lac La Biche

Email: [peter@cfllb.com](mailto:peter@cfllb.com)

Phone: 780-623-2662 ext. 3 | Cell: 780-404-6904  
Box 2188, 10106 102 Ave, Lac La Biche, AB T0A 2C0

[www.cfllb.com](http://www.cfllb.com)

### **FINANCIAL/STAFFING IMPLICATIONS**

In the letter of request, Peter does state that he is available to discuss the County's potential role or level of participation as this initiative progresses.

At this time, there doesn't seem to be additional costs to participate, other than internal, but that may change.

**Prepared By:**

Teresa Tupper  
Executive Assistant

**Accepted for Council  
Consideration by:**

Gerhard Stickling  
Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

**Date:** May 5, 2026

County of Northern Lights Council  
#600, 7th Avenue NW, T0H 2M0  
Box 10, Manning, Alberta

**Re:** Request for Organizational Participation – Provincial Northern Alberta Living Allowance (NALA)

Dear Reeve Terry Ungarian and Council,

Northern Alberta is fundamental to Alberta's economic strength, resource development, and long-term prosperity. At the same time, northern communities continue to experience persistent structural cost-of-living and workforce challenges that affect affordability, population stability, and regional competitiveness.

In response to these realities, Community Futures Lac La Biche has initiated coordinated advocacy to advance consideration of a Provincial Northern Alberta Living Allowance (NALA)—a resident-focused, place-based affordability mechanism aligned with the Northern Alberta Development Council (NADC) boundary.

On April 1, 2026, advocacy letters and supporting rationale were formally issued to Minister Brian Jean, Minister Todd Loewen, Chair Tany Yao, and members of the Northern Alberta Development Council, requesting leadership and a champion to advance this initiative. Northern Alberta MLAs have also been provided with these materials to ensure regional alignment and awareness.

While we recognize that advancing a provincial mechanism of this nature will take time, it is important that Northern Alberta's affordability realities are clearly articulated and considered as part of future provincial budget and policy discussions. A Northern Alberta Living Allowance represents a practical, fiscally manageable tool to:

- Offset persistent regional cost-of-living pressures;
- Support workforce attraction, retention, and permanent settlement;
- Reduce reliance on rotational and fly-in/fly-out labour models; and
- Strengthen local economic retention and community sustainability.

Growing communities one idea at a time.

We are respectfully inviting the **County of Northern Lights Council** to participate in this coordinated regional advocacy by supporting continued dialogue and helping advance a consistent Northern Alberta message around the need for a resident-focused affordability mechanism.

As advocacy expands across municipalities and economic development organizations, the next phase will be to engage Northern Alberta residents directly in advancing this initiative and anchoring the Northern Living Allowance as a foundational economic driver critical to sustaining and growing our northern communities.

For your consideration, attached are:

- **Rationale for a Provincial Northern Living Allowance;** and
- **Letter of Advocacy issued April 1, 2026 (for information).**

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss your organization's potential role or level of participation as this initiative progresses.

Respectfully,



**Peter Mahowich**

General Manager

Community Futures Lac La Biche

Email: [peter@cflb.com](mailto:peter@cflb.com)

Phone: 780-623-2662 ext. 3 | Cell: 780-404-6904

Box 2188, 10106 102 Ave, Lac La Biche, AB T0A 2C0

[www.cflb.com](http://www.cflb.com)



Growing communities one idea at a time.

# A Provincial Northern Living Allowance

*Strengthening Affordability, Workforce Retention, and Growth*

## **Rationale for a Provincial Northern Living Allowance (NADC Boundary)**

Prepared by:  
Community Futures Lac La Biche

Date: April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026

## Table of Contents

Introduction .....	3
Purpose and Context.....	4
Rationale for a Provincial Northern Living Allowance .....	4
1. Compensating for Higher Cost of Living (Core Rationale) .....	4
2. Affordability Pressures and Prosperity Leakage .....	5
3. Workforce Attraction, Retention, and Long-Term Settlement.....	5
4. Reducing Reliance on Fly-In/Fly-Out (FIFO) Workforce Models.....	6
5. Youth Retention and Demographic Sustainability .....	6
Economic Impact Summary (Modeled on Federal Program Structure) .....	7
Modeled economic impacts include: .....	7
Upside Potential: Medical Travel Support.....	7
Why This Matters for Northern Alberta.....	7
Conclusion .....	8
Data Sources and Supporting References .....	8

## Introduction

Northern Alberta is a critical driver of Alberta's prosperity and economic resilience. The region underpins provincial and national growth through natural resource development, value-added processing, Indigenous economic participation, and emerging diversification opportunities. At the same time, Northern Alberta communities face persistent structural challenges that undermine affordability, workforce stability, and long-term community sustainability.

These challenges are consistently identified by municipalities, employers, Indigenous communities, service providers, and economic development organizations and are clearly documented in the Northern Alberta Development Council (NADC) Report to Minister: Northern Development (March 31, 2025). The NADC report emphasizes that cost-of-living pressures, workforce attraction and retention challenges, service access limitations, and affordability constraints are among the most significant barriers to northern economic development and population stability.

While the federal government partially recognizes similar realities through the Northern Residents Deduction, Alberta does not currently provide a province-wide, resident-focused, place-based cost-of-living offset for northern communities. This policy gap contributes to affordability pressures, labour shortages, reliance on fly-in/fly-out workforces, and ongoing prosperity leakage from northern regions to southern Alberta.

The Province has accepted, in principle, the NADC recommendation to define Northern Alberta using the NADC boundary, reflecting functional and socio-economic realities rather than latitude alone. A Provincial Northern Living Allowance aligned to this boundary would directly support the Province's stated objectives under Budget 2026 and Alberta's broader economic development strategy: strengthening regional competitiveness, supporting workforce growth, improving affordability, and enabling long-term economic diversification.

## Purpose and Context

The purpose of a Provincial Northern Living Allowance is to complement federal tax measures and provincial economic development investments by addressing structural affordability and workforce challenges that are provincial in nature but not fully addressed through existing programs.

The NADC Report identifies the following interrelated constraints on Northern Alberta's economic potential:

- Higher costs of living and doing business
- Challenges attracting and retaining a permanent workforce
- Limited access to health, education, and social services
- Youth out-migration and demographic sustainability risks
- Over-reliance on rotational and fly-in/fly-out labour models

A provincial allowance tied to the NADC boundary aligns with the Council's recommendation to use a place-based policy approach that reflects the lived experience of northern communities and supports long-term settlement, rather than temporary labour deployment.

---

## Rationale for a Provincial Northern Living Allowance

### 1. Compensating for Higher Cost of Living (Core Rationale)

The federal Northern Residents Deduction is explicitly grounded in recognition of higher living costs, environmental hardship, and limited access to services faced by residents of northern and remote regions. These same conditions apply across much of Northern Alberta.

NADC stakeholder engagement highlights persistent cost pressures, including:

- Higher food costs, driven by distance from major distribution centres and limited retail competition
- Higher heating and utility costs, reflecting climate, housing stock, and energy transmission realities
- Higher transportation costs for goods, services, and personal travel

- Higher residential and commercial construction costs, affecting housing supply, infrastructure delivery, and business investment

A Provincial Northern Living Allowance directly acknowledges these structural costs, improving affordability without distorting wages or relying on employer-specific solutions.

---

## 2. Affordability Pressures and Prosperity Leakage

The NADC Report identifies affordability as a key factor influencing labour mobility and community sustainability. When the net cost of living erodes the financial benefits of northern employment, households are more likely to:

- demand higher wages,
- choose rotational work arrangements,
- or relocate spending and investment outside the region.

This results in prosperity leakage, where income generated in Northern Alberta does not circulate locally, weakening small businesses, municipal tax bases, and regional economic resilience.

By increasing resident disposable income, a Provincial Northern Living Allowance strengthens local consumption, supports northern businesses, and improves the return on existing provincial infrastructure and service investments.

---

## 3. Workforce Attraction, Retention, and Long-Term Settlement

Workforce attraction and retention are identified by the NADC as foundational to northern economic success, particularly in:

- skilled trades and technical occupations
- health and education professionals
- Indigenous workforce participation
- youth and early-career talent

A Provincial Northern Living Allowance improves the overall value proposition of living in Northern Alberta by reducing the affordability gap between northern and southern communities. This supports:

- permanent residency rather than short-term deployment,

- household formation and stability,
- and stronger community attachment.

These outcomes align directly with Alberta's economic development objective of building a stable, skilled, and regionally distributed workforce.

---

#### 4. Reducing Reliance on Fly-In/Fly-Out (FIFO) Workforce Models

Northern Alberta's reliance on fly-in/fly-out labour—particularly in oil and gas—creates challenges for community cohesion, service planning, and workforce diversification. FIFO models:

- weaken local labour markets,
- strain infrastructure without expanding the tax base,
- and reduce opportunities for regional economic diversification.

By improving affordability for permanent residents, a Provincial Northern Living Allowance supports local workforce conversion, encouraging workers to live in the communities where they work and strengthening long-term economic stability.

---

#### 5. Youth Retention and Demographic Sustainability

The NADC Report highlights youth out-migration as a significant risk to Northern Alberta's future workforce and community sustainability. Affordability pressures, service access limitations, and perceived career constraints contribute to young people leaving northern communities.

A Provincial Northern Living Allowance directly improves the financial feasibility of remaining in, returning to, or relocating to Northern Alberta, supporting:

- youth retention,
  - family formation,
  - stable school enrolment,
  - and long-term labour force participation.
-

## Economic Impact Summary (Modeled on Federal Program Structure)

The federal Northern Residents Deduction uses a standardized, residency-based approach to improve affordability, tax fairness, and regional stability. A provincial program modeled on similar principles would:

- provide predictable and transparent support to residents,
- scale with duration of residency,
- avoid wage inflation and employer cost pass-through,
- and complement existing provincial economic development investments.

### Modeled economic impacts include:

- Increased local consumer spending and business activity
- Reduced recruitment and turnover costs for employers
- Improved labour market participation and stability
- Stronger municipal fiscal sustainability

These impacts align with both federal program objectives and the economic development priorities identified in the NADC Report.

---

## Upside Potential: Medical Travel Support

The federal program explicitly recognizes limited service access through travel deductions, including for medical care. Northern Albertans routinely travel long distances to access specialized healthcare.

A Provincial Northern Living Allowance could be designed to include, or pilot, medical travel offsets, supporting:

- reduced out-of-pocket healthcare costs,
  - improved access to essential services,
  - alignment with provincial health system objectives.
- 

## Why This Matters for Northern Alberta

Northern Alberta is repeatedly identified by the Province as:

- a cornerstone of Alberta's economy,

- a hub for resource development and diversification,
- and a region with significant growth potential.

Without addressing affordability and workforce stability, the Province risks under-realizing the return on major investments in infrastructure, education, health, and economic development.

A Provincial Northern Living Allowance is a strategic, place-based investment that aligns affordability, workforce development, and regional growth into a single, coherent policy tool—directly supporting the goals of Budget 2026 and Alberta’s economic development strategy.

---

## Conclusion

Establishing a Provincial Northern Living Allowance tied to the NADC boundary responds directly to documented northern realities, aligns with federal policy logic, and advances Alberta’s commitment to strengthening northern communities.

It represents a fiscally predictable, economically efficient mechanism to:

- improve affordability,
- stabilize population and workforce participation,
- reduce reliance on rotational labour,
- and unlock Northern Alberta’s long-term growth and diversification potential.

---

## Data Sources and Supporting References

- Canada Revenue Agency – Northern Residents Deduction rationale and structure [[knowalberta.com](https://knowalberta.com)], [[collective...alberta.ca](https://collective.alberta.ca)]
- Northern Alberta Development Council – *Report to Minister: Northern Development* (March 31, 2025) [[nadc.ca](https://nadc.ca)], [[open.alberta.ca](https://open.alberta.ca)]
- Government of Alberta – Acceptance of NADC recommendations and northern development priorities [[publicnow.com](https://publicnow.com)]
- Federal regulatory and explanatory materials on northern cost-of-living recognition [[taxbreak.ca](https://taxbreak.ca)]

Date: April 1, 2026

**Subject:** Request to Champion a Provincial Northern Alberta Living Allowance (NALA)

Dear Minister Jean, Minister Loewen, and Chair Yao,

Northern Alberta is fundamental to Alberta's economic strength, resource development, and long-term prosperity. Yet communities across the region continue to face persistent structural cost-of-living and workforce challenges that limit affordability, population stability, and regional competitiveness. These realities are well documented in the Northern Alberta Development Council's Report to Minister (March 31, 2025) and are consistently raised by municipalities, employers, Indigenous communities, and residents throughout the North.

We are writing to respectfully request your support in championing and advancing a Provincial Northern Alberta Living Allowance (NALA), aligned with the Northern Alberta Development Council (NADC) boundary, as a practical, place-based response to these challenges.

While the federal government partially recognizes higher northern costs through the Northern Residents Deduction, Alberta currently lacks a provincial, resident-focused affordability mechanism that reflects the lived realities of Northern Alberta communities. As a result, the region continues to experience workforce attraction and retention pressures, youth outmigration, reliance on fly-in/fly-out labour models, and ongoing prosperity leakage—limiting the return on provincial investments in infrastructure, health, education, and economic development.

A Provincial Northern Alberta Living Allowance would help address this policy gap by:

- Offsetting higher and persistent costs related to food, heating, transportation, and housing;
- Supporting permanent settlement and workforce stability across key sectors;
- Complementing federal measures without distorting wages or employer costs; and
- Strengthening local disposable income, economic retention, and community sustainability.

Growing communities one idea at a time.

Modeled on the principles of the federal approach, a provincial allowance would be predictable, transparent, and fiscally manageable, while directly aligning with Budget 2026 affordability priorities, provincial workforce objectives, and the Province’s acceptance— in principle—of a place-based definition of Northern Alberta.

Advancing this initiative will require clear northern leadership and a visible champion. We respectfully submit that Minister Jean, Minister Loewen, and the Chair of the NADC are uniquely positioned to champion this initiative on behalf of Northern Alberta—helping to articulate the regional case, guide coordinated policy consideration across government, and ensure northern realities are reflected in future decision-making.

A brief rationale and briefing note are attached for your consideration. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss how this initiative could be advanced and how northern leadership can help drive a meaningful, long-term solution for the benefit of residents and the future growth of the region.

Respectfully,



**Peter Mahowich**

General Manager

Community Futures Lac La Biche

Email: [peter@cflb.com](mailto:peter@cflb.com)

Phone: 780-623-2662 ext. 3 | Cell: 780-404-6904

Box 2188, 10106 102 Ave, Lac La Biche, AB T0A 2C0

[www.cflb.com](http://www.cflb.com)

# Northern Alberta Living Allowance (NALA)

## Organizational Endorsement and Participation Form

### Purpose

This form confirms organizational support for advancing consideration of a Provincial Northern Alberta Living Allowance (NALA)—a resident-focused, place-based affordability mechanism aligned with the Northern Alberta Development Council (NADC) boundary.

### Organization Information

Organization Name:

---

Primary Contact Name & Title:

---

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Community / Region Represented:

---

### Statement of Acknowledgement

By completing this form, [Organization Name] acknowledges that:

Northern Alberta communities face persistent structural cost-of-living and workforce challenges affecting affordability, population stability, and economic competitiveness;

A Provincial Northern Alberta Living Allowance (NALA) represents a practical, place-based mechanism to complement federal measures and support long-term settlement, workforce retention, and community sustainability; and

Continued, coordinated regional advocacy is important to ensure Northern Alberta affordability realities are considered in future provincial budget and policy discussions.

## Level of Participation (Please select one)

**Endorsement**

Our organization supports continued provincial consideration of a Northern Alberta Living Allowance and aligns with the shared advocacy intent.

**Active Participation**

Our organization is willing to participate in coordinated advocacy efforts (e.g., letters, meetings, communications, or resolutions, as appropriate).

**Information & Ongoing Engagement**

Our organization wishes to remain informed and engaged as discussions progress.

## Conditions or Comments (Optional)

---

---

---

---

---

## Authorization

This endorsement/participation is provided on behalf of [Organization Name].

Authorized Signature:

---

Name & Title:

---

Date:

---

## Submission

Please return this form via email to:

**Peter Mahowich**

General Manager, Community Futures Lac La Biche

[peter@cflb.com](mailto:peter@cflb.com)

RECEIVED

APR 28 2026

06.11-E

From: L  
Sent: April 28, 2026 11:49 AM  
To: Teresa Tupper  
Subject: Snowplowing of private driveways

COUNTY OF  
NORTHERN LIGHTS

I am addressing this email to all County Council and Administration Staff.

In Terry Ungarians letter dated April 14/26 letter stating discontinuation of snowplowing for private driveways, I would like to express my dissatisfaction. We have experienced some very mild winters in the past recent years. Where are the savings from these years? Unfortunately we did have an extreme cold winter last year and what does the County do but take away another service to residents. I know of 3 senior widows in the Dixonville area that depended on this service.

I haven't heard any other County feeling the need to take away snowplowing services. I cannot see this as a cost saving measure where at every meeting Council members reward themselves with a new trip to some Conference, information session, supper or award ceremonies. Beside the personal rewards Council members give out money ranging from windows for a senior center (\$13,000) to a grant of \$250 for a Legion not even within our boundaries. Where is the accountability?

In my view I see little improvement because we are governed by a unionized, woke County. We need ratepayers meeting or coffee sessions with the ward representative in every ward and not having to travel to Peace River Expo.

I look forward to some response to this email to ensure it was read by those mentioned.

Elzina Vance  
Taxpayer

06.11-E



COUNTY OF  
**Northern Lights**

#600, 7th Ave NW, PO Box 10, Manning AB T0H 2M0  
Phone 780-836-3348 Fax 780-836-3663  
Toll Free 1-888-525-3481

**Report No.**

**Agenda Item No.**

06.1.1- *F*

<b>Subject:</b>	Council Calendar for May 2026
<b>Agenda Date:</b>	Tuesday, May 12, 2026
<b>Attachments:</b>	Monthly Calendar

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that:

- 1) Council acknowledge receipt of the Report; and
- 2) Accept it for information.

See attached calendar

**FINANCIAL/STAFFING IMPLICATIONS**

This item has been approved in the current budget:	Yes	No	N/A
This item is within the approved budget amount:	Yes	No	N/A

**Prepared By:**

**Accepted for Council  
Consideration by:**

Teresa Tupper  
Executive Assistant

Gerhard Stickling  
Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

	<b>MAY 2026</b>	<b>GT</b>	<b>KS</b>	<b>BY</b>	<b>BR</b>	<b>GD</b>	<b>TU</b>	<b>LH</b>	<b>CAO</b>
<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>								
1	EXPO, PEACE RIVER	X	X	X					
2	EXPO, PEACE RIVER	X	X	X	X	X			X
	Submit <b>APRIL 2026</b> timesheet to <a href="mailto:blantonk@countyofnorthernlights.com">blantonk@countyofnorthernlights.com</a>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	Deadline for submission of <b>APRIL 2026</b> Ward Report with <b>MAY 2026</b> schedule to <a href="mailto:tuppert@countyofnorthernlights.com">tuppert@countyofnorthernlights.com</a>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
3									
4	ACCPA CONFERENCE - CALGARY		X						
5	ACCPA CONFERENCE – CALGARY COMMISSION ORIENTATION SESSION AT 8AM HANDI-VAN COMMITTEE MTG AT 10AM		X	X		X			
6	ACCPA CONFERENCE – CALGARY NPHF MEETING 4PM		X X						
7	HH GRANDE OPENING 11AM PEACE REGIONAL MENTAL HEALTH TASK FORCE MEETING 5PM	X	X X	X	X	X	X	X	X
8									
9	PLS BOARD MTG							X	
10									
11	RhPAP SUMMIT PLANNING MEETING 3:30PM		X						
12	COUNCIL MEETING	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	BATTLE RIVER PIONEER MUSEUM TOUR 1/1:30PM (AFTER COUNCIL)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	ICF TASK FORCE MTG AT 4PM		X				X		X
13	DIXONVILLE CHARTER SCHOOL SOCIETY AGM 7PM MANNING & AREA FOOD BANK MTG 4:30PM			X		X			
14									
15									
16									
17									
18	<b>VICTORIA DAY – OFFICE CLOSED</b>								
19	PRAIC MEETING AT 9:30AM			X					
20	PAC MTG AT 5PM PEACE REGIONAL RCMP ADVISORY MTG 5PM	X	X						
21	NORMAND BOUCHER COMMUNITY ARBORETUM CELEBRATION 9:30AM		X						
22	EDA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TRAINING, PR 9AM to 3PM	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
23									
24									
25	LLRW MSC MEETING 7PM			X					
26	COUNCIL MEETING	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	ORDINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE MTG	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
27	PRAMP MTG 1PM		X						
28									
29									
30									
31									



COUNTY OF Northern Lights

#600, 7th Ave NW, PO Box 10, Manning AB T0H 2M0
Phone 780-836-3348 Fax 780-836-3663
Toll Free 1-888-525-3481

Report No.

Agenda Item No.

06.1.2 A

Table with 2 columns: Field (Subject, Agenda Date, Attachments) and Value (CAO Report, May 12, 2026, N/A)

UPDATE

- Duty to Accommodate
Supervisor and Worker Training
MAARC Meeting
Flooding

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that:

- 1. Accept the report as information.

Prepared By:

[Handwritten signature]

Gerhard Stickling
Chief Administrative Officer



<b>Subject:</b>	Director of Finance Update
<b>Agenda Date:</b>	May 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2026
<b>Attachments:</b>	

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that

1. Council accept this report for information; and

**Council Grants YTD**

**SUMMARY OF COUNCIL GRANTS - 2026**

Last updated by Josh Hunter, Director of Finance @ May 5th, 2026

CATEGORY	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE
Manning ICF	350,000.00	200,000.00	150,000.00
Manning Capital	55,000.00		55,000.00
Grimshaw MSA	217,980.00		217,980.00
TPR ICF	1,080,000.00		1,080,000.00
MRCCA	17,500.00	17,500.00	-
Bursaries	5,000.00		5,000.00
Peace Regional Outreach	15,000.00	15,000.00	-
Misc Council Grants	62,500.00	9,108.65	53,391.35
STARS	20,000.00	20,000.00	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,822,980.00</b>	<b>261,608.65</b>	<b>1,561,371.35</b>

**TPR Expo**

Thank you to Council for attending and assisting with take down on Saturday.  
Any feedback Council wishes to give?

**May 1<sup>st</sup> Penalty (Taxation)**

Reminder to Council that as of May 1<sup>st</sup> a 12% penalty was applied to all outstanding balances on tax rolls in accordance with the *Penalties on Unpaid Taxes Bylaw*.

**Grant Reporting**

May 1<sup>st</sup> is also the deadline for many of the Grant Statement of Expenditures and Project Outcomes (SEPO) reports. I have completed these for LGFF Operating and Capital, FCSS, CCBF and ASB.

## New Email Domain

Soon, outbound emails will be sent from @countynl.ca as our default domain. @countyofnorthernlights.com will continue to work as well and will be retained as an alias. The actual date this will come into effect depends on scheduling from Yardstick.

## Annual Property Tax and Assessment Notices

As of the date of the report, the plan is to have them mailed out by May 8<sup>th</sup>. This will require the assistance of all admin staff to fold, stuff in envelopes, and distribute via Canada Post. Thanks to them all!

The quick guide insert will be submitted to each unique owner.

A verbal update will be provided if anything changes from this.

Taxes will be due June 30<sup>th</sup> as always, final date of appeal will be July 15<sup>th</sup> (legislated amount of days from date mailed).

If/When Council begins receiving calls about assessments/taxes please remember the following;

- Municipal Mill Rate (our portion) remains unchanged from last year
- Other Mill Rates are out of our Control and our simply collected and remitted to the Province or other bodies
- Assessed values for residential properties are based on Market Value. Issues may be discussed by submitting an inquiry to the Assessor, and if still unsatisfied, filing a formal appeal
- You are paying taxes on the condition and contents of your property as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of last year, with a market valuation date of July 1<sup>st</sup> of last year
- Various other assessment types are regulated by the Province (Farmland, M&E, DIP, etc)
- Assessment values may be challenged, Mill rates may not (passed through bylaw).\
- Advertisements that notices have been sent will be placed online, on our website, in the MZBP and in the office foyer. Not receiving your tax notice does not constitute a waiver of penalties or extension of the deadline.

## Final Budget

A copy of the final budget has been made available for the public on our website. Property tax information has been updated as well.

## Upcoming Events/Meetings

May 12<sup>th</sup> ICF Taskforce Meeting with Town of Manning

- Any prework Council requires for discussions?

May 13<sup>th</sup> AAIP Quarterly Designated Community meeting (Virtual)

- Attendance based on availability


May 19-22 GFOA Conference in Calgary

- Update on content will be provided following attendance

Prepared By:

  
Josh Hunter, CMA, CPA  
Director of Finance

Accepted by:

  
Gerhard Stickling  
CAO



COUNTY OF  
**Northern Lights**

#600, 7th Ave NW, PO Box 10, Manning AB T0H 2M0  
Phone 780-836-3348 Fax 780-836-3663  
Toll Free 1-888-525-3481

**Report No.**  
CS - 2026 - 0

**Agenda Item No.**  
06.6.2 - *A*

<b>Subject:</b>	Community Capital Assistance Program
<b>Agenda Date:</b>	May 12, 2026
<b>Attachments:</b>	

**RECOMMENDATION**

For Council to acknowledge receipt of this report and

1. For council to allot the 2026 Community Capital Assistance Grant as follows;

- a. Battle River Pioneer Museum           \$
- b. Deadwood Community League         \$
- c. Manning & District Ski Club           \$
- d. Manning Enhanc. Comm./Legion       \$
- e. Weberville Community Club            \$

**1. BATTLE RIVER PIONEER MUSEUM**

• <b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>\$40,000.00</b>
• Donated Labour/Services	\$ 2,500.00
• Other Grant Applications (Pending)	\$ 0.00
• <u>Cash (Internal)</u>	<u>\$ 6,900.00</u>
• Total	\$49,400.00*
• <b>Estimated Project Cost</b>	<b>\$84,500.00</b>

The Battle River Pioneer Museum would like to purchase a fully operational 1912 Gaar-Scott 25-756 HP steam tractor for their museum collection. It is for sale via a private owner in the Peace Country. Their research indicates that the model is quite rare, one of perhaps 30 operational machines worldwide. It is valued between \$125-150k. Multiple Museum members have travelled to inspect the machine. The tractor is listed in the application budget at \$79,000.00.

The Battle River Museum plans on additional fundraising, grant applications, private and/or corporate support for the remaining \$35,100 needed to fund the purchase. In the event of partial funding, they will need to increase their fundraising efforts.

Battle River Pioneer Museum has not previously received CCAP funding.

## 2. DEADWOOD COMMUNITY LEAGUE

• Amount Requested	\$25,000.00
• Donated Labour/Services	\$ 1,000.00
• Donated Material/Equipment	\$ 1,000.00
• <u>Cash (Internal)</u>	<u>\$55,000.00</u>
• Total	\$82,000.00
• Estimated Project Cost	<b>\$82,000.00</b>

The Deadwood Community League would like to renovate the hall's front entry to be fully enclosed and improve its accessibility for people with mobility issues, including those who use wheelchairs and mobility aids. The current entrance has a wooden ramp and is exposed to the elements year-round, making access in the winter months difficult and, at times, unsafe. The enclosed renovated entrance will be properly graded to ensure wheelchair access, reducing the risk of slips and trips in winter weather.

In the event of partial funding, the Deadwood Community League would next to extend the project timeline to do more fundraising to complete the project.

Deadwood Community received CCAP funds for projects in 2011 and 2016.

## 3. MANNING & DISTRICT SKI CLUB

• Amount Requested	\$15,000.00
• Donated Labour/Services	\$ 0.00
• Donated Materials/Equipment	\$ 0.00
• <u>Cash (Internal) for misc. supplies</u>	<u>\$ 5,175.00</u>
• Total	\$20,175.00
• Estimated Project Cost	<b>\$20,175.00</b>

The Manning & District Ski Club would like to replace the deteriorated chalet deck. It has reached the end of its lifespan, and snowfall off the chalet roof over the winter has shown how damaged the deck currently is and the safety hazard it poses. With the construction of a new deck, the club will also be able to improve accessibility by installing a ramp to accommodate people with mobility challenges, those using mobility aids and adaptive equipment.

Club volunteers will remove and haul away the old deck pieces and stain the new deck (not assigned dollar value in application).

In the event of partial funding, the Manning & District Ski Club would need to adjust the project scope to pursue additional funding. This could result in closing one chalet access door, disrupting the natural flow of foot traffic and making it more difficult for users to move through the space with their equipment.

Manning & District Ski Club received CCAP funds in 2013, 2018, 2019, 2021, and 2025.

#### 4. MANNING ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE/MANNING LEGION

• Amount Requested	\$ 12,500.00
• Donated Labour/Services	\$ 0.00
• Donated Material and Equipment	\$ 15,000.00
• <u>Cash (Internal sources and fundraising)</u>	<u>\$114,325.00</u>
• Total	\$141,825.00
• Estimated Project Cost	\$141,825.00

Through the Manning Royal Canadian Legion, the Manning Community Enhancement Committee is requesting funds for their community hub project in downtown Manning. The project includes constructing a gazebo, landscaping, fencing, cement pathways, bathrooms, and a clock. The property is owned by the Town of Manning and is currently on a 7-year lease with the Legion, which ends in 2029. The space will be free for public use; however, there will be rental fees for private bookings.

The requested amount is to complete the matching requirement for the CFEP grant, for which the Council provided a letter of support in 2024. The committee has received \$70,912.50 from the CFEP program, \$11,500 from the Town of Manning and \$31,912.50 in internal funds.

In the event of partial funding, the Manning Enhancement Committee/Legion would need to proceed in phases, with priority components completed first and ongoing fundraising efforts to support the project's completion.

The Manning Legion received CCAP funds in 2018.

#### 5. WEBERVILLE COMMUNITY CLUB

• Amount Requested	\$45,475.76
• Donated Labour/Services	\$ 0.00
• Donated Material and Equipment	\$ 0.00
• <u>Cash (fundraising)</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
• Total	\$45,475.46
• Estimated Project Cost	\$45,475.46

The Weberville Community Club would like to do repairs and maintenance at the Weberville Community Hall and the Leddy Lake campground, which they also operate. Projects include a transformer upgrade, installing additional powered campsites, and replacing the dock at Leddy Lake, repairing and painting the hall's interior walls, and replacing light fixtures (converting to LED lights) and replacing switches.

In the event of partial funding, the Weberville Community Club would need to continue fundraising by hosting paid-attendance events and generating income from facility rentals.

Weberville Community Club received funds from CCAP in 2011 and 2025.

**BACKGROUND**

Council approved \$50,000.00 for the Capital Assistance Program (CCAP) in 2026 for non-profit groups within the County of Northern Lights' borders for capital projects, with a maximum of \$12,500.00 available for groups in the support communities of Manning, Grimshaw, and Peace River. Since 2010, 58 capital projects have been funded through the CCAP grant program.

This year, we received five requests for funding. Three requests are in the County of Northern Lights, and two are in the Town of Manning.

One request received did not meet eligibility requirements: Lac Cardinal Recreation Association requesting \$2,400 for chimney repairs. The total project cost did not meet the CCAP minimum (\$10,000). The organization was directed to apply to the South Recreation Board.

Total eligible funding requests from the 2026 CCAP Grant: \$ 137,975.76

Total project costs from applications: \$ 373,975.76

**Support requests must at least meet one of three criteria:**

- i. General Exposure and Profile: The project enhances the County of Northern Lights' profile and/or status and/or increases overall awareness of the County of Northern Lights, particularly when the project, event or activity will provide media exposure for the County.
- ii. Economic Benefit: The project attracts tourists and visitors to the County, thereby providing economic benefit to local businesses.
- iii. Promote Civic Pride and Sense of Place: The project will enhance entertainment, recreational, and cultural opportunities for the County residents and will help create a more varied, vibrant, and interesting local flavour.

Group	Project	Health/Safety Concern or Detriment to Facility	Recognition Of County Contribution
Battle River Pioneer Museum	Purchase Steam Tractor	No	Plaque on steamer tractor, social media newspaper
Deadwood Community League	Front Entry	Yes	Plaque on donor wall, social media
Manning & District Ski Club	Chalet Deck	Yes	Website, social media, newspaper article, facility signage
Manning Enhancement Committee/Manning Legion	Community Hub	No	Plaque, social media, newsletters, website, and grand opening event(s)
Weberville Community Club	Leddy Lake: transformer, power, dock Hall: interior walls, lights and switches	No	Social media, posters at the facility, newspaper

*06.6.2-A*

**PROJECTS SUPPORTED IN PREVIOUS YEARS:**

2025	Battle River Ag Society	Pavillion Roof	\$11,500.00
2025	Dixonville LIFE Ag Society	Water/Sewer Lines (Hall)	\$7,500.00
2025	Lac Cardinal Recreation Association	Sewer system/parking lot	\$6,406.57
2025	Manning & District Ski Club	Lift Repairs & Maint.	\$5,000.00
2025	Peace Playland	Centre renos/repairs (unaffixed assets)	\$5,000.00
2025	Weberville Community Club	Furnaces (Hall)	\$10,000.00
2024	Hawk Hills Ag Society	Water Cistern and water pump	\$30,000.00
2024	Camp Artaban	Fire Hazard Reduction	\$20,000.00
2023	Dixonville LIFE Ag Society	Purchase portable panels	\$10,000.00
2023	Manning & District Ski Club	Purchase mini-snow cat	\$20,000.00
2023	St. James Church	Wheelchair ramp	\$10,000.00
2023	Weberville Revitalizations Society	Hall exterior work and Leddy Lake Grounds	\$10,000.00
2022	Dixonville Golden Age Inn Club	Outdoor covered patio	\$ 30,000.00
2022	Weberville Revitalization Society	Hall deck upgrades	\$ 10,000.00
2022	Manning Pottery Guild	Equipment upgrades and facility updates	\$ 5,000.00
2022	Peace River Ski Club	Equipment purchases	\$ 5,000.00
2021	Riverside Bible Camp	Cabin replacements	\$ 15,000.00
2021	Manning Ski Hill	Lift maintenance & repairs	\$ 23,000.00
2021	Grimshaw Curling Club	Funds for Ice Plant Replacement Grant	\$ 12,000.00

**CONSIDERATIONS**

This year's applications included projects that are overall improvements to the facilities, as well as potential safety and accessibility concerns that need to be addressed. In addition, not all applicants can generate income using the same method(s) or access the same municipal operational grant funding.

**Prepared By:**

**Accepted for Council  
Consideration by:**



Trinity Schmidt  
Community Services Coordinator



Gerhard Stickling  
Chief Administrative Officer



Josh Hunter  
Director of Finance



COUNTY OF  
**Northern Lights**

#600, 7th Ave NW, PO Box 10, Manning AB T0H 2M0  
Phone 780-836-3348 Fax 780-836-3663  
Toll Free 1-888-525-3481

**Report No.**  
CS - 2026 - 00

**Agenda Item No.**  
06.6.2 - B

<b>Subject:</b>	Recreation Board Donations
<b>Agenda Date:</b>	May 12, 2026
<b>Attachments:</b>	

**RECOMMENDATION**

For Council to acknowledge receipt of this report, and  
1. Accept this report for information.

**BACKGROUND**

The Community Services Department provides quarterly funding reports to Council to keep Councilors up to date on the various recreational and cultural projects and events in the region.

The following pages are a summary of the remaining funds dispensed by the North Recreation Board in 2025 and Q1 of 2026, and the South Recreation Board's first quarter of 2026, ending on April 30, 2026.

**NORTH RECREATION BOARD:**

Group/Event/Program	Requested Amount	Funded Amount
Manning Minor Ball (U18 Umpire Tiering costs)	\$390.00	\$390.00
Manning Minor Ball (U18 Tier 1 travel expenses)	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
<b>REMAINING 2025 FUNDS</b>	<b>\$5,390.00</b>	<b>\$ 390.00</b>

Group/Event/Program	Requested Amount	Funded Amount
*Alberta Winter Games (Badminton Team Jackets)	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
<i>*2026 Rec Board funds, 2026 application received in March</i>		
<b>2026 FUNDS</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,000.00</b>

06.6.2-B

**SOUTH RECREATION BOARD:**

<b>Group/Event/Program</b>	<b>Requested Amount</b>	<b>Funded Amount</b>
Alberta Pond Hockey Association	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Dixonville Curling Club (Farmers and Friends Bonspiel)	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Grimshaw Curling Club (Men & Ladies Bonspiel)	\$1,500.00	\$500.00
North Peace Performing Arts (Festival)	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Peace River Aboriginal Interagency Committee (Pow Wow)	\$10,000.00	\$5,000.00
Weberville Community Club (Easter Eggstravaganza)	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Weberville Community Club (Father's Day BBQ)	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Weberville Community Club (Canada Day Fire Works)	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Berwyn Ag Society (Cash & Cans Barrel Racing)	\$500.00	\$500.00
Peace River Rotoract (River Days)	\$5,500.00	\$5,000.00
Peace River Motorcross (June races)	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
Peace River Boating Association (Gold Cup races)	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Harvest Moon Festival	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Peace River Scottish Society (Local competition)	\$4,000.00	\$2,500.00
10 Acre Shaker Musical Festival	\$10,000.00	\$3,500.00
North Peace Gymnastics (Upside Down Summer Club)	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
North Peace Athletics (Volleyball camp)	\$1,762.00	\$1,500.00
<b>2026 Q1 FUNDS</b>	<b>\$59,762.00</b>	<b>\$ 45,000.00</b>

**Prepared By:**



Trindy Schmidt  
Community Services Coordinator

**Accepted for Council  
Consideration by:**



Gerhard Stickling  
Chief Administrative Officer



Josh Hunter  
Director of Finance



COUNTY OF Northern Lights

#600, 7th Ave NW, PO Box 10, Manning AB T0H 2M0
Phone 780-836-3348 Fax 780-836-3663
Toll Free 1-888-525-3481

Report No. CS - 2026 - 0

Agenda Item No. 06.6.2 - C

Table with 2 columns: Field Name (Subject, Agenda Date, Attachments) and Value (Hawk Hills Ag Society Request for Support, May 12, 2026, empty)

RECOMMENDATION

For Council to acknowledge receipt of this report and

- 1. Commit as a municipal partner for the Hawk Hills Agricultural Society FCC AgriSpirit Grant application, and
2. Provide a letter of support.

BACKGROUND

The Hawk Hills Agricultural Society would like to apply to the Farm Credit Canada AgriSpirit grant fund to replace the playground at the Hawk Hills hall. The current playground is quite old, and winter frost heaves have damaged the equipment. The estimate for new equipment is \$80,000, and they will be requesting \$25,000.00.

To meet eligibility requirements, Hawk Hills Agricultural Society must partner with a municipality. The requirements for the County, as a municipal partner, are to

- provide a letter of support for the grant application
- co-sign the agreement to receive the funds, and
- disburse the funds to the Hawk Hills Ag Society

CONSIDERATIONS

The society only became aware of the grant on May 4, and the due date is Friday, May 15.

Prepared By:

Accepted for Council Consideration by:

Handwritten signature of Trinity Schmidt

Trinity Schmidt
Community Services Coordinator

Handwritten signature of Gerhard Stickling

Gerhard Stickling
Chief Administrative Officer

Handwritten signature of Josh Hunter

Josh Hunter
Director of Finance



# COUNCILLOR WARD REPORT

WARD #1, April, 2026

**DATE      CONFERENCE, WORKSHOP, COMMITTEE, BOARD MEETING, EVENT NAME      TIME**

<i>April 14/26</i>	<i>Regular council meeting</i>	<i>7:30 to 4:30</i>
<i>April 17/26</i>	<i>Farmer appreciation night</i>	<i>4:00 to 10:30</i>
<i>WE had an excellent evening with a sold out crowd. The entertainment was excellent and he had the crowd in stitches.</i>		
<i>April 28/26</i>	<i>Regular council meeting</i>	<i>7:30 to 2:30</i>
<i>April 29/26</i>	<i>NPARA board meeting</i>	<i>10:00 to 3:00</i>
<i>The board made the decision to purchase a used plot combine and a new lawn mower for the farm. The present combine cannot get replacement parts. I will be going to a meeting with the minister of agriculture on May 12 to represent ERICA and our association.</i>		

**UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:**

DATE – EVENT - START & FINISH TIME



# County of Northern Lights

## April 2026 Ward Two Report – Kayln Schug

**April 01, 2026**      **RMA Zone Chair and Vice Chair Meeting**      **1:00 pm – 2:45 pm**

I met with Bob Willings at the MD of Peace office to discuss the tasks and planning steps needed to transfer information over to me as the newly elected chair. I have emailed all MLAs and MPs for our district a 'save the date' in hopes of getting on their calendar before it fills up. The remainder of the 'save the date' information will be sent out in the coming weeks once RMA has forwarded me all the information that I require and once Big Lakes County gets me all the location specifics as well.

**April 02, 2026**      **ASB Townhall - Strychnine and Weeds on Well Sites**      **2:30 pm – 3:00 pm**

Tuned into the virtual teams call to hear from John Conrad, Assistant Deputy Minister of Primary Agriculture. It was great to hear some good news on strychnine. Approval for emergency use of strychnine for Alberta and Saskatchewan on March 30<sup>th</sup> for 19 months. It will be about 6-8 weeks before municipalities receive the product, as they await its arrival from India. John spoke about the training required for both producers and Ag fieldmen. The timeline for fieldman training is mid-April. Weeds on wellsite's were also discussed, effective May 1st, for the new approach they are taking, but there are still a lot of question marks surrounding the rollout and how it will address weeds on well sites. The AER wants a list of oil company offenders to help arrange the details for the next few weeks leading up to it.

**April 07, 2026**      **Media Training with Jake Pastore (Virtual)**      **9:00 am – 11:00 am**

I participated in a Zoom training session focused on media training with Jake Pastore and Jim Cronin. There was so much information shared, but I will share some of the key takeaways for myself: creation and implementation of timely and concise council meeting highlights to the public, the struggle for competing with "citizen reporters", the value of having municipal-specific digital fact sheets (excited to get a copy of some to model after for our own county), interview techniques and the value of the spokesperson sharing only factual, clear, and concise messages.

**April 09, 2026**      **Peace Regional Energy Alliance (Virtual)**      **9:30 am – 12:30 pm**

Items were discussed as per the agenda and are documented in the meeting minutes, which are shared in the council information package once approved. Updates were given by Jake Pastore, Energy Alberta, and SNR Summit Conference briefing notes.

**April 09, 2026**                      **PRSD and Mental Health Task Force Meeting**                      **12:45 pm – 2:30 pm**

Another committee member and I met with PRSD staff to discuss ways we can assist the Peace River School Division with its advocacy priorities for the year. It was determined at our municipal and PRSD meeting in February that Mental Health supports for children were a key priority for them this year. Aside from more funding, it was clear that the lack of access to primary care providers was a significant hurdle and will be passed along to the Healthcare Attraction Retention Committees, as there is no need to duplicate advocacy efforts.

**April 13-15, 2026**                      **ASCHA Convention Edmonton (NPHF)**

April 13<sup>th</sup> – The convention kicked off with speeches and a Q&A session with the Honourable Minister Nixon and Premier Smith. Lots of chatter about the provincial investment and doing what they could in our current economic situation as a province. We also heard from Assisted Living Alberta representatives, who shared the updates they have been working on and through since the committee was established last September. We then went into breakout sessions that focused on gaps in the industry, before the day wrapped with a panel discussion on the Future of Housing in Alberta. It was an alarming call to action for what we need to do to address not only the growing number of seniors, but affordable housing for young people as well, who are struggling to keep up with the cost of living and how to work through challenges such as home care and appropriate care while balancing the dream of ‘aging in place.’

April 14<sup>th</sup> – I missed the conference tradeshow in the morning, so I was able to attend our council meeting virtually. I attended the afternoon workshop (3:15-4:45) on social support workers and how to help clients be most successful, and to assist with navigating various healthcare services and requirements.

April 15<sup>th</sup> – The morning began with the final round of workshops. I took part in the Board Governance workshop for Housing Management Bodies. It was important to understand that our municipal “hats” are not worn at the HMB and that all members remain within the bounds of their roles. Not uncommon for municipal governments, the board sets the policies and then needs to allow the administration to carry out the work without micromanaging or overstepping. Gathered some great tips and tricks to manage that as Vice Chair and heard some valuable lessons learned from other HMBs. The half-day conference wrapped up with a Residents Panel where we heard from a wide range of residents and clients about how affordable, social, and seniors’ housing is changing their lives. It was a start, a reminder that our mandate as an HMB extends beyond seniors; in our current economic climate, affordable housing is a major concern.

**April 14, 2026**                      **Council Meeting in Chambers (virtually)**                      **9:00 am – 2:54 pm**

Items were discussed as per the agenda and can be viewed on the county’s YouTube channel at: <http://www.youtube.com/@countyofnl>.

**April 16, 2026**                      **Zoom Meeting for PREA Position Paper**                      **9:30 am – 10:30 am**

Gerhard, Terry, Mrs. Tupper, and I got together over Zoom to discuss the position paper and compile our comments to share with Jake. The comments will then be compiled and shared with PREA for further discussion. The position paper will then be brought to the membership councils for approval.

**April 16, 2026**                      **Rural Crime Watch Meeting - Dixonville**                      **7:00 pm – 8:00 pm**

It was nice to see some members of the public attend, and I appreciate our county's strong presence as well. We heard from both Detachment Commanders Gavin Ool and Lacey Blair, which was great to have both groups represented. A lot of the information shared was what we heard at the provincial conference in Nisku last month, which I have already covered in my previous ward report (copper theft, JAMIE bot, retail crime, etc.). David LeBlanc also talked about the guide lights (which are for sale at our office in Manning). The books were reviewed for the year, and thank you to Brenda for doing that. We also ratified some motions passed via email regarding reimbursement for some members' attendance at the AGM in Nisku last month. The AGM meeting is scheduled for June 2<sup>nd</sup> in Nampa at 7:00 pm.

**April 17, 2026**                      **NPARA Farm Family Award Supper**                      **5:00 pm – 9:00 pm**

It was a fantastic evening, and Danny Hooper was an excellent entertainer. I was so happy to see so much money being raised for NPARA to get the kids from MAC School out to the research farm. It was exciting to see our farm family for the year, the Michalchuk's, being honoured, and their video presentation was great as well!

**April 19, 2026**                      **Alberta Pond Hockey Wrap Up Meeting**                      **6:00 pm – 8:00 pm**

We met to have our final wrap-up meeting for the 2026 event. While it was not out on the lake as we would have preferred, the board felt we pivoted as best we could, and the event turned out well, all things considered. We have a few projects to work on over the summer, including an updated inventory of our assets and some items to explore to better plan for next year. The AGM will be held on June 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the Grimshaw Curling Club, and we will be looking for a new president then. The date was also set for the 2027 event, and that will be March 5,6,7 of 2027.

**April 22, 2026**                      **PRAMP Director Video Recording – Rosary School**                      **1:00 pm – 2:45 pm**

Recorded my portion of the video collection for the 10 year PRAMP anniversary video. We chose Rosary School for our county location due to the purple air sensor that was installed there. We have been working on promotional items and ways to engage and teach people about PRAMP. All the directors will do a recording clip for their area, and it will be combined for our anniversary video and future "did you know" clips on our revamped website.

**April 22, 2026**                      **GRHARC Subcommittee Meeting (Virtual)**                      **6:30 pm – 7:45 pm**

The subcommittee met and started putting together our plan to report back to the GRHARC committee by June. Our subcommittee focuses on Marketing, Communication, and Educational Opportunities. I have been working away on connecting with resources, and I look forward to presenting the plan to GRHARC in June.

**April 24, 2026**                      **NPHF Strategic Planning Session -Day 1**                      **3:00 pm – 9:30 pm**

I was so happy to see a full board of directors attend this year; it historically is poorly attended, so that was fantastic. Day one saw the group conduct a “Year in Review” that highlighted wins and opportunities for improvement from each department, as well as a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis on the foundation as a whole. This year, we had the privilege of having Lindsay Pratt facilitate, and with his extensive experience in both roles of CAO at Hart River Housing and work in the GoA, he brought a lot of great ideas and suggestions to the board to consider.

**April 01, 2026**                      **NPHF Strategic Planning Session – Day 2**                      **7:30 am – 2:30 pm**

A very robust conversation was had that included: health conversation – the GoA is moving more to an oversight, and do we have an opportunity to leverage the current healthcare crisis to look at expanding DSL and a higher level of care in our facilities. Reports have indicated that 60-80% of lodge clients are not in appropriate care, which places a significant risk on the lodge operators across the province. We also had in-depth conversations about the damage that miscommunication has on the foundation and the need for member representatives to understand their role, communicate effectively, and adhere to board policy and government legislation. I look forward to seeing the revised plan and sharing that document. Please don't hesitate to ask if you have questions or want more information.

**April 28, 2026**                      **Council Meeting in Chambers**                      **9:00 am – 1:20 pm**

Items were discussed as per the agenda and can be viewed on the county's YouTube channel at: <http://www.youtube.com/@countyofnl>.

**April 29, 2026**                      **RMA Webinar – Bill 28**                      **12:00 pm – 1:30 pm**

I appreciate that RMA conducts these educational webinars on key topics. This session was facilitated by Wyatt Skovron and RMA President Kara Westerlund. This is especially important when large omnibus bills are addressed that cover a lot of key areas like: municipal functions, including governance, planning/development, reporting/accountability, finances, service delivery, and others. Unfortunately, we are still waiting for a lot more information. This bill is packing a lot that all of us should be very wary of.

The paper version of the RMA Analysis on Bill 28 can be found at: <https://rma Alberta.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/04-17-26-Bill-28-RMA-Analysis.pdf>

**April 29, 2026**                      **Peace Regional RCMP Advisory Meeting**                      **5:00 pm – 7:00 pm**

The meeting was moved back from April 22<sup>nd</sup> due to the number of first responders who attended and the heightened flood risk level for the Town of Peace River. It was fantastic to have detachment commander Gavin OOL come from Manning to see how the community works and operates – I am so excited to work with him on getting something set up for Manning, however that will look. Updates on the homicide in Peace River were discussed, and a majority of the meeting focused on the flood lessons learned and updates on the process that took place last week. Next meeting is scheduled for May 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Upcoming Meetings/Events:**

May 1 & 2<sup>nd</sup> – Peace River Trade Show Booth for both CNL and NPHF

May 4-6<sup>th</sup> – ACCPA Convention in Calgary

May 6<sup>th</sup> – North Peace Housing Foundation Meeting @ 4:00 pm

May 7<sup>th</sup> – Peace Regional Mental Health Task Force @ 5:00 pm

May 11<sup>th</sup> – RhPAP Summit Planning Virtual Meeting @ 3:30 pm

May 12<sup>th</sup> – Town of Manning ICF Meeting @ 4:00 pm & Battle River Museum Tour at 1:30 pm

May 20<sup>th</sup> – Peace Regional RCMP Advisory Committee @ 5:00 pm

May 21<sup>st</sup> – Peace River Arboretum Event @ 9:30 am

May 22<sup>nd</sup> – Economic Development Training in Peace River

May 27<sup>th</sup> – PRAMP Meeting @ 1:00 pm



Deputy Reeve KayIn Schug – Ward Two



# COUNCILLOR WARD REPORT

WARD # 3 April 2026

---

## DATE MEETINGS/CONFERENCES

**April 14 Council Meeting, as per agenda**

**9:00am – 4:00pm**

**April 16 Rural Crime Watch Meeting, Dixonville**

**7:00pm – 8:30pm**

Corrina Williams, President of the society, and representatives from the Manning and Peace River detachments shared key updates. Vehicle theft remains high, with 18–20% involving keys left in cars. Retail crime is rising, especially in larger centers. Peace River detachment, the largest in the northwest, has 30 members. APEX security holds a two-year inmate transport contract, replacing Sagitawa. Grimshaw detachment operates two days per month. Provincial plans are underway to replace the RCMP by 2032, requiring 1,800 new positions.

**April 17 NPARA Farmer Appreciation Night**

**5:00pm – 9:00pm**

A very enjoyable evening. Congratulations to the Michalchuk Farm Family on the award. A great video about their farming operations was presented. Danny Hooper was very entertaining and the meal was excellent!

**April 20 Long Lake Regional Waste Management Service Commission**

**7:00pm – 8:40pm**

The Commission Orientation Session is set for Tuesday May 8<sup>th</sup>; alternates are invited to attend. The capital budget has been tabled until next meeting. We will be engaging with Dillon Consulting on the second cell development plans.

**April 21 PRAIC**

**9:30am – 11:25am**

Wendy gave PRAIC presentations to the Town of Peace River and Northern Sunrise County in March. Election of co-chair, I was elected by acclamation. It was decided that this year's Pow Wow would be held at the Baytex centre in Peace River, given the late snow melt this year it is uncertain the outdoor grounds would be ready in time. Wendy participated in the PR Mental Health Task Force meeting, where she gained valuable insight into the range of support efforts taking place behind the scenes for the homeless. The Vision Quest Camp is coming up May 6-11 at Camp Artiban.

**April 21 South Rec Board**

**7:00pm – 8:40pm**

We met in Weberville this time and had 11 requests. The following requests were granted: Weberville Community Club Easter Event requested \$2000, granted \$1500. Weberville Community Club Father's Day BBQ request \$1500 was granted. Weberville Community Club Canada Day Fireworks request \$1000 was granted. Cash N Cars Barrel Racing request \$500-\$2000 was granted \$500. Peace River Rotoract - River Days request \$5000 was granted. Peace River Motocross June Races requested \$3500 was granted. Peace River Boating Assoc request \$5000 was granted \$3000. Harvest Moon Festival requested \$250-2500+ was granted \$5000. Peace River Scottish Society request of \$4000 was granted \$2500. 10 Acre Shaker Music Festival requested \$10,000 and was granted \$3500. North Peace Gymnastics Summer Upside Down Club request of \$1500 was granted. Since the meeting we received one request via email from North Peace Athletics Society for summer volleyball camps request of \$1764 to cover cost of facility rentals and was granted. The next meeting will be in September at the Old Lac Cardinal Hall.

**April 28 Council meeting as per agenda**

**9:00am – 1:19pm**

1



# COUNCILLOR WARD REPORT

WARD # 3 April 2026

## UPCOMING MEETINGS/CONVENTIONS/WORKSHOPS/EVENTS, ETC:

May 1 PR Expo/Tradeshow	4:00 pm
May 2 PR Expo/Tradeshow	10:00 am
May 5 Commission Orientation Session	8:00am
May 12 Council Meeting & Museum tour	9:00 am
May 13 Dixonville Charter School Society AGM	7:00 pm
May 19 PRAIC	9:30 am
May 22 EDA ED Elected Officials Training	9:00 am
May 25 LLRWMS	7:00 pm
May 26 Council Meeting & Ordinance Meeting	9:00am

Brenda Yasinski, County of Northern Lights, Ward 3 Councillor



# COUNCILLOR WARD REPORT

WARD #5      APRIL 2026

## MEETINGS AND EVENTS ATTENDED

DATE	TIME
Apr. 14, 2026 <i>Attended Regular Council Meeting as per agenda</i>	9:00 pm-3:16 pm
Apr. 14, 2026 <i>Attended Manning Municipal Library Meeting</i>	6:00 pm-7:03 pm
<p>Manning Municipal Library Board held its regular meeting on April 14, 2026, with all standard governance items approved, including previous minutes and agenda. The Board received a Treasurer's report indicating stable financial operations. Funding from the Friends of the Library (FOL) remains temporarily on hold pending proceeds from their upcoming casino fundraiser; eligible expenses are being tracked for future reimbursement.</p> <p>The Library continues its partnership with the Aurora Theatre for book club events, with scheduling adjustments to better align with attendance trends. Seasonal programming and increased school class visits have contributed to steady community use. The Library will be closed April 22, 2026 to allow staff attendance at the Women in the North Conference. Efforts to secure a contractor for exterior renovations are ongoing. A minor equipment issue involving a damaged vacuum is being addressed through warranty options. The Library has also offered temporary program space to support displaced youth activities due to flooding at Elk's Hall.</p> <p>Board membership records have been updated with Alberta Municipal Affairs. The FOL casino fundraiser is fully staffed with volunteers, and a new public computer system has been implemented, enhancing reporting capabilities for library usage statistics.</p> <p>The Board made a decision to permanently close the Library on Saturdays following a successful trial period, with flexibility to open for special events as needed</p> <p>Library usage remains strong, with over 800 visitors and approximately 1,900 items circulated over the last two month period. Next Meeting: June 9, 2026.</p>	
Apr. 16, 2026 <i>Attended Council's Role in Regional Collaboration - Virtual</i>	1:00 pm-3:30 pm
<p>Day1 highlighted that regional collaboration is increasingly mandated and requires strong council leadership. Councils are responsible for setting direction and maintaining positive relationships, while administration handles implementation.</p> <p>The session emphasized the benefits of shared services and regional alignment, alongside challenges such as differing priorities and governance complexities. Overall, success depends on clear communication, trust, and a commitment to working together for long-term regional outcomes.</p>	
Apr. 17, 2026 <i>Attended NPARA Farmers Appreciation &amp; Farm Family Award Nite</i>	5:00 pm-9:30 pm
<p>The NPARA Farmers Appreciation Supper was held on April 17, 2026, and it was a full house. The Michalchuk Family from Keg River accepted the Farm Family Award (metal gate sign) sponsored by the County of Northern Lights.</p> <p>Entertainment for the evening was provided by Danny Hopper, whose performance was well received and contributed to a relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere.</p> <p>Overall, the event was a success, reinforcing community spirit and highlighting the value of ongoing support for the agricultural sector.</p>	
Apr. 22, 2026 <i>Attended Women in the North Conference (WIN) in Grimshaw</i>	8:00 am-5:15 pm
<p>The 2026 theme, Refuel: Balance, Boundaries and Better Teams, reflected a day focused on strengthening workplaces through interactive sessions on workplace wellness, communication and conflict, burnout prevention and boundary setting, and practical tools delivered by incredible local speakers. This year's conference was delivered as a single regional event, bringing together women from across Northern Alberta for a full day of professional development, networking, and team-building. The event sold out, reflecting strong regional interest and participation. It emphasised on mental wellness, burnout prevention, and workplace dynamics reflects current workforce challenges.</p>	

Events like WIN contribute to economic and leadership development in rural communities, particularly among women entrepreneurs and professionals.

Guest Speakers:

Heidi Dubé – Elemental Fitness - A fitness and nutrition coach with 10+ years’ experience. Founder of Elemental Fitness, specializing in strength training, senior fitness, and corrective exercise. Active in the business community and wellness coaching. She focused on: Health, wellness, and functional fitness-maintaining strength, mobility, and long-term well-being, particularly for women and aging populations.

Stacey Messner – HR Consultant/Mayor of Grimshaw- A Chartered HR professional, leadership coach, and municipal leader. Runs an HR consulting practice focused on mentoring and leadership development. She focused on *Leadership and workplace culture*-likely covered conflict resolution, team building, and strengthening leadership skills for women in supervisory and governance roles.

Charis Nepinak – Choosing Change- A former commercial pilot turned counsellor with a Master’s in Counselling Psychology. Provides trauma-informed and equine-assisted therapy and is active in mental health advocacy. *Mental health and resilience*- addressing personal transitions, trauma-informed care, and supporting emotional well-being in rural communities.

Dani Wearden – Rural Heart Media-A communications professional and founder of Rural Heart Media. She specializes in digital storytelling, social media, and promoting community events and organizations. Dani focused on Marketing and digital presence, giving the attendees practical tips on social media, branding, and how to promote businesses and community initiatives.

Apr. 23, 2026 *Attended Council’s Role in Regional Collaboration – Virtual* 1:00 pm-3:33 pm  
Day 2 focused on putting collaboration into action, including creating formal agreements, defining governance roles, and managing challenges between partners.  
The key takeaway was that successful regional collaboration requires clear structure, accountability, and ongoing communication to sustain partnerships over time.

Apr. 28, 2026 *Attended Regular Council Meeting as per agenda* 9:00 am- 1:18 pm

Apr. 30, 2026 *Attended Council’s Role in Regional Collaboration – Virtual* 1:00pm-3:30 pm  
Day 3 focused on implementation and sustaining collaboration. Key discussions emphasized moving from planning to action—formalizing agreements, setting clear governance structures, and ensuring accountability among partners. Participants explored tools for managing conflict, maintaining trust, and measuring success over time.  
The session also highlighted the importance of ongoing communication, transparency, and adaptability, recognizing that regional partnerships evolve. Strong administrative support and regular Council oversight were identified as critical to keeping collaborations effective and aligned with municipal priorities.

---

UPCOMING MEETINGS/CONVENTIONS/WORKSHOPS/EVENTS, ETC:	START TIME
May 2, 2026 2026 Northern Connections Expo-Baytex Energy Center Peace River	12:00 pm-4:00 pm
May 5, 2026 Handi-Van Committee Meeting- Del Air Lodge	10:00 am
May 7, 2026 Grand Opening- Manning Home Hardware- Downtown Manning	11:00 am
May 12, 2026 Regular Council Meeting & Battle River Pioneer Museum Tour	9:00 pm & 1:30 pm
May 13, 2026 Manning & Area Food Bank Meeting	4:30 pm
May 22, 2026 EDA Elected Official Economic Dev. Training- Peace River	9:00 am
May 26, 2026 Regular Council Meeting & Ordinance Standing Committee Meeting	9:00 pm



Gloria Dechant, County of Northern Lights Ward 5 Councillor

07.A

**08.0 New Business**

Info Items: [for information]" Please note that these may not be discussed item by item. If there is an item which you wish to see or discuss further, contact the County's Executive Assistant for a copy. It is possible that this whole section may be accepted as presented in one motion."

**10. GOVERNMENT SERVICES**

- a) Alberta Counsel – At a Glance – April 24, 2026
- b) Municipal Musings – May 2026
- c) Alberta Counsel – At a Glance - May 1, 2026

**20. PROTECTIVE SERVICES [POLICE/FIRE/AMBULANCE/SAFETY]**

**30. TRANSPORTATION/DRAINAGE/PUBLIC WORKS**

**40. UTILITIES [WATER/SEWER/SOLID WASTE]**

**50. PUBLIC HEALTH & WELFARE**

**60. ENV. DEV. [PLANNING/AG. SER. /ECON DEV. /HOUSING]**

- a) NPARA Board Meeting Minutes – April 2026
- b) Energy Alberta – Notice of Activity
- c) Community Futures Peace Country Newsletter – March/April 2026

**70. RECREATION & CULTURE**

- a) Thank you from the Peace River Legion Branch 062
- b) Thank you from the Cash & Cans Barrel Race
- c) CNL South Recreation Board Meeting Minutes – April 2026




**80. EDUCATION & SCHOOLS**


- a) Northwestern Polytechnic Newsletter – May 2026

**90. PUBLIC UTILITIES [GAS/POWER/TELEPHONE]**


**\*Item located on Council Table**

**From:** Alberta Counsel <news@albertacounsel.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 24, 2026 12:52 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** At a Glance - April 24, 2026

albertacounsel.com 780.652.1311    



ALBERTA COUNSEL  
LAWYERS ♦ LOBBYISTS



## At a Glance - April 24, 2026

---

### Expanded Cancer Care for Albertans

The province is expanding cancer care supports by broadening free breast cancer screening and introducing a new oncofertility program. Beginning in 2027, all women aged 40 and older will be able to self-refer for screening, making over 193,000 additional women eligible and improving early detection rates. In addition, a \$2.25-million investment will fund a new oncofertility program, developed in partnership with Cancer Care Alberta and Fertility Alberta, to help patients preserve fertility before treatment.

Premier Danielle Smith stated: "The word cancer changes a life in an instant. In that moment, families are forced to make difficult decisions no one can prepare for. By expanding screening and supporting fertility preservation, we're making sure Albertans have real options, real support, and the chance to plan for a future beyond their diagnosis."

---

### Investments in Low-Emissions Fuel Technologies

The Alberta government is launching the Future Fuels Challenge, administered by Emissions Reduction Alberta (ERA), to accelerate the development and commercialization of low-emissions fuel technologies. The program reinvests federal fuel taxes paid by gasoline and diesel producers into projects that reduce emissions, improve refinery efficiency and strengthen the province's fuel sector competitiveness.

Minister of Environment and Protected Areas, Grant Hunter, commented: "Alberta

has spent more than 17 years building Emissions Reduction Alberta into a world-class organization with the expertise to turn complex challenges into practical results. The Future Fuels Challenge puts that Alberta-made strength to work by directing federal dollars into projects that reduce emissions, support innovation and strengthen the competitiveness of our refining sector. It is another example of Alberta asserting its jurisdiction by leading, by delivering and by being the best place in the country to invest in real industrial solutions.”

---

## **New Funding for Modular Classrooms**

Alberta’s government is responding to rapid growth in student enrolment by investing \$200 million to expand classroom capacity for the 2026-27 school year. This investment will include 189 new modular classrooms, 10 replacements, and 29 relocations, creating approximately 5,450 student spaces in high-demand communities.

“Student enrolment is growing, and we’re making sure schools can keep up. That’s why we’re building new schools across Alberta, with 161 projects underway right now. Modular classrooms help relieve crowding in the meantime, while permanent schools are built,” commented Minister of Education and Childcare, Demetrios Nicolaides.

---

## **First Indigenous-Led Recovery Community Opens**

The Government of Alberta and the Blood Tribe are celebrating the opening of a new 75-bed, Indigenous-led recovery community that provides no-cost, culturally grounded addiction treatment. This facility is the first of five planned Indigenous recovery communities. It is owned and operated by the Blood Tribe Department of Health, with capital and ongoing operational funding from the province.

“The Alberta Recovery Model is focused on ensuring anyone struggling with addiction can access the care they need to pursue recovery. The opening of these 75 beds provides greater access to barrier-free and culturally safe pathways for people to get well and reclaim their lives,” stated Minister of Mental Health and Addiction, Rick Wilson.

---



Alberta Counsel, 800, 9707-110 Street NW, Edmonton, AB T8H1V9, Canada, 780-652-1311

[Unsubscribe](#) [Manage preferences](#)

# Municipal Musings

## Municipal Musings: May 2026 update

### Budget 2026

Budget 2026 continues to support municipalities across the province. Funding under the Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF) is decreasing by 2.5 per cent from the 2025 level, in line with the reduction in provincial revenues between 2022-23 and 2023-24, making \$800 million available to Alberta communities. Of that, Calgary and Edmonton will receive \$423 million and remaining local governments will receive \$377 million.

### Spring 2026 Legislation

Minister Williams introduced Bill 28, the Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026 on April 2, 2026. The bill proposes changes to the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA) and *Libraries Act* focused on enabling growth and housing assessment and property tax governance, accountability, municipal transparency, and public institutions. Bill 28 also proposes changes relating to aggregate pit approvals (Environment and Protected Areas) and seniors lodges (Assisted Living and Social Services).

## Municipal Accountability Program (MAP)

are a multi-year process, ordered by the Minister under section 571 of the MGA. The program's purpose is to assist municipalities with their knowledge of mandatory legislated requirements under the MGA, aid municipalities in achieving legislative compliance, and provide a collaborative partnership between the ministry and municipalities. MAP is mandatory for municipalities with populations of 2,500 or less. Municipalities greater than 2,500 may request a Legislative Compliance Check by a resolution of council, or it may be offered by the department to support an amalgamation or administrative challenges.

MAP Cycle 1 ran from 2018-2022 and saw 216 reviews. A variety of municipalities underwent a MAP review. The second cycle of MAP is wrapping up for the 2025-2026 program year. As municipalities are also wrapping up their financial year, to help with the financial items you are currently working on or even in preparing for your next MAP Review, here are our top finance gaps the ministry noticed during the second MAP cycle, in no particular order:

1. The audited financial statements must disclose designated officer salaries and benefits as a total figure and indicate the number of designated officer positions included in that total as required by Section 1(2)(C) of the Municipal Corporate Planning Regulation.
2. The Three-Year Operating Plan must include the annual surplus/deficit and the accumulated surplus/deficit as required by Section 2(c) of the Municipal Corporate Planning Regulation 192/2017.
3. Both the Three-Year Operating & Five-Year Capital Plans do not include the financial year in which the plan was prepared as a part of each plan as per Section 283.1(3&4) of the MGA. Note that the current year may be included but is not counted as one of the three or five years.
4. Council is required to adopt an operating or interim operating budget prior to January 1 of that calendar year, as required by Section 242(1) of the MGA.
5. Council is required to adopt a capital budget prior to January 1 of that calendar year, as required by Section 245 of the MGA.
6. The property tax rate for the assessment of Designated Industrial Property (DIP) must follow the rate established by the Ministerial Order for that year.

## Meet MA!

The Municipal Financial Advisors play a key role in the day-to-day contact with the public, municipal officials and other departments and associations. Their goal is to strengthen the capacity and sustainability of municipalities and their understanding of both routine and complex municipal financial issues through advisory support, education, and the development of resource materials. In addition, the financial advisory team performs research and analysis and provides recommendations when preparing packages relating to debt limit extensions, tax sale extensions and financial monitoring. The team evaluates processes for the review and enhancement of municipal operations across the province and ensures municipalities are offered appropriate support and resources to attain legislative compliance.

Through their work, the Financial Advisors have the pleasure and opportunity to work with most of the other units across the division providing financial reviews and analysis as needed. Their focus in the upcoming months will be to help build resources and prepare municipalities for the new changes coming to the Public Sector Accounting Standards.

If you have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out. Municipal Advisors can be reached at [ma.engagement@gov.ab.ca](mailto:ma.engagement@gov.ab.ca).

## Upcoming Deadlines

**Financial Statements:** The MGA states every municipality is legally required to prepare and submit year-end audited financial statements and financial information returns to Municipal Affairs by May 1 of the reporting year. When a municipality fails to meet these obligations, ministry staff work directly with the chief administrative officer and council to bring them into compliance.

**Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks (ICFs):** Municipalities must review their current ICFs to ensure they align with the amendments made to the legislation in May 2025. This review must be completed no later than March 31, 2027, or the review date that is in their original agreement if they have not mutually agreed to extend the review to March 31, 2027. Former members of the Calgary and Edmonton growth management boards are now required to establish ICFs with each other by November 30, 2027.

If Municipal Districts (MDs) that share a common boundary mutually determine they do not require an ICF between them, the MDs must pass resolutions, notify the Minister they are opting out of the ICF requirement, and post on their website why an ICF is not required. If any party later determines an ICF is needed, it must inform the other party and together they must adopt an ICF within one year.

Municipalities may wish to reach out to the Capacity Services team at Municipal Affairs for support as they work to review, update, and/or develop their ICFs.

Phone: 780-427-2225  
Email: [ma.engagement@gov.ab.ca](mailto:ma.engagement@gov.ab.ca)

## Upcoming Engagements

Information on engagements that may impact you can be found at the links below. If you have any additional questions, please contact [ma.engagement@gov.ab.ca](mailto:ma.engagement@gov.ab.ca).

- [Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026](#)
- [Annual financing report for municipalities](#)
- [Financial Information Return \(FIR\)](#)
- [Municipal Dashboard](#)
- [Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Guide \(March 30, 2026\)](#)

## Municipal Affairs on the Road

In March, Municipal Affairs attended the RMA Spring Convention and Alberta Municipalities Spring Municipal Leaders' Caucus. During these association events, the Minister of Municipal Affairs met with 26 municipalities.

The Minister also had a chance to meet informally with several cities, towns, and villages, across Alberta to discuss important issues related to infrastructure, municipal operations, and community concerns. Municipal Affairs attended and provided updates at the ARMAA Zone meetings that took place across the province in April.

## Resources:

### [Bill 28: the Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026](#)

The information document is a summary of the key changes proposed in Bill 28: the *Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026*.

### [Annual financing report for municipalities:](#)

The report supports municipalities regarding their financial responsibilities and provides information on municipal financial returns and sample statements for municipalities and regional services commissions.

### [Financial Information Return \(FIR\)](#)

The guide provides an example of a FIR using the fictional town of New Sampleford. It provides information to support municipalities in completing the required information for their financial return.

### [Municipal Dashboard](#)

The municipal indicator dashboard reports the results for each indicator and displays them in one place.

### [Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Guide \(March 30, 2026\)](#)

An updated workbook, reflecting the most recent legislative amendments is now available to help municipalities develop an ICF with other municipalities, and provides tools and information based resources.



To be added to the distribution list for future newsletters please reply to the email below. For any questions, comments and feedback regarding the newsletter, please contact [ma.engagement@gov.ab.ca](mailto:ma.engagement@gov.ab.ca).

08.10-1)

**From:** Alberta Counsel <news@albertacounsel.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 1, 2026 11:13 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** At a Glance - May 1, 2026



## At a Glance - May 1, 2026

---

### Increasing Speed Limits on Provincial Highways

Alberta is launching a pilot project to raise the speed limit from 110 km/h to 120 km/h on a 22-kilometre section of Highway 2 south of Leduc. The change follows a recent survey in which nearly 70 per cent of respondents supported higher speed limits on rural divided highways. The province says it will work with law enforcement to monitor driver behaviour and complete safety assessments during the trial.

Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors, Devin Dreeshen, stated: "Albertans told us they support 120 km/h speed limits on rural divided highways. Albertans want traffic safety rules that improve the driving experience in our beautiful province."

---

### Expanding Alberta's Teacher Workforce

The province is introducing new expedited teaching certification pathways to address growing classroom demands driven by population growth and rising student enrolment. These pathways will allow final-year education students, internationally trained teachers, tradespeople, and other skilled professionals to begin teaching sooner in roles aligned with their expertise.

Minister of Education and Childcare, Demetrios Nicholaides, stated: "As classroom needs continue to grow, students need teachers with diverse skills and experience. These new

certificates will fast-track qualified professionals into high-need classrooms, uphold strong standards and give school boards greater flexibility to support students locally.”

---

## **New Investments in Continuing Care**

The province has announced an investment of over \$400 million to support 11 shovel-ready projects, creating more than 1,100 net-new continuing care spaces across the province. This initiative is part of a broader, multi-billion-dollar plan over the next decade, aimed at addressing the needs of a rapidly growing and aging population.

“Albertans deserve to age with dignity in the communities they call home. By expanding continuing care capacity across Alberta, we are creating more spaces, more support and more peace of mind for seniors and families while building a stronger, more sustainable care system for generations to come,” commented Minister of Assisted Living and Social Services, Jason Nixon.

---

## **Further Support for Emissions Reductions**

Alberta’s government, through Emissions Reduction Alberta (ERA), is investing \$91 million from the TIER program to help industries adopt innovative technologies that improve efficiency and reduce emissions. Up to \$41 million will fund nine new projects across sectors such as energy, electricity, construction, and manufacturing. These initiatives include smart grid upgrades, hydroelectric and battery storage integration, geothermal energy testing, and advancements in construction materials and processes.

“The TIER fund is helping companies move projects forward that create jobs, strengthen supply chains and help Alberta double responsible energy production. By supporting both proven projects and the next wave of innovation, Alberta is turning good ideas into real world results – building on our province’s long history of responsible energy leadership,” commented Minister of Environment and Protected Areas, Grant Hunter.

---

Alberta Counsel, 800, 9707-110 Street NW, Edmonton, AB T8H1V9, Canada, 780-652-1311

[Unsubscribe](#) [Manage preferences](#)

Minutes – NPARA Board Meeting  
April 29th, 2026, In-Person Meeting

Present: Kris Nicklason, Michael Scott, Dave Klassen, Arianne Bos, Gary These, Andrew Hardy  
Absent: Willie Stahl, Arie Loogman  
Staff: Josée Aitken

- 1) Kris Nicklason called the meeting to order at 11:37 AM
- 2) Arianne Bos moved to adopt the agenda with the addition of the topic of weeds in new business
- 3) Gary These moved to accept the minutes from March 26<sup>th</sup>.
- 4) Financials
  - a. 2026 Financials

**Motion: Andrew Hardy made a motion to approve the 2026 YTD financials. Seconded by Kris Nicklason**

- 5) ARECA
  - a. ARECA Representative notes  
Update on the Legislature visit on May 12<sup>th</sup> – ARECA will have 1 manager and 1 producer from each association attend the meeting. Josee and Gary would go on behalf of NPARA.
- 6) New Business
  - a. Combine
    - a. Quote for Wintersteiger
    - b. Replacement plan

**Motion: Dave Klassen made a motion to approve the purchase of the 2017 Wintersteiger Combine for \$300,000, with training and delivery. In addition, the extra concaves/sieves/shakers that would be needed for our small seeds. Seconded by Michael Scott.**

- b. Mower
  - a. Approval to purchase
  - b. Delivery?

**Motion: Gary These made a motion to approve the purchase of the 54'' John Deere Mower for \$7547.75 all in with delivery. Seconded by Kris Nicklason**

- c. Truck
  - a. Full fix – through insurance
  - b. Part fix (mirror) – no insurance - \$550

**Motion: Michael Scott made a motion to fix the mirror on the 2014 work truck for \$550 not through insurance following the hit and run on it. Seconded by Kris Nicklason.**

- d. EMR Training
  - a. 80 hours of training
  - b. Possibly – 6<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup>, 13-15<sup>th</sup> 20-22<sup>nd</sup> or 22-24<sup>th</sup>

**The board supported Josée EMR training – which would take her away from the office time to time or throughout the next month.**

- e. Australia 2027
  - a. WPGF is March 10-20<sup>th</sup>
  - b. Looking at booking an ag trip, what dates would be better? Before or after?
  - c. Feb 19<sup>th</sup> – arrive Feb 21<sup>st</sup> – March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2027

d. March 22<sup>nd</sup> – April 6<sup>th</sup> (easter)

**The board supported suggested scheduling the Australia tour earlier (before March 10<sup>th</sup>) – Josee will work with Lawrence on scheduling a tour. In addition, the AGM would be pushed back if needed for 2027. The board would support Josée attending the games, traveling as part of the Ag Tour and further discussions would need to occur for time away from the office/NPARA.**

f. Weed control on the farm

a. Arianne will have a meeting with Naomi and Mohammad on weed control on the farm – pre-seed and throughout the season.

7) Old Business

a. Move Up Magazine

a. This has been paid and the ad is complete, it will appear in the next move up magazine article release.

b. Mastercard limits

a. This has all been updated, Megan’s card needs to be cancelled

**Motion: Kris Nicklason made a motion to Megan Wong’s Mastercard. Seconded by Michael Scott.**

c. Board package

a. Josee have started a board package – not yet complete – prioritized business plan and audit

b. Working with Daeco with completing parts of the package

1) Staff Report

a) Extension Update

i. EFP Workshop – March 31<sup>st</sup>

- NPARA Office – 10-12

ii. FAN – April 17<sup>th</sup>

- Battle River Ag Hall
- Danny Hooper – entertainer musician plus auctioneer
- 145 Attendees

iii. April 21<sup>st</sup> – Drone Demo – had to be postponed

- New Agras 100
- All other drones plus features

iv. Shelterbelt workshop - May 4<sup>th</sup> – will likely be postponed

- Toso Bozic
- Likely be on grafting and other specialty things

v. Weed Webinar – Either one big one or several small ones, have not finalized this as it is very hard to get AAFC scientists to commit to speaking after the cuts. – moved to the fall

- Charles Geddes
- Breanne Tidemann
- Others as well

vi. Weed/Pest Clinic – End of June ?

- Weed seedling identification with actions for control
- Or Pest identification/scouting
- Just in the planning stages

vii. Duck Drop – Rodeo Kickoff

- Working with valley b to confirm/organize
- Seeing about ducks – loan/buy/partner with – **The board thought that would need 1500 ducks but to ask to partner on the ducks.**

viii. Soil Health working clinic – beginning of July?

- Maybe several speakers

- Jeff Shoudenu?
- Kevin Elmy
- Soil health people
- ix. July Tour – End of July = July 29
  - Maybe several speakers
  - Jeff Shoudenu
  - Joel Whilliams? – Working on confirming dates
- x. Joel Whilliams Workshop
  - Working with other associations to bring him to the region
  - Confirming dates.
  - July 30
- xi. Fall Drone School – 3-day workshop
  - Certification for drones (regular, Two days)
  - Day 3 would be with spray drones – advanced certification
- xii. Cattle Marketing event? – Fall?
  - Doug Ferguson
- xiii. Grain Marketing workshop – Fall?
  - Had a few requests

**Note: That they maybe could be combined together? Seems like the cow one may be more valuable to finishers. Maybe could also have AFSC talk on insurance. Talk about the basics**

b) Research Update

Research Scientist

- Farm is wet and still a lot of snow – action has been taken to open it up
- Humic acid trial revised to match industry standard application rates.
  - The statistical model was also fine-tuned to predict the optimum application rates after the trial this year.
  - The model was already run on simulated data (dry run) to test its potentials.
- Coordinated the Peace Region Living Labs trials with all partner groups for 2026
  - ensure consistent protocols are followed by everyone contributing to the project.
  - confirmed that all partner groups receive the correct amounts of each seed type.
- Several meetings and discussions were held with the Peace Region Living Labs management team to reach an agreement on the proposal to have the NPARA scientist conduct data analysis for the entire project.
  - Some data regarding soil compaction and BMPs were analyzed approximately one month ago.
  - A joint meeting with PRLL management and AAFC scientists is scheduled for today at 10:00 AM.
- Also, a literature review examining the key challenges facing agriculture in the Peace Region is underway.

Research Tech

- Contracts have been signed for several companies
  - See attached sheet
  - Working on designing a trial with humic products from Soil Synergy. This year, we will apply both a liquid product (L24) and a granular formulation but in new fields.
  - Other New trials
    - Sorghum/millet trial with MARA and Lakeland College,
    - acid-tolerant wheat trial with the University of Alberta,
    - alfalfa variety trial with and without N-Gold inoculant.
  - Unfunded inhouse trial
    - In-house trial using lime,
    - CKD,

- Biochar
- wood ash to evaluate its impact on soil pH at the research farm.
- Continued trials
  - We will also have variety trials for wheat, barley and peas
  - PRL small trials, row intercropping, perennial cereals and RVT peas.
- Three students have been hired, two will be staying in camp shacks just trying to confirm another camp shack for the last student
- ARM and protocol files have been designed and created. Seeds have been ordered, received, and Mohammad has started packing them.

2) Next Meeting Date

June 15<sup>th</sup> 11:30 NPARA Research Farm

3) Adjournment

Kris Nicklason motioned to adjourn the meeting at 1:15 pm

# Peace River Nuclear Power Project

20 - 30km North of Peace River

April - August 2026

Issued: April 2026

Energy Alberta is conducting a series of environmental field studies to support planning for the proposed Peace River Nuclear Power Project.

The data and traditional knowledge we collect now will help us plan a responsible and sustainable project that meets regulatory requirements, protects the natural environment and reflects the priorities of nearby communities and Indigenous Nations and Communities.

## Types of Environmental Studies

Throughout the spring and summer, you may observe field crews working in the area surrounding the proposed Project locations. These teams will be collecting data related to:

- Potential water intake locations
- Surface water conditions
- Groundwater conditions
- Local wildlife including Species at Risk
- Fish and fish habitat
- Air quality
- Terrain and soil surveys
- Vegetation, riparian and wetlands surveys
- Archaeology and historical resources

## What you may Notice

Fieldwork may involve the use of boats, survey equipment, drones or passive monitoring devices (e.g., acoustic recorders). Activities will be conducted by trained crews, accompanied by Indigenous representatives, and will follow best practices to minimize any disruption to the land, waterways and nearby communities. All required land access will be received from the respective landowners prior to field studies.

## Why It Matters

These studies are a vital step in understanding the local landscape - from environment and water to wildlife and communities. This work will help us identify potential impacts, guide mitigation measures and inform long-term monitoring plans.

## Indigenous Knowledge

We are working closely with Indigenous Nations and Communities to support Indigenous-led studies, incorporate traditional land use knowledge and include Indigenous Monitors in fieldwork. These activities form part of the actions Energy Alberta is undertaking to ensure Indigenous rights, values and interests are recognized and respected at every stage of planning.

## Contact Us

Learn more about the Peace River Nuclear Power Project and sign up for updates at [EnergyAlberta.com](http://EnergyAlberta.com).

For more information, please contact: [Info@EnergyAlberta.com](mailto:Info@EnergyAlberta.com)

Le présent message contient des renseignements importants. Si vous avez besoin d'une traduction, veuillez communiquer avec [Info@EnergyAlberta.com](mailto:Info@EnergyAlberta.com)

## Schedule of Activities

Approx. Date Range	Type of Field Studies
May – August	<p><b>Aquatics</b>  <b>Surface water monitoring</b> will include collection of water level, water temperature, and discharge measurements at selected watercourses for the areas of the Peace River adjacent to the proposed Project.</p> <p><b>Aquatics surveys</b> of the Peace River for the areas of the river adjacent to the proposed Project. Includes water quality, fish and fish habitat, and hydroacoustic survey.</p>
April – September	<p><b>Terrestrial/Wildlife/Archaeology</b>  <b>Wildlife Surveys</b> to retrieve and relocate wildlife monitoring devices and conduct wildlife foot surveys for Species at Risk habitats.</p> <p><b>Historic Resources Survey</b> to identify historic structures within the local study area for the Project.</p>
June - August	<p><b>Soils and Vegetation</b>  <b>Terrain and Soil Surveys</b> to collect soil samples in the local study area that will be analyzed in a laboratory.</p> <p><b>Vegetation / Soils Program</b> will include sample collection for vegetation and soils in the local study area that will be analyzed in a laboratory.</p>
June - August	<p><b>Vegetation, Riparian and Wetlands</b>  <b>Ecological Land Classification and Rare Plant Surveys</b> including plant Species at Risk, wetland delineation and classification within the local study area for the Project.</p> <p><b>Wetland Survey</b> to obtain wetland and watercourse information to be used to classify wetlands within the local study area for the Project.</p>
June – July	<p><b>Atmospheric and Visual</b>  <b>Air Quality and Meteorological Monitoring Station Deployment &amp; Monitoring</b> involves the deployment of an air quality monitoring station to collect local air quality and meteorological data. Followed by monthly field visits.</p> <p><b>Photographic Survey</b> includes panoramic site photography of proposed site.</p>

\*Dates are subject to change and commencement of work is subject to necessary regulatory approvals and permits

March/April 2026



# CFPC Hosts 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Women in the North Conference in Grimshaw



The 18<sup>th</sup> annual 2026 Women in the North Regional Conference took place on April 22 at the Grimshaw Legion. The event featured four workshop sessions led by local experts, with Nicole Bacon, CFPC Business Analyst, serving as the emcee. The emphasis on local speakers showcased the depth of knowledge and expertise within the region, and survey results indicated that participants appreciated the strong local representation and practical content provided during the sessions. Opportunities for attendees to extend their time together outside of the conference were made possible by

various businesses that provided a shopping experience in Grimshaw, and by the Grimshaw & District Chamber of Commerce, which held a pre-conference ladies' night at the Krooked House. Tickets for this year's conference went on sale in early February and sold out by March 12, highlighting the continued popularity and demand for professional development for women in the north. The event was supported by grant funding from the Alberta and Canadian governments, municipalities, and local/regional businesses. Attendees included representation from Grimshaw, Peace River, Manning, Fairview, Grande Prairie, Valleyview, High Level, and High Prairie. CFPC would like to send a special thank you to Deanna Basarab, Workforce Consultant for the Government of Alberta, for her ongoing support, Tammy Moore and her team for providing the delicious meal, and to the Grimshaw Legion for providing the venue and being so great to work with. Audiovisual support was provided by Randy Hodgkinson and Marty O'Byrne, photography was captured by Lori Day, and attendees enjoyed specialty coffee from KikiRose Coffee Co. Thank you also to Dan Archer from the Mile Zero Banner Post for attending and covering the event. More photos can be viewed on the Women in the North Facebook page.





# Join us for our Annual General Meeting in Manning

Be sure to RSVP for the Community Futures Peace Country (CFPC) Annual General Meeting taking place Monday, June 15 at the Legion in Manning at 5 pm. Come meet our board members and staff, learn all about what CFPC offers, network with others and enjoy a delicious catered meal. To reserve a seat, please call 624-1161 or email [adminpc@albertacf.com](mailto:adminpc@albertacf.com)

## 2026 SongRise Music Conference



2025 SongRise delegates and mentors

Community Futures Peace Country is hosting the third annual SongRise Music Conference this fall, designed for musical entrepreneurs across the region and taking place in Peace River. Scheduled for October 2 and 3, the 2026 conference will focus on songwriting, recording, and the music business, with hands-on workshops led by industry mentors including Duane Steele, Robert Walsh, Zachary Kay, Scott Randall, Steven Gevenich, Jason Bacon, Randy Fillion, Holly Sorgen, Rylan Crawford, and Randy Hodgkinson. On Saturday night, attendees can take the stage at the Concert of Songwriters at Athabasca Hall,

showcasing their work in a live performance and giving the community a chance to experience and support emerging local talent. Registration opens at the end of June at [songriseconference.ca](http://songriseconference.ca), where concert tickets and full event details will also be available. Sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information, contact Sherry at [sherry@albertacf.com](mailto:sherry@albertacf.com).

## May Lunch and Learn

Our May Lunch and Learn will focus on immigrant entrepreneurship and the opportunities and challenges of doing business in Canada. The session will explore common blind spots, the "immigrant paradox," and practical ways to build trust and improve the likelihood of success in the Canadian market. It will be led by Marcelo Andrade, owner and founder of Lucalex Holdings Inc., who brings 27 years of experience supporting businesses integrating into Canada. Join us on May 27, 2026 from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m., in person at Community Futures Peace Country or online via Zoom. To register, email [adminpc@albertacf.com](mailto:adminpc@albertacf.com) by May 25, and indicate how you will attend. A complimentary lunch will be provided for in-person participants, and Zoom details will be shared with online attendees.

**DID YOU KNOW?**



**We offer developmental lending up to \$150,000?**

# LiL R in Valleyview

## CLIENT FEATURE

LiL R is owned by Joni Rohloff and her daughter, Cali-Jaye. The business opened its doors on November 29, 2025, at 4005 Highway Street in Valleyview, conveniently located just off the main highway. Joni and Cali-Jaye felt there was a need for more options within the western industry in Northern Alberta. Joni is a wife and mother of two daughters, Cali-Jaye and Tate. Their family enjoys team roping, breakaway roping and barrel racing, and being active in the community is an important part of their lives. Joni is passionate about volunteering with the Valleyview & District Agricultural Society. In addition to operating LiL R, Joni and her husband BJ have also served as the Valleyview UFA Petroleum agents for the past 12 years.



Left to right: Joni Rohloff, Cali-Jaye Rohloff & BJ Rohloff

### **Tell us about your business and what makes it unique.**

I've really focused on creating a space where customers feel welcomed, inspired, supported, and where they can find something special. Every product we carry has been chosen with care and intention. LiL R is a western store which offers quality baby to adult apparel, jewelry, purses, home decor, cowboy boots, cowboy hats, ball caps, Hey Dude footwear, basic horse tack, team ropes, and horse supplies. Some of the brands we carry are Hooey, Little Lucille, Rock & Roll, Tin Haul, Stetson, Cruel Girl, Durango, KanCan, Hey Dude, Alliance Equine, and Weaver.

### **What is the most rewarding part of being a business owner?**

The most rewarding part has been seeing the impact on the community and connecting with customers. Whether it's helping someone find exactly what they're looking for or just having meaningful conversations in store. Those moments make all the hard work worth it.

### **What has the support been like so far?**

The support from the community has been amazing. From day one, people in Valleyview and surrounding areas have shown up, supported local, and helped spread the word. Friends, family, and fellow business owners have also been a huge source of encouragement. That kind of support makes a big difference, especially in the early stages of building a business.



### **What advice would you give someone wanting to start a business?**

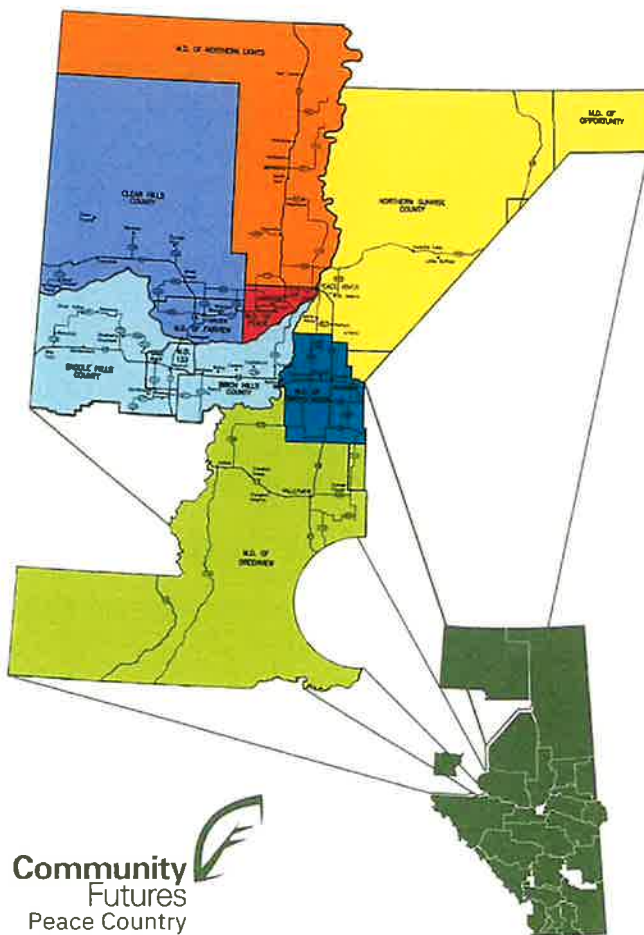
I still live by the 4-H motto; Learn To Do By Doing! Surround yourself with people who support and encourage you. Believe in what you're building and stay true to your vision.



# About Community Futures

Community Futures Peace Country is a community driven, non-profit organization staffed by business professionals and guided by a volunteer Board of Directors. We provide a wide range of small business services, developmental lending (up to \$150,000) and business management tools for people wanting to start, expand, franchise or sell a business. We also run a number of specialized business programs, organize exciting business events, and actively work with community and business leaders to foster rural economic growth.

## OUR REGION



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Catherine DeZutter, Board Chair  
Carolyn Kolebaba, 1st Vice-Chair  
Cheryl Anderson, 2nd Vice-Chair  
Sarah Turcotte, Director  
Alden Johnson, Director  
George Leger, Director

We help entrepreneurs and small business owners throughout the Peace region, including: Bay Tree, Bear Canyon, Berwyn, Blueberry Mountain, Bluesky, Bonanza, Brownvale, Cadotte Lake, Calais, Carcajou, Cherry Point, Chinook Valley, Cleardale, Crooked Creek, Deadwood, DeBolt, Dixonville, Donnelly, Dunvegan, Eaglesham, Eureka River, Fairview, Falher, Girouxville, Gordondale, Grimshaw, Guy, Hines Creek, Hotchkiss, Jean Cote, Kathleen, Little Buffalo, Manning, Marie-Reine, McLennan, Nampa, North Star, Notikewin, Peace River, Reno, Rycroft, Silver Valley, Spirit River, St. Isidore, Tangent, Twin Lakes, Valleyview, Wanham, Watino, Whitelaw, Woking and Worsley

**POPULATION: 50,000**  
**50 COMMUNITIES**  
**26 MUNICIPALITIES**  
**4 FIRST NATIONS**  
**122,000 SQUARE KMS**



9816 98 Avenue  
Peace River, AB  
T8S 1J5

Phone: 780-624-1161  
Fax: 780-624-1308  
Email: [adminpc@albertacf.com](mailto:adminpc@albertacf.com)  
[peacecountry.albertacf.com](http://peacecountry.albertacf.com)

Follow  
-US-



08.60-C

Dear County of Northern Lights,

Thank you for your generous donation!



**Legion**



1926 · 2026

Branch 062  
Peace River

*The Royal Canadian Legion*

Cash & Cans Barrel Race

April 27 at 6:30 PM · 🌐

THANK YOU to the [County of Northern Lights](#) South Recreation Board for their generosity and support! We appreciate the support and love seeing the riders who come down from that area 🥰

*thank you*



South  
Rec  
Board

**BRONZE SPONSOR OF THE**

**CASH & CANS**

*Barrel Race*

# CNL SOUTH RECREATION BOARD MINUTES

## Weberville April 21, 2026 7 pm

**Present:** Judy Short, Gary Sturgeon, Brenda Yaskinski, Jenny Sorensen, Kathy Woods, Pamela Rawlek

**Call to order:** 7:00 pm

**Thank You's/Other:** Weberville Community Club, PR Aboriginal Committee, Dixonville Life Ag Society

**Agenda: Reviewed/amended:**

**Last Meeting Minutes:** As per email distribution from Jan 28, 2026; Pam motions to have accepted as presented, Kathy 2nd

**Financials:**

**Bank Balance** - \$47,992.84

**Signing authority:** Gary Sturgeon, Jenny Sorensen & Kathy Woods

Pam motions to have financials accepted as presented, Kathy 2nd

**Ratify email/text motions:**

- Webberville Easter Eggstravaganza requested \$2,000.00 - Kathy motions \$1,500, Judy 2nd, all in favor.

A motion for the above approved requests through email/text; Gary motions to have accepted as presented, Kathy 2nd

**Updates:**

- County - Brenda: water issues on lots of county roads, no more drive way snow removal for next winter.
- Weberville/Leddy Lake – Pamela: garage sale in May, Father’s day BBQ, Mother’s day pancake breakfast, fireworks this summer at Leddy Lake
- Dixonville - Kathy: Curling has wrapped up, supper nights were successful, Easter brunch, Library held glass fusion, Charter School AGM in May, Playschool is doing casino and bingos
- Warrensville - Gary: held spring dance, renovations are completed, installed a new sign, making a campground area where the ball diamond was & need to replace deck
- Lac Cardinal - Judy: Meeting in April and addressing issues from heavy snow fall has damaged the furnace chimney so the hall is currently not being used until fixed.

**Requests: Motion/Seconder**

- Weberville Community Club - Fathers Day BBQ - requested \$1,500 - approved \$1,500
- Weberville Community Club - Canada Day Fireworks - requested \$1,000 - approved \$1,000
- Cash n Cans Barrel Racing - requested \$500-2,000+ - approved \$500
- Peace River Rotaract - River Days requested \$5,500 - approved \$5,000
- Peace River Motocross Association - Jun Race - requested \$3,500 - approved \$3,500
- Peace River Boating Association - Gold Cup requested \$5,000 - approved \$5,000
- Harvest Moon Festival requested \$250-2,500+ - approved \$5,000
- Peace River Scottish Society - local competition - requested \$4,000.00 - approved \$2,500
- 10 Acer Shaker Music Festival requested \$10,000 - approved \$3,500
- North Peace Gymnastics - Summer Upside Down Club requested \$1,500 - approved \$1,500

**Next Meeting:**

Host: Warrensville

Date: August/September - TBA

Time: 7pm

Adjournment: 7:46 PM

**From:** Northern Alberta Medical Program <NAMPIInformation@ualberta.ca>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 7, 2026 7:18 AM  
**To:** Teresa Tupper  
**Subject:** NAMP Newsletter - May 2026

No images? [Click here](#)



# NAMP News

Updates from the Northern Alberta Medical Program

## Canada's Northernmost Anatomy Lab Launches in Grande Prairie



On March 20, 2026, the [University of Alberta](#) and [Northwestern Polytechnic](#) celebrated the grand opening of a new state-of-the-art anatomy lab in Grande Prairie - the northernmost facility of its kind in Canada. Designed to expand access to high-quality health education in northern Alberta, the lab features

advanced learning tools, including a Virtual Anatomy Table funded by the [Grande Prairie Regional Hospital Foundation](#).



The facility will support students in the [Northern Alberta Medical Program](#), which welcomed its first cohort in Fall 2025, as well as learners in nursing, paramedicine and kinesiology programs. The opening included guided tours and remarks from program and institutional leaders, marking a significant milestone in strengthening medical education and training future health-care professionals in the region.



## New Tech at NAMP: A Heartfelt Thanks to Tom & Char

We are incredibly grateful to Tom and Char for their generous donation of the Kosmos Bridge ultrasound machine to the Northern Alberta Medical Program.

This Point-of-Care Ultrasound (POCUS) system, featuring integrated AI technology, is a total game-changer for our students. With specialized probes for MSK, Vascular, Nerve, Lung, Heart and Bladder imaging, it puts a full diagnostic suite right in their pockets. This gift bridges the gap between the classroom and the bedside. In the rural and remote settings of Northern Alberta, the ability to perform high-level imaging is life-saving. Many physicians, including those in family medicine, rural practice, emergency care, anesthesiology and sports medicine, rely on POCUS daily. Learning to master this technology is an invaluable skill that leads to rapid, accurate, enhanced patient care.

**Thank you, Tom and Char, for empowering the next generation of physicians with the tools to provide world-class care, anywhere.**



## **From Cookies to Care: Supporting Ken Sargent House One Smile at a Time**



The Grande Prairie Regional Hospital Foundation officially launched the 2026 Smile Cookie Campaign on Wednesday, April 22 - and the energy was contagious from the very start. Staff and students from the Northern Alberta Medical Program were proud and grateful to be part of such a meaningful initiative, dedicating their time to decorating cookies at the Tim Hortons County Club location. The experience was filled with enthusiasm, teamwork and a shared commitment to supporting the local community.



This year's campaign is raising funds for the Ken Sargent House – a vital new space that will provide comfort and accommodation for medical patients and their families traveling to Grande Prairie for care. Set to open in late 2026, the house will play an important role in easing the burden for those navigating medical treatment away from home.

From April 27 to May 3, 100 per cent of proceeds from every Smile Cookie sold will go directly toward bringing this incredible project to life.

Being part of this campaign is both an honour and a reminder of the impact a community can make when it comes together for a common cause.

## **From the North, With Purpose: Student Experiences in NAMP - Class of 2029**



NAMP is like a big family! You are known and supported! - David W.



NAMP has been amazing! The smaller class size and community that surrounds it, such as staff, physicians and other health care workers have truly made learning here a joy. I have always felt so supported by this community and program and couldn't imagine doing my schooling anywhere else! - Emma N.

# Wâpanachakos Indigenous Health Program

The Wâpanachakos Indigenous Health Program (WIHP) was founded in 1988 by the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry at the University of Alberta to encourage a greater number of First Nations, Inuit and Metis students to gain access to, and graduate from, all faculty of medicine and dentistry programs.

WIHP's mission is to collaborate with Indigenous communities, faculty and staff to advance Indigenous health through the support of innovative opportunities for Indigenous students, researchers and communities within Alberta and throughout the world.

[Learn more about the Wâpanachakos Indigenous Health Program](#)

## Meet the Team - Wapanachakos Indigenous Health



As an Indigenous Northerner I can appreciate how difficult it can be at times to access proper medical care in a northern rural setting. Being part of the Northern Alberta Medical Program and the Wâpanachakos Indigenous Health Program means that I can both help to address these issues as well as assist the next generation of rural doctors find their home in the North.

I am grateful for the amazing opportunity to be a part of such an important initiative and look forward to the exciting work we will do together in the future!

**Aaron Saville - Indigenous Community  
Engagement and Recruitment Coordinator**

The Northern Alberta Medical Program is also supported by team members from the Wâpanachakos Indigenous Health Program (WIHP), Office of Advocacy and Wellbeing (OAW) and The Office of Rural & Regional Health (ORRH).

## **Community Corner**

Cozy up for a great cause with the Grande Prairie Regional Hospital Foundation Cozy Nights and Campfire Lights Raffle! Win heated Kuma chairs, a fire pit and more. Tickets: \$10 or 3 for \$25 (deadline May 13, 9 a.m.). Proceeds support Ken Sargent House. Plus, enter the 50/50 for a chance at up to \$7,500—draw May 15.

*Cozy Nights and Campfire Lights*

**8 Days Left**

Cutoff Date is May 13



**TICKETS CAN STILL BE  
PURCHASED THROUGH THE  
OFFICE OR BY CALLING  
825-412-4130**



**Inspiring Excellence: NAMP Faculty  
Development Day Brings Educators  
Together**



The Northern Alberta Medical Program hosted a successful Faculty Development Day on March 28, 2026, bringing educators together in person at the Grande Prairie Regional Hospital and virtually for a full day of learning and collaboration. The event opened with remarks from Dr. Richard Martin and Dr. Marc Shaw, setting the stage for a program focused on enhancing teaching excellence within the MD curriculum.

Throughout the day, participants engaged in sessions on key topics including assessments, communication, and inclusive language, led by Dr. Vijay Daniels, Dr. Lillian Au and Dr. Avery Wynick. Interactive discussions and hands-on learning opportunities allowed attendees to strengthen practical skills and share insights. NAMP current preceptors Dr. Olubukola Maxwell and Dr. Krista Ingram also shared valuable perspectives from their teaching experiences.

The afternoon focused on building effective feedback skills and exploring broader academic topics, including a session by Dr. Joanne Rodger on optimizing the use of Cally and a discussion on academic integrity led by Lisa Purdy. Overall, the day highlighted NAMP's ongoing commitment to faculty development, collaboration and excellence in medical education. The event was accredited for 6.5 CFPC credits.

## **Guiding the Next Generation: Celebrating MeDMAP Mentors and LCE Preceptors**

MeDMAP mentors and LCE preceptors play a vital role in supporting medical students throughout their training, providing guidance, clinical insight, and practical, hands-on learning experiences. Through interactive teaching, case-

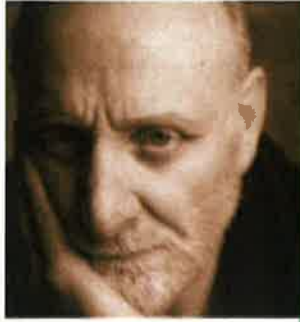
based discussions and real-world clinical supervision, they help learners translate knowledge into practice while building confidence and essential professional skills. Beyond teaching, they offer valuable mentorship and career advice, fostering a supportive and engaging learning environment.



The Northern Alberta Medical Program extends its sincere gratitude to the dedicated MeDMAP mentors and LCE preceptors of 2025–2026. With contributions from communities including Grande Prairie, Spirit River, High Prairie, Hinton, Peace River, Athabasca, Beaverlodge, Hythe, Calling Lake and Whitecourt, these committed educators are instrumental in shaping the next generation of skilled and compassionate physicians.

**Interested in becoming a MeDMAP mentor or LCE preceptor? For more information visit [here](#).**

## **NAMP Research Talk Series Highlights REDCap in Medical Research**



## Meet our Speaker

Rick is the Team Lead for the Women & Children's Health Research Institute's Data Coordinating Centre (the WCHRI DCC), and Health Research Data Strategist for the College of Health Sciences. In this combined role he is responsible for managing the university's REDCap Electronic Data Capture system while also providing data management support for local researchers and their collaborators across Canada.

During his career, Rick has worked in information technology and clinical research, for both the pharmaceutical industry and academia. He has almost 30 years of research experience, fifteen of which have been working with REDCap.

On April 10, 2026, the Northern Alberta Medical Program (NAMP) hosted the third session in its Research Talk Series, "Using REDCap in Medical Research: A Practical Overview." The session was delivered by Rick Watts, Team Lead for the Women & Children's Health Research Institute Data Coordinating Centre and Health Research Data Strategist for the College of Health Sciences.

Drawing on nearly 30 years of experience in clinical research and information technology, Rick provided a practical and accessible overview of REDCap and its role in supporting effective data management. Attendees gained valuable insights into how this widely used platform can enhance research workflows and support collaboration across institutions.

Thank you to everyone who attended, both in person and virtually and to Rick for sharing his expertise.

## Shape the Future of Medicine—Teach with Us!

Join the University of Alberta's MD Program and inspire the next generation of physicians. Share your expertise, shape future healthcare leaders, and make a lasting impact on healthcare in Alberta.

The Northern Alberta Medical Program (NAMP) is recruiting clinical teachers with a passion for Rural and Regional Generalist practice. Be part of this

exciting new chapter – our second first cohort of 30 students arrives in Fall 2026!



### Teaching Opportunities:

**Lecturer** - Deliver live or virtual lectures to pre-clerkship medical students from Grande Prairie or anywhere!

**Small Group Learning Facilitator** - Lead small groups, fostering critical thinking and deeper understanding of foundational medical concepts

**Clinical Skills Instructor** - Teach essential hands-on and communication skills in clinical and simulated settings

**Physician Mentorship** - Guide and advise students on their career and education journey

**OSCE Examiner** - Assess students' clinical skills in standardized exams

### Why get Involved?

**Gain University of Alberta Formal Affiliation** with access to faculty development and U of A resources

**Shape Future Physicians** - Make a direct and lasting impact

**Get Comprehensive Support** - Onboarding, training, administration, and tech help provided

**Grow and Be Recognized** - Receive feedback and recognition

**Support Rural Health** - Help train much-needed rural physicians

**Enjoy Rewarding Mentorship** - Find satisfaction in guiding future doctors

**Get Compensated** - \$125/hour for direct clinical instruction

[Sign up Here](#)

## Building Compassion in the North: Join the Patient Immersion Experience



As the Northern Alberta Medical Program (NAMP) enters its second year in Grande Prairie, we are excited to expand the Patient Immersion Experience (PIE). After a successful inaugural year, we are again looking for community members to help our next cohort of medical students understand the person behind the patient.

What is the Patient Immersion Experience? PIE is a unique educational bridge that moves beyond textbooks and clinics. We match a pair of medical students with a local Patient Mentor - someone living with a chronic illness or disability - to learn about the real-world realities of navigating the healthcare system in Northern Alberta.

Why Your Voice Matters: Our students are developing their clinical knowledge, but the most important lessons come from you. By sharing your story, you help future doctors develop the empathy, communication skills and local perspective required to provide exceptional care in our region.

### Program Details:

Three informal visits over the 2026-2027 academic year. Orientation and meet + greet occurs September 2026.

- Students will guide the meetings with questions focused on your medical journey, challenges and successes.
- Mentors must live within 40 km of the Grande Prairie Regional Hospital.
- We are seeking individuals who are comfortable sharing their lived experiences.

Shape the Future of Northern Medicine Help us ensure that the next generation of physicians understands the community they serve. To learn more or express your interest, please visit [here](#).

NAMP extends a warm thank you to all who express interest. While we value every volunteer, participation is based on student matching and program capacity for the upcoming term.

Questions? Reach out to us at [NAMPcse@ualberta.ca](mailto:NAMPcse@ualberta.ca).



**Are you conducting research and interested in hosting a student for shadowing?** Clinics or physicians involved in research who would like to offer student shadowing opportunities are welcome to email us at [namptssr@ualberta.ca](mailto:namptssr@ualberta.ca) to discuss possibilities.



Inspire the next generation of physicians by teaching in the University of Alberta's MD Program, an innovative medical school dedicated to training diverse, competent and compassionate physician leaders to serve the health needs of all Albertans. Share your expertise, shape future healthcare leaders, and make a lasting impact where it's needed most!

[Sign up to Teach in the MD Program](#)

## NAMP Opportunities

The Northern Alberta Medical Program has a number of exciting opportunities for faculty, administrative support staff and preceptors!

[Leadership Positions](#)

[Administrative Positions](#)

[Teaching Opportunities](#)



## Questions?

**We would love to hear from you!**

Contact the NAMP team at:

**[NAMPInformation@ualberta.ca](mailto:NAMPInformation@ualberta.ca)**



### Northern Alberta Medical Program

The Northern Alberta Medical Program (NAMP), a medical education partnership between the University of Alberta and Northwestern Polytechnic, respectfully acknowledges that we are primarily situated on Treaty 8 territory, traditional lands of diverse First Nations and home of Métis peoples. We respect the sovereignty, lands, histories, languages, knowledge systems and cultures of all First Nations, Métis and Inuit nations.

You are receiving this email because you are subscribed to the NAMP mailing list.

[Unsubscribe](#)