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EDSON

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# Chamber hosts federal election forum

by Niki Luymes

On April 9, the Edson and District Chamber of Commerce hosted a community forum with the federal Yellowhead riding candidates for the upcoming federal election on April 28. Four of the six candidates for the Yellowhead federal electoral district were in attendance at the Galloway Station Museum. The event began at 7pm, with closing statements taking place at approximately 8:15pm. Peter Taylor was the moderator for the evening.

*continued page 2*



The Chamber hosted a Federal Election Forum for the Yellowhead riding that was held on April 9, at the Galloway Station Museum. Candidates from four of the six parties running were in attendance. From left to right: Liberal candidate Michael Fark, PPC candidate Vicky Bayford, NDP candidate Avni Soma, and Conservative candidate William Stevenson. photo Niki Luymes

  
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# Chamber hosts federal election forum

continued from front

Each candidate was presented with two minutes for an opening statement.

Candidates in attendance included Vicky Bayford of the People's Party of Canada from Innisfail. Michael Fark of the Liberal Party of Canada, previously from Canmore but currently living in Jasper. Avni Soma of the New Democratic Party from Canmore. And William Stevenson of the Conservative Party of Canada, who lives near Crossfield. Missing from the forum was Green Party candidate William Marshall and Christian Heritage Party candidate Dale Heath.

After opening statements, the event proceeded with questions from the audience. The candidates were allotted 90 seconds to answer each question. The order in which candidates answered was chosen by random draw. Questions could be directed to either one, some, or all of the candidates. Topics ranged from general issues such as climate and tariffs to ones more specific to this riding.

With the Edson region being the second largest producer of natural gas in the province and a major forest products producer, The Weekly Anchor asked the candidates how their party was planning on supporting and strengthening these industries that are so pivotal to Edson's economy.

"The PPC want to try to get rid of a lot of the regulatory red tape that is redundant, and doesn't actually help protect anybody," said Bayford, "I worked for an oil and gas company as a

regulatory advisor. We had so many redundant regulations that just caused more paperwork and more hours as opposed to actually getting the job done. At a federal level we definitely have to look at everything we have in place and make sure that Alberta is the most business friendly place it can be, because our productivity in the country has continued to slide down. We need to become competitive again and allow business to rise, because those are the people that employ people and the ones who pay people, and that's how we are going to grow Canada again. It's not going to come from the government giving us handouts."

Soma responded, "The NDP has always supported unions and they are the backbone of the workers in all these industries. The NDP would continue to support workers and ensure that they are getting paid well and that the corporations are not taking too much profit."

Stevenson said, "I don't think the natural gas and forest industries in this area are run by unions. I think it is small business. And the biggest part, I think, is opening up access to markets around the world. We have several different legislations that the Liberal government have brought in. Bill C-69 stopping more pipelines and the ones that prevent tankers on the west coast. Those will be gone so that we can actually export to foreign markets. Currently, the forestry industry has been having it's own problems,



Over 90 people attended the Chamber-hosted Federal Election Forum for the Yellowhead riding candidates on April 9, at the Galloway Station. photo Niki Luymes

especially with the neighbours to the south. So we are going to have to be able to have other markets across the world for our products. I think that a Conservative government means that we will be open for business around the world."

Fark found himself in agreement with Stevenson. "There is a critical need to diversify our trade markets. Traditionally in Canada 80% of our trade has gone to the United States and they are now proving to be an unreliable partner. We need to develop

better partnerships and diversify trading markets. And then, of course we need the investment in infrastructure. There is a need to invest in roads, railroads, ports, airports etc, that create the infrastructure that is required to get products to market."

It was a great turnout with over 90 people in attendance. Candidates remained after the forum to answer questions from local residents. Election day is April 28, and advance polls will be held April 18, 19, 20, and 21.



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# Moving Edson gives update to town council

by Niki Luymes

Edson Seniors Transportation Society, Operating as Moving Edson, presented their annual report at the April 15th Town Council Meeting.

Dawn Mitchell, executive director of the group, gave the presentation. The update included details on 2024's fundraising events, ridership numbers, and finances. Mitchell also outlined the 2025 priorities for the group going forward.

As Edson's only wheelchair and lift accessible transportation service, ESTS/Moving Edson has been providing its services to the community for nearly 40 years. The Town of Edson helps support Moving Edson financially, thus the need for annual updates. The program was created to provide transportation to anyone with mobility issues. Eligible rider memberships are \$30 per fiscal year. Alternatively, there are also single use, rental, and charter options.

Mitchell began the presentation with an overview of the past year's events. Highlights included reviving multiple grants and assisting with the evacuation of Jasper during the 2024 wildfires.

The group was able to upgrade some of their equipment such as safety cameras, automated phone system, and new analytics software. Moving Edson also received the Town of Edson's Community Builder Business award. The town also provided the group a temporary office space in the Kinsman Shack in July of 2024.

In November of 2024 the group launched their Non Emergent Medical Transportation (NET) program. This program is available for residents ages 65 and older, with no other alternative transportation. "It's an amazing program," said Mitchell, "It's crazy busy. When you see a gap in services for clients and you go for it, and you get so busy, it's like —we really nailed it. This really is a service that is needed in Edson and in the

region." NET provides flexible fees for low income clients. Most trips are to Edmonton or other large cities for medical appointments.

When looking at the numbers from the last three years, Moving Edson has seen a consistent increase in ridership. With the expanded services, that number jumped significantly in 2024, serving over 5,000 Edson residents in the last year. Consequently, the group's expenses have also increased.

"When you are working with a not-for-profit you have to remember that you can only charge a certain amount for a ride. There is a paying point. We still heavily subsidize transportation. Our ridership continually goes up, which is a great problem to have, but with that comes the expenses," explained Mitchell, "You get all these added costs, but you can't raise your revenue to reflect the difference. So you have to get creative. And that's where finding the different revenue streams comes in."

In 2024 a significant amount of funding came though grants, then ridership, charters, advertising, fundraising, and donations.

Mitchell then outlined the priorities going forward: Increasing revenue; ongoing implementation of technology; creating an updated safety manual as well as a policies and procedures manual; providing trauma informed training for staff; improving the website; and running the annual trivia night fundraiser. "We're super excited, that [trivia night] is going to happen on October 4, and we're hoping you can all come," said Mitchell

Councillor Peter Taylor said, "Regarding the NET program, how many users have you had?" Mitchell explained that since the program only started in November the 2024 numbers appear low. However, since then there has been a substantial increase. "So I am happy to tell you that from January until now we have probably 45 clients. And lots of them are repeat customers."

Councillor Trevor Bevan said, "I know there are businesses out there who want to know about the charters. I think that if you can get it out there that you do charters that you can bring up your revenue stream. Are you going to do any advertising on that at all?" Mitchell replied, "We do have a rack card on all our busses and we are looking at a mass mail out. The information should be on the website."

Mayor Kevin Zahara said, "I'm very happy to see the increase in ridership. What opportunities are you looking at, as an organization, to increase revenues? Obviously you have to keep it affordable for people to use the service. Increasing ridership cost by a dollar a trip is not going to make up that gap. So what are you looking at for the long term. Is there going to be further budget asks from the Town of Edson in 2026?"

Mitchell responded, "It is challenging. I will continue to look for grants, I will continue to pound the pavement. As for funding from the Town of Edson, I can't thank you enough [for the existing amount]. It is amazing and it allows us to have that second full time driver. I would hate to speak on behalf of the board, but I can tell you that I promise you we will do our very best to not be coming back to ask."

Mayor Zahara also asked about plans to upgrade the busses. "As you look at upgrading your fleet, do you anticipate that some of your operating expenses may decrease though fuel efficiency or maintenance cost? Or are you looking at changing your fleet to something smaller for those trips to Edmonton where you are only taking one or two people at a time?"

Mitchell explained that the current busses do spend a lot of time in the repair shop, and they are hoping to mitigate those kind of costs with new vehicles. She also believes that fuel cost will decrease because they have ordered two smaller diesel busses for in town trips.

Council accepted the update for information.

# Conservative candidate a fourth-generation Albertan

I'm proud to be a fourth-generation Albertan, born and raised with deep roots in the Cremona, Carstairs, and Crossfield area. My great-grandfather homesteaded on the east side of this riding in the early 1880s, and my family has been farming this land ever since.

After earning both a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Calgary, I returned home to partner with my father to launch a trucking company. At the same time, I moved to the family farm and began raising cattle—all while earning my accounting designation.

In 2000, I founded my own public practice accounting firm. Over the past 25 years, I've filed thousands of tax returns for hardworking individuals and local businesses. Just last year, I personally filed nearly 1,100 personal tax returns and over 100 corporate filings. That kind of work requires precision, integrity, and commitment—values I've built my reputation on, and values I'll bring with me to Ottawa.

I've been married to my wife for 25 years, and together we've raised two wonderful daughters. One is a Registered Nurse, and the other is working in communications—both contributing to their communities in meaningful ways.

I believe Ottawa needs more real-world experience—especially from people who understand numbers, small business, and the value of hard work. As a CPA with more than 26 years working directly with government tax systems, I know firsthand how broken our tax code has become. A common-sense Conservative government will fix the fiscal and monetary mess created by a decade of Liberal mismanagement—and simplifying the tax system should be one of our first wins.

I live here. I work here. I understand the people and priorities of Yellowhead because I am one of you. In my business, I've always been accessible and accountable—and as your Member of Parliament, I'll bring that same commitment to representing our riding.



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FOR WILLIAM STEVENSON



# Region seeks to be more competitive with new physician recruitment

by Dana McArthur

At the April 8th Yellowhead County Council meeting, representatives from the Attraction and Retention Committee of Edson (ARC) presented an update on their efforts to attract, retain, and integrate healthcare professionals into the community.

During the County council's committee meeting on April 15, council discussed a proposal from the ARC. "Essentially, the committee had presented three housing options for consideration," stated General Manager of Community Services Crystal McNernie.

As part of their ongoing work to increase physician recruitment and retention, the ARC is seeking support from Yellowhead County to improve the competitiveness of housing options for new physicians committing to practice in Edson.

Based on feedback the ARC received from the Edson Medical Center management, the ideal number of physicians in Edson is 18 to 19 family physicians to sustain the needs of our local population.

After a relatively stable decade of physicians, the situation changed post-Covid. A variety of circumstances have decreased the physician count to approximately 9 to 10 at the current time.

Canada is currently short approximately 23,000 family physicians. With the shortage of physicians in Canada, they are a scarce resource. Communities across Canada are being creative in their methods to attract and retain much needed physicians.

Communities are offering a variety of incentives to physicians and healthcare professionals who sign contracts including: Up to 5 years of \$0 overhead to new physicians; 6-12 months of furnished accommodations provided for new physicians; and 6 months of vehicle allowance.

As of April 1, 2025, the Town of Edson reduced the rent on the Edson Medical Center building from \$137,000 annually to \$0 annually for the next 5 years.

The joint-owned Town of Edson and Yellowhead County 'doctor house' in town has been used in a variety of ways to support physicians. The top portion is currently being rented out by a new physician. The basement is

currently available but may not be suitable for a large family.

The ARC proposal highlights several options to make Edson more competitive:

- Provide housing support for new physicians who sign a contract in Edson.
- Offer accommodations for up to 6 months upon arrival.
- Estimated cost: \$3,000 per month, per physician.
- Timeline: Up to five years, with a target of recruiting 18–19 physicians.

Housing Options for Consideration:

- 1. Rental Model:**
  - a. Identify available rental housing at the time a physician signs a contract.
  - b. Risk: May not guarantee appropriate or timely housing for physician and family.
- 2. Dedicated Duplex Lease:**
  - a. Secure a long-term lease on both sides of a 4-bedroom + office duplex.
  - b. Estimated cost: \$36,000/year per side; \$72,000/year total.
  - c. Potential to generate revenue through short-term rental to locums when unoccupied.
- 3. Property Purchase** (e.g., Condo or Duplex):
  - a. Purchase a suitable property within the community.
  - b. Example: A family-sized condo with maintenance included in monthly fees.

Councillor David Russell said, "It's become very clear to me that this is not a municipal issue. But this issue has been thrust upon us. We have no choice. We have to address it with municipal money because the province and the feds are not." He added, "I have concerns with the concept of buying a house or a condo because we're going to help two physicians. So we may have to be a little bit more expansive. Again, not because we want to, but because we have to. This is a pressing situation."

Councillor Patrick Soroka said, "This is actually a provincial and federal government program and residents are paying provincial taxes for this. So now we're going to put a county tax on for all this? We have to put our foot down somewhere."

Councillor Brigitte Lemieux said, "I think that it is unfortunate we are being forced in this lane, but who

wants to live in a region without medical professionals?" She added, "Our seniors, our families need doctors or an equivalent such as a nurse practitioner. I also am not in favour of buying a dedicated home at this time. Actually, I am not sure that the need was well defined. I would consider a rental subsidy of some type."

Councillor Anthony Giezen said, "These are professional people, this is their job, so the [slippery] slope becomes what professional then do we stop at? I think it has to be more of a holistic approach than just focusing on one region or one area. So at this point I would have a tough time supporting this until we get more information."

Councillor Shawn Berry said, "I believe that this is a slippery road that we're going down. Healthcare is not part of our mandate. We're being stuck with it." He added, "We're taking our taxpayers dollars, which were committed to spend wisely, and putting it into something that we were never elected to do. I don't think we should be involved in this."

Mayor Wade Williams said, "We do not want to get into a bidding wars between one municipality and another municipality. And that's exactly the road that I see this going down right now. It's really

unfortunate, in my opinion, that the Town of Hinton went their direction and the Town of Edson went their direction. Now we're sitting here trying to figure out what direction we should go in. It's really unfortunate that we didn't get together as a group and look at this regionally rather than individually." He added, "Do we play a role in this? I think we need to, but I don't have the answers and I need more information."

Chief Administrative Officer Luc Mercier said, "I think the first question Council needs to answer for itself is, does it wish to look at potentially expanding its lanes to help potentially attract health professionals to our region?" He added, "If so, we need to engage the region for the people who provide the health services to our residents. And I think we'd be loath to not look at what other municipalities across Canada or maybe North America have already done for this problem."

Council passed the motion to direct Administration to bring the Edson Physician Housing Proposal to a future meeting of Council for consideration, and further, to direct Administration to bring back options from other regions in this regard.

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# TOWN OF EDSON

## Public Information & Notices 2025

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Office Hours:  
Monday to Friday  
8am to 4pm  
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## MEN'S SHED

A SPACE BY MEN, FOR MEN

**Date:** Thursday, April 24th, 2025  
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**Location:** Griffiths Park Centre  
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RFP CLOSING TIME: 14:00:59 (2:00 P.M.) MST

## NOTICE OF DEVELOPMENT

Recent Development Permits approved by the Development Authority, under the Town of Edson Land Use Bylaw 2296 as amended, can be found at <https://www.edson.ca/business/planning/development-permit-applications>. Additional information can be requested from the Planning Department at 780-723-4402 or [planning@edson.ca](mailto:planning@edson.ca).

Any person who is deemed to be affected by the issuance of any one of these permits may appeal to the Subdivision and Development Authority **by 4:00 p.m., on the 21<sup>st</sup> day after the date of issue as published on the Town's website**. On Permitted Uses, grounds for appeal must relate only to interpretation, variance, or relaxation of Land Use Bylaw 2296. On Discretionary Uses, all aspects of the proposed development may be challenged upon appeal. Written notice of appeal, accompanied by the appeal fee as established by Town Council, must be filed through the Office of the Secretary of the Intermunicipal Subdivision and Development Appeal Board (ISDAB) at Box 6300, Edson, AB T7E 1T7. **Direct Control District Approvals cannot be appealed.**



# www.edson.ca



# Fun PD-Day activities for out of school students

by Niki Luymes

The Town of Edson and the Galloway Museum hosted a PD activity day on April 11. Whenever the schools are on pause for professional development days, the two organizations come together to lead a day of fun activities for kids.

The program is made for ages 6 to 10 and has a registration cost of \$40 per child. The day starts at the Griffiths Park Centre at 8:30am and ends at the Galloway Museum at 3:30pm.

"The purpose of the event is to give the kids a chance to do something creative and active on a non-school day," said Hannah Minelli, Community Development Coordinator with the Town of Edson. "It gives them an opportunity to create new connections

and spend time with friends in a different setting outside of school. They can learn new skills and get to try a variety of different activities."

The day was full of activities for the kids. This included indoor fun like flowerpot painting, bouldering on the Griffiths rock wall, glitter tattoos, and indoor games. The group also went outside for some fun at the park, and a Historic Egg-Stravaganza Scavenger Hunt. The program also provides lunch and snacks for the kids.

"We try to offer a PD-day program for most of the PD-days throughout the school year," said Minelli. By partnering with other community organizations the program offers a variety of activities. "We work together and try to plan a variety of different activities like crafts, physical activity

(dance, yoga, gymnastics), and games both indoor and outdoor. We sometimes try and follow a theme usually revolving around the holiday like Christmas."

The PD-day program proves to be popular with the community. This last

event had 14 kids in attendance. "The event was very successful, and the kids enjoyed themselves and had a lot of fun," said Minelli.

The group plans on doing other programs this year and into the 2025/2026 school year.

## STARS thank-you!



At the April 8 Committee of the Whole meeting, Council was honoured to receive a framed thank-you from STARS Air Ambulance for their continued partnership and support. Since 2010, 100 Edson residents have been flown by STARS across AB, BC & SK. 141 missions from the Edson Hospital, and 64 additional missions from the immediate surrounding area. Thanks went to Glenda Farnden, Sr. Municipal Relations Liaison, for the presentation and for the work STARS continues to do across the region.

**TOWN OF EDSON**  
Public Information & Notices 2025

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FRI, MAY 9<sup>th</sup> 8:00 PM – KIDS DANCE  
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SAT, MAY 10<sup>th</sup> 8:00 PM- 'ADULTS ONLY' DANCE  
RON PEDERSON - 'MULLET MAN'

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SR BARREL RACING	ENTRY	ADDED PURSE	SADDLE BRONC	ENTRY	WRA FEE
SR POLE BENDING	\$25.00	\$200.00	BAREBACK	\$75.00	\$15.00
SR POTATO RACE	\$25.00	\$200.00	BULL RIDING	\$75.00	\$15.00
COW RIDING	\$25.00	\$200.00	TIE-DOWN ROPING	\$75.00	\$25.00
			STEER WRESTLING	\$75.00	\$15.00
JUNIOR GIRLS EVENTS			LADIES BARREL RACING	\$75.00	\$15.00
JR BARREL RACING	ENTRY	ADDED PURSE	TEAM ROPING (single entry)	\$75.00	\$15.00
JR POLE BENDING	\$15.00	\$100.00	JR BARREL RACING	\$50.00	\$10.00
JR POTATO RACE	\$15.00	\$100.00	JR BULL RIDING	\$50.00	\$20.00
			JR STEER RIDING	\$50.00	\$20.00
OPEN GIRLS EVENTS			NOVICE HORSE RIDING	\$50.00	\$10.00
RESCUE RACE (2 PER TEAM)	ENTRY	ADDED PURSE	JR BREAKAWAY ROPING	\$50.00	\$10.00
TIRE DRAG RACE (2 PER TEAM)	\$15.00/each	\$200.00			
			ADDED LOCAL EVENTS		
ADDED OPEN EVENTS			MUTTON BUSTIN' (6 yrs & under)	ENTRY	ADDED PURSE
MUTTON BUSTIN' (6 yrs & under)	\$1.00	Trophy & \$10.00	COWGIRL COW RIDING (SAT)	\$1.00	Trophy & \$10.00
WILD PONY RACES (6 to 13 yrs)	\$15.00	Hoodie & \$105.00	RIDING LAWN MOWER RACES	\$20.00	\$300.00
(3 Per Team)			(**Stock/Modified/Outlaw races**)	\$50.00	\$250.00/ each
WHEELBARROW RACE	\$20.00	\$100.00			
(2 Per Team)					

WILDROSE RODEO ASSOCIATION MEMBERS TO ENTER ONLY THRU W.R.A. ENTRY OFFICE: (780) 786-9177  
ENTRY DATES: April 30, 2025 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

LOCAL ENTRIES FOR WRA / FRIDAY ALL GIRLS RODEO EVENT / PLUS LOCAL EVENTS  
ENTRY DATES: APRIL 25 & APRIL 26, 2025 PHONE: (780) 723-0384 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM BOTH DAYS

(Mutton Bustin' / Cowgirl Cow Riding / Lawnmower Races / Wheelbarrow Races / Wild Pony Races Open Until Full  
With Limited Entries being taken)  
FOR MORE INFORMATION PHONE: Earl Anderson (780) 723-0906 or Susan Longmore (780) 723-6848





Phone: 780-723-4800 Toll Free 1-800-665-6030 Fax: 780-723-5066  
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Bring your courage.  
Unleash your passion.  
**Become a Yellowhead  
County Volunteer Firefighter.**



**Join our Team!**

We're looking for motivated residents who want to make a difference in their communities!

Training begins Fall 2025.  
Scan QR to apply before May 31!  
[www.yhcounty.ca/ycfd](http://www.yhcounty.ca/ycfd)

## Assessors in Yellowhead County

Accurate Assessment Group Ltd. is contracted by Yellowhead County to handle all Residential Inspections. They work year-round assessing properties.

Here are a few things that residents should be aware of regarding AAG Assessors:

1. They all wear identification lanyards and if not, they must produce identification upon request.
2. They must produce their letter of authorization from Yellowhead County.
3. If you are not home, they will leave a notice on the door letting you know they were there.
4. All Accurate Assessors vehicles are marked with this logo on their vehicle doors:



If you have any concerns regarding this matter, please contact the Yellowhead County office at 780-723-4800.

**Yellowhead County**

## ASK OUR RESIDENT EXPERT! DO YOU HAVE TREE & GARDEN QUESTIONS?

Yellowhead County has a new seasonal Horticultural Technician to answer your tree and garden questions and concerns.

**TREE & PLANT IDENTIFICATION** ? ?  
**TREE PRUNING ADVICE** ? ?

### GARDEN SOIL TESTING ? ?

Testing for the upcoming season:  
• Garden Soil sampling provides a basic range result for pH, Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Potassium.  
• Limit of 1 garden soil sampling per household.  
• Testing is on a first come, first serve basis and is subject to availability of testing supplies. \*Priority is given to gardens that are exhibiting growth concerns.

### TREE & PLANT DISEASE ID

Disease or pest identification and recommendations or referrals

Contact Yellowhead County Agricultural Services Department at 1-800-814-3935 or 780-325-3782 for inquiries or to set up an appointment with our Horticultural Technician.

## SUBMIT YOUR PHOTOS & STORIES

During spring 2023, Yellowhead County residents went through a range of experiences during the wildfires and flooding.

Yellowhead County is looking to share those experiences through your photos and stories.

We're collecting images and short written submissions describing what residents went through during these events.

Written submissions should be between 100-400 words.  
Photos should be approximately: 4000 x 3000 pixels or 10-20 MB.

More details are available at [www.yhcounty.ca/risetgether](http://www.yhcounty.ca/risetgether)

Please email your stories and photos to [risetgether@yhcounty.ca](mailto:risetgether@yhcounty.ca) by May 2.



**Yellowhead  
County**  
**SANI DUMP  
STATIONS**  
**OPEN  
MAY 7**



COUNTY-OPERATED SANI-DUMP STATIONS  
ARE IN EVANSBURG, WILDWOOD, PEERS,  
ROBB, AND CADOMIN.

For locations and more information,  
visit [yhcounty.ca/camping](http://yhcounty.ca/camping)



## INVITATION TO TENDER 2025 Summer Gravel Program for Yellowhead County

Yellowhead County requests a tender submission from parties interested in performing the work identified below.

Sealed tender marked:

Will be received until

At the office of:

TENDER NO. 2025-870  
Project: 2025 Summer Gravel Program  
10:00 A.M. Alberta Time, May 2, 2025  
Yellowhead County  
2716 - 1st Avenue  
Edson, Alberta  
T7E 1N9

For the following work: Hauling and placing approximately 93,600 tonnes of (owner supplied) crushed gravel over approximately 344 km of roads from 5 stockpiles serving 5 areas in Yellowhead County.

Work shall be completed in accordance with the schedule contained within the Scope of Work and the Special Provisions.

Electronic (.PDF) copies of the tender documents are available for free download from the Alberta Purchasing Connection website at the following link: [www.purchasingconnection.ca](http://www.purchasingconnection.ca).

Copies of Specifications and tender document may be picked up on or after 12:00 P.M. Alberta Time, April 10, 2025.

The Tender must be accompanied by a ten percent (10%) Bid Security and Consent of Surety as stated in the "Instruction to Bidders". Yellowhead County reserves the right to reject any or all tenders. The lowest or any other tender will not necessarily be accepted.

For further information, please contact Rex Wallace, Assistant Manager of Infrastructure Services for Yellowhead County at [rwallace@yhcounty.ca](mailto:rwallace@yhcounty.ca).



Phone: 780-723-4800 Toll Free 1-800-665-6030 Fax: 780-723-5066  
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

## DID YOUR MAILING ADDRESS CHANGE?

Property owners living in Yellowhead County that have changed their mailing address must submit the necessary forms to Alberta Land Titles as well as submit the change to Yellowhead County (2716 - 1st Avenue Edson, AB T7E 1N9) or call 780-723-4800 or 1-800-665-6030.

Land Titles Forms: Government of Alberta website  
(Forms - Personal Property Registry)

[www.servicealberta.gov.ab.ca/pdf/ltmanual/CHANGE\\_OF\\_ADDRESS.pdf](http://www.servicealberta.gov.ab.ca/pdf/ltmanual/CHANGE_OF_ADDRESS.pdf)

Downloaded from the Yellowhead County website [www.yhcounty.ca](http://www.yhcounty.ca)

Address Changes will only be made if you provide an update.

Combined Assessment and Taxation Notices: Notices are deemed to have been received 7 days after they are sent. If Yellowhead County does not have an updated address and the notices are returned, you will be subject to penalty if the taxes are not paid



Yellowhead County Corporate Services

## Yellowhead County DO YOU NEED TO PURCHASE SPRING DUST CONTROL?



**APPLICATION  
DEADLINE:  
MAY 15**

1. Applications can be made at our Wildwood and Edson offices.
2. Each ratepayer is entitled to an application of Calcium Chloride, 200 metres in length, for a fee of \$242.00.
3. The fee must accompany the application.
4. Spring applications must be received by May 15.

The application form is at the Wildwood or Edson offices or [www.yhcounty.ca](http://www.yhcounty.ca)  
Call 1-800-665-6030 for details.  
To apply for Calcium Chloride Spring Dust Control, submit payment and application before May 15.

This fee represents approximately 33% of the total cost for the dust control application. Full application costs will apply for any requests over 200 metres.  
\*Dust Control Policy #3200.02

Events begin at 5:30 PM  
Ages 3-13\* \$15  
FREE BBQ



**Save the date!**  
**SWIM!**  
**BIKE! RUN!**  
**Registration is OPEN!**

**BEAR CHASE TRIATHLON**  
**2025**  
**July 17 at Bear Lake**

Register early to get a FREE T-shirt!  
Register at [yhcounty.ca/registration](http://yhcounty.ca/registration), or in-person at Yellowhead County offices, or call 780-723-4800.  
For more information, email [jmateri@yhcounty.ca](mailto:jmateri@yhcounty.ca)

## TAKE YOUR RECYCLING BEYOND THE BIN!

JOIN THE BEYOND-THE-BIN RECYCLING ROUNDUP  
TO RECYCLE YOUR ELECTRONICS, PAINT, TIRES,  
AND USED OIL MATERIALS FOR FREE!

**BRING DOWN YOUR RECYCLABLES (AND ALL YOUR  
HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE!) TO:**

**EVANSBURG  
RECYCLING  
CENTRE**  
(Pembina Arena)  
4712-52nd Avenue  
Evansburg, AB

**EDSON  
RECYCLING  
DEPOT**  
5237 1st Avenue  
Edson, AB

**HINTON  
RECYCLING  
CENTRE**  
149 Rowan Street  
Hinton, AB

**Saturday, May 24, 2025 10:00 am to 2:00 pm**



Join us for FREE refreshments, donuts, hot dogs  
and hamburgers, tours, and draw prizes!



For more information on recycling in Alberta visit:  
[www.albertarecycling.ca](http://www.albertarecycling.ca) or phone toll free 1-888-999-8762  
Learn more about recycling these materials at [albertarecycling.ca](http://albertarecycling.ca)



Approved Development Permits have been issued authorizing the following:

Permit No.	Location	Proposal	Date	Appeal Deadline
D25-034	Plan 0740292 Blk 2 Lot 2 SW-35-53-16-W5 Wolf Creek Area	Accessory Building (Shop) & Existing Addition to Manufactured Home	Apr 7/25	Permitted Use
D25-036	NW-12-54-17-W5 North of Edson	Manufactured Home	Apr 7/25	Permitted Use
D25-032	Plan 0823155 Blk 1 Lot 5 Whitetail Shores	Recreational Cabin - Discretionary	Apr 10/25	May 1/25
D25-038	SW-10-53-15-W5 Sang Lake Area	Single Detached Dwelling	Apr 11/25	Permitted Use
D25-040	Plan 482CH Blk 5 Lot 1 SE-30-53-7-W5 Evansburg	Existing Single Detached Dwelling - Discretionary	Apr 11/25	May 2/25
D25-027	NW-16-54-15-W5 North of Pinedale	Intensive Agriculture (Vegetable & Equipment Storage Building) & Accessory Building (Staff Accommodation) - Discretionary	Apr 15/25	May 6/25
D25-043	Plan 0422901 Blk 1 Lot 3A SW-30-50-25-W5 Seabolt	Short Term Accommodation within Existing Single Detached Dwelling - Discretionary	Apr 15/25	May 6/25
D25-044	Plan 0522767 Blk 2 Lot 6 NW-4-53-17-W5 Wilmore Park Area	Accessory Building (Shop)	Apr 16/25	Permitted Use
D25-041	SW-32-54-11-W5 North of McKay	Accessory Building (Garage) with Two (2) Carports - Variance to Front Yard Setback	Apr 16/25	May 7/25
D25-035	Plan 0926857 Blk 2 Lot 8 NW-5-54-16-W5 Edson River Estates	Accessory Building (Garage/ Storage) & Existing Accessory Building (Greenhouse)	Apr 16/25	Permitted Use
D25-045	NW-32-53-17-W5 North of Edson	Manufactured Home	Apr 17/25	Permitted Use

Yellowhead County Development Permits are also posted online at [www.yhcounty.ca](http://www.yhcounty.ca). The public is considered officially notified of approved development permits once posted online, in accordance with the Public Notification Bylaw. The Yellowhead County Land Use Bylaw NO 09.21 provides that any person claiming to be affected by a decision of the Development Authority may appeal to the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board or Alberta's Land and Property Rights Tribunal dependent on jurisdiction of the appeal authority. Appeals under the jurisdiction of Yellowhead County's Subdivision and Development Appeal Board require a written notice of appeal and a payment of \$500.00 payable to Yellowhead County within 21 day of the publishing of the Notice of Decision. Requirements for appealing the development to the Alberta's Land and Property Rights Tribunal can be found here: <https://www.alberta.ca/subdivision-appeals.aspx> or by calling 780-427-2444.



# \$10,000 Bingo!

by Deanna Mitchener

If you enjoy playing Bingo be sure to attend the 4th Annual Medicine Lodge Rodeo and Edson Friendship Centre \$10,000 Bingo.

This bingo is being held on April 19, at the Edson Friendship Centre. When you purchase your tickets, you also pick your seat. The package is \$125 and that includes nine cards and three each of the extra games. For more information you can call 780-723-5494 extension #121

Doors open at 4:00 p.m. and cashiers open at 4:30 p.m. with Bingo starting at 6:00 p.m. There are many payouts for all the games.

Susan Longmore says, “We had partnered up with the Friendship Centre four years ago when we held the car bingo. The Friendship Centre has the bingo equipment all set up already and it was just a good fit. Money raised is used to make all bingo payouts firstly then any monies left over is split between the two organizations, as we volunteer to work the BINGO.”

“The Friendship Centre is really doing all the work (getting the license and all that goes with that). It is like when basketball teams from the schools would volunteer to help at bingos and money would be given to them for volunteering. Monies from the BINGO we receive goes to helping us pay for rodeo expenses, which are many and varied,” says Longmore.

Michelle Findlay at the Friendship Centre, says, “The event has been well attended over the years and we look forward to partnering with the Medicine Lodge Rodeo again this year.”

Come and be prepared to have a great evening out with a chance to win some big money. Bring a friend, a co-worker, or family member. Food and beverages are available for purchase so you can come as you are. Good Luck to all the bingo players.

## Regional Companies to Share Forestry Plans at Open Houses



This spring, forest companies ANC Timber (Alberta Newsprint Company), and West Fraser Timber Co. Ltd. (Blue Ridge Lumber) will be holding "joint open houses", to share forestry operating plans for the year ahead. These events provide the general public and stakeholders with the opportunity to review each company's planned activities in road development, harvesting, hauling, reforestation and herbicide treatment for the current forestry year. Public stakeholder input is gathered and utilized to influence operations where site specific concerns are identified such as trails, camping areas, recreation areas etc.

Dates and Locations	Companies Attending
May 5 – Edson Repsol Place Main Lobby. 5pm-8pm	BRL & ANC
May 6 - Whitecourt Allan and Jean Millar Centre 5pm-8pm	BRL & ANC
May 7 - Fox Creek Multiplex Lobby – 5pm-8pm	BRL & ANC
May 8 – Swan Hills Community Club 5pm-8pm	BRL

We would also like to invite you to visit the websites below to view each companies upcoming forest activities. We will have a variety of plans available for review including: Annual Operating Plans for 2025-2026 season; Company Reforestation Plans; and Herbicide Treatment Plans.

Alberta Newsprint Company (ANC) - [alberta-newsprint-dot-com-slash-woodlands](http://alberta-newsprint-dot-com-slash-woodlands)  
West Fraser Timber Ltd - <https://www.westfraser.com/responsibility/forest-management/public-involvement/blue-ridge-lumber>

Visit our new website at [www.weeklyanchor.com](http://www.weeklyanchor.com)

FEDERAL ELECTION / MONDAY, APRIL 28



## Are you planning to vote?

You can register and vote at your assigned polling station on election day if you:



- are a Canadian citizen
- are at least 18 years old
- prove your identity and address



Check your voter information card or visit [elections.ca](http://elections.ca) to find out where and when you can vote.



Visit [elections.ca](http://elections.ca) for the official information you need to vote  
1-800-463-6868 / [elections.ca](http://elections.ca) / TTY 1-800-361-8935







# Let's Get Ready to Learn!

It's Time to Register for Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten



**GYP  
SD  
Offers**

**Register  
by April 30/25 for  
a chance to win a  
Chromebook for  
your family!**

- Certificated teacher specialized in reading and numeracy instruction
- Play-based, innovative learning
- Early literacy
- Creative and cultural expression
- Early intervention supports and resources

Online Registration opens February 10 -  
spaces for JK and Kinder programs  
are limited so don't wait!

**Niton Central School**  
English Programs  
Junior Kindergarten to Grade 9  
[nitoncentralschool.gypsd.ca](http://nitoncentralschool.gypsd.ca)  
780-795-3782

**Wildwood School**  
English Programs  
Junior Kindergarten to Grade 6  
[wildwoodschool.gypsd.ca](http://wildwoodschool.gypsd.ca)  
780-325-3858

**Evansview Elementary**  
English Programs  
Junior Kindergarten to Grade 6  
[evansviewschool.gypsd.ca](http://evansviewschool.gypsd.ca)  
780-727-3623

VISIT SCHOOL WEBSITES FOR OPEN HOUSE DATES  
Find out more at [www.gypsd.ca](http://www.gypsd.ca)





On April 15, the Edson Fire Department, Alberta Wildfire, and Trans Mountain had a hazard reduction burn just north of Hillendale to reduce the dry fuel in that area. submitted by Deanna Mitchener



34 Preschool children from Brighter Futures recently enjoyed spending time at the Edson Public Library. They had an opportunity to experience many fun and interactive activities and listen to stories. Pictured is Ms. Trish reading to the students. submitted by Deanna Mitchener

*Celebration of Life Service*



*Carol Shirley Thomas*  
December 31, 1938 - April 1, 2025

*Everyone is welcome to attend  
11:00 am on Saturday, May 24  
Carrot Creek Hall*

*In  
Memories  
&  
Obituaries*

**~ Obituary ~**

**Peterson, Christine (Tina)**

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the unexpected passing of Christine “Tina” Lydia Peterson on March 24, 2025, at the age of 64 years. She was a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and friend, whose kindness, warmth and adventurous spirit touched everyone she met.

She will be dearly missed by her loving family. Including her husband, Gordon Sweitzer. Her precious dogs, Boo and Chance. Her children; Amanda (Mike) Peterson, Kimberly (Steven) Noel, Eric Peterson, and Hillary (Ian) Gault. 10 grandchildren and 4 brothers.

Her stepchildren: Karen (Jennifer) Rouse, Jonathan (Janine) Sweitzer, Daniel (Gina) Sweitzer, Amber Sweitzer, Philip Sweitzer and 10 step-grandchildren.

She will be forever missed; but her love, laughter, and warmth will forever remain in our hearts.

A Celebration of Life will be held on April 26, 2025, at Great Church, 205 Main Street, Spruce Grove at 11:00 AM.



**SERENITY**  
FUNERAL SERVICE  
Phone: (780) 962-2749  
600 Calahoo Road, Spruce Grove, AB

**~ Obituary ~**

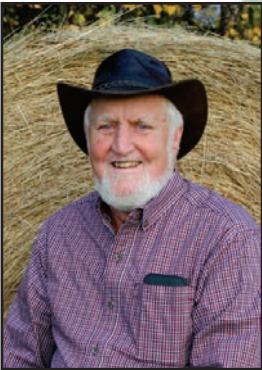
**Edward George Ernest Hall**  
August 17, 1940 - March 31, 2025

It is with profound sadness and with heavy hearts that the family of Edward George Ernest Hall announce his passing on March 31, 2025, at the age of 84, in his hometown of Edson, Alberta. His battle with cancer in recent months showed his courage in facing life's challenges with a gentle smile. Despite the pain, Ed remained compassionate and stayed strong until the end.

Born and raised in the Edson area, Ed was known to many in the education and agriculture industries. Gone before him was his wife of 36 years Joyce Hall, and sisters Loma, Ethel, and Mary. Ed will be deeply missed by his family, friends and particularly sisters; Norma Seve, Eva Stelter, and Ruth Egan-Hall, his adventure partner Susan Neu, his son Ryan (Adrienne) Hall, daughter Kerry (Scott) Ruether, and grandchildren Gavyn Hall, Covin and Avaya Ruether.

Ed was never scared to take on new opportunities and did everything with honesty and integrity. He had very strong values and with his calm and steady demeanour, he was well-liked by everyone. Ed had incredible patience and always made time to help others either with his own hands or with experience and guidance.

Edward will be honoured with a celebration of life at the Bethel Pentecostal Church in Edson on May 3, 2025, at 1:30 pm. In lieu of flowers, donations to Haying in The 30's Cancer Support Society are very much appreciated. (<https://www.hayinginthe30s.com/>) The society accepts donations through e-transfer. The email address is [hayinginthe30@gmail.com](mailto:hayinginthe30@gmail.com) no password needed.





Good News Story

2025 Wildfire Preparedness - Stay Safe!

The safety of our students, staff, schools, and the greater community is always the top priority of Grande Yellowhead Public School Division. Our schools practice safety procedures multiple times per year as part of our emergency planning/ preparedness cycle. Staff and students are familiar with School Medical Emergency, Shelter in Place, Hold & Secure, and Lockdown protocols.



In preparation for the wildfire season, GYPSD hosted a meeting with key community stakeholders, including representatives from *Alberta Wildfire*, *Alberta Health Services*, *RCMP*, *VIA Rail*, *CN Rail*, members of various fire departments and protective services, and leadership from neighbouring school divisions. Attendees at the meeting discussed local resources, tools, and the various ways organizations can collaborate in times of emergencies for the safety of our students and staff.

[Wildfire and Air Quality Information](#), resources, and wildfire protocols can be accessed on the **GYPSD website**. We encourage our families to review the information provided from the schools in the event of a wildfire in your community. Schools will once again be confirming parent cellphone numbers and emergency contacts. Watch for an information sheet going out to families via principals this week which can also be viewed on this site.

There are many ways to keep aware during the school months in times of possible emergencies. Please ensure that you download the **Bus Status app** for information on route delays and/or cancellations. **SchoolMessenger** is your school's main source of forwarding critical information to families in times of emergencies; also check your school and the Division Facebook pages for updates.



You may also find it helpful to download the Alberta Emergency Alert app and the Alberta Wildfire app.



[www.gypsd.ca](http://www.gypsd.ca)  
email: [communications@gypsd.ca](mailto:communications@gypsd.ca)



Powering Edson.  
Helping protect Edson.

If there's an extreme wildfire risk, a Public Safety Power Shutoff can help keep your community safe. We're prepared if it's ever needed—and you can be too. See how at [FortisAlberta.com/WildfireSafety](http://FortisAlberta.com/WildfireSafety).

These images are for illustrative purpose only. Remember to keep a safe distance away from power lines. For more information visit [FortisAlberta.com/Safety](http://FortisAlberta.com/Safety).





Guest Editorial/Column

Election issues politicians are willfully ignoring  
Canadians are paying the price for their leaders' political cowardice

by Troy Media

As Canadians listen to campaign promises flooding the airwaves, it's hard not to notice a disturbing trend. The usual pledges are made: tax cuts here, spending there, talk of affordability and climate action. Yet beneath the noise, vital conversations are being willfully ignored. Critical issues, some quietly festering, others looming like storm clouds, are absent from our political debates. And that neglect is dangerous.

These aren't minor oversights. These are serious failures of leadership that will shape Canada's future far more than any short-term promise.

Canada's economy is stalling

For over a decade, per capita income in Canada has flatlined. U.S. workers now earn an average of \$20,000 more per year, while Canadian wages remain about eight per cent lower. Investment in our once world-class energy sector has collapsed by more than two-thirds since 2014.

The Conservatives offer tax cuts and deregulation. The Liberals pitch clean energy subsidies. But none confront the hard truth: vague gestures won't reverse a decade of economic stagnation. Without bold action, Canadians will continue to fall behind.

Canada's debt bomb is ticking

Our national debt has soared past \$1.2 trillion. This year alone, taxpayers will pay a staggering \$53.7 billion just to cover interest—more than we spend on health transfers to the provinces.

Pierre Poilievre promises balanced budgets. The Liberals talk about middle-class tax relief. But neither party has a credible plan to rein in this runaway spending. Canadians deserve fiscal honesty, not political evasions.

Why are groceries still so expensive?

While food prices declined in early 2025 for the first time since 2017, Canada's Food Price Report forecasts an increase of between three and five per cent this year. The average family of four is expected to spend more than \$16,800 on groceries in 2025, an increase of up to \$801 from the previous year. Families feel it every time they check out at the supermarket.

Yet no party is prepared to tackle the root causes: supply management systems and interprovincial trade barriers that drive up costs. The Bloc Québécois defends dairy cartels. The Liberals preserve the status quo. Conservatives suggest deregulation but stop short of real reform. Canadians are paying for political cowardice at the grocery store.

Neglecting our national defence

Our military readiness tells a similar story of neglect. Canada spends just 1.37 per cent of GDP on defence, far below NATO's two per cent target. Plans exist to raise spending to two per cent by 2032, but global threats aren't waiting.

As China and Russia expand their ambitions in the Arctic, Canada remains exposed. The Conservatives propose redirecting foreign aid to Arctic infrastructure, the Liberals talk about rearmament, and the NDP pushes for domestic jet manufacturing. None offers a strategy that meets the urgency of the moment.

Health care wait times hit record highs

The average Canadian now waits a shocking 30 weeks for specialist treatment, the longest delay ever recorded.

The Conservatives promise faster licensing for foreign-trained doctors. The NDP champions universal pharmacare. The Liberals emphasize mental health. But no party proposes fundamental reform to increase efficiency.

More spending alone won't fix a system where patients wait months just to be seen.

Aging population: a crisis in slow motion

By 2030, about 22.5 per cent of Canadians

will be over 65. Our pension and eldercare systems are already under strain.

The Liberals suggest modest increases to Old Age Security. Conservatives encourage private savings. The NDP calls for expanded public pensions. But no party is addressing the looming crisis in eldercare capacity and the health-care demands of an aging population. This is a slow-moving disaster.

Quietly expanding MAID: no debate, no safeguards

In 2023, there were 15,343 medically assisted deaths in Canada, representing 4.7 per cent of all deaths.

Eligibility is set to expand further, including those with mental illness alone. Yet politicians remain largely silent. Where is the debate about safeguards? Where are the alternatives?

Canadians deserve far more than quiet acquiescence to the normalization of death as a policy tool.

Red tape is suffocating growth

Business groups continue to warn that bureaucratic gridlock is stalling housing, energy and infrastructure projects across the country.

The Conservatives pledge to cut red tape by 25 per cent. The Liberals promise to streamline green project approvals. But neither party has offered a concrete plan to free our economy from regulatory paralysis.

Free speech under threat

Surveys have indicated that a substantial majority of Canadian university professors identify as left-leaning. This ideological imbalance fosters self-censorship and discourages open debate.

The Conservatives have vowed to defend academic freedom, but other parties remain silent. Without a true commitment to free expression, we risk losing the foundations of democracy.

Civil society and the risk of politicization

Canada once prided itself on a neutral, fair regulatory environment. But proposals to revoke the charitable status of groups with pro-life views risk turning government policy into a weapon. If one political ideology controls access to charitable status, free association and religious expression are under threat. No major party is confronting this risk to civic freedom.

Cybersecurity, immigration and accountability

In 2023, the federal government responded to over 2,100 cybersecurity incidents threatening critical infrastructure and national security. Meanwhile, high immigration levels are outpacing our capacity for housing, health care and transit.

The Liberal government's controversial Green Slush fund scandal, which triggered the prorogation of Parliament in early 2025, exposed further weaknesses in government accountability and oversight.

The auditor general continues to warn of serious deficiencies in government accountability. Yet politicians prefer slogans over solutions, ignoring the real risks we face.

Taken together, these failures paint a damning picture of leaders more concerned with marketing than meaningful leadership. Campaign soundbites may win headlines, but they won't secure Canada's future.

Canadians must demand better. We need candidates prepared to confront the uncomfortable truths, even when the answers are complex or unpopular. The future of our country depends not just on what is promised but on what is left unsaid—and it's up to Canadians to demand the answers.

It's time to demand those answers.

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Edson RCMP Occurrences

For the week of April 7 – April 13, 2025

Assistance Calls 17; Suspicious Persons or Vehicles 12; and Theft Complaints 10, topped the list of Edson RCMP occurrences. Other investigations included: Abandoned Vehicles 5; Alarms/False Alarms 2; Animal Calls 1; Assault 4; Cause Disturbance 7; Child Welfare 0; Drive While Unauthorized 0; Drugs 2; Extortion 0; Fail to Comply with Conditions 1; Fail to Stop or Remain at Collision 1; False/Abandoned 911 Call 2; Family Orders and Agreements 0; Family relations 0; Fire Prevention Act 2; Fraud 3; Harassment/Criminal Harassment 2; Impaired Operation of Motor Vehicle 1; Information File 0; Liquor act 0; Lost or Found property 4; Mental Health Act 5; Mischief or Damage 3; Missing Person/Request to Locate 2; Municipal Bylaws 1; Noise Complaints 0; Obstruct/Resist Peace Officer 0; Possess Stolen Property 0; Recovered Stolen Property 0; Sudden Death 0; Suspicious Persons or Vehicles 12; Theft complaints 10; Traffic Collisions 8; Traffic Complaints 1; Traffic Violations 7; Transportation of Dangerous Goods 0; Trespassing 6; Uninsured or unregistered Vehicle 8; Unlawfully in Dwelling 0; Unsafe Storage Weapon 0; Uttering Threats Against Property 1; Uttering Threats Against Person 3; Unwanted Person 1; and Wellbeing Checks 7.

KID'S CORNER



Meet Audrey age 7 in grade 1 at Mary Bergeron Elementary School.

Q: What is the grossest thing you've eaten?

A: Mushrooms, they are slimy and gross!

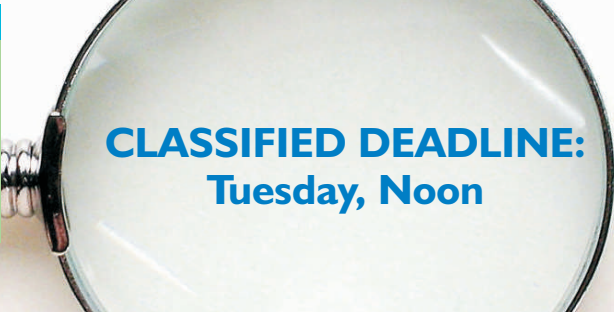


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mar2025

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What's happening, when and where in the community

Community Events

**April 29 May 7, 21** : Yellowhead County Family Time In Marlboro 10:30 Am-12:30pm Light Snacks and Refreshments. Registration is required  
[www.yhcounty.ca/registration](http://www.yhcounty.ca/registration)  
**April 30 May 14, 28** : Yellowhead County Family Time in Peers 10:30 Am-12:30pm Light Snacks and Refreshments. Registration is required  
[www.yhcounty.ca/registration](http://www.yhcounty.ca/registration)  
**April 26:** Niton Jam at Niton Community Hall 1:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome! For more info call Trudy at 780-723-0557 or Lorna at 780-795-3967.  
**April 26:** YKCS annual Fundraising Auction doors open at 10am Live auction at 11am  
**May 2:** The Edson Craft Centre (Potter's Guild) Will

hold the 2025 Spring Pottery and Gift Sale at the Edson District Library. 10am-8pm and Saturday from noon - 5pm  
**May 23-24:** Mustachio Bullashio Both days start at 7PM Element Zone 13 -54011 Range Rd 171 Yellowhead County  
**May 31:** Eddies Big Run. Registration opens February 10. Register online at edson.ca or in person at Edson District Leisure Centre.  
**July 17:** Bear Chase Triathlon. Swim Bike Run. Register early to get a free T-Shirt. Register online at yhcounty.ca/registration or in person at the Yellowhead County office or call 780-723-4800

We are proud to support community events

Email us with your non-profit event date at: anchorwk@telusplanet.net

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**BETHEL PENTECOSTAL CHURCH**  
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Morning worship  
**EDSON ALLIANCE CHURCH**  
5525-2nd Ave., Edson  
Ph: 723-5776 Pastor Bryan Walter  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship Service  
Wednesday: 7 p.m. Prayer Meeting.  
**EDSON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
4719 - 9th Ave., Ph: 723-3982  
Sunday Services: 10:00 a.m.  
**EDSON MENNONITE CHURCH**  
6212 - 13 Ave, Edson  
Office hrs: Tues 9am-1pm  
Office phone: 780-723-4992  
Pastor Tyson Moerike  
(Call or text 403-966-4705)  
Sunday worship - 9:45  
**EDSON-PEERS CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**  
4633-7th Ave., Edson  
Ph: 723-5242  
Pastor: Ryan Hoogerbrugge  
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**EDSON SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH**  
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**EDSON UNITED CHURCH**  
Edson United Church  
1214 Edson Drive Edson AB  
Phone: 723-3418  
**FAMILY OF FAITH CHURCH**  
463 72 St., Edson (formerly Glenwood Hall), Telephone: 780-517-7558  
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Pastors: Pastors John and Ingrid Huizing vfm@shaw.ca  
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(An Anglican/Lutheran Faith Community)  
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The Weekly **ANCHOR**

Farm & Field

News and Views

# Reducing the wildfire risk around your farm or acreage

*The period between the melting of snow and the emergence of fresh grass and leaves creates the highest risk for spring wildfires*

FireSmart is a program that gives you information and recommendations on how to reduce the risk of a wildfire damaging your home or other buildings. The FireSmart program is supported by many community fire departments as an education and prevention tool for fire prevention/damage reduction.

For example, the Vulcan County Protective Services department has summarized some key aspects of wildfire risk reduction into the

following checklist. To minimize the risk to your home and property, follow these best practices:

Keep your lawn mowed as short as possible at least 5 ft (1.5 m) from your home and around all other buildings.

Reduce the amount of brush and trees close to your home, choose wildfire-resistant plants whenever possible, and space them out.

Clear all combustible material, including wood piles, away from your home. Keep these materials no closer than 30 ft (10 m) from your home and other buildings.

Clear and maintain your eavestrough and roof regularly. Remove debris like dry leaves and twigs to prevent sparks from catching.

Trim the low branches of trees to a height of

6 ft (2 m) from the ground to help reduce the risk of your trees igniting.

Apply the same standards of maintenance to all buildings on your property as you do your home.

Plan and practice your home escape plan and include a plan for wildfire evacuations.

For more information on FireSmart and how it can help protect your home and property, go to FireSmart Alberta



Local seniors lodge activity coordinators attended the Lodge Activity Coordinators Association of Alberta conference in Red Deer recently. It was a fun, interactive, and educational conference to collaborate and learn more ways to help support our seniors. A big thanks to all the recreation coordination teams at each of the sites in Evansburg, Edson, Hinton, Jasper, and Grande Cache. photo submitted by Deanna Mitchener

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