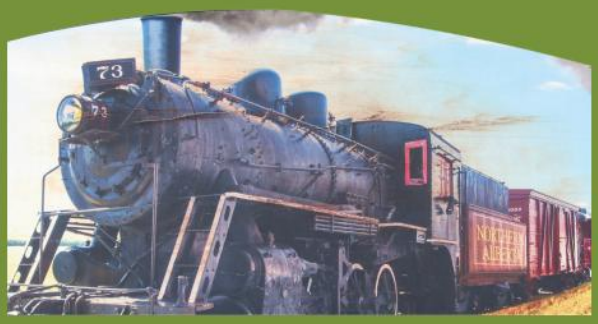

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT *of* SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133

Phone: (780) 864-3500 | **Fax:** (780) 864-4303
PO Box 389, Spirit River, AB T0H 3G0
www.mdspiritriver.ab.ca
Facebook: Municipal District of Spirit River

OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm
(Closed for lunch from 12pm to 1pm and closed all statutory holidays)

July 17,2025 Newsletter

The next Council Meeting date is to be announced and will be held in the Council Chambers located in the MD Office in Spirit River. Council meetings are recorded live for online public viewing! Please refer to our Facebook page or the MD website for your live link to log into these meetings.

Some of the following motions were made at our Council Meeting on July 2,2025.

A. **AGRICULTURAL - 2025 WEED INSPECTION AND PEST INSPECTOR APPOINTMENTS**

163.07.02.25 Moved by Councillor Nick vanRootselaar that council appoint Jeremy Cassell-Metzner, Jaxson Stokes, and Shyanne Page as weed and pest inspectors under the Weed Control Act and the Agricultural Pests Act, effective from June 18th, 2025, until employment with the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 ends.

Reeve Tony Van Rootselaar	**IN FAVOR**
Councillor Nick vanRootselaar	**IN FAVOR**
Councillor Elaine Garrow	**IN FAVOR**
Councillor Stan Bzowy	**IN FAVOR**

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. **Central Peace Regional Water Project - Concerns Regarding the Collaboration Agreement**

164.07.02.25 Moved by Reeve Tony Van Rootselaar that the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 maintain opposition to Saddle Hills County's request to add the County of Grande Prairie No.1 as a full voting

board member to the Central Peace Regional Water Project, further that, the MD's position will remain in place until Saddle Hills County fulfill the requirements of the Central Peace Regional Water Project Collaboration Agreement.

Reeve Tony Van Rootselaar	**IN FAVOR**
Councillor Nick vanRootselaar	**IN FAVOR**
Councillor Elaine Garrow	**IN FAVOR**
Councillor Stan Bzowy	**IN FAVOR**

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Anyone wishing to review our Council Meeting minutes can visit the MD of Spirit River #133 website under Council and Council Meeting Minutes.

Public Works

In the event of Emergency Call out of Municipal Equipment please call: David Johnson 780 864-9600.

REMINDER , PLEASE NOTIFY US BEFORE YOU BURN. THOSE WHO DO NOT ADVISE OF CONTROLLED BURNS ARE SUBJECT TO A $ 500.00 FINE. THESE RULES APPLY YEAR ROUND!
When calling for a burn notification please call the office Monday through Friday before 4:15pm. MD Office at (780) 864-3500

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Attention MD of Spirit River Residents!

Please be aware that our friendly property assessors will be making their rounds over the next couple of weeks.
If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call the Assessor's Office at Northern Sunrise County at (780)624-0013.

Thank you!

R360 ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS CANADA LANDFILL IS OPEN TO MD RATEPAYERS ONLY

MD residents will be asked to show their Landfill Usage Card upon entering the landfill site.

Regular Landfill Take in days:
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 9am-5pm
Saturday 10am-4pm
Closed: Monday, Tuesday & Sunday

R360 LANDFILL will no longer be accepting any chemical jugs or containers.

If you have any questions, please contact the landfill at 780-765-3745
Or the MD of Spirit River office at 780-864-3500

LANDFILL CARD UPDATE

Attention MD Residents,

Landfill cards that have been issued with an expiration date do not need to be renewed unless you are renting your land. If you own your property and your Landfill Card has an expiration date on it, please disregard this expiration date. Your Landfill card will remain active until you have either reached your load limit, you have sold your land, or if you have lost your Landfill privileges. If you are renting in the MD of Spirit River and your Landfill Card has expired, please stop by the office for renewal.

2025 PROPERTY TAX NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that the **Assessment and Tax Notices** for the 2025 Taxation Year will be mailed on May 29th, 2025, and will be payable **on or before September 16th, 2025**. *All assessments and tax notices are deemed to have been received seven (7) days after mailing within Alberta and fourteen (14) days outside of the province.*

Anyone wishing to object to the assessment value on any property in their name **MUST**, *within 60 days of receiving this notice*, lodge their complaint using only the prescribed "**Assessment Review Board Complaint**" form to the Assessment Review Board Clerk care of Louise Gostick, Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133, Box 389, 4202 – 50th St. Spirit River, AB T0H 3G0.

The complaint must be accompanied by a **$50** fee for Residential and Farmland or **$650** fee for Non-residential – Commercial or Industrial, *which will be refunded to the complainant if the complaint is successful*.

A copy of "Filing a Property Assessment Complaint and Preparing for Your Hearing" booklet, as well as a "Guide to Property Assessment and Taxation in Alberta" can be obtained @ mdspiritriver.ab.ca.

Complaints MUST be submitted, *in writing*, on or before August 5th, 2025.

Interac e-Transfer

MD 133 SPIRIT RIVER
780 864-3500

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

The MD of Spirit River is now set up to receive EFTs (e-transfers).

E-mail for EFTs is eftpayments@mdspiritriver.ab.ca.

** Important items to note **

1. When sending an e-transfer, please include your contact information and what the payment is for in the memo line before sending.

2. Also, if the payment is for property taxes, please be sure to include the roll number.

ATTENTION RESIDENTS!!!
Property Assessors
are in the area
MD 133
SPIRIT RIVER
780 864-3500

Ever consider running for Council? Now's the time to start thinking about it!!
Everything you need to know, as well as the necessary forms, can be found on our MD of Spirit River #133 website.

Preparing for the Role
Have you decided you're going to run for Council? Here are a few things you can do to prepare yourself for the role if you're elected:
1) Reading council agendas and minutes, and talking with current councillors;
2) Viewing some council meetings;
3) Connecting with former and current elected officials in your region or community to learn about their experiences;
4) Meeting with local community groups to learn more about the important issues in your area.
Check out the 2025 Election Nomination Package at **http://mdspiritriver.ab.ca/.../administration/notice-board** and visit Rural Municipalities of Alberta at **rmalberta.com/** to learn more.

As previously announced at the beginning of this year, Council of the MD of Spirit River #133 dissolved the ward electoral system and implemented an at-large voting system. Further, at the next election, the councillor representation will be increased from 4 councillors to 5, elected at-large, representing the entire municipality.

So, what exactly does this mean?

Since there is no longer a ward system in the MD of Spirit River, each voter will be able to pick their top 5 candidates for Council. Each ballot will contain the names of all the candidates who are running for Council. Without the ward system, this also means that each voter can choose up to 5 candidates regardless of where they live in the MD – anyone in the MD can vote for anyone on the ballot.

However, it's important to note that there can ONLY be 5 candidates selected. Any ballots with more than 5 candidates checked off will become VOID.

Remember that voters need to register to vote in the 2025 Municipal Election:

1) All voters in the MD of Spirit River must be on the Permanent Electors Registry*.
2) To register or check your registration status, visit www.voterlink.ab.ca.
3) The MD of Spirit River receives its list of eligible voters from VoterLink, so please confirm your information is correct to ensure you're ready to vote.

*** If you do not register beforehand, you will still be able to vote. However, you will be required to register at the voting station on Election Day – October 20, 2025.**

Elections Alberta has all the information as to what voters need to bring to the voting booth.

Following changes to Alberta's Local Authorities Elections Act, all municipalities will use a list of registered voters for the upcoming October 20 election.

Register now with VoterLink:

www.voterlink.ab.ca

info@elections.ab.ca

toll-free at 310-0000 then dial 780-427-7191

MD 133
SPIRIT RIVER
780 864-3500

GET IN THE SPIRIT

With competitive taxes and land prices, the MD of Spirit River is the right choice.

The Perfect Opportunity

The MD of Spirit River is now offering a **52-acre parcel with 543 metres of rail frontage** and **an 86-acre parcel with 815 metres of rail frontage**. These parcels can be subdivided to suit the needs of the buyer.

Build a service industry, grain handling or value-added agricultural business. Additional opportunities exist in the MD and the rapidly growing Town of Spirit River.

The MD of Spirit River is a half hour's drive north of the City of Grande Prairie along Highway 49. Located in the MD of Spirit River are Richardson Pioneer International, Parrish & Heimbecker, G3 Canada Limited and Cargill Canada.

CONTACT

Dan Dibbelt today!

780-864-3500

ddibbelt@mdspiritriver.ab.ca

The MD of Spirit River is the grain handling capital of Northern Alberta.

The Town of Spirit River sits in the middle of the MD and offers all services.

Grande Prairie Airport has direct flights to Edmonton and Calgary with international connections.

Central Peace Family & Community Support Services

serving the MD #133, Spirit River, Rycroft, and western Birch Hills County

CAMP WANAGO – Registration is open! Watch for dates and themes on Facebook, go to our website for more information. www.centralpeacefcss.ca

MEALS ON WHEELS! Meals on Wheels is hot meals delivered to your door; currently delivered Wednesdays and Fridays and is intended for persons that are unable to obtain or prepare their own meals. Call or email us for more information.

HOME SUPPORT – for a senior over the age of 55 years, any person with a disability, new mothers (short-term basis only), any person recovering from a surgery or operation (short-term basis only), any person dealing with death of an immediate family member (short-term basis only); call or email FCSS to find out more!

FCSS staff have to be out of the office on occasion. If you require in-person assistance, please CALL AHEAD (780-864-3500 extension 206) to ensure that someone will be available to help.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCIES! Please go to the Central Peace Health Complex Emergency Room for medical or mental health support, you can also call the Mental Health Crisis Hotline (1-877-303-2642). If you are experiencing financial crisis, contact Alberta Support at 1-866-644-5135. During our non—business hours, you can reach FCSS on the FCSS cell phone at 780-864-5698 or check our website or Facebook pages for information and links.

Maya Lipon FCSS Assistant Coordinator
Central Peace Family and Community Support Services
780-864-3500 ext. 206
Box 389 Spirit River AB T0H 3G0

Rebecca Fitzsimmons FCSS Coordinator
Central Peace Family and Community Support Services
780-864-3500 ext. 206
Box 389 Spirit River AB T0H 3G0

We respectfully acknowledge that we are located on Treaty 8 land, the traditional home of many First Nations and Métis.

MD133
SPIRIT RIVER
780 864-3500
Bursary Program
Entering post secondary full-time studies?
Apply for a $1,000.00 Bursary TODAY!!
Applications can be found on the MD's website or obtained at the Administration office and MUST be received by
July 31, 2025.

Bursaries Available

The **Council of the Municipal District of Spirit River #133** has implemented a **$1,000.00** bursary program for students entering full time studies at a post secondary institution in Canada such as University or Community College and on-line programs.

These bursaries apply to students and "continuing students" alike that are residents of the Municipal District of Spirit River #133.

Applicants must demonstrate their past leadership qualities and/or commitments to their community in helping others. Applicants must also illustrate how their course of study will assist them in the future to exercise leadership and/or continue to demonstrate their commitment to their communities and to others in Northern Alberta.

Applications are available on our website or can be picked up at the Municipal District of Spirit River #133 office at 4202-50th street, Spirit River, AB.

Applications must be received by the MD office no later than July 31, 2025

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT of SPIRIT RIVER No.133 PHOTO CONTEST 2025

Showcase your photography skills and our beautiful scenery here in the Peace Country!

You are invited to participate in our Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 **PHOTO CONTEST! FIRST PRIZE $200.00 – Runner up $100.00 - Enter up to 10 photos per person!**

To be eligible for the contest, all photos submitted must be taken within the boundaries of the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133. Please give a description of where the photo was taken and when. By entering and participating in the contest, you consent to the use of your photographs by the MD of Spirit River, during or after the contest closing date, without compensation. Photos may be submitted in either color or black and white. Each photo should be at least a 5 x 7 or larger. Hard copies can be mailed to the MD of Spirit River No.133 Box 389 Spirit River, AB. T0H 3G0. Digital copies may be emailed to: mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca. Don't forget to include your name and contact information! Waiver forms/model releases and/or copyright laws are the responsibilities of the entrants.

Photos must be submitted by October 16,2025.

The winners will be selected by October 31, 2025.

The WINNING pictures and WINNERS names will be posted on our Facebook page and all WINNERS will be notified by phone or email.

Thank you for your entries and GOOD LUCK!

SPIRIT RIVER/SEXSMITH BUS PILOT PROGRAM

STARTING JANUARY 2025

The MD 133 Spirit River transit bus will be **adding a stop in Sexsmith**! This service will run each **Tue/Wed/Thur** as a pilot program for the next 2 months, in partnership between the MD of Spirit River and Sexsmith FCSS.

Seats are $25.00 each. Pick-up will be at **Sunset Homes (9702-97 Ave)** in Sexsmith between **9:30am and 9:45am**. Passengers will be taken to Grande Prairie for appointments and shopping and then returned to the same drop-off location around **3:00pm**.

Passengers 16 and younger must have signed parental/guardian permission to ride. *Medical appointments are priority bookings!* The bus runs with min. 1 passenger - **24hr advance booking required.**

Subsidies are available for those requiring assistance. Please contact Naomi Robinson to apply: **780-568-4345 or fcss@sexsmith.ca.**

FCSS Family & Community Support Services SEXSMITH

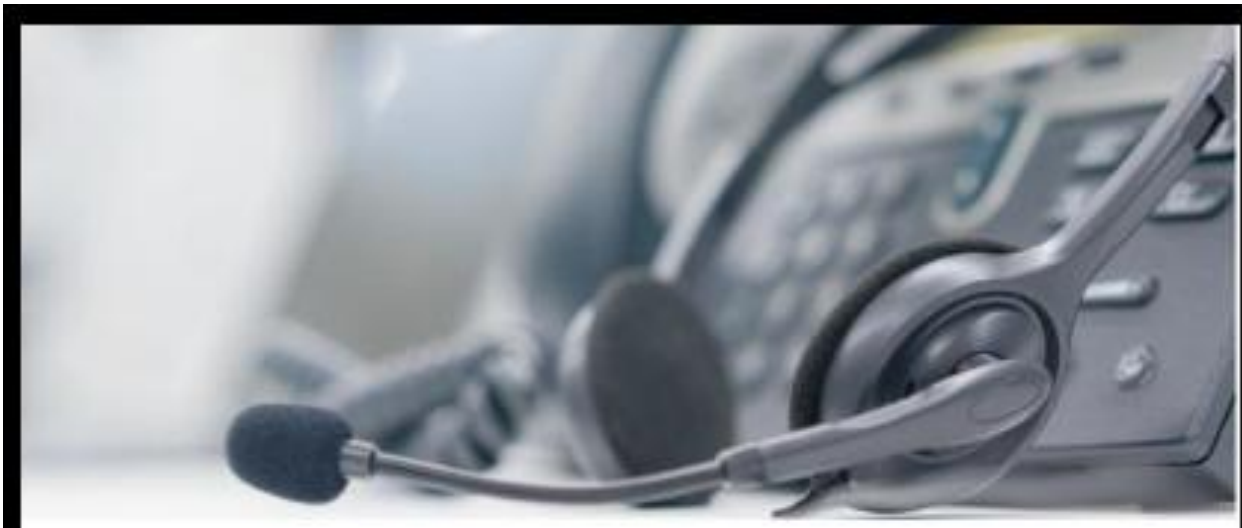
MD 133 SPIRIT RIVER

Book a seat by calling:

780-864-3500

CONCERNED ABOUT THE FULL-TIME AFSC POSITION BEING REDUCED TO ONE DAY A WEEK? PLEASE ADVOCATE TO KEEP SERVICES IN OUR COMMUNITY AND CALL THESE CONTACTS TO EXPRESS YOUR CONCERN:

DARRYL KAY	ANDRE HARPE
CEO, AFSC	BOARD of DIRECTORS
780-679-1739	780-814-0964
Dkay@afsc.ca	Aharpe@telusplanet.net



Starting July 2025

AFSC ON LOCATION

2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month

8:15 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

AVAILABLE BY REMOTE COMMUNICATION

Monday to Friday

8:15 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

To reach us call 780-864-3896

Or 1-877-899-2372

INSURANCE | LENDING | INCOME STABILIZATION

AFSC.ca

AFSC

Stand on Fertile Ground

STAY CONNECTED AND INFORMED! This is a friendly reminder to download the Voyent App! And register to sign up for emergency alerts in our area, such as wildfires. If you see smoke or fire, please call 911.

HOW TO REGISTER

Step 1: Watch the short video: Registration tutorial - Voyent Alert! for tips @ **www.youtube.com/watch?v=zSXaklw5tsI**

Step 2: Learn about registering for the Central Peace Fire & Rescue* Alerting System @ **www.voyent-alert.com/community/#registration**

Step 3: Register:

• For Mobile App Users, download and install the Voyent Alert! app from the Apple or Google Play app stores.

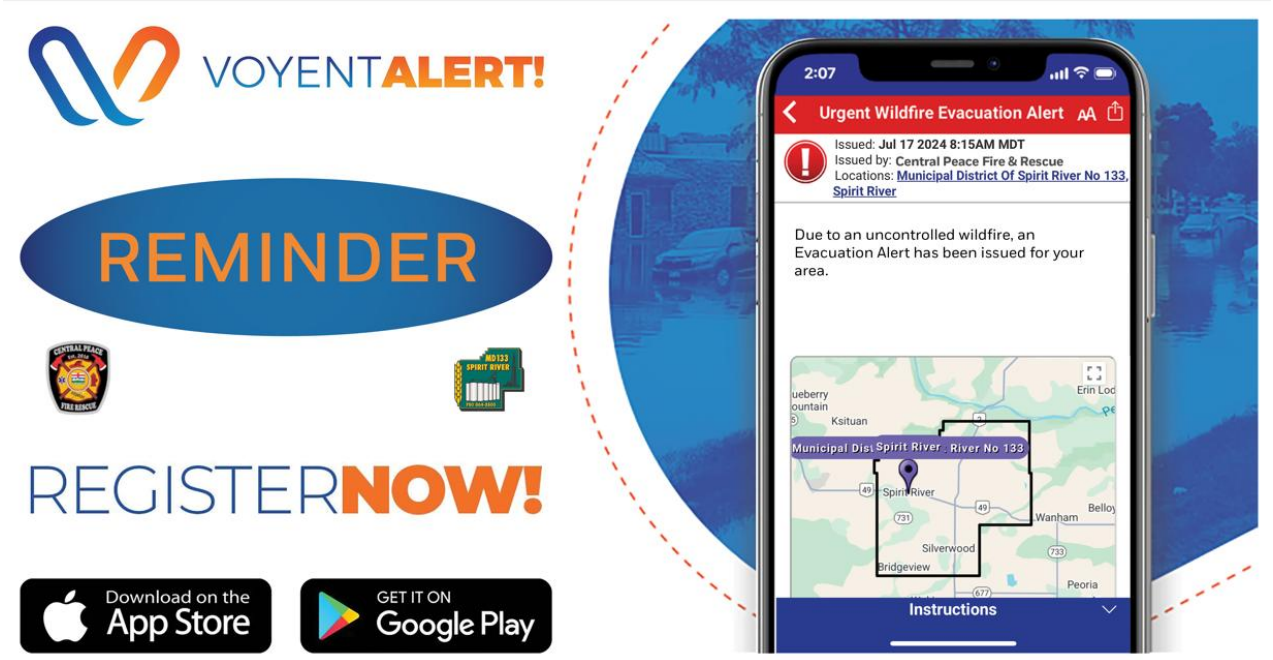
• For Email, Phone, or SMS (Text message) Users, register online to receive alerts

Once downloaded, register for your account by selecting your region on a map and receive immediate emergency alerts.

YOU CAN ALSO ADD NEIGHBOURING MUNICIPALITIES

Birch Hills County, County of Grande Prairie, City of Grande Prairie, and Saddle Hills County, just to name a few, also use the Voyent Alert! notification system. You can choose to receive alerts from Voyent Alert! for any or all of these communities.

* The Central Peace Fire & Rescue covers the MD of Spirit River, the Town of Spirit River, and the Village of Rycroft



Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133

Box 389 Spirit River, Alberta T0H 3G0
e-mail: mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca

Telephone (780) 864-3500
Fax (780) 864-4303

NORTHERN LIGHTS FIBER

northernlightsfiber.ca

https://www.northernlightsfiber.ca

Attention! Municipal District of Spirit River #133 Residents!

If you are interested in getting Fiber Optics to your residence or business, please go online and submit a request.
3 simple steps to submit a request, go to:

1) Northernlightsfiber.ca
2) Project Aurora
3) At the top of the page- Click for form

Submit a NO Obligation Fiber Access Request (FAR) to ensure your home gets fiber optics lines built. Click Here.

By Appointment

Connie and Steve share their knowledge that they have gained from doing their own and helping others over the years
They can also meet up individually if a better time is needed

Contact info

Steve@ steve.everitt@gmail.com

or

call the library (780) 765-3973

NARDAM is now OPEN!
Enjoy our camping season
May 1st to October 1st
Full Service Stalls
$35/night | $210/week | $700/month
Payment due upon arrival.
First come, first serve.
No reservations.
MD133
SPIRIT RIVER

2025 SUMMER BUS TOURS

Friday, July 4th - St. Isidore & Nampa

Back by popular demand, this trip will take you to visit the talented St. Isidore Weavers at the Cultural Centre, where you can also tour through the St. Isidore Museum. Stop for lunch in Nampa and visit the Nampa and District Museum.

Friday July 11th - Beaverlodge, Valhalla, Spring Lake, & Hill Top

Home of the World's Largest Beaver, this trip takes you to Beaverlodge to visit the South Peace Centennial Museum & Interpretive Centre, Beaverlodge Art & Culture Centre, and Euphemia McNaught Homestead Site. Then to Valhalla Mercantile Gift Shop where there's plenty to see and purchase! ~~ *Homecooked Friday lunches @ South Peace Centennial Museum 12:00 - 2:00 pm Cash Only*

Friday, July 18th - Kakut Lake, Sexsmith, & Grande Prairie

First stop on this trip is scenic Kakut Lake, located off of Peoria Road, where you will be greeted with snacks & refreshments. Then, on to Sexsmith to visit the splash park before travelling to Muskoseepi Park in Grande Prairie. Enjoy a round of mini golf and ice cream or walk through the Grande Prairie Museum & Heritage Village.

Friday, July 25th - Mile 0 Alaska Highway, Dawson Creek

Dawson Creek boasts many attractions — the Dawson Creek Art Gallery, Walter Wright Pioneer Village and N.A.R Station Museum. This trip has something for everyone! ~~ *Walter Wright Pioneer Village & Art Gallery Admissions: By Donation; N.A.R Station Museum: Adult $5, Child: Free*

Friday, August 1st - Girouxville & Watino

Have you ever seen a 5-legged squirrel? If you answered no, this is your chance to see this peculiar sight at the Girouxville Museum. The Museum boasts over 6,000 artifacts and was the largest museum in Alberta when it was founded in 1968. A Catholic Pilgrimage site is also located next door to the museum. Drop some pins at Smoky Lanes Bowling Alley, grab a bite to eat at Esquire Hotel & Lounge, and visit the beautiful outdoor Stations of the Cross at the Notre Dame de Lourdes. Also on the agenda is a stop in Watino for an exciting tour of Hive Hero (formerly Paradis Valley Honey), and grab a specialty crafted drink & snack at the Valley Bee Café while you browse their shop filled with bee inspired products.

Friday, August 8th - Dunvegan Provincial Park

Experience the Historical Dunvegan Provincial Park. Take a stroll along the paths that overlook the Peace River, or take one of the paths down to the river and wade in the cool water. Visit the Interpretive Centre — Play Mini Golf — Enjoy the Market and Gardens.

Friday, August 15th - Peace River

Ride the Shaftesbury Ferry – Visit Riverfront Park – Twelve Foot Davis - Peace River Museum and Archives – Mackenzie Centre – Judah Hill – Sagitawa Lookout.

Call the MD of Spirit River office at (780) 864-3500 to save your spot on the bus!

Bus Fare:

Age 16 & up	$25
Age 15 & Under	$5

Fares due upon registration. Riders are responsible for all expenses over and above the bus fare.

Bus leaves the MD garage at 8:30AM to pick-up passengers at designated locations and returns between 3:30 and 4:00PM.

priority given to seniors and those who are mobility challenged

KIDS KREATE
parent must be present at all times
Wednesday
3:30 - 5:00
Come have tea and create memories with your child
JANUARY 22 BEARS
FEBRUARY 5&12 VALENTINES DAY
CARDS FOR SENIORS
MARCH 5&19 GREEN
APRIL 2&16 FIREFLIES & BUTTERFLIES
MAY 7&21 MOM
JUNE 4&18 DAD
SEPTEMBER 3&17 MEMORY BOOK
OCTOBER 1&15 PUMPKINS
NOVEMBER 5&19 SNOW
DECEMBER TBA CARDS
DATES & ACTIVITY may change please follow our facebook page Rycroft Community Library or our website rycroftlibrary.ab.ca for updates on programs
RYCROFT COMMUNITY LIBRARY
4724 50th Street
Box 248 Rycroft, AB T0H 3A0
Phone: (780) 765-3973
Saddle Hills

YOUTH TIME

Please pre register by day before

Ages 12-17

Thursday
5:00 to 6:30pm

Come join together for supper and activity at the library

JANUARY 30	VR
FEBRUARY 27	STICKERS
MARCH 27	RECYCLED CDS
APRIL 24	DIAMOND ART
MAY 29	BOOKMARK
JUNE 26	JEWELRY
SEPTEMBER 25	MEMORY BOOK
OCTOBER 30	PUMPKINS
NOVEMBER 27	GIFTS
DECEMBER TBA	CARDS

DATES & ACTIVITY may change please follow our facebook page Rycroft Community Library or our website rycroftlibrary.ab.ca for updates on programs

RYCROFT COMMUNITY LIBRARY

4724 50th Street
Box 248 Rycroft, AB T0H 3A0
Phone: (780) 765-3973

Supper @ 5:30

Supplied by Burnt Offerings

RYCROFT AB HUB OF THE PEACE

Saddle Hills County

Summer

Hours

Starting July 2

Tuesday to Friday 12-6

Sunday & Monday CLOSED

Special Saturdays 12-6

Saturday July 19

Saturday August 9

Watch out for our amazing summer programs coming soon

RYCROFT

4724 50th Street
Box 248
Rycroft, AB T0H 3A0
Phone: (780) 765-3973

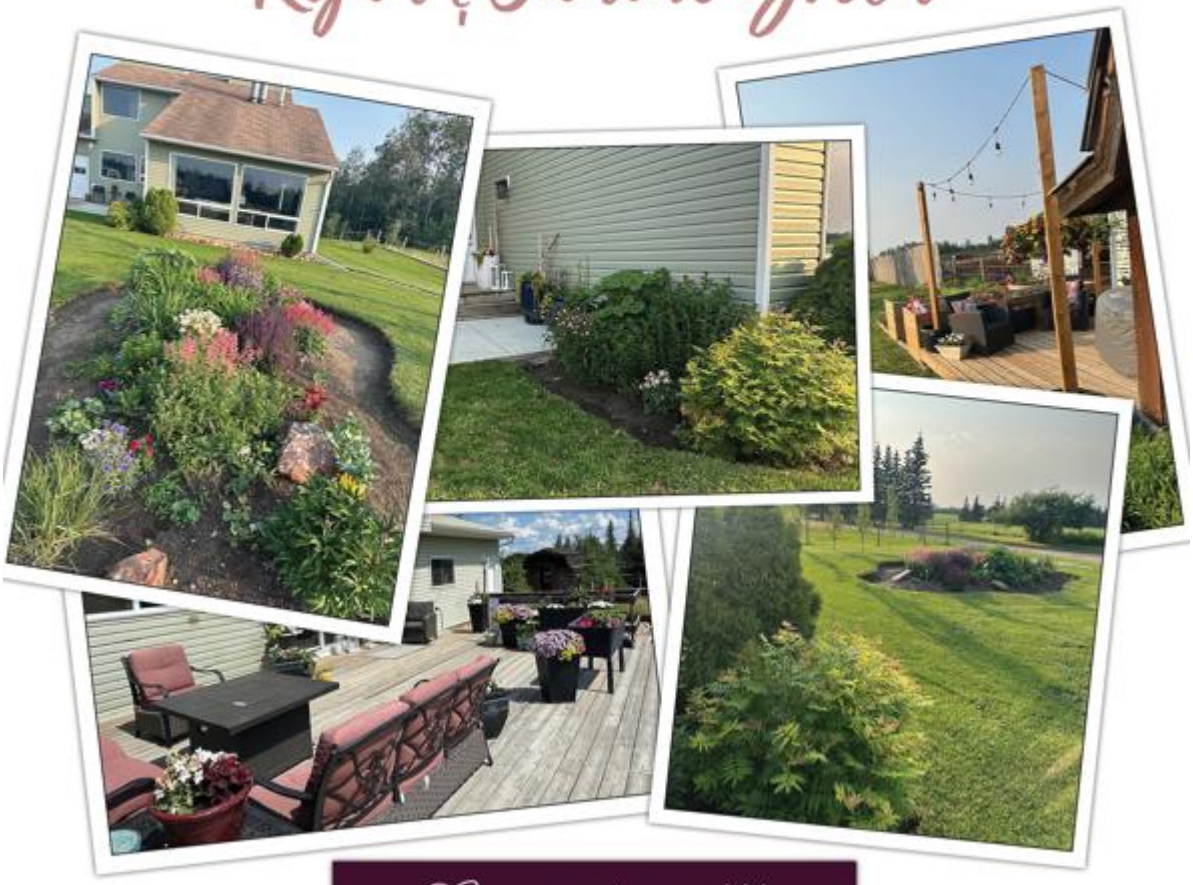
ENDLESS
SUMMER
ADVENTURES
At the
Rycroft
Community Library
Join us
2:00 - 3:30
Tuesday Wednesday
Thursday & Fridays
Tuesday
Story
walk or craft
Wednesday
Read
write & color
Thursday
Science
is our friend
group activity
Friday
Surprise
Rose's choice
AND a monthly Scavenger Bingo
RYCROFT COMMUNITY LIBRARY

2025 Rural Beautification Contest

Acreage Winners

~ 10 Acres or less ~

Ryan & Janine Green



Congratulations!!!

2025 Rural Beautification Contest

Farmstead Winners

~ Over 10 Acres ~

Pat & Mickey Lanigan

Congratulations!!!