



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133 Council
Agenda for Regular Council Meeting RM.09.25
9:00 am, August 6th, 2025

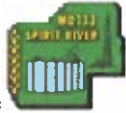
The Regular Meeting of the Council of the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 will be held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Office situated at 4202 50th Street in the Town of Spirit River in the Province of Alberta on August 6th, 2025, at 9:00 am.

Pages:

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **AGENDA ADDITIONS**
3. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**
 - A. Adoption of the August 6th, 2025 Regular Meeting Agenda RM.09.25.
4. **ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**
 - A. Adoption of Minutes from the July 2nd, 2025 Council Meeting RM.08.25. 1 - 6
5. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**
6. **COUNCILLOR ABSENCES**
7. **PUBLIC HEARING**
8. **DELEGATIONS**
 - A. Liisa Jefferey 9:05 a.m., Peace Country Beef & Forage Association:
To discuss future collaboration between the association and the Municipal District
 - B. **Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 - 2024 Financial Audit**

Edward Telford, 9:30 a.m. Chartered Accountant, JDP Wasserman and Associates for the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 to present the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 2024 Financial Statements for Council's review.
(Documents will be forwarded separately)
9. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**
10. **REPORTS**
 - A. Public Works Report RM.09.25 7 - 8
 - B. CAO Report: RM.09.25 (Separate Document) 9
 - C. Council Reports:
 - A. Central Peace Regional Water Project Phases 1 and 2 Project Overview 10 - 15

11.	<u>TABLED ITEMS AND OLD BUSINESS</u>	
	A. <u>RFD.</u> 2024 Audit (Separate Documents)	
	B. <u>RFD.</u> Pavement leftover from Highway 2 Realignment	16 - 23
12.	<u>RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES</u>	
13.	<u>NEW BUSINESS</u>	
	A. <u>RFD.</u> Grande Spirit Foundation - Annual Harvest Dine and Dance	24 - 25
	B. <u>RFD.</u> RMA DISTRICT FOUR - Zone Meeting - Friday, August 8 th , 2025@ 10:00a.m. at the Peace Valley Inn and, Emerald Room – Peace River Motion to attend: Boat Tour and BBQ - 6 p.m. August 7th, 2025	26 - 31
	C. <u>RFD.</u> 2025 MD of Spirit River No.133 Bursary Program	32 - 72
	D. <u>RFD.</u> Rail Safety Week” September 15 th - 21, 2025 - MD Spirit River No.133 Resolution	73 - 76
	E. <u>RFD.</u> Veterans House Canada - Request for Sponsorship	77 - 80
	F. <u>RFD.</u> Maskwa Medical Centre Delegation Follow up / Request for Sponsorship	81 - 83
	G. <u>RFD.</u> Ken Sargent House - Delegation Follow up / Request for Sponsorship	84 - 85
	H. Declaration of an Agricultural Disaster for the Municipal District (For Discussion)	
14.	<u>BYLAWS</u>	
15.	<u>CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION</u>	
	A. South Peace Regional Archives – RE: Update on the organization’s recent activities	86 - 106
	B. Letter from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police RE: Introduction: Trevor Daroux, Deputy Commissioner, Commanding Officer of the Alberta RCMP.	107 - 108
	C. Thank you card – from Bronson Rowe RE MD Donation to the Junior Single Log Skid at The Wanham Plowing Match Event	109
16.	<u>COUNCIL ISSUES AND CONCERNS</u>	
17.	<u>CLOSED MEETING (FORMERLY IN-CAMERA)</u>	
18.	<u>ADJOURNMENT</u>	



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133
Meeting Minutes for Regular Council Meeting RM.08.25
9:00 am, July 2nd, 2025

The Regular Meeting of the Council of the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Office situated at 4202 50th Street in the Town of Spirit River in the Province of Alberta on Wednesday, July 2nd , 2025, at 9:00 am.

Reeve: Tony Van Rootselaar

Councillors: Nick vanRootselaar
 Elaine Garrow
 Stan Bzowy

Administration: Dan Dibbelt
 Shirley Hayden
 Montana Kuhar

1. CALL TO ORDER

Reeve Van Rootselaar called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. with Agricultural Fieldman Simon Amting and Junell Wood in attendance.

Reeve Tony Van Rootselaar requested council motions be recorded.

2. AGENDA ADDITIONS

Councillor Stan Bzowy inquired why item: Misconduct of Staff and Security and security costs were not added to the RM.07.25 minutes or meeting agenda RM.08.25.

Recording Secretary Shirley Hayden relayed for clarification that the motion Councillor Bzowy referenced was in the RM.07.25 minutes which read as follows:

128.06.04.25 *Moved by Councillor Elaine Garrow to add Agenda item; Misconduct of Staff and Security:*

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

MOTION DEFEATED

Ms Hayden further relayed the item was not included in meeting agenda RM.08.25 as the motion to add the item was defeated at the previous meeting, therefore no action was required. Ms Hayden further relayed that Councillor Bzowy was informed that item: security cost would be addressed in the CAO report during the RM.08.25 meeting. Councillor Bzowy put forward a motion to have the item added to today's meeting agenda RM.08.25.

- 155.07.02.25** Moved by Councillor Stan Bzowy to add Agenda item:16.C. Misconduct of staff and security and defeated motion for legal support for staff to meeting agenda: RM.08.25.

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

MOTION CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Delegation 8.1. Liisa Jeffery, Executive Director of the Peace Country Beef and Forage Association unable to attend the meeting and is scheduled to present at a future meeting.

A. Adoption of the July 2nd, 2025, Regular Meeting Agenda RM.08.25.

- 156.07.02.25** Moved by Councillor Nick vanRootselaar that the Agenda for Regular Council Meeting RM-08-25 be adopted with addition Items: Council Concerns 16.C. Misconduct of Staff and Security, and defeated motion for legal support for staff Reports 10.1.b. Agricultural Fieldman Report RM.08.25, further, remove delegation 8.1. Peace Country Beef and Forage Association.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

A. Adoption of Minutes from the June 4th, 2025 Council Meeting RM.07.25.

- 157.07.02.25** Moved by Councillor Nick vanRootselaar that the minutes for Regular Council Meeting RM 07-25 be adopted as presented.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

6. COUNCILLOR ABSENCES

7. PUBLIC HEARING

8. DELEGATIONS

1. Junell Wood, resident of the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 entered the meeting at 9:08 a.m. to discuss concerns regarding the status of the Old Highway 2 Road.

Ms. Wood requested clarification regarding the Municipal Districts future plans for a section of pavement adjacent to her property from the Old Highway 2. Specifically, Ms Wood described the section of road as being an approach off Highway 2 North of Township Road 771, near her property located at NW -10-77-5-W6. Ms Wood described the section of pavement being approximately 10 feet long. The section of road currently does not belong to the MD and is in the custody of Alberta Transportation. The proposed plan for the roadway is to remove the existing paved surface and turn the pavement back to gravel.

Reeve Van Rootselaar relayed interest in having the Public Works department investigate the measurements of the aforementioned 10 foot section of pavement and the approach, further that administration contact Alberta Transportation to provide clarification regarding the paved approach and that the item be tabled to a future meeting for further discussion.

- 158.07.02.25** Moved by Councillor Stan Bzowy that item 8.2 Old section of Highway 2 pavement be tabled to the next council meeting, further that council direct administration to contact Alberta Transportation regarding the section of pavement from the highway approach off Highway 2 North of Township Road 771, Legal Description: NW -10-77-5-W6.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Ms. Wood left the meeting at 9:21 a.m.

9. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

10. REPORTS

1. Public Works Report RM.08.25
- 1.B. Agricultural Fieldman Report RM.08.25

Agricultural Fieldman Simon Amting reviewed the Public Works Report RM.08.25 and Agricultural Fieldman's Report RM.08.25.

- 159.07.02.25** Moved by Councillor Elaine Garrow that council direct administration to request the Public Works Supervisor assess the site of the Durda drainage ditch located at SE-26-77-5-W6. Specifically, that the man-made Chute located at the site be assessed for debris ie; trees, etc. further that, if said debris exist in the chute, the Public Works Supervisor be directed to bring forward his recommendation and plan the removal and clean-up of said debris, to a future meeting.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 160.07.02.25** Moved by Councillor Nick vanRootselaar that Public Works Report RM.08.25 and Agricultural Fieldman's Report RM.08.25, be accepted as presented.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. CAO Report

CAO Dan Dibbelt reviewed the CAO Report RM.08.25: 1-5:

- 161.07.02.25** Moved by Councillor Nick vanRootselaar that the CAO Report RM.08.25: items 1. through 5., be accepted as presented.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Council Reports

- 162.07.02.25** Moved by Councillor Elaine Garrow that the NAEL verbal report and Council Reports A. through D: A.1. Central Peace Family and Community Support Services: June 2025 Coordinators Report, 2. FCSS Draft Board meeting agenda, June 10th, 2025, 3. FCSS approved Meeting Minutes: May 13th, 2025, further, the verbal FCSS report presented by Councillor Bzowy and D. Spirit River Arena and Curling Rink Report DRAFT, be accepted as presented.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11. TABLED ITEMS AND OLD BUSINESS

12. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES

13. NEW BUSINESS

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 Contral Act and the Agricultural Pests Act, effective from June 18th, 2025, until the end employment with the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133.

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 opposed until Saddle Hills County fulfill their obligation to adhere to 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

- 165.07.02.25** Moved by Councillor Nick vanRootselaar that council direct administration to research the grant agreement, contact Alberta Transportation regarding the due process for the addition of new members/ opportunities with regard to the Central Peace Regional Water Project Grant 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

14. BYLAWS

15. CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION

166.07.02.25 Moved by Councillor Stan Bzowy that Correspondence and Information items A. through P. be accepted presented.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

16. COUNCIL ISSUES AND CONCERNS

- A. Councillor Garrow - Employee working for the Town of Spirit River (Discussion)**
- B. Councillor Garrow - Balance Sheet, variance to budget, and cash flow statement (Discussion)**
- C. Misconduct of MD Staff and Security and defeated motion for legal support for staff (Discussion)**

CAO, Dan Dibbelt left the meeting 10:12 a.m.
No action taken on items 16A., 16.B., and 16. C.

167.07.02.25 Moved by Councillor Elaine Garrow that council accept Dan Dibbelt's letter of resignation from the Chief Administrative Officer position for the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 effective August 31st, 2025, as presented.

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

17. CLOSED MEETING (FORMERLY IN-CAMERA)

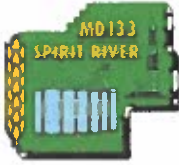
18. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by Reeve Van Rootselaar at 10:19 a.m.

These minutes approved this _____ day of _____, 2025.

Reeve
Tony Van Rootselaar

CAO
Dan Dibbelt



**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

DATE: July 2nd, 2025

Administrative		
Grading	Grading only when there is some moisture on the roads	
Plowing		
Gravel	Gravelling is ongoing. Grimshaw Gravel is working on the Whitelaw Pit crushing, they have not started hauling to Dunvegan Site yet.	
Culvert Installation/Repair	Replacing various culverts throughout the MD	
Washouts		
Brushing		
Signage	Summer staff have been replacing and straightening signs.	
Bridge Files	Bridge repairs in 3 locations: Township Road 784 - file# 72615 Range Road 45 – file# 74029 Range Road 55 – file# 71925	
Nardam		
Public Works Shop	Cleaning and organizing the yard.	
Equipment		

Training		
Endeavor ments		
Maneuvers		

CAO Report August 6 2025

Ongoing projects

- Follow up with auditor to complete audit.
- Review auditor Expression interest proposals, follow up on references.
- Met with Helix engineering and Alberta Transportation to review development process of Highway and 780 intersections and Highway 2 upgrade and next steps.
- Contacted Helix Engineering who did the work on the upgrade design to start process.
- Attended PREDA meeting (attached)
- Followed up with Municipal Affairs regarding arbitration/mediation process for ICFs
- Continuing work on new ICFs
- Ongoing work on closing and transitioning files to staff. And developing matrix for staff to follow up on in September.
- Presented Yard beautification awards.



a division of Englobe

CENTRAL PEACE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM PHASES 1 & 2

PROJECT OVERVIEW

July 02, 2025

ENGINEERING OVERVIEW

NOTE: Sections that include notable updates are highlighted in bold text.

1. **Pipeline Alignment Land Agreements:** Landowner easement signoffs were entirely obtained by the Land Agent for the alternate pipeline alignment (third alternate) that was re-routed to avoid holdout properties, with the final easement signoff obtained in late June 2024. A pipeline alignment adjustment was also implemented to avoid an abandoned oil company well on one of the easement agreement land parcels. A working space agreement was arranged for the property at the top of the Peace River valley hill for the steel pipe HDD work. Meetings with the Land Occupant for the property at the top of the valley hill that included the Contractor and the County, occurred on December 03 and December 04, 2024, to coordinate and set some ground rules for usage of the farm field by the pipeline Contractor. The Land Occupant requested a minor alignment change to the pipeline to curve the pipeline when the pipeline changes direction to continue southward. The existing signed pipeline easements with the landowner was amended and executed in January 2025 in accordance. Another recent pipeline alignment adjustment was suggested by the County to provide more separation from a deep ravine towards the north end of the HDPE pipeline in the vicinity of Township Road 795. The alignment adjustments for this new change were reviewed and corresponding updates to the land agreements are being implemented.

2. **Steel Pipe Contract for Peace River Valley Hill (Contract 2):** *Horizontal drilling of steel portion of the pipe was completed on February 04, 2025, which was then followed by reaming of the hole with a 26" reamer head. Reaming operations were completed on March 03, 2025. The 16" (400 mm) diameter steel pipe was successfully pulled back through the reamed drill passage on March 04, 2025. The total length of the HDD steel pipe installation was 1,770 m. The HDD Subcontractor, The Crossing Company, then demobilized their equipment off site. Work remaining for the Contract 2 project includes installation of pig launching/receiving concrete vaults at the top and bottom of the hill on the steel pipe portion of the pipeline. The transition of the pipeline material to high density polyethylene (HDPE) plastic at the top of the hill with installation of the section of HDPE pipe to reach the road allowance at the west end of the field (approximately 900 m) commenced in April 2025 and was completed in May 2025, installed by open cut trenching method of installation. Installation of a valve and temporary pig launch riser was completed in June 2025. The concrete vaults are tentatively scheduled to be installed in August 2025 pending their delivery to site. Site restoration of the pipe alignment will follow the installation work. It is anticipated that the field restoration will be fully completed before September 2025. A tour of the project sites was conducted by Saddle Hills County Council on February 24, 2025. Photos of the construction are attached.*

3. **River Intake and Raw Water Transfer Station (Contract 1):** *Saddle Hills County awarded the Contract at the May 27, 2025 Council Meeting, to the low bidder, Greenfield Construction. The Pre-Construction meeting with Greenfield occurred on June 26, 2025. Greenfield shall commence construction on site with mobilization of heavy equipment to site during the first week of July 2025 to commence the access road construction down to the raw water transfer station location. Construction completion is scheduled for autumn 2027.*

4. **HDPE Raw Water Transfer Piping Contracts (Contracts 3+):** *The contracts for the balance of the raw water transfer pipeline that extends from the top of the river valley, south to Spirit River and Rycroft are yet to be tendered. Working together with the County, the adjusted pipeline alignment has been determined, and the County is awaiting notification of additional grant funding from the Province in order to proceed with finalization of the design and tendering of the contracts for construction.*

5. **Electrical Service to the Pumping Station:** *The route for servicing of the Raw Water Transfer Station facility shall be from the Village of Rycroft which is the nearest connection point for the required three-phase power supply. Representatives from the County and MPE met with ATCO in Edmonton on February 01, 2023 to review the potential for decreasing the high servicing cost for the Raw Water Transfer Station. The meeting was successful as the County was able to convince ATCO to revisit their servicing cost and provide a substantial discount. The adjusted servicing amount was received from ATCO on March 10, 2023 with an 80% load investment from ATCO as an update on the previous 60% load investment. This resulted in a cost reduction of approximately \$164K to the previous cost proposal. ATCO has undertaken site review of the finalized routing of the power line to the River location. The question of whether fibre optic communication lines could also be installed on the power poles together with the electrical cables was raised by the County and the County remains in discussions with ATCO for potentially proceeding with the fibre work. A meeting with ATCO occurred on March 07, 2024 in Edmonton, to obtain update of the upcoming work. A more detailed schedule of the pumping facility usage for the initial years of operation was forwarded to ATCO for re-assessment of the projected monthly billing charges. The County then received a more updated servicing proposal agreement from ATCO in November 2024. The servicing proposal from ATCO has been accepted and executed by the County in 2025. The County also forwarded a question to ATCO on whether the power line alignment has been confirmed not to conflict with the proposed Alberta Transportation Hwy 2 re-alignment enroute towards the Bridge.*

6. **Project Budget:** An updated preliminary opinion of probable costs for the project was developed and shared with the County. The estimated costs had increased significantly since the 2018 Pre-Design Report and the County made a request to the Province for additional grant funding under the Water for Life program to make up the projected cost difference. The County had follow up meetings related to the grant request with representatives from the Province and had presented a cash flow projection to the Province that provided a schedule of expenditures over the course of the next three years as it relates to grant funding. The County met with the Province again in March 2024 and again in April 2024, and ultimately received formal response from the Province this June 2024 that confirmed additional grant amounts for the upcoming year. More recent meeting between the County and the Province for funding support occurred in early November 2024.

NEXT STEPS

7. Continue with the construction for Contract 2, execute contract documents and commence construction for Contract 1, detailed design including the drafting of revised plan and profile drawings for the pipeline (Contract 3+), continue with regulatory approvals for final construction details, coordination with ATCO for power service to the Raw Water Transfer Station, seek Provincial support for the balance of grant funding for project ultimate completion.

Haj Oshiki, P.Eng.

Photo attachments:

1. Top of Peace River Valley Backfilled Trench for HDPE Pipe



2. Installation of Valve



3. Installation of Temporary Pig Launch Vertical Riser





MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133

MEETING:
MEETING DATE:
ORIGINATED BY:
TITLE:

RM 09-25
August 6th, 2025
Dan Dibbelt
Pavement Leftover from Highway 2
Realignment

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL

At the last meeting of Council on July 2nd, a ratepayer delegated to Council regarding a piece of pavement leading to a residential property that will eventually be transferred from Alberta Transportation to the MD. This transfer not only relates to ownership of the road by the MD but would assign all maintenance and management duties for its lifetime to the MD.

As a result, administration has performed a site visit, taken measurements, and captured drone footage. Utilizing the information collected, Administration has drafted a critical analysis of the potential options. Three options were identified, each with a list of pros and cons and an in-depth overview of all considerations.

Further, administration has drafted a policy for Council's consideration regarding pavement acquisitions to help better define procedures surrounding such transfers and to develop a uniform approach for any future acquisitions.

Attachments:
 Pavement Acquisition – Critical Analysis
 Current Road Lease Agreements
 Draft Road Acquisition Policy

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION

That Council direct Administration accordingly.

CAO

Pavement Acquisition Highway 2 – Critical Analysis

Option 1

Full removal of pavement by Alberta Transportation and conversion back to gravel road.

Pros:

- Zero removal and conversion costs
- Reduced long-term maintenance costs
- Reduced administrative and operational burden
- Equity among all ratepayers
- Reduced liability
- Financial protection for future municipal planning

Cons:

- Ratepayer dissatisfaction

Option 2

Drafting of a Road Closure Bylaw for closing a portion of the road, requiring advertisement, a Public Hearing, and approval from the province. When closing a portion of a road rather than the entire road, a survey is required. Surveying costs would be paid by the ratepayer. If approved, the MD can then either lease or sell the portion of closed road directly to the ratepayer. The ratepayer would be required to perform all maintenance of the road as well as supply a security bond in an amount equivalent to costs associated with the length of road to be ripped up and converted back to gravel, in case the ratepayer does not fulfill the requirements of the agreement or terminates the agreement. Should the ratepayer sell their property, the agreement transfers to the new owners, and the security bond remains with the MD.

Pros:

- Ratepayer keeps pavement

Cons:

- Administrative burden
- Potential for disputes
- Enforcement challenges
- Public perception
- Risk of bond insufficiency

Pavement Acquisition Highway 2 – Critical Analysis

Option 3

The MD takes ownership and control of the pavement, does not convert it back to gravel, and performs all maintenance, repair and replacement work.

Pros:

- Ratepayer keeps pavement

Cons:

- Financial burden on all MD ratepayers
- Ongoing maintenance costs
- Major repair and replacement costs
- Requirement of specialized equipment to perform maintenance (i.e. crack-sealing, snowplowing)
- Inequity among ratepayers
- Increased administrative and operational workload
- Liability risks
- Precedent setting
- Diversion of resources

Summary

The most beneficial option for the municipality is Option 1, secondarily Option 2.

Option 1: Paved roads come with significantly higher long-term costs for maintenance, major repairs, and eventual replacement compared to gravel roads. By converting to gravel, the MD completely eliminates these substantial financial liabilities. This includes avoiding the need for specialized equipment or expensive contracting for pavement-specific work. Maintaining pavement introduces unpredictable costs due to factors like freeze-thaw cycles and material degradation. Converting to gravel provides a more predictable and manageable cost structure for road maintenance. The MD's existing road network is primarily gravel. By converting acquired paved sections to gravel, the MD ensures that all ratepayers receive a consistent level of road service. Maintaining a paved section for a select few ratepayers, while the majority fund and use gravel roads, would create an inequitable situation. If the MD were to maintain the pavement, the significant costs would either lead to increased taxes for all ratepayers or require diverting funds from other essential services or from the maintenance of the existing gravel road network. This would effectively force all ratepayers to subsidize a higher-cost service for a very limited few. Accepting responsibility for one paved segment could set a precedent, opening the door for similar demands from other ratepayers in the future. This could lead to an unsustainable financial commitment for the MD, impacting its ability to provide core services efficiently.

Pavement Acquisition Highway 2 – Critical Analysis

across the entire district. In essence, while keeping the pavement might offer short-term convenience for an individual ratepayer, it directly conflicts with the MD's core policy of fiscal responsibility and the principle of equitable service provision to all its citizens. Converting to gravel ensures the MD's financial stability and fair treatment for everyone.

Option 2: Attempts to balance accommodating a ratepayer's preference with the MD's critical need for financial protection and fairness to all ratepayers. That being said, there are still significant disadvantages. It requires significant administrative and legal effort from the MD. This includes drafting a comprehensive agreement, negotiating terms, continuously monitoring the ratepayer's maintenance performance, and managing the security bond. This diverts valuable staff time and resources that would not be needed under Option 1. Even with a robust agreement, disputes can arise over maintenance standards, the condition of the pavement, the need to draw on the security bond, or the termination of the agreement. Enforcing these clauses can be time-consuming, costly, and potentially lead to legal challenges. While the agreement aims to make the ratepayer fully responsible, other ratepayers might still perceive this as preferential treatment. This could lead to demands for similar arrangements, creating pressure on the MD to enter into more agreements, each carrying its own administrative overhead and potential for issues. Although a security bond is required, there's always a risk that the bond amount, despite periodic reviews, might not fully cover the actual costs of pavement removal and conversion in the distant future, especially with inflation or unforeseen complications. This is less of a risk compared to the MD taking full responsibility, but still a risk that Option 1 eliminates completely.

Additional Considerations

At the conclusion of its service life, critical questions arise regarding the pavement's disposition—whether it will be removed, repaved, or converted to gravel—and the allocation of associated costs. Furthermore, as a designated bus route, this segment receives priority snowplowing, necessitating the deployment of distinct equipment for both paved and gravel sections, which ultimately increases the financial burden on ratepayers.

Current Road Allowance Leases – Renewed Annually

Lease	Type	Length	Revenue	Cost:
1	Gravel	½ mile	\$100	\$0
2	Gravel	½ mile	\$100	\$0
3	Gravel	½ mile	\$100	\$0
4	Gravel	1 ½ mile	\$300	\$0
5	Gravel	½ mile	\$100	\$0
6	Gravel	¼ mile	\$50	\$0



Policy No.PWS.26

Road Acquisition Policy

Date Approved: **XX XX, 2025**

Supersedes:

Amended:

Department: **Public Works**

Review Date:

Rescinds:

Council Resolution No:

Related Procedure:

The Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 Policy Manual

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to establish clear procedures and guidelines for the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 (the "MD") when acquiring control or ownership of road infrastructure, particularly in instances where paved sections of road are transferred to the MD's jurisdiction. This policy aims to mitigate potential financial burdens and long-term maintenance liabilities associated with such acquisitions by ensuring that all acquired paved surfaces are converted to gravel.

SCOPE:

1. This policy applies to all departments, staff, and contractors involved in the acquisition, transfer, or management of road infrastructure within the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133, including but not limited to road realignments performed by Alberta Transportation or other provincial/federal entities, land dedications, or any other means by which road control or ownership is transferred to the MD.

DEFINITIONS:

Acquisition: The process by which the Municipal District of Spirit River obtains control, ownership, or responsibility for a road segment.

Alberta Transportation (AT): The provincial government department responsible for transportation infrastructure in Alberta.

Gravel Road: A road surface consisting primarily of compacted aggregate materials (gravel).

MD: Refers to the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133.

Paved Road: A road surface constructed with asphalt, concrete, or similar hard-surface materials.

Road Realignment: A change in the physical location or alignment of an existing road, often undertaken by provincial authorities, which may result in sections of the original road being decommissioned or transferred.

POLICY STATEMENTS:

1. It is the policy of the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 that any road segment, or portion thereof, acquired by the MD that includes a paved surface must be converted back to a gravel road prior to the transfer of control or ownership.
2. This conversion is mandatory to prevent the imposition of undue financial burden on the MD related to the ongoing maintenance, repair, and eventual replacement costs associated with paved surfaces.
3. The MD shall not accept responsibility for the long-term maintenance of paved surfaces transferred to its jurisdiction, and the conversion to gravel is a critical measure to ensure fiscal responsibility and consistency with the MD's existing road network maintenance strategy.
4. All agreements or discussions pertaining to the acquisition of road infrastructure must explicitly address the MD's requirement for pavement conversion to gravel.

PROCEDURE:

1. Assessment:
 - a. The Public Works Department, in consultation with the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), shall conduct a thorough assessment of the road segment proposed for transfer, specifically noting the extent and condition of any paved sections.
 - b. The MD shall ensure that all necessary legal and administrative processes for the transfer of ownership or control are completed.
2. Negotiation and Agreement:
 - a. During negotiations with Alberta Transportation or other transferring entities, the MD's requirement for the paved surface to be converted to gravel shall be clearly

communicated and, wherever possible, incorporated into the formal transfer agreement.

- b. The MD shall require the transferring entity to bear the cost and responsibility for the pavement removal and gravel conversion prior to the transfer.
- c. If the transferring entity is unwilling or unable to perform the conversion, and the MD is mandated to assume ownership, the cost of pavement removal and gravel conversion will be included in the MD's capital budget planning.

3. **Pavement Conversion:**

- a. Once existing pavement has been removed, the road must be reconstructed to MD standards before the formal transfer can be finalized. The Public Works Director will attend the site and perform an inspection prior to approval of the final reconstruction to ensure the standards requirement has been met.
- b. If the transferring entity removes the pavement but is unwilling or unable to reconstruct the road back to gravel, the cost of gravel conversion will be included in the MD's capital budget planning.
- c. The conversion process shall include, but not be limited to, the breaking up and removal of asphalt or concrete, proper disposal of materials, and the placement and compaction of suitable gravel materials.
- d. The conversion work shall be completed in a timely manner.



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133

MEETING:
MEETING DATE:
ORIGINATED BY:
TITLE:

RM 09-25
August 6th, 2025
Asst. CAO, Shirley Hayden
Friends of the Grande Spirit Foundation
Harvest Dine & Dance Fundraiser

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL

The Grande Spirit Foundation are hosting their annual Harvest Dine & Dance fundraiser on Saturday, October 4th, 2025, 6 p.m.(doors open at 5p.m.) at the Pomeroy Hotel and Conference Centre in Grande Prairie, AB. Doors will open at 5:00 pm. The dinner will follow at 6:00 with live music as well as a silent auction, raffles, door prizes and live auction. The Fundraiser will raise money for lodges and senior apartments that are not accounted for in the day-to-day operations which improve the quality of life for the senior residents.

Attached is the letter of request from Wendy Doucet.

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION

1. That the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 purchase a corporate table in the amount of \$850.00 for the annual Friends of Grande Spirit Foundation Harvest Dine & Dance, further, tickets for the event be donated to residents of the Spirit River Pleasantview Lodge who may want to attend.
2. That the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 council members be appointed to attend the Friends of Grande Spirit Foundation Harvest Dine & Dance on behalf of the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 on Saturday, October 4th, 2025 hosted by the Friends of the Grande Spirit Foundation.
3. That financial support be given to the Grande Spirit Foundation in the form of a cash donation or donation of an item for the Silent Auction.

That Council direct Administration accordingly.

S. Hayden



Grande Spirit Foundation

"We provide quality housing that serves the needs of our seniors, families and individuals."

July 2025

The Friends of the Grande Spirit Foundation are hosting their annual Harvest Dine & Dance fundraising event on October 4, 2025. We would like to invite you to participate in the fundraiser, which will be held at the Pomeroy Hotel and Conference Centre in Grande Prairie, AB. Doors will open at 5:00 pm. Dinner will be served at 6:00 pm and will be followed by a live & silent auction as well as a dance with live music by Night Ryders.

The Friends of the Foundation's mission is to purchase items that improve the quality of life for our senior residents. Through fundraisers, such as this dinner, we are able to raise money for our seniors' lodges and apartments that are not accounted for in the day-to-day operations. In the past some of the items purchased include outdoor glider swings, exercise equipment, fun activities, updated furniture and TVs for common areas, a new bus and more...with much more left to do.

Here's how you can help:

1. Please mark your calendar now and plan to attend the fundraiser on October 4th. We encourage you to bring a friend or colleague and your checkbook! Corporate tables are \$850 which includes 8 dinner tickets, 2 bottles of wine, signage and advertising, or individual tickets are available at \$80 each.
2. Please consider contributing an item to the silent auction. All donations are greatly appreciated. Your donation can be a gift certificate to your business, merchandise or services.
3. You may prefer to provide a direct donation to the Friends of the Foundation.

We will gladly pick up your donation, or it can be dropped off at the address listed below. Please fill out the attached Donation & Ticket Request Form and return it to wdoucet@hotmail.ca. We must receive all donations and ticket requests by Friday, September 19th. Contribution recognition will be promoted at the event. Contributions over \$750 will also be recognized on social media.

We very much appreciate any support that your organization can provide. If you have any questions or would like to purchase tickets, please contact me at 780-978-3310 or wdoucet@hotmail.ca.

On behalf of the Friends of the Foundation,

Wendy Doucet
Friends of the Foundation Coordinator



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133

MEETING:
MEETING DATE:
ORIGINATED BY:
TITLE:

RM-09-25
August 6th, 2025
Dan Dibbelt, CAO
RMA Zone Four Meeting:
Pre- RMA zone meeting event
BBQ and Boating – motion to attend

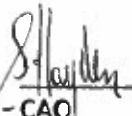
BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL

Administration received an email from Robert Willing regarding a pre- RMA zone meeting BBQ and Boating event on August 7th, 2025, before the RMA Zone Four meeting on August 8th, 2025. Attached is information regarding the Zone four kickoff event as well as RMA zone four Meeting information.

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION

Council motion to recommend members attend the pre-event BBQ event on August 7th, 2025 to include cost of hotel accommodations for the night of august 7th.

Or That Council direct Administration accordingly.

for 
 - CAO

Shirley Hayden

From: Dan Dibbelt
Sent: July 30, 2025 10:35 AM
To: Shirley Hayden
Subject: FW: Kick off Zones with a Beach BBQ

From: Robert Willing <rwilling@mdpeace.com>
Sent: July 30, 2025 9:45 AM
To: Robert Willing <rwilling@mdpeace.com>; krosvold@countygyp.ab.ca
Cc: dreynolds@biglakescounty.ca; cao@birchhillscounty.ca; Allan Rowe <allan@clearhillscounty.ab.ca>; Joulia Whittleton <jwhittleton@countygyp.ab.ca>; Gerhard Stickling <cao@countyofnorthernlights.com>; cao@mackenziecounty.com; cao@mdsmokyriver.com; ! CMERRITT <cmerritt@saddlehills.ab.ca>; cmillar@northersunrise.net; Dan Dibbelt <ddibbelt@mdspiritrivier.ab.ca>; tim.schindel@mdfairview.ab.ca; CAO <cao@mdpeace.com>; Chad Tullis <cao@mdopportunity.ab.ca>; Stacey Wabick MD of Greenview CAO <stacey.wabick@mdgreenview.ab.ca>
Subject: Kick off Zones with a Beach BBQ

Good morning all CAOs. Could you please distribute to your council members? This is not really a zone initiative, just an extra that if individuals want to participate, they have an opportunity. I shall be getting you the draft agenda to distribute either later today or tomorrow at the latest. If anyone has any questions, please let me know.

Bob

Calling all Zone Attendees,

Let's kick off our Zones Meeting with some fresh air, fun vibes, and the stunning beauty of the Peace River! Join us on **Thursday evening, August 7, 2025**, for a **Beach BBQ** hosted by **Peace Rivers Adventures**. You won't want to miss this!

What's Happening:

We'll be boating on the Peace River, then up the Smokey River to a relaxing riverside beach, soaking in the views, sharing a few laughs and connecting with colleagues one last time before the upcoming elections.

- 1. Departure Location:** Lower West Peace Boat Launch
Boat Departure Times: 6:00 PM & 6:45 PM
Return Times: 8:00 PM & 8:45 PM
(20-minute boat ride each way)

What It Costs:

- 1. \$75 per person** for the round-trip boat tour

2. **\$15 (cash only)** for a burger (beef or veggie burger with gluten-free option for bun), chips, and a non-alcoholic drink
(Feel free to **BYO** food or drinks)

They'll have **camp chairs** and even a **portable washroom**.

We need at least 18 people to make this tour happen—so grab your spot early! If we don't meet the minimum, your money will be refunded.

✓ **How to Join:**

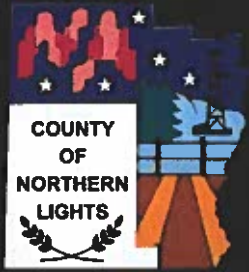
To register, simply email by **Aug 6, 2025**
<mailto:peaceriveradventurestours.com>

This is your opportunity to take in the scenery and connect with fellow attendees. Hope to see you there!



RSVP BY JULY 25, 2025

Email: info@countyofnorthernlights.com



**FRIDAY
AUGUST 8
2025**

RMA DISTRICT 4 ZONE MEETING

10:00 AM

PEACE VALLEY INN, EMERALD ROOM

9609 101 Street, Peace River, AB

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Peace Valley Inns

780.624.2020

Chateau Nova

780.624.3344

Best Western Plus

780.617.7600

Quality Inn

780.624.3621

**Visit <https://mightypeace.com/>
and enjoy a weekend adventure in the
Beautiful Peace Country**

DRAFT.

District 4 Meeting Agenda**Date:** Friday, August 8, 2025**Time:** 9:30 AM**Location:** Peace Valley Inn**Address:** 9602 101 Street, Peace River, Alberta**Greetings – County of Northern Lights, Reeve Terry Ungarian****Presentations**

- 1. Honorable Dan Williams, Minister of Municipal Affairs**
- 2. Scott Henuset, Energy Alberta**
- 3. Derek Young, Regional Director, Transportation and Economic Corridors**

Lunch**RMA Business**

- 1. RMA District 4 Director (Karen Rosvold) - Update & Q&A**
- 2. RMA Presentation & Q&A**

District 4 Member Business

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Adoption of Previous Minutes**
- 3. Adoption of Agenda**
- 4. Resolutions**
 - a. Paid Parking at Alberta Health Facilities - MD of Spirit River*
 - b. Increased Funding for Alberta Libraries - County of Grande Prairie*
- 5. Financial Statements**
- 6. New Business**
 - a. Future Zone presentations
 - b. Fall Elections
 - c.
 - d.
- 7. Subcommittee/Membership Reports**
 - a. Drainage Ditch committee
 - b. Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance update

Next Meeting -
Adjournment

Date: February 13, 2026
Location:



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133

MEETING:
MEETING DATE:
ORIGINATED BY:
TITLE:

RM 09-25
August 6th, 2025
Assistant CAO, Shirley Hayden
2025 Bursary Program

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL

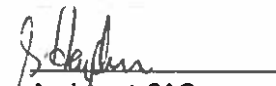
The Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 Administration have received six applications for the 2025 Bursary Program, from the following Municipal District Residents:

- 1) Colton Witts
- 2) Brielle Schoorlemmer
- 3) Marcy Martin- Macdaid
- 4) Anaya Martin- Macdaid
- 5) Nathan Macdaid
- 6) Korben Knezevich

Applicants have completed the required forms for the application process and have been reviewed by administration. Attached are the applicant's registration forms and reference letters for council review.

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION

That Council direct Administration accordingly regarding the 2025 Bursary Program.


Assistant CAO
Shirley Hayden



MD of Spirit River #133 2025 Bursaries Program

Eligibility

	Applicants must be dependents of residents or residents of the Municipal District of Spirit River #133
	Applicants must be entering full-time studies at a post secondary institution in Canada, such as University or community college and on-line programs.
	Applicants which will be accepted must be either graduating students and adults wanting to return for upgrading.

Scholarships

	Students entering University or College are eligible for \$1,000 scholarship
--	--

Selection Criteria

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

Note

	This year a total of four scholarships of \$1,000 will be awarded. Please have your applications in before July 31, 2025.
--	---

Address

Municipal District of Spirit River #133
Box 389, Spirit River, AB T0H 1G0
Phone (780) 864-3500
Fax (780) 864-4303
Email: mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca

PLEASE ENSURE THAT APPLICATIONS ARE; COMPLETED WITH THE REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS AND HAVE BEEN RECEIVED AT THE MD OFFICE NO LATER THAN JULY 31, 2025

MD OF SPIRIT RIVER #133 2025 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Student Section	SIN #	
		Name of Student
		Colton Witts
		Your Mailing Address & Your Physical Address
		Your Phone Number
		Your email address
		What college or University will you be entering in 2025?
		Northwestern Polytechnic
		What diploma, degree, or specialty do you expect to pursue?
		Bachelor of Business Administration
		Have you previously attended college or university in Canada?
		Currently enrolled in my second year of college at NWP
		Have you included the required attachments?

The student must attach the following to the application. ✓

May 26, 2025

Colton Witts

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter confirms that, as of this date, Colton Witts is enrolled at Northwestern Polytechnic for the 2025-2026 academic year, as follows:

Program: Bachelor of Business Administration

Program length: 4 years

- **Fall Semester (09/03/2025 - 12/20/2025 - 16 weeks) - Full Time (Bachelor of Business Administration Year 2)**
- **Winter Semester (01/06/2026 - 04/23/2026 - 16 weeks) - Full Time (Bachelor of Business Administration Year 2)**
- **Spring Semester (05/04/2026 - 06/26/2026 - 8 weeks) - Part Time (Bachelor of Business Administration Year 2)**

Sincerely,



Registrar's Office



To whom it may concern,

I am enrolled at Northwestern Polytechnic for a bachelor's degree in business administration. Over my first year, I have learned a broad range of fundamentals in businesses, including an introduction to accounting, marketing, and human resources, and the inner workings of companies, such as business mathematics, principles of business, organizational behavior, and microeconomics. These classes explored the frameworks established and the strategies utilized for businesses to be successful in an ever-evolving competitive market.

This year has reinforced my passion to pursue a bachelor's degree. I believe post-secondary will provide an opportunity to further develop my leadership abilities through coursework and interactions with diverse peers. In group projects, I learn not only the theories behind effective leadership and the different types of leadership, but also practical skills in collaboration, communication, and problem-solving. Courses that focus on organizational behavior and human resources have taught me about team dynamics and synergy, which can help with productivity and efficiency. I believe this knowledge will be easily generalizable and allow me to continue to improve myself and become a valuable asset for my employer(s) in the future.

Currently, I am working part-time at the college learning commons, where I am able to work at the front-desk at the library and assist students over the summer while taking a spring course. I'm hoping to continue my education and expand my knowledge on accounting, ethics, sociology, and more in my next academic year.

Thank you for your time,

Colton Witts.

Good afternoon,
I would like to introduce to you,
Colton Witts.

I met Colton the summer of 2022 and over that year I saw Colton grow into a respectful young person, who isn't afraid to try new challenges.

In May 2023 Colton had an opportunity for the summer position at Rycroft Community Library, he applied and got the summer position.

Colton caught on very fast, he was able to do programming with no assistance. Colton's programs included science experiments, storytelling, and several different crafts, and he was ready and organized each program.

With his programming Colton was able to bring in families and children into the library over the summer.

Colton will be coming back in June 2024 to run our Summer Programs. Colton showed us that he is hardworking young man, who is ready for any challenge with a smile, he has a heart and is ready to make a difference with people he meets.

Petrina Beale 'Chair'



RYCROFT
COMMUNITY LIBRARY

RycroftLibraryBoard@outlook.com

Village of Rycroft Library Board

Box 248 4732 50 Street,

Rycroft Alberta T0H3A0

780 765 3973

So much more than JUST a library.

780 765 3973
Box 118, 4732 50St, Rycroft AB T0H 3A0
Librarian@rycroftlibrary.ab.ca
rycroftlibraryboard@outlook.com

Rycroft Community Library

So Much More Than Just A Library



To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing this letter in support of Colton Witts. He has been our summer student for the past two summers now. He brings a youthful vibe to our library, which is just what we need for the summer.

Colton has shown on multiple occasions that he has great leadership skills. He is a great team player and is so very helpful. Colton has a great attitude and brings a lot of positivity.

Last summer Colton was tasked with preparing our lending library for cataloguing, which was a huge endeavour. He took on the task with a gusto and accomplished his portion throughout the summer, at his own pace. He also planned and ran our science and storytime program, in which he read to children and led them in a science project multiple times throughout the summer. He also lead the children in crafts for Kids Kreate, an art program.

This summer Colton has done pretty well all the planning without any help. He has many projects on the go this summer including Summer Reading Program, Summer Reading Challenge, and our Reading Buddies program along with many other smaller programs. Colton is able to take charge at these children's programs and get the tasks done, while still making it fun.

Thanks for your time,

Nikki Olszewski
Library Manager
Rycroft Community Library
Box 248 Rycroft, AB T0H3A0
(780) 765-3973
librarian@rycroftlibrary.ab.ca

780 765 3973
 Box 248, 4724 50St, Rycroft AB T0H 3A0
 Librarian@rycroftlibrary.ab.ca
 rycroftlibraryboard@outlook.com

Rycroft Community Library

So Much More Than Just A Library



To Whom it may concern,

My name is Vidhu Jacob, Library Manager Assistant and I am grateful to write a reference letter for Colton Witts. He worked as a summer student at the library for the last two summer (July-August 2023 and July-August 2024). During that period, I had the opportunity to supervise Colton.

Colton is a sincere, hardworking and dedicated person. He is very punctual and meticulous in his work. He mostly dealt with summer programming at the library. As part of our summer reading program he was assigned to do kids story time, crafts, science experiments for the ages 5 -10 and pizza night for the age group 11-17. He came up with interesting ideas to bring kids and youth during summer time. Every week he introduced different themes for the story time followed by a craft. I am quite impressed with his calm and caring behavior while managing the kids.

This year he offered a new program called "Reading Buddies" that focused on developing the reading skills of the kids. We had 4 kids regularly came to the library all through the summer to read along with Colton. He willingly volunteered in the library's other summer events – Canada day parade and Get Outside and Play. He assisted us in the planning, preparation and all throughout the events.

Colton's proficiency in MS Office, Google Doc and Canva helped us in cataloguing the items in the lending library and preparing the summer reading brochures. His digital skills helped to resolve some of our patron's technical issues with their mobile phones and tablets. He managed the library website by uploading posters and updating the events calendar. He is very good at multitasking and was able to complete the projects at the right time.

Colton was a valuable asset to our team and I am completely confident that he would excel in the roles he takes.

Please feel free to contact me if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Vidhu Jacob
Library Manager Assistant
Rycroft Community Library
 Box 248 Rycroft, AB T0H3A0
 (780) 765-3973
librarian@rycroftlibrary.ab.ca

October 15, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in reference to Colton Witts and his scholarship application. I have had the privilege of teaching Colton since grade 9 (2020-2021) until his grade 12 year (2023-2024), primarily in Social Studies but also in various options. In each, he is one of the most consistently effortful and capable students that I have ever taught.

Colton is a mature individual who is respectful and conscientious. As a student, Colton is extremely hard-working, focused, and inquisitive. He is consistently striving to achieve and excel, working towards personal growth and development. He further takes advantage of every opportunity to learn more. He is sophisticated in his thinking and his desire to achieve excellence and mastery.

Colton has plans to complete a Bachelors of Business Administration at Southern Alberta Institute of Technology. I have no doubt that Colton will successfully follow through on this and excel in post-secondary studies.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school through either email (jacquelinecoates@pwpsd.ca) or phone call (780-864-3693).

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Coates
Teacher
Spirit River Regional Academy



MD of Spirit River #133 2025 Bursaries Program

Eligibility

	Applicants must be dependents of residents or residents of the Municipal District of Spirit River #133
	Applicants must be entering full-time studies at a post secondary institution in Canada, such as University or community college and on-line programs.
	Applicants which will be accepted must be either graduating students and adults wanting to return for upgrading.

Scholarships

	Students entering University or College are eligible for \$1,000 scholarship
--	--

Selection Criteria

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

Note

	This year a total of four scholarships of \$1,000 will be awarded. Please have your applications in before July 31, 2025.
--	---

Address

Municipal District of Spirit River #133
Box 389, Spirit River, AB T0H 1G0
Phone (780) 864-3500
Fax (780) 864-4303
Email: mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca

PLEASE ENSURE THAT APPLICATIONS ARE; COMPLETED WITH THE REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS AND HAVE BEEN RECEIVED AT THE MD OFFICE NO LATER THAN JULY 31, 2025

MD OF SPIRIT RIVER #133

2025 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Student Section

SIN #

Name of Student	Brielle Schoorlemmer
Your Mailing Address &	
Your Physical Address	
Your Phone Number	
Your email address	
What college or University will you be entering in 2025?	
St. Mary's University	
What diploma, degree, or specialty do you expect to pursue?	
Psychology	
Have you previously attended college or university in Canada?	
Yes	
Have you included the required attachments?	

The student must attach the following to the application. ✓



14500 Bannister Rd SE
Calgary, AB T2X 1Z4 Canada
ph 403.531.9130 | fx 403.531.9136
stmu.ca

August 21, 2024

Student ID #

Brielle Schoorlemmer

Dear Brielle,

We are pleased to offer you full acceptance to St. Mary's University for 2024 FALL.

Program:	Bachelor of Arts, 4-Year Degree*
Major:	Psychology
Minor:	Family Studies
Start Date:	September 4, 2024

*Please be advised that you are not eligible for the Bachelor of Education Single-Entry program, as your final admission average is below the required 75 per cent. If your ultimate goal is to pursue a Bachelor of Education degree, you may wish to apply for our Bachelor of Education After-Degree program upon completion of your first degree.

Please log in to your my.StMU account for more information on course delivery.

If you have received academic accommodations in the past or would like more information, please contact access@stmu.ca.

We are excited that you will be joining our community, and we are looking forward to welcoming you in September! Please contact admissions@stmu.ca if you have any questions.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laura Cochrane", followed by a stylized flourish.

Laura Cochrane
Registrar

Beginning in the fall of 2025, I will be entering my second year of post-secondary education as I work to attain a degree in psychology. Planning out the use of this degree comes with many areas of work and differing industries I could pursue leadership within. One of those areas is organizational psychology. This would look like working with businesses and assisting them in operating in a sufficient manner, focusing on maximizing the performance of employees, all with the use of my degree. I seek to maximize my services to many areas, both profitable and voluntary. My objective is based around providing services to the best of my ability.

Within my studies, I am learning valuable skills in working with others. This is seen in varying degrees from group projects to working alongside classmates and professors in which we mutually contribute to one another's success. Being in the city of Calgary for studies, I can meet and live alongside individuals from all backgrounds. This insight into differing viewpoints and ideas provides opportunities to expand my problem-solving skills.

Along with this, I engage in activities that strengthen my interpersonal skills. Through the university, I am participating in the track team. This allows me to travel and meet new people, allowing me to see how differing individuals and cultures engage. Outside of this, I volunteer to work with those who are less fortunate and assist in ways that are possible. With this, I can grasp what priority is for people to then apply this to future leadership roles in which I would need to make decisions on the needs of employees.

I am committed to giving back to the community in ways that are efficient and effective. I believe my degree will help me further my passion for higher levels of assistance. This scholarship would greatly help me in reaching a place where I can improve my performance.

My academic journey and personal experiences are shaping me into a well-rounded individual prepared to make meaningful contributions through the field of psychology. I am committed to using my education to support individuals and communities, both professionally and through volunteer work. Receiving this scholarship would not only ease the financial burden of my studies but also empower me to continue growing as a leader who strives to create positive, lasting change in every environment I enter.

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm so happy to be writing this reference letter for Brielle in support of her application for the Blessed Chiara Luce Award. Brielle has been a joyful and dedicated part of our campus ministry at St. Mary's University. She lives out her faith in a way that's welcoming and genuine, and she's always ready to lend a hand, share a kind word, or invite someone new into the community. Her heart for ministry and the way she quietly leads by example make her such a gift to our campus. Even though this is only her first year with us, Brielle has already made a lasting and positive impact on our community.

Each week, Brielle helps with hospitality at our Fellowship Meal, where she warmly welcomes students, builds community, and makes space for meaningful connection. She's also very intentional about helping new students feel at home in our ministry, often going out of her way to introduce them and draw them into the life of the community. Her consistent presence and joyful witness speak volumes.

Outside of campus ministry, Brielle also serves weekly as a sacristan for the St. Francis Xavier Chaplaincy, where she takes great care in preparing for liturgies and supporting the spiritual life of the community. In addition, she volunteers with faith formation programs through the chaplaincy, including Encounter, an evangelization and proclamation event that welcomes those who are searching and asking questions about the Catholic faith. Her desire to help others encounter Christ is evident in all that she does.

This upcoming academic year, Brielle will be serving on our Student Leadership Council for Campus Ministry, where she'll help plan and lead events that support students in prayer, formation, and fellowship. I have every confidence in her ability to lead with integrity, creativity, and deep care for others.

Brielle embodies the values of this award through her faith, leadership, and desire to serve. I wholeheartedly support her application and believe she would be a very deserving recipient.

Sincerely,

Keelin Kennedy

Campus Ministry Coordinator – St. Mary's University

December 15, 2024

To whom it may concern,

Re: Reference for Brielle Schoorlemmer

I am happy to write this reference letter for Brielle Schoorlemmer. I have known Brielle all her life and it is a great pleasure to see the responsible young lady she has grown up to be. She was born and raised in our small rural community of Rycroft. She grew up on a family farm, learning the importance of helping out in whatever capacity the family farm needs.

Living in small, rural communities requires many volunteers to make programs work. Without dedicated volunteers, our rural communities would not be able to offer all the programs they do. Brielle has grown up learning the importance of this and showed it with her involvement in our church community and her speed skating club.

I have witnessed her work in many volunteering capacities in our church community, whether it is serving mass, reading, singing in the youth choir or helping lead children's liturgy. One of her most helpful volunteer roles was working as a counsellor and a station leader at our annual summer Vacation Bible School, of which I was an organizer. We could always count on Brielle filling whatever role was needed, including running the craft station for up to 40 children. The children looked up to her and respected her leadership. She was also very involved as a camp counsellor at our diocesan bible camp, Camp St. Martin, in addition to being a junior skating coach with the Peace Wapiti Speed Skating Club.

I would like to reiterate what a responsible young adult, Brielle has become. She is a dedicated volunteer, always willing to do whatever is needed.

Sincerely,
Denise Beaupre
Teacher
Member of St. Peter and Paul Church, Rycroft



June 06, 2025

Regarding Brielle Schoorlemmer

I have been Head Coach of the Peace Wapiti Speed Skating Club in Grande Prairie for 20+ years and through several of those years have got to know the Schoorlemmer family. They are immersed in our club with Brielle's brother Ryan being a former competitive skater and now long time coach alongside me.

I have enjoyed coaching Brielle essentially since she was in grade school years on through her becoming a teen and young adult. Brielle is a pleasure to instruct in the sport. She is extremely respectful and polite plus her work ethic extends beyond skating to also assisting with coaching during club practices. She has an enormous heart and younger kids gravitate to her. Speed skating is about efficiency, discipline, practice, positivity and perseverance. Brielle excels in such an environment, backed up by winning races at the club level on through provincial events like the Alberta Winter Games as well as the international stage of the Arctic Winter Games.

I enjoy Brielle's easy, dry humour. Having some smiles at a tough practice is always a good thing. She's a very bright young lady and her skillset will serve her well in further athletic, academic and work environments.

We have five kids with a mix of degrees: civil engineer, corporate lawyer, physics masters program, fine arts, and Brielle very much has the same gritty characteristics of drive, focus and tenacity so she has my wholehearted recommendation for the pursuit she is chasing.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John MacLennan'.

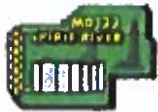
John MacLennan
RE/MAX Grande Prairie REALTOR® 2006
Head Coach Peace Wapiti Speed Skating Club
Grande Prairie, AB



RECEIVED

JUL 25 2025

M.D. of Spirit River



MD of Spirit River #133 2025 Bursaries Program

Eligibility

Applicants must be dependents of residents or residents of the Municipal District of Spirit River #133

Applicants must be entering full-time studies at a post secondary institution in Canada, such as University or community college and on-line programs.

Applicants which will be accepted must be either graduating students and adults wanting to return for upgrading.

Scholarships

Students entering University or College are eligible for \$1,000 scholarship

Selection Criteria

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

Note

This year a total of four scholarships of \$1,000 will be awarded. Please have your applications in before July 31, 2025.

Address

Municipal District of Spirit River #133
Box 389, Spirit River, AB T0H 1G0
Phone (780) 864-3500
Fax (780) 864-4303
Email: mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca

PLEASE ENSURE THAT APPLICATIONS ARE; COMPLETED WITH THE REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS AND HAVE BEEN RECEIVED AT THE MD OFFICE NO LATER THAN JULY 31, 2025

MD OF SPIRIT RIVER #133

2025 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Student Section

SIN #

Name of Student

Marcy Martin-Macdaid

Your Mailing Address &

Your Physical Address

Your Phone Number

Your email address

What college or University will you be entering in 2025?

Lily Gray Academy

What diploma, degree, or specialty do you expect to pursue?

Hairstressing Certification

Have you previously attended college or university in Canada?

Yes

Have you included the required attachments?

The student must attach the following to the application.



Lily Gray Academy

9901 116th Ave, Grande Prairie, AB

780-357-1777

lilygrayacademy@gmail.com

Acceptance Letter of enrolment, Alberta Private Career Colleges Institution number 8932

Full-Time Program

9 Months = 1450 Hours

9:00am – 4:00pm | Tuesday – Friday (1st quarter)

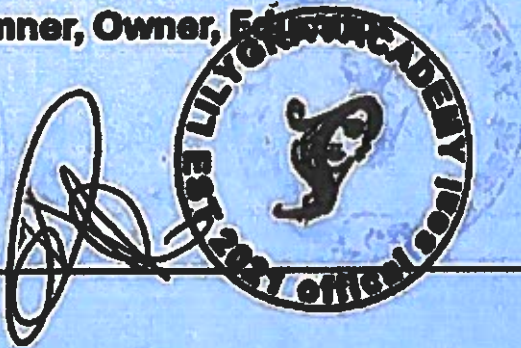
10:00 am – 5:00 pm (2nd quarter)

10:00 am – 5:00 pm (3rd quarter)

Tuition is to be paid upon registration, to provide all books and materials.

We are please to inform you Marcy Martin-Macdald has been placed in our Hair styling Program at Lily Gray Academy, Program start date is June 3rd 2025

Iris Fenner, Owner, Educator



1251 051 06
1251 051 06

Lilygrayacademy.com

780-357-1777

Leaving teaching after 24 years was a huge leap of faith. So much careful thought and deliberation went into my choice about what my life would look like in a new career and what I want the twilight of my working years to look like. I absolutely loved teaching. I loved the connections I made and the difference I truly believe I made over the years. Unfortunately, the increasing demands placed on teachers, the changes in both the mental health of children and their parents since COVID and the unfortunate timing of the implementation of new more difficult curriculum, made it impossible to stay. The toll all this played on my heart and mental health made it necessary to leave. My decision to go into the hairdressing program came down to what reflection on what brought me joy. I think that the twilight of our careers should bring a little joy. After completion of the hairdressing program I would like to go back into the Education system part time as a Cosmetology teacher. Currently our local high school is unable to offer a RAP program in hairdressing. I love this little community so much and would take enormous pride in being someone to pave the way to making our local school a leader in promoting the trades and providing more opportunities for youth in our community. In addition to teaching again, my goal is to open my own salon that specializes in hair restoration as well as hair services for students with developmental disabilities. Having worked with many neurodiverse students (and having a child with Aspergers myself) I know how much this patient, careful, service is needed. These little people have so many sensory difficulties that something as simple as a hair cut can be a big challenge and there are not many salons that have the time and knowledge about these children's unique needs to be able to provide this service without causing a lot of distress for the child and their caregivers. Also, being touched by cancer in my own family and close friends I have felt frustrated that in the north men and women who have lost their hair through illness and treatment have to travel many hours to find a salon to support them during their difficult transition or simply go without. I would feel privileged to be able to help give people a little joy and dignity back during a difficult time.

In closing I just want to thank you for the opportunity to apply for this bursary. I know I am not the "typical" applicant, but it would be such an enormous blessing. It would mean that I am not accumulating as much student debt with only a decade or so (God willing) left to recoup the money it cost to leave employment for a year and pay tuition. Getting this bursary would mean having more time to focus on my program and my family and not have to rush off to another job to just be able to pay the bills. It would make this late life transition so much less stressful. I would also love to be a role model for all other 52 year olds out there - inspiring people to know that age does not need to be a barrier in reaching new dreams.

Thank you,

Marcy Martin-Macdaid

May 26, 2025

To Whom it may concern,

I am the Site Assistant Manager at Pleasant View Lodge in Spirit River. I have known Marcy for many years through our partnership between the Lodge and her Kindergarten classes. One of my main responsibilities for many years in my role at the Lodge was scheduling activities with the seniors at the Lodge and this is how I got to know Marcy. At the start of each school year Marcy would connect with me and we would plan for her monthly visits to the Lodge with each new Kindergarten class. Marcy understood the importance of having children in the Lodge, for both the seniors and the children. Marcy put so much time and effort into this program. Her dedication to her job, her classes and the Senior's in the community is truly very remarkable. Marcy is patient, I've never seen a situation where maybe things weren't working like we hoped but she would just pivot and whatever we were doing would continue without missing a beat.

Marcy is kind, you can tell in the way she talks and treats everyone from her kindergarten students to the seniors in the Lodge. Even during COVID she understood how important it was to keep the connection with our Seniors. We could count on window visits, songs on the deck, costume parades for Halloween, whatever the occasion was she made sure to show up.

Marcy understands that it takes a village. Her dedication, empathy and connection to her community will continue no matter where she goes and what career path she chooses.

It has been my pleasure to get to know Marcy and to work with her over the years. She will be missed by her kindergarten classes and the many seniors that she has gotten to know over the years. I wish her great success in her new path.

Diane Boivin

Site Assistant Manager

Pleasant View Lodge

5120-44 Ave

Spirit River, AB T0H 3G0

780-864-3766

dboivin@grandespirit.org

To Whom It May Concern,

I have had the honour and pleasure of knowing Marcy Martin Macdaid for over fifteen years. Marcy is a truly exceptional individual whose integrity, compassion, and leadership have profoundly impacted our work environment and our community. Having had the privilege of working alongside her for many years, I can confidently attest to her unwavering dedication to helping others and making meaningful contributions, particularly to our young children in her care and our senior citizens in our area.

Marcy is a person of outstanding integrity, always leading by example with honesty and reliability. Her caring and compassionate nature shines through in every interaction, whether assisting a colleague or supporting a community member in need. While working with young students she consistently goes above and beyond to ensure those around her feel valued, respected, and heard.

Beyond personal kindness, Marcy is a conscientious professional who approaches every task with diligence and responsibility. Her helpful and cooperative spirit fosters an environment of teamwork and trust. She is a problem-solver.

One of her most outstanding contributions is her passionate advocacy for the "Gran-Friends" program, which fosters meaningful connections between young children and senior citizens. Under her guidance, Marcy and her students regularly visited residents of the local Senior Citizens Lodge and the long-term care unit of the hospital. Through joyful activities such as games, arts and crafts, singing, exercises, and reading, these visits became more than simple interactions—they blossomed into profound and lasting relationships. The bonds formed between the young and the elderly were deeply enriching, creating a heartfelt sense of care, understanding, and friendship that transcended age. Marcy's commitment to improving the lives of others extends beyond this initiative. Through her compassionate, and hands-on involvement, she continues to uplift those around her. Her remarkable ability to connect with individuals, genuinely listen to their needs, and offer meaningful support is truly admirable.

In every aspect of her professional and personal life, Marcy exemplifies what it means to be a compassionate leader and dedicated community member. Her ability to lead with kindness, and uplift those around her is truly exceptional. It has been an honour to witness her positive impact firsthand, and I have no doubt that her influence will continue to inspire and bring lasting benefits to many. With the utmost admiration and appreciation, I celebrate Marcy for all she has done and continues to do.

Sincerely,

Patricia Imes

Ste. Marie School

Spirit River, AB T0H 3G0



STE. MARIE R.C. SCHOOL

Box 247, Spirit River, Alberta, Canada, T0H 3G0

Phone: (780) 864-3585 Fax: (780) 864-4446

May 21, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my pleasure to recommend Marcy Martin-Macdaid as a worthy candidate for scholarship support as she pursues further studies. Marcy is an intelligent, motivated, and compassionate individual who demonstrates exceptional leadership and a strong commitment to community service.

I had the privilege of studying alongside Marcy at the University of Alberta's Teacher Education North Program. With an academic background in psychology, Marcy pursued further education in teaching to expand her skill set and gain practical experience in a school setting. Her dedication to lifelong learning is evident in her ongoing efforts to grow professionally and personally.

For the past nine years, I have had the pleasure of serving as Marcy's principal at Ste. Marie School. During this time, I have come to know her as a dedicated and dependable educator. Despite holding a part-time teaching contract, Marcy consistently goes above and beyond, contributing additional hours and effort to ensure her students receive the best possible support. She is diligent, articulate, and brings a thoughtful, reflective presence to all aspects of her work.

Marcy's leadership extends beyond the classroom. She has demonstrated a deep commitment to community engagement, particularly through organizing and leading student visits to local senior centers and hospitals. Her efforts to foster intergenerational connections and provide care for the elderly have been recognized within our school community, and I proudly nominated her for awards recognizing outstanding community service.

Marcy is a thoughtful leader, a compassionate community member, and a dedicated educator. I am confident that she will bring the same level of excellence and commitment to her future studies and endeavors. I offer my full support for her application and wish her continued success.

Sincerely,
Carla Knezevich

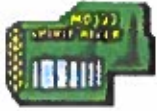


Principal, Ste. Marie School

RECEIVED

JUL 25 2025

M.D. of Spirit River



MD of Spirit River #133 2025 Bursaries Program

Eligibility

- Applicants must be dependents of residents or residents of the Municipal District of Spirit River #133
- Applicants must be entering full-time studies at a post secondary institution in Canada, such as University or community college and on-line programs.
- Applicants which will be accepted must be either graduating students and adults wanting to return for upgrading.

Scholarships

Students entering University or College are eligible for \$1,000 scholarship

Selection Criteria

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

Note

This year a total of four scholarships of \$1,000 will be awarded. Please have your applications in before July 31, 2025.

Address

Municipal District of Spirit River #133
Box 389, Spirit River, AB T0H 1G0
Phone (780) 864-3500
Fax (780) 864-4303
Email: mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca

PLEASE ENSURE THAT APPLICATIONS ARE; COMPLETED WITH THE REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS AND HAVE BEEN RECEIVED AT THE MD OFFICE NO LATER THAN JULY 31, 2025

MD OF SPIRIT RIVER #133

2025 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Student Section

SIN #

Name of Student

Anaya Martin-Marchant

Your Mailing Address &

Your Physical Address

Your Phone Number

Your email address

What college or University will you be entering in 2025?

Lily Grey Academy

What diploma, degree, or specialty do you expect to pursue?

Diploma program

Have you previously attended college or university in Canada?

No

Have you included the required attachments?

The student must attach the following to the application.



Lily Gray Academy

9901 116th Ave, Grande Prairie, AB

780-357-1777

lilygrayacademy@gmail.com

Acceptance Letter of enrolment, Alberta Private Career Colleges Institution number 8932

Full-Time Program

9 Months = 1450 Hours

9:00am - 4:00pm | Tuesday - Friday (1st quarter)

10:00 am - 5:00 pm (2nd quarter)

10:00 am - 5:00 pm (3rd quarter)

Tuition is to be paid upon registration, to provide all books and materials.

We are please to inform you Anaya Macdald has been placed in our Hair styling Program at Lily Gray Academy, Program start date is June 3rd 2025

Iris Fenner, Owner, Educator



125105106

Lilygrayacademy.com

780-357-1777

Ever since I started volunteering, I've realized how much I love helping others feel good about themselves. Whether it was bringing animals to visit seniors at the Long Term Care Center or helping out at school events, I've always felt proud knowing I was making someone's day a little better. These experiences taught me the power of a simple act of kindness, and that's why I'm so excited to study hairdressing after high school. It's not just about doing hair; it's about making people feel confident, happy, and seen.

Hairdressing is a unique way to connect with people. Every day, I'll have the opportunity to listen to their stories, learn about their lives, and help them express who they are through their appearance. I think that's such a powerful and meaningful way to make a difference. In my post-secondary training, I will learn the professional skills needed for cutting, coloring, and styling hair. But beyond that, I'll grow in important areas like confidence, communication, and customer service. These skills will help me become a strong leader in my future workplace and community.

One day, I hope to open my own salon where everyone feels welcome and valued. I would love to offer free or discounted services to people who can't always afford them, like seniors, single parents, or students. I also want to create a program for schools where families can bring their students in for free haircuts and learn about hair care, including tips for different hair textures and colors.

Studying hairdressing will allow me to turn my passion into a career where I can give back. I know I have a lot to learn, but I'm ready to work hard and grow; not just as a stylist, but as someone who wants to help others and make a difference.

Leadership & Community Involvement Experience

Long Term Care Center – Volunteer Animal Companion Program

Role: Animal Visit Volunteer

At the Long Term Care Center, I volunteered by bringing chickens, cats, and dogs to visit with patients and residents. These visits offered therapeutic companionship and brought joy to individuals who may have otherwise felt isolated or lonely. My role involved coordinating the safe transport of animals, engaging in meaningful conversations with residents, and offering a calm and friendly presence during visits.

Through this experience, I strengthened my compassion, emotional intelligence, and interpersonal communication skills. It reinforced my belief that small acts of kindness—like spending time with someone—can have a powerful impact on their daily life.

Ste Marie Catholic School – Classroom & Event Volunteer

Role: Kindergarten Classroom Assistant & Event Organizer

I volunteered in the kindergarten classroom at Ste Marie Catholic School, supporting teachers and students in a variety of daily activities. I assisted with arts and crafts, helped lead songs, and played with students during recess. Additionally, I coordinated a school-wide BBQ lunch, managing logistics and helping to ensure the event ran smoothly for all grade levels.

This opportunity allowed me to practice patience, develop strong leadership and communication skills, and gain a deeper appreciation for early childhood education. It also provided me the chance to build positive relationships within the school community and contribute to a joyful learning environment.

Spirit River Regional Academy – School-Based Volunteer Roles

Roles: First Responder Program Volunteer & Sports Scorekeeper

At Spirit River Regional Academy, I took part in volunteer initiatives that supported both safety and school spirit. As a first responder volunteer, I contributed to the health and emergency preparedness of the school community, staying alert and responsive to potential incidents. I also served as a scorekeeper for the annual Early Bird Volleyball Tournament, a major event that required accuracy, focus, and reliable timekeeping.

These roles demanded a high level of responsibility, attention to detail, and teamwork. They also allowed me to give back to my school community in meaningful and timely ways.

May 6, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter of recommendation in support of Anaya Macdaid as she applies for scholarship opportunities. I had the privilege of teaching Anaya during grades seven and eight, and I can confidently say that she is one of the most motivated and well-rounded students I have encountered in my teaching career.

From the outset, Anaya demonstrated an exceptional work ethic and a genuine love of learning. Even during the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and the shift to online education, she remained highly engaged and self-driven. She often went above and beyond the assigned curriculum, seeking out additional learning opportunities and consistently striving for excellence.

In addition to her academic achievements, Anaya stands out for her creativity and artistic talent. Her ability to think outside the box and approach projects with originality added a unique dimension to our classroom. Her artistic contributions were not only impressive but also reflective of her thoughtful and imaginative nature.

In recognition of her outstanding academic record and meaningful involvement in both the school and wider community, Anaya was selected as our Grade 8 valedictorian. This honor speaks to her consistent dedication, leadership, and impact throughout her middle school years.

Anaya is also an accomplished athlete, having played on both our basketball and volleyball teams. She continued her athletic pursuits throughout highschool as well, particularly in hockey. Her sportsmanship, teamwork, and perseverance were evident both on and off the court. She was a key member of our Micro Society government, where her leadership and sense of responsibility shone brightly. Whether leading initiatives or collaborating with peers, she always demonstrated maturity, initiative, and integrity.

Beyond school, Anaya showed a deep sense of compassion and community spirit. She regularly spent time at a local long-term care center with her family and peers, engaging with seniors and bringing joy to their lives. This speaks volumes about her character, empathy, and commitment to serving others.

In all areas—academic, artistic, athletic, and civic—Anaya Macdaid is a truly outstanding young person. I have no doubt that she will thrive in any environment and continue to make meaningful contributions to her community. I wholeheartedly recommend her for any scholarship consideration. Please contact me via email should you have any questions at shannonsaastad@gpcsd.ca.

Sincerely,

Shannon Saastad

May 7, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in reference to Anaya Macdaid and her application for scholarship opportunities. I have had the privilege of teaching Anaya in her Grade 12 year (2024-2025) at Spirit River Regional Academy (SRRA) and have known her as a student since her Grade 10 year.

Anaya is a mature, responsible, and respectful individual. As a student, she was independent, organized, and focused on completing her studies. She consistently strives to achieve with every task she takes on. She works towards personal development and takes advantage of opportunities to learn and grow.

Anaya is an engaged individual in our community. She has served as part of the EMS cadets program at our school, receiving specialized training and providing first aid to students and staff. She has received lifeguard training and worked in the community for a number of summers as a lifeguard. Anaya has volunteered in the wider Spirit River community by volunteering at the Long Term Care facility to connect with residents, as well as the kindergarten class at Ste. Marie Catholic School.

Anaya plans to complete the Hairstyling program at the Lily Gray Academy in Grande Prairie. I have no doubt that she will successfully complete this program, as she is responsible and diligent. Anaya will most likely return to the area to work and live, further contributing skills and services to our northern rural community by potentially opening a small business.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school through either email (jacquelinecoates@pwpsd.ca) or phone call (780-864-3696).

Sincerely,



Jacqueline Coates

Teacher
Spirit River Regional Academy

Tuesday, May 20th, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my absolute pleasure to write this letter of recommendation for Anaya, a remarkable young woman who I have had the honor of coaching in Track and Field and teaching in Outdoor Education during her time in high school at Spirit River Regional Academy. Anaya is a hardworking, driven, and compassionate individual whose dedication to excellence both on and off the field is inspiring.

As a Track and Field athlete, Anaya has shown tremendous resilience and determination. She qualified for provincials two years in a row—a testament to her work ethic, discipline, and ability to perform under pressure. She consistently pushed herself, and her teammates, to achieve their personal bests. Beyond her athletic accomplishments, Anaya demonstrated leadership and kindness in all team settings. I was particularly touched to be invited to a pre-competition team dinner she organized—an event that highlighted not only her thoughtfulness but also her initiative and team spirit.

Before I coached Anaya, I had the opportunity to teach her in Grade 10 Outdoor Education. During our class camping trip, Anaya stood out as an engaged and enthusiastic leader. She supported her group in every task, from setting up camp to participating in outdoor activities. Her natural leadership and integrity made her a vital part of the class dynamic.

Outside of school, Anaya's commitment to athletics has been just as impressive. She recently completed her final season of minor hockey after playing for over 14 years—a journey marked by multiple awards including Most Dedicated, Most Improved, and the Coaches Award. Before the pandemic, she was also a competitive swimmer for more than two years, earning similar accolades for her perseverance and growth.

Anaya's history in athletics, leadership in school activities, and strong sense of community will serve her well in the trades, especially in the hairstyling profession. She brings with her a deep understanding of discipline, attention to detail, and above all, genuine care for others—qualities that are essential in any client-facing career.

I wholeheartedly recommend Anaya for any scholarship opportunities she pursues. She will bring the same level of excellence, dedication, and kindness to her post-secondary education as she has to every area of her life so far. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Sincerely,



Ms. Stephanie Bell
Coach & Educator
Spirit River Regional Academy
stephaniebell@pwpsd.ca
(780) 864-3696



MD of Spirit River #133 2025 Bursaries Program

RECEIVED
JUL 31 2025
M.D. of Spirit River

Eligibility

- Applicants must be dependents of residents or residents of the Municipal District of Spirit River #133
- Applicants must be entering full-time studies at a post secondary institution in Canada, such as University or community college and on-line programs.
- Applicants which will be accepted must be either graduating students and adults wanting to return for upgrading.

Scholarships

Students entering University or College are eligible for \$1,000 scholarship

Selection Criteria

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

Note

This year a total of four scholarships of \$1,000 will be awarded. Please have your applications in before July 31, 2025.

Address

Municipal District of Spirit River #133
Box 389, Spirit River, AB T0H 1G0
Phone (780) 864-3500
Fax (780) 864-4303
Email: mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca

PLEASE ENSURE THAT APPLICATIONS ARE; COMPLETED WITH THE REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS AND HAVE BEEN RECEIVED AT THE MD OFFICE NO LATER THAN JULY 31, 2025

MD OF SPIRIT RIVER #133

2025 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Student Section

SIN #

Name of Student

Nathan Medard

Your Mailing Address &

Your Physical Address

Your Phone Number

Your email address

What college or University will you be entering in 2025?

University of Alberta

What diploma, degree, or specialty do you expect to pursue?

Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD)

Have you previously attended college or university in Canada?

Yes (Northwestern Polytechnic)

Have you included the required attachments?

The student must attach the following to the application.

**OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR**

Administration Building
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2M7
Tel: 780/492-3113
Fax: 780/492-1172
Web: www.registraroffice.ualberta.ca

May 29, 2025

Nathan (Nathan) James Macdaid

Dear Nathan,

Congratulations! We are pleased to admit you into the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Alberta. This letter contains important information about your admission offer. Please review carefully.

Please download a copy of your admission letter for your records. You will be able to access your admission letter in Launchpad until the Winter term add/delete deadline of the academic year in which you were admitted. Add/delete deadlines are included in the University Calendar.

Faculty: Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
Program: Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD)

Term: Fall 2025

UAlberta Student ID:
CCID: macdaid

ACCEPT YOUR ADMISSION OFFER

To confirm your intention to attend the University of Alberta, you will need to accept your offer and pay a non-refundable tuition deposit by the deadline indicated in the UAlberta Launchpad portal. Find out more about the tuition deposit and how to pay. Exemptions may apply.

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

The University of Alberta offers more than \$28 million in undergraduate awards each year. Learn more and apply online at our Awards website.

Nathan Macdaid

I believe that the key to maintaining wellbeing in a community lies within our ability to provide healthcare to those within our community. And as I grew up in a rural northern community I have seen that alongside our doctors and medical assistants, pharmacists have been key in maintaining wellbeing within the community. Which is accomplished through both their duties to provide prescriptions, and also through their wealth of medical knowledge which they use to provide professional medical assistance to those within the community. And as I attend post-secondary education to achieve a doctorate of pharmacy, I hope to maintain the gold standard set by my community's pharmacists. Additionally access to healthcare in the North is quite limited, and pharmacists have taken up the mantle to provide quality healthcare and ease the burden on our Doctors and healthcare assistants. The other side of maintaining wellbeing within a community is by encouraging community involvement. As I lived in this community I had noticed the sense of intimacy within it that had been created through the various events such as Spirit Days, and Canada day celebration, and also through the personal connections which the people in town seek to create. I had always enjoyed this aspect in our community and I could only hope that, after my post-secondary education, I can come back and continue to develop personal connections within the community, and also create new ones. And also contribute to the events within our community in a meaningful way. Thank you for your consideration, and also the opportunity which scholarships and bursaries such as yours provide, to make education more accessible for people determined to pursue post-secondary education.

Spirit River Regional Academy

4501-46 Street - Bag 2500
Spirit River, Alberta T0H 3G0
Tel: 780 864-3696
Fax: 780 864-4076

RE: Nathan Macdaid

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter on behalf of Nathan Macdaid. I have had the privilege of teaching Nathan Chemistry 20 and 30 at Spirit River Regional Academy. My experiences with Nathan in my class have allowed me to gladly write this letter of reference for him.

Nathan is an exceptionally hard-working student. His work ethic and determination to reach his goals are admirable. He continually gives his best effort in class and helps those around him who struggle in their schoolwork. Nathan's ability to maintain a high academic standing has been consistent throughout his time here. He has regularly maintained an average well above 80% in his classes. Nathan often displays a level of academic excellence not demonstrated from any student most years. I have no doubt that Nathan's academic achievements will continue into his post-secondary pursuits.

Please accept my recommendation for Nathan. He is a worthy recipient, and his post-secondary pursuits are an excellent investment.

Sincerely,



Garth Stone
Science Teacher
Spirit River Regional Academy

*SRRA - Success, Responsibility, Respect, and Achievement
"Home of the Renegades"*

Letter of Reference

May 01, 2023

To whom it may concern,

My name is Jared Stranaghan, and I am a local business owner and operator in the town of Spirit River. When I am not at our business you could find me coaching or refereeing hockey at our local arena. I was asked by Nathan Macdaid to write a Letter of Reference on his behalf, and I could not have been more pleased.

I met Nathan five years ago when we moved to Spirit River, and I applied to be the head coach of the U15 hockey team. Nathan, a forward on the team was a blast to coach. He would arrive early to games and practices ready and willing to work hard, not only on the team's skills but also on his personal goals. With a positive, optimistic attitude and personal drive, Nathan was a power on our team. His kind demeanor and leadership skills were always visible. Nathan would see the positive in every situation and could work through tough moments to come out on top.

His dedication and willingness to work hard to get the job done made him a team leader, granting him the title of Assistant Captain in our 2022/23 hockey season.

I am excited to see where Nathan's future leads him!

If you would like to speak further about my experience coaching Nathan, please email me at jared@stranaghan.com or call me at 780-441-1111

Sincerely,

Jared Stranaghan

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to recommend Nathan Macdaid for any scholarship that emphasizes service. As the principal of Ste. Marie School, I have had the privilege of observing Nathan's growth and development for many years.

Nathan is a remarkable individual who has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to serving others. Throughout his kindergarten to grade 8 school years, Nathan has been actively involved in various volunteer initiatives, both within and outside of our school community. They have consistently demonstrated a strong sense of compassion and dedication to making a positive impact in the lives of others and our community.

I was able to witness Nathan's contribution to many community people and events. He was active in volunteering at the long-term care in the hospital and visiting the seniors at the Pleasant View Lodge. Most impressive though was the way he went outside of the school hours and continued to volunteer at the hospital bringing in his pets for pet therapy. Nathan's ability to inspire his peers to take action was truly remarkable and a testament to his leadership skills and heart of serving the community.

In addition to his volunteer work, Nathan has excelled academically, consistently achieving high grades and demonstrating a strong work ethic and a natural drive to learn. He was our grade 8 valedictorian and was able to add humor and inspiration in leading his classmates to a high school.

Overall, I have no doubt that Nathan would be an excellent candidate for any scholarship that emphasizes service. His dedication, leadership skills, and passion for serving others are truly exceptional, and I am confident that he will continue to make a positive impact in his community and beyond.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information or clarification.

Sincerely,

Carla Knezerich

Principal, Ste. Marie School

RECEIVED

JUL 29 2025

M.D. of Spirit River



MD of Spirit River #133 2025 Bursaries Program

Eligibility

Applicants must be dependents of residents or residents of the Municipal District of Spirit River #133

Applicants must be entering full-time studies at a post secondary institution in Canada, such as University or community college and on-line programs.

Applicants which will be accepted must be either graduating students and adults wanting to return for upgrading.

Scholarships

Students entering University or College are eligible for \$1,000 scholarship

Selection Criteria

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

Note

This year a total of four scholarships of \$1,000 will be awarded. Please have your applications in before July 31, 2025.

Address

Municipal District of Spirit River #133
Box 389, Spirit River, AB T0H 1G0
Phone (780) 864-3500
Fax (780) 864-4303
Email: mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca

PLEASE ENSURE THAT APPLICATIONS ARE; COMPLETED WITH THE REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS AND HAVE BEEN RECEIVED AT THE MD OFFICE NO LATER THAN JULY 31, 2025

MD OF SPIRIT RIVER #133

2025 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Student Section

SIN #

Name of Student

Korben Knezevich

Your Mailing Address &

Your Physical Address

Your Phone Number

Your email address

What college or University will you be entering in 2025?

NORTHWESTERN POLYTECHNIC

What diploma, degree, or specialty do you expect to pursue?

APPRENTICE ELECTRICIAN

Have you previously attended college or university in Canada?

NO

Have you included the required attachments?

The student must attach the following to the application.

YES

From: apprenticeship@nwpolytech.ca <apprenticeship@nwpolytech.ca>
 Sent: Monday, July 14, 2025 4:00:03 PM
 To: |
 Subject: Apprenticeship Registration Confirmation



Dear Korben,

We are confirming that you are ENROLLED in the following Apprenticeship Program with NWP:

Campus: Grande Prairie Campus*
 Program: 1st Year Apprentice Electrician
 Dates: Oct 27, 2025 - Dec 19, 2025
 Class Code:
 NWP ID:
 AIT No:
 *Trades and Technology Building 10532 - 102 Avenue

Orientation:

Orientation and Classes start on day one. Attendance is mandatory for all scheduled dates in an apprenticeship. You are responsible for notifying NWP if you will not be attending the first class. In the event you are not in attendance, you will have until the second class day at 2 PM to contact NWP. Failure to contact NWP may result in you being removed from the class without notice and no refund will be issued.

Electrical programs are located in the Trades and Technology Building. The Millwright, Parts, and Instrumentation programs are located in the Main Building. The Welding program is located on the main campus in M'Wing. The Program Assistant will email you closer to the start of your program with additional information.

Residence Information:

Looking for housing/residence? Feel free to reach out to our Residence Office for more information: <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/services/housing/>.

Registration Changes:

Requests must be submitted, in writing, to apprenticeship@nwpolytech.ca by the end of the business day (4:30pm MST) prior to the first day of class. This can also be done in person on our Grande Prairie or Fairview campus. Please make sure your full name, apprenticeship number or your NWP Student ID are included in your email along with your request.

Transferring to another class within the same academic year will need to be completed manually. Forward your email request to the apprenticeship inbox. Subject to seat availability.

Withdrawing: can be done online through your myTradesecrets account or by sending an email to the apprenticeship inbox. Please see the Refund Policy for more information.

Korben Knezevich

July 21, 2025

Korben Knezevich
MD 133
Spirit River, AB

Dear Scholarship Committee,

My name is Korben, and I am currently in my first year of the Electrical Apprenticeship Program while working with Prodigy Tech Group in the Peace Country. This apprenticeship is not just a career path for me, it's a foundation for leadership and community service.

Through my post-secondary training, I am gaining both technical expertise and essential soft skills. The combination of classroom instruction and hands-on experience under the guidance of seasoned journeypersons is teaching me the importance of teamwork, problem-solving, and accountability. These are the qualities that define effective leadership in trades.

At the completion of my program, I would be interested in mentoring new apprentices in rural communities like ours, where the scarcity of experienced guidance is a real barrier. Many aspiring tradespeople begin without anyone to teach them the ropes, small-town companies often lack the size or resources to support formal mentorship.

I'm also active in my community beyond work. I volunteer with the Knights of Columbus, helping serve breakfast on Spirit Days and participating in the annual Festival of Trees event. At these gatherings, I assist with setup, food service, and roles that reinforce teamwork, hospitality, and service. Contributing to these community traditions has strengthened my connection to Peace Country and deepened my commitment to helping others through action. I particularly enjoy mentoring the young athletes and have included reference letters from a few years ago when I had the opportunity to help with the hockey community.

Thank you for considering my application. Supporting apprentices in our community isn't just part of my job, it's part of my commitment to the future of trades in Peace Country.

Sincerely,

Korben Knezevich

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Volunteer | Women's Shelter, Grande Prairie, AB
May 2024

- Donated essential items and supported community fundraising to assist women escaping domestic violence.

School Mass Volunteer (*Hospital & Senior Lodge Visits*) | Spirit River, AB
with Ste. Marie School

- Participated in school-led visits offering companionship and spiritual support to hospital patients and senior citizens.
- Crafted greeting cards and led hymn sessions for residents and patients monthly

Volunteer | Knights of Columbus Community Breakfast, Spirit River, AB
June 2024

- Assisted with meal preparation, serving, and cleanup at a community breakfast event.

Event Volunteer | Festival of Trees, Grande Prairie, AB
Nov 2023

- Assisted with set up and take down for the festival

Mentor Skating Volunteer | Grande Prairie Storm
2023-24 Season

- Fostered community engagement and confidence in young skaters through positive mentorship on the ice.

Date: July 20, 2025
Shannon Saastad
Ste. Marie School

To whom it may concern,

I am pleased to recommend Korben Knezevich for your bursary to help with his electrical apprenticeship. I taught him in Junior High School 2019-2021, during the COVID-19 remote learning period—a time when learning took place entirely online. Despite this, Korben consistently demonstrated exceptional motivation, initiative, and a sincere eagerness to learn.

Although he could not attend in person, Korben submitted assignments promptly, often exceeded expectations, and asked thoughtful questions that reflected a genuine interest in the material. He adapted quickly to digital platforms, proactively sought feedback, and supported classmates during group discussions—which speaks to strong technical aptitude and people skills.

Beyond remote learning, Korben volunteered across other grade levels before Covid and once in-person activities resumed. He eagerly assisted younger students during school events, served at community service programs, and participated with enthusiasm in school-led volunteering initiatives. His leadership and willingness to help reflect a natural fit for a trades-based apprenticeship.

Korben's reliability, positive character, and proactive attitude make him a strong candidate for apprenticeship training. I am confident he will thrive in an electrical trade environment, given his demonstrated work habit, adaptability, and dedication to service.

I wholeheartedly support Korben's scholarship application and believe he will approach this opportunity with the same commitment and integrity he brought through the pandemic and beyond.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like any further information.

Sincerely,
Shannon Saastad



March 10, 2022

RE: Reference Korben Knezevich

To whom it may concern,

This letter is to provide reference for Korben Knezevich and his application to the **GPAC- Outstanding Peace Country Prospect Bursary**. I am currently coaching Korben for the second consecutive year. Korben always exemplifies the qualities of a committed athlete.

Korben consistently works hard at every aspect of the game. Whether in practice, at dryland, during video sessions, etc. he is always engaged working to get himself better. His work ethic helps to establish a standard for his teammates. Anyone who goes against Korben in practice will need to match his effort or be left behind.

Korben is committed to improvement. During practice he always pushes himself to practice skills that he may be struggling with or wanting to improve on. While often it is easier for athletes to do things, they are good at in practice, Korben works at skills and tactics that he wants to improve on. He is constantly asking questions of his coaches to get feedback, is open to suggestions and willing to put any extra work to achieve his goal of constant improvement. His commitment to improvement can be seen in his skating. Throughout last season and this, he worked closely with coaches and power skating coaches to further develop his skating skills and he has become one of our most skilled skaters as a result. His ability to maneuver in limited space is a direct result of his work ethic, coachability and commitment to improvement.

Korben is a complete player. He works hard, is skilled and coachable and can be trusted by his teammates to do the right thing. He is positive and kind athlete, and he is always willing to challenge his teammates to behave in a similar way. He has been a pleasure to coach, and he would be a deserving recipient of this bursary.

Regards,

Paul Therrien
Head Coach
Boston Pizza U16 AAA Storm

Grande Peace Athletic Club (GPAC)

Peace Country Prospect Bursary (re: Korben Knezevich)

Dear GPAC Bursary Committee,

Hello, my name is Tyler Vollman, I am writing this letter of reference as a community member that aided in the development of Korben Knezevich both as a hockey player and a person. I had the privilege to Head Coach Korben, Novice through Atom in Spirit River, and had him as part of a development group through my company Conquer Hockey. The criterion for this bursary is an indication of leadership, for which Korben defines.

Korben has committed himself to getting better and better both pre-GPAC, and year over year with GPAC. Korben is a team player that wants not only to improve himself, but to challenge teams and people to be better. This personality allows success and growth on and off the ice. Korben is a top tier student, but perhaps most importantly, having a wife as a teacher I know that he is viewed as the leader of a school – the one that respects, includes, cares, and wants what is best for everyone. As an example, Korben took on a leadership role in one of his schools through a microsocociety program, where he managed a sports business and pulled in customers of all ages; students just wanted to be part of Korben's team and business!

Korben is always willing to help and has a love for hockey that goes beyond the normal. Korben assisted when available to help Conquer Hockey development sessions for younger players. I appreciated that I never had to ask, Korben just wanted to be on the ice helping. Within our small community, Korben always takes advantage of personal growth opportunities, stepping up to help with functions and taking on small job positions to help fund his journey.

There is no better ambassador for GPAC and Peace Country import players. Korben wears his GPAC gear with pride, does not forget his roots, and is a positive role model always. When Korben is at the local rink his smile is impeccable and his presence on youth athletes is unmatched. Korben participates in shinny and free ice whenever possible which helps not only himself, but it shows the younger crowd how hard work and dedication pays off and to not lose the fun in the game. Usually, the ice gets split up with a stronger and older crowd and a weaker and younger crowd – Korben participates in both! Often, we get players that leave a small community and with that they forget the roots and the big picture of the impact they get to have on the next batch of players for elite hockey play with GPAC.

In closing, I was fortunate to be a mentor for Korben, but Korben is special and in many ways was a mentor himself to teammates and community members. I highly recommend rewarding Korben with this bursary for his hockey and academic talent, commitment, and leadership.



Sincerely,

Tyler Vollman



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133

MEETING:
MEETING DATE:
ORIGINATED BY:
TITLE:

RM-09-25
August 6th , 2025
Dan Dibbelt, CAO

Rail Safety Week Proclamation
MD Spirit River No.133

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL

Rail Safety Week is an annual event held in partnership with Operation Lifesaver, a national public/private partnership dedicated to raising awareness about rail safety. The event aims to educate citizens on the dangers of ignoring safety warnings at level crossings and trespassing on railway property.

CN, a major railway operator with routes in our community, works to promote a culture of safety. According to Operation Lifesaver, hundreds of avoidable incidents occur annually in North America, resulting in serious injuries or fatalities. These incidents are preventable through increased public awareness and education.

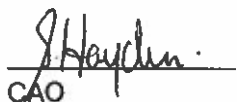
A proclamation from Council would demonstrate our community's commitment to this important public safety issue and support the efforts of CN and Operation Lifesaver to save lives and prevent injuries.

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION

That Council declare September 15th – 21st, 2025 as Rail Safety Week in the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133.

Or

That Council direct Administration accordingly.


 CAO

Shirley Hayden

From: MD of Spirit River 133
Sent: July 14, 2025 12:50 PM
To: Shirley Hayden
Subject: FW: Rail Safety Week 2025 | Proclamation request
Attachments: Resolution_Canada_EN.pdf

Lori Witts
MD #133 of Spirit River
780-864-3500
780-864-4303
mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca

This e-mail may contain privileged, private, proprietary or confidential information which is intended only for the intended recipient. If you are not the intended recipient, or the person responsible for delivering this message to the intended recipient, you are notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please reply with the notation "Received in Error" in the subject line and delete the e-mail from your computer.

Ce courriel renferme des renseignements privilégiés, privés, exclusifs ou confidentiels et est destiné uniquement à l'usage de la personne à laquelle il est adressé. S'il ne vous est pas destiné ou si vous n'avez pas la responsabilité de le remettre à son destinataire, sachez que toute diffusion, distribution ou reproduction en est strictement interdite. Si vous avez reçu ce courriel par erreur, veuillez en informer l'auteur, en indiquant dans le champ «Objet :» la mention «Courriel reçu par erreur», et le supprimer immédiatement.

From: Janet Drysdale <janet.drysdale@cn.ca>
Sent: July 14, 2025 12:02 PM
To: MD of Spirit River 133 <mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca>
Subject: Rail Safety Week 2025 | Proclamation request

Dear Reeve Rootselaar,

Rail Safety Week will take place across Canada from September 15 to 21, 2025.

For more than 20 years, CN has partnered with Operation Lifesaver Canada (OL) to raise public awareness about the dangers of crossing and trespassing on railway property. In recent years, we have seen disturbing spikes in deaths and serious injuries related to both. Inattention and distraction at crossings, risky behaviours on and around trains, the rise of homeless encampments along rail corridors, and mental health crises are all factors driving the recent, negative reversal in trendlines.

As valued neighbours and partners in promoting community safety, CN and OL together would like to ask your council to join us in raising awareness about the critical issue of rail safety by adopting the enclosed [proclamation](#).

Your leadership plays a vital role in educating the public about the risks associated with inattention at railway crossings and trespassing on train tracks and other rail infrastructure. Rail Safety is a shared responsibility, everyone has a role to play. By signing the proclamation and encouraging public

RESOLUTION
IN SUPPORT OF RAIL SAFETY WEEK

WHEREAS *Rail Safety Week* is to be held across Canada from September 15 to 21, 2025;

WHEREAS, 261 railway crossing and trespassing incidents occurred in Canada in 2024; resulting in 68 avoidable fatalities and 58 avoidable serious injuries;

WHEREAS, educating and informing the public about rail safety (reminding the public that railway rights-of-way are private property, enhancing public awareness of the dangers associated with highway rail grade crossings, ensuring pedestrians and motorists are looking and listening while near railways, and obeying established traffic laws) will reduce the number of avoidable fatalities and injuries cause by incidents involving trains and citizens; and

WHEREAS Operation Lifesaver is a public/private partnership whose aim is to work with the public, rail industry, governments, indigenous communities, police services, media and others to raise rail safety awareness;

WHEREAS CN and Operation Lifesaver have requested City Council adopt this resolution in support of its ongoing efforts to raise awareness, save lives and prevent injuries in communities, including our municipality;

It is proposed by Councillor _____

seconded by Councillor _____

It is hereby **RESOLVED** to support national ***Rail Safety Week*** to be held from September 15 to 21, 2025.

engagement, your municipality will help foster a culture of safety and prevention and we would be honoured to publicly acknowledge your commitment to this cause.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Julianne Threlfall, your local CN Public Affairs representative, at julianne.threlfall@cn.ca.

For more information:

- Questions or concerns about rail safety in your community, contact our Public Inquiry Line at 1-888-888-5909
- For additional information about Rail Safety Week 2025 visit cn.ca/RailSafety or operationlifesaver.ca
- Let us know how you promote rail safety in your community by posting on cn.ca/RSW2025
- For any questions about this proclamation, please email RSW@cn.ca
- Visit cn.ca/RSW-toolkit to access the Rail Safety Week toolkit which includes resources to help you further promote rail safety education in your community

Thank you in advance for your support.



Janet Drysdale
CN Senior Vice-President and
Chief Stakeholder Relations Officer



Shawn Will
CN Chief of Police and
Chief Security Officer



Chris Day
Operation Lifesaver
Interim National Director





MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133

MEETING:
MEETING DATE:
ORIGINATED BY:
TITLE:

RM-09-25
August 6th, 2025
Dan Dibbelt, CAO

Request for Support:
Veterans House Canada
Edmonton Location

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL

Veterans' House Canada (VHC) is a national charity dedicated to reducing chronic homelessness among military veterans by providing permanent, affordable, and supportive housing. VHC is the only charity in Canada offering this unique solution and has successfully opened its first home, the Andy Carswell building, in Ottawa.

VHC has announced that its second home will be built in Edmonton, Alberta, in 2025. The Edmonton City Council Executive Committee approved the sale of a 1.46-acre parcel of land in the Athlone neighbourhood for this purpose on December 6, 2023.

The Edmonton project is projected to cost approximately \$16 million, with \$10 million already secured through government funding. VHC is seeking to raise the remaining \$6 million through private donations and sponsorships. The attached materials outline the Dedication & Sponsorship opportunities available.

It is estimated that between 3,000 to 5,000 homeless veterans are living in Canada, many of whom face mental health issues, addiction, and physical disabilities. This project will provide veterans-only housing with access to support programs, counseling, and peer mentoring, facilitated by dedicated on-site staff.

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION

That Council receive the request from Veterans' House Canada for sponsorship of its Edmonton housing project, and direct Administration accordingly.

Given the contribution amount council wishes to donate to the project, sponsorship funds would come from the General Donations over \$100.00 or reserves.


 CAO



\$6M Alberta Fundraising Capital Campaign

"To help homeless veterans build a better future by providing permanent, affordable, supportive housing"

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO.133
4202 - 50TH ST.
SPIRIT RIVER AB T0H 3G0

June 23, 2025

Dear Louise,

Veterans' House Canada (VHC) is a national charity dedicated to reducing chronic homelessness among military veterans by providing permanent, affordable and supportive housing. We are the only charity in Canada offering this unique solution.

VHC is excited to announce, in 2025 our second home to be built in Edmonton, Alberta, following the successful opening of our first home The Andy Carswell building in Ottawa.

The City Council Executive Committee of Edmonton approved the sale of a 1.46-acre parcel of land in the Athlone neighbourhood on December 6th, 2023. VHC invites your company to join our Alberta Capital Campaign as a Sponsor.

The Edmonton project is projected to cost approximately \$16M, with \$10M already secured from government funding. We aim to raise the remaining \$6M through private donations. Enclosed is more information about our Dedication & Sponsorship opportunities. Please consider supporting our mission.

Your contribution will directly impact the lives of homeless veterans, providing them with the stability and support they need to rebuild their lives.

It is estimated that there are between 3,000 to 5,000 homeless veterans across Canada, many of whom face mental health issues, addiction, and physical disabilities. VHC provides veterans-only housing with access to support programs, counseling, and peer mentoring, facilitated by dedicated onsite staff.

Each sponsorship can be tailored to meet your individual or organisational goals. I would be pleased to discuss the campaign further and explore how you can get involved.

To discuss this historical opportunity to leave a meaningful legacy in your community contact me directly at **613-408-5008** or fund.development@veteranshousecanada.ca

Yours sincerely,
Angella Rawsthorne
Fund Development Manager

Veterans' House - Alberta Campaign.

The campaign will raise funds toward the construction of our Edmonton, Alberta home in Athlone, North-West Edmonton. Cities under future consideration include Halifax, Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Vancouver and Victoria. At each location, we will be offering the following opportunities:

Building Dedications and Naming Opportunities

- Exclusive Naming Opportunity
- Individual Studios (40 Veteran Residences)
- Veterans' Wall of Honour
- Individual Floors
- Foyer
- Community Kitchen
- Community Social Room
- Administration Offices & Private Therapy Rooms
- Library
- Fitness Room

Veterans' Park Dedications and Naming Opportunities

Each home will include a well laid out outdoor park that will include:

- Veterans' Park
- Meditative Garden
- Community Garden
- Planting Garden
- Individual Planting Boxes
- BBQ Area
- Picnic Tables
- Service Dog Park
- Benches/Chairs
- Trees

Mental Health and Transition Program Sponsorships

At each home, veterans will have access to a range of mental health and transition programs. Please refer to the Mental Health and Transition Program page.

All dedications will be recognized on a plaque.

Our heroes served and put their lives on the line.
Now, it is our time to serve.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE



As fellow Canadians, we ask you to:

- Join the National Campaign Committee and lend your name in support
- Join the Fundraising Cabinet
- Donate:
 - Building Dedications
 - Veteran's Park Dedications

CONTACT

Fundraising & Campaign Committee

Karen I. Miller
Director of Fundraising
kim.inc@kimfundraising.com
M (416) 587-1367
O (416) 224-9990

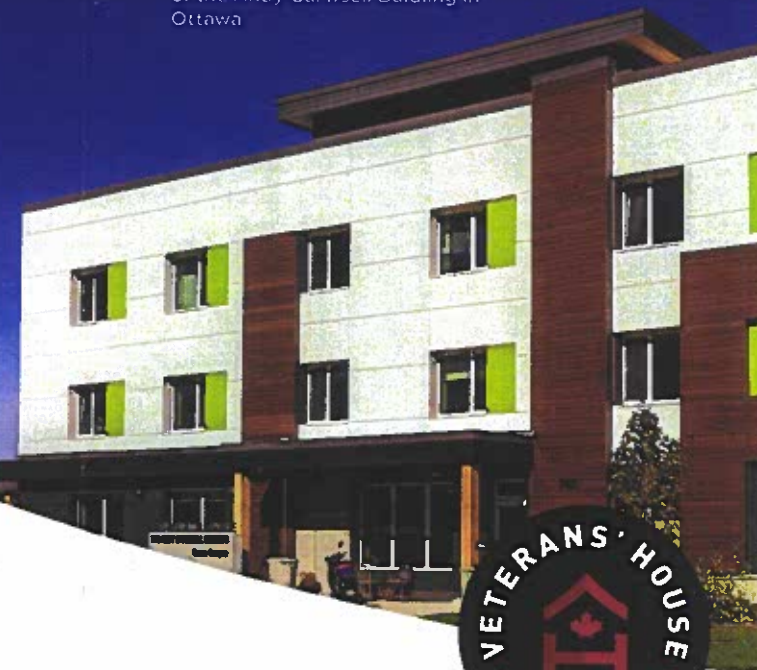
Information on Veterans' House Canada

Brigadier-General (Ret'd)
Alan Mulawyszyn
Executive Director
exec.director@veteranshousecanada.ca
M (613) 502-0136

WWW.VETERANSHOUSECANADA.CA



Edmonton House in the Athlone Community will be built in the spirit of the Andy Carwell Building in Ottawa



VETERANS' HOUSE CANADA

is the first in our country to provide **permanent, affordable, and supportive** housing to homeless veterans.

WE ARE BUILDING A SECOND HOME IN EDMONTON, ALBERTA

\$6M CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
OFFICIALLY BREAKING GROUND IN 2025

HELPING HOMELESS VETERANS

As Canadians, we all have a duty to look after our veterans.

CHARITY REGISTRATION #791683469RR0001

VETERANS' HOUSE CANADA

Veterans' House Canada is a registered national charitable organization based in Ottawa that helps homeless veterans build a better future by providing **permanent**, affordable and supportive housing.

The total number of homeless veterans in Canada, including Indigenous veterans, is estimated to be between **3,000 - 5,000 and are more than twice as likely to experience homelessness compared to the general population**. Many are living with mental health concerns, addiction issues, and physical disabilities – some, all at the same time.

WHY ARE THERE HOMELESS VETERANS?

Leaving the military means leaving behind a regulated environment and bonds of trust that have been forged over years. Not everyone makes the transition easily and mental health challenges can arise, which isolate veterans from family and community.

The frequent inability to form new and healthy bonds after leaving military service can lead to self-medication and addiction in dealing with the symptoms of operational stress injuries and depression. The self-reliance that is so key to military life can prevent many veterans from seeking help while they spiral downward into homelessness.

Veterans' House Canada offers:

- Permanent and supportive housing
- Mental Health and Transition



“If you've got a roof over your head, everything else is possible.”

Bill Beaton,
Veterans' House
Canada tenant

The real solution to getting veterans off the street is to shift the focus from shelters and transitional housing to permanent housing.

Based on the success of our first home, we will use the Andy Carswell Building as a model for our Edmonton Home. Veterans' House Edmonton will be a regional hub supporting veterans experiencing homelessness across Alberta.



Veterans' House Canada's Edmonton home will include:

40 BACHELOR UNITS each containing its own kitchen and bathroom

COMMON SPACES such as community room, fitness room, kitchen and library

A VETERANS' PARK with a meditative garden, a community garden, BBQ space, and a dog park

A SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY of former military peers

PROGRAMS Support, counselling and peer mentoring programs



MENTAL HEALTH AND TRANSITION PROGRAM

The exceptional roles and responsibilities veterans undertook while in service can lead to many mental health challenges.

Many veterans struggle with successfully transitioning to civilian life. Some struggle with symptoms of mental illness including PTSD, depression, loneliness, addiction and anxiety. The journey back to stability can be a difficult one with lots of challenges along the way.

Veterans' House Canada offers support programs via an onsite dedicated staff that focus on the whole individual and are tailored to each veteran's needs. Our veterans can work at their own pace in identifying and overcoming barriers to their success.

Veterans' House Canada Programs:

- Addiction Services
- Art Therapy
- Community Gardening
- Community Outings
- Conflict Resolution and Mediation
- Employment Program
- Financial Literacy
- Mental Health Support Services
- Peer Support Barbecue
- Personal Trainer
- Service Dog/Pet Training
- Smoking Cessation



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133

MEETING:
MEETING DATE:
ORIGINATED BY:
TITLE:

RM-09-25
August 6th, 2025
Dan Dibbelt, CAO

Follow up:
Maskwa Medical Center
Request for support

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL

On September 18, 2024, representatives from the Maskwa Medical Center Board presented to Council on a concept of team-based healthcare. This model has been proven to achieve positive results in other jurisdictions globally and aims to address the pressing healthcare needs of residents in our region.

At the time of the meeting Council made a motion to write a letter of support to the Minister of Health (see attached). Administration is requesting direction regarding potential sponsorship of the center.

The center's vision is to improve the long-term health of residents in Northwestern Alberta and create opportunities for local youth in the healthcare field for the next decade and beyond. The Maskwa Medical Center will serve as a hub for specialist services and a teaching clinic, attracting and retaining family physicians and medical specialists to our region. The project will reduce the strain on existing healthcare infrastructure and provide a more efficient model of care, which is a critical need for residents of our region.

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION

That council receive the request from Maskwa Medical Center regarding sponsorship and direct Administration accordingly.

*Should council decide to provide a donation, given the contribution amount, sponsorship funds would come from the General Donations over \$100.00 line or reserves.


 CAO



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

Honourable Adriana LaGrange
Minister of Health
423 Legislature Building
10800 – 97 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B6

September 24, 2024

Dear Hon. Minister LaGrange:

RE: Maskwa Medical Center - The Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 Letter of Support

During the September 18th Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 meeting, Ken Drysdale, Chairman of the Maskwa Medical Center Board, presented information regarding the community driven initiative aimed at enhancing healthcare accessibility across Northwestern Alberta. Council was pleased to hear that the state-of-the-art facility will be operating as a publicly funded, not for profit medical facility in Grande Prairie which is designed to educate further medical professionals and provide comprehensive diagnostic services to individuals who are in need of urgent medical assessments.

The Central Peace Region has continually faced recruitment challenges coupled with the ability to retain skilled professionals in the area. The MD acknowledges that in order to succeed in an economy that has become fiercely competitive, employers need to work with employees who are willing to continue self-development and embrace the concept of lifelong learning. The Municipal District has always encouraged municipal collaboration and firmly believes in the development of incentives to promote learning and education initiatives in the area and that model is vital to a successful recruitment program in the Central Peace Region.

Therefore, the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 fully supports the education model of the Maskwa Medical Center. Prioritizing healthcare needs of residents in Northwest Alberta is a necessity and we believe that directing financial support to this project will have a lasting impact on rural communities for our future generations. We look forward to sharing information on initiatives that the Municipal District and our municipal partners have taken and continue to investigate ways to promote rural Alberta living.

Sincerely,

Tony Van Rootselaar
Reeve
/sh

Cc: Hon. Todd Loewen, MLA Central Peace-Notley



Good Day Reeve Tony Van Rootselaar

Cc – CAO Dan Dibbelt

On behalf of the Maskwa Medical Center Board, I would like to thank you and your council for allowing us to present to you on September 18, 2024. What we presented to you was a concept of team-based healthcare that is proven to obtain results in other jurisdictions across North America and the World. Our vision, with your support, will create not only opportunities for our youth in healthcare but also improve the long-term health of our residents in NW Alberta over the next decade and beyond. Given the pressing healthcare needs of residents in our region we believe that directing financial support toward the Maskwa Medical Center should take precedence over investments in other areas. As community leaders we cannot wait for governments to achieve the goals we have envisioned but rather band together and make those changes a reality.

During our presentations we came away with two asks for you and your council to consider, they are listed as follows:

- 1) Provide a support letter for the Maskwa Medical Center for its vision of accommodating the University of Alberta teaching clinic and the Maskwa Clinic for team-based diagnosis of complex health symptoms.
- 2) Respectfully request your support of the capital costs of this facility by using the latest census to identify the number of residents within your municipality and multiplying that by \$170 per resident. The latest census we indicated in our presentation totalled an amount of \$110,330 but any amount approved by you and the MD of Spirit River Council could be provided in instalments through fiscal budgeting in years 2025, 2026, 2027 and 2028 or through an alternative schedule that suits your budget. Should your fiscal budgets or financial restraints not allow for this investment in the coming years we understand and are supportive of that decision as we do not want funding to affect the resident tax base beyond how it currently stands. Prioritizing healthcare needs of residents in NW Alberta is on everyone's agenda and we believe that directing financial support to this project will have a long-lasting positive impact in your community for future generations.

Maskwa currently has a Stakeholders committee of local municipalities, and we would be honored if the MD of Spirit River elected someone to join that committee once the project is in the ground.

Sincerely,

Ken Drysdale
Chairman of the Maskwa Medical Center
kdrysdale@maskwamedical.ca



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133

MEETING:
MEETING DATE:
ORIGINATED BY:
TITLE:

RM-09-25
August 6th , 2025
Dan Dibbelt, CAO

Ken Sargent House
Follow up: Funding Request

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL

On April 2, 2025, Council received a presentation from representatives of the Ken Sargent House in Grande Prairie. The purpose of the presentation was to introduce the project, a new 21-suite residence facility intended to serve as a "home away from home" for patients and their families who must travel to Grande Prairie for medical care.

A follow-up email from the Director of the Ken Sargent House Dale Bond has been received, seeking a decision on the project's funding (please see attached)

The Ken Sargent House is a collaborative project between the Grande Prairie Regional Hospital Foundation, the Rotary Clubs of Grande Prairie, and Northwestern Polytechnic. The facility is being built on land donated by Northwestern Polytechnic and is located across the street from the Grande Prairie Regional Hospital, making it easily accessible for families.

The project addresses a critical need for residents across the region, including those from the MD of Spirit River, who often face significant financial and emotional burdens when traveling for specialized medical treatments such as chemotherapy, dialysis, or surgery. By providing affordable, compassionate, and supportive accommodations, Ken Sargent House will directly contribute to the well-being of our citizens during challenging times. The MD of Spirit River's investment would not only support the capital costs of the facility but also demonstrate a commitment to regional healthcare.

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION

That Council direct Administration to include a one-time capital contribution to the Ken Sargent House with the intent of providing financial support to this vital regional service. Dependent on the level of sponsorship funds will come from General Donations over \$100.00 or Reserves.

That Council direct Administration accordingly.

CAO

Good morning Shirley,

I hope this message finds you well. I wanted to follow up on the presentation I gave regarding the Ken Sargent House and the important role it will play in supporting patients and families who travel to Grande Prairie for medical care. We deeply appreciate the opportunity to share information on this vital project with your council on April 2, 2025.

I'm reaching out today to see if a decision has been made regarding financial support for the project through your budget deliberations. The MD of Spirit River's investment would directly contribute to a much-needed service for residents across the region, ensuring safe, affordable, and compassionate accommodations during what are often very challenging times.

If there's any additional information you need or if further discussion would be helpful, I'd be more than happy to connect.

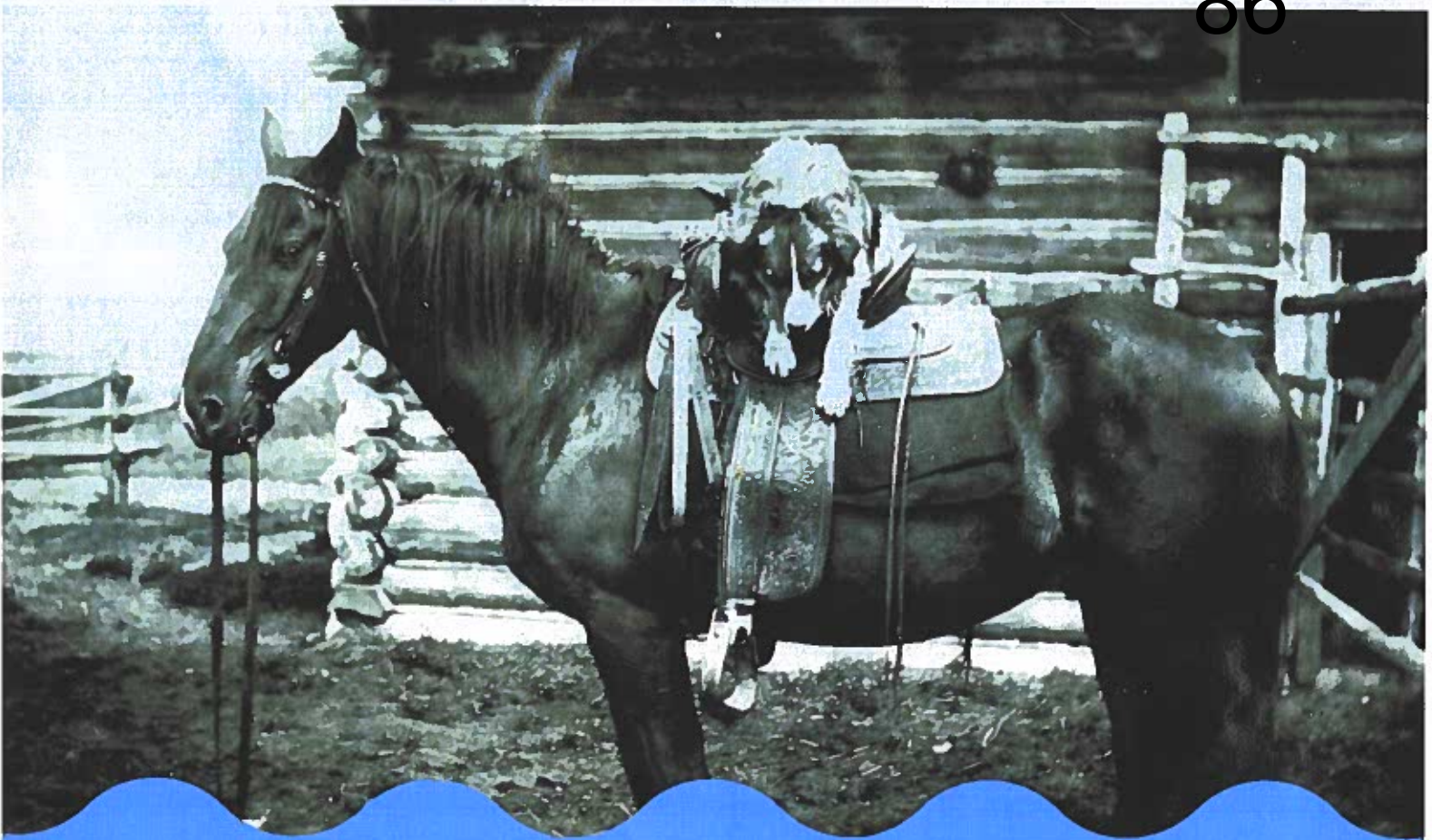
Thank you again for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thanks Shirley

Dale

Dale Bond
Director of Ken Sargent House

11205 110 St., Grande Prairie, AB, T8V 4B1
Office: 825-412-4135

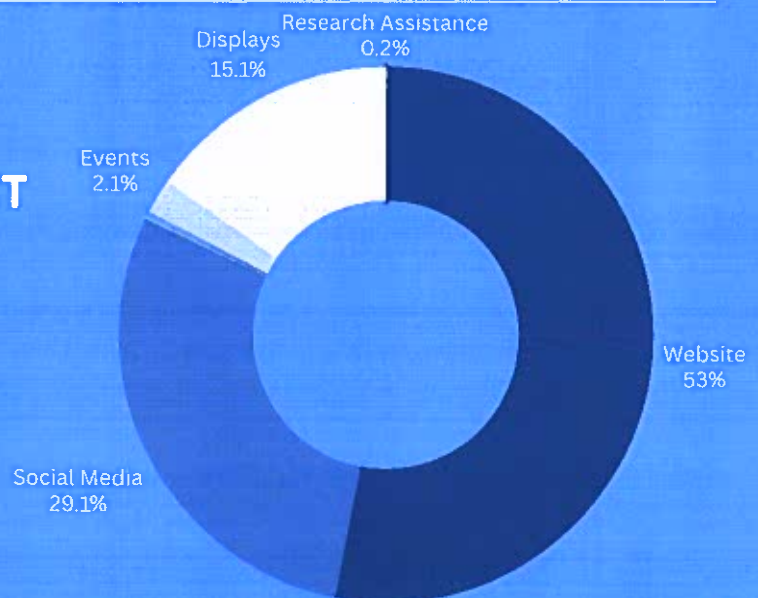


ACCESS AND AWARENESS

The archives interacts with our audience in a variety of different ways

WHERE DO WE INTERACT

See the different avenues where the archives impacts people



Website

Our website continues to be a crucial tool for conducting research and accessing our collections. It contains several databases, our finding aids, and several research guides. It also provides a lot of our business transactions as people can access our store, make donations, and book appointments. In 2024 our website was viewed 66,349 times, from more than 11,000 individual users. While most of the views were local, some ranged the globe with the website being viewed from 127 separate countries.

Additionally, some of our records are available on Alberta on Record, hosted by the Archives Society of Alberta. We have not yet received the user statistics for 2024 from them, but in previous years our records reached approximately 30,000 people, and we anticipate similar usage this year.

Social Media

As staff focused on the relocation and processing, we decreased our regular posting schedule during the move. We maintained our regular #ThrowbackThursday series, which highlights one historical image every week from the archival collection.

Staff also had a lot of fun with "Taste of History," a limited run monthly blog series, where staff tried recipes from our collections. While some were more successful than others, the series proved popular on social media.

Across all of our platforms, our social media had a combined reach of 37,489.

Channels at a Glance

Website: Reach 66,349

Alberta on Record: Reach 30,000

Facebook: Reach 36,376

Instagram: Reach 1113

Telling Our Stories

The Archives' quarterly magazine continues to serve as a valuable outreach resource for members and the community at large. In 2024, Telling Our Stories covered the topics of Immigration (March), Romance (June), Agriculture (September), and Food (December). We worked throughout the year to feature Indigenous Content, and contributions from guest contributors.

We printed and distributed more than 600 physical copies of the magazine, as well as a number of digital subscribers.

Displays/ Exhibits

Once again, the Archives partnered with the Grande Prairie Museum to make small exhibits available to the public. This year we maintained our display on war-time letter writing in the Grande Prairie Museum until the summer, and then put in a new display featuring the history of the Royal Purple.

We also partnered with the Museum to refresh the long running photo hall display located just off their main gallery. The new photographs feature military and sports history.

Staff are currently working on our first exhibit in our new location, which we predict will open in May 2025.

Access

Providing access to the records in our collection continues to be an essential part of the Archives' mandate. This can take the form of in-person visits to the archives, remote research requests, or record reproduction requests. We were closed to all forms of access during the relocation until May 22, 2024. We also closed for in person researchers for December 2024.

Even with these limitations to access, we still had a number of people accessing our services. In total we provided assistance to 145 remote and in person researchers, and had an additional 167 visitors to the facility.

Programs and Events

In addition to the move, in 2024 the Archives was once again kept busy with events and programming. Staff conducted several presentations on archives and local history throughout the community including at the Grande Prairie Rotary Club, and at PROBUS.

We presented two Cemetery Tours this year "Immigrant Stories," and "World War One and Two." Some of the offerings had to be cancelled due to smoky weather conditions, and we had a total of 5 participants.

Our opening event for the new facility was held on May 22, 2024 and had a total of 93 participants attend. For this event we partnered with the Chamber of Commerce for a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and the catering was generously donated by Red Rock.

Finally, we did a trial homeschooling program regarding remembrance day in November 2024, with 15 participants taking part. There was a short presentation discussing the history of the World Wars and their impact on the community. We also discussed how you can use archival records, and showed some records from our collection related to the wars. Finally, the students worked on collage and journaling exercises using archival sources. While this was a small program it has helped us begin to develop ideas for educational programming at the Archives.

Once again we partnered with a variety of community groups to put on events. We worked with the Peace Country Historic Society to take part in the 2024 Heritage Fair which had approximately 100 students taking part, sharing history projects they had completed. We also participated in the City of Grande Prairie's Heritage Day event as well as the County of Grande Prairie's Alberta Days in September. Finally we worked with the City of Grande Prairie, Grande Prairie Museum, Disturbing the Peace Podcast and Generations Readers Theatre on the annual Heritage Village Folktales Tour. The event was a guided after-hours tour featuring historical stories with both fact and fiction, with 180 people participating.

Events at a Glance

Folktales: 180

Heritage Day: 2143

Opening Event: 93

Cemetery Tours: 5

Heritage Fair: 100

Other: 142

Relocation - Centre 2000

Project Summary

The goal of this project was to renovate and outfit the bottom floor of Centre 2000 to relocate the South Peace Regional Archives. Construction began in Centre 2000 in October 2023. Work included: new interior walls, bathroom, millwork, flooring, ceilings, new LED light fixtures, and modifications to the electrical, HVAC, plumbing, and fire alarm systems. In addition, furnishings and specialized equipment were purchased to utilize the larger space.

The construction of the facility was ongoing from October 2023 to Fall 2024. The Archives began the process of relocation in February 2024, and the furnishings and equipment were installed at this time. The Archives opened to the public in the new location on May 22, 2024.

Benefits

This relocation has seen a variety of benefits for our organization. First, we are now able to more securely store our archival collection. The relocation has allowed us to eliminate our offsite storage and store our entire collection in a safe climate controlled facility. The vault is more than five times the size of our vault at the museum, allowing more records to be stored in this environment for years to come.

It has also greatly expanded our public working space, increasing the amount of researchers, programs, and volunteers we are able to accommodate. Despite being open for only 6 months of the year, we were still able to accommodate more than double the amount of in person visitors than in the entirety of 2023.

We have also been able to expand the types of community supports we can offer in our facility. In 2024 we were able to offer our first education program, and several community groups have utilized the Mary Nutting Room. Being able to offer an accessible meeting room with an integrated video conferencing system allows us to support other groups and bring more diverse groups into our facility.

Project at a Glance

Staff hours: 1890

Volunteer Hours: 156

Project Cost: \$1,190,000

Increase to sq. ft: 5631

MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

Eleanor Dalen

A Balance Sheet, Profit & Loss Statement, and a comparative Budget for the fiscal year Jan to Dec, 2024 are attached. The following is a compressed version of these documents:

Balance Sheet

As at December 31, 2024 we had:

Assets:

\$55,015.59	in the operating - Chequing account
\$6696.27	in the Contingency Fund
\$11,652.27	in the Building Fund - Chequing account
\$9398.09	in the Building Fund - Savings account
\$71,623.35	in Accounts Receivable
\$200.00	in Petty Cash
\$1,000.00	in the Reserve GIC (Mastercard)
\$4,153.87	in Prepaid Expenses
\$250.00	in Undeposited Funds
\$503,489.17	in Fixed Assets (equipment and leasehold improvements)
\$663,478.61	TOTAL ASSETS

Liabilities & Equity:

\$ -19.04	Accounts Payable
\$607.61	Credit Cards
\$3188.93	Peace Country Land Database
\$4123.68	Payroll Deductions Payable
\$394,076.72	Deferred Contribution - Bldg Fund
\$8731.64	Deferred Revenue
\$252,769.07	Total Equity
\$663,478.61	TOTAL LIABILITY & EQUITY

Note: Accounts Receivable refers to payments to us that we have requested but we had not received the money on December 31, 2024. This includes a final payment from our YCW and CCSF grants that were received in early 2025.

Deferred Contribution - Bldg Fund include amounts that will be pulled out to cover the amortization of our leasehold improvements.

Profit and Loss Statement

The section of "Ordinary Income/Expense" includes our regular operating expenses. "Other Income/ Expense" includes our capital renovation project of Centre 2000.

2024 Financial Statements

Auditors Report



Notice to the Reader

We, Irene Gitzel and Cathy Scott, being members in good standing, have reviewed the Balance Sheet and Income Statement of the South Peace Regional Archives Society as at December 31, 2024. This information has not been audited. We believe these statements to be free of material misstatement and present fairly the financial position of the South Peace Regional Archives Society.

It is our recommendation that these statements be accepted as complete and adopted by the membership as the final statements for the fiscal year January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024.

Name: Irene Gitzel
8925 120 Ave
Grande Prairie, AB
T8X 1M6


(Signature)

Name: Cathy Scott
10102 80th Ave
Grande Prairie, AB
T8W 1Z9


(Signature)

Name: Eleanor Dalen
Vice President/ Treasurer
10510 108 Ave
Grande Prairie, AB
T8V 1P8


(Signature)

DATED April 2, 2025

780-830-5105

SouthPeaceArchives.org

Lower Level, Centre 2000
11330 106 Street
Grande Prairie, T8V 7X9

9:24 AM

04/02/25

Accrual Basis

South Peace Regional Archives

Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2024

	Dec 31, 24
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
1000 · ATB Chequing	55,015.59
1102 · Contingency Fund	6,696.27
1110 · Building Fund Chequing	11,652.27
1120 · Building Fund Savings	9,398.09
Total Chequing/Savings	82,762.22
Accounts Receivable	
1200 · Accounts Receivable	71,623.35
Total Accounts Receivable	71,623.35
Other Current Assets	
1290 · Petty Cash	200.00
1305 · .Reserve - GIC	
1310 · Reserve - Mastercard	1,000.00
Total 1305 · .Reserve - GIC	1,000.00
1350 · Prepaid Expenses	4,153.87
1499 · Undeposited Funds	250.00
Total Other Current Assets	5,603.87
Total Current Assets	159,989.44
Fixed Assets	
1500 · Computer Equipment	
1510 · Computer Equip-Orig Cost	37,142.30
1511 · Computer Equip. - Bldg Fund	68,694.38
1520 · Computer Equip-Amort	-35,296.95
1521 · Comp. Equip. Bldg F - Accum. Am	-18,890.95
Total 1500 · Computer Equipment	51,648.78
1550 · Equipment	
1560 · Equipment - Orig Cost	62,320.60
1561 · Equipment - Bldg Fund	189,294.11
1570 · Equipment - Amort	-46,060.74
1571 · Equip. Bldg F - Accum Amort	-18,929.41
Total 1550 · Equipment	186,624.56
1580 · Leasehold Improvements	
1585 · Leasehold Improv. - Bldg Fund	279,174.56
1586 · Leaseh. Imp. Bldg F - Accum Am	-13,958.73
Total 1580 · Leasehold Improvements	265,215.83
Total Fixed Assets	503,489.17
TOTAL ASSETS	663,478.61
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
2000 · Accounts Payable	-19.04
Total Accounts Payable	-19.04
Credit Cards	
2075 · Mastercard ATB	607.61
Total Credit Cards	607.61
Other Current Liabilities	
2100 · Peace Country Land Database	3,188.93

9:24 AM

04/02/25

Accrual Basis

**South Peace Regional Archives
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2024**

	<u>Dec 31, 24</u>
2300 · Payroll Deductions Payable	
2310 · CPP Payable	1,633.96
2320 · EI Payable	593.52
2330 · Employee Income Taxes Payable	1,896.20
Total 2300 · Payroll Deductions Payable	4,123.68
Total Other Current Liabilities	7,312.61
Total Current Liabilities	7,901.18
Long Term Liabilities	
2101 · Deferred Contribution - Bldg FD	394,076.72
2600 · Deferred Revenue	8,731.64
Total Long Term Liabilities	402,808.36
Total Liabilities	410,709.54
Equity	
3000 · Opening Bal Equity	6,559.20
3900 · Retained Earnings	246,209.87
Total Equity	252,769.07
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>663,478.61</u></u>

9:25 AM

04/02/25

Accrual Basis

South Peace Regional Archives

Profit & Loss

January through December 2024

	Jan - Dec 24
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
4000 · Operating Grants	
4010 · City of Grande Prairie	82,819.00
4020 · County of Grande Prairie	77,571.00
4030 · Municipal District of Greenview	72,985.00
4040 · M.D. Spirit River 133	9,100.00
4050 · Saddle Hills County	10,000.00
Total 4000 · Operating Grants	252,475.00
4100 · Project Grants	
4130 · Canadian Council of Archives	21,500.00
Total 4100 · Project Grants	21,500.00
4200 · Sales and Service	
4210 · Book Sales	57.14
4230 · Misc Sales	337.00
4240 · Photograph Sales	1,595.10
Total 4200 · Sales and Service	1,989.24
4300 · .Donations	
4310 · Donation - Tax Receipt	1,660.00
4320 · Donation - Non Tax Receipt	4,676.38
4340 · Bldg Donation - Non Tax Receipt	20,525.39
Total 4300 · .Donations	26,861.77
4400 · Interest	879.80
4500 · SPRA Society Membership	1,590.54
Total Income	305,296.35
Expense	
6000 · Acquisition Expense	27.86
6020 · Amortization Expense	6,320.35
6030 · Bank Service Charges & Interest	185.83
6040 · Square Fees	216.80
6200 · Conservation Expense	4,154.75
6300 · Facility Fees	
6310 · Utilities, Maintenance, etc.	19.51
6320 · Facility Insurance	4,085.04
6330 · Off-Site Storage	121.25
6345 · Rent & CAC Costs	64,547.52
Total 6300 · Facility Fees	68,773.32
6375 · Newsletter	932.76
6400 · .Office Expenses	
6410 · Office Equipment	640.35
6420 · Office Equip Repairs/Maintenanc	2,700.00
6430 · Office Supplies	3,604.08
6450 · Telephone & Internet	1,064.72
Total 6400 · .Office Expenses	8,009.15
6500 · Professional Dev.	
6520 · Mileage and Travel	525.00
6530 · Memberships & Subscriptions	315.60
6500 · Professional Dev. - Other	1,157.66
Total 6500 · Professional Dev.	1,998.26

9:25 AM

04/02/25

Accrual Basis

South Peace Regional Archives

Profit & Loss

January through December 2024

	Jan - Dec 24
6600 · Professional Fees	
6610 · Accounting	7,131.44
6620 · Computer Services	1,973.13
Total 6600 · Professional Fees	9,104.57
6700 · Project/Event Expense	
6705 · Misc Events/Projects	562.86
6770 · SPRA Society Expenses	710.80
Total 6700 · Project/Event Expense	1,273.66
6800 · Volunteer Expense	249.62
6850 · Staff Expense	236.55
6900 · Wage & Benefits	
6910 · Wages & Salaries	183,865.84
6930 · CPP Expense	10,195.99
6940 · EI Expense	4,307.76
6950 · WCB Expense	560.00
6960 · Vacation Pay Expense	1,495.20
6970 · Benefits	3,388.08
Total 6900 · Wage & Benefits	203,812.87
Total Expense	305,296.35
Net Ordinary Income	0.00
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
7100 · Building Fund Income	0.00
7101 · Capital Contributions Revenue	104,000.89
7200 · Building Fund Interest Income	319.63
Total Other Income	104,320.52
Other Expense	
8000 · Building Fund Expenses	
8030 · Amortization on def. capital	51,779.09
8040 · Bldg Fund - Bank Fees	84.96
8050 · Bldg Fund - Construction	0.00
8055 · Bldg Fund - Equipment	2,343.44
8057 · Bldg Fund - Furnishings	3,813.47
8060 · Bldg Fund - Leasehold Improve	0.00
8065 · Bldg Fund - Moving Expenses	38,231.35
8068 · Bldg Fund - Opening Event	380.71
8070 · Bldg Fund - Professional Fees	7,687.50
Total 8000 · Building Fund Expenses	104,320.52
Total Other Expense	104,320.52
Net Other Income	0.00
Net Income	0.00

South Peace Regional Archives Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual January through December 2024

					Jan - Dec 24	Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense							
Income							
4000 · Operating Grants							
4010 · City of Grande Prairie					82,819.00	82,819.00	100.0%
4020 · County of Grande Prairie					77,571.00	84,382.00	91.93%
4030 · Municipal District of Greenview					72,985.00	72,985.00	100.0%
4040 · M.D. Spirit River 133					9,100.00	12,000.00	75.83%
4050 · Saddle Hills County					10,000.00	13,109.00	76.28%
Total 4000 · Operating Grants					252,475.00	265,295.00	95.17%
4100 · Project Grants							
4130 · Canadian Council of Archives					21,500.00		
Total 4100 · Project Grants					21,500.00		
4200 · Sales and Service							
4210 · Book Sales					57.14	800.00	7.14%
4220 · Fees for Service					0.00	550.00	0.0%
4230 · Misc Sales					337.00	200.00	168.5%
4240 · Photograph Sales					1,595.10	150.00	1,063.4%
Total 4200 · Sales and Service					1,989.24	1,700.00	117.01%
4300 · .Donations							
4310 · Donation - Tax Receipt					1,660.00	2,000.00	83.0%
4320 · Donation - Non Tax Receipt					4,676.38	350.00	1,336.11%
4340 · Bldg Donation - Non Tax Receipt					20,525.39		
Total 4300 · .Donations					26,861.77	2,350.00	1,143.05%
4400 · Interest					879.80	600.00	146.63%
4500 · SPRA Society Membership					1,590.54	2,000.00	79.53%
Total Income					305,296.35	271,945.00	112.26%
Expense							
6000 · Acquisition Expense					27.86	500.00	5.57%
6005 · .Advertising							
6010 · Advertising					0.00	500.00	0.0%
6015 · Awareness					0.00	500.00	0.0%
Total 6005 · .Advertising					0.00	1,000.00	0.0%
6020 · Amortization Expense					6,320.35		
6030 · Bank Service Charges & Interest					185.83	170.00	109.31%
6040 · Square Fees					216.80	150.00	144.53%
6200 · Conservation Expense					4,154.75	2,000.00	207.74%
6300 · Facility Fees							
6310 · Utilities, Maintenance, etc.					19.51		
6320 · Facility Insurance					4,085.04	4,300.00	95.0%
6330 · Off-Site Storage					121.25		
6340 · Relocation Expenses					0.00	62,254.00	0.0%
6345 · Rent & CAC Costs					64,547.52		
Total 6300 · Facility Fees					68,773.32	66,554.00	103.34%
6375 · Newsletter					932.76	1,000.00	93.28%

9:26 AM
04/02/25
Accrual Basis

South Peace Regional Archives
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
January through December 2024

		Jan - Dec 24	Budget	% of Budget
6400 · Office Expenses				
6410 · Office Equipment		640.35	1,500.00	42.69%
6420 · Office Equip Repairs/Maintenanc		2,700.00	400.00	675.0%
6430 · Office Supplies		3,604.08	3,600.00	100.11%
6450 · Telephone & Internet		1,064.72	2,000.00	53.24%
Total 6400 · Office Expenses		8,009.15	7,500.00	106.79%
6500 · Professional Dev.				
6510 · Workshop Registrations		0.00	2,000.00	0.0%
6520 · Mileage and Travel		525.00	2,000.00	26.25%
6530 · Memberships & Subscriptions		315.60	750.00	42.08%
6500 · Professional Dev. - Other		1,157.66		
Total 6500 · Professional Dev.		1,998.26	4,750.00	42.07%
6600 · Professional Fees				
6610 · Accounting		7,131.44	5,000.00	142.63%
6620 · Computer Services		1,973.13	2,100.00	93.96%
6635 · Legal Fees		0.00	500.00	0.0%
Total 6600 · Professional Fees		9,104.57	7,600.00	119.8%
6700 · Project/Event Expense				
6705 · Misc Events/Projects		562.86	500.00	112.57%
6710 · Annual Events				
6713 · Indigenous History Committee		0.00	1,000.00	0.0%
Total 6710 · Annual Events		0.00	1,000.00	0.0%
6720 · Projects w/o Grants		0.00	500.00	0.0%
6770 · SPRA Society Expenses		710.80	800.00	88.85%
Total 6700 · Project/Event Expense		1,273.66	2,800.00	45.49%
6800 · Volunteer Expense		249.62	260.00	96.01%
6850 · Staff Expense		236.55	260.00	90.98%
6900 · Wage & Benefits				
6910 · Wages & Salaries		183,865.84	168,996.00	108.8%
6930 · CPP Expense		10,195.99	9,400.00	108.47%
6940 · EI Expense		4,307.76	4,000.00	107.69%
6950 · WCB Expense		560.00	550.00	101.82%
6960 · Vacation Pay Expense		1,495.20		
6970 · Benefits		3,388.08	3,800.00	89.16%
Total 6900 · Wage & Benefits		203,812.87	186,746.00	109.14%
Total Expense		305,296.35	281,290.00	108.53%
Net Ordinary Income		0.00	-9,345.00	0.0%
Other Income/Expense				
Other Income				
7100 · Building Fund Income		0.00		
7101 · Capital Contributions Revenue		104,000.89		
7200 · Building Fund Interest Income		319.63		
Total Other Income		104,320.52		
Other Expense				

South Peace Regional Archives
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
January through December 2024

					Jan - Dec 24	Budget	% of Budget
8000 · .Building Fund Expenses							
8030 · Amortization on def. capital					51,779.09		
8040 · Bldg Fund - Bank Fees					84.96		
8050 · Bldg Fund - Construction					0.00		
8055 · Bldg Fund - Equipment					2,343.44		
8057 · Bldg Fund - Furnishings					3,813.47		
8060 · Bldg Fund - Leasehold Improve					0.00		
8065 · Bldg Fund - Moving Expenses					38,231.35		
8068 · Bldg Fund - Opening Event					380.71		
8070 · Bldg Fund - Professional Fees					7,687.50		
Total 8000 · .Building Fund Expenses					104,320.52		
Total Other Expense					104,320.52		
Net Other Income					0.00		
Net Income					0.00	-9,345.00	0.0%

FUNDING

Municipal Funding Partners

The South Peace Regional Archives is public, non-profit organization with charitable status. Through a unique and collaborative funding partnership between our municipal partners, we are able to offer our services across the region to both urban and rural residents. In 2024, 83% of the Archives' income came from the generous support of our municipal funding partners: the City of Grande Prairie; the County of Grande Prairie; the Municipal District of Greenview; the Municipal District of Spirit River; and Saddle Hills County.



Other Funders

The South Peace Regional Archives also receives income from project-based grants, book sales, society memberships, and donations from the public. In 2024, we received support from the Northwestern Alberta Foundation, Edmonton Community Foundation, Grande Prairie & District Branch of the Alberta Genealogical Society and the Government of Canada. We are grateful for all funding support.



Centre 2000 Funders

In 2023 we began work on our new home in Centre 2000, with work continuing into 2024. This project was made possible by funding from:



Funded by the
Government
of Canada

Canada

Alberta

Generous Supporters:

Marvin and Frances Moore

Alberta Genealogical Society

Capistrano Holdings/ Bill Bowes Family

Gordon Mackey

Wayne and Paulette Patterson

D.R. Sales and Wookworking

Dr. Edward Welsh

Dennis Tissington

J&G Murphy Holdings Ltd

Wayne Building Products

Lux Architectural Products Inc

Dennis and Tina Dale

Henry Hamm

Cross River Construction

Windsor Motors Ltd

Krislan Investment Inc

Duff Crerar

Hat Mountain Ventures Ltd.

Side Management Ltd

Janice Sheilds

Doug Morris

Alice Sims

Curtis Tipler

Alice Sims

J. Fletcher Bootle

Grande Prairie Airport

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jan Shields, President

Eleanor Dalen, Vice President/ Treasurer

Meg Archer, Secretary

Gladys Blackmore, City of Grande Prairie

Peter Harris, County of Grande Prairie

Christine Schlieff, M.D. of Greenview

Stan Bzowy, M.D. of Spirit River

Kristen Smith, Saddle Hills County

Gary Dixon, Director

Maxine Maxwell, Director

Shawn Morton, Director

Meaghan Peuramaki-Brown, Director

Gail Schau, Director

Alice Sims, Director

Duff Crerar, Director

Suzanne Dunn, Director

STAFF

Ellyn Vandekerkhove, Executive Director

Jack Lawrence, Archivist

Teresa Dyck, Administrative Assistant

Alyssa House, Junior Archivist - Outreach, May - Dec (YCW)

Axel Brett, Archives Assistant, May - Aug (YCW)



July 3, 2025

Municipal District of Spirit River
Attention: Ms. Louise Gobstick
P.O. Box 389
Spirit River, AB. T0H 3G0

Dear Louise,

I am writing this letter to update the Municipal District of Spirit River about our recent activities. The Board of the SPRA Society would like to thank the MD of Spirit River for your continued financial support. It is only because of your generosity, and that of our other municipal partners, that the archives can continue to operate.

I have enclosed a copy of our 2024 Annual Report which includes budget and financial information, as well as key highlights from our work last year.

So far 2025 has been an exciting year settling into our new home in Centre 2000. We are happy to share that we are once again able to begin accepting large scale records transfers. We would like to thank the Municipal District of Spirit River for your patience during this time, and please let us know if you would like to begin the process of transferring additional records into our custody. Also, please let us know if there is anything we can do to be of service to the MD of Spirit River this year.

Thank you for your continued support of a regional archives!

Sincerely,

Ellyn Vandekerkhove,
Executive Director

780-830-5105

SouthPeaceArchives.org

PO Box 687 STN MAIN
10329 101 Avenue
Grande Prairie, T8V 3A8

2024

ANNUAL REPORT



SOUTH PEACE REGIONAL ARCHIVES SOCIETY

Vision

Preserving and Sharing the Past.

Mission

The purpose of South Peace Regional Archives is to gather, preserve, and share the historical records within the region, both now and in the future. We add value to people's lives by increasing their understanding and appreciation of the past.

Mandate

The mandate of South Peace Regional Archives is to acquire, preserve and make accessible to the public records of on-going value from individuals, families, businesses and organizations, which reflect the political, social and economic life of the south Peace River Country of Alberta. These records are in all formats and media, including textual records, photographs, films, sound recordings, maps, plans and drawings. South Peace Regional Archives covers the area within the boundaries of Birch Hills County, the City of Grande Prairie, the County of Grande Prairie, the Municipal District of Greenview, the Municipal District of Spirit River and Saddle Hills County.

Values

We will not compromise on the following values in the attainment of our Vision:

Professionalism
Accountability
Accessibility

Community
Collaboration
Service

Impact
Learning
Adaptability

COLLECTIONS CARE

Accessions

The South Peace Regional Archives would not exist without thoughtful archival donations from members of our community. Due to the relocation, we weren't able to accept donations for the early part of 2024. Between May – November we accepted 28 new donations. Unfortunately, we had to temporarily halt accepting donations again in December 2024 due to the flood, but began accepting them again in early January 2025.

Processing

Following our relocation, our priority has been addressing our processing backlog that had built up partially due to space constraints in our previous location. First, staff went through all of the records to ensure that highest priority items would be addressed first.

Staff completed processing on 38 accessions in 2024, including more than 290cm of textual records, 2725 photographs, 332 slides, 62 negatives, and 334 postcards. In addition, staff were working on processing the R. Kay Trelle fonds, which was completed in 2025. The collection was extensive, consisting of approximately 250 cm of textual records, 186 technical drawings, and more than 12,806 photographs, negatives, and slides.

Database Conversion

In fall 2021, the Archives began working to convert 37,187 descriptions from 642 fonds that make up our archival database over from Access to Access to Memory. This will help to ensure that we have accurate and accessible records of our holdings, and make it easier to share information regarding our collection. This is a time consuming process, as it requires staff to manually move each description, and we are also manually checking each record for accuracy of content and location. By the end of 2024 we had fully converted 494 of 642 fonds, or 77%.

In addition staff began work to upload digitized photographs into the database. This will allow us to search for and see digitized items directly in the database, making them more accessible. We hope to complete this project by the end of 2026.

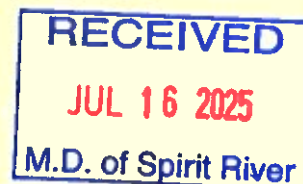
Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Commanding Officer
Alberta

Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Commandant
de l'Alberta

June 25, 2025



Reeve Tony Van Rootselaar
Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133
P.O. Box 389
Spirit River, AB T0H 3G0

Dear Reeve Tony Van Rootselaar:

I'm writing to introduce myself as the new Commanding Officer of the Alberta Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP). It is an incredible honour to step into this role and lead a police service with such an extensive history of service to the communities and citizens of Alberta.

People are at the heart of everything we do. That includes the dedicated employees on the front lines and behind the scenes, the citizens we serve, and the communities and governments we proudly partner with. None of our work is possible without the commitment, support and collaboration of people.

With 37 years of policing experience - much of it in Alberta - I have seen firsthand how people working together can shape strong communities. I have witnessed the remarkable impact that this committed partnership can have, not only during moments of crisis, but in the everyday interactions that build trust and strengthen public confidence.

Trust is not something that is given; it is earned, day in and day out. My leadership is grounded in public trust, transparency, accountability, and meaningful results. These principles will guide how we serve you and the citizens you represent. I firmly believe that our success is rooted in the strength of our relationships with the communities we serve and the partners we stand beside. That is why I am committed to fostering strong, open, and meaningful connections with you, listening actively, and ensuring our work reflects the needs and values of your community.

While I am proud of the high-quality policing services the Alberta RCMP delivers, I also recognize that there is always room to evolve. We are embracing innovation and leveraging technology to enhance effectiveness. You can see through initiatives like the Real Time Operations Centre (RTOC) and the Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) program, that the Alberta RCMP is embracing innovation and applying technology in ways that enhance how we serve, protect, and connect with the public.

One of the most pressing challenges we face today is staffing. Recruitment continues to be a top priority - but it is only part of the solution. Retention is equally critical. We are actively exploring new strategies to attract and retain dedicated employees who see the Alberta RCMP as not only a great place to work, but a place to grow, lead and make a difference.

We have an exciting path ahead. While challenges exist, so too do opportunities to modernize, to collaborate and to build an even stronger, more community-focused provincial police service.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership and support. I look forward to working alongside each of you to build safer communities and ensure they remain the best place to live, work and raise our families.

Yours truly,



Trevor Daroux, O.O.M.
Deputy Commissioner
Commanding Officer Alberta RCMP

11140 – 109 Street
Edmonton, AB T5G 2T4

Telephone: 780-412-5444
Fax: 780-412-5445

MD of Spirit River # 133
Thank you for sponsoring
the "Junior Single Log
Skid" at the Wanham
Plowing Match. Your
support makes it all
possible!

Thanks again

BROWNSON ROWE

THANK YOU