



**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133 Council**  
**Agenda for Regular Council Meeting RM.07.26**  
**9:00 a.m., Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

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 50<sup>th</sup> Street in the Town of Spirit River in the Province of Alberta on Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

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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 50<sup>th</sup> Street in the Town of Spirit River in the Province of Alberta on Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

**In attendance:**

**Council Members:**      Reeve Tony van Rootselaar  
    Deputy Reeve Dean Wark  
    Councillor Shelley Rozecki  
    Councillor Evelyn Bzowy  
    Councillor Bernie Schoorlemmer

**Administration:**

Shirley Hayden, CAO  
 Monty Bremont, Assistant CAO  
 Dave Johnson, Public Works Supervisor  
 Simon Amting, Agricultural Fieldman  
 Rebecca Fitzsimmons, Recording Secretary

**Delegation:**

Max Fritz, Strategic and Priority Planning

1.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Reeve van Rootselaar called the meeting RM 06-26 to order at 9:08 am.

2.

**AGENDA ADDITIONS**

No additions to the Agenda.

3.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

145.03.25.26

Moved by Councillor Rozecki to accept the RM 06-26 Agenda for March 25, 2026 as presented.

Carried unanimously.

4.

**ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

146.03.25.26

Councillor Schoorlemmer moved to accept the Minutes from RM 05-26 Regular Council Meeting held March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026 with the following amendments:

Motion 141.03.11.26 - addition of "with funds to come from reserves" to read "Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark to proceed as discussed in Closed Session regarding RM 05-26 Agenda Item 17.A. *with funds to come from reserves*".

Motion 142.03.11.26 - addition of "Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 to join G5" to read "Moved by Councillor Schoorlemmer that *Council of Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 join the G5 Regional Industrial Committee*".

Carried unanimously.

5. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

6. COUNCILLOR ABSENCES

7. PUBLIC HEARING

8. DELEGATIONS

A. Max Fritz - Council Priority Setting (9:10 am)  
Delegation Max Fritz joined the meeting at 9:10 am, presented a Strategic and Priority Planning proposal, and left the meeting at 9:33 am.

147.03.25.26 Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark that Council direct Administration to move ahead with Strategic Planning as presented, with Max Fritz, and further that Administration coordinate dates with Max Fritz.

Carried unanimously.

9. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

10. REPORTS

A. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

148.03.25.26 Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark that Council direct Public Works to undertake necessary actions to put two grader Units 32116 and 32118, up for tender for 30 days, offers to be reviewed by Council, and further that offers will not necessarily be accepted.

Carried unanimously.

Councillor Bzowy left Council Chambers at 10:09 am, and returned to Council Chambers at 10:11 am.

149.03.25.26 Moved by Councillor Rozecki to accept Public Works Report as presented.

Carried unanimously.

**B. CAO REPORT**

150.03.25.26 Moved by Councillor Bzowy that Council direct Administration to coordinate the attendance of Councillor Rozecki and CAO Hayden to the RiskPro Conference in Calgary April 28 - 30, 2026, using points where possible for travel to conference.

Carried unanimously.

151.03.25.26 Moved by Councillor Schoorlemmer that Council direct Administration to reach out to Max Fritz to invite him to present at G5 meeting on July 8th, 2026, and further, request that he amend his engagement proposal to reflect the additional presentation, and further, that the Municipal District of Spirit River will cover the additional cost of accommodation.

Carried unanimously.

152.03.25.26 Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark that Council review the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 Procedural Bylaw with Administration at a future meeting.

Carried unanimously.

153.03.25.26 Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark to accept CAO report for information.

Carried unanimously.

**C. AGRICULTURAL FIELDMAN REPORT**

154.03.25.26 Moved by Councillor Rozecki that Council accept the Agricultural Fieldman report for information.

Carried unanimously.

155.03.25.26 Moved by Councillor Bzowy that Council direct Administration to send a letter engaging community members/members of the public, to express their interest in creating a cemetery care committee.

Carried unanimously.

**D. FINANCE REPORT****E. COUNCIL REPORTS****11. TABLED ITEMS AND OLD BUSINESS**

A. 156.03.25.26 Moved by Councillor Bzowy to add Elk and Bison to the VSI user list as per Agricultural Fieldman recommendations.

Carried unanimously.

**12. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES**

13.

NEW BUSINESS

A. 157.03.25.26

Moved by Councillor Schoorlemmer that Council rescind Policy No. ASB.08 "Agricultural Equipment Rental Policy" and Policy No. ASB.09 "Agricultural Equipment Rental Rates".

Carried unanimously.

Reeve van Rootselaar recessed Meeting RM 06-26 for lunch at 11:40 am.  
Reeve van Rootselaar reconvened Council Meeting RM 06-26 at 12:35 pm, with MMSA representatives Komiete Tetteh and Inwon Nteogwuija in attendance.

158.03.25.26

Moved by Councillor Bzowy to enter into closed meeting.

Carried unanimously.

Meeting RM 06-26 entered closed meeting at 12:35pm

159.03.25.26

Moved by Councillor Bzowy to leave closed session at 2:40

Carried unanimously.

Regular Meeting RM 06-26 resumed at 2:40 pm.  
MMSA Representatives left the meeting.

160.03.25.26

Moved by Councillor Schoorlemmer that Council direct Administration to take the necessary steps to withdraw advertising presence in MoveUp magazine, and further to allocate funds (approx. \$30,000) to upgrade the MD website.

Carried unanimously.

161.03.25.26

Moved by Councillor Bzowy that Council direct Administration to track expenses of the 2026 roadside mowing program to assess in-house feasibility rather than contracting.

Carried unanimously.

162.03.25.26

Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark that Council direct Administration to reach out to Grande Spirit Foundation regarding the potential for a human resources partnership.

Carried unanimously.

163.03.25.26

Moved by Reeve van Rootselaar that Council direct Finance department to include pie chart of requisitions in tax notice mail-outs.

Carried unanimously.

B. 164.03.25.26

Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark that Council authorize the renewal of the Agricultural Lease Agreement with Arvid Lof for the haying of 19 acres of Municipal District of Spirit River-owned land at NE 5-82-1W6, within the Municipal District of Fairview, for a three (3) year term effective April 1st 2026, at a rate of \$20.00 per acre, and further that Administration conduct annual weed inspections and ensure there is documentation of said

inspections, and further that the Agreement be reviewed in three (3) years' time, in 2029.

Carried unanimously.

C. 165.03.25.26

Moved by Reeve van Rootselaar to accept the Request for Decision: YOLO Nomads, for information.

Carried unanimously.

D. 166.03.25.26

Moved by Councillor Schoorlemmer that Council award Contract No. TND-2026-001 for the Highway 2 and Township 780 Intersection Improvement Project to Northern Road Builders GP Ltd. in the amount of \$1,662,422.40 (excluding GST) subject to execution of the formal contract and submission of required statutory declaration, insurance certification, and performance, labour, and materials bonding.

Carried unanimously.

E. 167.03.25.26

Moved by Reeve van Rootselaar that Council direct Administration to contact Happy Valley Ag and Recreation Club, to communicate Council's offer of advertising for the Happy Valley Ag and Recreation Club, in the Municipal District of Spirit River newsletter; 1/4 page advertisement for the duration of one year, and further that Administration contact the Happy Valley Ag and Recreation Club regarding potential for the Municipal District of Spirit River to display a four (4) foot by four (4) foot MD sign with the MD of Spirit River No. 133 logo, as described in their sponsorship request letter, any incurred costs for the sign to come from the MD signage budget.

Carried unanimously.

168.03.25.26

Moved by Councillor Rozecki to accept Item 15. A through S Information and Correspondence as information.

Carried unanimously.

CFO Elena Valdes entered the meeting at 3:14 pm.  
Councillor Rozecki left the meeting at 3:53 pm, and returned to Council Chambers at 3:55 pm.

169.03.25.26

Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark to base Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 2026 tax rate bylaw on Option 1 as presented by Finance.

Carried unanimously.

170.03.25.26

Moved by Councillor Bzowy that Council authorizes the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 to act as the Fiscal Agent for the Spirit River Regional Daycare Society (SRRDS), subject to the execution of an agreement between both parties.

Carried unanimously.

171.03.25.26 Moved by Councillor Rozecki to accept the Capital Budget as presented.  
Carried unanimously.

14. BYLAWS

15. CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION

16. COUNCIL ISSUES AND CONCERNS

17. CLOSED MEETING (FORMERLY IN-CAMERA)

172.03.25.26 Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark to enter into closed meeting at 4:49 pm  
Carried unanimously.  
Meeting RM 06-26 entered closed session at 4:49 pm

173.03.25.26 Moved by Councillor Schoorlemmer to leave closed session and return to  
regular meeting at 5:06 pm.  
Carried unanimously.  
Regular Meeting RM 06-26 resumed at 5:06 pm.

174.03.25.26 Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark that Council direct Administration to send  
the letter regarding the Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework (ICF) and  
independent funding meetings as presented and to coordinate the  
meetings for April 7th and as an alternate possibility April 14th, pending  
Saddle Hills County Council availability.  
Carried unanimously.

175.03.25.26 Moved by Councillor Bzowy that Council authorize Administration to enter  
into a one-year term agreement with Alberta Counsel for grant writing  
services.  
Carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Reeve van Rootselaar adjourned Regular Council Meeting RM 06-26 at 5:10  
pm.

These minutes approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reeve  
Tony Van Rootselaar

\_\_\_\_\_  
CAO  
Shirley Hayden



**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT  
DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**DATE: April 8th, 2026**

<b>Administrative</b>		
<b>Grading</b>	The graders have been winging back snow, preparing for spring run-off.	
<b>Plowing</b>		
<b>Gravel</b>		
<b>Culvert Installation/Repair</b>		
<b>Washouts</b>		
<b>Brushing</b>		
<b>Signage</b>		
<b>Bridge Files</b>		
<b>Nardam</b>		
<b>Public Works Shop</b>		
<b>Equipment</b>	New 150M grader was delivered on Monday, March 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2026.  Track hoe has been out cleaning drainage ditches in anticipation of spring run-off.	
<b>Training</b>		
<b>Ratepayer Comments</b>	Met with MD of Spirit River farmers, visited sites where there are run-off concerns.	
<b>Miscellaneous</b>		

# CAO Monthly Report: April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026

## Chief Administrative Officer's Report

Reporting Period: March 16 – March 31, 2026 Prepared By: Shirley Hayden, CAO

### 1. Strategic Planning & Regional Collaboration (G5)

- **Council Strategic Planning:** Confirmed dates with **Max Fritz (Western Municipal Consulting)** for Council's upcoming strategic planning sessions on **July 9 and 10, 2026**.
- **G5 Municipalities Meeting (July 8):** Currently organizing the G5 supper and meeting.
  - **Guest Speakers:** Max Fritz has agreed to present to the G5 group.

**Invited Stakeholders:** Outreach is underway to **Alberta Transportation** and the **Alberta Sheriffs Department** to provide regional updates **speakers to be confirmed** - Brian Kostyniuk, *Executive Officer, Alberta Sheriffs Police Service reached out and are not available to present at the July 8<sup>th</sup> G5, continuing to connect and work with their office to schedule a new opportunity to present*

- **RMA Engagement:** Continuing efforts to connect with Natalie Bartlett to secure a meeting with **Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA)**;

Given the RMA's exceptionally tight touring schedule this season, Natalie has confirmed that the RMA tour is scheduled for our Municipality will be in June or September - Date for a meeting with our Council to be determined by RMA, she will ensure we can secure a confirmed booking to align with their schedules and maximize our time with the RMA representatives.

### 2. Human Resources & Organizational Development

- **Policy Development:** Collaborating with **Danielle Hessier (2.12 Consulting)** to finalize the new **Performance Review Policy** and standardized performance tracking sheets.
- **Regional Wage Grid Review:** Working with **Larry Davidson (Birch Hills County)**, the **Alberta Municipalities** and **2.12 Consulting**, on a comprehensive wage grid comparison for the **Central Peace Region**. This ensures MD wages remain competitive with our neighbors to support recruitment and retention.
- **Policy Resources:** Successfully reached out to **Steve Madden (Grande Spirit Foundation)**, who has offered to connect the MD with their HR team for additional policy resource assistance.
- **HR Manual:** Ongoing revisions to the comprehensive HR Manual continue as a priority.

## CAO Monthly Report: April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026

### 3. Family and Community Support Services (FCSS)

- **Unit Authority Transition:** Working with Lyn Smid ,FCSSS, GOA: the MD has sent in and finalized all of the documentation required to update the multi-municipal agreement.

While the MD has provided the required resolution, GOA did not yet receive matching motions from the Town of Spirit River or the Village of Rycroft. Funding Agreement Status: The MD agreed to sign the funding agreement to ensure the April 1st quarterly payment is released to FCSS, However was informed by GOA the motions from the Town of Spirit River and the Village of Rycroft were received by late, therefore there was no agreement in the portal for the MD to sign, as a result the April 1<sup>st</sup> payment was paused. The GOA will follow up with the participating municipalities with an update soon as to which municipality will sign off on the April 1<sup>st</sup> payment. I contacted FCSS Coordinator, Shelley Loroff to provide information and to contact Lynn Smid or Carole Aippersbach for further information, a July 1, 2026 commencement remains a viable target for the Town of Spirit River to take over the funding agreement.

### 4. Infrastructure & Operations

- **CN Rail Stakeholder Meeting:** Met with Julianne Threlfall (CN Regional Manager, Public & Government Affairs) alongside the Reeve, PW Supervisor, Ag Fieldman, and Economic Development Officer.
  - **Dispute Resolution:** Successfully negotiated a reduction of a disputed invoice regarding the 780-crossing upgrade, lowering the cost from \$25,000 down to 25% of the original amount.
  - **Vegetation Management:** CN is investigating why our previous portal requests went unaddressed and will follow up directly with our Ag Fieldman.
- **Convention/Group Bookings:** Working with Birch Hills on a coordinated group booking for the fall. While we have 5 rooms secured at the Courtyard, we are actively navigating challenges to secure additional space for the fall 2026 block, waiting to hear back from hotel room organizer.

### 5. Economic & Community Development

- **Regional Daycare Initiative:** Attended the **Regional Daycare Steering Committee** Continued Regional buy-in and support remain vital to the success of this project.
- **Youth Wage Grant:** Following up on Council's request regarding a newly available federal grant for youth wages; working with the Ag Fieldman to determine eligibility and application requirements.
- **Medical Clinic:** Reviewed the **Central Peace Medical Clinic** financials; the surplus amount is confirmed and in good standing. I am awaiting a confirmed arrival date for the new physician.

## CAO Monthly Report: April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026

### 6. Grant Reporting & Finance

- **Public Awareness Transit Program (PATP):** Currently working with Rebecca and Elena on the 6-month interim report and budget template.
  - **Status:** Rebecca and I are finalizing the narrative portion of the report.
  - **Deadline:** Submission is required by **April 15, 2026**. A special thank you to **Rebecca and Elena** for their diligent work on the bus grant reporting and budget preparation following the recent Community of Practice (CoP) update. Thank you for both your dedicated work on the MD Regional Bus Program as its role in transporting our residents to critical medical appointments cannot be overstated. This service is a vital link for our community, providing residents with the essential transportation required to access medical appointments and regional services.

7. **Winter Maintenance:** I would like to extend a sincere thank you to our Equipment Operators and the Public Works Supervisor for their exceptional dedication during this year's winter season. Faced with a massive volume of snowfall and consistently challenging weather conditions, the team has worked tirelessly to maintain our infrastructure and ensure the safety of our residents. Their hard work and resilience under pressure have been vital to our operations, and their efforts do not go unnoticed by Council, Administration or the community. Thank you all!

## Finance Department Report

### Investments – RBC GIC

The GIC held with RBC has been successfully reinvested as of April 2.

Term: 1 year (Principal & Interest).

Rate: 2.8% (promotional rate secured; standard offering was 2.4% for the same term).

### Audit Update

The audit is currently underway.

All required documentation has been provided to the auditor.

The department is awaiting further instructions regarding additional samples and supporting information to be submitted.

### Cemeteries Information

Detailed information regarding cemeteries has been provided under **Tabled Items/Old Business**, this includes a breakdown of applicable policies and the allocation of operational funding for each cemetery.

### Mill Rate Analysis

As requested by Council, Mill rate analysis and compilation have been completed. Supporting information will be distributed during the report presentation.

### Budget Update

All requested changes to both the **Capital Budget** and **Operating Budget** have been applied.

Final versions will be presented to Council for approval.

### Quarterly Financials

Q1 has now been completed. A full budget-to-actual analysis for all operations has been prepared and will be handed out for review. The Budget numbers are based out of figures proposed during COW meeting.

### Requisitions & Payments

The FCSS requisition payment for the year 2026 has been issued.

The first quarter of the 2026 school tax requisition has been paid. Statement Attached.

### Grants & Funding

A grant application for **ASB summer staff** has been submitted. Deadline is May 4<sup>th</sup>, once an answer on the application is received, Council will receive an update.

At this time, no response has been received to date regarding the **STIP application**.

### **General Reminder to council:**

Please remember that council timesheets and expenses are due by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month.

## Alberta School Foundation Fund

Invoice 18089  
Date 9-Mar-26

Elena Valdes  
Director of Corporate Services  
M. D. of Spirit River No.133  
PO Box 389  
Spirit River, AB T0H 3G0

	Balance Forward from Previous Invoice(s)		\$189,781.00
9-Mar-26	Education Property Tax	\$189,781.00	
	<b>Total Invoice Amount</b>		<b>\$189,781.00</b>
31-Dec-25	Payment	(\$189,781.00)	
	<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>(\$189,781.00)</b>
	<b>Balance Owing (Credits)</b>		<b>\$189,781.00</b>

### Payment Schedule

Schedule is updated every quarter with information from Municipal Affairs.

Due Date	Total Education Property Tax	Opted-out Payments	Your Payment
31-Mar-26	\$200,800.29	\$11,019.29	\$189,781.00
30-Jun-26	\$200,800.30	\$11,019.30	\$189,781.00
29-Sep-26	\$200,800.30	\$11,019.29	\$189,781.01
31-Dec-26	\$200,800.29	\$11,019.29	\$189,781.00
	<b>\$803,201.18</b>	<b>\$44,077.17</b>	<b>\$759,124.01</b>

This document lists the details of the 2026 Alberta School Foundation Fund property taxes. If you have questions about the assessments and calculations, please contact the Municipal Affairs Education Taxation Team at (780) 422-7125.

The late payment interest is calculated using an annual rate of Prime Rate plus 5.00%. Interest is charged daily against overdue balances.

If you have questions about your account, please contact Shanon Vergara at (780) 427-2172 or shanon.vergara@gov.ab.ca.

Requisition payments are due on the last banking day of March, June, September and December. Direct debits are completed on these dates. To sign up for direct debit, login to [AIMS](http://extranet.education.alberta.ca/aims/) (http://extranet.education.alberta.ca/aims/).

Alternatively, you may pay by cheque. For education property tax, please make it payable to Government of Alberta and send to Financial and Administrative Services, 10th Floor, 44 Capital Boulevard, 10044 – 108 Street, Edmonton, AB T5J 5E6. For opted-out payments, please make it payable to the name of the respective school boards and send to their respective school board addresses.

If you require changes to your address, contact information, or banking information, please login to [AIMS](http://extranet.education.alberta.ca/aims/).


Invoice 18089  
Date 9-Mar-26

**Summary of Municipal Affairs Equalized Assessments**

	Mill Rate	Total Payment
Residential & Farm Land \$75,102,969.00	2.72	\$204,280.08
Non-Residential \$138,710,982.00	4.00	\$554,843.93
\$213,813,951.00		\$759,124.01

**Opted-out School Authority Details**

Name	Residential & Farm Land	Non-Residential	Mill Rate	Totals	
Grande Prairie Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 28	\$15,731,006.00		2.72	\$42,788.34	
Grande Prairie Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 28		\$322,208.00	4.00	\$1,288.83	\$44,077.17
	\$15,731,006.00	\$322,208.00			\$44,077.17

<p>MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133 POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL</p>  <p><b>Cemetery Funding</b></p>	<p><b>Function:</b> <b>Policy No.</b></p> <p><b>Effective:</b></p>	<p><b>CEMETERY</b> <b>CEM.06</b></p> <p>March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025</p>
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**Policy Purpose:**

The purpose of this policy is to provide fair and uniform funding to cemetery groups and organizations for improvements to cemeteries located within the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133's boundaries.

There are numerous cemeteries located within the municipality that require ongoing care and maintenance. Typically, these cemeteries are maintained by not for profit groups. The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines and procedures for distributing operational & capital funding.

**1) GUIDELINES:**

**A. Cemetery Operating Grants**

- i. The Council of the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 will on an annual basis provide grants to cemetery organizations for the maintenance of cemeteries located within the Municipal boundaries.
- ii. Cemetery operating grant funding shall be provided as follows:

Acreage:	Occupancy (based on occupied plots):
0 – 2 acres = \$100	0 – 100 = \$500
2 – 4 acres = \$200	101 – 200 = \$1,000
4 – 6 acres = \$300	201 – 300 = \$1,500
6 – 8 acres = \$400	301 – 400 = \$1,750
>8 acres = \$500	>401 = \$2,000

**Total acreage + total occupancy for the application year = total funding eligibility**

**B. Cemetery Capital Grants**

- i. The Council of the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 will on an annual basis provide grants to organizations for the enhancement or upgrade of cemeteries located within the Municipal boundaries. The grants are to be conditional grants for improvement and maintenance purposes. The organization shall provide a full accounting for the grant funds advanced.

- C. Grantees can apply to Council to consider proposed options for grants not utilized within two years.
- D. Grantees must return grant funds which have not been utilized within two years unless otherwise authorized by Council.
- E. Grantees Shall:
  - i. Provide a yearly financial and pictorial (picture) report to Council for filing on a yearly basis;
  - ii. Provide a yearly update to the plot map with buried and reserves identified for filing on a yearly basis;
  - iii. No grant will be issued unless the requirements stated below are met fully:
    - a) Yearly financial statements (Beginning and closing bank statements are sufficient)
    - b) Pictures (updated yearly, picture of the site by electronic copy is sufficient, pictures of every grave would be preferred)
    - c) Updated list of cemetery graves- Lot, Block, Plan (Buried & Reserved)
    - d) Cemetery map (updated with new interments from the previous year);
  - iv. Utilize grants, for improvement and maintenance purposes, within two years;
  - v. Provide the MD of Spirit River (upon request) with documented records for evaluation or audit, in the form of:
    - a) Expense invoices for the project, paid in full;
    - b) Statements of cash contributions;
    - c) Statements of grant funding from other sources.

<b>Consistency:</b>	<b>Acreage:</b>	<b>Occupancy:</b>	<b>Total Eligible Funding:</b>
Volin	1.89	0-100	\$600
St. John's Ukrainian Catholic	1	0-100	\$600
Ukrainian Greek Orthodox	3.85	0-100	\$700
Old Mission	3.17	101-200	\$1,200
White Mountain	2.2	101-200	\$1,200
Greenway	10	>401	\$2,500
<b>Total Eligible Funding: \$6,800</b>			



<b>MEETING:</b>	<b>RM-07-26</b>
<b>MEETING DATE:</b>	<b>April 8th, 2026</b>
<b>ORIGINATED BY:</b>	<b>CAO</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>FCSS REQUEST FOR USE OF BROWNLEE BUILDING FOR CAMP WANAGO SUMMER 2026</b>

### BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL

Per the attached letter from Central Peace Family and Community Support Services (CP FCSS), CP FCSS is requesting to confirm their use of the Brownlee Building and adjacent yard space for delivery of their annual summer camp program Camp WaNaGo, the delivery of camp beginning June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2026 and continuing through until August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026.

Camp WaNaGo is an annual summer camp program for children ages five through eleven, and provides critical social opportunities as well as child care services during the summer months. The Camp is an affordable, accessible program that, in addition to the social opportunities and child care support, has provided quality summer employment opportunities for local high school students.

CP FCSS staff coordinate all aspects of the delivery of the service and the maintenance of the indoor facility, while the MD has historically provided the outdoor yard maintenance and provides the space at no charge to FCSS.

Through various supports such as grants and in-kind donations, the cost to participants to attend the program has remained low. The value of the in-kind support that providing the Brownlee Building and yard space is estimated at approximately \$4000.00 - \$5000.00 for the duration of the Camp, based on the established Brownlee Hall rental agreement rates of \$100 per day, and approximately 40-50 days of Camp, plus Camp preparation and clean-up.

### RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION

That Council approve the request by CP FCSS for the use of the Brownlee Building and adjacent outdoor space, to host their annual summer camp for children, with access beginning June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026, and continuing through to August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at no charge (*or specified charge*);

Further that CP FCSS provide evidence of insurance for property, staff (including employees and volunteers), and attendees/participants, to ensure the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 is absolved of all liability;

Further that a written agreement between the MD and Unit Authority is executed, and clearly describes financial responsibilities for unforeseen damages, custodial expenses, and insurance parameters;

Or

That Council direct Administration accordingly.



March 27, 2026

To MD #133 council and staff:

Central Peace Family and Community Support Services is requesting confirmation for the use of the Brownlee Building and surrounding grounds to host our annual summer Camp Wanago again this year.

Camp Wanago is designed for children 5-11 years old, this year the camp will run from June 29 until Aug 21 from 8:15 am till 3:30 pm.

I am requesting any fees or charges be communicated to myself as soon as possible to ensure we stay within our budget.

FCSS appreciates the use of this area in past years as it is a wonderful space in which to hold camp. If there are any questions, please call 587 771 3567. Thank you for your continued support.

Shelley Loroff

FCSS coordinator

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133**

**MEETING:** RM-07-26  
**MEETING DATE:** April 8th, 2026  
**ORIGINATED BY:** Elena Valdes, CFO & Shirley Hayden CAO  
**TITLE:** Police Funding Model (PFM) – Presentation on Tax Notices

**Purpose**

To obtain Council direction on whether to present the Police Funding Model (PFM) as a separate line item (requisition) on municipal tax notices.

**Background**

Administration has recently attended discussions with other municipalities regarding the presentation of the Police Funding Model (PFM) on tax notices. While proposed legislative amendments related to this matter have not yet received formal approval (Royal Assent), some municipalities are proceeding with displaying the PFM as a separate requisition for transparency purposes.

At present, the Municipal Government Act (MGA) does not clearly permit the PFM to be shown as a separate requisition on tax notices. During the Municipality's most recent Municipal Accountability Program (MAP) review, the Municipality received findings related to non-compliance for presenting the PFM in this manner.

Should Council wish to proceed with adding the PFM as a separate line item prior to legislative clarity, there remains a potential risk of non-compliance with current MGA requirements, which could be noted in future MAP reviews.

Bringing this matter forward ensures that any decision to proceed is made transparently and formally by Council, rather than at the administrative level.

**Considerations**

- Some municipalities are moving forward with separate PFM disclosure despite pending legislation.
- Current MGA provisions do not explicitly support this presentation format.
- The Municipality has previously received Municipal Accountability Program (MAP) non-compliance findings related to this issue.
- A formal Council resolution would provide clear direction and accountability.
- This approach ensures Administration is acting in accordance with Council direction and not independently interpreting legislative requirements.

As previously presented to council during past meetings, adding this cost under the Pamphlet option remains always available. This method still provides the transparency that Council seeks without the risk of another MAP non-compliance finding. We can inform ratepayers exactly what they are paying for through an insert, while keeping our Tax Rate Bylaw and notices strictly aligned with the current MGA until the bill receives Royal Assent and the Act is formally updated.

### **Recommendation**

That Council approve the inclusion of an informational pamphlet regarding the Police Funding Model (PFM) with the 2026 municipal tax notices to ensure taxpayer transparency; and further that, the Municipal District maintain its current tax notice format without a separate requisition line item until such time as the proposed amendments to the *Municipal Government Act* receive Royal Assent and provide formal legislative authority for such a change.

Or

Council direct administration accordingly



<b>MEETING:</b>	RM-07-26
<b>MEETING DATE:</b>	April 8th, 2026
<b>ORIGINATED BY:</b>	CAO
<b>TITLE:</b>	SENIORS WEEK JUNE 1-7, 2026

## BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL

Seniors' Week is held annually in Alberta and recognizes the significant contributions seniors have made—and continue to make—in building strong, vibrant communities across Alberta. Beginning as a single day of recognition in a grassroots-effort led by Alice Modin of Strathcona County, it has since grown into a province-wide celebration, held annually from June 1–7. This year marks the 40th anniversary of Seniors' Week.

Administration is seeking Council's direction regarding hosting a local celebration to recognize our Seniors. This event could be held on the MD grounds at the Brownlee Building (*Option 1*), or Administration could explore the possibility of a collaboration with Pleasantview Lodge, in which the MD could potentially coordinate with prospective events occurring at the Pleasantview Lodge (*Option 2*).

- Option 1: Hosting an event at the Brownlee Building, coordinated by MD staff, is estimated to cost approximately \$3,000. This would include food and entertainment.
- Option 2: Collaborating with Pleasantview Lodge in alignment with their planned Seniors' Week activities would involve a financial contribution of \$500 to support their event. Pleasantview Lodge can accommodate up to 200 guests, and would welcome seniors from the broader community.

Promotion of Event: Should Council support this initiative, Administration also recommends promoting the event through the MD's Facebook page, website, and Municipal District newsletter.

## RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION

*That Council:*

1. Direct Administration to coordinate an event celebrating local Seniors for Seniors Week 2026, to be hosted at the Brownlee Building, for an approximate cost of \$3000.00 funds to come from Council Events;
2. Sponsor an event to be hosted in collaboration with the Pleasantview Lodge, with a financial contribution of \$500.00 to come from Council Events;

Or

3. Direct Administration accordingly.



<b>MEETING:</b>	<b>RM-07-26</b>
<b>MEETING DATE:</b>	<b>April 8th, 2026</b>
<b>ORIGINATED BY:</b>	<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>
<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>COUNCIL CHAMBERS ACOUSTICS: PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL MICROPHONE SET-UP</b>

### BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL

In 2023, Council of the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 amended the Council and Committees Procedures Bylaw 05-2021, with Bylaw 04-AM-2023, to revise the Council and Committees Procedures Bylaw for the purpose of making provisions for Councillors to attend meetings via electronic means. As elected representatives accountable to both their constituents and the Province of Alberta, Council relies on effective collective decision-making to deliver high-quality governance.

Furthermore, the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA) mandates public access to Council meetings. To uphold this right and ensure transparency, Council proactively provides electronic access to its proceedings.

The technology used to provide this accessibility feature for both Council members and the public has improved, and continues to improve. We know from reports from members of the public as well as participation in Council meetings by both Council members, and participating staff and delegations, that the sound is not consistently superior, and Administration strives to maximize the quality.

One strategy to improve the overall sound quality transmission is to pair our current sound system with a second set of the same devices, which the company assures Administration will improve sound quality and clarity. The Owl 3 and expansion mic are available for purchase and can be returned if they do not meet the requirements and/or expectations of Administration and Council.

According to the company, in general:

- An Expansion Mic extends the audio pickup range of a single Owl by about 8 feet and is great for improving coverage in one direction (like down a long table).
- A two-Owl setup significantly expands both audio and video coverage across the entire room, which can make a bigger difference in larger or more spread-out spaces.

### RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION

- *That Council approve the purchase of an Owl 3, to be installed in Council Chambers, for the purpose of improving the sound quality for virtual attendees to Council and Council Committee meetings, expenses to be paid for from the "Rep & Maint CN Computers" GL, as per the quoted amount of \$1499.00, noting that the 2026 Budget for "Rep & Maint CN Computers" has been approved at \$500;*

Or

- That Council direct Administration accordingly.

# OWL LABS

Quote No.:

Q-31054

March 20, 2026

Quote Prepared for:

MD Spirit River No. 133

4202 50 Street

Spirit River, Alberta

T0H 0E8

PRODUCT	QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	PRICE/UNIT
Meeting Owl 3 - US/CA	1	Meeting Owl 3 - US/CA	\$1,499.00

**Shipping**

\$0.00

**Total\***

\$1,499.00

**Tax**

**\* Not included on quote**

Comments:

## Reference:

Quote Created: 03-20-2026

Quote Expires: 04-19-2026

Payment Terms: Net 30

Quote Prepared By:

Jan Angel Francisco

jan\_angel.francisco@owllabs.com

Manila,

## Required Order Information

- Accounts payable email and phone number
- Billing Address
- End User Shipping Address
- Quote signature and acknowledgment of our terms

## Payment

- The fastest option for getting your order shipped is online checkout paid via

credit card. Just ask us for a link to pay for your order, and we'll send it right over

- We accept payment of orders via credit card, check, or wire transfer. Please be sure to let us know which method you prefer before you send the purchase order
- If paying by check, please pay the amount stated on your **invoice**. Invoices will be sent after your order is processed
- Our remittance address is:

Owl Labs Inc  
DEPT 0557  
PO BOX 120557  
DALLAS TX 75312-  
0557

## Shipping

- Order must be placed with a valid shipping address
- Standard Ground shipping: Free - ask me for a lead time
- Please consider these important details if you plan to bring your Owls internationally: <https://support.owlabs.com/s/knowledge/International-product-availability>

## Returns

- Returns are accepted within 30 days of receipt

## Taxes

- If you are tax exempt, please provide a certificate prior to purchase

## Terms and Conditions –Please Read Carefully

By signing this quote, you agree to the following terms:

- [Terms of Service](#)
- [End-User License Agreement](#)
- Purchase terms submitted by the customer are not valid

## Billing Signature

\customtext1 {"label":"Company Name", "required":"true"}\

\wb1 {"apiName":"Quote\_Signed\_By\_\_c", "defaultValue":"Full Name"}\

**BYLAW NO. 02-AM-2026****MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133  
PROVINCE OF ALBERTA****BEING A BYLAW TO AMEND BYLAW 01-2020 THE TAX INSTALLMENT PAYMENT  
PLAN BYLAW OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER #133**

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**TAX INSTALLMENT PAYMENT PLAN BYLAW**

**PURPOSE:** A Bylaw of the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133, in the Province of Alberta, to provide for the implementation of a Tax Installment Payment Plan, at the option of the taxpayer.

**WHEREAS** pursuant to the *Municipal Government Act*, Revised Statutes of Alberta, RSA 2000, Chapter M-26, and amendments thereto, states that a Council may by Bylaw permit taxes to be paid by installments at the option of the taxpayer;

**AND WHEREAS** Council wishes to establish a pre-authorized Tax Installment Payment Plan in The Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133;

**NOW THEREFORE** the Council of the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 duly assembled enacts as follows:

1. A Taxpayer may apply to enter into a Tax Installment Payment Plan Agreement with the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 to provide for the payment of taxes by installments as further described in this bylaw;
2. To qualify for a Tax Installment Payment Plan there must be no outstanding taxes owing from any previous year pertaining to the property which is the subject of the Agreement;
3. Taxes payable under the Tax Installment Payment Plan Agreement shall be collected from September 1st to September 1st of the following year, with the tax account balance to be paid in full by September 15th of the current tax year;
4. A Tax Installment Payment Plan Agreement shall be deemed null and void if all taxes from the taxpayer with respect to the property are not paid in full up to September 15th of the year preceding the year in which the agreement is to commence;
5. Taxes owing by a ratepayer under the Tax Deferral or Cancellation Program, as approved by Council, shall not disqualify a taxpayer from entering into a Tax Installment Payment Plan Agreement;

6. The taxpayer may request cancellation of the Tax Installment Payment Plan Agreement at any time subject to providing written notice to The Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 no less than ten (10) business days prior to the next installment due date;
7. Upon termination of the Tax Installment Payment Plan Agreement, either by breach or by request of the taxpayer, all taxes due and owing on the subject property shall become immediately payable under the provisions set forth in the Tax Payment and Penalties Bylaw in force;
8. When a property, which is subject to a Tax Installment Payment Plan Agreement, is transferred to a new owner, the new owner may:
  - i. Apply to enter into a new Tax Installment Payment Plan Agreement with The Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 and assume the previous taxpayer's payments, or
  - ii. Pay the remaining unpaid taxes in full on or before the date of purchase.
9. A taxpayer who is admitted into a Tax Installment Payment Plan Agreement after September 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year will be required to pay the total of any previous installment payments to bring the payments up to date.
10. All monthly installments are due on the first (1<sup>st</sup>) day of each month and are to be paid in person, by mail, Online Banking, post dated cheques, or by direct deposit from a chequing account designated by the ratepayer;
11. It is the responsibility of the taxpayer to inform the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 of any banking changes that may affect the honoring of the preauthorized payment, and to supply accurate information to the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 a minimum of ten (10) business days prior to the next payment date;
12. In the event that a taxpayer's financial institution fails to honor any preauthorized payment it shall be deemed to be a breach of the Agreement by the taxpayer and a non-sufficient funds fee shall be charged at the standard rate as set out in the current schedule of fees;
13. In the event that a taxpayer's financial institution fails to honor a second preauthorized payment within the same calendar year it shall be deemed to be a breach of the

Agreement by the taxpayer, a non-sufficient funds fee shall be charged, and the Agreement terminated;

14. At the sole discretion of the Chief Administrator Officer or Designate, monthly installments may be adjusted at any time in order to account for:

- i. changes to the total amount of taxes payable in respect of the current year,
- ii. any forecasted increase or decrease in municipal portion of the property tax amount as deemed appropriate, or
- iii. any other factor which may lead to an overpayment or underpayment of the total amount of taxes payable in respect of a property at the end of a current year.

15. It is the responsibility of the taxpayer to make the necessary adjustments to payments after receipt of the Tax Notice to assure that the final payment will cover all amounts owing by the deadline of September 15<sup>th</sup> of the given year.

16. If any portion of this bylaw is declared invalid by a Court of competent jurisdiction, then the invalid portion must be severed and the remainder of the Bylaw is deemed valid;

17. This Bylaw shall take effect upon the date it is passed by third reading.

First Reading on this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_

Second Reading on this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_

Third Reading on this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tony Van Rootselaar  
Reeve

\_\_\_\_\_  
Shirley Hayden  
Chief Administrative Officer



Tax Installment Payment Plan (TIPP)

ROLL: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

PROPERTY OWNERS: \_\_\_\_\_

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: \_\_\_\_\_

PLAN: \_\_\_\_\_

BLOCK: \_\_\_\_\_

LOT: \_\_\_\_\_

RURAL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE#: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PREVIOUS YEAR TAX AMOUNT: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ PYMTS MONTHLY PAYMENT

MONTHLY PAYMENT AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_ hereby enter into a formal agreement with the MO of Spirit River #133 to make equal monthly payments on my tax account starting September 1, \_\_\_\_\_ and ending September 1, \_\_\_\_\_ of the following year. I understand and agree that the monthly payment schedule shall be based upon the previous year's levy and any increase or decrease when the current taxes are levied shall be adjusted on the final payment in September bringing the tax account to a zero (0) balance. If you are joining the plan later than September 1, the September payment (and any other months missed) are required prior to signing up.

I further understand and agree that all payments must be received on or before the 15<sup>th</sup> day of each month. Should I fail to make a payment or be late with any payment, this agreement shall be deemed to be null and void and all applicable penalties shall be levied as per the current bylaw.

Payments may be made in person, by mail, online EFT, post-dated cheques, or by direct deposit.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Property Owner or Designated Agent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
MO of Spirit River Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

March 20, 2026

## RE: Update to Hotel Cancellation Policies

Dear Members,

We want to take a moment to speak openly with you about an important update to our convention hotel booking policy, and why it matters to all of us.

As you know, securing hotel room blocks is a critical part of hosting successful meetings and conferences. When we contract hotel rooms at discounted rates on behalf of our members, we make a financial commitment to the hotel based on anticipated attendance. This allows us to negotiate better rates, concessions credits for the association, and create a smooth experience for everyone.

However, over the past several events, we have seen a consistent pattern of last-minute room cancellations. While individual cancellations often feel inconsequential, collectively they create a real financial risk for the association. When rooms are released too close to the event date, hotels are often unable to resell them and the association may be held responsible financially for **attrition damages**, which are essentially penalties for unused rooms.

These charges are not absorbed by the hotel; they are billed directly to the association. Over time, this exposure can significantly impact our budget, limit future negotiating power, and ultimately affect registration costs, programming, and the quality of future events.

### Our New 30-Day Cancellation Policy

To help protect the long-term health of the association and ensure we can continue delivering high-quality meetings, we are implementing a **30-day hotel room cancellation policy**, effective fall 2026.

- Reservations cancelled **more than 30 days** prior to arrival may be cancelled without penalty.
- Reservations cancelled **within 30 days** of arrival will be subject to the hotel's cancellation terms and may not be refundable. Any funds collected by the hotel on your cancelled rooms applies as a credit towards any pending attrition penalties owing by RMA.

This policy is not intended to be punitive. Rather, it reflects the point at which the association becomes financially committed to the hotel and is no longer able to reduce its risk.

### A Shared Responsibility

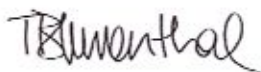
We recognize that plans change, and we deeply appreciate the trust and engagement you bring to our meetings. This policy is about aligning our collective actions with the commitments made on behalf of the entire membership.

By finalizing travel plans earlier, working closely with your county or local chapter to more accurately forecast how many rooms will truly be needed, and releasing unneeded rooms before the 30-day window, you are directly helping:

- Protect the association from unexpected financial liability
- Preserve our ability to negotiate favourable rates in the future
- Ensure continued investment in the programs and experiences you value

We are grateful for your understanding and partnership as we take this important step to safeguard our shared resources. If you have questions, our team is always happy to help.

Warm regards,



**Tasha Blumenthal**  
*Chief Relations Officer*  
Mobile: 780-716-5190  
[tasha@rmalberta.com](mailto:tasha@rmalberta.com)



The Municipal District of Spirit River No.133  
Box 389, 4202-50<sup>th</sup> Street, Spirit River, Alberta T0H 3G0  
E-mail: mdsr133@mdspiritriv.ab.ca  
Telephone (780) 864-3500

COPY

March 18, 2026

The Honourable Heath MacDonald  
Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food  
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada  
1341 Baseline Road  
Tower 7, Floor 8  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0C5

**RE: Opposition to the Closure of the Lacombe Research and Development Centre (LRDC)**

Dear Minister MacDonald,

On behalf of The Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 Council, I am writing to formally express our strong opposition to the federal government's decision to close the Lacombe Research and Development Centre (LRDC).

Agriculture is the backbone of Alberta's economy and a primary driver of national food security. The LRDC has served as a cornerstone of this industry for 119 years. The proposed closure represents not just a loss of infrastructure, but a significant blow to the scientific and economic health of our province.

Our Council shares the concerns raised by Lacombe County regarding the following critical impacts:

- **Irreplaceable Scientific Data:** The LRDC houses Canada's only federally operated meat sciences program and long-term crop trials. Decades of continuous data and site-specific research cannot simply be "relocated" without irreparable loss to their scientific integrity.
- **Economic and Workforce Erosion:** The elimination of over 100 professional positions will destabilize the regional labor market and sever the pipeline for student mentorship and early-career opportunities essential to our future agri-food workforce.

COPY

- **National Resilience:** At a time of global trade volatility and increasing climate-related challenges, Canada requires *more* independent, public-interest research—not less. Reducing our capacity for innovation now leaves our producers vulnerable and weakens our competitive edge on the global stage.

The LRDC is a vital link in the research cluster that connects academia, industry, and the public sector in Central Alberta. Its closure would undermine the collaborative ecosystem that ensures Canadian agriculture remains sustainable and science-based.

We respectfully urge the Government of Canada to reverse this decision and reaffirm its commitment to agricultural excellence by maintaining and investing in the Lacombe Research and Development Centre.

Sincerely,



Reeve Tony / Mayor Municipal District of Spirit River No.133

rvjr

**cc:** Chris Warkentin, Member of Parliament

Todd Loewen, Member of the Legislative Assembly

Tim Timmons, County Manager, Lacombe County

## Email Communication: Proposed Amendments to Species at Risk Act

From: SARA [PNR] <SARA.PNR@EC.gc.ca>

Sent: March 11, 2026 2:12 PM

To: SARA [PNR] <SARA.PNR@EC.gc.ca>

Subject: FOR COMMENT: Proposed SARA Amendments: Macropis Cuckoo Bee (due May 14, 2026) & Least Bittern, Short-billed Dowitcher, Snowy Owl (due Oct 14, 2026)



Good afternoon,

### We invite you to:

- Review the proposed Amendments to the List of Wildlife Species at Risk: Schedule 1 of the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) to add Short-billed Dowitcher and Snowy Owl as Threatened, to downlist Least Bittern from Threatened to Special Concern, and to remove Macropis Cuckoo Bee (Endangered to Data Deficient)
- **Provide comments, if desired,** on the possible impacts of these changes to your unique rights, interests, and circumstances **by May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026** (for Macropis Cuckoo Bee), or **October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026** (for Least Bittern, Short-billed Dowitcher, and Snowy Owl) to [SARAREgistry@ec.gc.ca](mailto:SARAREgistry@ec.gc.ca)

### Full Details

Environment and Climate Change Canada has launched the consultations on the proposed amendments to Schedule 1 of the SARA for the Least Bittern, Short-billed Dowitcher, Snowy Owl, and Macropis Cuckoo Bee (Table 1.) The complete set of statements and the consultation path for each species are available [here](#).

**Table 1. Prairie species assessed by COSEWIC and eligible for addition to, or reclassification in Schedule 1.**

Taxon	COSEWIC Status	Species	Range	Consultation Path
<b>Addition to Schedule 1</b>				
Birds	Threatened	Short-billed Dowitcher <i>hendersoni/griseus</i>	NT, AB, SK, MB, ON, QC, NB, NS, PE, NL, NU	Extended = comments due October 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2026
Birds	Threatened	Snowy Owl	YT, NT, NU, BC, AB, SK, MB, ON, QC, NB, NS, PE, NL	Extended = comments due October 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2026
<b>Reclassification: Downlist</b>				
Birds	From Threatened to Special Concern	Least Bittern	SK, MB, ON, QC, NB, NS, PE	Extended = comments due October 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2026
<b>Reclassification: Removal</b>				
Arthropods	From Endangered to Data Deficient	Macropis Cuckoo Bee	AB, SK, MB, ON, QC, NB, NS	Normal = comments due May 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2026

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**Email Communication: Proposed Amendments to Species at Risk Act**

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**We are interested in your comments on the possible impacts of these potential listings and/or reclassifications on your unique rights, interests, and circumstances.** Your comments will help us gain a better understanding of the benefits and costs, and will inform the Minister's recommendation on whether to:

- List or reclassify the species under the SARA
- Not list or not reclassify the species under the SARA or
- Refer the species back to COSEWIC for further consideration

More information on the species, listing, and consultation processes are available on the SARA Public Registry [here](#) and in the attached documents.

**Please submit comments to the SARA Registry here: [SARAREGISTRY@ec.gc.ca](mailto:SARAREGISTRY@ec.gc.ca)**

**or by mail to:**

Species at Risk Public Registry Office  
Environment and Climate Change Canada  
351 St. Joseph Boulevard – 21<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Gatineau, QC K1A 0H3

Thank you for your interest in species at risk!

If you have any questions, please contact us.

Sincerely,

**Kaytlyn Burrows**

Species at Risk Consultation and Engagement Team  
Canadian Wildlife Service, Prairie Region / Environment and Climate Change Canada  
Email: [SARA.PNR@ec.gc.ca](mailto:SARA.PNR@ec.gc.ca)  
Office: 1-855-245-0331 / Teams: 639-638-4535

*On behalf of*

**Janet Scott**

Head, Species at Risk Recovery Unit

Canadian Wildlife Service, Prairie Region / Environment and Climate Change Canada



# CONSULTATION ON AMENDING THE LIST OF SPECIES UNDER THE *SPECIES AT RISK ACT*

Terrestrial Species



Environment and  
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et  
Changement climatique Canada

Canada

N° de cat. : En1-36E-PDF

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Place Vincent Massey building  
351 St-Joseph boulevard  
Gatineau Quebec K1A 0H3  
Telephone: 819-938-3860  
Toll Free: 1-800-668-6767 (in Canada only)  
Email: [enviroinfo@ec.gc.ca](mailto:enviroinfo@ec.gc.ca)

Photos:

Dwarf Hesperochiron © Ryan Batten

Hudsonian Godwit © Cameron Eckert

American Bumble Bee © Victoria MacPhail

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Climate Change and Nature Canada, 2026

Aussi disponible en français

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# ADDITION OF SPECIES TO THE *SPECIES AT RISK ACT*

## **THE *SPECIES AT RISK ACT* AND THE LIST OF WILDLIFE SPECIES AT RISK**

The Government of Canada is committed to preventing the disappearance of wildlife species at risk from our lands. As part of its strategy for realizing that commitment, on June 5, 2003, the Government of Canada proclaimed the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA). Attached to the Act is Schedule 1, the list of the species provided for under SARA, also called the List of Wildlife Species at Risk. Extirpated, Endangered and Threatened species on Schedule 1 benefit from the protection afforded by the prohibitions and from recovery planning requirements under SARA. Special Concern species benefit from its management planning requirements.

The policy "Timeline for amendments to Schedule 1 of the *Species at Risk Act*" policy has set standardized timelines for listing decisions. These timelines mean that the Minister will seek to have the final decision made within 24 months. The 24 months begin with the date that the Minister receives a species' status assessment from the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) when COSEWIC submits its Annual Report. This receipt date is published in the response statement for each species.

The ["Timeline for amendments to Schedule 1 of the \*Species at Risk Act\*"](#) policy and the [COSEWIC Annual Reports](#) can be viewed on the Species at risk (SAR) public registry.

The complete list of species currently on Schedule 1, or the [List of Wildlife Species at Risk](#), can also be viewed on the SAR public registry.

Species become eligible for addition to Schedule 1 once they have been assessed as being at risk by the COSEWIC. The decision to add a species to Schedule 1 is made by the Governor in Council

further to a recommendation from the Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature. The Governor in Council is the formal executive body that gives legal effect to decisions that then have the force of law.

## **COSEWIC AND THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR IDENTIFYING SPECIES AT RISK**

COSEWIC is recognized under SARA as the authority for assessing the status of wildlife species at risk. COSEWIC comprises experts on wildlife species at risk. Its members have backgrounds in the fields of biology, ecology, genetics, Indigenous traditional knowledge and other relevant fields. They come from various communities, including academia, Indigenous organizations, governments and non-governmental organizations.

COSEWIC gives priority to those species more likely to become extinct, and then commissions a status report for the evaluation of the species status. To be accepted, status reports must be peer-reviewed and approved by a subcommittee of species specialists. In special circumstances, assessments can be done on an emergency basis. When a status report is complete, COSEWIC meets to examine it and discuss the species. COSEWIC then determines whether the species is at risk, and, if so, it then assesses the level of risk and assigns a conservation status.

## **TERMS USED TO DEFINE THE DEGREE OF RISK TO A SPECIES**

The conservation status defines the degree of risk to a species. The terms used under SARA are Extirpated, Endangered, Threatened and Special Concern. Extirpated species are wildlife species that no longer occur in the wild in Canada but still exist elsewhere. Endangered species are wildlife species that are likely to soon become Extirpated or Extinct. Threatened species are likely to become

Endangered if nothing is done to reverse the factors leading to their extirpation or extinction. The term Special Concern is used for wildlife species that may become Threatened or Endangered due to a combination of biological characteristics and threats. Once COSEWIC has assessed a species as Extirpated, Endangered, Threatened or Special Concern, it is eligible for inclusion on Schedule 1.

For more information on COSEWIC, visit the [COSEWIC website](#).

### **TERRESTRIAL AND AQUATIC SPECIES ELIGIBLE FOR SCHEDULE 1 AMENDMENTS**

The Minister of Fisheries and Oceans conducts separate consultations for the aquatic species. For more information on the consultations for aquatic species, visit the page on [Aquatic species at risk](#) on the Fisheries and Oceans Canada website.

The Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature is conducting the consultations for all other species at risk.

Species at risk also occur in national parks or other lands administered by Parks Canada; Parks Canada shares responsibility for these species with Environment and Climate Change Canada.

### **THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND NATURE'S RESPONSE TO THE COSEWIC ASSESSMENTS: THE RESPONSE STATEMENTS**

After COSEWIC has completed its assessment of a species, it provides it to the Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature. The Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature then has 90 days to post a response on the Species at Risk Public Registry, known as a response statement. The response statement indicates when the Minister received the assessment and provides information on the scope of any consultations and the timelines for action, to the extent possible. It identifies how long the consultations will be (whether they are "normal" or "extended") by stating when the Minister will forward the assessment to the Governor in Council.

Consultations for a group of species are launched with the posting of their response statements.

### **COMMENTS SOLICITED ON THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS OF SCHEDULE 1**

The conservation of wildlife is a joint legal responsibility: one that is shared among the governments of Canada. But biodiversity will not be conserved by governments that act alone. The best way to secure the survival of species at risk and their habitats is through the active participation of all those concerned. SARA recognizes this, and that all Indigenous peoples and Canadians have a role to play in preventing the disappearance of wildlife species from our lands. The Government of Canada is inviting and encouraging you to become involved. One way that you can do so is by sharing your comments concerning the addition or reclassification of these terrestrial species.

Your comments are welcome on how the government's decision to list a species under SARA could affect you or your community. Comments will be used to inform the drafting of the Minister's proposed listing recommendations for each of these species. This consultation process is not intended to revisit the scientific assessments conducted by COSEWIC, whose independent evaluations of biological status are complete. However, if you have scientific information that was not considered by COSEWIC during their assessment, this is also welcome.

## THE SPECIES AT RISK ACT LISTING PROCESS AND CONSULTATIONS

The addition of a wildlife species at risk to Schedule 1 of SARA facilitates providing for its protection and conservation. To be effective, the listing process must be transparent and open. The species listing process under SARA is summarized in Figure 1.

### THE PURPOSE OF CONSULTATIONS ON AMENDMENTS TO THE LIST

When COSEWIC assesses a wildlife species, it does so solely on the basis of the best available information relevant to the biological status of the species. COSEWIC then submits the assessment to the Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature, who considers it when making the listing recommendation to the Governor in Council. The purpose of these consultations is to provide the Minister with a better understanding of the potential social and economic impacts of the proposed change to the List of Wildlife Species at Risk, and of the potential consequences of not adding a species to the List.

### LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT OF THE CONSULTATIONS: THE MINISTER'S RECOMMENDATION TO THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL

The comments collected during the consultations inform the Governor in Council's consideration of the Minister's recommendations for listing species at risk. The Minister must recommend one of three courses of action. These are for the Governor in Council to accept the species assessment and modify Schedule 1 accordingly, not to add the species to Schedule 1, or to refer the species assessment back to COSEWIC for its further consideration (Figure 1).

- *Constitution Act, 1982, s.35, Duty to consult* – Under section 35 of the Constitution Act, the federal government has a duty to consult and, where appropriate, accommodate Indigenous communities when government action has the

potential to adversely impact potential or established Aboriginal or treaty rights.

- The [United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act \(UNDA\)](#) requires Environment and Climate Change to conduct consultations with Indigenous peoples comprehensively and respectfully to fulfill its legal obligations under the Act.

### NORMAL AND EXTENDED CONSULTATION PERIODS

Normal consultations meet the consultation needs for the listing of most species at risk. The consultations can last between four and nine months (known respectively as normal and extended consultation paths). Longer consultations may be needed to ensure appropriate consultations. The reasons more time may be needed include, but are not limited to, ensuring appropriate engagement with Indigenous Peoples and conducting complex socioeconomic analyses. Consultations are also required with wildlife management boards, which are authorized under land claims agreements for functions involving a wildlife species.

The extent of consultations needs to be proportional to the expected impact of a listing decision and the time that may be needed to consult. Under some circumstances, whether or not a species will be included on Schedule 1 could have significant and widespread impacts on the activities of some groups of people. It is essential that such stakeholders have the opportunity to inform the pending decision and, to the extent possible, to provide input on its potential

consequences and to share ideas on how best to approach threats to the species. A longer period may also be required to consult appropriately with some groups. For example, consultations can take longer for groups that meet infrequently but that must be engaged on several occasions. For such reasons, extended consultations may be undertaken.

Occasionally, for reasons such as these, the timelines initially set out in a response statement may not be adequate. In such cases, if the Governor in Council does not receive the assessment at the time specified in the response statement, within one month another statement is to be published on the Registry describing the reasons for the delay and setting out next steps.

For both normal and extended consultations, once they are complete, the Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature forwards the species assessments to the Governor in Council for the government's formal receipt of the assessment. The Governor in Council then has nine months to come to a listing decision.

The consultation paths (normal or extended) for the terrestrial species eligible for an Amendment to Schedule 1 are announced when the Minister publishes the response statements.

No consultations are undertaken for species already on Schedule 1 and for which no change in status is being proposed.

**FIGURE 1: THE SPECIES LISTING PROCESS UNDER SARA**

1	The Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature receives species assessments from COSEWIC at least once per year.
2	The competent departments undertake an internal review to determine the extent of public consultations and socio-economic analysis necessary to inform the listing decision.
3	Within 90 days of receipt of the species assessments prepared by COSEWIC, the Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature publishes response statements on the Species at Risk Public Registry that indicates how he or she intends to respond to each assessment and, to the extent possible, provides timelines for action.
4	Where appropriate, the competent departments undertake consultations, and any other relevant analysis needed to prepare the advice for the Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature.
5	The Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature forwards the assessments to the Governor in Council for receipt. This generally occurs within twelve months of posting the response statements, unless further consultations are necessary.
6	Within nine months of receiving the assessments, the Governor in Council, on the recommendation of the Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature, may decide whether or not to list the species under Schedule 1 of SARA or refer the assessments back to COSEWIC for further information or consideration.
7	Once a species is added to Schedule 1, it benefits from the applicable provisions of SARA.

## WHO IS CONSULTED, AND HOW

It is most important to consult with those who would be most affected by the proposed changes. There is protection that is immediately in place when a species that is Extirpated, Endangered or Threatened is added to Schedule 1 (for more details, see below, "Protection for listed Extirpated, Endangered and Threatened species"). This immediate protection does not apply to species of Special Concern. The nature of the protection depends on the type of species, its conservation status, and where the species is found. Environment and Climate Change Canada takes this into account during the consultations; those who may be affected by the impacts of the automatic protections are contacted directly, and others are encouraged to contribute through a variety of approaches.

Indigenous peoples known to have species at risk on their lands, for which changes to Schedule 1 are being considered, will be contacted. Their engagement is of particular significance, acknowledging their role in the management of the extensive traditional territories and reserve and settlement lands.

A Wildlife Management Board is a group that has been established under a land claims agreement and is authorized by the agreement to perform functions in respect of wildlife species. Some eligible species at risk are found on lands where existing land claims agreements apply, that give specific authority to a Wildlife Management Board. In such cases, the Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature will consult with the relevant board.

To encourage others to contribute and make the necessary information readily available, this document is distributed to known stakeholders and posted on the Species at Risk Public Registry. More extensive consultations may also be done through regional or community meetings or through a more targeted approach.

Environment and Climate Change Canada also sends notice of the consultations to identified

concerned groups and individuals who have made their interests known. These include, but are not limited to, industries, resource users, landowners and environmental non-governmental organizations.

In most cases, it is difficult for Environment and Climate Change Canada to fully examine the potential impacts of recovery actions when species are being considered for listing. Recovery actions for terrestrial species usually have not yet been comprehensively defined at the time of listing, so their impact cannot be fully understood. Once they are better understood, efforts are made to minimize adverse social and economic impacts of listing and to maximize the benefits. SARA requires that recovery measures be prepared in consultation with those considered to be directly affected by them.

In addition to the public, Environment and Climate Change Canada consults on listing with the governments of the provinces and territories with lead responsibility for the conservation and management of these wildlife species. Environment and Climate Change Canada also consults with other federal departments and agencies.

## ROLE AND IMPACT OF PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS IN THE LISTING PROCESS

The results of the public consultations are of great significance to informing the process of listing species at risk. Environment and Climate Change Canada carefully reviews the comments it receives to gain a better understanding of the benefits and costs of changing the List.

The comments are then used to inform the Minister's recommendation to the Governor in Council. The Governor in Council can decide either to accept the species assessment and amend Schedule 1 accordingly; or not to add the species to Schedule 1; or to refer the species assessment back to COSEWIC for further information or consideration.

The Government of Canada also recognizes that the absence of full scientific certainty is not a reason to postpone decisions to protect the environment.

## SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ADDITION OF A SPECIES TO SCHEDULE 1

The protection that comes into effect following the addition of a species to Schedule 1 depends upon a number of factors. These include the species' status under SARA, the type of species and where it occurs.

### PROTECTION FOR LISTED EXTIRPATED, ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES

Responsibility for the conservation of wildlife is shared among the governments of Canada. SARA establishes legal protection for individuals as soon as a species is listed as Threatened, Endangered or Extirpated, and, in the case of Threatened and Endangered species, for their residences. This applies to species considered federal species or that are found on federal lands.

Federal species include migratory birds, as defined by the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*, and aquatic species covered by the *Fisheries Act*. Federal land means land that belongs to the federal government, and the internal waters and territorial sea of Canada. It also means land set apart for the use and benefit of a band under the *Indian Act* (such as reserves). In the territories, the protection for species at risk on federal lands applies only where they are on lands under the authority of the Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature or the Parks Canada Agency.

Migratory birds are protected by the *Migratory Birds Regulations* under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*, which strictly prohibits the harming of migratory birds and the disturbance or destruction of their nests and eggs. For more information, please refer to the [Migratory Birds Regulations](#) for the complete list of prohibitions.

SARA's protection for individuals makes it an offence to kill, harm, harass, capture or take an individual of a species listed as Extirpated, Endangered or Threatened. It is also an offence to damage or destroy the residence of one or more

individuals of an Endangered or Threatened species or an Extirpated species whose reintroduction has been recommended by a recovery strategy. The Act also makes it an offence to possess, collect, buy, sell or trade an individual of a species that is Extirpated, Endangered or Threatened.

Species at risk that are neither aquatic nor protected under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*, nor on federal lands, do not receive immediate protection upon listing under SARA. Instead, in most cases, the protection of terrestrial species on non-federal lands is the responsibility of the provinces and territories where they are found. The application of protections under SARA to a species at risk on non-federal lands requires that the Governor in Council make an order defining those lands. This can only occur when the Minister is of the opinion that the laws of the province or territory do not effectively protect the species or its critical habitat. To put such an order in place, the Minister would then need to recommend the order be made to the Governor in Council. If the Governor in Council agrees to make the order, the prohibitions of SARA would then apply to the provincial or territorial lands specified by the order. The federal government would consult before making such an order.

The Governor in Council may also make an emergency order to provide for the protection of a listed wildlife species under section 80 of SARA, which can apply to federal, provincial and privately held lands. Emergency orders may identify habitat that is necessary for the survival or recovery of the species and include provisions prohibiting activities

that may adversely affect the species and that habitat.

### **RECOVERY STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS FOR EXTIRPATED, ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES**

Recovery planning results in the development of recovery strategies and action plans for Extirpated, Endangered or Threatened species. It involves the different levels of government responsible for the management of the species, depending on what type of species it is and where it occurs. These include federal, provincial and territorial governments as well as Wildlife Management Boards. Recovery strategies and action plans are also prepared in cooperation with directly affected Indigenous organizations. Landowners and other stakeholders directly affected by a recovery strategy are consulted to the extent possible.

Recovery strategies must be prepared for all Extirpated, Endangered and Threatened species. They include measures to mitigate the known threats to a species and its habitat and set the population and distribution objectives. Other objectives can be included, such as stewardship, to conserve the species, or education, to increase public awareness. Recovery strategies must include a statement of the time frame for the development of one or more action plans that will state the measures necessary to implement the recovery strategy. To the extent possible, recovery strategies must also identify the critical habitat of the species, which is the habitat necessary for the survival or recovery of the species. If there is not enough information available to identify critical habitat, the recovery strategies include a schedule of studies required for its identification. This schedule outlines what must be done to obtain the necessary information and by when it needs to be done. In such cases, critical habitat can be identified in a subsequent action plan.

Proposed recovery strategies for newly listed species are posted on the Species at Risk Public Registry to provide for public review and comments. For Endangered species, proposed recovery strategies are posted within one year of

their addition to Schedule 1, and for Threatened or Extirpated species, within two years.

Once a recovery strategy has been posted as final, one or more action plans based on the recovery strategy must then be prepared. These include measures to address threats and achieve the population and distribution objectives. Action plans also complete the identification of the critical habitat where necessary and, to the extent possible, state measures that are proposed to protect it. Once critical habitat is identified in a recovery strategy or action plan the Act provides for steps to be taken for its protection.

### **PERMITS AND AGREEMENTS**

For terrestrial species listed on Schedule 1 as Extirpated, Endangered or Threatened, the Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature may authorize exceptions to the Act's prohibitions, when and where they apply. The Minister can enter into agreements or issue permits only for one of three purposes: for research, for conservation activities, or if the effects to the species are incidental to the activity. Research must relate to the conservation of a species and be conducted by qualified scientists. Conservation activities must benefit a listed species or be required to enhance its chances of survival. All activities, including those that incidentally affect a listed species, its individuals, residences or critical habitat must also meet certain conditions. First, it must be established that all reasonable alternatives to the activity have been considered and the best solution has been adopted. Second, it must also be established that all feasible measures will be taken to minimize the impact of the activity on the listed species. Finally, it must be established that the activity will not jeopardize the survival or recovery of the species. Having issued a permit or agreement, the Minister must then include an explanation on the Species at Risk Public Registry of why the permit or agreement was issued.

### **PROTECTION FOR LISTED SPECIES OF SPECIAL CONCERN**

While immediate protection under SARA for species listed as Extirpated, Endangered and Threatened does not apply to species listed as

Special Concern, any existing protections and prohibitions, such as those provided by the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994* or the *Canada National Parks Act*, continue to be in force.

#### **MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR SPECIES OF SPECIAL CONCERN**

For species of Special Concern, management plans are to be prepared and made available on the Species at Risk Public Registry within three years of a species' addition to Schedule 1, allowing for public review and comments. Management plans include appropriate conservation measures for the species and for its habitat. They are prepared in cooperation with the jurisdictions responsible for the management of the species, including directly affected Wildlife Management Boards and Indigenous organizations. Landowners, lessees and others directly affected by a

management plan will also be consulted to the extent possible.

#### **PROVIDING COMMENTS**

The involvement of Canadians is integral to the listing process, as it is to the ultimate protection of Canadian wildlife. Your comments matter and are given serious consideration. ECCC will review all the comments that it receives by the deadlines provided in consultation materials. Your feedback at the listing stage on potential social, economic, and operational impacts throughout the SARA lifecycle is appreciated.

For any information on the *Species at Risk Act*, please visit the [Species at risk public registry website](#).

# GLOSSARY

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**Aquatic species:** A wildlife species that is a fish as defined in section 2 of the *Fisheries Act* or a marine plant as defined in section 47 of the Act. The term includes marine mammals.

**Canada Gazette:** The Canada Gazette is one of the vehicles that Canadians can use to access laws and regulations. It has been the "official newspaper" of the Government of Canada since 1841. Government departments and agencies as well as the private sector are required by law to publish certain information in the Canada Gazette. Notices and proposed regulations are published in the Canada Gazette, Part I, and official regulations are published in the Canada Gazette, Part II. For more information, please visit the [Canada Gazette website](#).

## Canadian Endangered Species

**Conservation Council:** The Council is made up of federal, provincial and territorial ministers with responsibilities for wildlife species. The Council's mandate is to provide national leadership and coordination for the protection of species at risk.

**COSEWIC:** The Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. The Committee comprises experts on wildlife species at risk. Their backgrounds are in the fields of biology, ecology, genetics, Indigenous traditional knowledge and other relevant fields. These experts come from various communities, including, among others, government and academia.

**COSEWIC assessment:** COSEWIC's assessment or re-assessment of the status of a wildlife species, based on a status report on the species that COSEWIC either has had prepared or has received with an application.

**Critical habitat:** The habitat that is necessary for the survival or recovery of a listed wildlife species and that is identified as the species' critical habitat in the recovery strategy or in an action plan for the species.

**Down-listing:** A revision of the status of a species on Schedule 1 to a status of lower risk.

**Federal land:** Any land owned by the federal government, the internal waters and territorial sea of Canada, and reserves and other land set apart for the use and benefit of a band under the *Indian Act*.

**Governor in Council:** The Governor General of Canada acting on the advice of the King's Privy Council for Canada, the formal executive body that gives legal effect to those decisions of Cabinet that are to have the force of law.

**Individual:** An individual of a wildlife species, whether living or dead, at any developmental stage, and includes larvae, embryos, eggs, sperm, seeds, pollen, spores and asexual propagules.

**Order:** An order issued by the Governor in Council, either on the basis of authority delegated by legislation or by virtue of the prerogative powers of the Crown.

**Response statement:** A document in which the Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature indicates how he or she intends to respond to the COSEWIC assessment of a wildlife species. A response statement is posted on the Species at Risk Public Registry within 90 days of receipt of the assessment by the Minister, and provides timelines for action to the extent possible.

## Species at Risk Public Registry:

Developed as an online service, the [Species at Risk \(SAR\) public registry](#) has been accessible to the public since the proclamation of the *Species at*

*Risk Act (SARA)*. The website gives users easy access to documents and information related to SARA at any time and location with Internet access.

**Schedule 1:** A schedule of SARA, also known as the List of Wildlife Species at Risk, which presents the list of species protected under SARA.

**Up-listing:** A revision of the status of a species on Schedule 1 to a status of higher risk.

**Wildlife Management Board:** Established under the land claims agreements in northern Quebec, Newfoundland and Labrador, Yukon,

Northwest Territories, British Columbia, and Nunavut, Wildlife Management Boards are the "main instruments of wildlife management" within their settlement areas. In this role, Wildlife Management Boards not only establish, modify and remove levels of total allowable harvest of a variety of wildlife species, but also participate in research activities, including annual harvest studies, and approve the designation of species at risk in their settlement areas.

**Wildlife Species:** Under SARA, a species, subspecies, variety, or geographically or genetically distinct population of animal, plant or other organism, other than a bacterium or virus. To be eligible for inclusion under SARA, a wildlife species must be wild by nature and native to Canada. Non-native species that have been here for 50 years or more can be considered eligible if they came without human intervention.



## **Part 2: The List of Species Eligible for an Amendment to Schedule 1**



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## THE LIST OF SPECIES ELIGIBLE FOR AN AMENDMENT TO SCHEDULE 1

### Status of the recently assessed species and consultation paths

On **October 16, 2025**, COSEWIC submitted twelve assessments of species at risk to the Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature for species that are eligible to be added to Schedule 1 of SARA. Eight of these are terrestrial species, and four are aquatic species. COSEWIC also reviewed the classification of species already on Schedule 1, in some cases changing their status. One terrestrial species is being considered for a merge from two wildlife species to one. Two terrestrial species are being considered for a lower risk status on SARA. One species is being considered for a removal from Schedule 1. In all, 12 terrestrial species that are eligible to be added or removed from Schedule 1, or to have their current status on Schedule 1 changed are included in this consultation (Table 1).

COSEWIC also submitted the reviews of species already on Schedule 1, confirming their classification. Three of these reviews were for terrestrial species. These species are not included in the consultations because there is no regulatory change being proposed (Table 2).

For more information on the consultations for aquatic species, visit the Fisheries and Oceans Canada website at [Aquatic species at risk](#).

### Providing comments

The involvement of Canadians is integral to the listing process, as it is to the ultimate protection of Canadian wildlife. Your comments matter

and are given serious consideration.

Environment and Climate Change Canada will review all the comments that it receives by the deadlines provided below.

Comments for terrestrial species undergoing normal consultations must be received by **May 14, 2026**.

Comments for terrestrial species undergoing extended consultations must be received by **October 14, 2026**.

Most species will be undergoing normal consultations. For a description of the consultation paths these species will undergo, please visit the Species at Risk (SAR) Public Registry website at: [Minister Response: COSEWIC species at risk assessments - January 2026](#).

For more details on submitting comments, see the section "Comments solicited on the proposed amendment of Schedule 1" in the document entitled "Consultation on Amending the List of Species under the *Species at Risk Act*: Terrestrial Species".

Please email your comments to the Species at Risk Public Registry at: [sararegistry@ec.gc.ca](mailto:sararegistry@ec.gc.ca)

Comments may also be mailed to:

Director General, Wildlife Management  
Canadian Wildlife Service  
Environment and Climate Change Canada  
Gatineau QC K1A 0H3

For more information on the *Species at Risk Act*, please visit the [Species at Risk Public Registry website](#).



**Table 1: Terrestrial species recently assessed by COSEWIC eligible for addition to Schedule 1 (8), reclassification (3) or a removal from the List (1)**

Taxon	Species	Scientific Name	Range
<b>Species eligible for addition to Schedule 1 (8)</b>			
<b>Endangered (6)</b>			
Arthropods	Valley Grasshopper	<i>Oedaleonotus enigma</i>	BC
Birds	Short-billed Dowitcher <i>caurinus</i> subspecies	<i>Limnodromus griseus caurinus</i>	BC, YT
Lichens	Cupped Fringe Lichen	<i>Heterodermia hypoleuca</i>	NB, ON, QC
Molluscs	Big-tooth Whitellip	<i>Neohelix dentifera</i>	ON, QC
Mosses	Circular-leaved Peat Moss	<i>Sphagnum cyclophyllum</i>	NS
Vascular Plants	Short-fruited Rush	<i>Juncus brachycarpus</i>	ON
<b>Threatened (2)</b>			
Birds	Short-billed Dowitcher <i>hendersoni/griseus</i>	<i>Limnodromus griseus hendersoni/griseus</i>	AB, MB, NB, NL, NS, NT, NU, ON, PE, QC, SK
Birds	Snowy Owl	<i>Bubo scandiacus</i>	AB, BC, MB, NB, NL, NS, NT, NU, ON, PE, QC, SK, YT
<b>Reclassifications: Merge (1) and Down-list (2)</b>			
<b>Merge from one Threatened and one Endangered wildlife species to one Threatened wildlife species (1)</b>			
Reptiles	Eastern Massasauga <sup>1</sup>	<i>Sistrurus catenatus</i>	ON
<b>From Endangered to Threatened (1)</b>			
Reptiles	Butler's Gartersnake	<i>Thamnophis butleri</i>	ON
<b>From Threatened to Special Concern (1)</b>			
Birds	Least Bittern	<i>Botaurus exilis</i>	MB, NB, NS, ON, PE, QC, SK
<b>Reclassifications: Removal from Schedule 1 (1)</b>			
<b>From Endangered to Data deficient (1)</b>			
Arthropods	Macropis Cuckoo Bee	<i>Epeoloides pilosulus</i>	AB, MB, NB, NS, ON, QC, SK

**Table 2: Terrestrial species recently reassessed by COSEWIC (no consultations – species status confirmation)**

Taxon	Species	Scientific Name	Range
<b>Status Confirmations (3)</b>			
<b>Endangered (1)</b>			
Mosses	Roell's Brotherella Moss	<i>Brotherella roellii</i>	BC
<b>Threatened (2)</b>			
Birds	Lewis's Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes lewis</i>	AB, BC
Mammals	Black-tailed Prairie Dog	<i>Cynomys ludovicianus</i>	SK

<sup>1</sup> Eastern Massasaugas are currently listed on Schedule 1 under different names and populations. The Massasauga, Carolinian population is on Schedule 1 as Endangered and the Massasauga, Great Lakes / St. Lawrence population is on Schedule 1 as Threatened. In early 2025, COSEWIC assessed the Eastern Massasauga as one wildlife species instead of two as the two populations were considered a single unit.



## THE COSEWIC SUMMARIES OF TERRESTRIAL SPECIES ELIGIBLE FOR ADDITION OR RECLASSIFICATION ON SCHEDULE 1

For a brief summary of the reasons for the COSEWIC status designation of individual species, and their biology, threats, distribution and other information, please consult the COSEWIC Summaries of Terrestrial Species Eligible for Addition or Reclassification on Schedule 1 at:

[Consultation on Amending the List of Species under the Species at Risk Act: Terrestrial Species January 2026](#)

For a more comprehensive explanation of the conservation status of an individual species, please refer to the COSEWIC status report for that species, also available on the [SAR Public Registry website](#).

or contact:

COSEWIC Secretariat  
c/o Canadian Wildlife Service  
Environment and Climate Change Canada  
Gatineau QC K1A 0H3

**From:** CN Public Inquiry Line <[CONTACT@cn.ca](mailto:CONTACT@cn.ca)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 26, 2026 1:05:58 PM  
**To:** Shirley Hayden <[cao@mdspiritriver.ab.ca](mailto:cao@mdspiritriver.ab.ca)>  
**Subject:** Notice - Annual Vegetation Management Program

Notice - Annual Vegetation Management Program



Dear Ms. Hayden,

At CN, we are committed to operating a safe and efficient railway while fostering trust and collaboration with the communities we serve. As part of this commitment, we are reaching out to inform you of our upcoming vegetation management activities in your area, scheduled to take place between April and October 2026. You can find a regularly updated schedule at [www.cn.ca/vegetation](http://www.cn.ca/vegetation).

Vegetation management is a crucial component of railway safety and regulatory compliance. In accordance with Transport Canada's requirements, our program helps mitigate potential risks to railway operations. By proactively managing vegetation, we enhance safety for both rail operations and the surrounding communities.

For more details, please find enclosed a letter, which provides additional insights into the program. Should you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Best regards,



**CN Public Inquiry line**

**T: 1-888-888-5909**

**E: [contact@cn.ca](mailto:contact@cn.ca)**



Box 8100  
Montréal, Québec Canada  
H3C 3N4

Boîte 8100  
Montréal (Québec), Canada  
H3C 3N4

March 26, 2026

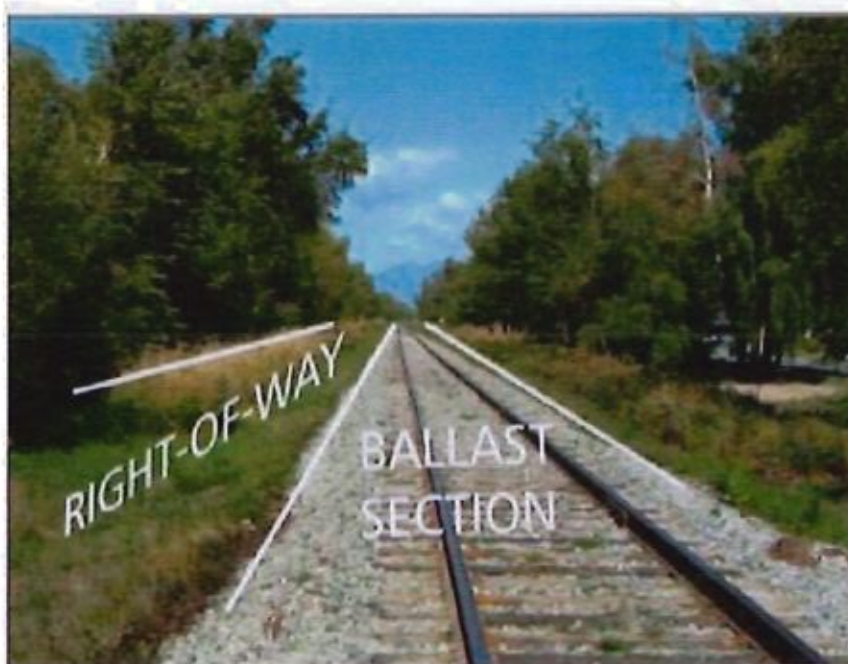
**RE: CN'S RIGHT-OF-WAY VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

At CN, we are committed to operating a safe and efficient railway while fostering trust and collaboration with the communities we serve. As part of this commitment, we are reaching out to inform you of our upcoming vegetation management activities in your area, scheduled to take place between April and October 2026. You can find a regularly updated schedule at [www.cn.ca/vegetation](http://www.cn.ca/vegetation).

Vegetation management is a crucial component of railway safety and regulatory compliance. In accordance with Transport Canada's requirements, our program helps mitigate potential risks to railway operations. By proactively managing vegetation, we enhance safety for both rail operations and surrounding communities.

**Management Strategies**

CN manages vegetation using chemical and mechanical methods to ensure regulatory compliance and maintain safe railway operations. We are sensitive to concerns the community may have regarding chemical vegetation management, and at CN, we strive to safeguard our neighbouring communities and the environment. The track infrastructure is composed of two main sections: the ballast section, which is typically up to 24 feet wide and consists of angular rock supporting the track infrastructure, and the right-of-way portion, which is the area outside of the ballast section extending out to CN's property boundaries.



Vegetation management using herbicides will focus on the ballast section, and as needed, selected areas around signals and communications equipment that are critical for safe railway operations. Herbicide application on the ballast section is completed with spray trucks or spray trains fitted with downcast nozzles that spray a short distance above the ground surface with shrouded booms, specially designed to limit herbicide drift into non-target areas.

The right-of-way section may be maintained using mechanical control methods such as mowing, or brush cutting and may include the selected and localized use of herbicides to control invasive plant species, including noxious weeds.

CN has retained professional contractors qualified to undertake herbicide application and mechanical vegetation management on CN property. They are required to follow all laws and regulations that apply to CN.

### **Inquiries**

Should your community have any noxious weed management requests, we ask that you contact CN's Public Inquiry Line at [contact@cn.ca](mailto:contact@cn.ca) or fill out the form at [www.cn.ca/vegetation](http://www.cn.ca/vegetation) before June 1, 2026 with the specific information and location. CN will make every effort to include those locations as part of our 2026 Vegetation Management Program. All notices sent after the above-mentioned date will be included in the 2027 Vegetation Management Plan.

Please also find a list of FAQs regarding the program that may be of further assistance at [www.cn.ca/vegetation](http://www.cn.ca/vegetation). For any questions or more information, please contact the CN Public Inquiry Line by telephone at 1888-888-5909, or by email at [contact@cn.ca](mailto:contact@cn.ca).

**From:** Angela M Bilski <[Angela.M.Bilski@gov.ab.ca](mailto:Angela.M.Bilski@gov.ab.ca)>  
**Sent:** March 25, 2026 9:07 AM  
**To:** MD of Spirit River 133 <[mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca](mailto:mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca)>  
**Cc:** [centralpeace.notley@assembly.ab.ca](mailto:centralpeace.notley@assembly.ab.ca)  
**Subject:** Rail-corridor maintenance concerns

Good morning Reeve Van Rootselaar;

Thank you for reaching out to the Honourable Todd Loewen, Minister of Forestry and Parks, regarding rail-corridor maintenance concerns. Your perspectives were shared with Municipal Affairs, as the issues raised relate to municipal jurisdiction and intergovernmental liaison, and I am responding on the Ministry's behalf.

While we understand the seriousness of the issues outlined, the Ministry does not have the authority to direct CN Rail's maintenance activities, enforce rail-related operational standards, or facilitate formal communication channels with federally regulated railways. CN is governed under federal legislation, and matters related to corridor maintenance, safety oversight, or enforcement fall under federal jurisdiction.

We recommend the municipality contact CN Rail Public Affairs directly to pursue these concerns by visiting [Contact Us | cn.ca](#). You may also wish to bring the matter to the attention of the Honourable Steven MacKinnon, federal Minister of Transport, whose department is responsible for oversight of rail operations and compliance. Minister MacKinnon can be reached at [Steven.MacKinnon@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Steven.MacKinnon@parl.gc.ca) or 1-819-561-5555.

Please let us know if there is any general provincial information we can assist with.

Regards,

**Angela Bilski**

Municipal Training Advisor, Municipal Affairs  
Municipal Capacity and Sustainability Branch  
Government of Alberta

Tel: 780-422-8101  
Fax: 780-420-1016  
[angela.m.bilski@gov.ab.ca](mailto:angela.m.bilski@gov.ab.ca)

# 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

## MD OF SPIRIT RIVER

### LIBRARY SERVICES TO THE MD OF SPIRIT RIVER

The Municipal District (MD) of Spirit River provides library services to its residents, in conjunction with the Peace Library System, primarily through two adjacent municipal libraries – Spirit River Library and Rycroft Community Library.

### 2025 HIGHLIGHTS



Spirit River and Rycroft libraries circulated 5,929 physical items to residents, including 1,680 from libraries around the province to meet borrower requests. In addition, patrons borrowed 2,849 electronic items, nearly double the 2023 total.

### PROGRAMS

Children in the area participated in the province-wide Summer Reading Program events, including 15 at Rycroft. Other programming highlights of the year include:

#### SPIRIT RIVER

- Summer Reading Program
- Writers Group
- Stitch Club
- Free Movie Events
- Game nights
- Seniors Outreach
- Art Show and Sale fundraiser
- Craft Show fundraiser

#### RYCROFT

- Storytime programs
- Kids Kreate program
- Youth Time for teenagers
- Community Cafe
- Brain Break and Silent Reading clubs
- Seniors outreach
- Holiday celebrations
- 225 volunteer hours

# MD MEMBERSHIP FEES TO PEACE LIBRARY SYSTEM

**\$6,647.96**

## LIBRARY MATERIALS GOING INTO LIBRARIES

**\$1,469.24**



● Spirit River Library	\$734.62
● Rycroft Municipal Library	\$734.62

## CONTRIBUTION TO ERESOURCES & EBOOKS

**\$326.50**

## LIBRARY SERVICES RECEIVED

**\$4,577.54**

- Sharing library resources in the region
- Access to digital resources – from home or library
- Ordering, processing, cataloging, and delivery of materials
- Conferences and continuing education events
- Large print books and books on CD
- eBooks
- Author reading subsidy
- Professional consultants
- Technology support—Polaris, SuperNet, wifi, websites

## LIBRARY BOARD SERVICES

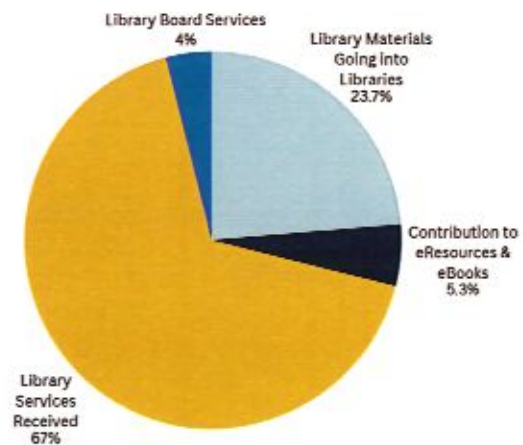
**\$274.66**

## PROVINCIAL CONTRIBUTION

A Library Services Grant was provided by Alberta Municipal Affairs on behalf of the municipal population. The System distributes this operating grant to the library service points based on a formula provided by the MD.

### Operating Grants Paid to Libraries:

Spirit River Library	\$2,011.46
Rycroft Municipal Library	\$2,011.46
	<b>\$4,022.92</b>



## **Business and Community Newsletter March 2026**

### **Data Stories – Greater Montréal Through a Data Lens**

Join Statistics Canada, in partnership with HEC Montréal and the Association des économistes québécois (ASDEQ), for an in-person Data Stories event taking place in Montréal on June 4, 2026. This session will explore how data illuminate Quebec's role in a changing world, through the lens of Greater Montréal's economic, demographic, and innovative influence.



Visit our [Data Stories](#) page to learn more about the event and register today.

### **Discontinuation of the Canadian Survey on Business Conditions (CSBC)**

As part of fiscal realignment efforts, Statistics Canada has decided to discontinue the [Canadian Survey on Business Conditions](#). The final collection cycle will take place in summer 2026, with the last data release scheduled for August 2026. Statistics Canada will continue to be open and transparent about our processes and decision-making. We wish to thank Canadian businesses for their participation in the survey since 2020, and for your continued support and collaboration.

### **Features**

#### **[Population projections for census divisions and subdivisions](#)**

Statistics Canada released an update of the population projections by census division and census subdivision. Commissioned by the Canadian Infrastructure Council to inform Canada's National Infrastructure Assessment Report 1, these projections provide impartial, evidence-based insights to all orders of government, infrastructure owners, operators and investors to improve infrastructure planning and decision-making across Canada.

#### **[Business innovation and growth support, 2023](#)**

In partnership with the Treasury Board Secretariat, the [Business Innovation and Growth Support \(BIGS\)](#) statistical program collects and produces information on financial and service-based support provided to businesses by the federal Government of Canada through various program streams.

## **Canadian employment trends in the era of generative artificial intelligence: Early evidence**

Since the widespread availability of generative artificial intelligence (AI), marked by the release of ChatGPT in November 2022, employment generally grew regardless of potential occupational exposure to and complementarity with AI. The article found that, from November 2022 to December 2025, jobs potentially more exposed to and less complementary with AI (e.g., coders, accountants, financial analysts) grew by 10% for men and 5% for women. These growth rates were not substantially different from other occupations.

## **Firm size and labour productivity growth in Canadian residential construction**

Canada has experienced a decline in labour productivity in the residential construction industry spanning a period of more than two decades. The study examines the evolution of labour productivity in residential construction from 2001 to 2023. The study found that the industry was dominated by small firms, with those employing fewer than 20 workers accounting for two-thirds (66.1%) of total employment in 2023. In the residential construction industry, labour productivity growth, measured as real gross output per worker, declined by a cumulative 37.3% from 2001 to 2023—for a compound annual growth rate of -2.1% per year.

## **Economic outcomes of provincial nominees: Differences between Express Entry and non-Express Entry**

The study compares the education, intended occupations, and labour market outcomes of provincial nominees (PNs) screened through the Express Entry system (enhanced PNs) and those selected outside of Express Entry (base PNs). In 2024, enhanced PNs represented 38% of all PNP principal applicants, up from 21% in 2016. Enhanced PN principal applicants were more likely to hold a university degree (78%) than base PN principal applicants (65%). Nearly all enhanced PN principal applicants intended to work in managerial, professional, or skilled and technical occupations, compared with approximately two-thirds of base PN principal applicants.

## **National and provincial retention of graduates from health degree programs in Canada**

Retaining graduates from health degree programs is important for addressing national and regional shortages in the health care workforce. The article tracked their tax filing rates and region of residence in the years following graduation. Tax filing rates were high among Canadian graduates (Canadian-born or permanent residents) who completed health degree programs during the period from 2015 to 2021. Specifically, nearly all graduates from medicine, dentistry and optometry (96%), nursing programs (96%), and pharmacy and related programs (97%) filed tax returns three years after graduation, compared with 91% across all fields of study. International graduates represented less than 5% of graduates from health degree programs.

## Labour Force Survey, February 2026



### Highlights

Employment declined by 84,000 (-0.4%) in February and the employment rate fell 0.2 percentage points to 60.6%. The unemployment rate increased 0.2 percentage points to 6.7%.

Employment fell among youth aged 15 to 24 years old (-47,000; -1.7%) and men in the core working age of 25 to 54 years old (-41,000; -0.6%).

Employment was little changed for core-aged women and people aged 55 years and older.

Employment declines in February were recorded in services-producing industries (-56,000; -0.3%) and goods-producing industries (-28,000; -0.7%). The largest declines were in wholesale and retail trade (-18,000; -0.6%), and 'other services' such as personal and repair services (-14,000; -1.8%).

Every month, Statistics Canada conducts the Labour Force Survey to gather vital information about employment, unemployment, and labour market trends across the country. If you are selected, your voice matters because your response represents hundreds of Canadians. Your answers are confidential and combined with others so no one can be identified. Whether you are employed, looking for work, retired, or a student, your participation helps paint an accurate picture of Canada's economy. It helps inform decisions on job creation, education, pensions, and income support, and is used by governments, businesses, and researchers to improve the lives of Canadians. Completing the questionnaire is mandatory, but it's also simple, secure, and a meaningful way to contribute to your community and country. [Here are a few examples](#) of how your participation in the Labour Force Survey contributes to vital insights that benefit us all.

### Resources

[Labour](#)

[Labour Force Survey in brief: Interactive app](#)

[Labour Statistics](#)

## **Did you know...** [Study: Portrait of the Chinese populations in Canada](#)

This is the fourth in a series of portraits on racialized groups in Canada, developed by Statistics Canada in support of [Canada's Anti-Racism Strategy](#). The previous portraits are [The Diversity of the Black Populations in Canada, 2021: A Sociodemographic](#)

[Portrait, Portrait of the Arab Populations in Canada: Diversity and Socioeconomic Outcomes](#) and [Portrait of the South Asian Populations in Canada: Diversity and Socioeconomic Outcomes](#).



Visit [StatsCAN Plus](#) for the most recent data stories:

- [The gender wage gap persists](#)
- [How businesses and organizations may be communicating with persons with disabilities](#)
- [Outfitting your home? Prices are holding steady](#)

### Podcasts

Listen to the Eh Sayers podcast to meet the people behind the data and explore the stories behind the numbers on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Spotify](#), [Amazon Music](#), [Audible](#) and [Player.fm](#).



**WORKSHOP  
SERIES**

STATISTICS CANADA

**SÉRIE  
D'ATELIERS**

STATISTIQUE CANADA

### **Surveys from Start to Finish**

**Registration Information:** English and French workshop dates are available in April 2026. For more information and to register for a session, please go to this link:

[Workshop – Surveys from Start to Finish](#)

Cost: \$325 per module or \$975 for all 3 modules

Early Registration (At least 3 weeks before): \$300 per module or \$900 for all 3 modules

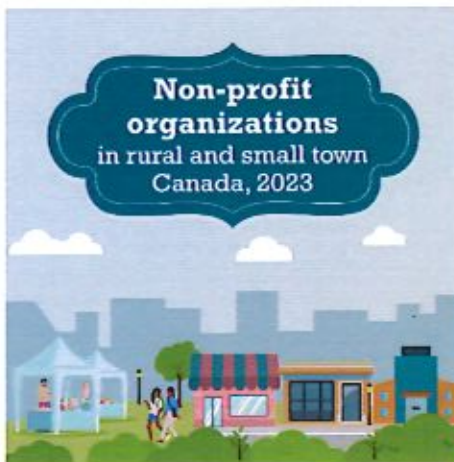
## Turning Statistics into Stories

**Registration Information:** French workshop dates are available in May 2026 and the English workshop dates will soon be available in June 2026. For more information and to register for a session, please go to this link: [Workshop – Turning Statistics into Stories](#)

Cost: \$325 per participant

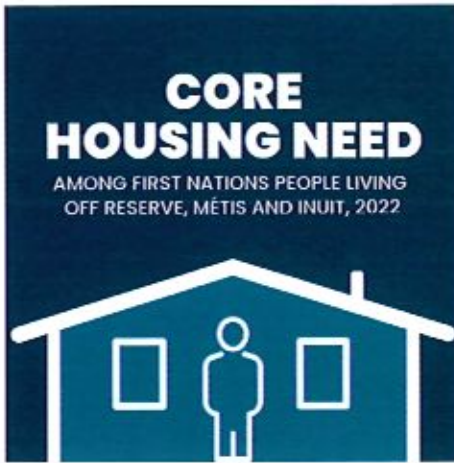
Early Registration (At least 3 weeks before): \$300 per participant

# INFOGRAPHICS



## Non-profit organizations in rural and small town Canada, 2023

This infographic from the Rural Data Lab of Statistics Canada presents a visual overview of key highlights and statistical findings from the 2023 Rural Canada Non-Profits database. The database contains operating location-level information on non-profit organizations, including counts, total revenue and total employment. The infographic provides observations focused on non-profit organizations in rural and small town Canada.



province and territory.

### Core housing need among First Nations people living off reserve, Métis and Inuit, 2022

The infographic presents the prevalence of core housing need among First Nations people living off reserve, Métis and Inuit in 2022. It also provides estimates by Registered or Treaty Indian status among First Nations people. The estimates are based on data from the Indigenous Peoples Survey 2022. It provides the proportion of individuals in core housing need among owners and renters by Indigenous identity group and by



### Why do people move in Canada?

This infographic provides a recent overview of the commonly reported reasons for which households move from one place to another within Canada, based on the information collected from the 2022 Canadian Housing Survey (CHS). The study provides results by various breakdowns including the type of movement, such as interprovincial and interprovincial moves.



NaR Environmental Ltd



Full Steam Ahead Academy  
Spirit River Regional Daycare Society

# SPRING BREAK - UP DINE + DANCE

SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2026

PROCEEDS TO SPIRIT RIVER REGIONAL DAYCARE SOCIETY

COMMUNITY RAISED FUNDS STAYING IN THE COMMUNITY.

Join us at the Rycroft Ag Centre \$50.00/ticket

Cocktails at 5:00 p.m.

Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Cash bar: \$5.00/ drink ticket.

Live auction and dance to follow. Silent auction throughout the night.

\*No minors permitted

ENTERTAINMENT:

50/50 DRAW:



TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT:  
EDGE AUTO | SPIRIT RIVER FLOORING | FOUNTAIN TIRE | SOLUTION SERVICES  
HOME HARDWARE SPIRIT RIVER | WELL'S FUEL SERVICE (UFA)

SPIRIT RIVER FLOORING LTD