

Yellowhead County's

Yellowheadlines

A newsletter for Yellowhead County residents, visitors, property-owners, and other stakeholders that highlights municipal news, projects, and County services.



County student sets sights on fun!

Local student wins Alberta Mounted Shooters Champion and has a blast doing it.



A LOOK INSIDE

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SLOW INTERNET?
Help us gather local internet speeds!
Do a quick home speed-test (by Nov. 25) and help us determine gaps in local internet service in Yellowhead County.
PG. 4

New Program

Transfer Station Access Cards

As of January 1, 2023, Yellowhead County residents will be required to present their Transfer Station Access Cards along with a valid, government-issued piece of photo ID to the site operator before dumping.

Yellowhead County's Transfer Stations will be operating under a Card Access system as of January 1, 2023. After this date, County residents will need to present their Transfer Station Access Card along with a valid, government-issued piece of photo ID to the site operator before dumping.

Is there any cost to get an Access Card?

Each residence on a property is eligible for an Access Card at no additional cost. A maximum of two cards per residence is allowed and they are non-transferrable.

Why is the County making this change?

Yellowhead County Council has recognized the need to provide controlled access to ensure that only County residents use the County transfer stations. This system will eliminate unlimited and unauthorized dumping of waste from non-residents, which will reduce costs and save tax dollars. The system still allows Yellowhead County residents to access waste disposal and recycling services at no additional charge.

Where will I need to use these cards?

Transfer Stations that are owned and operated by Yellowhead County are located in Wildwood, Niton, Peers, Parkcourt, Pinedale, Marlboro, Obed, Entrance, Brule, Overlander, Hattonford, Bear Lake, Robb, Cadomin, and Mackay.

Access Cards will be mandatory for usage of all of these transfer station sites. Access Cards will be assigned to a residence and are intended to provide solid waste disposal and recycling for that particular residence. All residential improved properties are required to participate in the program.

Access Cards will also be accepted at the Regional landfill site in Hinton and the Landfill in Edson.

How do I get an Access Card?

An information package will be sent to all registered property owners in the County's tax base beginning January 1, 2023. The package will include two Access Cards and more information on this initiative.

There will be a one-month transition period to ensure appropriate notice is provided to all Transfer Site users. During this period, unauthorized users will be advised on the new program and be allowed to use the facility one last time.



In the event that a card is lost/stolen, you must inform Yellowhead County as soon as possible. All lost/stolen cards will be deactivated. In this case, residents must complete a new application form and pay a \$50 card replacement fee.

Additional information on the Access Card System can be found on our website at www.yhcounty.ca. Questions can be directed to the Yellowhead County office by calling 780-723-4800.

YOUR COUNCIL



Yellowhead
County
Mayor
Wade Williams



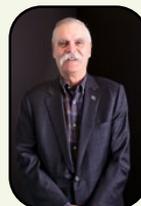
Councillor Patrick
Soroka
Division 1
Evansburg & Area



Councillor
Anthony Giezen
Division 2
Wildwood & Area



Councillor
Penny Lowe
Division 3
Niton/Carrot
Creek Area



Councillor
David Russell
Division 4
Shiningbank, Peers,
Rosevear Area



Councillor
Shawn Berry
Division 5
Pinedale/Wolf
Creek Area



Councillor
Brigitte Lemieux
Division 6
Edson & Area



Councillor
Dawn Mitchell
Division 7
Edson West Area



Councillor
Ken Groat
Division 8
Robb, Cadomin,
Brule & Hinton Area

Yellowhead County Explores Next Steps of Tourism Corridor

Nine nodes were identified as areas for potential commercial recreation and tourism growth & development.

Existing plans are being looked at for potential opportunities for growth in tourism and commercial recreation development located in the West Yellowhead Corridor.

with the Province to see the fruition of many years of planning efforts.

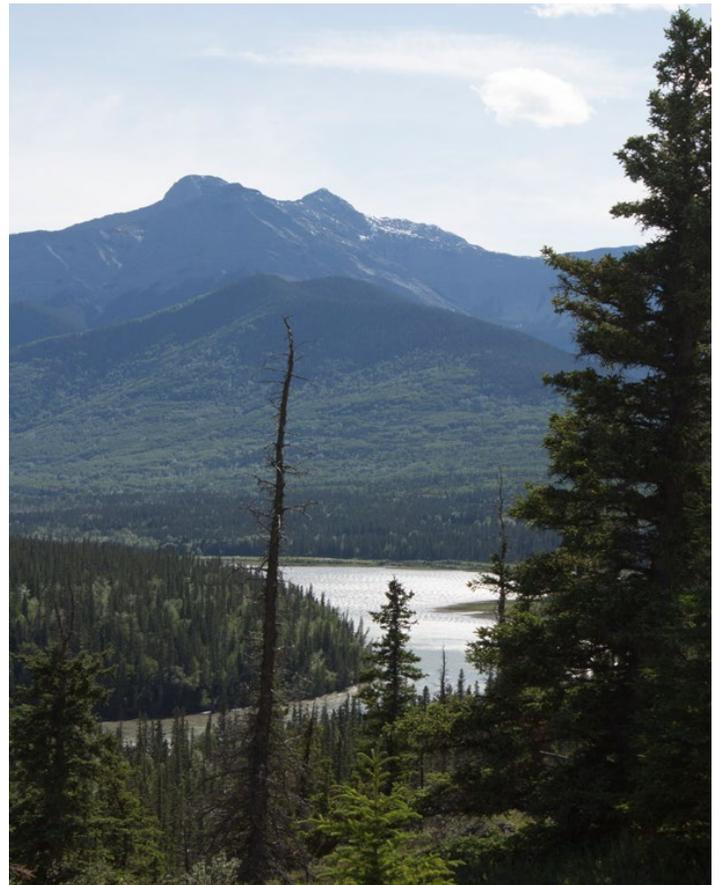
Since 1996, Yellowhead County, with the Province of Alberta, has explored economic development within the West Yellowhead Corridor to identify commercial recreational and tourism areas.

After extensive and targeted public consultations, the West Yellowhead Corridor Commercial Tourism and Recreation Memorandum of Understanding was developed, followed by the West Yellowhead Corridor Regional Integrated Decision in 2008. These plans aimed to identify areas that could provide for a range of commercial tourism development opportunities in the region. This process identified nine nodes as areas for potential commercial recreation and tourism growth and development.

To move forward with the development of one of the nodes along the corridor, Yellowhead County has hired a consultant company to facilitate and provide guidance to the County through the Provincial process. What is anticipated to occur over the next year is determining the most suitable location for a recreation and tourist node in the West Yellowhead Corridor; and move forward with steps toward potential development.

Pursuing such an economic development initiative in this corridor has many benefits for the County, such as diversification of the tax base, additional employment opportunities, and showcasing the beauty and splendour of the area.

As the process of establishing a new tourism and recreational development along the West Yellowhead Corridor gathers momentum, Yellowhead County will continue to issue press releases to update residents and the public. Yellowhead County Council looks forward to moving the process along and working



The nine nodes identified are Obed Summit, Obed Lake, Athabasca Lookout (pictured above), Eccles Pond, Pedley, Hinton West, Airport Road/Maskuta Creek, Wildhorse/Kinky Lakes, and Folding Mountain



YRECC Update: A facility condition assessment has been completed to determine the potential to adapt and reuse the Edson and District Leisure Centre for the YCE Multi-Use Facility. The report indicates that the current Leisure Centre has potential for renovation and re-use, with the exception of the swimming pool.

The report indicates that, while the swimming pool facility is still safe for current use, it has many deficiencies which must be rectified to extend its useful life and a complete new build of a swimming pool facility is likely a more logical option to consider.

The next phase for this project includes the development of concepts for consideration by the Steering Committee, with a final concept being utilized to amend the grant application for funding.

Yellowhead County and Town of Edson will continue working with the architectural team to refine concepts to include all the desired components of the original plan: two ice arenas, a leisure and competition pool, a curling rink, a walking track, and an exercise area. The goal is to have a final concept forwarded to both Councils for consideration before the end of 2022.

Do You Have Slow Rural Internet?



Let your voice be heard!

- 1. Visit YHCsurvey.ca**
- 2. Complete the survey**
- 3. Take the speed test.**

The map below indicates which areas should have access to high-speed internet. We need you to help confirm if this is the case. **Let your voice be heard by taking our short survey and speed test.**

The survey and speed test are crucial in determining which areas in the County have no access to high-speed internet.

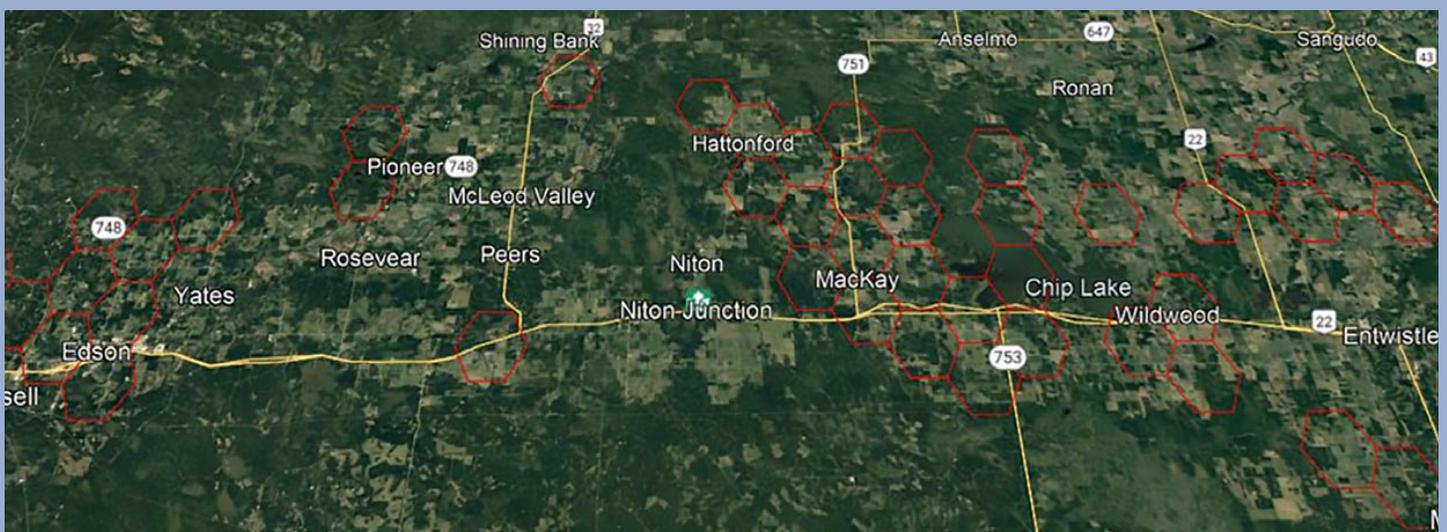
We ask that you take the speed test between the hours of 6:00 PM and 9:00 PM for the most accurate representation of actual internet speeds.

All surveys and speed tests must be done by November 25, 2022.

What's the data for? How will it help?

Having the data on hand will help the County and the grant programs (federal and provincial) better understand where the truly underserved areas are and what areas best fit their criteria for funding requirements.

The long-term goal is to increase high-speed internet access throughout Yellowhead County.



For more information, contact Albert Bahri, General Manager of Protective Services at **1(800) 665-6030**.

County Breaks Ground on Fibre Project with ISED Funding

Yellowhead County continues to work with industry partners to enhance connectivity in underserved areas of the County through the Federal Universal Broadband Fund.

Part of Yellowhead County's ongoing Rural Communications Plan, which was started in 2014, is for Yellowhead County to find ways to provide broadband services in a cost-effective manner.

There are four key parts of Yellowhead County's Rural Communications Plan and Tower Network System:

1. Internal staff and Protective Services connectivity
2. Enhanced cellular service by co-locating Internet Service Providers (ISP) on County Towers
3. Broadband Internet provisions for Yellowhead County residents
4. Early-Warning wildland fire detection system

Yellowhead County has applied for all Provincial and Federal grants that would fund the Rural Communications Plan and received the Federal Government's Universal Broadband Fund (UBF) earlier this year.

This fund was intended for shovel-ready projects in communities that were identified by Innovation, Science, and Economic Development Canada (ISED) as having inadequate or no coverage. After applying for the grant, a section of the western part of Yellowhead County was found to meet the ISED requirements and funding limits.

The grant will help provide Robb, Brule, Mountain View Estates, Aspen Heights, Seabolt, Grandview, Maskuta, Carldale and Yellowhead County East River Road with better broadband services and is now underway with the federal government's Universal Broadband Fund.

The project is 60% funded by the Rapid Response Stream funding under the UBF, and 40% by Yellowhead County. The work in these communities is expected to be completed by December 2022.

The number of households that this grant

will directly assist in Yellowhead County nearly 400 residences located in the communities listed above. Households in these locations, identified by Innovation, Science, and Economic Development (ISED) Canada for the project, will help fund putting fibre lines directly to their residences.



Above: Mayor Wade Williams discusses the Fibre Project with one of the on-site workers.

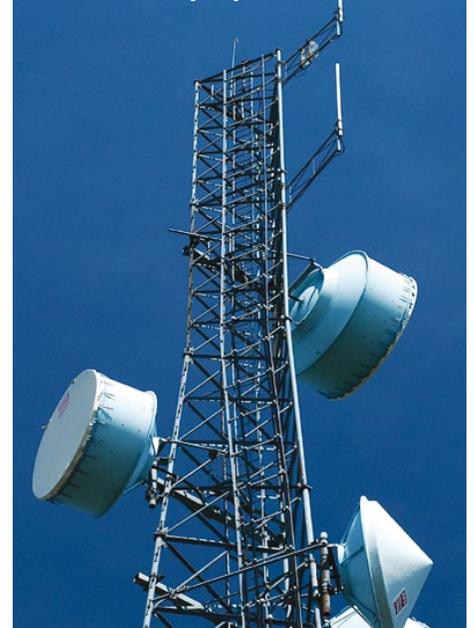
Council was very pleased to see the progress that has been made towards bringing better internet service to residents in Yellowhead County. "This is an exciting project for the County and only the start. The County continues to apply for more grant funding from the Federal Government to expand this type of work," said Mayor Wade Williams.. "Hopefully there will be more exciting news for the County to announce in the coming months."

County residents and businesses, however, must still rely on the interest of commercial cellular and internet providers to bring in these services. But as these grants have helped cover the cost of infrastructure development, commercial internet service providers have only to attach their services to these towers. Yellowhead County has made it easier for service providers to bring their coverage to our communities, but it's still up to them to see this enticing business opportunity.

As residents continue to rely more and more on these services for school, business, safety, and day-to-day living – and business and industry need this infrastructure backbone to operate in our more remote areas, Yellowhead County's Broadband Tower Network System continues to be a vital infrastructure service to our communities and region for continued growth and viability.

If you want to have your data included in Yellowhead County's database of current rural internet speeds, visit www.yhcsurvey.ca to take the internet speed test. The data collected will be used for any future funding opportunities and will help determine what areas in Yellowhead County may be funded by federal and provincial grants.

Rural communications is becoming an integral component of a rural municipality's education, economic, employment, and safety systems.



Jarrow, part of Alberta's Black Pioneer Heritage

THE DIVERSE ROOTS OF WILDWOOD AND THE GENERATION OF BLACK PIONEERS WHO HELPED SETTLE THE PRAIRIES.

Many of the early settlers in this area were African-American pioneers; arriving in 1906, and thus firmly establishing the first known acknowledged settlement of Blacks in Alberta.

They came to answer the call from the Canadian Immigration Department; which promised 160 acres of land in exchange for a \$10 fee.

Many were farmers from Oklahoma and other southern states, coming to Canada to escape the Jim Crow Laws which legalized racial segregation and stripped black citizens of their rights.

As African-Americans began arriving in larger numbers, the Canadian Government and newly formed Province of Alberta began taking actions to dissuade further entry. Black settlers were required to pass stringent physical and economical tests because of the colour of their skin. Formal petitions were circulated opposing "any more" black settlers, successfully stopping most immigration by 1912.

However, these pioneers were instrumental to the community: developing the land; building schools, churches, sawmills and stores; and helping to build the rail lines which would provide necessary goods and services. The community worked together to survive the harsh realities of homesteading. New long-lasting relationships were formed regardless of skin colour, and the community grew.

Families worked hard during those early years, but always found time to come together for annual picnics, baseball games, community socials, school concerts, and special church services. Wildwood men enlisted for service in WWI & WWII; proudly doing all they were allowed to for the good of their country.

New hardships would be endured during the depression of the 1930s, as the



dire economic conditions made it difficult to maintain homesteads for many families. Some made the choice to leave Wildwood and relocate to larger centres for more employment opportunities; but the hard work and contributions of the

Railway (GTPR) renamed the Hamlet to Junkins after the Vice-President of the Westinghouse, Church, and Kerr Company. Residents found Junkins to be an unattractive name, so held a contest in 1928 to find a new one. First place winner of Cloverdale was already in use, making the new name the runner-up of Wildwood, submitted by Ruby Lord.

The area around Chip Lake was well travelled before the railway arrived, with trails such as the Yellowhead Pass, Lac Ste. Anne, Foley, and Jock's Trail.

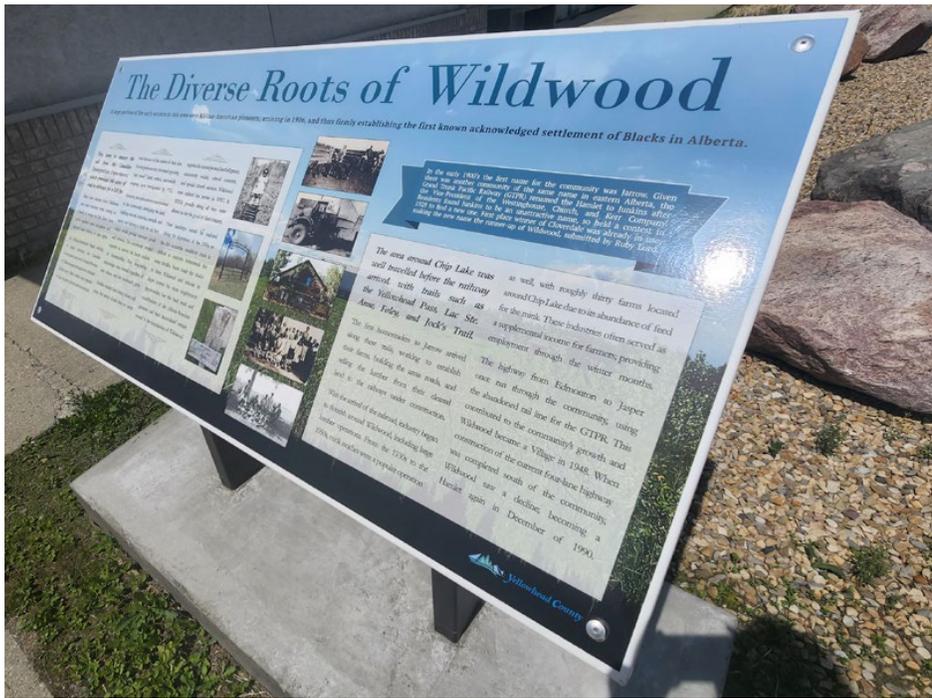


Empyrean 1934. Back: Herbert Proehl, Helen Huttman, Joe Johnson, Mary Huttman, Gertrude Johnson, Ruby Bransford. Middle: Donald Tindall, Georgina Payne, Mike Budzinski, Tony Payne, Harry Hanson, Walter Budzinski, Mike Huttman. Front: Della Tindall, Annie Pakon, Josephine Johnson, Frances Payne, Paul Huttman, Henry Hanson, Marvella & Leslie Whitticker.

African-American pioneers and their descendants' remain rooted in the foundations of Wildwood.

In the early 1900's the first name for the community was Jarrow. Given there was another community of the same name in eastern Alberta, the Grand Trunk Pacific

The first homesteaders to Jarrow arrived along these trails; working to establish their farms, building the areas roads, and selling the lumber from their cleared land to the railways under construction. With the arrival of the railroad, industry began to flourish around Wildwood, including large lumber operations. From



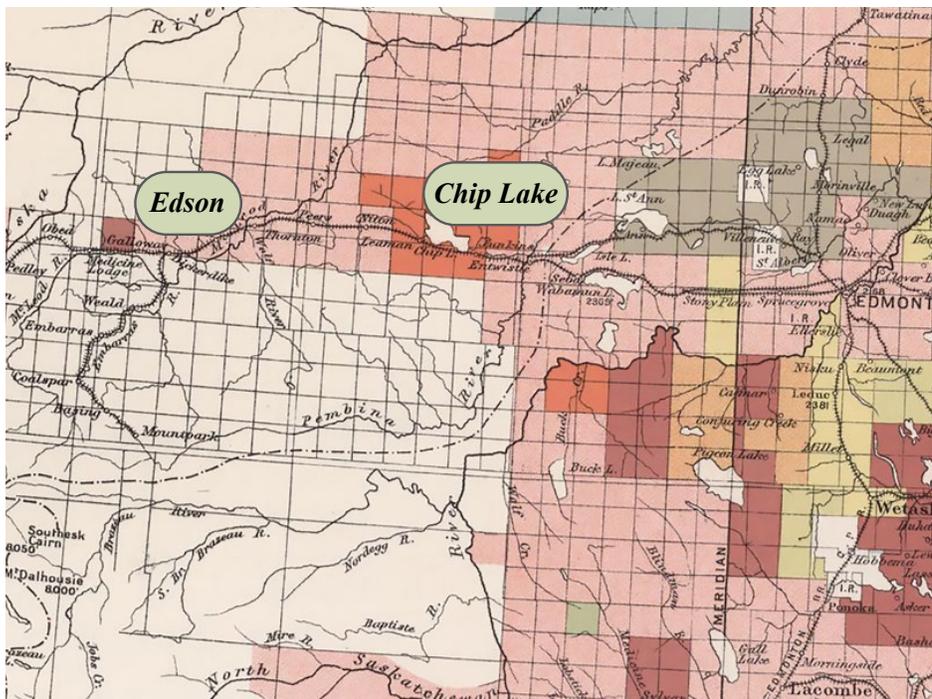
The Empyrean and Wildwood Ladies Aid Cemeteries have many of the founding African American pioneers interred.

This sign (left) was installed in Wildwood to recognize the diverse roots and history of the hamlet that was originally known as Jarow.

the 1930s to the 1950s, mink ranches were a popular operation as well, with roughly thirty farms located around Chip Lake due to its abundance of feed for the mink. These industries often served as a supplemental income for farmers; providing employment through the winter months.

The highway from Edmonton to Jasper once ran through the community, using the abandoned rail line for the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway (GTPR).

This contributed to the community's growth and Wildwood became a Village in 1948. When construction of the current four-lane highway was completed south of the community, Wildwood saw a decline; becoming a Hamlet again in December of 1990.



This 1911 Origin of Population map shows the African American population around Chip Lake, depicted in orange. Pink represents English settlers.

YCFD Grad & Service Awards



Above: 2021 Recruit & Cadet Graduates.



Above: 2022 Recruit & Cadet Graduates.



The graduation ceremony for both 2021 and 2022 YCFD Recruits and Cadets was held alongside the Service Award recipients on October 28 at the Peers Multiplex.

There were 28 graduates between the two years with most of the graduates attending the event. There were 5 Recruits and 2 Cadets in 2021 and 17 recruits and 4 cadets in 2022. YCFD Recruits are part of the County's Paid-On-Call Volunteer Firefighter program and Cadets are part of the program done in participation with their schools for 16-18 year olds so they can earn school credits and gain valuable skills that can be applied to becoming a firefighter.

The Service Awards are awarded to long-time serving firefighters. Alberta Emergency Service Medals were awarded to 14 YCFD members one member received the Canadian Fire Services Exemplary Service Medal.

YCFD Hosts Local Daycare & Fire Prevention Week

The Yellowhead County Fire Department (YCFD) is always happy to engage with the community.



This summer, YCFD Station 12 in Edson hosted local daycare students for a station tour and activities.

Approximately 40 daycare kids were able to check out the facility, participate in fun activities, and learn about what it's like to be a firefighter.

After a tour of the station, they were treated to a demonstration on the gear that a firefighter must wear, where they learned what each piece of equipment does and how to put it on.

After that, the kids got to use a fire hose to shoot balls off pylons, use a hammer to move a block of wood, and drag a training mannequin named Rescue Ruth to safety. Each kid had a chance to climb inside a fire truck and had their picture taken dressed up in firefighter gear to take home as a reminder of the day.

"It was a great opportunity to teach these kids about firefighting and show them around Station 12," said Lt. Lucas Pedley. "It's always nice to be able to engage with members of the community and show them what we do. Maybe we'll even have inspired some future firefighters!"

Station 12 also hosted an Open House for Fire Prevention Week in October.



Above: Daycare students learning the ropes



Above: Fire Prevention Week fun and learning

Utilities Department testing new rapid water testing technology

Yellowhead County has been part of a new technology trial to look at a new water quality monitoring system that can potentially reduce municipal water testing time from several days down to one hour.

Yellowhead County is working with Alberta-based start-up company Roshan Water Solutions on rapid water testing for E.coli and total coliforms using a device called VeloCens. In addition to Yellowhead County, Roshan Water worked with several other municipalities, including Town of Edson, Sturgeon County, Town of Drayton Valley, as well as the Alberta Capital Region Wastewater Commission and the St. Mary River Irrigation District, to test their device under real-world conditions.

According to Roshan Water, the reason VeloCens can test water samples in one hour is because of its nanotechnology-sensor-based test cartridges. The sensors are engineered to attract the target bacteria selectively and are very sensitive to their growth.

Yellowhead County's utilities department began working with Roshan Water Solutions in 2018 to help give the perspective of the challenges and needs of operators when doing regular drinking water testing.

Jennifer Lypkie, Yellowhead County Utilities Supervisor, has worked closely with the company since then and was impressed with the field trials. She hopes that if the technology becomes proven and reliable, it could positively impact utilities staff in the field, especially those in remote locations. Lypkie was excited to be part of the field testing, helping take the technology from the research and development side to actual fieldwork.

"That was interesting because, at that time, they knew they had the technology for it, but they took a very hands-on approach to develop a product that would be practical in our daily work conditions," says Lypkie. "And from what I've seen, they've been quite successful."

Once available, the device could help detect water pollution problems more rapidly, increasing safety for County residents.

Lypkie saw the merit in this idea from the first meeting with the co-founder and CEO of Roshan. She thought that if reliable on-site testing is possible, it could be highly beneficial to getting nearly immediate test results and help determine the water quality for residents that day.

"That was our initial thoughts on the project, but since then, I often think of so many instances where the rapid test would be a game-changer for ensuring drinking water safety."

"Obviously, Walkerton comes to mind, but also closer to home is the flooding down south, Slave Lake fire, Fort Mac fire, all those events had a huge impact on drinking water. I can imagine that hav-

ing one-hour results to verify the safety of the water systems would have been a major contributor to the restoration of those communities affected."

Lypkie was impressed by how this could benefit water testing in remote areas and immediately saw the benefits for day-to-day fieldwork and its impact on big-scale emergencies and disasters.

The technology still has to go through a certification process, so the field trials in Yellowhead County and other municipalities from March to May 2022 were just another step towards that, but Lypkie and her team are proud to be part of this testing, and they're excited to see where it can go. "It's remarkable to be a part of something with the potential to help not just with our requirements but many others who may not have the resources available that we do, or are going through an environmental disaster of any sort."

This new technology could significantly reduce the time from when County staff take a water sample to when they get back a reliable and verified test result. It will allow the residents to know sooner if there are unsafe contaminants in the water or if they have safe potable water in their hands.

For more information on this technology, contact Roshan Water Solutions at info@roshanwater.com or www.roshanwater.com/contact/.



Tanner Dufresne

GRADE 6 STUDENT TANNER DUFRESNE WAS RECENTLY NAMED THE ALBERTA MOUNTED SHOOTERS WRANGLER CHAMPION FOR HIS AGE GROUP.

There are many impressive and skilled people across Yellowhead County, and one such person is a Grade 6 student at Niton Central School named Tanner Dufresne. Tanner recently earned the honour of being named the 2022 Alberta Mounted Shooters Wrangler Champion for Mounted Shooting.

Mounted Shooting is a sport that involves riding a horse and shooting a set of 10 balloons while following a specific riding pattern and guidelines. Patterns may include obstacles like barrels that must be ridden around in a specific order or have different balloon placements. Mounted Shooting competitions utilize many different types of patterns to challenge their Wranglers with.

Because Tanner is in the Novice Wrangler age group, the Wranglers are not allowed to participate in live shooting while riding, so the competition “focuses on horsemanship,” said Tanner’s super supportive mom, Colleen. Competitors have two guns that they have to switch out mid-ride, and Novice Wranglers often use cap guns and/or starter pistols.

Colleen explained that a Range Master watches the competition to ensure that the Wrangler is riding the correct pattern and following guidelines, treats their gun like a real gun, switches their two guns out at the appropriate time, and has a straight arm while shooting. Any error adds a 5-second penalty to the Wrangler’s time.

Following the riding aspect of the competition, Novice Wranglers participate in “ground shooting,” which in-

volves five balloons set up on pylons in a semi-circle. Following strict safety rules and having a parent and Range Master with them, the Wranglers shoot the balloons. A



Tanner’s dad, Darrell, got started with Mounted Shooting in 2011. Pictured are the two at an event that year.

missed balloon adds an additional 5 seconds to their time.

Tanner got into the sport thanks to his dad, Darrell, who started Mounted Shooting himself in 2011 after being introduced to it by some friends. Tanner himself started getting into the sport in 2014 at only three years old. His older sister Raegan, who is 18, has also been very involved in the sport and was actually named the 2015 Canadian Wrangler Champion for her age group.

A huge part of being a Mounted Shooter, of course, is that they ride a horse. Tanner has a favourite horse that he



Tanner and his horse, Tucker, completing a pattern at a Mounted Shooting competition.



Tanner was only three when he got started in the sport of Mounted Shooting, and would ride a pony through the patterns.



Tanner and his horse, Tucker, who was named Horse of the Year for 2022 following a vote by the Alberta Mounted Shooters Association.

rides, a beautiful 17-year-old quarter horse named Tucker. Although Tanner started on a pony at first, he soon started riding Tucker and they've been competing together ever since.

Tucker had his own special moment this year when he was named "Horse of the Year", an award that is voted on by the Alberta Mounted Shooters Association. This award is an overall award out of all the horses who competed in every category, so it is a big deal to receive. "I almost cried," said Colleen of the honour.



Tanner and his dad, Darrell, running a Mounted Shooting pattern together.

When asked what his favourite part about competing is, Tanner answered without skipping a beat: "Cheering on the other Wranglers that are there competing." One such competitor that Tanner was proud to cheer on this year was his friend Nevada from Unity, Saskatchewan, who won Canadian Wrangler of the Year for 2022.

While Mounted Shooting is an individual sport, those involved have really become like a "family," said Colleen. The Dufresne family loves to go to events and catch up and camp with their friends and fellow competitors, and Colleen noted that the "camaraderie" of the competitors is something that is really special.

The Dufresnes have made friends from all over, as they've travelled to Tipi Creek, Leduc, Thorsby, Saskatoon, and more. They've also participated in Peers Gold Dust Daze and events held by friends here in Yellowhead County, and Tanner is able to practice at home.

As the owners of two businesses in the Peers area (McLeod River Trading Post and Moonshine Creek), the Dufresnes



Tanner and his sister, Raegan, giving each other a fist bump at a Mounted Shooting event when they were younger.

are also proud sponsors of several events, and Colleen noted that there are other Yellowhead County business owners who sponsor Mounted Shooting events as well.

With the season ending in September and not starting up again until June, the Dufresnes are going to miss the competitions and their many friends. In the meantime, Tanner will be participating in activities like hockey and volleyball, but is already looking forward to next season.

"I'll hopefully do Mounted Shooting as long as I live," Tanner said, adding a piece of advice for anyone considering trying the sport: "If you want to join, you definitely should!"

Agricultural Services Board Bursary Award Winner

ASB Bursary Awarded – A Yellowhead County Agricultural Services Bursary was awarded to Taylor Eaton on the recommendation of the Yellowhead County Agricultural Services Board. Taylor met all the requirements for the bursary and demonstrated a history of community involvement and agricultural participation in Yellowhead County.

Eaton is studying Pre-Veterinary Medicine at Red Deer Polytechnic and has been a member of the Peers 4-H Club and involved in Peers Gold Dust Daze.

The Yellowhead County Agricultural Services Board Bursary is awarded to a post-secondary student from Yellowhead County who is enrolled in an agricultural or environmental sciences program.

Black Knot | Info & Pruning Guideline



Black Knot - What Is It?

Yellowhead County's Agricultural Services Department has received numerous calls regarding black growths on residents' fruit trees.

These tar-like black swellings are a sign of Black Knot and will distort and stunt any tree species within the *Prunus* genus.

Black Knot reduces the aesthetic value of affected trees and, if left long enough, may result in eventual death of the tree.

The disease spreads in the spring, attacking new growth on branches. The spores released by the fungi can be carried by wind and splashing rain.

The only reliable method of controlling Black Knot is pruning.

Black Knot - Pruning

1. **Only prune between November and March.**
2. Cleanly cut off at least 6 - 8 inches below the knot, better to prune back to a healthy collar, then leaving a stub.
3. For knots on branches or trunks that can't be removed, use a knife to cut away diseased tissue down to good wood and then ½ inch beyond the edge of the knot.
4. Cleaning your equipment properly is another good way to prevent the spread. Pruning shears should be dipped in a 1% bleach/water solution between cuts and once you are finished pruning ensure you run your tools under water for 10 minutes and dry thoroughly.
5. Treat pruned branches like hazardous waste, they can release spores for up to 4 months. Burn, bury, or wrap them in plastic and throw them in the trash. Do not compost.

Questions? Call 1-800-814-3935 or 780-325-3782.

Keep an eye on your pets!



Don't let your pets become pests!

To keep in line with the Animal Control Bylaw:

- County residents must keep their pets confined to their property or leashed at all times.
- No owner is allowed to let their pets roam free or become a nuisance to other landowners and passersby.
- Yellowhead County residents are also responsible for any other domestic animal or livestock in their ownership.

Community Peace Officers patrolling the County enforce the Animal Control Bylaw and all other Yellowhead County bylaws. Animals may be impounded for infractions and owners may face impound fees and fines in that circumstance.

Animals picked up by Yellowhead County Enforcement Services are brought to the Edson Pound (who can be reached at 780-723-6461).

Yellowhead County urges residents to properly care for their animals and ensure that they are not a threat to any surrounding neighbours.

Dog owners are required to prevent their dogs from:

- » Running at large
- » Howling excessively or disturbing the peace of others
- » Causing damage to public or private property
- » Biting, attacking, threatening, harassing, chasing, killing or injuring any person or other animals
- » Biting or chasing any vehicle

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the Yellowhead County Animal Control Bylaw, please contact 780-723-3221.

INVASIVE SPECIES INITIATIVE

Squeal On Pigs!

The eradication of feral pigs (also known as wild boar at large) relies on Albertans to report any sightings or signs of wild boar as soon as possible.



Wild boar were introduced to Alberta as livestock in the 1980s and '90s. However, many have since escaped their enclosures and they began to thrive as a feral species. The wild boar at large have become one of the most damaging invasive species in North America.

Wild boar at large cause damage to cropland, properties, and ecosystems. They can also host 89 different diseases that can be transmitted to livestock, wildlife, and humans. An infestation of wild boar at large can have devastating

short- and long-term effects.

Wild Boar Facts & Figures

Wild boar are able to start reproducing early, sometimes as young as five months old. They can have up to six piglets at a time, sometimes twice a year. The lifespan of the species is up to nine years.

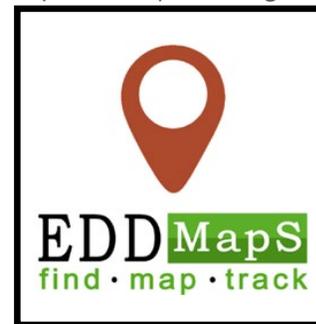
Common signs of wild boar at large include: trampled or destroyed crops, boar droppings, hair on barbwire, digging (rooting) or rolling around (wallowing), and tracks and trails from groups (known as sounders). Boar tracks are rounder than deer tracks.

Although a figure for Canada is not yet available, in the US damage caused by wild boar at large is estimated to cost over \$1.5 billion annually.

Control Methods

Hunting the wild boar is not an effective control option. Although it may seem helpful, it actually has the opposite effect and may even exacerbate the issue. Wild boar are incredibly smart, so when a few are hunted from a larger group, the remaining wild boar at large quickly learn to evade future hunting efforts by dispersing, changing movement patterns, and becoming nocturnal. They then pass these tricks on to the following generations.

The only way to effectively eliminate wild boar at large in an area is by eradicating the entire sounder all at once. One technique is to capture the group using a corral trap that is an effective trapping tool in many parts of the world.



GET THE APP!

What do I do if I see a wild boar at large?

Squeal on them! Reports of wild boar at large will be provided to the Alberta Agriculture and Forestry Wild Boar At Large Eradication team, who will work with local stakeholders to come up with solutions.

Safely take a picture (if able), note the location, date, and time, and report all observations as soon as possible.

Feral pigs, also known as wild boar at large, are one of the **most damaging invasive species** in North America.

Hunting is not an effective control option.

For more information, visit abinvasives.ca



Report signs and sightings through:

- EDDMapS
- AF.wildboar@gov.ab.ca
- 310-FARM
- your local municipality



Ag Container Recycling Changes

Any farms needing to return their Agricultural chemical containers will need to take them to retail locations that sell the products .

Collection sites are transitioning from municipal to retail locations

The Cleanfarms <23L container collection program is gradually changing to align it with other provinces, enabling farmers to bring these empty and rinsed containers back to their local agricultural retail outlets. The transition to ag retailers is being phased in over three years.

The transition shifts the responsibility to accept empty containers from the municipality to the ag industry. It also simplifies farm disposal of crop input packaging since many ag retailers already collect other materials like drums, totes, and seed, pesticide & inoculant bags for recycling with Cleanfarms.

Within Yellowhead County, the Wildwood, Parkcourt (Evansburg), and Peers Transfer Stations will stop accepting empty, rinsed agricultural chemical containers for recycling effective January 2023. After this date, your local ag retailer will be the primary drop-off location for these containers. Many ag retailers are already accepting them for recycling; however, before returning them to your local retailer (where you purchased them), please call to see if they have begun taking them.

Large volume ag plastics & packaging pickup is now available!

Since 2016, Cleanfarms has been collecting materials directly from certain high-acreage farms across Canada. As part of our mission to provide convenient and efficient recycling programs to Canadian farmers, we are now extending the offer to pick up ag plastics for recycling from high-volume growers across Western Canada. Best of all, this service is available to growers that meet volume requirements, free of charge.

To be eligible for this service, growers must have (or be willing to accumulate) a minimum quantity of used agricultural waste materials that Cleanfarms recovers for recycling and/or safe disposal.

For more information on minimum quantity requirements and large volume collection, please visit <https://cleanfarms.ca>.

Do you have questions? Cleanfarms wants to hear from you. Please email info@cleanfarms.ca or call 1-877-622-4460.

Thank you for recycling with Cleanfarms!



Unloading rinsed, bagged containers at ag retailer. Source: Cleanfarms

Ag Chemical Jugs RETURN TO RETAIL Starts January 2023

WHAT TO KNOW: As part of a province-wide initiative, Starting January 1, 2023, Ag jugs will no longer be accepted at Yellowhead County Transfer Stations: Peers, Parkcourt (Evansburg), and Wildwood.

Remember to get a free Cleanfarms collection bag when the product is picked up or delivered, and then:

- 1. Rinse**
 - Use a chemical handler or a pressure nozzle to triple-rinse the containers to ensure no product is wasted
- 2. Remove & Bag**
 - Remove paper booklets, and discard
 - Place rinsed containers in a CleanFarms collection bag and tie closed
- 3. Return for recycling**
 - Return rinsed and bagged jugs to your participating ag retailer
- 4. Seed treatment containers**
 - Caps are to remain securely ON
 - Place in a separate collection bag (seed treatment containers are processed separately from chemical containers and need to be kept in their own bags)



Return empty ag jugs to retail  Call for hours of operation

All Yellowhead County municipal Ag Jug collection locations will stop taking jugs by December 31, 2022.

More info is available at <https://cleanfarms.ca/mb-ab-jug-transition/>



**Yellowhead County
18TH ANNUAL
2021
Winners!**

- 1. Siwak Property
- 2. Radcliffe Property
- 3. Beck Property
- Honourable Mention:
Sunshine Seniors
Lodge (Evansburg)

**Yellowhead County
19TH ANNUAL
2022
Winners!**

- 1. Erickson Property
- 2. Vincent Property
- 3. (Tie) Siwak Property
& Foisy Property



SIWAK PROPERTY

*I love my flower garden in Yellowhead County!
- Rhonda Siwak*



RADCLIFFE PROPERTY

*In every corner of my yard I have a plant or tree that has been given to me by someone special in my life. Some are still with me as others have passed away, but my yard has a piece of their backyards. Thank you.
- Trish Radcliffe*



BECK PROPERTY

I'm proud this year because with the warm weather things are growing really well and the deer haven't ate everything this year. I love living in the county because it's home and so peaceful. - Linda Beck



SUNSHINE SENIORS LODGE EVANSBURG

*The seniors that live here are very proud of their courtyard where they can socialize with each other and enjoy the beautiful flowers they planted. Most of our seniors here in the lodge have been in Yellowhead County most of their lives. It is home to them. Yellowhead County is a beautiful piece of paradise within our province!
- Natasha Crosby, Sunshine Seniors Lodge*

*I have been gardening for many years and enjoy the outdoors greatly! Yellowhead County has its challenges for its short growing season but we truly live in one of the best parts around.
- Myra Foisy*

*I am a stay at home Mom of 3 who loves to garden. I love to see how everything grows and produces.
- Destanne Erickson*

*Yellowhead County is a great place to live. Wonderful and friendly.
- Gillian Vincent*

*Super proud of our yard this year with all of the rain that we have had. Our park-like setting is very calm and relaxing.
- Rhonda Siwak*



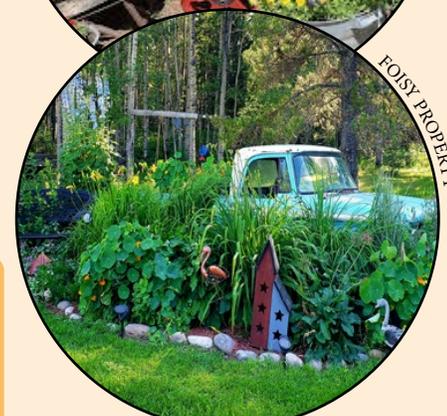
ERICKSON PROPERTY



VINCENT PROPERTY



SIWAK PROPERTY



FOISY PROPERTY

Programs & Supports

Home Support Program

Do you need a little extra help around the house?

Home Support provides light housekeeping services to residents of Yellowhead County as far west as Marlboro (Range Road 210).

The County also has an agreement with Parkland County to provide Home Support as far east as Fallis. Home Support is available to anyone who has a health or mobility problem that prevents them from completing housekeeping tasks, regardless of their age.

Home Support services are available for a maximum of 8 hours per month and are limited to indoor housekeeping tasks and

volunteers are screened, trained and required to take an oath of confidentiality before they meet clients.

The hourly fees for Home Support range from \$8.00-\$25.00/hour depending on income.

The amount the client pays per hour is based on their annual income as it appears on line 150 of their notice of assessment.

Contact the Community Outreach Coordinator for more information about Home Support. Call the Yellowhead County office in Wildwood at (780) 325-3782 or 1-800-814-3935.



FCSS Grant Connect Program

The Grant Connect Database can help connect you to available grants for your non-profit organization.

The Grant Connect Database is now available through Yellowhead County!

Yellowhead County now has access to a national database of grants available to organizations and societies serving a wide variety of purposes. Funding includes Federal grants, provincial grants, philanthropic and corporate funding opportunities.

Running a non-profit organization is rewarding but at times difficult work. Include a pandemic, which may have significantly impacted a group's fundraising ability, and it is especially challenging now. The Grant Connect database can help you find those dollars, or identify funding for your next big project.

How does it work? If you are with a non-profit, you can call the office to set up an appointment to search the database with a staff member. Simple as that. And if you can't make it into the office, we can help you out over Zoom or a phone call.

Grant Connect has funding for health, arts, recreation, social services, environmental projects, community and economic development, agriculture, non-profit development and a wide variety of other topics.

Call 780-325-3782 and ask to speak with FCSS about the Grant Connect program, or email wrobinson@yhcounty.ca to make an appointment.



FCSS Support Groups

Struggling? Connecting with people going through similar situations may help.



Alzheimer Support Group

Seeing a loved one deal with Alzheimer's can be stressful and difficult, but you're not alone.

Yellowhead County FCSS & Parkland County offer an Alzheimer Support Group, with both in-person and online group sessions.

Meet with others that are going through the same challenges and stresses as you.

The group meets in a safe and confidential environment once a month at the Tipple Park Museum or online via Zoom at 4:00 PM.

2022:
November 16

2023:
January 18, February 15, March 15, April 19, May 17, June 21

Caregiver Support Group

This is a valuable opportunity for caregivers to get together and talk about their caregiving journey in a safe and confidential environment.

Caregivers can be caring for their parents, their spouses, an elderly friend, a family member, or their children.

Take this opportunity to learn from others who are experiencing the same challenges and stresses.

Join us at the Yellowhead County Wildwood Office or online via Zoom every third Tuesday at 4:00 PM.

2022:
November 15

2023:
January 17, February 21, March 21, April 18, May 16, June 20

Grief Support Group

Are you dealing with grief? Grief can occur when someone loses a pet, their job, or a loved one.

Grief affects everyone in their own way. Connecting with others and sharing stories helps process the loss. Come connect with others who can identify with you and what you're going through.

Please join us at 4:00 PM on the 4th Tuesday of each month.

Sessions are in-person at the Wildwood Yellowhead County Office or online via Zoom.

2022:
November 22

2023:
January 24, February 28, March 28, April 25, May 23, June 27

Support Groups are free, confidential, offered on a drop-in basis, and can be attended both in-person and online!

For more info, call Yellowhead County at 780-325-3782 or 1-800-814-3935 or email Karen at kschatz@yhcounty.ca.

Emotional Safe Spot

Residents can now call on Yellowhead County staff to anonymously speak about mental health.

Yellowhead County's Family and Community Support Services Department (FCSS) believes that everyone needs someone to talk to.

When we are struggling socially and emotionally, life takes a toll. Knowing what to do next can be daunting.

Call 780-325-3782 to speak to someone today. Just call and ask to speak with someone about the Emotional Safe Spot Program.

The Emotional Safe Spot Program is here with a warm smile and a listening ear during these challenging times.



Other Helpful Numbers and Resources

911 - Emergency Services: Ambulance, Fire and Police (24 hrs)

811 - Health Link: Free nurse advice and general health information (24 hrs)

211 - 211 Alberta: Information on social services available in your area (24 hrs)

1.866.332.2322 - Addiction Services Helpline (24 hrs)

1.866.710.7848 - AlbertaQuits Helpline (8 am to 8 pm)

1.888.456.2323 - Bullying Helpline (24 hrs)

1.800.387.5437 - Child Abuse Hotline (24 hrs)

310.1818 - Family Violence Information Line (24 hrs)

1.866.644.5135 - Income Support Contact Centre: Financial help for Albertans who don't have resources to meet basic needs (food, clothing, shelter) (24hrs)

1.800.668.6868 - Kids Help Phone (24 hrs)

1.877.303.2642 - Mental Health Helpline (24 hrs)

IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY...

Are You Prepared?

Emergency Kit Checklist

Having an emergency kit can help reduce the stress of making important decisions in emergency situations.

Food & Water

- Water (4L per person per day)
- Non-perishable food with high protein
- Trail mix/dried fruit
- Crackers and cereals
- Canned meat, fish, and beans
- Canned/boxed juice

Clothing & Bedding

- Change(s) of clothing [season appropriate]
- Extra undergarments and socks
- Raincoat, poncho, jacket
- Spare shoes
- Sleeping bag, blanket

Equipment

- Manual can opener
- Dishes and utensils
- Battery-powered or crank radio
- Extra batteries
- Pen and paper
- Pocket knife
- Duct tape
- Whistle
- Cell phone
- Extra charging cables and batteries
- Multi-tool and work gloves

Personal Supplies & Medication

- First-aid kit
- Personal hygiene supplies
- Tissue paper, toilet paper, paper towels
- OTC and prescription medications
- Copies of prescriptions
- Prescription glasses
- Pet food and supplies (including toys)
- Liquid detergent and soap
- Plastic wrap, aluminum foil, re-sealable bags
- Garbage and recycle bags
- Hand sanitizer and wipes
- Disposable dust and non-medical masks

Light

- Battery-powered or crank flashlights/lamps
- Candles with candleholder
- Lighter
- Waterproof matches

Documents & Identification

- Personal identification
- Copies of birth and marriage certificates, will, passports, citizenship papers
- Insurance policies
- Cash (small bills and change)
- Credit card information
- Copy of emergency plan
- Contact list
- Personal items, if time allows (photos, computers, heirlooms, etc)

Distraction and comfort items

- Small toys and stuffed animals
- Playing cards and games
- Reading material
- Activity books and puzzles
- Colouring books and markers
- Charging cords for electronic devices
- Notebook and pen
- Family photos

Don't forget to consider additional items you may need in your kit.

Those pregnant, breastfeeding, with infants or small children, mobility issues, specific cultural/religious/spiritual needs, severe allergies or dietary restrictions, chronic medical conditions or medical equipment, etc may need extra supplies. Make a list and be prepared!

Make a mini kit!

- Small amount of cash
- Phone charger
- Package of wipe/tissues
- Painkillers and backup medication
- Water

Make an Emergency Plan

Have a plan in place for your family. Sit down and discuss safe exits from your home and neighbourhood, meeting places to reunite, designated persons to pick up your children if you're unavailable, contacts both close-by and out-of-town, health and insurance information, places for your pet to stay, and the location of things such as fire extinguisher, water valve, electrical panel, emergency kit, etc.

Sign up for the MyAlberta Emergency Registration System!

MAERS lets you register online for potential emergencies that may affect your household.

You may register for yourself and any members of your household.

You'll need:

- a personal email
- a MyAlberta digital ID

Visit emergencyregistration.alberta.ca for more information.

Please move over and slow down or stop for emergency vehicles!

Let's all get home safely.

CONTINUED APPRECIATION FOR Our Local Heroes

YCFD Projects Focus on Keeping the County Safe

The Yellowhead County Fire Department (YCFD) continues to work hard to keep our 22,000 km² landmass protected. In the past few years, YCFD has gone through a full-fledged overhaul to keep up with modern standards and practices and to serve the unique needs of our residents.

Our newest addition is a network of fire detection cameras situated on our communication towers—allowing our towers to work similarly to lookout towers. Our towers can help pinpoint growing wildfires so that our members are better informed and equipped to respond.

“Yellowhead County’s tower network has now been outfitted with wildfire detection cameras which can spot emerging fires during high-hazard periods,” says Fire Chief Albert Bahri. “The towers also provide world-class radio coverage for our protective services as well as those of Hinton and Edson.”

In addition to our network of lookout towers, we’ve also:

- Built a modular training facility that allows us to continue training our firefighters for specific and technically complex situations (their skills now include rappel rescue, wildland and urban interface firefighting, ground-cover firefighting, and structural protection).

- Fire-smarted throughout the county, which includes tripping and felling encroaching brush and thick croppings of trees near populated areas.
- Built underground industrial water storage tanks throughout the county, ensuring an adequate supply of water to distant locations.
- Maintained a strong working partnership and cross-trained with Agriculture and Forestry to better respond to wildland fires.
- Right-sized our fleet of response vehicles to ensure that we’ve got the right apparatus for specific and general emergencies.
- Acquired sprinkler protection trailers that can be deployed to protect residents’ properties from encroaching fires.
- Built a number of new fire halls throughout the region and upgraded others.

The Wildwood Fire Hall (below) is one of the projects that the YCFD has completed over the past few years.



An Open Letter of Thanks to Health Care Workers

“Yellowhead County Council and I would like to take a moment to acknowledge and thank you for the service you deliver so steadfastly in our region’s health care system, despite heavy burdens like the COVID-19 pandemic.

These past few years have been an extraordinary trial for many levels of society, but the spotlight was on health care workers here and across the province. Our region’s residents and visitors relied on you to help them at their most vulnerable, and the extraordinary way you met and still meet these needs everyday is completely remarkable. “Health care worker” in no way captures the range of skills, knowledge, and focus you bring to so many roles, from nurse to counsellor, physician, sterilizer, emergency medical technician, administrator, and housekeeper - and the many others not mentioned.

We simply must take a moment to thank you and your families for what you’ve done and do every day. Your work is seen and appreciated; it’s what makes our communities home. ”

Sincerely,
Wade Williams
Mayor, Yellowhead County

SLOW INTERNET CONNECTION?



Help us discover who lacks high-speed internet in Yellowhead County!

Complete the speed test to help us collect data.

All surveys and speed tests must be done by November 25, 2022.

www.yhcsurvey.ca

Feel free to contact Yellowhead County's Chief Administrative Officer or General Managers with questions, concerns, or comments.

Luc Mercier

– Chief Administrative Officer

Albert Bahri

– General Manager of Protective Services

Jeffrey Morrison

– General Manager of Corporate Services

Crystal McNernie

– Interim General Manager of Community Services

Sabhago Oad

– General Manager of Infrastructure and Planning Services

Yellowhead County

780-723-4800

1-800-665-6030

Fax: 780-723-5066

Office Locations

Edson Office (Main)

2716 - 1st Avenue

Edson, AB T7E 1N9

Hours of Operation

Monday to Friday

8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Wildwood Office

53404 Rge Rd 92A

Wildwood, AB

After-Hours Emergency

Utilities, Bylaw, Transportation: 780-723-3221

Visit the new Yellowhead County website at www.yhcounty.ca

