

Yellowhead County's

# Yellowheadlines

Spring 2018 Bi-Annual Newsletter

TRANS - CANADA



## **THE GREATEST LITTLE AIRPORT IN THE NORTHERN ROCKIES**

**THE JASPER-HINTON AIRPORT HAS SEEN A SURPRISING VARIETY OF FLIGHTS OVER THE YEARS; RANGING FROM ENGLISH ROYALTY AND DISGRACED ATHLETES TO EMERGENCY PICK-UPS AND MILITARY EXERCISES.**

While roads are the most common point of entry into Yellowhead County, there are other options available to local visitors to the area including flying into one of the several airports in the County.

### Jasper-Hinton Airport

The County owns and maintains the Jasper-Hinton Airport which is located 10km west of Hinton just north of Highway 16. Although technically, the County run airport is an unmanned airport, there

is one maintenance staff that keeps the airport runways safe and clear of snow, ice and debris to ensure that pilots can bring in their planes and helicopters for a safe landing in varying conditions throughout the year.

John Gregory, who is the County's Airport Operator, has been working at the airport for 22 years, and over his time there, he has seen all kinds of weather conditions, aircraft, and people land at this picturesque airport nestled into the foothills of the Alberta Northern Rockies.

While a small and seemingly obscure airport, the Jasper-Hinton Airport has a regular amount of traffic landing and taking off from its airstrip. "I estimate that we have between 800 to 1000 aircraft movements every year. Medevac planes are our biggest user, followed by private company planes and jets, the oil and gas industry among them," estimates Gregory. "STARS helicopters use us as a pickup and refueling spot."

SARS (Search and Rescue Alberta) usually come in every summer to conduct

HINTON-JASPER AIRPORT ICAO CODE:

CEC4



RUNWAY 02/20  
DIMENSIONS: 4510 X 100 FEET.  
SURFACE: ASPHALT  
REMARKS RUNWAY 02 - RUNWAY 20  
RUNWAY HEADING: 023° 203°  
DISPLACED THRESHOLD: 205 FEET 307 FEET  
GLIDE SLOPE INDICATOR 2-BAR VASI FOR AIRCRAFT WITH EYE-TO-WHEEL HEIGHT UP TO 10 FEET. 2-BAR VASI FOR AIRCRAFT WITH EYE-TO-WHEEL HEIGHT UP TO 10 FEET



mountain rescue training and the airport has also hosted a Canadian Armed Forces helicopter squadron a few times in the past while they were conducting training maneuvers.

In addition to the military, medical,

and industry usage, Gregory has had a range of recognizable names grace his airstrip. “We’ve also had our share of celebrities come through, from Queen Elizabeth & Prince Phillip to disgraced cyclist Lance Armstrong, astronaut Chris Hadfield, to an owner of the Chicago Cubs with the team logo on the side of the plane, to mention a few,” recalls Gregory.

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Although a convenient location for anyone wanting to come in to the area for work, travel, or

emergency related issues such as fire-fighting or air ambulance, this airport can have weather conditions that aren’t always the easiest for landings and take-offs due to the wind currents caused by the mountainous terrain where the airport is situated.

**FAST AND EASY ACCESS FOR GETTING INTO THE COUNTY CAN BE HAD FROM THE HINTON/YELLOWHEAD COUNTY AIRPORT, THE ENTRANCE AIRFIELD WEST OF HINTON HEADING NORTH ON HIGHWAY 40, AND THE EDSON AIRPORT.**

- THE ASPHALT RUNWAY IS 4500’ LONG BY 100’ WIDE, AND IS PROTECTED BY A 10’ HIGH GAME FENCE.
- WE HAVE AN AUTOMATED WEATHER SYSTEM (AWOS), ARCAL EDGE LIGHTING AND GPS LANDING.
- THE TERMINAL LOBBY AND WASHROOMS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC 24/7.
- THE AIRPORT HAS A GAME FENCE WHICH KEEPS THE WILDLIFE OFF THE RUNWAY.
- THERE ARE PHONES AT THE AIRPORT FOR CONTACTING TAXI SERVICE, ETC.
- REFUELING SERVICE ARE AVAILABLE FOR JET-A FUEL.



# ROSEVEAR FERRY

## 101 Years of the Rosevear Ferry

This year, the Rosevear Ferry was hauled away from its post at the McLeod River crossing. It had tamed the river and served the community for a century in its various forms. It started as a small, wooden barge, and evolved into a more durable, and larger (18 metre long) piece of equipment that could (and did) host a wedding service. So what does a century of faithful service look like? Hooves, dozens at a time; horses carrying carriages of goods—teamsters and homesteaders at the reigns. Ford Model Ts, the first of their kind, gleaming in the heat and dust. Then: Longer cars with slick wingtips and stout, rust-prone trucks. And of course, all manner of people, international visitor and local traveller alike—none were refused, and none took the short, hundred meter trip for granted.

Revisiting the Ferry’s history is a matter of mingling with the community; it was a kindly affair for all involved from the moment it took to the McLeod, to the moment it was retired. Stephen Parker, a Ferryman of 7 years (2008-2015) recounts, “I never saw an unhappy face. Everybody smiled.” If you were to ask ferry goers what the

Rosevear Ferry commonly carried, they’d tell you that it wasn’t about what it carried, but what it brought: Peace, joy, and a sense of community.

In the hundred years that the ferry made its short voyage across the McLeod, it became a symbol of this hospitable community. The ferry became less about transportation, less about bridging a gap and more about visiting with friends and neighbours. It grew to be a quaint getaway where one would be greeted by smiling faces and warm company.

We thank all those who made the ferry a symbol of our vibrant and welcoming community. If you’d like to know more about the Rosevear Ferry’s touching history, keep an eye out for the soon to be published Rosevear Ferry book.



kids can catch



Millers Lake Day Use Area  
(East end)

**THURSDAY  
JULY 5  
5:00 - 8:00 PM**

Join us at Millers Lake for an evening of family fishing!  
No fishing license is needed for those 16 and under. Bring your own rod or borrow one of ours!

Events will include free BBQ, fishing rod raffle, and all supplies needed for an evening of fishing!



**HERITAGE BUS TOUR 2018: Coming this Fall**  
More details coming soon!  
Call for more information.

**YOUR COUNTY.  
YOUR HISTORY.**

**ROBB | MOUNTAIN PARK | CADOMIN | LUSCAR | MERCOAL**

# Fishing Locations in Yellowhead County

## MCLEOD RIVER

*South of Hinton to Edson Area*

Once you start getting out there exploring the area and talking to local fishermen you'll quickly learn there's a great range of types of fishing within Yellowhead County.

You will need a sportfishing Licence to fish in Alberta.

Please refer to Alberta Guide to Sportfishing Regulations for information regarding catch limits, bait bans and, seasonal closures.

This free publication can be obtained at numerous locations including your district Fish and Wildlife offices or online at [www.albertaregulations.ca/fishingregs](http://www.albertaregulations.ca/fishingregs)

Starting off in Cadomin, the McLeod River flows into the Athabasca River (the waters of the McLeod eventually making their way to the Arctic Ocean via Lake Athabasca, and Great Slave Lake in the Northwest Territories.)

Featuring Mountain Whitefish, Native Rainbow Trout, Bull Trout, Pike and Walleye, the river is a wonder fishing hole. The McLeod is also a great place for canoeing and kayaking. Rapids are fairly mild, however one must watch out for rocks and shallow water. It's a good place to use an old, reliable canoe that doesn't mind a few bumps and bruises. One can easily access the river from Willmore Park, where there's a lovely little launch. A good place to finish the trip is beside the bridge off of Highway 16 east. This trip will take around two to three hours.

## CHIP LAKE

*West of Wildwood*

Chip Lake is a bird watcher's paradise. Located on a flight path, this lake hosts everything from waterfowl, and osprey, to the occasional eagle. There is a campground located at the lake so you can stay for as long as you like! With an entertaining playground for the kids, and lots of green open space, there's definite potential for fun!

## FICKLE LAKE

*South West of Edson*

The peaceful water of Fickle Lake is situated southwest of Edson. With Whitefish, Pike, Perch, and Walleye in its water, it makes for a superb fishing spot. A one hour interpretive hike southeast of the lake leads to an old trapper's cabin - Elkoff's Cabin.

## OBED LAKE

*Obed Pass on Hwy 16*

This deep lake has Brown Trout and piles of Perch. Located halfway between Edson and Hinton, Obed Lake is an excellent place to practice canoe and kayak skills. And after a little fishing, one can sit back and relax around the fire, as campsites-for day or overnight use are located just off the lake.

## EMERSON LAKE

*Northwest of Edson*

The five remote lakes that make up Emerson Lakes are huddled together, resulting in a spectacular blue-green view. Located 64 km northwest of Edson on Highway 748N, the lakes are a hikers' dream. With lush trails, and a stunning view, this hike takes you around three of the six lakes - about seven kilometers total. With lakeside day-use areas, and camping stalls just feet from the lake, this is one place definitely worth the drive. Calm and soothing, these lakes allow one to feel at ease with oneself and close to nature. With day-use sites right off the lake and picturesque campsites just a few steps away it's hard to leave this quaint area.

## SUNDANCE LAKES

*Northwest of Edson*

These three serene lakes will stun ones' eyes with their magnificent beauty. The lakes can be viewed from a number of locations, however one of the best views comes from following the Wild Sculpture Trail - which also showcases the Hoodoos! Following this trail for about 1.5 km will lead you to the top of the Hoodoos, where the great lakes can be taken in.

## ATHABASCA RIVER

*West Part of County*

The Athabasca River is the longest river in Yellowhead County. Approximately 1231 km long, starting in Jasper National Park this river flows northeast and eventually empties into Lake Athabasca. The Athabasca River hosts numerous types of fish, including Mountain Whitefish, Native Rainbow Trout, Walleye, Perch, Arctic Grayling, Bull Trout, Brown Trout, Golden Eye and more! It's a popular river with hunters, as they use jet-boats to travel along the river to their secret hunting spots.



# 2018 COUNTY BUDGET & TAX RATE SET

The 2018 Budget for Yellowhead County was adopted by Council on April 10, 2018. The general municipal rate increased 1.71% from the 2017 rates bringing the general municipal tax rate for residential properties (private homes/farms) to 2.5005 and the general municipal non-residential (industrial/commercial) to 6.4747.

This is the first increase in six years for the residential tax rate and four year for the industrial tax rate.

The 2018 budget includes several projects that continue to bring connectivity to our region – for both roads and communications. These projects include the continuation of the installment of several communications towers that enhance safety, provide more choices for industrial operations, and better residential communications for internet, cell phone service and radio coverage. There are also several road and bridge construction projects that are continuations from last year, as well as various new projects that start in 2018.

There are also several parks and recreation enhancement projects that focus on County hamlets, campgrounds and other popular recreation areas.

Taxes notices are mailed out to property owners on May 16, 2018. Payment is required to be made to Yellowhead County by June 30, 2018. There are several payment options including online banking.

## DID YOU KNOW:

Your property tax includes taxes for a number of different authorities. Yellowhead County collects school taxes on behalf of the provincial government and funds for seniors housing on behalf of the Evergreens Foundation. The amount of the requisition by these bodies sets the tax rate you see on your tax bill.

## 2018 Budget

Operations:	\$40,060,923
Capital Projects:	\$60,221,039
Contribution to local governments (Revenue & Cost Sharing):	\$9,675,635
Contribution to County Reserves (for future capital):	\$1,627,715

## Where do your County tax dollars go?

Yellowhead County Council's operating and capital budget includes the following breakdown of expenditures for 2018:

- 49% of expenditures have been allocated towards infrastructure projects and programs including roads, bridges, water, sewer, landfills and airport
- 10% of the budget has been allocated to Community Services programs for our residents
- 7% of the budget has been allocated to Protective Services programs for our residents
- 7% to Corporate and Planning Services
- 1% to go towards Council and general municipal business
- 7% of the budget has been allocated to cost/revenue sharing with the Towns of Edson & Hinton
- 19% of the budget goes to School Tax and Seniors Requisitions.

## DID YOU KNOW:

**2018 Council Strategic Priorities** – The Strategic Priorities document gives Council and administration a plan to guide what Council has prioritized as the most important goals and projects for the County for the upcoming year, as well as long-term goals. The objectives within the document, that range from seniors housing to roads and recreation facilities, are chosen from concerns heard by Council from residents, various stakeholders and groups, and administration; as well as previous issues and ongoing projects undertaken by the municipality.

In addition to the ongoing operating costs and current capital projects that are already underway, many of the decisions made by Council as part of their strategic priorities are what help set the budget for each year. As previous projects are completed, new ones may be added by Council at a strategic priority meeting and then evaluated at the Council budget meetings once a price tag has been tied to one of these new goals.

## A Few Things You Should Know...

Property taxes cover about 66% of all budget costs, including requisitions.

The remaining 34% of the costs are covered from other sources such as grants, reserves, investment income, and user fees.

## Capital Projects include:

Communication Towers	\$ 1,639,908
Wildwood Fire Hall	\$ 918,512
Training Facility	\$ 365,000
Water Tanker	\$ 735,000
Rosevear Bridge Completion	\$ 3,432,222
Obed Bridge	\$ 4,544,303
Culvert Replacements	\$ 1,062,009
Edson Facilities Connection	\$ 567,500
Chip Lake Connector	\$ 308,177
Carrot Creek Tower Road	\$1,770,000
Tom Hill Tower Road	\$ 7,689,434
Robb Lift Station Road	\$ 950,000
Range Road 171	\$ 1,138,000
Swanson Road	\$ 10,959,370
Baseline Road	\$ 6,650,000
Niton Parking Area	\$ 150,000
Carrot Creek Loop	\$ 655,000
Wolf Lake Old Highway	\$ 396,000
Seabolt & Makuta Rehab	\$ 855,000
Decorative Street Lighting	\$ 550,000
Robb Force Main	\$ 1,312,325
Marlboro Sewer Lagoon	\$ 2,810,000
Peers & Pinedale Transfer Site	\$ 700,000
Community Garden	\$10,000
Gilfoile Park	\$50,000
Solomon River Access	\$226,579
Brule Hall	\$3,000,000
Wildwood Cmplx Paving & Drainage	\$410,000
Boat Launch Improvements	\$46,000
Brule Bike Park	\$10,000
Evansburg Drypond Trail	\$47,494
Outhouses	\$110,000
Shiningbank Campground Improvements	\$100,000
Playgrounds	
Tipple Park	\$35,061
Tipple Park Toboggan Hill	\$20,000
Brule	\$90,000
Millers Lake	\$86,200
Trail System	\$250,000

# ROAD CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Carrot Creek Tower Rd – Marlboro Lagoon – Tom Hill Tower Rd – Rosevear Connector – RR 171

## Carrot Creek Tower Road

Work will continue on Carrot Creek Tower Road, pending an updated schedule with defined completion date from the contractor.

## Rosevear Bridge

The contractor has completed work on the piers, and is now working on earthworks for grading and paving of the road. Construction setbacks have been encountered, slowing progress. Until the contractor has assessed the site and provided an updated schedule, it is uncertain when this project will be complete.

## Tom Hill Tower Road

The contractor must first repair the culvert to ensure that winter conditions have not undermined work completed late last year. Following this, grading and paving will commence along the length of Tom Hill Tower Road. Project is expected to be complete in 2018.

## Marlboro Lagoon

Regulatory submissions and utility agreements are being formalized. The lagoon design is being revised. Completion in 2018 is not anticipated due to regulatory restriction periods and approval timelines.

## RR 171 Upgrade and Improved Alignment

The surveying phase is complete. Land negotiations are under way and design details are being finalized in preparation for tender. This project is forecasted to be completed in 2018.

## Highway 748 Detour Notice for Rosevear Construction

Yellowhead County would like to notify residents of a temporary detour and traffic pattern change along Highway 748. Beginning June 1, 2018 traffic lights will be placed on the highway between Range Road 155 and Range Road 153A. During this time traffic will be shifted off the existing highway surface and moved over to a detour roadway; traffic will alternate directions of flow thru the detour area.

Please be aware, delays for motorists are expected.

The detour will allow crews to complete the final grading portion of the project which will tie Highway 748 into the newly constructed Rosevear Road and Bridge over the McLeod River.

The detour is expected to be in place until August 31, 2018.

Please be aware of work crews on the roadway, slow down, and allow them space to complete their work. Motorists are required to obey all roadway construction signs when posted.





# Pack your Bags and Hit the Trail!

Explore



## Yellowhead County Summer Explorer Passport Contest!

1. First, grab a map, camera, and your hiking boots.
2. Then, pack your bag and hit the road!
3. Visit the locations listed as in the book or on our website and instagram.
4. Take a photo of yourself or the scenery at each location.
5. Post your photos and a short description of each location on Instagram and tag @yellowheadcountyrecreation and @SaskyDaSasquatch
6. And use the hashtags: #leaveitpristine #exploreyellowhead and #yellowhead-county
7. You'll receive one entry into the draw for each photo submitted – so take and submit lots of photos!

You can also email entries to [hello@yellowheadcounty.ab.ca](mailto:hello@yellowheadcounty.ab.ca)

Winner of the summer prize pack will be announced on September 20, 2018.

It's your guide to exploring all the great spots in the Alberta Northern Rockies and foothills and the Yellowhead County area!

Get out there, have some fun, and win some great prizes!

The contest runs from June 1, 2018 to September 15, 2018.

Celebrate this amazing area by visiting the points of interest listed in the guide!

And remember to keep an eye out for Sasky the Sasquatch, he'll be visiting various locations and events throughout the summer across Yellowhead County.

\*Submitted photos may be featured on Yellowhead County's website, Facebook Pages and Instagram account throughout the duration of the contest.

[WelcomeToOurBackyard.ca](http://WelcomeToOurBackyard.ca)



Visit us on Facebook at:  
@YellowheadCounty  
@YellowheadCountyParksAndRec  
@SaskyDaSasquatch

# YELLOWHEAD LOCAL FOOD INITIATIVE

Consumers want to know where their food comes from and how and where it's produced!

Do you know how much locally grown and crafted Yellowhead County products are out there and available to buy from local farmer's markets, in local stores, and directly from the producer's themselves? Well the answer is probably a lot more than you think there are!

Getting out and hitting the road is a fun and relaxing way to see the area you live in and explore what's out there. And what a fun way to fill up your pantry with an amazing assortment of locally produced goods.

Since 2016, Yellowhead County and West Yellowhead Community Futures have been developing a network of

producers and creating branding and marketing to help you find who is selling what and where you can buy it. It's called the Yellowhead Local Food Initiative and its being marketed as Locally Grown Yellowhead.

Last summer, we partnered with the Alberta Open Farm Days and several local farms and greenhouses to have our first AB Open Farm Days bus and self-driving tour. It was a great opportunity to showcase some of the cool places in Yellowhead County and gave participants a first-hand perspective of where some of their foods are produced and meet the passionate people whose business it is to produce it.

There was also an amazing lunch where those on the bus tour were able to sample some of the locally produced food and beer.

Keep an eye out for more information coming this year as we expand our list of local participating partners and continue to market their goods and products. We will also be hosting another bus tour as part of Alberta Open Farm Days that gets you in the backdoor to some of our amazing local producers growing and creating some of delicious products that will keep your pantry well-stocked and your belly full.



*Locally Grown. Yellowhead.*

Contact us to find out more about getting your products and business into the Yellowhead Local Food Initiative network.



[www.GrowYellowhead.ca](http://www.GrowYellowhead.ca)

A shared initiative of Community Futures West Yellowhead and Yellowhead County Community Services.

# WELCOME TO OUR BACKYARD!

Please enjoy it with respect.

## SASQUATCH APPROVED RECREATION TIPS.

- ✓ Control your campfire and make sure it's out when you leave.
- ✓ Keep campsites at least 100 metres from oil and gas facilities.
- ✓ Stay on existing trails with off-road vehicles and share the trails with all users. Horses, hikers, and mountain bikers.
- ✓ Don't disturb environmentally sensitive areas such as creeks, wetlands, trees, and shrubs.
- ✓ Don't trespass on private land or industrial operations.
- ✓ Respect wildlife.
- ✓ Pack out ALL garbage & recyclables.

WelcomeToOurBackyard.ca

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE FOR MORE 'SASKY APPROVED' RECREATION TIPS AND PLACES TO EXPLORE IN YELLOWHEAD COUNTY.

@SaskyDaSasquatch



### Sasky Da Sasquatch recognizes the recreational opportunities for all visitors to Yellowhead County.

Your presence in the headwaters of the Athabasca watershed means that your actions may affect water supplies which are important to a large part of Alberta's population.

Sensitive natural landscapes can be easily damaged by over-use, particularly in wet conditions. Please be aware of this and use appropriate judgment when camping and travelling.

Enjoy the forests, foothills and mountains connected by the rivers, streams and lakes of Yellowhead County, but please enjoy these beautiful landscapes with respect so that others may experience them tomorrow.

For more information on Sasquatch and Partners, visit on Facebook or [www.WelcomeToOurBackyard.ca](http://www.WelcomeToOurBackyard.ca)



# Sasquatch Sightings Increase on Yellowhead County Rivers!



*Yellowhead County Protective Services has placed several Sasquatch signs at various launch spots on Yellowhead County rivers with an aim to alert river users to the potential consequences on the river and to act as a rescue tool if needed.*

Last year, several new Sasquatch "Welcome to our Backyard" river signs were installed at key locations along popular river launches in Yellowhead County. The signs have tips to help keep anyone venturing onto the rivers safer and better informed.

Over the past several years Yellowhead County Fire Department has rescued tubers on both these and other rivers in Yellowhead County. While a route on a map may be misleading as to the actual distance and time needed to travel a planned course, having a reminder that geographic distances are often longer than expected is important before starting off. The time needed to get from a drop-off spot along the river to the intended final destination may take much longer than people anticipate.

The signs, located on the Pembina River and the McLeod

River, alert explorers to the potential consequences when using these rivers for activities such as canoeing and tubing. It also reminds people to respect the area they're travelling through regarding private property and the environment. While most of the signs are located in the County, the Town of Edson has allowed for the placement of a Sasquatch sign in Wilmore Park – a very popular put-in spot on the McLeod River.

The signs also act as a rescue assistance tool. Each sign is numbered, and anyone needing help on the river can reference the last numerical sign they saw if they need to call 9-1-1 for help. That number will give first responders a better idea of where they are stranded on the river and help to reduce the time for first responders to locate the source of the distress call.

# BEAR CHASE YOUTH TRIATHLON BACK FOR ANOTHER YEAR!



## Yellowhead County's First Bear Chase Youth Triathlon is back for another year.

The Bear Lake Triathlon is a fun, non-competitive, family event for kids of all ages. Race participants get to run, swim or wade, and ride their bike around a course set up at the Bear Lake campground.

Kids as young as 3 can take part in a mini-version of what the older kids will do. The oldest age group is the twelve to thirteen year age group.

After the event, an outdoor movie will be show at dusk on a giant, inflatable movie screen.

Last year there were over seventy kids that took part in the triathlon and everyone had a great time – including the crowds of encouraging fans that cheered them along to the finish line.

This year, keep an eye out for Saska Da Sasquatch who will be checking in on the fun, and may even run along

for a lap or two – or hop on a bike for a spin around the circuit!

Don't forget to register and mark the date on your calendar!



## NEW BRULE BIKE PARK OPEN AS OF JUNE 12



### Get out there, and have some fun!

The new Brule Bike Park joins the County's pumptracks as the latest community bike and ride recreational spot in the County's hamlets.

# SECOND ANNUAL BEAR CHASE YOUTH TRIATHLON

THURSDAY JULY 26

BEAK LAKE PARK, YELLOWHEAD COUNTY

EVENTS STARTS AT 5:30PM



*Join us for a fun, family friendly triathlon!*

*Parent participation is encouraged for our younger athletes!*

*Open for athletes aged 3-13*

*Outdoor Movie at Dusk to follow!*

Register in person at Yellowhead County offices in Edson & Wildwood or online [www.runningroom.com](http://www.runningroom.com)

Registration deadline Friday July 20th

For more information please call 780-723-4800



**HERITAGE BUS TOUR 2018: Coming this Fall**  
More details coming soon!  
Call for more information.

**YOUR COUNTY.  
YOUR HISTORY.**

**ROBB | MOUNTAIN PARK | CADOMIN | LUSCAR | MERCOAL**

# We are our Stories.



**This year the Yellowhead County Heritage program is partnering with Yellowhead County libraries and the Tipple Park Museum to bring our community a deep slice of local history. We are calling the project: We are our Stories.**

We'll be talking with current and former locals from every corner of the county and we'll gather stories, pictures, and memories for your reading pleasure. We hope it'll inspire you to share your stories.

Our first look at the county's past comes courtesy of Joyce Wilkins, former Mountain Park resident.

Decades ago, Mountain Park had a stake in the vitality of the Alberta Coal Branch. This was a small mining town in a sparse constellation of similar towns stretching south of what is now Highway 16.

These towns drew both Canadians and immigrants in search of work. Joyce's family on her father's side emigrated from the Ukraine and moved to Mountain Park in 1942. "My grandfather initially went to Mountain Park to find work, and then he got hold of my dad and told my father that there was work available in the mine."

The life of an early 20th century miner was a hard one. "I remember at least one miner being killed in the time we were there, and it was our next door neighbor." An older miner had perished in a mine collapse.

The cramped conditions of the mine even crept into the homes of newcomers. "We lived in a house on top of the hill, which I understood was a railroad car divided in half for two families," notes Joyce. "It was very basic inside. No running water, but we did have power."

In time, those who made a home of the railroad cars would find preferred accommodations below the hill, where regular houses were nested around the local school. Still, those houses weren't well insulated and staying warm was a matter of stoking a stove or coal burning heater and even getting dressed on chairs to avoid frigid floors!

Though the mining town of Mountain Park would shrink and altogether disappear in the 1950s—near a decade after Joyce's family settled there—her and many others' memories still remain. Joyce's childhood stories remind us that hardship or not, parents will strive to bring their children small joys, if not big opportunities.

Our second look at the county's past comes courtesy of Frank and Agnes Lovsin, former Mountain Park residents.

Frank and Agnes Lovsin come from two competing Coal Branch towns. The coal branch towns' residents welcomed sports to come together and build comradery. Baseball, hockey, curling—there was a sport for all seasons.

Agnes had an early fascination with sports: "I was very athletic, I did track and field all the time, I played ball, everything. It was a very active town, and all the towns got together, and they competed."

In 7th Grade, Frank began mastering what he refers to as an "oddball" sport, Ping-Pong: "I'd be the first guy at the school door, and if the teacher had the door open I'd sneak in, go downstairs, and bounce a Ping-Pong ball 'till somebody came in, then we'd play." The spirit of competition and comradery taught Frank a great deal about becoming a successful businessman—but also, it helped him capture the affection of his now wife of 60 years.

Agnes and her family would leave Cadomin for Edmonton due to the mining bust, which put her father out of work. Agnes recounts, "I'll never forget it: It was July 1st, 1953. We got on the bus here, and as the mountains were receding, my sister and I started to cry. We cried and cried."

But Frank and Agnes would be brought together by sports once again as adults. Agnes recounts: "He invited me to come up and watch him play baseball. Like his buddies, he was a show-off. Then he made a big error and had to prove himself." Frank tells it differently. While fielding, he flubbed a throw that would have won his team the game. In the last inning, Frank was first to bat and said to the pitchers, "Throw me a fat one and I'll get a home run, and life will turn out perfect."

And it did. Hundreds of exchanged letters and a few months later, Frank proposed to Agnes during a football game.

The couple's competitive nature also rubbed off on their youngest son Ken. Agnes recounts that Ken "played hockey for Canada when they got the silver medal." Ken was part of the mostly amateur roster that represented Canada at the 1994 Norwegian Winter Olympics. This was the last non-NHL team to compete in the games up until this year.

Although Frank and Agnes love to joke about the competition between their two towns, they credit their Coal Branch experiences with helping build their generosity and community spirit. As Agnes says: "Once a Coal Brancher, always a Coal Brancher."

*The We are our Stories project kindly invites anyone who has a story of the past, whether short or long, to participate! Please contact the Yellowhead County Heritage Department, a Yellowhead County Library branch, or the Tipple Park Museum. We'll gladly provide you with a transcript of your story and digitize any photos you bring to us.*

# UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL - AUGUST 2018

## POWER RUNNING

Millers Lake

Lace up your sneakers and hit the pavement in this class which will combine cardio and strength! Children in strollers welcome.

Date: June 5 - 26 (Tuesdays)

Time: 9:00 - 9:45am

Location: Millers Lake, meet at east end

Day Use Area (by the dock)

Cost: \$40



## PADDLE BOARD YOGA

Millers Lake

Time to take your yoga practice off the mat and onto the water.

Date: June 26 - July 31 (Tuesdays, Session 1)

OR

July 19 - August 9 (Thursdays, Session 2)

Time: 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Location: Millers Lake (meet at the dock by the east end Day Use Area)

Cost: \$55 (session 1), \$35 (session 2)



## BEAR CHASE TRIATHLON

Bear Lake

Join us for a fun, family friendly triathlon! Parent participation is encouraged for younger athletes.

Date: July 26

Time: 5:30 PM

Location: Bear Lake

Cost: \$15

Ages: 3-13

## GET PUMPED SCOOTER CAMP

Edson and Niton

Two days of fun and learning with other riders at these two great spots. Learn great tips and skills in a safe atmosphere.

Date: August 14 & 15

Time: 8:30-3:30

Location: Edson Skate Park & Niton Pump Track

Cost: \$80

Ages: 8-13



## KIDS CAN CATCH

Millers Lake

Join us at Millers Lake for an evening of family fishing! No fishing license is needed for 16 and under. Bring your own rod or borrow one of our! Events will include free BBQ, fishing rod raffle and all the supplies needed for an evening of fishing.

Date: July 5

Time: 5:00-8:00 PM

Location: Millers Lake Day Use Area (East End)

Cost: FREE

**Program registrations can be done in person at Yellowhead County offices in Edson (2716 1 ave) or Wildwood (53404 RR92A) or by credit card over the phone. Registrations are done on a first come, first serve basis. Classes may be cancelled if registrations are low, in which case a full refund will be issued. For further information please contact the Recreation Coordinator at 780-723-4800.**

Are you interested in instructing group fitness classes or leading participants in a creative afternoon? Our goal is to provide enjoyable recreational and leisure activities to the community. If this sounds like something you are interested in please contact Jina Materi, Recreation Coordinator at 780-723-4800 or [jmateri@yellowheadcounty.ab.ca](mailto:jmateri@yellowheadcounty.ab.ca)

# AG EQUIPMENT ON COUNTY ROADS

**W**ith summer in full swing, county residents are urged to be considerate of farmers whose farm vehicles and equipment rely on local roadways during the planting/harvest season.

During this season, you may see a high volume of farm equipment sharing the road.

Please be cautious on the road and respect that large equipment is difficult to maneuver, has limited visibility and blind spots, and cannot travel at fast speeds.

Our hard working local producers have a limited window of time to get their work completed—we thank you for your patience and attention when sharing the road with them. Remember: we all share the responsibility of keeping our roadways safe.



# CENTENNIAL AWARDS

**Y**ellowhead County cares about its farming legacy! Our farmers continue to contribute to the local economy, put food on our tables, and create jobs for our communities. For this often thankless trade, our farmers are rewarded with strong ties to the land and the pride of knowing that theirs is hard, honest work.

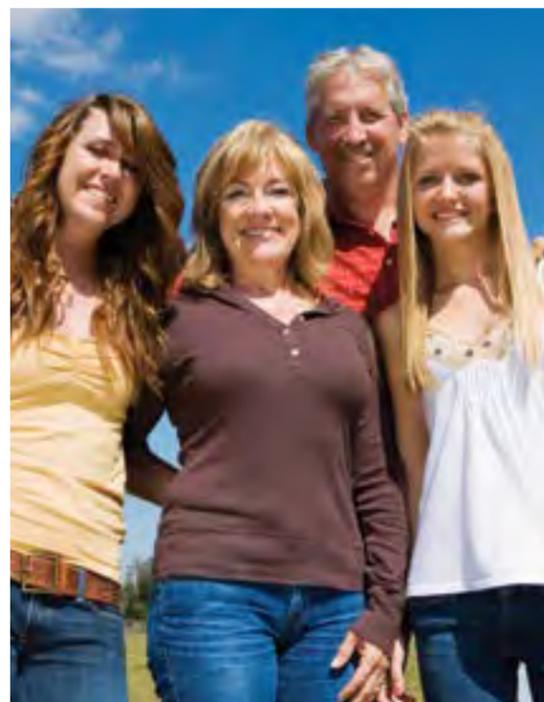
That's why Yellowhead County's Agricultural Services wants to recognize the local families who have continued to persevere as farmers for generations! Since 2014, Yellowhead County has offered farm families an award for owning and farming the same land for 100 years. Each Centennial Award recipient will be awarded a steel powder-coated gate sign and certificate commemo-

rating this 100 year milestone.

The award will be given out annually. More than one family may be eligible to receive the award in a single year if they meet the requirements. The application form and a copy of the award eligibility requirements can be found online on the Yellowhead County website or can be picked up at the Edson and Wildwood County offices.

The application deadline is August 31st. The award of a gate sign and certificate of recognition will be presented in the year following the application.

If you have any questions about the award, please call (780)325-3782.



# CHAP & FENCELINE PROGRAMS

**Y**ellowhead County's Agricultural Services is once again running its Fenceline Program. The purpose of the program is to control noxious and prohibited weeds, as well as encroaching brush, along fence lines adjacent to county roads and right-of-ways—at no cost to landowners!

After an agreement is signed by the property owner, county inspectors will conduct an inspection to determine what equipment and herbicide should be used. Then, county owned vehicles and equipment will apply herbicide from a resident's fence line to the county right of way. Fence line must be adjacent to a county right-of-way to qualify.

Additionally, this programs will help Yellowhead County control weeds and brush without the chance of over-spray onto private land where sensitive crops or trees may be. Herbicide will only be applied to county-owned land, not onto private land. Exceptions will be made for fields used for agricultural purposes; landowners may choose to have the four-foot strip from the fence line to their crop sprayed (which larger spray equipment or cultivators tend to miss).

County workers will not enter your property until you sign a release allowing them access and permission to apply herbicide. Please note that this program will be completed on a first-come first-serve basis and at no charge to landowners.

Similar to the Fenceline program, Yellowhead County's Agricultural Ser-

vices is also offering the Custom Herbicide Application Program (CHAP). The CHAP program offers landowners a local herbicide application solution for areas beyond their fence line.

This program is not equipped to control areas exceeding 20 acres, and costs \$130.00 per hour plus the cost of herbicide. The cost includes a job estimate, 2 trained herbicide applicators as well as relevant spraying equipment.

For more information about either the Fenceline or CHAP program, please contact Yellowhead County's Agricultural Services department at 780 325-3782.



**THE PINE BEETLE APP**  
Mountain pine beetle (MPB) is spreading east, threatening vast areas of Canadian forests. Knowing where infestations are is key to managing the problem. This app was developed by fRI Research as a quick and simple way for people to report the presence of mountain pine beetle. The data collected will inform management actions and support  
[www.pinebeetleapp.ca](http://www.pinebeetleapp.ca)



## THE THREAT OF WILDFIRE IS A REALITY. MAKE SURE YOU DO YOUR PART TO REDUCE THE RISK TO YOUR HOME.

The threat of a wildfire is a reality when living in a rural area, especially when you are surrounded by millions of acres of forested crown land and agricultural fields that have few buffer areas between them and your home.

There are lots of ways to make your home and property a safer place.

In order to help reduce the possibility of exposing your home to these potential dangers, property owners can take several measures to reduce these threats. FireSmart Alberta has several resources for property owners that can be utilized prior to building a new house, as well as for renovations, upgrades, and maintenance for existing homes and buildings.

There are several FireSmart guidebooks for homeowners available in both printed versions or online at [wildfire.alberta.ca/firesmart](http://wildfire.alberta.ca/firesmart) including an assessment scorecard you can use to rate your home's risk to wildfire and see what changes can be made to reduce your home's risk to a wildfire.

Every house should also have a Family Evacuation Plan and Emergency Kit ready to go for any type of emergency, and go over your plan with your family and review it annually. Yellowhead County has 2-person or 4-person emergency kits available to purchase.

[www.bit.ly/FireSmartHomeOwnersManual2016](http://www.bit.ly/FireSmartHomeOwnersManual2016)



# WILDWOOD'S NEW FIRE HALL

## New Fire Hall is State of the Art, but Honours the Past.

**Wildwood's new fire hall is opening July 18! Come out to support your community's local fire department, sneak a peek at the future of firefighting, and grab a free snack while you're at it.**

This new fire hall is designed with longevity and structural integrity in mind; in fact, the hall is expected to serve a minimum 50 years. We want to ensure that the county's residents are protected de-

cedes on and that taxpayers aren't hounded by renovation/rebuild costs.

That's why we built this fire hall right the first time. This means that we've also been keeping our members' safety in mind; several mechanisms in the hall enable the decontamination of member gear. The aim is to lessen, if not completely remove, dangerous particles that could impact our members' health.

Additionally, the new station features in-house laundry, as well as living, training, and eating quarters for members. The included space can be used to house firefighters, as well as peace officers and ambulance workers for

an encompassing emergency service. The hall is also supported by a backup generator in case of power outage.

Naturally, we've allocated more bay space for new pieces of sizable apparatus, such as our modern ladder trucks, which the former Wildwood fire hall was incapable of housing.

Although we're looking towards the future of protective services with this unveiling, we also recognize the importance of honoring the historic legacy of our protective services. The fire hall will contain a museum section, in which an antique county fire truck will be housed alongside numerous other pieces

of now-retired firefighting gear.

Recently, the county's fire department had this antique showpiece assessed to better understand the cost of restoration. As the cost is somewhat significant, the antique firetruck will be restored section by section. We encourage the community to donate towards the vehicle's restoration, and we will continue to fundraise in the future. As donations come in, the truck will be restored piecemeal so that we can be a part of its ongoing return to its former glory.

We hope to see you during the unveiling!



# YELLOWHEAD COUNTY'S TRANSPORTATION CREW

FROM MAKING SURE YOUR ROADS, AIRPORTS AND OTHER TRANSPORTATION ROUTES ARE GOOD TO GO, TO ENSURING FIRST RESPONDERS AND SCHOOL BUSESSES CAN GET TO WHERE THEY NEED TO AFTER A SNOW STORM, THIS CREW OF HARD WORKING GUYS ARE ALWAYS PROFESSIONAL AND DEPENDABLE.

Every year, our diligent infrastructure team takes care of our roads. Without their hard work, our safety would be compromised and our industry would suffer delays. The team works year-round to keep our vast road system (of some 2,200 kilometres) in working order. An often-thankless job, road infrastructure maintenance requires our crews to be conscious of troublesome roads such as snowed-over high traffic highways or pothole-laden unpaved roads.

As you can imagine, the job is a balancing act: Though our infrastructure team strives to prioritize road maintenance where residents are concerned, they often cannot cover all maintenance requests in short order. But you can be certain that your concerns will be noted and addressed in due time—our crew members are no slouches.

Next time you're happily enjoying a safe, smooth road on your commute, remember that we owe it all to our infrastructure teams! Thank you for slowing down and making sure that their workplace—our roads—is safe for them, too!

Here are the men who make transportation in west Yellowhead a safe and sound bet (from left to right): Leadhand **Greg Hussey**, West Area Supervisor **Kevin Hankins**, Leadhand **Danny Serdiak**, Equipment Operator **Dwayne Huggins**, Labourer **John Gregory**, Equipment Operator **Dean Robinson**, Equipment Operator **Robert Davis**, Infrastructure Labourer **Devon Vanderwolf**, Equipment Operator **Dan Marchewka**, Equipment Operator **Terry Mazur**, Equipment Operator **Kenneth Charleton**, Equipment Operator **Curtis Robinson**



# CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF 9-1-1

DID YOU KNOW THAT THIS PAST FEBRUARY MARKED THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF 9-1-1 DISPATCHING WORLD-WIDE? THE YELLOWHEAD REGIONAL EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION CENTER (YRECC) WAS PROUD TO BE TAKING PART IN THE PROLIFIC HISTORY OF THE "THIN GOLD LINE"—AN APT MONIKER FOR THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO LITERALLY ANSWER THEIR COMMUNITY'S CALL FOR HELP DAILY.

Here's a brief history of the evolution of emergency dispatching in North America:

- In 1957, the United States' National Association of Fire Chiefs recommended that a single three-digit standard be used to report fires.
- In March of 1964, 28-year-old New Yorker Kitty Genovese was murdered before 38 witnesses. None reported the incident to emergency responders, though her tragic death spurred an interest in a simple and immediate emergency line: the 9-1-1 call system.
- In the late '60s, the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice, the Federal Communications Commission, and AT&T would recommend the implementation of 9-1-1 nationwide.
- In 1973, the U.S. officially began promoting 9-1-1 as the nation-wide, standardized emergency number.
- In 1972, Canada adopted 9-1-1 as the official emergency number, though its first use would come in 1974, in London, Ontario.

Today, it's estimated that 98% of Canadians have access to this vital protective service. Undoubtedly, you or someone you know may have been affected by the dedication and professionalism of our YRECC dispatchers. Though dispatching can be a thankless job, our dispatchers were pleasantly surprised by the support

they have received in the past month.

Kind words and wishes were offered by the community to our dispatcher this National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week, which ran from the 8th to the 14th of April. The dozens of encouraging Facebook comments



and hundreds of likes warmed our dispatchers' hearts and reminded them of the value of their service to our communities. A huge thank you to everyone who offered their support for our heroes behind the phone!

## 72 Hour Emergency Preparedness Kits Available Through the County

Are you prepared for an emergency? Something that might last more than a day and require you to evacuate or stay at home without power or water?

Families are advised to have in place an emergency kit that would allow your household to manage for up to 72 hours on their own. Many lists are available online detailing the best items to have in your kit, but Yellowhead County also has kits for 2 or 4 person households to purchase, simplifying the matter and providing an instant solution.

The kits contain:

- emergency rations (3 days worth for 2 or 4 people)
- first aid kit
- water purification tablets,
- 10 liter water container
- flashlight with AM/FM radio

(solar powered or hand crank)

- ponchos
- reflective vests
- Mylar sleeping bags
- 40 hour candle
- multi-function tool
- waterproof matches
- and more

A limited number of kits have are being sold, available for pick up, at the County Community Services office in Wildwood, for \$160.00 for a two-person kit, or \$185 for a four-person kit. You can stop in at the office in Wildwood to purchase a kit, or arrange to pick one up from the County office in Edson after November 15, 2017.

For more information, details on specific items in the kit, or to pre-purchase one, please contact the FCSS department at 780-325-3782, or 1-800-814-3935.

## NEW ATV HELMET REGULATIONS!

**Helmets on!** New legislation requires off-highway vehicle (OHV) riders to wear helmets on public land. OHV operators are exempt from wearing helmets only when they are riding on private property (non-crown land) and on indigenous lands.

This new legislation comes in response to the increasing number of OHV injuries and fatalities. From 2002 to 2013, Alberta averaged 19 OHV-related deaths per year. In the majority of these cases, riders were not wearing helmets. Moreover, statistics from 2010 show that OHV injuries resulted in \$50 million in public health care costs.

OHVs include ATVs, snowmobiles, dirt bikes, 4-wheel drive vehicles, and side-by-sides. Please be aware that riding without a helmet will merit a fine, which could range from \$93 for not wearing an approved helmet to \$155 for failing to wear a helmet.

Let's all take part in having safe fun when we're out enjoying the wilderness!



## DOG AND CAT OWNERSHIP IN YELLOWHEAD COUNTY

**A reminder to county residents that they 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.**

The Yellowhead County Animal Bylaw 03.06 has laid out specific regulations for owners in caring for their pets. Section 8 of the bylaw lays out the regulations for dog owners.

The entire bylaw may be viewed at [www.yellowheadcounty.ab.ca](http://www.yellowheadcounty.ab.ca)

Community Peace Officers routinely patrol the county, enforcing the animal bylaw and all other Yellowhead County bylaws.

Yellowhead County strongly urges residents to properly care for their animals and ensure that they are not a nuisance to their neighbours.

If you have any questions regarding the Yellowhead County Animal Bylaw, please contact Enforcement Services at 780-723-3221.

Dogs that have been picked up by Yellow-

head County Enforcement Services under the Animal Control Bylaw or Animal Protection Act are taken to the Edson Pound (780) 723-6461.

Under certain circumstances, cats and dogs may be impounded and owners may face fees and fines.

### 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, chasing, or injuring any person or other animal
- Biting or chasing any vehicle

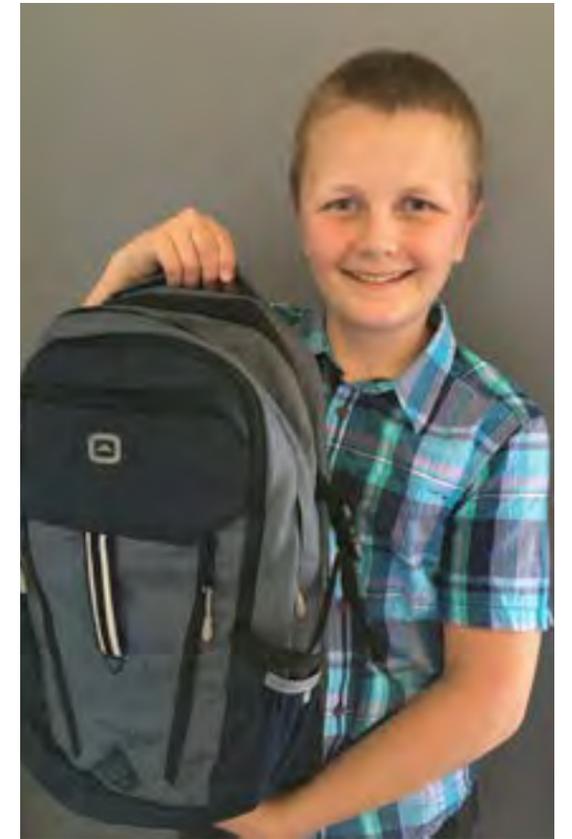


## GOOD NEIGHBOURS, GREAT PRIZES!

**This past winter, Yellowhead County's Family and Community Support Services has encouraged our communities to take part in spreading good will and neighborly kindness. We hope you had a chance to participate in our Good Neighbour Snow Shovelling Program! And if not, there's always next year!**

And those good deeds can be more important for some than we realize. As winter in Alberta can pose challenges for those with physical disabilities and seniors, sometimes a good neighbor make all the difference. Clearing snow for those who cannot is valued help; when access areas are kept clear, emergency responders and caregivers can have unimpeded access to those in need of aid. Moreover, it keeps all of us that much safer when there's no slippery ice or slush on our sidewalks, roads, and driveways.

The campaign has witnessed the selfless side of our communities; just this past year, a dozen Good Neighbours were noticed for their efforts. As promised, a draw was held, and local Wildwood residents Keith and Lana Leakvold were recognized for their neighbourly efforts! The pair won a pizza dinner for two, and a dozen others won a toque and gloves. We'd like to thank all of our residents who are willing to help others in their community—we all win when our good deeds pay off!



Picture of Jayson Deleeuw, grand prize winner of the backpack, water bottle, toque and gloves for the Good Neighbor Snow shovelling program.

## MEALS ON WHEELS

The Meals on Wheels presentation and food sampling of the frozen meals from Edmonton Meals on Wheels on February 1, 2018 at the Tipple Park Museum in Evansburg was a success!

We had 31 participants and our FCSS Board Member Karla Boswell and Kelly Haukedal volunteered to serve the hot meal that Lindsay from Edmonton Meals on Wheels provided to all of the participants. Thank you! It was very tasty.

Lindsay Rothman, Client Services Manager from Edmonton Meals on Wheels provided a hot meal for everyone to sample as well as the presentation on the frozen and fresh Meals on Wheels that

they serve locally in Edmonton. They serve rural communities with the frozen meals. It was a great presentation and Liz Lauer was the lucky person who won the meal sampler pack that was the prize drawn after the presentation that was supplied by Lindsay from Edmonton Meals on Wheels.

At our presentation, we had participants from different areas rurally attend and upon reviewing the evaluations, we had 5 participants that would like to receive frozen Meals on Wheels and we had 15 participants that would like to volunteer or help out with bringing the frozen Meals on Wheels to the hamlets in the West end of Parkland County as well as to the hamlets of Yellow-

head County.

The ideal scenario would be to have coordinators in every hamlet with a freezer available in each hamlet to store the frozen meals for pick up. The coordinators would submit orders to Edmonton Meals on Wheels all on the same Wednesday of the month (twice a month would be good) with each coordinator taking a turn to pick up the meals the following Monday (or someone they know to pick up the meals) and bring them back to store the meals in the freezers of an organization (process still being worked out) for pick up from the people that ordered the meals. For any questions, you can talk to the FCSS Community Outreach Coordinator at the Yel-

lowhead County Wildwood Office at 780-325-3782.

Be sure to check the paper and watch out for posters for this wonderful program that will be available to our communities!!



## Your First Call for Help!



### Three Ways to Connect



**Call 211 on you mobile or landline**  
Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



**Online chat on our website**  
Live chat at [www.ab.211.ca](http://www.ab.211.ca) available.



**Online search on our website**  
At [www.ab.211.ca](http://www.ab.211.ca) search services.

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

#### Jack Ramme

– Chief Administrative Officer

#### Albert Bahri

– Director of Protective Services

#### Barb Lyons

– Director of Corporate and Planning Services

#### Christopher Read

– Director of Community Services

#### Don O'Quinn

– Director of Infrastructure Services

# Call 211

## 24 Hours a Day. 7 Days a Week.

We Listen. We Connect.



Hinton, Edson and  
Yellowhead County  
We Listen. We Connect.

**211 is your primary source of information on government and community based health and social 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 [www.yellowheadcounty.ab.ca](http://www.yellowheadcounty.ab.ca)



# Yellowhead County