

A woman with blonde hair, wearing a maroon long-sleeved shirt, blue cargo pants, a black headband, glasses, and white gloves, is walking through a field of tall grass. She is carrying a large, dense bundle of dry sticks or brush over her shoulder. The background is a soft-focus landscape with trees and a clear sky.

November / December 2024

Brazeau

COUNTY NEWS

STICKS IN THE MUD

A problem on the farm
solved with a simple
solution pg 16

Municipal Election pg. 12

Resilient Agriculture pg. 20

Celebrate safely pg. 22

Cram the Cruiser pg. 23

Reeve

Winter will be here before we know it, but lucky for us Brazeau County is full of fun things to do year-round. There's opportunities to ski, showshoe, sled, snowmobile, skate, and more

With winter comes snow, and snowplowing. Our winter road maintenance policy depends on Mother Nature, but the standard is to clear paved roads in eight hours, gravel roads in 72 hours, and subdivisions and hamlets within five days of a snowfall.

As always this time of year, Council is working on the next year's budget, and as always, the public is invited to come watch us discuss how we allocate your tax dollars. Budget meetings are scheduled for 9 a.m. November 20th, 21st, 25th, and 26th. The meetings will also be streamed on YouTube, just like our regular Council meetings. The meetings are also kept in a YouTube playlist, if you ever want to go back and watch a meeting.

For the 2025 budget, we will continue to balance keeping money in your pocket with investment in critical infrastructure and growing and diversifying our economy. Council thinks like ratepayers (because we are) and like economic developers (because that's what we are focused on).

We are planning to keep telling the Brazeau story everywhere we can, spreading the word that we have low taxes, very little red tape, and we are a great place to invest as part of the Western Economic Corridor. We are also looking to step up our lobbying efforts to the province so we can see more of our dollars come back to our area in the form of improvements to infrastructure like Highway 621, and in things like health care and grants.

Thank you to everyone who turned out for the Council and RCMP open house November 12th. Both the police and Council were happy to chat about your priorities, answer your questions, and hear your ideas.

2025 is an election year, and nominations are accepted as of January 2nd. If you're thinking of running, first of all, good for you! I encourage any potential candidates to attend council meetings and discuss the responsibilities involved with your councillor.

In this issue, you can read about a unique ALUS project. The ALUS Brazeau committee has conserved, protected, and enhanced over 2,300 acres since 2016. That's over 100 projects with 68 landowners.

Please remember to support the Cram the Cruiser event December 6th. Food bank usage is up as people struggle with inflation and a higher cost of living. Your donations make a huge difference!

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Sincerely,
Bart Guyon
Reeve, Brazeau County

bguyon@brazeau.ab.ca
780-542-0999



CAO

Another busy summer is wrapping up at Brazeau County. While it was a drier summer than normal, the absence of rain allowed County crews to complete some large projects. Range Road 65 upgrades are now done. Also, fire suppression tanks have been installed, and are now operational in Buck Creek and Lindale. These are highlights of the many projects completed, along with the ongoing regular maintenance of roads and water systems throughout the county.

With the change in season, it's timely to remind all that it won't be too long until snow plowing is underway. Please use caution on county roads and give crews room to work as they keep our roads safe and passable.

We are very pleased with the exceptional turnout at the three fire departments this fall. Open houses were held at Lodgepole, Breton and Drayton Valley with exceptional attendance at all. This, despite some less-than-ideal weather for the Lodgepole and Drayton Valley events. In total, nearly 700 residents got an inside look at fire operations.

Budget season is upon us, as Council begins preliminary operating budget deliberations in November. November 20th and 21st are currently slated for this work. Please watch the county website for updates, and feel free to attend in person or online as council works to approve the 2025 priorities.

Rudy Friesen,
Brazeau County Chief
Administrative Officer



Council Highlights

September 17

Members At Large

Council amended the Procedural Bylaw to remove the reference to members at large on Council committees serving only one-year terms.

Council also approved a At Large Appointee Selection Guidelines Policy, which provides guidelines to promote fairness in divisional representation of well qualified members-at-large.

It also invites interested applicants to an open house prior to the Organizational meeting, which is an opportunity for applicants to introduce themselves to Council and learn about the commitments and requirements of the various boards.

The open house will be held at the County Administration Building from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on October 1st. The Organizational meeting will be held on October 22nd.

AltaLink

Colin Harvey and Brendan Pan from AltaLink discussed their emergency response initiative, including monitoring, public communication, and mitigation for emergencies, particularly wildfires.

Central Alberta Economic Partnership

Administration to purchase an associate membership for the Central Alberta Economic

Partnership under the Western Economic Corridor in the amount of \$500.

The partnership provides resources for business retention, expansion and investment for member municipalities.

Provincial lobbying

Council will lobby the provincial government to address the shortage of doctors in the community, as well as emergency room closures at the Drayton Valley Hospital, as well as asking the province to reduce unreasonable certification requirements for small food banks.

October 1

Community Organization Funding Policy FIN-7

Council approved amendments to the Community Organization Funding Policy FIN-7 to allow for sustainability funding for eight community halls: Berrymoor, Buck Creek, Carnwood, Funnell, Lindale, Lodgepole, Violet Grove, and Whitby.

The sustainability funding will match hall revenues from bookings and programming up to \$18,000 per year, and includes including provisions to require the community group amend their bylaws or enter into an agreement with the County to transfer ownership of all property and chattels should the organization fold, as well as limit on allowable reserves or savings.

The policy, which takes effect January 1, 2025, also includes new maximums to some operational expense categories.

Fire Incident Management and Emergency Notification System

Council approved the use of funds (for 2024 as \$4000 in 2024 and \$18,100 in 2025) budgeted to the AFRRCS project to implement the First Due System that will be an all-inclusive cloud based program that will provide the department with a host of useful tools for emergency management, navigation, and notification.

Replacing the current outdated system will save the County nearly \$14,000 annually in operating costs once fully implemented in 2026.

Fire Bans and Restrictions Process

Fire Chief Tom Thomson provided Council with an overview of the process used by Drayton Valley/ Brazeau County Fire Services (DVBCFS) to implement fire restrictions and bans in the county.

Alberta Forestry uses forecasted weather and seven categories such as moisture in fuels and beneath the ground and a fire weather index, to develop a fire behaviour forecast for the day with a rating from low to extreme for areas of the province.

In the local area on the provincial map is yellow that means the fire

hazard is high, and DVBCFS will issue a fire advisory. If the map is red, that means the fire hazard in the area is very high and DVBCFS will issue a fire restriction. If the map of the area is purple/pink, that means the fire hazard is extreme, and DVBCFS will issue a total fire ban.

Fire Services looks at this information daily and looks at general trends, weather, and resource availability for the week or upcoming week to implement the level of fire ban. Decisions to change the fire ban rating will be based on the calculations described plus the upcoming weather patterns.

October 15

Improvements to TWP 492

Council directed staff to proceed with immediate maintenance improvements to Township Road 492, including the installation of warning signs, culvert maintenance and brushing. Council will also consider intersection alignment

changes (to Range Roads 80 and 81) at 2025 capital budget discussions. Staff will bring back an amended Speed Limit Bylaw with a speed reduction to 60 km/h between Range Roads 80 and 81 for Council’s consideration.

Western Economic Corridor Update

Consultant Brian Senio gave Council an update on government relations work related to advancing the objectives of the Western Economic Corridor initiative. He also provided suggestions to promote Brazeau County and to lobby government to help address County priorities, including improvements to Highway 621.

Oil Collection

Council directed staff to bring a proposal for the Lindale site, including a sea can, for the collection of used oil, oil filters, antifreeze, and empty oil containers to the 2025 budget presentations.

This was based on a motion from the Agricultural Service Board to ask Council to consider a collection site.

ALUS PAC
Terms of Reference

Council approved amended terms of reference for the ALUS Partnership Advisory Committee. The amendments include updated references to newly revised or adopted Procedural bylaws and policies, a revision to chair and vice-chair eligibility (the council member on the committee may serve as chair or vice-chair) and an update to term of appointment (Council will make term appointments by motion).

Councillors



Bart Guyon
Reeve
780-542-0999
bguyon@brazeau.ab.ca



Glen Gunderson
Division 1 Councillor
780-621-6459
ggunderson@brazeau.ab.ca



Donna Wiltse
Division 2 Councillor
Home: 780 894-3596
Cell: 780 898-0247
dwiltse@brazeau.ab.ca



Cody Brooks
Division 3 Councillor
780-898-9526
cbrooks@brazeau.ab.ca



Kara Westerlund
Division 4 Councillor
780-898-4561
kwesterlund@brazeau.ab.ca



Anthony Heinrich
Division 5 Councillor
780-696-2468
aheinrich@brazeau.ab.ca



Dallas Ekstrom
Division 6 Councillor
Home: 780-696-2065
Cell: 780-898-9129
dekstrom@brazeau.ab.ca



2025 Brazeau County Council

MEETING SCHEDULE

January 21

February 4
February 18

March 4
March 17-19 (RMA Convention)

April 1
April 15

May 6
May 20

June 3
June 17

July 15

August 5
August 19

September 2
September 16

October 7
October 20 Election Day

November 4
November 18
Nov 24-27 (RMA Convention)

December 2
December 16

2025 Office Closures for Statutory Holidays:

New Year's Day Wednesday, January 1

Family Day Monday, February 17

Good Friday Friday, April 18

Easter Monday Monday, April 21

Victoria Day Monday, May 19

Canada Day Tuesday, July 1

Heritage Day Monday, August 4

Labour Day Monday, September 1

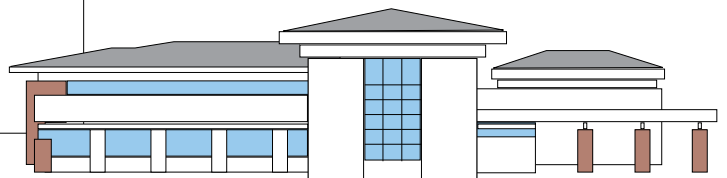
**National Day
for Truth and
Reconciliation** Tuesday, September 30

Thanksgiving Day Monday, October 13

Remembrance Day Tuesday, November 11

Christmas Day Thursday, December 25

Boxing Day Friday, December 26





STARS drops in to say thank you

Municipal relations staff with STARS Air Ambulance Glenda Farnden and Shannon Paquette presented Council with a gift as a thank you for the County's support of the organization at the October 1 Council meeting. Currently, the County provides \$16,500 annually to STARS.

Did You Know?

A Compliance Certificate is a common condition of a property sale.

Brazeau County does not require a Compliance Certificate but offers them as a service. Compliance review is based on a Real Property Report (known as a "RPR") prepared by an Alberta Land Surveyor and details the location of all structures on the property.

If the structures on the property comply with the Land Use Bylaw and have all the necessary Development Permits, we will issue a confirmation of compliance.

If a property is found to be non-compliant, we will advise you what needs to be done to bring the property into compliance.

For more information regarding Compliance Certificates, please contact Brazeau County Planning and Development Department at:

780-542-7777 or planning@brazeau.ab.ca

Truth and Reconciliation



Reeve Bart Guyon spoke at the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation event at the Omniplex September 30th. He is pictured here with Chief Wilton Littlechild of Treaty 6.

Congratulations



Reeve Bart Guyon and Division 6 councillor and deputy reeve Dallas Ekstrom present a commemorative clock to Jerald and Shirley Mayer to celebrate 65 years of marriage. Congratulations Jerald and Shirley!

COMMUNITY EVENT GRANT
The Community Event Grant is available to non-profit organizations quarterly with application deadlines of January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1. The goal of the grant is to grow the sense of community while not duplicating efforts. Maximum funding available per applicant is \$1,000.

YOUTH SPORT GRANT
Available to Brazeau County youth, under the age of 25, to assist in costs associated to competing in championship competitions at the Western Canada, National, or International levels. Grants may be awarded up to \$1,000 per applicant.

RECREATION FEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
Available to assist low-income County residents looking to participate in recreation programs and activities offered at the Total Works and/or Ricochet Aquatic Centre. Funding is available to a maximum of \$200 for each eligible person per calendar year, while funds are available.

Welcome Home
Brazeau County

Budget Meetings

The public is invited to observe budget meetings to set the interim budget for 2025. Meetings will be held November 20th, 21st, 25th, and 26th at 9:00 a.m. in the Council Chamber. Meetings will also be streamed on YouTube (links will be posted on the County website when available).



Thank You



At the October 16th Agricultural Service Board meeting, Carri St. Pierre with Farming Forward - WCFA presented the board with a certificate of appreciation for being a 2024 sponsor. Pictured are ASB chair and councillor Anthony Heinrich, Carri St. Pierre, and Manager of Agricultural Services Dawnia McCann.

Advocating for our communities



Reeve Bart Guyon speaks October 7th at the Pembina Zone District 3 meeting of the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA). The zone members unanimously supported Brazeau County's resolution calling on the RMA to lobby the provincial government to grant exemptions from new, unreasonable standards for small community food banks, such as the one in Breton.

The resolution will be debated at the full RMA conference in November.



BRAZEAU COUNTY COUNCILLOR, MEMBER-AT-LARGE AND STAFF APPOINTMENTS 2024/2025 (As of Oct 22, 2024)

Agricultural Service Board

Councillor	Glen Gunderson
Councillor	Anthony Heinrich
Councillor	Dallas Ekstrom
Member-at-large	Shirley McConnell
Member-at-large	Shayne Blosky
Member-at-large	Henry Hughes
Secretary	Agricultural Fieldman/Acting Manager of Agriculture

Municipal Planning Commission

Councillor	Anthony Heinrich
Councillor	Kara Westerlund
Councillor	Dallas Ekstrom
Member-at-large	Don Fash
Member-at-large	Ali Aladra
Secretary	Director of Community Services/Planning

Subdivision and Development Appeal Board

Councillor	Cody Brooks
Member-at-large	Dawn Konelsky
Member-at-large	Georgia Frost
Member-at-large	Rachel Canton
Member-at-large	Vacant
Secretary	Chief Administrative Office (or designate)

Composite Assessment Review Board

Councillor	All of Council (one councillor to be appointed at time of hearing)
Member-at-large	Dawn Konelsky
Clerk	Taxation and Assessment Coordinator

Local Assessment Review Board

Councillor	All of Council (one councillor to be appointed at time of hearing)
Member-at-large	Rachel Canton
Member-at-large	Don Fash
Clerk	Taxation and Assessment Coordinator

Brazeau Foundation

Representative	Cody Brooks
Member-at-large	Rachel Canton

Drayton Valley Municipal Library Board

Representative Glen Gunderson

West Central Air Shed Society

Representative Donna Wiltse

Soil, Weed and Pest Appeals Committee

Member-at-large Vacant

Member-at-large Vacant

Member-at-large Vacant

Yellowhead Regional Library Board

Councillor Glen Gunderson

Drayton Valley and District FCSS

Councillor Donna Wiltse

Eagle Point Provincial Park and Blue Rapids Provincial Recreation Area Council

Councillor Cody Brooks

Pembina Area Synergy Group

Councillor Anthony Heinrich

Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee

Councillor Kara Westerlund

Eleanor Pickup Arts Centre

Councillor Donna Wiltse

Breton and District FCSS

Councillor Dallas Ekstrom

ALUS

Councillor Bart Guyon

Area Producer Cody Claypool

Area Producer Henry Hughes

Area Producer Art Goerzen

Area Producer Louise Allchurch

Area Producer Shirley McConnell

Warburg Seed Cleaning Plant

Reeve Bart Guyon

Emergency Management Oversight Committee

All of Council

Drayton Valley and District Community Learning Association Board of Directors

Councillor Donna Wiltse

Technology, Innovation and Investment Attraction Committee

Reeve Bart Guyon

Councillor Glen Gunderson

Councillor Kara Westerlund

Drayton Valley - Brazeau Recreation Board

Councillor Cody Brooks

Councillor Kara Westerlund

Member-at Large Rina Saar

Early Childhood Development Centre

Councillor Donna Wiltse

2025 Municipal Election

2025 Municipal Election will see changes in rules

Legislation around local elections is changing heading into the 2025 Municipal Election and will include items of interest to potential candidates and voters.

The *Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act 2024* came into effect on October 31, 2024 and includes several changes to the *Local Authorities Election Act* that governs municipal elections for municipalities, candidates, and the public. Brazeau County is currently reviewing the changes and waiting for clarification from Municipal Affairs on some areas as planning for the 2025 municipal election gets underway.

A number of changes have been introduced around third party campaign advertising, as well as campaign contributions to candidates from corporate donors. Two of the changes that have been most publicly talked about - municipal candidates being affiliated with political parties and the banning of the use of electronic voting machines or tabulators – will not impact Brazeau County's election planning. Brazeau County has always hand counted ballots in its elections, and the political party affiliation change will only apply to the cities of Edmonton and Calgary for the 2025 municipal election.

Many of the changes that will affect Brazeau County are administrative and will happen in the background but will still impact the election process and planning. Brazeau County's Corporate Services department, which is responsible for planning and executing the municipal election, will be working with Municipal Affairs to ensure the changes are understood and implemented for the coming election.

More information is expected in the coming weeks and Brazeau County will keep residents and potential candidates up to date through the Brazeau County News, as well as on the Elections section of the Brazeau County website.

Anyone with questions regarding the 2025 Municipal Election may contact Courtney Whalen at cwhalen@brazeau.ab.ca or 780-542-7777.





Key Dates

January 2

Nomination period opens. Nomination papers can be dropped off Monday to Friday between 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. or 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Brazeau County Administration Office. *

February 3

Nomination and candidate information packages will be available for pickup at the Brazeau County Administration Office. Electronic copies available by request by contacting Courtney Whalen at cwhalen@brazeau.ab.ca or 780-542-7777.

September 22

Nominations close at 12 p.m. No nominations accepted after 12 p.m.

September 23

Candidates may withdraw their nomination by 12 p.m., provided more than the required nominations for the position have been received.

September 23

At 12 p.m. the Returning Officer will announce that an election shall be held for all positions where more nominations have been received than vacancies available. The Returning Officer shall also announce any positions that have been acclaimed.

October 20

Election Day. Voting stations shall be open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Unofficial results may be posted by the Returning Officer once counting is complete.

October 24

Official election results posted by 12 p.m.

October 27-31

New Council orientation and swearing in.

November 3

Organizational Meeting.

November 4

First Council meeting for new Council.

**Prospective candidates are asked to contact Courtney Whalen at 780-542-7777 prior to dropping off nomination papers.*



Nominations for 2025 Election Accepted as of Jan. 2

As per the *Local Authorities Election Act*, municipalities in Alberta will start accepting nominations for candidacy in the 2025 Municipal Election on the first business day of year.

Those wishing to file nomination papers to become a candidate may submit completed nomination papers between January 2, 2025 and the close of nominations at 12 p.m. on September 22, 2025.

Brazeau County will be accepting nominations for the following elected positions:

Reeve

Councillor - Division 1	Councillor - Division 4
Councillor - Division 2	Councillor - Division 5
Councillor - Division 3	Councillor - Division 6

Nomination papers may only be filed for one of the available positions.

In order to be eligible for nomination for election a person must:

- Be eligible to vote in the municipal election
- Have been a resident of the jurisdiction (Brazeau County) for the position of Reeve, or the Division for the position of Councillor, at least six months prior to the close of nominations on September 22, 2025 at 12 p.m.
- Must not have any outstanding taxes owing to the municipality, or be indebted to the municipality equaling or exceeding \$500 and in default for more than 90 days.
- **For complete eligibility requirements refer to the *Local Authorities Election Act* Section 21 and 22**

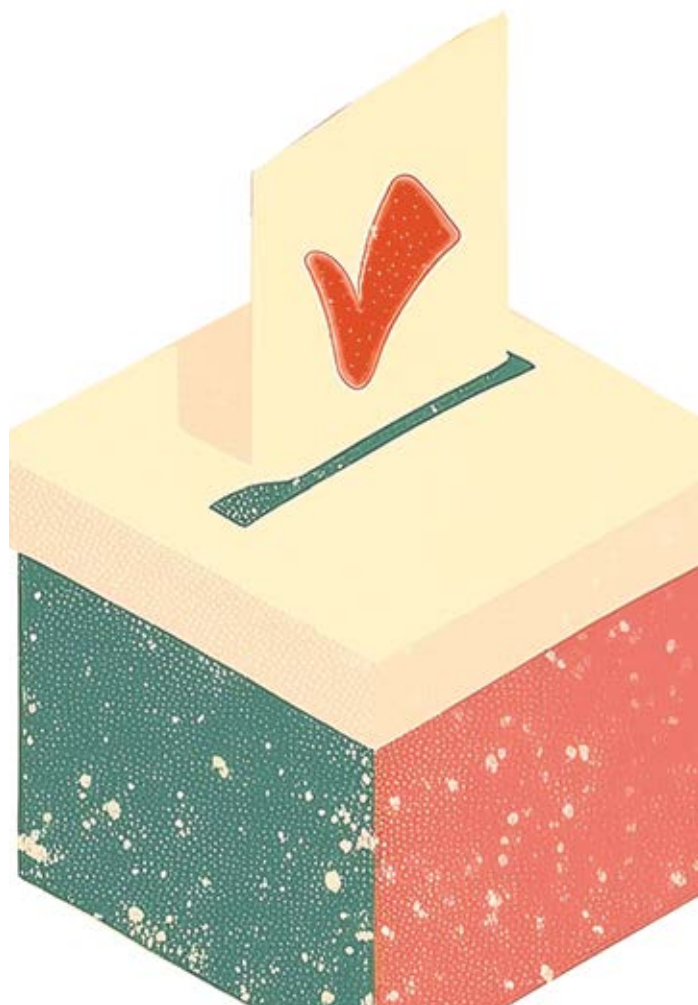
It is a candidate's responsibility to be aware of all requirements under the *Local Authorities Election Act*. Copies of the Act are available online through Alberta King's Printer and hard copies will be available at the Brazeau County Office once updated with the changes from the *Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, 2024* are incorporated.

In order to become a candidate for the municipal election an eligible person must submit the following as part of their nomination papers:

- Nomination form
- Five signatures of people eligible to vote in the election from the division in which the person is running
- A sworn or affirmed statement confirming the person's eligibility to run
- A form with the candidate's contact and campaign information
- *All required forms will be available at the Brazeau County office and online once they have been provided by Alberta Municipal Affairs*

Complete candidate information packages for Brazeau County will be available at the Brazeau County Office as of February 3, 2025. Requests for a digital package may be made to Courtney Whalen at cwhalen@brazeau.ab.ca or 780-542-7777. General inquiries may be made to Courtney Whalen at cwhalen@brazeau.ab.ca or 780-542-7777.

Those interested in becoming a candidate in the 2025 Municipal Election should be aware that under the Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act the Province has made several changes to the Local Authorities Election Act that came into effect on October 31, 2024. Information on these changes is limited at this point and requirements for candidates may change from what is presented here once changes are communicated.



KEEPING IT **SIMPLE**

The sun was shining and conditions were perfect for the small group that installed hybrid wattle fences on residents' Krista and Morgan Foisy's property northwest of Breton.



The bank near a pond has been slumping over the years, and Krista approached the Brazeau ALUS PAC for ideas on how to stop it.

"This is a generational farm – my kids are the fifth generation to live here," Krista says. "The pond used to be stocked with fish and I want to create a great space like it used to be."

Kristina Boehler, a riparian specialist with Cows & Fish, suggested a natural solution to help shore up the bank – hybrid wattle fences, made by cutting willow branches and inserting them as posts in the ground, then weaving more branches horizontally through the stakes.

"The idea is to trap the sediment from flowing into the pond and build back the gullies," Boehler says. "Over the long-term, the posts will grow, creating more willow trees, while the woven part will hold back the sediment and add growing medium. Roots will grow, and prevent more erosion."

The willow branches were harvested from another part of the Foisy property, so this phase of the project had no cost. In the spring, Foisy will plant trees and shrubs like saskatoon berry and raspberry shrubs, sourced from a Brazeau County greenhouse, to increase the bank stability even further. "Harvesting from so close to where the willow posts were planted means they are already climatized to the area," Boehler says.

"The wattle fence project is a perfect example of how the ALUS program can help landowners," says Foisy, who has previously installed fence around a dugout and purchased and installed a solar waterer through the program. With this project, it wasn't funding ALUS provided, it was expertise.

"I went to [the Brazeau ALUS coordinator] and asked what can I do to help with this bank," Foisy says. "We got together and did some brainstorming."

”

"This was a great example of a collaboration between the landowners, the technical experts and the ALUS team. I'm excited to follow the project throughout the next few years to see this nature-based solution at work."

Nancy Chambers
Brazeau County ALUS
Coordinator







Foisy has been spreading the word about how ALUS can help area producers with nature-based solutions on their land to sustain agriculture and biodiversity. “Even if there’s no money involved, the experience and the manpower are another huge benefit to ALUS.”

Boehler agrees. “ALUS is a good way to try something that maybe you’re not sure about – ALUS can connect people to expertise to achieve their goals.”

To learn more about ALUS, or to suggest a project, please contact ALUS coordinator Nancy Chambers at 780-542-7777 or e-mail nchambers@brazeau.ab.ca



UNLOCKING THE POTENTIAL OF FARMLAND WITH THE RESILIENT AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPE PROGRAM

Farmers and ranchers have seized a unique opportunity to undertake beneficial management practices and sustainability in Alberta. The Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program (RALP) received over 400 project submissions in 2024, a successful year for the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a federal-provincial-territorial initiative.

Did you miss the 2024 application window? Find out what you need to be successful in 2025.

What is RALP?

RALP is designed to bolster the environmental resilience of agricultural landscapes through the accelerated adoption of Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs). These practices are aimed at maximizing the provision of Ecological Goods & Services (EG&S), with a spotlight on increased carbon sequestration and enhanced climate resilience. The program acknowledges that while many BMPs offer immense ecological value, their adoption can be hindered by high upfront costs or limited immediate financial return for producers. To bridge this gap, RALP offers substantial financial support for approved projects, covering up to 100% of eligible expenses.

Eligible Projects and Funding Opportunities

The program casts a wide net in terms of eligibility, covering a range of BMP projects including:

- **Pasture Management:** Enhancing the management of riparian areas to protect water quality and support aquatic life or implementing rotational grazing practices to sequester carbon and improve nutrient distribution.
- **Intercropping and Cover Crop Cocktails:** Integrating soil-building pulses and legumes into rotations to reduce nitrogen use and bolster soil health.

- **Shelterbelts and Eco-buffers:** Establishing natural barriers to protect soil from erosion and improve biodiversity.

For a detailed list of eligible activities and the specific funding available for each, please refer to the comprehensive guide on the Alberta government's website at <https://www.alberta.ca/resilient-agricultural-landscape-program>.

Getting Started with RALP

Producers seeking to embark on a journey with RALP can learn more about what the program offers with a simple call or email. A dedicated team of Program Access Liaisons are ready to guide farmers through the application process and to help identify the most beneficial practices for their agricultural operation, ensuring they have all the resources needed for a successful application.

Reach out for application support by calling 1-866-310-RALP or by emailing info@RALP.ca.

Why Choose RALP?

Choosing to participate in RALP is not just an investment in your land, it's a commitment to the future of agriculture in Alberta. By adopting BMPs with the support of RALP, you're taking a proactive step towards creating a more resilient, productive, and sustainable agricultural landscape.



PARTICIPATE IN ALUS

Are you a farmer or rancher with marginal land or sensitive ecology?

ALUS helps you establish wetlands, native prairie, pollinator habitat and other projects.

Over 1,600 farmers and ranchers have enrolled 38,000 acres of land in the ALUS program.

JOIN US

For more information, contact your local ALUS program coordinator:

Nancy Chambers
ALUS Brazeau, Box 77, 7401 Teep Rd 404
Drayton Valley, AB T7A 1R1
780 542-7777
ALUS@brazeau.ab.ca

brazeau.ab.ca/alus



FREE FEED, SEED, AND SOIL SAMPLES

FEATURES :

- ✓ 2 feed, seed, and soil samples per landowner
- ✓ Basic testing covered
- ✓ Soil and feed probes available for rent

CALL FOR
MORE INFO

780-542-7777



Take advantage of our free sample testing program. Bring in up to two soil, feed, and seed samples and Brazeau County will pay for the cost of a basic lab test.

Soil and feed probes are available for rent at the County office.

Call 780-542-7777 to reserve a sample probe.



Farming Forward

Dugout Info Webinar Series

November 13 & 20, 2024
6:30 - 7:30pm

Join us for a two part series on dugouts presented by Shawn Elgert, the local Water Specialist with the Government of Alberta!

Topics:
Design
Water Quality
Treatment
Funding

To register please visit:
<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/dugout-info-webinar-series-presented-by-shawn-elgert-tickets-1033897985707>



Alberta Government

CONSUMER

FIREWORKS

SAFETY



Consumer Fireworks are not toys. They are in fact, powerful pyrotechnic articles and, for this reason, both their sale and purchase are regulated.

YOU MUST OBTAIN A FIREWORKS PERMIT PRIOR TO DISCHARGING ANY FIREWORKS

Fireworks permit can be obtained from the Drayton Valley Brazeau County Fire Services at 5120- 52nd in Drayton Valley during regular business hours, for a fee as outlined in the Brazeau County Schedule of Fees Bylaw.

Fireworks permit application shall include the following information:

- Name, address, and signature of applicant
- The date and time of proposed display
- A detailed description of the proposed display
- The exact location planned for the fireworks display including a diagram of the grounds on which it will be held, showing the point from where the fireworks will be discharged, the location of all highways, and the lines behind which the audience will be restrained
- Written consent from the owner of the property on which the fireworks display will occur

- The manner and place of storage of all fireworks prior to, during and after the display
- The name and address of the vendor or vendors that supplied or will supply all the fireworks used in the fireworks display

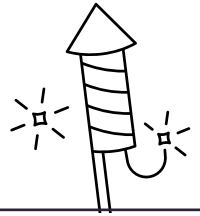
Fireworks Safety Tips

- Choose a wide, clear site away from all obstacles. Refer to the safety instructions on the fireworks label for minimum distance from spectators.
- Do not discharge fireworks in windy conditions.
- Read all instructions on the fireworks.
- Kids should never play with fireworks.
- Buy only legal fireworks (legal fireworks have a label with the manufacturer's name and directions; illegal ones are unlabeled), and store them in a cool, dry place. Illegal fireworks usually go by the names M-80, M100, blockbuster, or quarterpounder. These explosives were banned in 1966, but still account for many fireworks injuries.
- Never try to make your own fireworks
- Always use fireworks outside and have a bucket of water (or an ABC fire extinguisher) and a hose nearby in case of accident.
- Steer clear of others setting off fireworks. They can backfire or shoot off in the wrong direction.
- Use a good firing base such as a pail filled with earth or sand.
- Never throw or point fireworks at someone, even as a joke.
- Don't hold fireworks in your hand or have any part of your body over them while lighting. Recommended wearing eye protection.

- Light one firework at a time (never place fireworks in glass or metal containers), and never relight a dud.
- Don't allow kids to pick up pieces of fireworks after an event. Some may still be ignited and can explode at any time. Allow 30 minutes before cleaning-up debris, or before approaching a firework that did not go off.
- Soak all fireworks in a bucket of water before throwing them in the trash can.

It is the responsibility of the Fireworks Permit holder to know the rules and regulations of the municipality in which they will be discharging the fireworks.

For additional inquiries pertaining to the storage, transport and discharge of fireworks please contact our office at (780)514-2216.



CRAM THE CRUISER

December 6th

4-9 p.m. Walmart parking lot

Bring your food bank & childrens gift donations and help make this holiday season special!



COMMUNITY

CROCKPOT COOKING CLASS

Breton FCSS and Brighter Futures is offering a new community crockpot cooking series! Families can learn how to save time and meal prep on a budget!

- Each family member prepares & takes home 3 meals/session
- Families can enjoy learning together
- Crockpots available for families in need (limited supply)
- Save time and money



Where:
Breton Community Center

When:
Session 1 - November 13
Session 2 - December 4

Time:
7:00pm-8:30pm

COST:
\$5/person/session

Pre-registration is required!
Please email manager@brighterfutures.ca for registration, or click the link in this post!



STAY PLAY & GROW

Learning through play!

- Sensory play
- Crafts
- Music and movement
- Developmental activities
- Fun weekly themes!

TUESDAY:
Drayton Valley - Ms. Joanne's School of Dance
Breton - The Faith Covenant Church

WEDNESDAY:
Buck Lake - The Buck Lake Community Center

THURSDAY:
Easyford - Easyford Community Hall

FREE PLAYGROUP

for caregivers & their children ages 0-6 years
10:00am - 11:30am

November

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
Weekly Theme						
3 Kindness Matters	4 Wiggles & Giggles 10:30am-11:30am	5 Stay, Play & Grow Drayton Valley & Breton 10:00am-11:30am Healthy Together Breton 10:00am-11:30am	6 Stay, Play & Grow Buck Lake 10:00am-11:30am	7 Stay, Play & Grow Easyford	8	9
10 SPACE	11 Closed in honor of Remembrance Day	12 Stay, Play & Grow Drayton Valley & Breton 10:00am-11:30am	13 Stay, Play & Grow Buck Lake 10:00am-11:30am	14 Stay, Play & Grow Easyford 10:00am-11:30am Healthy Together Easyford 10:00am-11:30am	15	
17 Dinosaurs!	18 Wiggles & Giggles 10:30am-11:30am	19 Stay, Play & Grow Drayton Valley & Breton 10:00am-11:30am	20 Stay, Play & Grow Buck Lake 10:00am-11:30am Healthy Together Buck Lake 10:00am-11:30am	21 Stay, Play & Grow Easyford 10:00am-11:30am	22	
24 Let it Snow	25 Wiggles & Giggles 10:30am-11:30am	26 Stay, Play & Grow Drayton Valley & Breton 10:00am-11:30am Healthy Together Breton 10:00am-11:30am	27 Stay, Play & Grow Buck Lake 10:00am-11:30am	28 Stay, Play & Grow Easyford 10:00am-11:30am	29	

Did You Know???

- Brighter Futures has been serving Brazeau County and area for 30 years!!!
- We have 2 new cooking classes. One for families with children ages 0-6, and one for families with older kids!
- Brighter Futures facilitates after school and in-school programs in several schools in Drayton Valley and Breton.
- We have recently relaunched our website! Check it out at www.brighterfutures.ca

Brighter Futures News

BABY PLAYGROUP!

Join Brighter Futures at The Rotary House on Mondays from 10:30am-11:30am, where we enjoy songs, sensory activities and socializing. This group is for caregivers and their children ages 0-2, but we have crafts and activities for older siblings too!

STAY, PLAY, & GROW

Have you noticed the exciting themes on our calendar? Our drop-in playgroup for ages 0-6, Stay, Play, & Grow, offers developmental activities and learning under a weekly theme. From pajama parties to blasting off into space, learning and connecting is always fun at playgroup!



AFFORDABLE RETIREMENT LIVING

Accepting Applications for our Independent Living Apartments

WISHING WELL - LEZURE LEA - SPRUCE VIEW COURT

Come in for a tour & check us out!

CALL 780-542-2712 FOR MORE INFORMATION
draytonvalleyhousing.ca



AFFORDABLE RETIREMENT LIVING SHANGRI-LA LODGE

Now is a perfect time to
consider lodge living!

Come in for a tour & check us out!



- Meals & lodging
- 24 hour staffing
- Entertainment & activity programs

**CALL SYLVIA FOR MORE
INFORMATION 780-542-2712**



RICOCHE
OIL CORP
Aquatic Centre
4700 West Valley Park Road
Drayton Valley, AB
Tel: 780.515.SWIM (7946)

GENTLE AQUACIZE

ALIVE55 members can choose
2 of these 3 weekly classes to attend!
Ricochet Aquatic Centre
Monday and Wednesday

10:00 – 10:45 am

Wednesday

6:05 – 6:50 pm

ALIVE 55 Wellness Program Schedule

**DID
YOU
KNOW?**

The ALIVE 55 Wellness Program offers a variety of classes for all abilities at Ricochet Aquatic Centre and the Omniplex. Memberships are provided at no cost to the individual, however at times we may charge a nominal fee to cover costs. Residents, 55 or older, of Drayton Valley, Brazeau County and Parkland County are eligible to sign up!

**Are you
55+?**

**Are you a
resident of the
area?**

**You can register by going to the
Front Desk of the
Ricochet Aquatic Centre
or the Omniplex**

**Do you want to be
more active?**

OMNIPLEX
Drayton Valley
5737 - 45 Avenue
Drayton Valley, AB
Tel: 780.514.2234



FITNESS & STRENGTH TRAINING

Omniplex

Tuesday and Thursday

10:00 – 11:00 am

NO CLASSES MID JUNE to MID SEPTEMBER

**PLUS year round access to the
WALKING / RUNNING TRACK**

Monday to Friday

6:00 am - 10:00 pm

Saturday and Sunday

8:00 am - 8:00 pm



Early Childhood Development Centre

780-514-2248, Ecdc@draytonvalley.ca



Children took a field trip to some of the Centre's sponsors buildings during Friendsgiving. They made them special cards to say thank you and even preformed a song.

- Vermilion and the Centre have been partnered since 2012.
- Weyerhaeuser and the Centre have been together since 2021.


Children learn to be responsible and responsive members of the community

- Showing sympathy and empathy for others
- Giving help, comfort, and encouragement, and valuing others' contributions
- Respecting the materials, equipment, and spaces shared with others

Alberta's Early Learning and Care Framework



Join our social media community today!

 Early Childhood Development Centre

 [ecdcdv](#)



November is Family Violence Awareness Month

Purple Lights campaign casts a light on Family Violence.

These lights will shine purple throughout the town of Drayton Valley. By acquiring a purple light, you are helping bring awareness to Family Violence.

Break the cycle, end violence now

It doesn't have to happen to you for it to matter!
Together we can make a difference.



OMNIPLEX

Drayton Valley



NOVEMBER SKATING



Morning Hockey (Age 18+)
6:15 - 7:30 AM WEDNESDAYS
Age 18+ \$8.00 Drop-In Fee
November 6, 13, 20, 27

Noon Hockey (Age 18+)
NOON - 1:15 PM WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS
Age 18+ \$8.00 Drop-In Fee
November 1, 6, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, 29

Kids Skate
Age 6 & Under \$3.00 Drop-In Fee
Friday, November 1 1:30 - 2:30 pm
Monday, November 4 9:00 - 10:00 am
Friday, November 8 1:30 - 2:30 pm
Friday, November 15 1:30 - 2:30 pm
Monday, November 18 9:00 - 10:00 am
Friday, November 22 1:30 - 2:30 pm
Monday, November 25 9:00 - 10:00 am
Friday, November 29 1:30 - 2:30 pm

Youth Morning Hockey (Age 12-17)
6:15 - 7:30 AM TUESDAYS
Age 12-17 \$8.00 Drop-In Fee
November 5, 12, 19, 26

Shinny Practice
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Age 12 & Under \$3.00 Drop-In Fee
Nov 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28

Shinny Game
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
Age 13-18 \$4.50 Drop-In Fee
Nov 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28

Seniors Skate
10:00 - 11:00 AM MONDAYS
Age 55+ FREE
November 4, 11, 18, 25

55+ Stick Handlers
11:00 AM - 12:15 PM MONDAYS
Age 55+ \$8.00 Drop-In Fee
November 4, 11, 18, 25

PD DAY SHINNY!
November 29
Practice: 2:15-3:15 pm
Game: 3:15-4:15 pm

Public Skating Schedule
Sundays 6:15 - 7:15 pm
November 3, 10, 17, 24

FREE Public Skating is made possible by these generous donors:

- Drayton Valley Toyota
- Fortis Alberta
- Right Way Valves & Energy Ltd.
- Tim Hortons



Board advertising opportunities are also available in Pembina Pipeline Arena!

Public Skating Sponsorship
Public Skating is offered FREE once a week during the ice season at the Omniplex. The standard sponsorship amount for one season of public skating is \$500. For your sponsorship you receive recognition in Omni I entrance, Pembina Pipeline arena, on the Town of Drayton Valley website (draytonvalley.ca) and in the Drayton Valley Free Press once a month during the ice season.

Call today to support your community!
Call 780.514.2223 or email cappleby@draytonvalley.ca



What's Happening AT THE SKI CLUB

REGISTRATION OPEN
For Pembina Nordic Jackrabbits
Learn To Ski Program.

Kids learn to cross country ski
8-9 week program (snow dependent)

December - March
Sundays 2:00 - 3:30 pm

Snacks - campfires and fun!
Bunnies ages 4+
Jackrabbits ages 5+
Seasonal kids rentals available

Register www.zone4.ca
Search Pembina Nordic
2024/25 registration

SAVE THE DATE
10th Annual Eagle Point Loppet
January 18-19, 2025

Distance options to accommodate
all ages and ability including
children's race categories.
Pembina Outdoor Education Center
Eagle Point Provincial Park

Watch the Pembina Nordic Ski Club
Facebook page for updates



HEY ADULTS
We've got rentals!

We have a wide selection of adult ski
rentals. Rent for the day and try
nordic skiing at the amazing
Pembina Nordic Ski Trails

For rental inquiries contact
PembinaNordicRentals@gmail.com



For general inquiries contact Pembina.nordic@gmail.com
Become a member www.zone4.ca: search Pembina Nordic 2024/2025 membership
SKIING - MOUNTAIN BIKING - DISC GOLF - HIKING - FAT TIRE BIKING - SNOWSHOEING

Village of Breton



Remembrance Day

The Village of Breton will be holding a Remembrance Day service at the Cenotaph. 10:45 am
Freedom came at a cost.
Lest we Forget.



Christmas Events

Breton loves to Celebrate!
We have an entire weekend of fun planned.

Our Kick Off to Christmas event is on Saturday December 7th at the Breton Community Centre.

Then join us for our Santa Claus Parade Sunday December 8th at 6 pm. Fireworks to follow at the Breton Golf Course with Hot Chocolate & Cookies at 'Scoops' Ice Cream Shack, sponsored by the Breton Soccer Club.



Community Centre

Planning a work Christmas party, Family Dinner or New Year's Eve bash? The Breton Community Centre is a wonderful place to host your large or small events. It is equipped with a large main hall with a 400 seating capacity, medium sized conference room, full kitchen, and bar.



For more information
email - Communitycentre@breton.ca

UPCOMING EVENTS

Details on Facebook &
Breton Booster or
Call 780-696-3636

November 11, 2024
Remembrance Day
Cenotaph 10:45 am

November 20, 2024
Council Meeting 7 pm

December 7, 2024
Christmas Market
Community Centre
10 am - 4 pm

December 8, 2024
Christmas Parade 6 pm
Fireworks to Follow
at the Golf Course

December 11, 2024
Council Meeting 7 pm

December 14, 2024
Elks Community
Christmas Dinner 5 pm
Community Centre



Omniplex / Total Works Fitness Holiday Hours

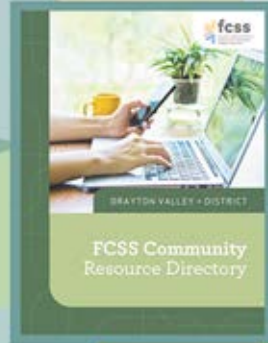
Monday December 23	6:00 am - 10:00 pm
Tuesday December 24	8:00 am - NOON
Wednesday December 25	CLOSED
Thursday December 26	CLOSED
Friday December 27	6:00 am - 10:00 pm
Saturday December 28	8:00 am - 8:00 pm
Sunday December 29	8:00 am - 8:00 pm
Monday December 30	6:00 am - 10:00 pm
Tuesday December 31	8:00 am - NOON
Wednesday January 1	CLOSED
Thursday January 2	6:00 am - 10:00 pm

Happy Holidays



IT'S TIME FOR EDITS!

Please submit any changes
or additions to
kkotykh@draytonvalley.ca



The Resource Directory is published to provide FREE advertising opportunities for community organization to promote recreation, cultural activities and community services

VILLAGE OF BRETON



Sunday December 3rd, 2023 at 6 pm

Fireworks to Follow

**All entries welcome. Floats and Decorated Vehicles
Line Up starts in the Public Works Yard**



Contact Names and Numbers

BRAZEAU COUNTY EMERGENCY ON CALL 780-898-9901

Brazeau County Office

780-542-7777

Fax Line

780-542-7770

Community Peace Officers

Steve Goodman

780-202-2271

Jesse Shymansky

780-202-0047

Brazeau Fire Services

Drayton Valley Fire Alarms

Breton Fire Alarms

Lodgepole Fire Alarms

Forest Fires

911

310-3473

Other Numbers

55+ Recreation Centre 780-542-4737

Alive 55 Program 780-514-2206

Beehive Support Services 780-542-3113

Brazeau Foundation 780-542-2712

Breton Food Bank 780-696-3669

Breton Library 780-696-3740

David Thompson Regional Health 780-542-4415

Drayton Area Food Bank 780-514-3777

Drayton Valley Municipal Library 780-514-2722

FCSS Breton 780-696-3636

FCSS Drayton Valley 780-514-2200

Meals on Wheels 780-542-3216

Omniplex 780-514-2234

Parent to Parent 780-621-2849

Ricochet Oil Corp. Aquatic Centre 780-514-2225

Town of Drayton Valley 780-514-2200

Village of Breton 780-696-3636

Other Emergency Numbers

Alberta Highways 1-888-255-5554

Ambulance 911

Animal Control 780-514-0372

Crime Stoppers 1-800-922-8477

Distress Line 1-800-232-7288

Drayton Valley Hospital 780-542-5321

Poison Centre 1-800-332-1414

Police 911 or 780-542-4456

Sustainable Resources 780-542-6616

Brand Inspector

403-780-6202

Terry Hjelmeland

or 403-704-5418

Transfer Station Hours

Transfer Station	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Violet Grove		9 - 7		9 - 7		9 - 5	
Easyford	1 - 6		9 - 6			9 - 5	
Lindale			9 - 6			9 - 5	
Buck Creek		2 - 7		9 - 6		9 - 5	
Rocky Rapids		4 - 8		8:30 - 6		9 - 5	
Cynthia			11 - 6			9 - 5	
Breton		9 - 2		9 - 6		9 - 5	
Lodgepole		11 - 8				9 - 5	

Brazeau County

Box 77, 7401 Twp Rd 494

Drayton Valley, Alberta T7A 1R1

Phone: 780-542-7777 Fax: 780-542-7770

Community Association Contacts

Berrymoor Centre 780-514-0265

780-542-0511

Buck Creek Community Association 780-898-1208

780-514-6255

Carnwood Country Hall Society 780-542-2378

Cynthia Rec Centre 780-542-9732

Easyford Community Hall 780-621-8625

Easyfordcommunitycentre@gmail.com

Funnell Community Association 780-898-3270

780-514-8543

Lindale Community Association 780-515-2916

lindalehallalberta@gmail.com

Lodgepole Recreation Society 780 621-8424

Rocky Rapids Community League 780-621-2534

780-542-0695

Violet Grove Community Club 780-542-7864

Whitby Community League www.whitbyhall.ca