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Page 3



Christmas spirit



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## Mayor optimistic for 2026

JOHN WATSON  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Reflecting on 2025, Strathmore Mayor Pat Fule described several major accomplishments which council was able to be a part of and set in motion throughout the year.

“Every council does a strategic plan very early in its four-year term. We are about to do one for this new council, about the third week of January, and we will be doing a retreat here in town,” said Fule. “We have gone away from going out of town for things like retreats because they are expensive and I have been pushing for many years that retreats should be done in town. You get to stay in your own house, but also any money that is spent on a retreat ... is all being spent on local businesses.”

Throughout the course of the year, he explained he feels council was successful in meeting their strategic visions and making improvements for the local community.

The first point to this effect he emphasized surrounded community wellness, particularly regarding the town’s efforts to bring in local practicing physicians and to acquire a CT scanner for the Strathmore Hospital.

“We have this group of doctors who are willing to come here and put in a CT scanner and pay for the operations as well as the cost of it, so we are really excited about that,” he said. “One of the things that we really achieved was, I had heard for quite some months that we were into a real doctor shortage, and we did have a doctor come to us to tell us that we are in a crisis situation with doctors. I went out of my way to be available to meet with young doctors who were interested in Strathmore.”

Regarding community services, Fule put a particular emphasis on water use, conservation, and the future of operations in Strathmore.

The town is currently in the process of decommissioning the Brentwood Reservoir which has been experiencing leakage problems and is at the end of its serviceable lifespan.

Continued on Page 4



## Christmas celebration

Wheatland Elementary School got into the Christmas spirit when they hosted their annual Christmas Concert on Dec. 18 at the school’s gym. Most school concerts in the area were taking place from Dec. 10-19. See Page 3 for more coverage.

Joe Lepage Photo



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# Local MLA debriefs year with county council

**JOHN WATSON**  
*Local Journalism Initiative Reporter*

Chestermere-Strathmore MLA Chantelle de Jonge debriefed with Wheatland County councilors, recapping the successes and provincial funding sources which were acquired throughout the year.

She made her presentation during the Dec. 16 meeting, largely speaking about ongoing relationships between county organizations, businesses and ongoing funding allocations.

“There was a total of \$7.8 million that was invested by the province for infrastructure upgrades and that included Township Road 250 and 222, and that will support the truck traffic to and from the CGC’s plant,” she said. “I think that’s a really important and also a really good place where the county and the province can work together to support these businesses that are investing in rural Alberta.”

De Jonge also noted the Wildflower reservoir pumping upgrade, which was approved in the amount of \$731,000, as well as the Western Irrigation District receipt of \$1.7 million for irrigation upgrades. \$50,000 was allocated by the province for Wheatland County’s study to look at increased raw water storage.

She noted two grants which were distributed to the county, as well as the Carseland and District Agricultural Society, totaling \$250,000 for the purpose of supplementing rural economic development.

Another \$5 million was distributed to the Strathmore and District Agricultural

Society to support the construction of their Western Events and Cultural Center to be constructed in Wheatland County.

“It’s a huge investment in rural Alberta and in the county, and in this entire region,” she said. “I’m very excited about that and excited to see progress on that project.”

The province supported the True North Society for both their transitional housing project, as well as their outgoing education and prevention efforts in the amount of \$3.6 million.

The province is also working with the Golden Hills School Division to support the replacement of Westmount Elementary with an expanded K-9 facility.

“On healthcare, we had a great event in the summer with two of the parliamentary secretaries on the health file where we toured the Strathmore Hospital, we met with doctors ... we had a full day of stakeholder meetings with both town and county residents to talk about what their health care priorities are and how we can better support the residents of this region,” she said. “There were a lot of great takeaways there and some great improvements since then and county residents are going to see an improvement and will have been seeing an improvement in their access to primary care already because we welcomed three new doctors to the town this year and a new clinic.”

Prior to her presentation, de Jonge noted her desire to make such debriefs an annual occasion, also aiming to establish a time for discussion and questions between herself and county council members.

## Upcoming Meetings

Council and committee meetings will now be open to the public and via teleconference. For public hearings it is strongly encouraged that you attend in person.

- January 13, 2026, 9:00 a.m. | Council Meeting**
- January 14, 2026, 9:00 a.m. | Municipal Planning Commission**
- January 14, 2026, 10:00 a.m. | Agricultural Service Board**

To join the call, dial 403-917-1764 and enter the PIN 47001 when prompted. Agenda packages can be found on our website.



**WHEATLAND COUNTY**

## OPEN HOUSE

**Lyalta Community Centre**  
263075 Township Rd 252

January 13, 2026 | 7:00 P.M.



**Evening Agenda**

- 7:00 P.M. Open House Begins
- 7:30 – 8:10 P.M. Formal Question & Answer Period
- 8:10 P.M. – Close Informal Discussion and One-on-One Conversations with Council and Administration.



Wheatland County invites residents to attend a community open house in Lyalta. This session will include project updates, an opportunity to ask questions, and time to speak directly with County representatives.

We encourage all community members to join us and take part in this informative evening.

**Address:** 242006 Range Rd 243, Wheatland County, AB T1P 2C4  
**Phone:** 403-934-3321 [www.wheatlandcounty.ca](http://www.wheatlandcounty.ca)  
**Office Hours:** Mon-Fri 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



## Christmas Closure Dates

**The Wheatland County Administration Office, Agricultural Service Board Shop, and Public Works Shop will be CLOSED:**

**December 25, 2025 - January 1, 2026**

**Waste Transfer Sites:**

Our Waste Transfer Sites will be closing at 3:00 PM on December 24, and will be closed December 25 & 26, as well as January 1.

Normal operating hours will resume January 2, 2026





Wheatland Concert



Brentwood Concert



Strathmore High School



Wheatland Concert



Carseland Concert



Carseland Concert



Strathmore High School



Brentwood Concert

### Spreading Christmas cheer

Local schools helped bring in the holiday spirit as they hosted their annual Christmas celebrations. Brentwood Elementary, Wheatland Elementary and Carseland Elementary each hosted their annual Christmas Concert on Dec. 18, while Strathmore High School held Reindeer Games, which included cookie decorating, roasting marshmallows and the ever-anticipated visit from old St. Nick. Other school in the area held their Christmas celebrations the week prior.

Joe Lepage, Melissa Piche, John Watson Photos

# Scott Klassen optimistic for 2026 developments throughout the county

JOHN WATSON  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

As 2025 draws to a close, Scott Klassen reflects on the progress of local development projects, as well as the new direction Wheatland County is taking in relation to regional collaboration.

He adds being selected to serve as reeve for the first year of the new term has presented a challenge in and upon itself, but it is one that he feels ready and excited to continue exploring.

"I've risen to the challenge, and I am happy with council so far. We have had a few bumps in the road, but we are coming together and one of the first challenges we are facing as a new council is finding a new CAO," said Klassen. "That is something that is definitely bringing us together and we are discussing ... so far, we have had a lot of interest in that, so that is a task we are carrying forward."

Among the ongoing development projects taking place within the county, are the construction of the new CGC wallboard manufacturing plant, and the De Havilland aircraft campus.

Regarding the campus, he anticipates working alongside De Havilland for the next 10 years while it is constructed.

"Everything else is infrastructure projects and the usual. We have a bridge inventory that are all coming up about the same age and they are all failing so ... our staff have been really diligent with an asset management program which lays out not only today's costs, but the future costs over the next 10 years," said Klassen. "It gives us a pathway on the realistic infrastructure that the county needs. To me, it is nice to have

that because that keeps you based in reality."

Klassen explained regarding bridge infrastructure, if quick repairs are able to be made that are also cost effective, the county is likely to proceed with such options.

The issue is not unknown to council and has been brought forward for some time. The idea is not to have been avoiding them, but rather because there are so many, the county only has the budget to tackle so many projects at a time.

With the interim budget in place, the county is effectively waiting to observe the impacts of the province's education requisition prior to passing their formalized capital and operating budgets.

Since the new council's election, Wheatland County has also begun to take steps to improve relations with other municipalities and come back to the table to talk regional partnerships.

"We are stronger as a region ... and what partnership means can be interesting. We had a regional partnership meeting recently and it was the first one I'd attended in a number of years. One of the local councilors, not one from our council, said basically they would take the information and go back and digest it with their local hat on," said Klassen.

"A partnership means you may not always agree and that's okay. It is defining with a large number of people how you can actually accomplish some goals. (There are) some things administration to administration could accomplish so much easier than a bunch of politicians in a room."

Looking towards 2026, Klassen said he is aiming to address some legacy problems, and "baggage from the past," and give back to the community to the best of his and council's abilities.

**NEXT HOME GAMES**

**Friday, January 9**  
• 7:45 pm VS Medicine Hat

**Saturday, January 10**  
• 7:45 pm VS Coaldale

Strathmore Family Centre - Gold Arena

**PLAYER OF THE GAME**  
Dec 19 Jackson Keith  
Dec 21 Connor White

*Come Cheer on Your Agra Risk Wheatland Kings*

**YOUR WEEKLY HEALTH ADVICE**  
Gord Morck Pharmacist  
Capsule Comments

Making New Year's resolutions? The acronym SMART is a good place to begin. Your resolution should be Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Timely. Don't make resolutions that are too big so they might be unattainable. Set a time limit because without a deadline, goals are never reached.

Also, don't make too many resolutions. Choose one or two that are most important to you and are reachable within the time limit you set.

One way of ensuring success in your resolution goals is to use the "buddy system". Share your resolution goals with your friends and relatives. Social support can be a great strengthener of motivation.

Finally, don't choose resolutions who's success is based on factors beyond your control. Instead of "I will have a new job by summer", resolve to update and send out a set number of resumes. That's within your control. Good luck in your resolutions for 2026.

At this time, we want to thank you for reading this column throughout 2025. A happy, healthy and successful 2026 to you all.

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## Celebrating the Reason for the Season

**Strathmore Alliance Church:**  
Dec. 24, 6 p.m.

**Sacred Heart Catholic:**  
Dec. 24, 5 p.m./8 p.m./Midnight  
Dec. 25, 10 a.m.  
Dec. 31, 5 p.m.  
Jan. 1, 10 a.m.

**Hope Community Covenant Church:**  
Dec. 24, 5:30 p.m.

**C3 Strathmore:**  
Dec. 21, 10 a.m.  
Dec. 28, 10 a.m.

**Strathmore Full Gospel**  
Dec 24, 6 p.m.

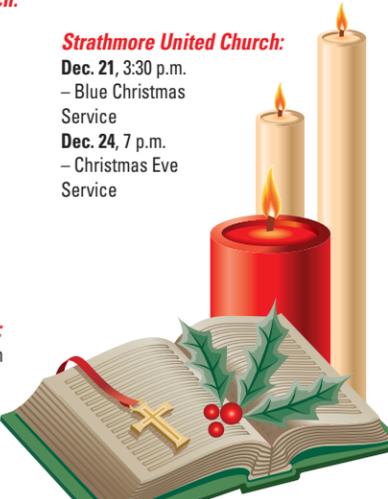
**Harvest Healing**  
Dec 24, 4 p.m. - Candlelight Service

**RCCG Peculiar People Assembly:**  
Dec 24, 10:30 a.m. - Christmas Brunch  
Dec. 31, 10 a.m.

**Strathmore Seventh Day Adventist:**  
Dec. 20, 11 a.m.

**Lord of All Lutheran:**  
Dec. 19, 7 p.m. at Wheatland Lodge (Families welcome)  
Dec. 22, at Sagewood  
Dec. 24, 3:30 p.m. - Cards & Candles (with Baptism & Special Children's message)  
Dec. 24, 7:30 p.m. - Traditional Christmas Carols & Candles  
Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m. - Traditional Christmas Morning Communion Service

**Strathmore United Church:**  
Dec. 21, 3:30 p.m. - Blue Christmas Service  
Dec. 24, 7 p.m. - Christmas Eve Service



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**Thought for the Week**

~

*Everybody thinks of changing humanity, and nobody thinks about changing himself.*

Leo Tolstoy

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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Spreading Christmas cheer

To the Editor

Glad tidings from the Grade 3 classroom community at Chief Crowfoot School (CFS) in Siksika. My name is Tania Fox, and I am an elementary teacher of 17 years at CFS.

At this time of year, it is a tradition for students to write heartfelt letters to our beloved Santa Claus; of course, we never forget to check in on the elves and reindeer, and cozy Mrs. Claus. The kids are always so excited to show their love and appreciation for everyone at the North Pole, and their Christmas wish lists are plum full of holiday hopes and dreams.

This Christmas (and many before it), those hopes and dreams came true when Santa Claus, Debbie Mitzner, and her team of volunteer elves wrote the class personalized responses to the letters we sent to the North Pole. You should have seen the look of joy in each students' eyes! They all wanted me to read the letters out loud, and they could not wait to take them home to show



Merry Christmas from Chief Crowfoot Grade 3

their families. And to top it all off, the class also received a milk and cookies party!

The Grade 3's and I would like to send out our deepest appreciation for the beautiful acts of kindness we have experienced.

Thank you so much to Santa Claus, Debbie Mitzner, and to all the elves at RE/MAX Landan Real Estate for bringing the Christmas spirit alive for our Grade 3 classroom.

*Yours truly,  
Ms. Tania Fox  
Chief Crowfoot School*



## Merry CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR

**MLA Chantelle de Jonge**  
Chestermere-Strathmore

## Pat Fule reflects on 2025

Continued from Page 1

As part of that process, the town has had to implement a larger waterline pipe under Maplewood Drive to transport water.

"When we do have a new water reservoir, it will be able to fill that reservoir in a much more timely fashion and it will be a better part of the system," said Fule. "We did shut down Maplewood Drive for some time. While we were doing that main water line, we also decided that we would do some traffic calming. That was a little controversial - some people were upset about it - but the whole design philosophy of Maplewood Drive was traffic calming and we have had some good results."

He added council continues to work with the town's planning and development team to address housing availability, rental, and purchase prices.

The aim is to make local housing more affordable as well as increase availability. Among these efforts is the multi-unit housing project nearing completion on Centennial Avenue.

"We have approved and we have four subdivisions right now in different stages of development and that is going to add to inventory," he said.

Going into 2026, Fule explained he is optimistic with the council who has been elected to serve for this ongoing term.

"It is people from all walks of life, very professional ... they have high integrity, they are very professional in how they deal with each other and how we interact with each other and it has been a very smooth beginning," he said. "I believe it is going to be a really high level of integrity and professionalism as we work together, and part of that working together, looking into the future. We are going to be doing a vision retreat in the third week of January. That is going to go a long way to plot the course for the four-year term."

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# County conflicted regarding future of Lakes of Muirfield Lagoon Project

**JOHN WATSON**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Debate is ongoing by Wheatland County council regarding the potential purchase of land for the proposed Lakes of Muirfield Lagoon project.

Council was unable to come to an agreement regarding fulfilling the purchase conditions of the land outlined for the project and will resume discussion about it in the new year.

“We have to start doing something ... this is costing the county money. Studies, studies, studies, not moving, time is money. I’m not in favour of looking more – I’m in favour of let’s do something. We are all scared to move forward because somebody won’t like it or (the) cost is too much or there is another solution,” said Coun. Glenn Koester. “These are what we are looking at are time and tested solutions that have been in the county for a hundred years. We are not going to get cheaper ... we have people complaining that we are not doing something, we have people complaining we are hauling it to the wrong spot – everybody is complaining.”

The Lakes of Muirfield developer signed an agreement with Rocky View County in 2009 to discharge Muirfield’s wastewater into a holding tank at Dalroy. At the time, plans existed for the construction of a lift station and wastewater for-cemain from Dalry to the Langdon wastewater treatment plant.

This lift station remains in operation to date. Wastewater from Dalroy was transported by tanker trucks and disposed of at the Langdon facility for six years. The original agreement expired in 2015.

A study was completed by CIMA+ in 2016 approximating the cost and outlining possible wastewater servicing solutions for the Muirfield and Lyalta community.

Six potential servicing solutions were outlined with varying cost estimates, the lowest of which being an interim wastewater lagoon, servicing within 1.6 km of Lyalta.

In 2020, CIMA+ completed another study, this time evaluating options for providing long term water and wastewater servicing to Muirfield, Cheadle, and the Highway 1 industrial corridor.

Proposed options included tying into regional mechanical wastewater treatment plants, or to create local treatment options such as an evaporation lagoon or a regional lagoon.

Wheatland County assumed responsibility for Muirfield’s infrastructure and operations in 2021 which included the daily trucking and hauling of approximately three 30,000-litre trucks of wastewater from Dalroy to the Carseland lagoon.

The process of manually transporting over 28 million total litres of wastewater one way over a 50 km route costs the county approximately \$500,000 annually. In order to reduce costs to residents, the county invested in a wastewater hauling truck to begin transporting waste directly. Initial hauling costs were approximately \$160,000 per year.

Coun. Berle Hebbes raised concerns regarding the distance a lagoon would be transporting water, as well as the potential impact to farmland of developing the project.

“You are always going to have the concerns back from the landowners no matter where if you put a lagoon out in the farmland, and that argu-

ment is going to be every farmer, every acreage guy, every rancher in Wheatland County looks after their own wastewater with sewage that they dig themselves,” he said.

Coun. Shannon Laprise countered, supporting the lagoon as the “only way to go,” being by and large the most cost-effective option put forward to the county as a result of the previous studies.

“I think all the others are way too expensive from an operating standpoint. We talk about subsidizing; if we went to any of these other options, the operating cost to send this to a wastewater treatment centre is, in my opinion, just completely unrealistic,” she said. “To me, no other option makes sense and no matter where you want to put it, somebody is going to be upset there. That is the nature of the game.”

The Committee of the Whole will return in February to continue discussions about how to proceed with the project.

## County approves interim budgets for 2026

**JOHN WATSON**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Wheatland County approved both their interim operating and capital budgets during the Dec. 16 meeting, establishing an estimate for upcoming expenses next year, as well as cementing their ongoing priorities.

Operating costs cover the day-to-day services to residents and businesses throughout the jurisdiction of the county. The capital budget focuses on municipal assets and infrastructure such as local roads and water lines.

The interim budgets, which are always approved in December prior to the end of a given year, outline services, programs, infrastructure, and other related costs the county can anticipate.

“It’s easier to reflect on the performance against that budget rather than leaving it as no number,” said Joel Chaisson, interim general manager of community and development services.

The final budget is in turn cemented in April in conjunction with annual property tax rates. Other details such as the province’s finalized educational tax requisition are also provided with the final budgets.

Residents and businesses located within the county receive their tax notices following the approval of the final budgets. In the meantime, with the approval of the interim budgets, tax increases are able to be anticipated and planned for.

The total operating expenses proposed during the Nov. 25 Committee of the Whole meeting, excluding amortization, was \$56.4 million. Since

then, the interim budget recommendation had been increased to \$56.8 million.

Similarly, the initially proposed capital budget presented during the same meeting, \$46.8 million was also increased to \$48.4 million.

The majority of changes to the capital budget are in regard to ongoing capital projects carrying forward from 2025 into 2026.

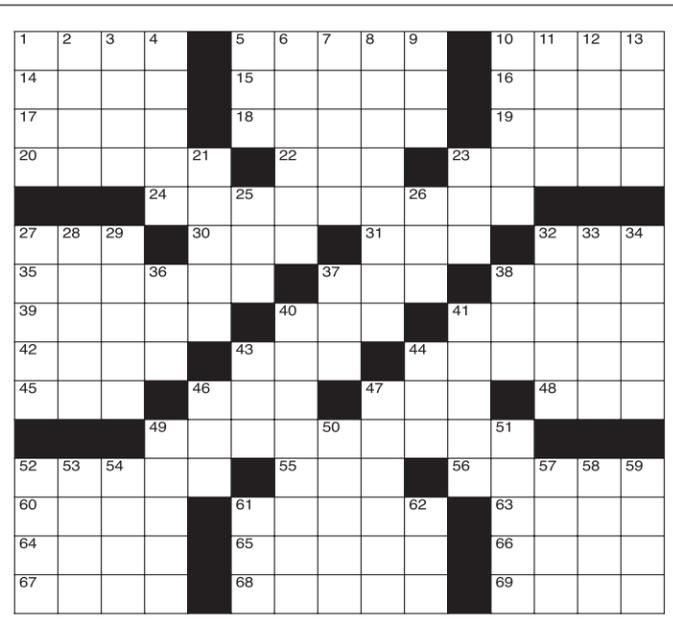
“It’s an accounting practice to bring them forward. It allows us (administration) to show the budget in the next year and then we can reflect the actual cost against that, so it is easier to reflect on the performance against that budget rather than leaving it as no number,” said Chaisson.

Council had previously requested of administration an update regarding the current seasonal washroom facility located in Rosebud and what engineering for an all-season building would look like.

Dave Rimes, community services coordinator, explained acquisition of designs for a potential building, prior to any construction, would cost the county approximately \$105,000. Administration has not proceeded further on the project discussion.

Several projects were noted by administration as possible to defer to a future year, including several road repair projects; however each year these are delayed, it was pointed out during the meeting, costs increase and conditions continue to degrade.

Following Chaisson’s presentation, both interim budgets were approved by council unanimously.



### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Light cavalry
- 5. Coconut palms
- 10. Rounded knob
- 14. Central Japan city
- 15. Sandwiches
- 16. Shape produced by a curve
- 17. Ancient region in modern-day Syria
- 18. French modernist painter
- 19. Grandmother
- 20. Mammary gland of cattle
- 22. Rocky peak
- 23. Secret plan
- 24. Songs to one’s lover
- 27. More (Spanish)
- 30. Father
- 31. Chinese principle underlying the universe
- 32. Ballplayer’s accessory
- 35. Together
- 37. A person’s brother or sister
- 38. Evil spirit
- 39. Monetary units
- 40. Partner to cheese
- 41. About Sun
- 42. Group of like-minded people
- 43. After B
- 44. Seaside room
- 45. Recipe measurement
- 46. Partly digested food
- 47. Flat-faced dog
- 48. People of southern Africa
- 49. Salts
- 52. Beard lichens
- 55. Sanders is one
- 56. Fencing sword
- 60. Ethnic group of Albania
- 61. Metric weight unit
- 63. Italian seaport
- 64. Longtime late night host
- 65. Extremely angry
- 66. Miami mascot
- 67. Mid-month day
- 68. Marked for omission
- 69. Body part

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Two-toed sloth
- 2. Fat from a pig’s abdomen
- 3. Romanian city
- 4. Specifies
- 5. Rounded, glaciated valley
- 6. Spoke
- 7. Collection of sacred books
- 8. Extravagantly theatrical
- 9. Very fast airplane
- 10. Forearm bones
- 11. Ancient kingdom
- 12. Legitimate: \_\_ fide
- 13. Semitransparent gemstone
- 21. Counsels
- 23. Head honcho
- 25. Cool!
- 26. Touch lightly
- 27. Extract money via taxation
- 28. Dyes
- 29. Cloying sweetness
- 32. Sodas
- 33. Coastal village in Guam
- 34. Chemical ring
- 36. The bill in a restaurant
- 37. Car mechanics group
- 38. One-time presidential candidate Dole
- 40. Health care for the aged
- 41. Wise persons
- 43. Passage with access at one end
- 44. Make a wound
- 46. America’s spies
- 47. Roof of the mouth
- 49. Plants of the lily family
- 50. Pinkish-red color
- 51. Vaccine developer
- 52. Mottled citrus fruit
- 53. A place to store garden tools
- 54. Rare goose native to Hawaii
- 57. Popular Hollywood pig
- 58. Musician Clapton
- 59. A move exposing one to danger
- 61. Historic Spanish soldier
- 62. CNN’s founder

**STRATHMORE TIMES**

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We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Local Journalism Initiative. **Canada**



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CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# Alberta has a voice

CHANTELLE DE JONGE  
Chestermere-Strathmore MLA

As Christmas approaches and 2025 winds down, Alberta's government has wrapped up a productive fall legislative session full of wins for Alberta families, jobs, and our future.

We passed the International Agreements Act to make sure Ottawa can't sign international deals that affect Alberta without our say. If it touches provincial matters, it must be debated and approved here first. Alberta, not Ottawa, will decide what applies to our families, industries, and communities.

Albertans value their right to free speech and free expression. Recent high-profile cases across Canada, such as the disciplinary proceedings against Dr. Jordan Peterson by the College of Psychologists of Ontario – raised concerns about regulators punishing personal opinions instead of focusing on professional competence. That's why we passed the Regulated Professions Neutrality Act, to stop disciplinary action for off-duty conduct, restrict mandatory diversity and inclusion training, and protect against bias based on political beliefs. Because every Albertan deserves the right to speak freely without ideological intimidation.

We also took major steps to improve health care by introducing a Dual Practice Model. Dual practice gives doctors the flexibility to work in both public hospitals and private clinics, increasing the number of surgeries completed and reducing wait times for all Albertans. It's a proven model widely used in top-performing health systems, including Denmark, the United Kingdom, and France, as well as Quebec and New Brunswick. By introducing dual practice, Alberta will attract and retain more physicians, strengthening the health system and giving Albertans better access to high-quality health care close to home.

Our government knows the vast majority of Alberta gun owners are responsible, trained, and

licensed. They're hunters and sport shooters, or farmers and ranchers protecting their livestock from predators, and they don't deserve to be treated like criminals. Since the federal government first introduced its firearms confiscation scheme, we have been clear that we oppose any policy that undermines law-abiding firearms owners. That's why we introduced a motion telling all provincial agencies, including police and the RCMP, not to enforce Ottawa's gun seizure program. It also reaffirms Albertans' right to defend themselves and their homes. Law enforcement should focus on real crime, like violent criminals, not law-abiding Albertans.

To support the next generation of Albertans, our government introduced changes to the Education Act requiring school boards to conduct reading and math screening for all students in Kindergarten to Grade 3 and to share screening results with parents to ensure families are informed and involved. Alberta's classrooms are becoming increasingly complex, with rising numbers of students facing diverse learning needs, behavioural challenges, and language barriers. Early identification of complex learning needs is key to ensuring students receive the support they need.

As a government, we have a duty to protect all children and youth, and a responsibility to give parents, not institutions or courts, the primary role in life-changing decisions about their children. By passing the Protecting Alberta's Children Statutes Amendment Act, we are preserving the future choices of young Albertans, ensuring fairness and safety in amateur competitive sports, and requiring schools to obtain parental consent when a student under 16 wishes to change their name or pronouns.

Beyond the legislature, Premier Danielle Smith secured a landmark energy agreement with the federal government that will more than double oil exports to Asian markets, reduce emissions, and scrap damaging federal legislation. The new energy pact includes a commitment by the federal government to scrap the emissions cap, suspend the Clean Electricity Regulations, and declare an Indigenous co-owned Alberta bitumen pipeline to Asian markets a project of national interest. This is a critical step in ensuring our province remains a global energy powerhouse.

With a new year on the horizon, Alberta is entering 2026 with real momentum. This fall's legislative accomplishments chart a pathway for continued growth, greater provincial autonomy, and a better future for families. I wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

As always, please feel free to reach out to my office with your feedback and questions (Chestermere.Strathmore@assembly.ab.ca).

(Chantelle de Jonge is the MLA for Chestermere-Strathmore and the Parliamentary Secretary for Affordability and Utilities)

## TIMES CLASSIFIEDS

### Obituary



#### ADAIR, Donna Mae 'nee Davidson'

Donna was born June 6, 1935, in Innisfail, Alberta and passed away peacefully December 16 at Sagewood, Strathmore, Alberta.

Donna was the youngest of four children to Alexander and Greta Davidson (nee Culler). She had two brothers, Raymond and Leonard, and a sister, Phyllis Mullen (nee Davidson). She grew up on a farm northwest of Bowden, Alberta. In her early years she went to school in Bowden, finishing high school at Red Deer Composite High. Donna married Evert "Slim" Adair in 1954 and had two children: Connie Adair (deceased) born in 1960 and Douglas Adair, born in 1962. After Slim's passing in 1976, she moved the family to Calgary where she resided until 2001. Donna worked and retired from an office position at SAIT.

In 2005, she married Kenneth Graff and they took up residence in Strathmore, AB. Over their 20 years together, Donna and Ken enjoyed travelling in the motorhome, cruising many oceans and rivers, and flights and trips to many places abroad. They have also had many happy adventures and excursions visiting family and friends across Canada.

Donna leaves behind her devoted husband, Ken; son Doug (Karen) Adair and their children Tom (Chelsea) Adair and their son, Easton; and daughter Amy Adair; stepson Wayne (Julie) Graff and their children Chris (Kelsey) Graff and their children Ali & Izzy; and Nick (Naomi) Graff and their children Luke, Norah, and Roman; stepson Daryl (Cheryl) Graff and their children Kelly Einarson, and her children Shelby and Shiloh; Cassidy Graff; Reagan Graff; and Jarrett Graff; and stepdaughter Cheryl Markle, and her children Jason Beacome and his children Bailey, Evan and Wyatt; and Kurtis Beacome.

Donna was deeply loved by all her family and will be sorely missed. She is well remembered for her quick wit, her infectious smile, great hugs, love of animals – especially her canine friends, and her tenacity.

A celebration of life will follow early in the New Year.

To send condolences, please visit Donna's obituary at [www.wheatlandfuneralhome.ca](http://www.wheatlandfuneralhome.ca)

**Wheatland Funeral Home**  
Strathmore, AB 403-934-4404

### THANK YOU

The family of **Allan Graham Brown** expresses our gratitude for all who attended his Celebration of Life, sent food and flowers, and support. Thank you to first responders, hospital staff and Dr. Pieses. Thank you to the Wheatland Funeral Home and Glen van Bussel. Thank you Reverend Maria of the United Church and the ladies who provided lunch. Thank you all for your many kindnesses.

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### COMING EVENT



The community is cordially invited to attend our

## New Year's Day Levee

Join members, friends, neighbours, and community leaders as we welcome the arrival of 2026.

**January 1st, 2026**

**11 o'clock to 3 o'clock**  
Royal Canadian Legion Branch 10  
Strathmore

230 2nd (Veterans) Ave., Strathmore

A New Year's Day Levee is a longstanding Canadian tradition, marking a fresh start and fostering goodwill among community members. Enjoy light refreshments, Moose Milk, the pipes of Alberta Fire, greet your neighbours, and share your hopes for the coming year.

Space is limited -

Please confirm your attendance

Phone: Sheila @ 403-934-4401

Email: [rcltensvp@yahoo.com](mailto:rcltensvp@yahoo.com)



**FRIDAY JANUARY 30, 2026**  
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# FINAL COUNTDOWN

## Barbwire Main Event

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**LEGAL NOTICES**

**Notice to Creditors and Claimants**

Estate of VERLA MATHILDA BEACOME who died on the October 12, 2025.

If you have a claim against this estate, you must file your claim by January 25, 2025.

with STRATHMORE LAW,  
 ATTN: Daman K. Gill  
 at 101, 318-3rd Ave.,  
 Strathmore, AB T1P 1V9

If you do not file by the date above, the estate property can lawfully be distributed without regard to any claim you may have.

Creditors: you must include a full description and value of the debt you allege the deceased owes you and a full description and value of any of the deceased's property that you hold as security for the debt.

Claimants: you must include a full description of your claim and why you have a right to make such a claim.

**AUCTIONS**

Ward's and Bud Haynes FIRE-ARMS AUCTION. January 31st in Edmonton. Firearms, Ammo, Accessories. Call Brad Ward, 780-940-8378 to consign your items or collection. Firearm-auction.ca.

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 Crystal Gaudet, cgaudet@wfcss.org

*Servicing Wheatland County and the communities within, Wheatland Family & Community Support Services (WF:CSS) offers programs and support to strengthen individuals, families, and communities. Services include information and referral, family and individual support, youth and senior programming, volunteer engagement, and community development initiatives throughout Wheatland County.*

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4	7	5	3	9	6	8	1	2
9	1	2	8	5	7	3	6	4
8	5	4	6	7	9	1	2	3
3	2	7	5	4	1	6	9	8
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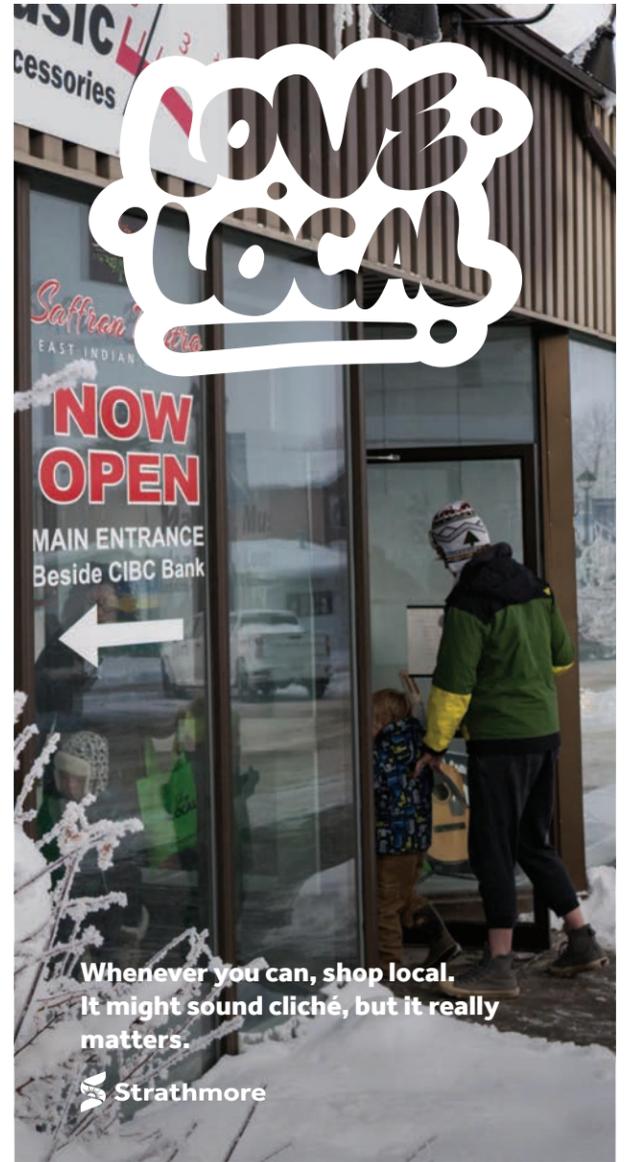
**Upcoming Council Meetings**

January 14, 2026 | 6 p.m.  
 January 21, 2026 | 6 p.m.  
 February 4, 2026 | 6 p.m.

Committee of the Whole  
 Regular Meeting of Council  
 Regular Meeting of Council

**Come Say Hi**

Hearing from the community is really important to us, so you're welcome at any Council or Committee of the Whole meeting. You do not need to call ahead or register to observe Strathmore Council in action. There is ample public seating and additional standing room if needed. You can also watch livestreamed meetings online as they happen, or catch up later on YouTube.



**Good food, great food. Get the Good Food Box.**

The Good Food Box is a non-profit organization offering access to nutritious, quality produce while ensuring variety, freshness and affordability. This program is accessible for everyone regardless of income level. For more information visit [Strathmore.ca/GoodFoodBox](http://Strathmore.ca/GoodFoodBox)

**Help keep hydrants from looking like snowmen. Adopt a hydrant.**

In the winter months, heavy snowfall turns hydrants into snowmen lookalikes, making it difficult for firefighters to locate and access them during emergencies. By adopting a hydrant and keeping them clear all year long, you're helping firefighters help others.

Visit [Strathmore.ca/adopt-a-hydrant](http://Strathmore.ca/adopt-a-hydrant) to learn more, or be the proud adopter of one of the 370+ hydrants in town.

**Bored? We can fix that. Join a board.**

Boards and committees have always played an important role in our community. If you're looking for a way to make an impact, this is your chance to get involved. The Town is currently accepting applications for the following boards or committees:

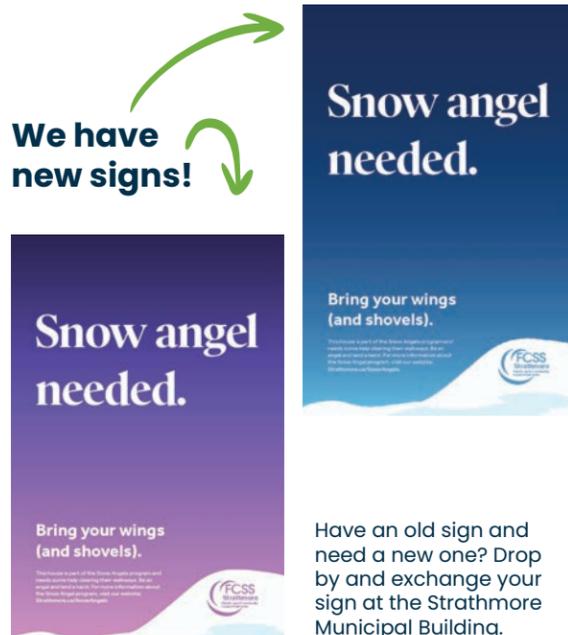
- Assessment Review Board - 1 position available.
- Family and Community Support Services Advisory Board - 3 positions available.
- Municipal Library board - 1 positions available.
- Municipal Policing Committee - 1 positions available.

For questions about Volunteer Boards and Committees, please email [LSAdmin@strathmore.ca](mailto:LSAdmin@strathmore.ca) or call 403-934-3133.

**Now with new signs! Be someone's Snow Angel.**

While the winter season makes for a beautiful snowscape, it also comes with its icy challenges. Navigating icy sidewalks can be daunting, especially for those who face mobility limitations or health concerns. Shoveling those same sidewalks is an even more daunting challenge. This is where the Strathmore Snow Angels Program comes in.

Need the Snow Angels help? Call FCSS at 403-934-9090 to request a sign or visit the Strathmore Municipal Building. Visit [Strathmore.ca/SnowAngels](http://Strathmore.ca/SnowAngels) for more information.



**Level of service during the holidays.**

With the holidays coming up, there will be some changes in service levels. The Strathmore Municipal Building will be closed from December 25, 2025 to January 1, 2026 for the Christmas holiday.

Town of Strathmore recreation facilities may have reduced or altered hours. Check our website, [Strathmore.ca/Recreation](http://Strathmore.ca/Recreation), for updated hours before visiting.

Please note that waste collection will also be altered. For the collection schedule and more information, visit our website, [Strathmore.ca](http://Strathmore.ca).

**You can still contact us.**

If you run into a problem, you can still reach out.

- Sewer and water 403-934-9440
- Power outages 310-WIRE(9473)
- Town operations 403-899-1428
- Police, fire, ambulance dial: 911

For more information about available contacts, please visit our website, [Strathmore.ca/Contact](http://Strathmore.ca/Contact).