

DRAPER ROAD NEWS



April 2025

Wood Buffalo Senior Social

Come join us in Janvier for lunch, bingo,
and door prizes!

TUESDAY

APRIL

12-3 PM

29

TO REGISTER:

JANVIER: 780-559-2230

CONKLIN: 780-559-2235

ANZAC: 780-334-2298

**FORT MCMURRAY/FORT
MCKAY: 780-792-1892**

**PLEASE RSVP BY APRIL
17TH**

Transportation Available

River Breakup Season safety tips

⚠️ During river breakup, stay away from riverbanks, temporary flood protection barriers and equipment.

✅ Watch breakup from a safe distance by viewing the live online stream.

🔒 Prepare an emergency kit or "go bag" with supplies to support you and your family for at least several days.

Use the QR code to learn more:



EMERGENCIES HAPPEN

Be prepared – Be ready

It may be important to *act fast* in an emergency. Think ahead now and reduce stress in urgent situations.

Follow trusted sources of information

- Find community updates and more at rmwb.ca/RiverBreakup
- 📱 Follow the RMWB Facebook and Twitter accounts.
- Download the **Alberta Emergency Alert** and the **Alberta Rivers** app



REMINDER

Some municipal service fees and rates are increasing April 1

In November, RMWB Council approved increases to several user rates and fees as part of the annual update to the user fees, rates and charges bylaw. These include:

- Utilities (water, sewer, garbage + curbside)
- Transit
- Landfill
- Cemeteries
- Development and building permits and services

The increases will help offset the cost of delivering these services.

Rural transit fare increasing April 1, 2025

Rural transit cash fares for adults and children are increasing by 11%, effective April 1.

- **Adult fares (ages 13 – 64):**
 - Current fare: \$12
 - New fare: \$13.50 (11% increase).
- **Child fares (ages 5 – 12):**
 - Current fare: \$6
 - New fare: \$6.75 (11% increase).

Utility rates increasing by 10-15%

Utility rates for municipal water, wastewater, and certain solid waste services are increasing by 10 to 15%. The changes vary depending on the size of the property's water meter and between rural, urban, and commercial services.

New fee structure in place for some administrative services

Additional new fees cover certain ambulance services and community backyard rink applications.

To view the updated rates and learn more about user fees and charges, visit rmwb.ca/userfees

Apply to join the Municipal Policing Committee by April 21

Interested in helping your community represent local policing priorities and concerns to local RCMP leadership?

Applications are needed to fill seven voting positions on the newly created Municipal Policing Advisory Committee.

The Municipal Policing Committee will have the authority to:

- Oversee the administration of the municipality's police service agreements.
- Represent public interests and concerns to local RCMP leadership.
- Collaborate with local detachments to plan yearly priorities and strategies.
- Develop community safety plans.
- Ensure service delivery reflects and addresses local needs.
- Regularly report on the implementation of programs and services that support police service priorities.

The RMWB is looking for qualified candidates for seven voting positions: five ward representatives and two public-at-large members.

Representation is needed from communities in each ward in the region, including First Nations within the Wood Buffalo or Fort Chipewyan RCMP detachment boundaries.

The RMWB is also recruiting for two public-at-large positions, seeking applications from the following groups: Black, Indigenous and persons of colour (BIPOC), immigrants, LGBTQ2S+, persons with disabilities, religious minorities, seniors, women, and youth.

Establishing this 11-member committee has been mandated by the Government of Alberta for all communities policed by the RCMP, as part of changes made last year to the Police Governance Regulation.

Rural and Indigenous residents strongly encouraged to apply

Many committee meetings can be attended remotely by video call, making it easier for rural residents to participate. Rural committee members will be reimbursed mileage expenses for driving to attend meetings in person.

Access the Boards and Committees portal and submit your application by April 21 at rmwb.ca/boards.

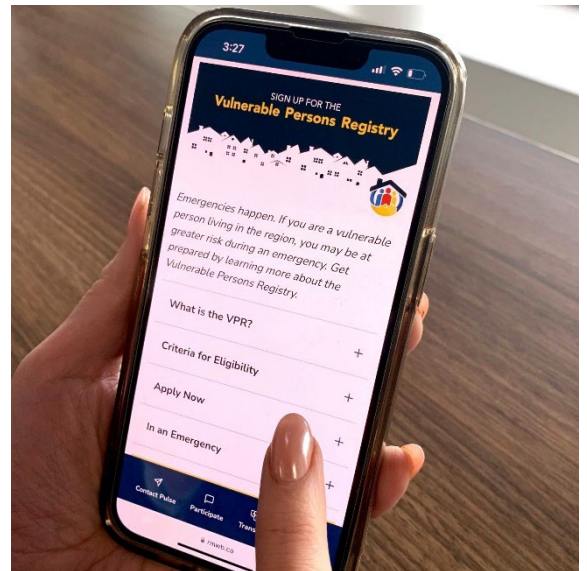
For questions or to get help applying for a vacancy, contact Pulse at 780-743-7000 or toll-free at 1-800-973-9663.

SIGN UP FOR THE **Vulnerable Persons Registry**



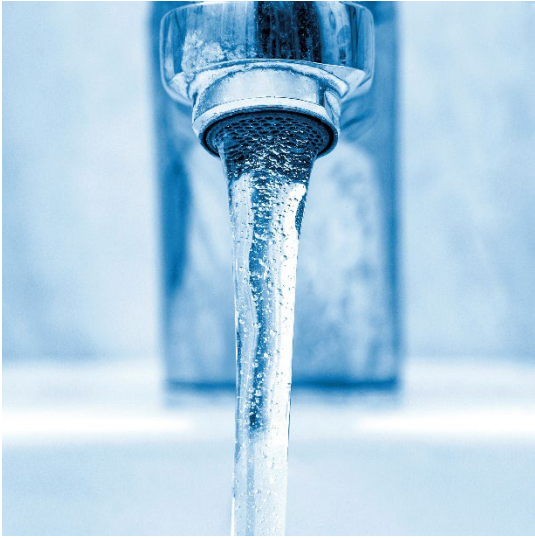
Emergencies happen. If you are a vulnerable person living in the region, you may be at greater risk.

Apply to be added to the Vulnerable Persons Registry (VPR) - a free, voluntary and confidential service for residents living at home who would be at greater risk during emergencies.



To sign up or learn more visit - rmwb.ca/vpr

Upcoming changes to utility billing for water and sewer services



Effective April 1, in addition to garbage collection charges, Draper residents will begin receiving utility bills for water and sewer services. The fees will be billed in accordance with the rates set in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo's Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw 24/026.

You can expect to receive a utility bill from the Municipality once every two months. While the amount of your water and sewer bill will depend on your household usage, based on typical household water usage in Fort McMurray we have estimated the average fees for a Draper residence to be approximately \$235 per bill.

For years, these services have been subsidized by the Municipality in the Draper community. Following a Council Resolution on July 13, 2010, Draper residents received a \$135 rebate from the Municipality toward their monthly costs of water delivery services. In 2016, the Municipality began fully subsidizing the cost of water delivery and sewer pickup services in Draper, only charging residents for the costs of garbage collection.

However, this is not sustainable and a consistent approach to utility billing is being implemented across the region. Recovering costs through user fees for garbage collection, water and sewer services will help ensure the long-term sustainability of reliable, high-quality services for Draper and all communities in Wood Buffalo, while reducing the subsidy from the Municipal tax base.

We understand this change represents a significant adjustment for Draper residents. Please know that this decision was made with careful consideration to balance service delivery across the region.

We are committed to providing clear and transparent information to help residents through this transition. If you have questions, or for more information, please visit rmwb.ca/utilitychanges or contact the Municipality through Pulse at 780-743-7000.

Census 2025

April 1- June 30, 2025

The Municipality is launching the 2025 Municipal Census on April 1.

The main purpose of Census 2025 is to produce a population count which helps the RMWB, and its many community partners, including the business and social-profit sectors plan for the services that make Wood Buffalo a place to proudly live, work and explore.

Participating in census is easy; there are several ways to count yourself in.

Online

Residents have multiple convenient ways to complete the 2025 municipal census, with the online option being especially quick and easy! Residents will receive their personal identification number (PIN) letters by regular mail, each containing a unique PIN located in the top-right corner, specific to their household.

To complete the census, go to rmwb.ca/census where you'll find a direct link to the census portal.

Enumerators will be in your neighbourhood soon

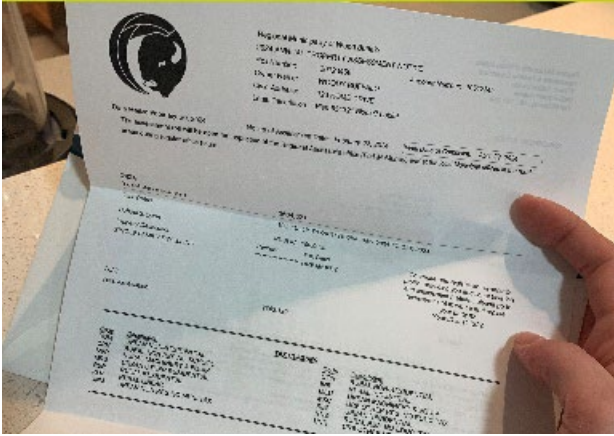
In certain rural communities, enumerators will also offer instant enumeration when delivering PIN letters. Enumerators will be wearing RMWB branded T-shirts and hats along with badges to identify them as census workers.

Call Pulse to complete the census by phone

Residents can also complete their census by phone by contacting Pulse at 780-743-7000 or toll-free at 1-800-973-9663. Pulse will connect you with the census team, who are available to assist with any questions, help retrieve your PIN and even complete the enumeration process over the phone.

Understanding your property assessment

I received my property assessment.
What's next?



Notices were issued by the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo on Feb. 18 to residential and commercial property owners across the region.

Assessment notices contain important information about a property's value and help to ensure each property owner pays their fair share of property taxes in 2025.

For the 2025 taxation year, the property assessments are based on July 1, 2024 market values and physical conditions as of Dec. 31, 2024. Assessments are then used to calculate your annual property tax.

Property tax notices are sent out in May once Council reviews and approves the 2025 Property Tax Rate Bylaw. You can also access information about your property assessment using the **online search tool** on the municipal website.

File an appeal by April 28

After speaking with an assessor, property owners who still have concerns with their assessment may file an appeal with the Assessment Review Board before the April 28 deadline. For more information on how to file an appeal, visit rmwb.ca/assessments.

Request for Information (RFI) - Watch your mail in March

Some residents will also be receiving a RFI notice in the mail. This information helps the RMWB to collect information about your property so the Assessment office can calculate a fair and equitable market values assessment. The RFI cycles through different neighbourhoods, so you won't receive one every year for the same property.

Learn more about assessments and property taxes at rmwb.ca/taxes.

For further information or questions, please contact Pulse at 780-743-7000 or online at rmwb.ca/pulse.

Bring your creative vision to life in the region



The **Arts, Culture and Heritage Grant** provides up to **\$5,000** for projects that create, inspire and preserve within the cultural landscape of the region.

Apply early!

Individuals and groups may apply for a maximum of \$5,000. The deadline for grant applications is Dec. 31, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. MST or until the total \$50,000 funding is exhausted, whichever comes first.

Apply early through the Community Investment Program (CIP) Grant Portal as funding is awarded in order of completed applications received.

What projects are eligible?

Projects must align with one or more [Wood Buffalo Culture Plan](#) priorities. The eligibility list varies and ranges from performing arts to heritage restoration to landscape design.

Projects that have received grant support in previous years include:

- **Palette Town**, a video showcasing the potential for art in Wood Buffalo.
- **Rock the Rails**, an annual skateboard and BMX competition that also features local musical acts.
- **Lavender Skies: Exploring Queer Creativity in Wood Buffalo**, a local art show at the Kirschner Family Community Art Gallery at MacDonald Island Park.

Get started today by visiting rmwb.ca/CIP.

2025 Street Banner Program explores Wheels in Motion

Artists and creatives 12 years of age and older residing in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo are invited to showcase their artistic talent in the 2025 Street Banner Program!



Selected designs will receive a **\$600 design fee**, a screened banner and the opportunity to be displayed throughout the region!

All submissions will be showcased at the **Kirschner Family Community Art Gallery at MacDonald Island Park**.

This year's theme, **Wheels in Motion**, invites you to celebrate pathfinding and transportation in the region.

Art paper for Street Banner submission can be pick up at the Municipal Office or by contacting the PULSE line at 780-743-7000.

Showcasing rural art in rural communities

Rural designs will also be selected for rural communities. Designs must meet guidelines and criteria. Selected rural designs will receive a full-sized banner.

Submit your artwork by May 1

Learn more at rmwb.ca/banner.

Subscribe to the artist roster

Join the artist roster to receive emails about upcoming artist calls, programs, events and information sessions at rmwb.ca/PublicArt.

Candidate nominations open for 2025 municipal election

New rules in place for campaigning, find more information at rmwb.ca/elections

Candidate nominations are now open to all eligible residents interested in running for the position of RMWB mayor, councillor or school board trustee.

New rules are in place for 2025 municipal election

Changes to the [Local Authorities Elections Act](#) require candidates to submit a notice of intent to appear on the official register of candidates before accepting campaign donations and incurring expenses. In addition, all candidates must complete the nomination process to appear on the ballot.

The general election for the RMWB and all municipalities in Alberta will be held on Oct. 20, 2025.

Call for candidate nominations

Nominations are now being accepted from candidates for the upcoming 2025 municipal election. Prospective candidates must file their notice of intent and complete the nomination process by **noon on Monday, Sept. 22, 2025**.

Find the notice of intent form, nomination forms, required documentation and additional information for interested candidates at rmwb.ca/elections.

Potential candidates with questions or in need of assistance, can contact the Elections Office through Pulse at 780-743-7000 or email elections@rmwb.ca and a Legislative Services staff member will assist.

2025 Street Banner Art Call

The Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo invites artists and creatives 12 years of age and older residing in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo to showcase their artistic talent.

This year's Street Banner design contest theme is **WHEELS IN MOTION**. Celebrate pathfinding and transportation in the region. Let imagination and innovation drive the *Wheels in Motion!*

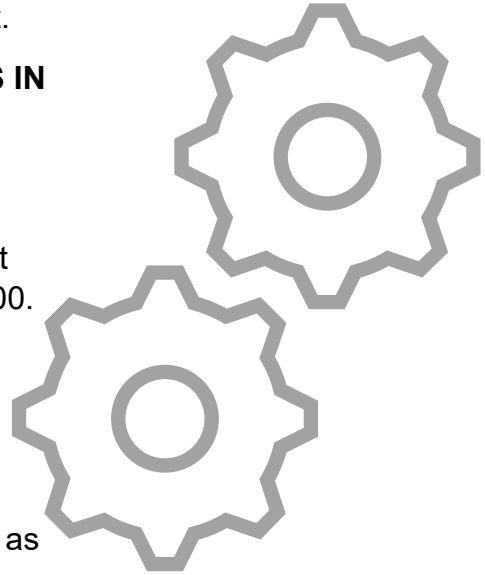
Art paper for Street Banner submissions can be picked up at the Municipal Office or by contacting PULSE at 780-743-7000.

New this year! Rural designs will be selected for rural communities. Designs must meet guidelines and criteria. Selected rural designs will receive a full-sized banner.

All designs will be included for the chance to be selected as one of the 14 designs featured in Fort McMurray. If selected as one of these 14 designs, a design fee will also be awarded.

Deadline to submit is May 1 at 4 p.m.

Learn more at rmwb.ca/banner.



Community Policing - presentations available

The Wood Buffalo Community Policing Unit has a great list of presentations they can bring to communities when requested.

Available presentations

- A Career in the RCMP - Gr 7-Adult
- ATV Safety - Gr 10-Adult
- Being a Good Citizen - ECDP-Gr 6
- Being a Mountie - ECDP-Gr 6
- Bicycle Safety - ECDP-Gr 6
- Bullying (includes Cyberbullying) - ECDP-Gr 9
- Consent - Gr 7-Adult
- Crime Scene Investigations - ECDP-Adult
- Drug Awareness
 - For Teens (cannabis, alcohol, vaping and opioid awareness) - Gr 7-12
 - For Adults (includes clandestine drug labs, methamphetamines, opioids)
- Fraud & Identity Theft - Adult
- Halloween Safety - ECDP-Gr 6
- History of the Force - Gr 4-Adult
- Online Safety (includes Cyberbullying) - ECDP-Gr 6
- Online Safety (include Cyberbullying, Social Media & the Law) - Gr 7-Adult
- Personal Safety - ECDP-Adult
- Police & Canadian Law (for New Canadians) - Gr 10-Adult
- Property Crime Prevention - Adult
- Restorative Justice - Gr 9-Adult
- Senior Safety - Adult
- Sexting - Gr 7-Adult
- Traffic
 - Impaired Driving (Alcohol & Drugs) - Gr 9-Adult
 - Distracted Driving - Gr 9-Adult
 - Winter Driving - Gr 9-Adult
- Unhealthy Relationships/Dating Violence - Gr 7-Adult
- Youth Criminal Justice Act - Gr 7-Adult



Want a presentation?

Contact us if you'd like a presentation for your group, class or community at communitypolicing@rmwb.ca or call 780-788-4040 and ask for the Community Policing Coordinator.



WOOD BUFFALO

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

What is it?

- A voluntary program that offers a safe, respectful way to promote healing after harm has occurred.
- Allows offenders to take responsibility for their actions and allows the community to see its role in contributing to reconciliation.
- Provides an opportunity for everyone involved to have a voice and determine actions and outcomes to ensure accountability.

Learn more:

- The Restorative Justice Advisor will be in **Fort McKay** on Feb. 13 and **Janvier** on Feb. 19 to provide presentations for leadership or community members who are interested in learning more.
- March presentation dates are coming for **Conklin** and **Anzac**.

Restorative Justice Contact Information:

- Phone: 780-788-4253
- Toll Free: 1-888-788-4250
- Email: restorative.justice@rmwb.ca

Get involved.

We need committed volunteers to help! Please contact us.

Join the Volunteer Fire Department

We need paid on-call members!



What we do:

We respond to fire emergencies, helping people and protecting property.

What you have:

- Valid Class 5 license. (Q endorsement is even better)
 - Time for weekly training and ability to respond

Interested?

Contact: Regional Emergency Services: 780-792-5500

Step up in an emergency

Be the Helping Hand When It Matters Most - Volunteer with the Emergency Social Services team

Join a team that helps residents during an emergency or disaster.

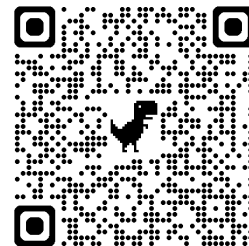
- Build your knowledge, confidence, and experience.
- No experience required. Training will be provided.



RMWB.ca/ESSVolunteer

For more information call:

- [780-743-7000](tel:780-743-7000)
- Toll Free [1-800-973-9663](tel:1-800-973-9663)



What we do:

Emergency Social Services helps people during large emergencies or incidents in the Municipality.

Who we are:

Volunteers, community partners, and municipal employees who work together under the Emergency Management Branch of Regional Emergency Services.



COMMUNITY NOTICE



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
OF WOOD BUFFALO

Remove curbside collection bins from the street after pick-up

With winter in full swing, streets must be kept clear for snowplows and equipment to plow and remove snow. There have been recent incidents with garbage and recycling bins left on the street being damaged by equipment. This can be avoided by following the bylaws and requirements for curbside collection.



Remove bins from the street

Your curbside collection bins cannot be left on the street. Bins must be placed on the curb by 7:30 a.m. on your collection day and removed from the street the same day. Bins need to be stored on your property when it's not your collection day.

Winter bin placement

We need your help to ensure garbage and recycling bins are picked up safely and efficiently.

- Place your garbage and recycling bins in front of windrows (snowbanks). Do not place bins on top or behind windrows.
- Clear the snow away from the curb where you place your bins. If bins are blocked by snow, they may not be collected.
- Keep one-foot in-between bins and 3 feet away from vehicles.
- Ensure lids are firmly closed.

Thank you for your support following these requirements. To learn more about curbside collection, visit rmwb.ca/garbage.

For questions, contact Pulse at 780-743-7000, 1-800-973-9663 or online at rmwb.ca/pulse.

9909 Franklin Avenue, Fort McMurray, Alberta, Canada T9H 2K4 | rmwb.ca






IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

PULSE (MUNICIPAL SWITCH BOARD)	1-800-973-9663 780-743-7000	PULSE@RMWB.CA	RMWB.CA/PULSE
COMMUNITY CONTACTS:		SOCIAL MEDIA:	
RCMP	780-788-4000	 @WOODBUFFALORURALCOMMUNITYCONNECTION  @RMWOODBUFFALO  @RMWOODBUFFALO	
FISH & WILDLIFE	780-743-7200		
HEALTH LINK	811		
ALL EMERGENCIES	911		

To submit information to the newsletter please email:

Info.rr@rmwb.ca

Deadline for May Newsletter submissions: April 25, 2025





780-743-7000 • 1-800-973-9663

rmwb.ca/pulse

Call. Submit online.
Real answers every time, all the time.



COMMUNITY EVENTS & PROGRAMS CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 Teen Thrive Wellness Program @ The twisted body massage-yoga-wellness 6 PM	3 Youth Trans Support Group @CMHA 6 PM	4 Friday Night Trivia @ The Legion 7PM 	5 ASRMWB Family Fun Day. Mac Island 10 AM-6 PM
6	7	8 ATC Career Fair Syncrude Sport and Wellness Centre 10AM	9 ATC Career Fair Syncrude Sport and Wellness Centre 10AM	10	11 Friday Night Trivia @ The Legion 7PM 	12
13 Crib Tournament @ The Blackhorse 1 PM	14	15	16 Dene Language Revitalization Class ATC Wellness Centre 6 PM	17	18 	19 Steel Panther & Buckcherry Macdonald Island Park 7 PM
20	21	22	23 Dene Language Revitalization Class ATC Wellness Centre 6 PM	24	25 Spring 2025 Trade Show & Artisan Market Macdonald Island Park ALL DAY 	26 Spring 2025 Trade Show & Artisan Market Macdonald Island Park ALL DAY
27 Spring 2025 Trade Show & Artisan Market Macdonald Island Park ALL DAY	28	29 Wood Buffalo Senior Social – Janvier Multiplex 12pm-3:30pm	30 Teen Thrive Wellness Program @ The twisted body massage-yoga-wellness 6 PM			