

DRAPER ROAD NEWS



January 2025

Budget 2025 approved by RMWB Council

2025 Budget Highlights	Capital Projects \$166.2 million	Parks, Fleet, Transit & Roads \$80.2 million	Police & Bylaw Services \$58.7million
	Operating Budget \$476.2 million	Fire & Ambulance \$46 million	Environmental Services \$79.2 million
			Community Investment Program \$43.5 million

The Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo (RMWB) Council approved a \$645.6 million 2025 Municipal budget on December 4, 2024.

The budget outlines a comprehensive plan that balances delivering safe, reliable services with strategic long-term capital investments to support the region’s continued growth and sustainability.

The budget is comprised of \$476.2 million for operations and \$169.4 million to be transferred to reserves. The capital budget is \$166.2 million with funding from grants and 2025 revenues.

The overall increase in the budget from last year is due to the increasing costs of material and supplies across Alberta and all of Canada.

To learn more visit rmwb.ca/budget

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.

Mark your calendar: WinterPLAY is back Feb. 21 to 25

WinterPLAY at the Snye is happening Feb. 21 to 25, 2025 with lots of free winter activities for you to enjoy!

Get ready for ice slides, leisure skating, horse-drawn wagon rides, and of course, the annual Shootout on the Snye four-on-four pond hockey tournament.



Registration for Shootout on the Snye opens Jan. 13

Circle Jan. 13 on your calendar – it's when registration opens for Wood Buffalo's favourite four-on-four pond hockey tournament!

Shootout on the Snye officially kicks off on Friday, Feb. 21 and runs until Sunday, Feb. 23 with a guarantee of three games during the tournament.

All Shootout on the Snye participants are required to register in advance.

Early bird registration (\$40/player) closes Jan. 22. Final registration (\$50/player) closes Feb. 3.

All registered players will receive a Shootout on the Snye jersey.

Register and learn more at rmwb.ca/WinterPLAY.



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:

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

Accessibility around the RMWB



Did you know we recently developed accessibility checklists for buildings and events in collaboration with community stakeholders?

These tools allow residents, businesses and RMWB staff to identify areas where accessibility can be improved to meet community needs.

Learn more at rmwb.ca/Accessibility.

Why is accessibility important?

It's inclusive and gives equal access to all.

As part of the RMWB Commitment to Equity and Inclusion, we consulted with residents to better understand the prevalence of disabilities across demographics and the types of barriers being experienced.

The RMWB What We Heard About Accessibility 2022 report found that 58% of survey participants reported having a physical disability. It is important to acknowledge that residents also indicated facing mental, cognitive and sensory disabilities.

It removes barriers, and it's the right thing to do.

Accessibility is about eliminating barriers so that everyone can fully participate in society. The goal of the Accessible Canada Act is to achieve a barrier-free Canada by 2040. A barrier is anything that hinders the full and equal participation of a person in Canadian life. Barriers can be physical, architectural, technological, informational, or attitudinal.

It benefits everyone.

Accessibility is better for society, businesses and everyone.

Great societies become even greater when there is equal access, full engagement, and capacity to reach full potential. When accessibility is not prioritized, people are excluded from participation and that leads to lost potential for individuals, families, businesses, communities, and our economy.

Learn more at rmwb.ca/Accessibility.

Step up in an emergency

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.

Apply online today

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 provides basic supports for residents displaced by large emergencies or incidents in the Municipality.

Who we are:

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



Winter Maintenance season begins!

Planning to visit Fort McMurray this winter? Now is the perfect time to plan ahead for winter maintenance parking restrictions. All Winter Maintenance Subzones (WMZ) are relaxed until further notice as the program officially begins Oct. 15.

On-street parking restrictions are not in effect when subzones are relaxed but you can still [sign up for alerts](#) that will go straight to your inbox!

Subzones will typically be activated on a bi-weekly basis, meaning residents need to move their vehicles off their street once every two weeks. Windrows (snowbanks) created by a plow that are higher than 15 cm will be removed from the end of driveways in active subzones.

- Keep up to date on the status of WMZs
[Sign up for WMZ Alerts.](#)

- Watch for updates on the orange electronic signage at the entrance of each neighborhood
- Follow the RMWB on Facebook and Twitter @RMWoodBuffalo
- Check rmwb.ca
- Contact Pulse at 780-743-7000 or rmwb.ca/pulse

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





60+ IMPACT AWARDS

CELEBRATING OLDER ADULTS' & ELDERS' CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO (RMWB)

The RMWB is a region filled with people, young and old, who are making a difference every day. Because of them, our community is a vibrant, inclusive, and beautiful place to call home.

A large portion of these impact-makers are the Elders and older adults in our region. Do you know one? Nominate them for the 2025 60+ Impact Awards!

To nominate, please provide the following information:

- Name, age, phone number and email address of the nominee
- Two letters of support
- Name, phone number and email address of the nominator
- Confirmation that the nominee accepts the nomination
- A paragraph or two about why they are deserving of nomination

Each nominee must be currently living in the RMWB.

TO NOMINATE A DESERVING INDIVIDUAL, PLEASE CONTACT A MEMBER OF OUR SELECTION COMMITTEE:

- Curtis Phillips - cjphillips@shaw.ca
- Carolyn Evancio - Carolyn.Evancio@ahs.ca

THE 60+ IMPACT AWARDS 2025 ARE BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



The deadline for nominations is January 15, 2025



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:

ruralnewsletters@rmwb.ca

Deadline for February Newsletter submissions: **January 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 New Year Day  RMWB Offices (Closed)	2	3 	4
5 Oil Barons VS Grand Prairie Centerfire Arena 7:30	6	7 Elders & Seniors Tea and Bannock GYS 1-3 PM	8	9	10 Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival Keyano Theater 7:30-10 	11 Keyano Huskies VS Concordia University Syncrude Sport & Wellness 1 PM
12 Oil Barons VS Bonnyville Pontiacs Centerfire Arena 2 PM	13	14 Grief & Loss Support Group SOS 4:30-6:30	15	16	17 Elder & Senior 55+ Beading Workshop GYS 1-4 PM 	18 Malanka 2025 Shell Place 4:30 PM
19	20	21 Elders & Seniors 55+ Tea and Bannock GYS 1-3 PM	22	23	24 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 	25 Oil Barons VS Olds Grizzlys Centerfire Arena 7:30 PM
26	27	28	29	30	31 Youth 10+ Ribbon Tote Workshop Lions Park 9-3 PM 	

