



## The Insider, Jan. 12

Find out what's new at the RMWB on Jan. 12, 2026.

### Health Spending Account renewed for 2026

Your GroupSource Health Spending Account has renewed for 2026!

Get a full overview of your benefits on the [Compensation, Benefits and Payroll](#) page on My RMWB.

### Weathering winter the safe way

From Nov. 12 to Dec. 5, the Winter Readiness Blitz Initiative went live as part of Safety's broader Winter Readiness campaign. During this time, Safety Advisors visited worksites to engage with employees and assess winter preparedness.

The intent of the blitz was to:

- Verify that actions identified in leader-completed Winter Readiness Checklists had been implemented
- Encourage meaningful safety conversations on site.

- Promote consistency and readiness across all operations.

### Meet the Winter Readiness award winners

Employees who demonstrated full compliance during these site visits were entered into the Winter Readiness Award Draw, recognizing their commitment to winter safety and preparedness. Winners were announced on December 8.

Congratulations to the following employees for demonstrating exceptional winter readiness:

- IRR Fort Chipewyan: **Harley Deranger**, Rural Equipment Operator (Airport & Roads)
- Parks: **Kyle Sweetapple**, Labourer
- Roads (Traffic): **Jordan Denyer**, Traffic Maintenance Technician
- IRR – South: **Dan Critch**, Equipment Operator I
- Fleet: **Leroy Fox**, Heavy Equipment Technician
- Transit Fleet: **Danny Blanchard**, Heavy Equipment Technician

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*Thank you to all employees and leaders for supporting the Winter Readiness Campaign and reinforcing a strong safety culture. Your ongoing commitment continues to support safer teams and safer communities as the campaign remains in place for the remainder of the winter season.*

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### Transit On Demand now available for WTP & NOC

Transit On Demand is now available to staff travelling to and from the Water Treatment Plant (WTP) and North Operations Centre (NOC)!

To support this change, the Downtown On Demand Zone has been extended to include the WTP & NOC. In addition, a connection hub has been established at the former Main Terminal next to Jubilee Centre to allow travel between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m.

**Ready to ride?** Review the guide on [My RMWB](#).

If you still have questions or would like to walk through the booking process, please reach out to [Lindsey Pearson](#), program manager, Transit Services.

## Help Wood Buffalo RCMP select its 2026-27 community priorities

It's time to help shape the RCMP priorities for the region in 2026-27. Find full details, including all in-person event information and choose to receive updates by visiting [rmwb.ca/policingpriorities](https://rmwb.ca/policingpriorities).

- If you have a few minutes, please take the survey.
- No time? There's a quick poll you can do in less than a minute.

 **Want to chat in-person?** Check the schedule for urban pop-ups or look for RCMP knocking on doors in rural communities.

Your feedback will help ensure that the RCMP are aware of and focus on issues that are the highest concerns for residents, in addition to responding to calls for service.

## Highlight on People Changes

We've been keeping our eye on the People Changes tab on the intranet.

Check out some of the highlights we've spotted this week!

### Retirement fully up to code for this supervisor

We are pleased to recognize and celebrate the retirement of Roy Herrington on January 2, 2026, whose dedication, professionalism, and consistent commitment have made a lasting impact on both our organization and the industry.

Throughout his career, Roy has demonstrated excellence in every aspect of his work. He built strong, trusted relationships with contractors and business partners while upholding the highest standards of safety and quality. His contributions have strengthened our team and set an example for others to follow.

Please join us in extending our sincere appreciation to Roy for his many years of outstanding service and in wishing him all the best as he begins this exciting new chapter. His integrity, work ethic, and leadership will continue to inspire us for years to come.

Kris Jackson will assume the role of interim supervisor for Field Services in Safety Codes. Congratulations Kris!

### After 17 years of service, Laura Roberts is starting a new chapter!

After 17 years of service, Laura Roberts will be leaving the RMWB on Jan. 16.

Laura has been a dedicated member of the Municipality since 2008, contributing to various departments throughout her tenure. Her long standing commitment and diverse experience

across the organization have been greatly appreciated by her colleagues and the community alike.

We thank Laura for her nearly two decades of hard work and wish her the very best in her next chapter!

## What do you want to see in 2026 from The Insider?



**Happy New Year!** As we venture into 2026, we'd like to take a moment and check in.

*How often do you read The Insider?*

*How would you rate the content you've read in The Insider?*

*What type of stories do you want to see this year?*

👉 Take this [short survey](#) and tell us!

Survey closes Jan. 16.

## Cheers for Peers: meet your first 2026 winners!

### Angie Goredema

**Angie Goredema**, coordinator, Community Services has submitted multiple words of appreciation since the Cheers for Peers program was launched last year!

Here are some of the kind words she has shared with The Insider:

For **Marcelo Vilhena**, **Shoaib Syed**, and **Emily Smith**, Strategic Communications:

"Marcelo went above and beyond in creating our International Day of Persons with Disabilities video. This project involved close collaboration with external partners, including the Fort McMurray Airport Authority, their community volunteers, and Keyano College. Every partner had nothing but praise for the experience.

Marcelo's expertise, professionalism, and ability to connect with people from diverse backgrounds stood out throughout the entire process, and delivered work that left a meaningful impression on everyone involved.

A special thank-you to Shoaib and Emily, whose insights and support were essential in shaping the direction and success of this project.

Thank you all for your exceptional contributions and the impact you've made."

For **Krystell O'Hara**:

"I would like to send a cheer for Krystell O'Hara, who was part of the team that organized the Community Conversation on Mental Wellbeing and Support Systems. This event provided several of our team members with an opportunity to volunteer and participate, allowing us to walk away with new connections and fresh perspectives on issues affecting our community.

Krystell consistently brings passion and excellence to the work she delivers."

For **Brent Kilboy**, IT:

"A big thank you to Brent Kilboy for helping solve not one, but two tricky IT issues! His expertise and problem-solving skills made a real difference, and I am truly grateful for his support."

### **Danielle Reid**

**Danielle Reid**, coordinator, Council & Admin Support, received two "cheers" from colleagues. Check out the kind words shared about Danielle:

From **Nicole McDonald**, assistant, Council & Admin Support:

"I would like to send out a big CHEERS to Danielle Reid, as a team member she goes above and beyond to be helpful and supportive. Her work this last week on helping the new council settle into their new seats has been amazing. I truly appreciate all the little things she does to make sure everyone on our team is included and heard.

She did such an amazing job leading us through the Swearing-In Ceremony and all of its moving parts, great job!"

From **Caitlin Sheaves**, coordinator, Council & Admin Support:

"Danielle is an absolute dream to work with—she's dependable, reliable, and always brings such great energy to everything we do. I'm lucky to have her as my right hand, she makes every task more enjoyable and every challenge easier to tackle.

Extra shout out for all her hard work in planning and organizing Council's Swearing-in Ceremony. She pulled off an incredible event that was thoughtful and so well-organized.

Thanks for being amazing, Danielle!"

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*The next Cheers for Peers draw is **Wednesday, Jan. 28** for the Feb. 4, 7 and 8 Fort McMurray Oil Barons home game.*

*Submit a photo or kind message celebrating a colleague by Wednesday at noon. We'll draw three names that afternoon.*

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## **Meet the GLOW program from WBRs**

The GLOW (Gather, Laugh, Outreach & Wellness) program is designed to support WBRs members who, on their own initiative, come together outside of work hours to participate in fun, social, cultural, or recreational activities.

Program highlights include:

- Increased reimbursement per activity.
- Time-limited program, available for a defined period in 2026.
- Support for wellness, recreation, and social connection.
- Claims processed on a first-come, first-served basis until the annual budget is reached.

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*For full details, visit [rmwb.ca/WBRs](https://rmwb.ca/WBRs).*

*If you have any questions or are unsure whether an activity qualifies, contact [WBRs.info@rmwb.ca](mailto:WBRs.info@rmwb.ca).*

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## **Contact us**

For questions and concerns, contact [TheInsider@rmwb.ca](mailto:TheInsider@rmwb.ca).

For previous editions of The Insider, visit the archive on [rmwb.ca/staff](https://rmwb.ca/staff).