

DRAPER ROAD NEWS



February 2026

Proposed 2026 Municipal Budget: What to know and how to have your say

Proposed 2026 Municipal Budget



The Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo has released its proposed **2026 budget totaling \$661 million**. The plan is focused on **sustainable management of municipal assets, strengthening partnerships, and building meaningful connections** with Indigenous communities, local businesses, and non-profits while positioning the region for emerging opportunities.

Budget meetings: Feb. 3–5 (with Feb. 6 as a reserve day)

Council will review and deliberate the proposed budget from **Feb. 3 - 5** in **Council Chambers** at the Jubilee Centre, starting at **9 a.m.** each day. Meetings can be watched **in person** or **online** via the Municipality's YouTube channel and at rmwb.ca/council.

Want to speak to Council? Register as a delegate

Community members can make a **five-minute verbal presentation** during specific delegation periods each day of the budget meetings by registering as a delegate at rmwb.ca/budget.

Registration deadlines

- To speak to the **Operating Budget** (including the Community Investment Program): register by **9 a.m. on Feb. 3, 2026**
- To speak to the **Capital Budget**: register by **9 a.m. on Feb. 4, 2026**

Learn more

A full suite of budget resources including the **2026 Budget Primer**, the **Proposed Budget & Financial Plan**, agenda packages and more are available at rmwb.ca/budget.

Questions? Contact **Pulse** at 780-743-7000 or toll-free at 1-800-973-9663.



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
OF WOOD BUFFALO

COMMUNITY NOTICE

How rural winter maintenance works in your community

Winter maintenance in rural communities is done by municipal contractors, and includes:

- Snow plowing and snow removal.
- Sanding/salting asphalt roadways whenever needed to create a safe driving surface.

Snow plowing in your community:

- Primary (high-traffic) roads are plowed within 24 hours of snowfall.
- School routes will be plowed within 24 hours for easier school pick-up and drop-off.
- Secondary roads are plowed within 48 hours.
- Gravel roads are plowed within 72 hours.
- Contractors will try to remove windrows (snowbanks) at residential and commercial driveways where possible.

Snow removal in your community:

- Contractors start snow removal when snowbanks are too high and block safe sightlines at intersections.

Help your community with winter maintenance:

- Remove garbage and recycling bins from the roadside to leave room for plowing.
- Do not shovel/push snow onto the road or into ditches, as this creates flooding issues in the spring.

More details are available at rmwb.ca/snowplow

Questions? Please contact Pulse at rmwb.ca/pulse, or by phone at 780-743-7000 or 1-800-973-9663 (toll-free).

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



Rural Water & Sewer Service

Hiring a certified contractor

A certified contractor must be selected from the [Alberta Municipal Affairs Private Sewage System Installer Certification List](#).

The following local contractors have been certified by Alberta Municipal Affairs as of July 2024:

Contractor	Contact information
B Mac Underground Services Ltd.	780-742-9848
Best Choice Plumbing, Heating and Wastewater Solutions	780-799-6267
Call First Plumbing & Heating	780-880-4726
Consun Contracting Ltd.	780-743-3163
H Wilson Industries (2010) Ltd.	780-743-1881
NC Transport & Equipment	780-713-1169
Parker Drainage and Waterproofing	780-799-0723
Qalipu Enterprises	780-598-4933
Rob Ryan Construction Inc.	780-799-6434
SENA Constructors Inc.	780-747-9664
Sureway Construction Management Ltd.	780-743-4788
Wellingdale Group Inc.	780-607-1431
Wood Buffalo Plumbing & Heating Ltd.	780-974-0521

Please note, this list is for informational purposes only. The RMWB is not recommending or endorsing these businesses. Any contract you enter with a certified contractor is strictly at your own risk.

New year, new Land Use Bylaw!



As of Jan. 1, 2026, Land Use Bylaw (No. 26/001) is now in effect.

So, what does this mean for residents, businesses, and developers?

Whether you're planning a home business, building a garage, developing a secondary suite, or putting up a sign, the new Land Use Bylaw outlines what's permitted and how to get started.

Learn more at rmwb.ca/LandUseBylaw.

Have questions?

With the 2026 construction season just around the corner, we know you may have some questions - and we're here to help!

The RMWB Planning and Development team is available to answer them and walk you through the new bylaw. Call Pulse to connect with a planner.

Stay up to date on services, news, and projects in your community!

You may have noticed a refreshed look for **rmwb.ca** last month.



The new website provides a more reliable and user-friendly way to keep informed and connected.

Key changes include an improved mobile-friendly design and enhanced accessibility.

We've also streamlined the subscription process.

News, alerts, updates and more

Stay ahead of what's happening around your neighbourhood: get timely news delivered straight to your email inbox by subscribing to municipal updates.

Pick and choose the categories you're interested in:

- Municipal News (News Releases)
- Emergency Alerts
- Winter Maintenance Zones
- Construction: Fort McMurray - North of the Bridge
- Construction: Fort McMurray - South of the Bridge
- Construction: Rural Communities - North of Fort McMurray
- Construction: Rural Communities - South of Fort McMurray
- Fort Chipewyan Winter Road
- La Loche Winter Trail
- Legislated Public Notices
- River Breakup Community Updates

Subscribe for updates at **rmwb.ca/subscribe**.

If you're having trouble finding municipal information on our website, please contact Pulse at 780-743-7000 or rmwb.ca/pulse.



4-on-4 pond hockey tournament Feb. 20 – 22

Early bird deadline (\$40 per player): Jan. 21

Registration deadline (\$50 per player): Feb. 2

Register today!



Sign up individually.
Teams will be balanced
and created based
on skill level. Adult
Division (18+) is
team registration.

rmwb.ca/winterplay



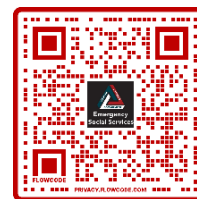
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
OF WOOD BUFFALO

Emergency Social Services (ESS)

ESS provides individuals or families with supports when they are displaced due to an emergency. Registration centres or other evacuation sites are set up to register evacuees and provide immediate basic needs. This support is available to provide a safe place for evacuees to plan their next steps as they transition to recovery.

Registration centres may provide the following services:

- Food/water
- Shelter
- Clothing
- First Aid/emotional support
- Family reunification
- Animal care and rescue assistance



To learn more about ESS, or to join the ESS Team, scan the QR code below:

VPR

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



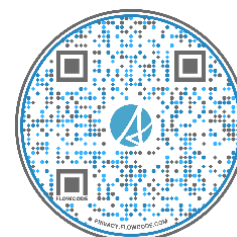
**Vulnerable
Persons
Registry**

The Vulnerable Persons Registry (VPR) is a service that improves the safety of vulnerable residents living at home.

This is done by communicating directly with registrants during emergencies and by sharing key information to first responders about individuals on the VPR. Click [here](#) to find out more about the VPR.

MAERS

The MyAlberta Emergency Registration System is available to all residents of Alberta as a tool to assist during an evacuation or emergency. Albertans can register themselves and their family members in advance of an emergency using their MyAlberta Digital ID. Click [here](#) or scan below to pre-register today.





780-743-7000 • 1-800-973-9663
rmwb.ca/pulse

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



Residents in rural communities can contact the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo 24/7 by contacting Pulse via the following:

- 780-743-7000
 - 1-800-973-9663 (toll-free)
- www.rmwb.ca/pulse

Name: _____ Date: _____



The Rural Sharing Network

The Rural Sharing Network supports the social profit sector with relationship building and networking of services offered to rural communities in effort to address gaps to meet the needs of rural residents.



The Rural sharing network is open to community members and services providers. Coming together in collaboration to learn about the services available in community, identifying the needs of the community and understanding service gaps while working together to better service rural communities is the common goal.

Are you a service provider in the RMWB that would like to connect within the rural communities?

Please reach out to Aimee McCamon - aimee.mccamon@rmwb.ca



YOUNG WOMEN IN TRADES AND TECHNOLOGIES

Mentor / Mentee Lunch & Learn



JOIN US TO:

- ✓ Learn about career opportunities across a variety of industries
- ✓ Hear from inspiring mentors committed to inclusion and empowerment
- ✓ Ask questions and gain real-world insight from women working in the field
- ✓ Connect with peers exploring similar pathways
- ✓ Enjoy lunch while learning in a supportive, welcoming environment

CAREERS is proud to be breaking down barriers and paving pathways for young women to see themselves, and succeed, in trades and technology careers.

Space is limited. Participants will be contacted to confirm attendance. Come learn, connect, and discover what your future could look like in the trades and technologies.



For more information reach out to Anika acampbell@nextgen.org
or Chase cgargus@nextgen.org



CELEBRATING SENIORS & ELDERS IN THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO (RMWB)

Because of the contributions of Seniors & Elders, our municipality is a vibrant, inclusive and thriving place to call home.

Nominate a senior/elder for the 2026 60+ Impact Award

Nominees must be currently living in the RMWB

Please provide the following information:

Name, age, phone number and email address of the nominee

One or more 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 deserve a nomination

Email your nomination or if you have any questions please contact:

Carolyn Evancio – carolyn.evancio@gmail.com

Curtis J. Phillips – cjphillips@shaw.ca OR Harvey Tulk – harveytulk@hotmail.com



The deadline for nominations is March 15, 2026

Walking Safety Tips

Walk Facing Traffic: If there is no sidewalk and you must walk on the side of the road, choose the side where you are facing oncoming traffic. This gives you the best chance to see traffic approaching closest to you and take evasive action if necessary.



Cross Safely: Look both ways before crossing any street. Make eye contact with any drivers who may be turning. Give them a wave. Make sure they see you.

Walk Single File: Unless you are on a sidewalk separate from the road, you should walk single file. This is especially important on a road with lots of curves. While it can be enjoyable to walk down the road two or three abreast chatting merrily, drivers don't expect it.

Stay aware of bikes and runners: Share the road and path with bikes and runners. Bike riders should alert you when approaching from behind with a bike bell or a "passing on the left/right." Listen for them.

Be Visible: Wear bright colors when walking in daytime. When walking at night wear light-colored clothing and reflective clothing or reflective vest to be visible.

Hang Up and Eyes Up: Chatting or texting while walking is as dangerous as doing that while driving. You are distracted and not as aware of your environment. You are less likely to recognize traffic danger, passing joggers and bikers or tripping hazards. Potential criminals can also see you as a distracted easy target.

When walking your pet: keep your pet on the side away from traffic so that they don't accidentally dart into the roadway.



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:
infor.rr@rmwb.ca

Deadline for March Newsletter submissions:
February 23, 2026

COMMUNITY EVENTS & PROGRAMS CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Comedy Misfits 8:00pm Drum Brewing	2 	3	4 Caregivers Coffee! 9-11am 28-117 Millennium Gate	5	6 APEGA Science Olympics 9am – 2pm Oilsands Discovery Center 	7 2026 Multicultural Expo All day Syncrude Sports & Wellness Centre
8 Oil Barons Vs Canmore Eagles 2pm Centerfire Arena	9 Autism & Neurodiversity Awareness training 12 – 2:30 pm & 6 – 8:30pm Autisim Society of the RMWB	10	11	12 Age Sensitivity Training 9am – 12pm Redpoll centre @ SMS equipment place	13 Huskies VB vs The King's University 6:00pm Syncrude Sports & Wellness 	14 Huskies VB vs The King's University 1:00pm Syncrude Sports & Wellness 
15 Madeline Hildebrand Keyano Theatre	16	17	18	19 Fiddler on the Roof 7:30pm Keyano Theatre	20 WINTERPLAY Huskies Basketball vs University of Alberta Augustana 6pm Syncrude Sports and Wellness 	21 WINTERPLAY Huskies Basketball vs University of Alberta Augustana 1pm Syncrude Sports and Wellness
22 WINTERPLAY	23 WINTERPLAY Newsletter submission deadline	24 WINTERPLAY	25	26	27 	28 Snowed in Comedy Tour 7:30pm Keyano Theatre