



# The Insider, Feb. 17

Find out what's new at the RMWB on Feb. 17, 2026.

## Sprinkle some kindness on Pink Shirt Day!

Pink Shirt Day is Feb. 25, and this year's theme is *Sprinkle Kindness!*

How you can participate:

- Wear pink!
- Upload the Pink Shirt Day [screensaver](#) to your computer.
- Nominate a co-worker for "Cheers for Peers!"
- Complete a Kindness Card and post on your area bulletin board. Details will be shared by Admins in your area.

Share how your team recognized Pink Shirt Day with The Insider by submitting your photos to [TheInsider@rmwb.ca](mailto:TheInsider@rmwb.ca).

## Meet your Winter Photo Contest winners!

We asked, you voted, and the results are in!

Thank you to everyone who submitted photos and took the time to cast a vote in this year's Winter Photo Contest. The incredible talent and creativity on display made this a tough competition, and it was fantastic to see so many staff members engaged.

After all the votes were counted, we're excited to officially announce the winners of the 2026 Winter Photo Contest:

- Kevan Makey
- Feather Bourque-Jenner
- Jennifer Pynn

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*Congratulations to our top photographers! Your photos captured the beauty, spirit, and uniqueness of the season.*

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## Council approves 2026 Budget

After five days of deliberation, Council approved a **\$661 million municipal budget** on Feb. 9.

The **2026 Operating Budget** is comprised of **\$518.6 million** for operations. Highlights include:

- \$47.1 million in direct community support for local non-profit organizations, including municipal facility operators.
- \$55.1 million for fire and ambulance services.
- \$18.4 million for parks and outdoor recreation spaces.
- \$48.9 million for environmental services, including underground services, water, wastewater and landfill services.
- \$59.6 million for police support and bylaw services.
- \$24.1 million for roads.

The **2026 Capital Budget** is **\$134.4 million** with funding from grants and 2026 revenues. Notable capital projects include:

- Janvier Fire Hall Design
- Various playgrounds and splash parks
- Flood Mitigation Construction

- Janvier Community Space Design
- Rural Water and Sewer Servicing Construction and Service Connections

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*Learn more about the 2026 Budget at [rmwb.ca/budget](http://rmwb.ca/budget).*

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## **Thank you to the team behind WinterPLAY!**

As our dedicated staff and contractors put in countless hours to prepare for WinterPLAY, we want to take a moment to celebrate the teamwork across all the departments that make this beloved winter event happen year after year.

These teams work tirelessly, often facing challenging weather conditions, yet they consistently deliver an incredible experience.

Thank you to all who had a hand in making this dynamic event come to life!

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*Plan your WinterPLAY visit at [rmwb.ca/WinterPLAY](http://rmwb.ca/WinterPLAY).*

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## **Get your WinterPLAY on AND provide your input on the RCMP's annual policing priorities**

Look for RCMP community officers at the WinterPLAY festival this weekend as they gather input on their annual policing priorities.

This will be the final in-person RCMP engagement for this annual engagement campaign. It officially closes on Feb. 25.

See them in person or take the survey [online](#) before then!

## **Recognizing Global Information Governance Day**

February 19 is Global Information Governance Day, a reminder that how we manage information is just as important as the work we do with it.

In the RMWB, information is not just files and emails. It includes resident data, permits, inspections, emergency planning, financial records and the documentation behind the decisions that affect the community. Managing that information responsibly is part of delivering safe and effective public service.

## How SharePoint fits in

Our move to SharePoint is not just a technology upgrade, it's a key step in strengthening information governance across the organization. Every time we save a document in the right place, follow naming best practices, or manage information according to policy, we are contributing to responsible governance.

Let's remember that good information practices are part of everyone's role; not just IT or Corporate Records staff.

Together, we help ensure our information is secure, reliable, and ready to support the work we do every day.

## Recognizing Ramadan

As Ramadan begins on Tuesday evening, we extend our warmest wishes to employees who observe this important and sacred month.

Ramadan is a time of reflection, prayer, charity, and unity for Muslims around the world. It is also a period of fasting from dawn to sunset, which can affect daily routines and energy levels.

We encourage all staff to be mindful and supportive of colleagues who may be observing Ramadan. Small gestures of understanding can help foster an inclusive and respectful environment.

Our organization is strengthened by the diversity of cultures, faiths, and perspectives that make up our team. Taking the time to recognize meaningful observances like Ramadan reflects our shared commitment to respect, inclusion, and belonging.

## You do WHAT!? Beyond the desk at the RMWB

Learn how **Donna Thomas**, inspector, Transit Services, explores her creative side outside the office:

"In my spare time, I like to create with my hands. I like to buy or create designs for my heat transfer machine to create personal shirts for my family and friends.

I also like to search YouTube videos for crochet project inspiration. And, when the weather allows me, I like to cruise on my Harley."

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*Do you have an interesting hobby, passion, or skill outside of your work hours?*

*Share with The Insider and we'll highlight you in a future You do WHAT!? story!*

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## Cultivate genuine connections with Calm

Genuine and loving relationships are essential to a fulfilling life. When we invest in our relationship-building skills, we create supportive environments for our overall well-being. Calm offers the following resources to help you build stronger connections, enhance empathy, and set appropriate boundaries.

- [5 Steps to Stronger Relationships](#) – Establish the foundation for deeper, healthier, more rewarding connections to the important people in your life.
- [Long Distance](#) – In this 7-minute session, Jay Shetty will guide you in being more intentional in your interactions with others, regardless of physical distance, so you can continue cultivating genuine and long-lasting relationships.
- [Relationships](#) – In this 10-minute guided breathwork session with Tamara Levitt, she'll share tips on how to practice patience and compassion with your close relationships so you can respond with respect and not react with anger.
- [Healthy Boundaries](#) – In this 12-minute guided meditation, Jeff Warren will help you establish healthy boundaries within yourself and with others, ensuring fruitful relationships.

Try one of these resources in the Calm app today, and learn how to improve your connections with others one step at a time.

### **What is the Calm app?**

All employees have **free** access to the Calm app. Plus, you can share your Calm subscription with up to **five additional devices** with your same login credentials.

Enjoy the perks of Calm with your family and loved ones – all while becoming happier and healthier together!

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*[Learn how to get started with Calm on My RMWB.](#)*

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## Microsoft training: what would you like to see?

The Learn team is looking to offer additional Microsoft Training courses this year and wants to hear from you on the programs you would like to see offered!

Please complete this [short survey](#) by Feb. 23.

## Staff snapshots: Where we are & what we're up to

### Just in time for Valentine's Day, Specialized Transit gets some love!

Kellie Francis, supervisor, Transit Operations is the dispatcher for Specialized Transit riders. She is responsible for booking most of the schools who use Specialized Transit to visit MacDonald Island Park and other locations.

Recently, her team received a few thank you cards from some students at Holy Trinity Catholic High School, who are very thankful for their services!

### HR brings Team Canada spirit into the workplace!

The HR team has been showing their Team Canada spirit in the workplace, bringing a little red-and-white pride to the office!

Adding to the fun, Alanna Mesheau has been tracking Canada's medal count and sharing updates, helping keep the Olympic buzz alive around the office. Her medal tracker and Canadiana display have become a great conversation starter and a fun way for staff to stay engaged.

Go Team Canada! 

### Grateful pet owner reacts to house fire rescue

Earlier this month, firefighters in Fort McMurray responded to a house fire in the Timberlea area and were able to safely rescue two dogs from the burning home.

In the aftermath of the incident, the pet owner shared a heartfelt message of thanks for the crew's quick action and compassion. We spotted their post and wanted to pass along a piece of it with you — it's a powerful reminder of the real impact our colleagues have every single day.

Moments like these highlight not only the professionalism and skill of our Regional Emergency Services team, but also the care they bring to our community members — including the four-legged ones.

Thank you to our RES crews for the work you do to keep our community safe. Your dedication truly makes a difference.

## 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](http://rmwb.ca/staff).