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COUNTY

'Step Back In Time' event combines fun, food, and vendors...  
  
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TOWN

Rural Renewal Stream Update...  
  
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COMMUNITY

Plans underway to revitalize Westhaven Community Rink...  
  
see page 16

# 'Snow Much Fun' event reimagined after postponement

by Niki Luymes

March 2. The event was originally planned for Family Day, (February 17), but was moved due to extreme cold weather.

Families and people of all ages were welcome to come out and enjoy the free outdoor activities, hotdogs, and snacks. The event ran from 11am to 2pm at the

Griffith's Park Centre. Edson Family and Community Support Services (FCSS), along with multiple local partners,

continued page 2



The rescheduled Family Day Snow Much Fun Event filled the Griffiths Park parking lot on March 2, with a variety of fun activities. The event ran from 11am to 2pm. photo Niki Luymes

  
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# Family Day 'Snow Much Fun' reimagined after postponement

## FCSS along with multiple local partners filled the Griffiths Park lot with activities

continued from front

filled the Griffiths Park parking lot with activities. The Edson Youth council provided the supplies for kids to paint rocks.

The Edson Fire Department came out with one of their fire trucks. The Friendship Centre was running a games booth with prizes for the kids. Volunteers from EARS were also on hand by the dog park talking about what they do. All of this was offered alongside a free barbecue, hot cocoa, and maple taffy.

The event included different classic yard games

such as corn hole and chalk drawing for people to enjoy.

The Family Day Snow Much Fun event has been a staple of the Edson area for many years. Every year Edson FCSS plans an event full of fun outdoor activities. Traditionally, this has been mostly winter activities such as snow shoeing and skating. "This year we had lots of fun snow activities planned," said FCSS supervisor Sarah McDonald. "That was great when we had it planned for Family Day. Now, it has gotten so

warm that we had to pivot and reassess. So we're doing a backyard party."

The goal of the Family Day events has always been to get people outside and having fun together. "Normally we have a pretty good turnout for these kinds of events," said Diana Inscho, FCSS Coordinator, "It's been quiet today, but we are still happy with the number of people that are here. And it's leading to the kind of relaxed atmosphere that we like having."


People were able to enjoy the event throughout the afternoon.



The Edson Youth council helping kids paint rocks as part of the rescheduled Family Day Snow Much Fun Event on March 2. photo Niki Luymes



Cheryl Plante and Jayla Davidson from the Edson Friendship Centre had kids games and information for adults at the rescheduled Family Day event. photo Niki Luymes



**West Fraser**  
Edson Forest Products

### Important Public Notice

Edson Forest Products, a division of West Fraser Mills Ltd., is proposing post-harvest application of Vision Max® (glyphosate) herbicide to control grass and other competing vegetation. Application will occur on up to 984ha.

Application will occur within portions of previously harvested locations within the following townships:

Township	43	Ranges	16 & 17	W5M
Township	44	Ranges	16 & 17	W5M
Township	45	Ranges	13, 14, 16 & 17	W5M
Township	46	Ranges	13, 14, 15 & 16	W5M
Township	47	Ranges	15	W5M
Township	48	Ranges	16 & 17	W5M


Application will occur between August 1, 2025 and September 15, 2025 and will be completed using aerial and ground application methods.

This application is part of an Integrated Vegetation Management approach to the use of herbicides on the Edson FMA.

### Open House Information

	<u>Edson</u>	<u>Hinton</u>
Location:	Galloway Museum	Ramada Inn Hotel
Address:	223 55 St, Edson, AB	149 Woodley Dr, Hinton, AB
Date:	March 18, 2025	March 20, 2025
Time:	4 p.m. – 8 p.m.	3 p.m. – 7 p.m.

For more information, please attend an open house or contact us at:  
Phone: 1-800-293-6955  
Email: [hwpwoodlands@westfraser.com](mailto:hwpwoodlands@westfraser.com)



Join us for our  
**Annual Open House**

	Edson	Hinton
Location:	Galloway Museum	Ramada Inn Hotel
Address:	223 55 St, Edson	149 Woodley Dr, Hinton
Date:	March 18, 2025	March 20, 2025
Time:	4 p.m. – 8 p.m.	3 p.m. – 7 p.m.

- Review our 2025/26 General Development Plan for the Edson Forest Products and Hinton Wood Products Forest Management Areas. These plans outline long-term roads, camps, decking sites, gravel pits, and harvesting over the next five years.
- Review our 2025/26 Vegetation Management Plan including the 2025 plan for herbicide applications.
- Learn about our Sustainable Forestry Practices and Certification.
- Provide our staff with feedback, concerns, or questions.

For further information or to review/discuss the General Development Plan or Vegetation Management Plan, please get in touch with us at 1-800-293-6955 or [hwpwoodlands@westfraser.com](mailto:hwpwoodlands@westfraser.com)



# Q&A from the local healthcare 'Attraction and Retention Committee'

Recent Physician and other healthcare professional shortages in Edson have initiated the formalization of local community members to assist where gaps occur in marketing, attracting, retaining and integrating our local healthcare workers. This new group is called the Edson and Yellowhead County “Attraction and Retention Committee” (ARC) and is a formal sub-committee of the Community Care Foundation of Edson and District.

ARC formed last fall under the guidance of the Rural Health Professions Action Plan (RhPAP), which is designed to assist with groups like this across the province. Official terms of reference and membership guidelines were developed to ensure ARC is focused and responsive to the jurisdictional areas that are within their ability. The Community Care Foundation of Edson and District oversees the terms of reference and financial spending approvals.

**Who belongs to the Edson regional Attraction and Retention Committee?**

A variety of community members based on their relationship to the Healthcare Professional shortage began the formation of ARC. These include individuals from the Foundation, Edson Medical Center, a retired physician, AHS employees, Primary Care Network, local active Physicians, Mayors' of Edson and Yellowhead County, Council representatives from the Town of Edson and Yellowhead County, local real estate agent, Community Welcome Project (formerly called Welcome Wagon), Edson and District Settlement Services, community volunteers and individuals who were previously involved with physician attraction when Edson had shortages about 10 years ago. This group is working in collaboration with our AHS regional Physician recruiter, MLA Long and all of the organizations mentioned with participating members.

**What is the goal of ARC?**

To attract, retain and integrate qualified healthcare professionals to the Edson region to support a sustainable healthcare system. Prioritization is determined by the areas of health care providers who are in greatest need. ARC has determined the greatest need is to attract, integrate and retain enough physicians and other healthcare professionals to meet the healthcare needs of Edson.

**Can ARC hire new Physicians?**

No, ARC does not have the authority to hire new physicians. However, ARC can market, advertise, and aggressively attract physicians to the Edson AHS doctor job advertisements so they can be hired by AHS for hospital needs and the Edson Medical Center for primary care needs. There are currently major plans underway to advertise and market Edson in the locations that physicians read, visit, or attend. If you are not a physician, it is unlikely that you will see the marketing efforts as it is carefully tailored to prospective physicians.

**How long does it take to get a new Physician in Edson?**

Depending on if they are coming from within Alberta, outside of the province or outside of the Country, it can take anywhere from 3-12 months to get a physician working in Edson after they sign the hiring papers with AHS for hospital needs and then the Edson Medical Center for primary care needs. There are requirements physicians must fulfill to ensure they are qualified and have a full understanding of the AHS systems, in addition to leaving their current role and moving their family. ARC realizes this is a challenge and understands that it will require regularly having prospective physicians in the queue over the short and medium term to fill our shortage.

**Who is funding ARC for their objectives?**

The Community Care Foundation of Edson and

District is our main funding contributor. We have received some seed funding dedicated specifically to marketing and attraction from both the Town of Edson and Yellowhead County, despite this being out of their jurisdictional responsibility. There is also an opportunity to apply for limited grants through RhPAP. If anyone from the community would like to donate to assist with ARC objectives, please contact the Community Care Foundation of Edson and District as tax receipts can be issued.

**When is Edson getting more Physician to take on new patients?**

ARC is in collaboration with AHS and the Edson Medical Centre and are aware of the current and future state of physicians in Edson. There are doctor(s) currently in the 3–12-month queue to work in Edson, but until they are here and ready to work, their announcements will not be posted. When the Edson Medical Centre is aware of the date(s) of new physicians arriving in Edson, it will be announced to the Community so they can begin booking appointments. Please do not contact the Edson Medical Centre to inquire as they do not have any information to share until an announcement is made.

**If you have time and are a supporter of our healthcare workers, how you can help?**

ARC is currently looking for more volunteers to assist with our marketing and retention objectives. If you have time to volunteer, are fluent with computers and are an advocate of the Edson region, please contact the Community Care Foundation of Edson and District via email [communitycarefoundationedson@gmail.com](mailto:communitycarefoundationedson@gmail.com) with a note in the subject line that you want to volunteer for ARC. ARC meets a few evenings a month to get their work done. And lastly, please thank healthcare workers that have contributed and continue to contribute to the well-being of our community. We appreciate they've chosen Edson.

## Premier names Martin Long as new Minister of Infrastructure

Martin Long, MLA for West Yellowhead, was sworn in as Minister of Infrastructure on Feb. 27. Minister Long has served as the Parliamentary Secretary for Small Business and Tourism in the former Jobs, Economy and Innovation ministry, Parliamentary Secretary for Small Business in Jobs, Economy, and Trade, and most recently as the Parliamentary Secretary for Rural Health.

“I am pleased to welcome Martin to Alberta's cabinet. He is an extremely hard worker and I have full confidence in his ability to work with me and our cabinet colleagues to deliver on our government's priorities, focusing on keeping our province the best place in Canada to live, work and raise a family.” - Danielle Smith, Premier

“I'm honoured to take on the role of Minister of Infrastructure. Our province is growing and it's an exciting time to lead a ministry that will continue building infrastructure to meet the

needs of Albertans today and for the future.” - Martin Long, Minister of Infrastructure

Budget 2025's Capital Plan will invest \$26.1 billion across the province over the next three years, an increase of \$1.1 billion from last year.

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**West Fraser**  
**Hinton Wood Products**

**Important Public Notice**

Hinton Wood Products, a division of West Fraser Mills Ltd., is proposing post-harvest application of Vision Max® (glyphosate) herbicide to control grass and other competing vegetation. Application will occur on up to 3,099ha. Application will occur within portions of previously harvested locations within the following townships:

Township	47	Ranges	18, 19 & 23	W5M
Township	48	Ranges	19, 20, 21, 23, 24	W5M
Township	49	Ranges	18 & 19	W5M
Township	50	Ranges	19, 20, 21 & 26	W5M
Township	51	Ranges	20, 21, 24 & 28	W5M
Township	52	Ranges	22, 27 & 28	W5M
Township	53	Ranges	22 & 24	W5M
Township	54	Ranges	19, 22 & 23	W5M
Township	55	Ranges	25	W5M
Township	56	Ranges	18, 19 & 24	W5M
Township	57	Ranges	18, 19 & 25	W5M

Application will occur between August 1, 2025 and September 15, 2025 and will be completed using aerial and ground application methods. This application is part of an Integrated Vegetation Management approach to the use of herbicides on the Hinton FMA.

**Open House Information**

	<u>Edson</u>	<u>Hinton</u>
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For more information, please attend an open house or contact us at:  
Phone: 1-800-293-6955  
Email: [hwpwoodlands@westfraser.com](mailto:hwpwoodlands@westfraser.com)



# 'Step Back In Time' event combines fun, food, and vendors

by Niki Luymes

The Edson Animal Rescue Society (EARS), was a part of the community 'A Step Back In Time' event on March 2, hosted at Scarly Scoops Ice Cream, west of Edson near Millers Lake.

The event served as a fundraiser for EARS and as a vendor market for local sellers. From 12 pm to 5pm, people could enjoy some treats while perusing items at the market. The event was hosted by Scarly Scoops, Gideon Country Landing, and the Tack Trove.

A highlight of the event was the vendor market. 10 vendors came out to sell their wares. There were homemade handicrafts, soaps, baking, clothing, and more available for sale. All the vendors were local to Yellowhead County. Donations and prize raffles could be found at the Tack Trove store located on the same property.

Alongside the market was the EARS booth. The booth had hotdogs, baking, and some of the dogs that are available for adoption. Different dogs were brought in during different times so as not to overwhelm or exhaust them. Puppies Hamish and Fraser shared smiles and kisses from 12pm to 1:30pm. EARS also received donations

and funds from their Adopt a Stuffy table, along with ongoing raffles.

Guests could enjoy their treats around the fire pit while also enjoying some free hot chocolate. Kids could take part in a scavenger hunt as well. Inside the Scarly Scoops building people could enjoy a cool treat and check out the history of the area.

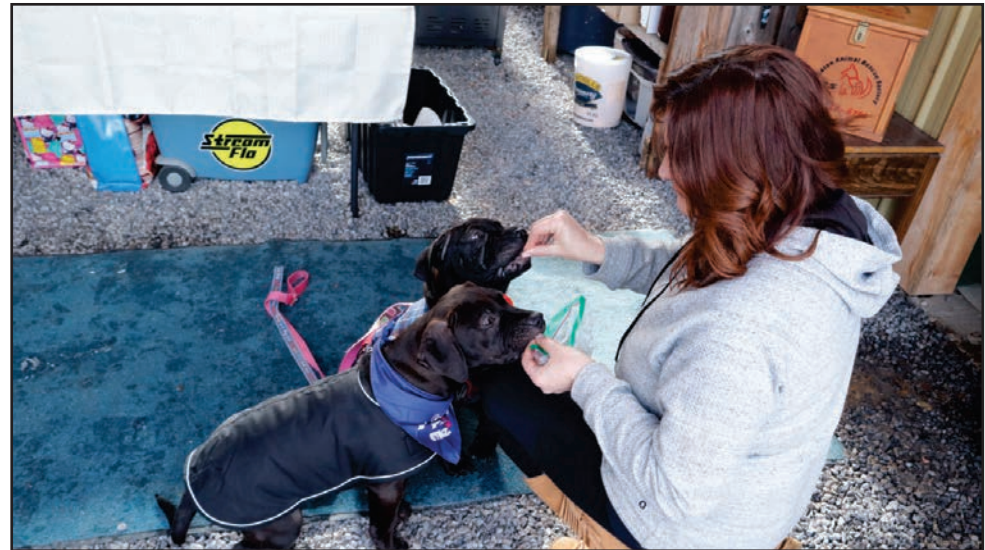
"One of the things that we want to do in this area is give back to our community," said Lacie Reilly, event organizer and Scarly Scoops co-owner. "We put on this event for the community to give them something to do on a weekend."

The day proved to be very busy. Residents and passersby stopped in to enjoy the event. "We took the closed signs off and we had highway traffic stopping in before the event even started," said Reilly.

This event was originally planned for February 16, Family Day weekend, but had to be postponed due to extreme cold weather. The original plan was to have sleigh rides running throughout the event. However, due to the warmer weather that had to be canceled. "We are hoping to bring the sleigh rides in again; with either sleighs or wagons," added Reilly.



The Step Back in Time event, at Scarly Scoops near Millers Lake, featured a variety of local vendors and a fundraising opportunity for EARS. photo Niki Luymes



Adoptable puppies Hamish and Fraser from EARS shared smiles and kisses at the 'Step Back In Time' event hosted at Scarly Scoops Ice Cream shop west of Edson near Millers Lake. photo Niki Luymes

## THANK-YOU!

### Edson & District Public Library thrilled to announce \$125,000 CFEP Grant

The Edson & District Public Library is thrilled to announce that it has received \$125,000 from the Government of Alberta Community Facility Enhancement Program (CFEP) Small Funding Grant Stream. The purpose of this program is to provide support to enhance and foster healthy and vibrant communities across Alberta.

"The Edson Library Board is a shining example of the tenacity that exists in rural Alberta when it comes to getting projects done. I am pleased that the Alberta Government chose to invest in the Edson Library project. It is going to be awesome to watch how the library continues to meet the needs of the community for years to come" said Martin Long, MLA West Yellowhead when he was at the library on January 20<sup>th</sup> to present the cheque and offer his congratulations to the library team.

The Community Facility Enhancement Program requires that the receiving organization match the amount provided by the Government of Alberta. "The library is truly grateful to all the large and small businesses, community service groups and individuals whose support over the past two years for our furniture, equipment and shelving fundraising drive made this grant possible" said Sheila Buckle, Library Board Vice-Chair.

"Thank you to the Alberta Government for this wonderful gift of funding for the purchase of the bookshelves needed to fully realize the potential of our recently completed renovation and expansion and add to the revitalization of this essential public resource. We would also like to sincerely thank our MLA West Yellowhead, Martin Long for his belief in, and his advocacy of our project" said Robin Corser, Library Board Chair.

This funding will enable the library to purchase movable shelving in the Teen area that will allow



The Edson & District Public Library was thrilled to welcome Martin Long, MLA West Yellowhead on January 20th to celebrate the Government of Alberta's wonderful \$125,000 CFEP grant to support the purchase of library shelving and furniture for our new space. Pictured from left to right: Barb Lyons (Library Board), Sheila Buckle (Library Board), Robin Corser (Library Board Chair), Martin Long, MLA West Yellowhead, Ed Ogloza (Library Board), Kristy Williamson (Library Board), Denise Martin (Library Board) and Sarah Tonowski (Library Manager).


us to configure the space in different ways for activities and groups to gather, explore, develop and socialize. Our tall bookshelves in the main library and Reading Room will be replaced with lower units to improve accessibility and enhance the safety of our patrons by improving sight lines and allow for better monitoring of public areas by staff. The new bookshelves will be more accessible for everyone, and most will have their lower shelves angled upwards to increase visibility and improve access for those with limited mobility.

Community members of all ages can benefit from the Edson and District Public Library. Membership is free! Programming now includes the return of Family Games and Movie Nights (4-

8pm on Fridays), the Seed Library (February, March and April) and the Lunch Hour Book Club (February 18 and March 18). New programs are Story Time with Ms. Trish (Thursdays at 10:30am and 4:00pm), Senior's Movies (Fridays at 11:00am), Silent Book Club (February 10 and March 17), Tech Help (Tuesdays), as well as passive programming like Grab and Go Kits, Scavenger Hunts, Puzzle Exchange and the National Potato Lovers Month recipe handout. The library also has a variety of programs brought to the community through a long-standing partnership with our friends at Family Literacy.

Whether you are a young family, a teen, an adult or a senior, please come and enjoy our newly renovated and expanded facilities.





# TOWN OF EDSON

## Public Information & Notices 2025

**Town of Edson  
Office Hours:  
Monday to Friday  
8am to 4pm  
(Closed Stat Holidays)**

**Town of Edson FCSS - Community Volunteer Income Tax Program**

# FREE TAX CLINIC

March 3rd - April 30th  
Located at the Griffiths Park Centre  
(5414 6 Ave)

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday.....9AM to 3PM  
Wednesday .....11AM to 7PM  
Friday, Saturday, Sunday.....CLOSED





To book an appointment, please email [edsoncvtp@gmail.com](mailto:edsoncvtp@gmail.com) or call 780-725-0582

*Drop-in & drop-off taxes are welcome, but appointments will have priority.*

**Eligibility Requirements:**

- **Simple tax returns only** (no business income, no capital gains, no depreciation and no death returns)
- **Edson and area residents welcome**
- **Low income, seniors, students**

**Income Thresholds are as follows:**  
1 person income \$35,000 or less  
2 person income \$45,000 or less  
3 person income is \$47,500 or less  
4 person income is \$50,000 or less  
5 person income is \$52,500 or less and increases by \$2,500 per individual per family thereafter



# Edson Fire Department is NOW RECRUITING!

**Paid-On-Call Firefighters- No Experience Necessary!**

**MUST BE/HAVE:**

- 18 years old
- Valid Class 5 Drivers License
- Complete a Physician Assessment
- Pass a Fitness Test
- Criminal Record Check

Call 780.723.3178 or Email [edsonfire@edson.ca](mailto:edsonfire@edson.ca)



More info and online application





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Submit your resume or reach out to [humanresources@edson.ca](mailto:humanresources@edson.ca) and take the first step toward a rewarding career

# NOTICE OF DEVELOPMENT

Recent Development Permits approved by the Development Authority, under the Town of Edson Land Use Bylaw 2296 as amended, can be found at <https://www.edson.ca/business/planning/development-permit-applications>. Additional information can be requested from the Planning Department at 780-723-4402 or [planning@edson.ca](mailto:planning@edson.ca).

Any person who is deemed to be affected by the issuance of any one of these permits may appeal to the Subdivision and Development Authority **by 4:00 p.m., on the 21<sup>st</sup> day after the date of issue as published on the Town's website.** On Permitted Uses, grounds for appeal must relate only to interpretation, variance, or relaxation of Land Use Bylaw 2296. On Discretionary Uses, all aspects of the proposed development may be challenged upon appeal. Written notice of appeal, accompanied by the appeal fee as established by Town Council, must be filed through the Office of the Secretary of the Intermunicipal Subdivision and Development Appeal Board (ISDAB) at Box 6300, Edson, AB T7E 1T7. **Direct Control District Approvals cannot be appealed.**

# SCAN ME



# www.edson.ca





# Edson Housing Strategy

## Let's Talk Housing!

The Town of Edson is preparing a Housing Strategy to better understand the current housing situation and develop an action plan to create and maintain affordable, safe, and suitable housing options.

This past fall, we heard from residents and interested parties about current housing challenges and ideas for improving housing in Edson. Now, we are seeking feedback to confirm what we heard in the fall and gather further input on the draft goals that will guide housing action in Edson.

### Community Open House (Drop-In)

Thursday,  
March 27, 2025  
3:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Edson Public Library  
4726 - 8 Avenue,  
Edson, AB T7E 1E3

#### Let's Talk Housing!

Provide your feedback on the draft goals and actions by attending the open house or completing the online survey from **March 10 to 31, 2025.**

#### Complete the Survey



Scan the QR code  
Or visit:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.ca/r/EdsonHousing>



For more information about the project visit [www.edson.ca/housing](http://www.edson.ca/housing) or contact:



Morgan Roberts | Economic Development Officer



(780) 723-4401



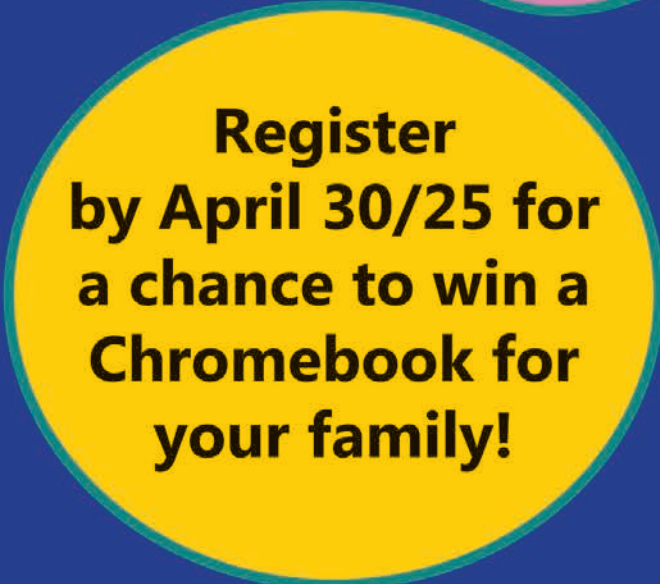
[ecdev@edson.ca](mailto:ecdev@edson.ca)





# Let's Get Ready to Learn!

It's Time to Register for Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten



- Certificated teacher specialized in reading and numeracy instruction
- Play-based, innovative learning
- Early literacy
- Creative and cultural expression
- Early intervention supports and resources

Online Registration opens February 10 - spaces for JK and Kinder programs are limited so don't wait!

**Niton Central School**  
English Programs  
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nitoncentralschool.gypsd.ca  
780-795-3782

**Wildwood School**  
English Programs  
Junior Kindergarten to Grade 6  
wildwoodschool.gypsd.ca  
780-325-3858

**Evansview Elementary**  
English Programs  
Junior Kindergarten to Grade 6  
evansviewschool.gypsd.ca  
780-727-3623





Phone: 780-723-4800 Toll Free 1-800-665-6030 Fax: 780-723-5066  
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM



## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

### Finance Clerk Edson, AB

COMPETITION NO. 25-018

Reporting to the Financial Analyst, the Finance Clerk ensures accuracy and compliance with municipal financial policies and procedure. This position will support the Financial Analyst with all financial and clerical duties as assigned. This includes capital asset inventory, capital asset accounts payable, tracking capital grant opportunities, insurance management, and related record keeping.

The salary range is \$73,838-\$91,560 per year.

Yellowhead County offers a competitive benefit plan.

To apply please submit resumes and cover letters to [www.yhcounty.ca/jobs](http://www.yhcounty.ca/jobs)

A detailed position description can be found in the job posting online.

This competition closes **March 14, 2025 at 4:30 PM.**

We thank all interested applicants in advance, however only those applicants to be interviewed will be contacted.

Human Resources  
Yellowhead County  
Email: [jobs@yhcounty.ca](mailto:jobs@yhcounty.ca)

The personal information obtained as a result of this advertisement will be utilized for these employment opportunities only, and is subject to compliance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.



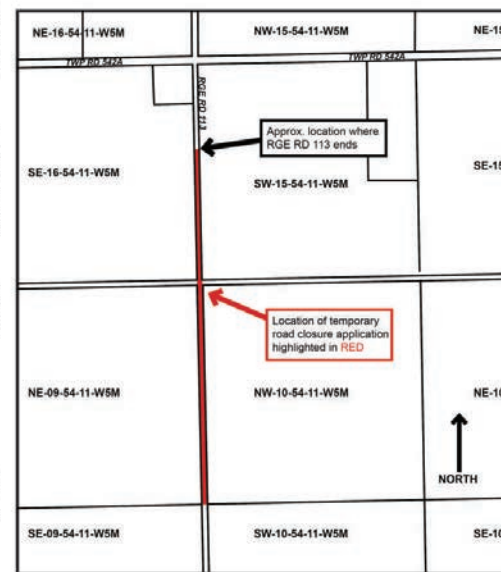
## AGRICULTURAL ROAD CLOSURE

Yellowhead County has received a road closure application to temporarily close and fence an undeveloped road allowance for agricultural purposes.

The affected undeveloped road allowance is RGE RD 113 starting where the developed road ends between SE-16 and SW-15-54-11-W5M and extending southward between NE-09 and NW-10-54-11-W5M.

Any comments or concerns must be submitted by **March 31, 2025** to Yellowhead County by emailing [planninginfo@yhcounty.ca](mailto:planninginfo@yhcounty.ca).

For more information contact Yellowhead County at 780-723-4800 or 1-800-665-6030, or email [planninginfo@yhcounty.ca](mailto:planninginfo@yhcounty.ca).



### Approved Development Permits have been issued authorizing the following:

Permit No.	Location	Proposal	Date	Appeal Deadline
D25-013	NW-6-53-17-W5 Ansell Area	Accessory Buildings (Wash House & Power/Water Distribution Building)	Feb 24/25	Permitted Use
D25-015	Plan 8720640 Blk 4, Lot 21A NW-10-50-27-W5 Brule	Short Term Accommodation	Feb 24/25	Mar 17/25
D25-009	Plan 9220810 Lot 1 SE-29-54-15-W5 North of Pinedale	One (1) Seasonal Short Term Accommodation - Discretionary	Feb 26/25	Mar 19/25

Yellowhead County Development Permits are also posted online at [www.yhcounty.ca](http://www.yhcounty.ca). The public is considered officially notified of approved development permits once posted online, in accordance with the Public Notification Bylaw. The Yellowhead County Land Use Bylaw NO 02.24 provides that any person claiming to be affected by a decision of the Development Authority may appeal to the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board or Alberta's Land and Property Rights Tribunal dependent on jurisdiction of the appeal authority. Appeals under the jurisdiction of Yellowhead County's Subdivision and Development Appeal Board require a written notice of appeal and a payment of \$500.00 payable to Yellowhead County within 21 day of the publishing of the Notice of Decision.

Requirements for appealing the development to the Alberta's Land and Property Rights Tribunal can be found here: <https://www.alberta.ca/subdivision-appeals.aspx> or by calling 780-427-2444.

## YELLOWHEAD COUNTY COMMUNITY RECREATION GRANTS

**GRANT DEADLINE: March 31 (Reviewed Annually)**

### Community Hall Operational Grant

Registered non-profit groups will be eligible for operational assistance if they are operating a community hall.

### Outdoor Amenity Operational Grant

Registered non-profit groups are eligible for operational assistance if operating an outdoor amenity. Amenities include: playgrounds, ski trails, outdoor skating rinks, ball diamonds, soccer pitch, riding arena, hiking trails.

**GRANT DEADLINES: QUARTERLY**  
March 31, June 15, September 30, December 31

### Community Hall/Outdoor Amenity Capital Assistance Grant

Registered non-profit groups will be eligible to apply for funding assistance with capital projects which could include renovations, repairs, furniture & equipment purchases, new facility, new outdoor amenity, etc.

### Recreation Program & Event Grant

Registered non-profit groups will be eligible to apply for funding up to \$2200 for programs and events that provide cultural, fitness, sport and/or other recreational opportunities to the community.

### Recreation & Culture Initiatives Fund

Registered non-profit groups will be eligible to apply for funding for new initiatives in recreation and culture facilities, programs and services that will have ongoing benefits to the community.

Applications can be found at [www.yhcounty.ca](http://www.yhcounty.ca) or picked up at the County offices in Edson or Wildwood. Please call Yellowhead County Parks and Recreation Supervisor for more information at 780-723-4800.



## Contract Opportunity: Jerry Vanderwell Memorial Park Campground Operator

### About the Park:

Jerry Vanderwell Memorial Park is a quiet and peaceful camping destination in wooded surroundings. It offers 26 campsites, day use sites, disk golf, playgrounds, and hiking trails leading to the McLeod River. The park is perfect for those who just want to get away and enjoy nature.

### Job Description:

We are seeking a dedicated and enthusiastic Campground Operator to manage the day-to-day operations of Jerry Vanderwell Memorial Park Campground. The ideal candidate will have a passion for the outdoors and a commitment to providing exceptional service to park visitors.

### Location:

Township Rd 545A, Yellowhead County, Alberta, Canada  
Coordinates: 53.7099° N, 116.0162° W  
13 km north of Highway 16 on Highway 32

### Responsibilities:

- Oversee the maintenance and cleanliness of the park, including campsites, restrooms, and recreational areas.
- Manage reservations and ensure a smooth check-in/check-out process for campers.
- Provide information and assistance to visitors, ensuring a positive and enjoyable experience.
- Monitor and maintain the park's facilities, including water access, firewood availability, and playgrounds.
- Coordinate with local authorities and emergency services as needed.
- Promote Park activities such as hiking, fishing, picnicking, canoeing, and wildlife watching.

### Qualifications:

- Previous experience in campground or park management is preferred.
- Strong customer service and communication skills.
- Ability to work independently and handle multiple tasks.
- Basic maintenance and repair skills.
- Knowledge of outdoor recreation and safety practices.

### Operating Season:

Mid-May to September

### Deadline for RFP submission:

March 19, 2025, at 4:00 PM

For further information and RFP details, please go to [www.yhcounty.ca](http://www.yhcounty.ca). For questions contact Todd Wilson, by email at [twilson@yhcounty.ca](mailto:twilson@yhcounty.ca).



Phone: 780-723-4800 Toll Free 1-800-665-6030 Fax: 780-723-5066  
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

### CASUAL FIREFIGHTER Station 12 Yellowhead County, AB COMPETITION NO. 25-017

Reporting to the Fire Chief or their designate, the Casual Firefighter is responsible for emergency re-sponse services and general duties related to Fire Services equipment upkeep within Yellowhead County.

The Casual Firefighter provides essential support to the full-time day crew by covering scheduled shifts to ensure consistent operational readiness. This role includes responding to emergencies, participating in training, and supporting fire suppression, rescue, and hazardous materials response efforts and other duties as directed. Casual Firefighters may be drawn from internal candidates within the Yellowhead County Fire Department or external candidates from other fire departments where they are in good standing in these departments.

The wage range is currently \$27.67-\$32.80 per hour. To apply, please submit resumes and cover letters at [www.yhcounty.ca/jobs](http://www.yhcounty.ca/jobs)

A detailed position description can be found in the job posting online. The competition will remain open until filled.

We thank all interested applicants in advance, however only those applicants to be interviewed will be contacted.

Human Resources  
Yellowhead County  
Email: [jobs@yhcounty.ca](mailto:jobs@yhcounty.ca)

The personal information obtained as a result of this advertisement will be utilized for these employment opportunities only, and is subject to compliance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

## WILDFIRE SEASON

Fire Permit Season 2025

Wildfire Season Starts MARCH 1

**BEFORE YOU BURN IT,  
GET YOUR PERMIT!**

From March 1 to October 31, all burning activities, excluding campfires, require a fire permit.

The Yellowhead County Fire Area covers Evansburg and area: North of Highway 16 from Highway 22 east to the Pembina River.

Contact Yellowhead County at 1-800-665-6030 to acquire fire permits for this area.

Burn permits for the AB Forest Protection Area in Yellowhead County can be obtained from [alberta.ca/get-a-fire-permit](http://alberta.ca/get-a-fire-permit)



## ROAD BANS



### Road Bans will be here soon.

Make sure you're ready and prepared before they start.

- Get all trucking done that you can before they start.
- Check regularly to see if Road Bans are in place.
- Make sure you have your road use agreements in place.

[WWW.YHCOUNTY.CA](http://WWW.YHCOUNTY.CA)

# FAMILY WELLNESS DAY

JOIN US IN PEERS OR EVANSBURG FOR A DAY OF FAMILY WELLNESS!

**PEERS  
APRIL 2**

11:00a.m. - 1:30p.m.

• BUILD YOUR OWN SUB FOR LUNCH!  
• BAKING • CRAFTS • EXERCISING

**\$10 per family**

Registration required!

**EVANSBURG  
APRIL 3**

11:00a.m. - 1:30p.m.



REGISTER AT [YHCOUNTY.CA/REGISTRATION](http://YHCOUNTY.CA/REGISTRATION) OR 780-723-4800

## EVANSBURG'S THRIVE COMMUNITY GARDEN

**NOW ACCEPTING GARDEN  
BOX BOOKINGS!**

Thrive Community Gardens are now accepting bookings for Garden boxes. Limited boxes available. Boxes cost \$20 each. Only one per family can be booked for the 2025 season. Bookings will be open on March 3rd.

For more information contact 780-325-3782 or email: [sgoddard@yhcounty.ca](mailto:sgoddard@yhcounty.ca)



## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Geotechnical Assessment and Repair Options for Rge Rd 183 and Rge Rd 92

Yellowhead County is accepting proposals from qualified engineering consultants to provide consulting engineering services for the geotechnical investigations and repair options for Rge Rd 183 and Rge Rd 92. Submissions shall be submitted based on the Request for Proposal documents.

Electronic submissions titled: RFP 2025-880: Geotechnical Assessment and Repair Options for Rge Rd 183 and Rge Rd 92

Will be received until: 2:00 P.M., March 25, 2025

Submitted via email to: [amalik@yhcounty.ca](mailto:amalik@yhcounty.ca)

This is a "Request for Proposal". Potential consultants are therefore advised that Yellowhead County reserves the right to:

- Accept a Proposal without negotiation.
- Reject a Proposal without negotiation.
- Reject a Proposal from a bidder that has had a previous contract terminated by the County.
- Negotiate changes in the financial or operational content of the successful Proposal.

Consultants are also advised that their hourly rates, company name and final rating will be made public when presented to Council.

Electronic (PDF) copies of the Request for Proposal documents are available for free download from the Alberta Purchasing Connection website at the following link: [www.purchasingconnection.ca](http://www.purchasingconnection.ca) and will be available on or after 9:00 a.m., March 4, 2025.

For further information, please contact Abid Malik, Manager of Engineering for Yellowhead County at [amalik@yhcounty.ca](mailto:amalik@yhcounty.ca)



# RCMP year end presented to Town Council

by Dana McArthur

During the Town of Edson council meeting on March 4, S/Sgt. Christian Delisle Detachment Commander – Edson RCMP gave a year end update on local policing.

"The third quarter presented some challenges in regards to Property Crime. Limited resources, an increase in vagrancy, and disturbances combined with a spike in oil and gas lease site thefts are contributed to the higher stats numbers," stated S/Sgt. Delisle in his presentation.

"Proactive overtime shifts like the initiative in the downtown core, were set up in an effort to curb property crime. The town of Edson saw 241 Proactive Patrols with good results: multiple curfew checks, violation tickets and arrested warrants were executed during the third quarter," Delisle stated.

Although property crimes were up in the current third quarter, from April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025 there was a 5% reduction in property crimes, despite some staffing shortfalls.

From 2020 to 2024 total persons offences were down 25%; total property crimes were down 28%; and total other crimes were down 41%.

Councillor Peter Taylor asked, "We have 72

businesses signed up for the AGENT program. Have you seen any success with that?" Delisle responded, "Yes, we are seeing some success and it is working." The AGENT program allows participating businesses to authorize Peace Officers to act as their agents, allowing for immediate action against disruptive individuals.

Delisle then outlined what he believes the upcoming policing priorities should be for the coming year including: property crimes, community contact, and drug. Councillor Peter Taylor agreed with these priorities, with the rest of council concurring as well.

Councillor Gean Chouinard said, "People always say Edson has a huge drug problem, but do our stats compare with surrounding communities?" Delisle responded that he has not directly compared stats, but added, "We are not worse or better than surrounding communities. This is prevalent everywhere.

Mayor Kevin Zahara also agreed with next year's policing priorities and thanked Delisle for his detachment's efforts and continued presence in the community and downtown core.

"In the coming weeks and months, we will be engaging with the community and holding town hall meetings as we have done in the past," stated Delisle in an attached letter to the mayor and

community. "This will provide us with an opportunity to interact with the community we serve and hear from them directly about what policing issues or priorities they would like our detachment to focus on."

"I look forward to attending these meetings to connect with our community and will be providing more details as we organize the town hall meetings."

"I also want to inform you of the Real Times Operations Centre (RTOC) that is supporting RCMP detachments across Alberta. In October 2022, RTOC was established to optimize our response to incidents around the province. RTOC involves senior police officers monitoring policing operations in real-time, assessing incident risk, coordinating specialized and expert resources, and managing the response," Delisle stated. "They provide members on the ground with guidance, direction, and support. It is also used to coordinate the deployment of all RCMP resources – federal, provincial, and municipal, both within Alberta and, if required, nationally."

"The RTOC facility uses cutting edge technology to provide real time support during emergency situations to RCMP officers across Alberta and is another measure used to enhance public and police officer safety," Delisle stated.

# Town Council opts to create a Municipal Policing Committee

by Dana McArthur

During the Town Council meeting on March 4, council discussed the recent Government of Alberta legislation mandating civilian governance bodies for all communities policed by the RCMP in Alberta.

This gives civilians a role in setting policing priorities and performance goals they've never had under the existing governance structure.

Eric Christensen, Enforcement Services Manager gave the presentation. "The Alberta government introduced and passed Bill 6, the Police Amendment Act (PAA), in December 2022 as part of its broader strategy to modernize policing and improve public safety."

This legislative reform aims to address growing concerns around transparency, accountability, and community involvement in policing, particularly in municipalities served by the RCMP. Subsequent regulations mandating civilian governance structures were introduced in November 2024 and come into effect March 1, 2025.

Council had three options to consider including: joining a Regional Policing Committee; creating a Municipal Policing Committee; or forming a Joint Municipal Policing Committee with nearby municipalities.

Option 2 would place the responsibility for staffing and oversight solely on the Town of Edson. However, this option allows for a more localized and tailored approach to policing, ensuring that the committee's focus aligns closely with community specific concerns.

"With that, Administration is recommending that council seek an exemption from the regional policing committee in favour of the municipal policing committee," said Christensen. A Bylaw is also required to constitute a committee with the appointment of a board consisting of a minimum of 3 to a maximum of 7 board members.

The focus would solely be on the Town of Edson and all costs associated with this option would be financed by the Town of Edson. The operational impacts are significant as staffing oversight and support will need to be

incorporated into current service levels. There is an estimated \$10,000 - \$15,000 initial setup cost, with yet to be determined ongoing expenses.

Councillor Peter Taylor said, "This provincial legislative reform aims to address growing concerns around transparency, accountability, and community involvement in policing. I hear those things and I guess I'm struggling. We just had S/Sgt. Christian Delisle present crime stats to the biggest gathering of people we've had at a council meeting. We are transparent, we have accountability and community involvement as we just saw the policing priorities of going around to the public and chatting." Having to do this is frustrating, Taylor added.

Mayor Kevin Zahara said, "The Yellowhead County is not involved at all as they're mandated to be a part of the provincial committee, because

they're deemed provincial policing where we're municipal policing, but we have the same detachment. So that does not sound very efficient. I am meeting with the minister this week and I will be sharing our displeasure with this direction, because it is adding additional cost when it's not necessary. We already have processes in place, we have town halls where the community can engage and fire questions at our staff sergeant, and he's always open to take taking phone calls as well. Thank you for bringing this forward and we'll see where this goes."

Council passed the motion to seek exemption from the regional policing committee in favour of a municipal policing committee for the Town of Edson.



## JOIN THE BAND

# REMASTERED

Classic Rock / Country Music

### Commodore Hotel

March 15, 2025  
8:00pm till Midnight

JOIN US FOR OUR  
**ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY!**



## PASSPORT

# PHOTOS & MORE

call for appointment to:



### The Weekly Anchor

5010 3rd Avenue, Edson

# 780-723-5787





The sun was shining, and the snow was just right for Mrs. Reynolds' Kindergarten students at Mary Bergeron School to enjoy an afternoon of cross-country skiing on February 27. Thanks to the parents helping out, the adventure was extra special. photo submitted by Deanna Mitchener



West Fraser is a leading diversified forest products company, recognized for the eleventh time as one of Canada's Top 100 Employers and one of Canada's Best Employers for Recent Graduates. Are you interested in working for a company that offers both a challenging work environment and a rewarding career path? Edson Forest Products is currently accepting applications for:

Summer Student Employment

- Must be currently enrolled in a program at a recognized post-secondary institution, leading to a degree or diploma
- Must plan to enroll in the 2025 Fall semester
- Must have strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Must possess our West Fraser values (including integrity, humility, teamwork, frugality, innovation, competitiveness, and respect)
- Must possess the desire to learn, grow and succeed

We offer a competitive wage and full-time hours during the summer term.

If this position sounds like the start of a career for you, Submit your resume at [www.westfraser.com/jobs](http://www.westfraser.com/jobs). For more information on West Fraser and other career opportunities, visit our website at [www.westfraser.com](http://www.westfraser.com).

West Fraser believes inclusive, diverse teams build a more vibrant workforce, safer operations, and a stronger company overall. We strive to create workplaces and leadership teams that are reflective of the diverse communities we are a part of. We will not discriminate against any applicant for employment on the basis of race, gender, national origin or any other protected legal characteristic.

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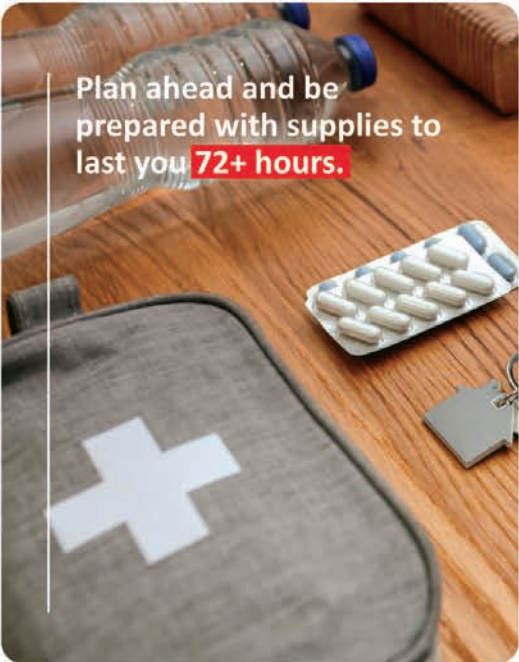
# STAYING SAFE IN WILDFIRE SEASON.



## ARE YOU PREPARED FOR AN EMERGENCY?

With wildfires becoming more frequent and intense, AltaLink’s highest priority is protecting your community while providing safe, reliable power.

WILDFIRE SAFETY





# Rural Renewal Stream Update

March 5 – The Town of Edson is refining the Rural Renewal Stream (RRS) program to emphasize retention over attraction, ensuring that businesses in the community have access to a stable and reliable workforce.

After a robust debate, and much feedback from the community, Edson Town Council defeated a motion to cancel the program at their March 4, 2025, meeting, choosing to refine the program instead. The following adjustments have been made for the RRS Program in Edson.

### Key Updates to the RRS Program:

**Retention Focus:** Applicants must have lived and worked in Edson for a minimum of six months before applying. This reinforces the program's goal of supporting existing residents rather than recruiting new workers from outside the region.

**Housing Requirement:** Applicants must provide housing information within their application, ensuring that individuals accessing the program have stable accommodations in Edson.

**Wage Alignment:** The wage requirement will be adjusted to align with the Government of Alberta's guidelines, providing businesses with greater flexibility while ensuring fair compensation for workers.

**Business Support:** Employers will benefit from a structured pathway to retain skilled employees, reducing hiring challenges and turnover rates.

**Program Limits:** Businesses can only fill up to 25% of their workforce through the RRS program, ensuring that the majority of jobs remain accessible to the existing labor market.

**Proof of Hiring Challenges:** Businesses must demonstrate that they have faced difficulties in recruiting for open positions before accessing the RRS program, ensuring that the program remains a tool for genuine workforce needs.

The purpose of these adjustments is to ensure a fair and transparent system for all involved, focussing on retention of current program participants and those that are already members of our community. This balances the needs of the business community with the concerns raised by other members of the public.

### Impact on Local Businesses

A strong and stable workforce is essential for the success of local businesses, particularly in rural communities where attracting new workers can be challenging. By refining the RRS program, businesses will experience:

- Increased workforce stability, ensuring smoother operations and business continuity.
- Reduced recruitment costs, as the program prioritizes workers who are already contributing to Edson's economy.
- Sustained economic resilience, as retaining skilled employees leads to stronger businesses and a thriving community.

The Town of Edson is committed to fostering a welcoming and inclusive environment through community engagement initiatives, education, and ongoing collaboration with local businesses to support workforce retention. By focusing on keeping Edson's current workforce in place, the RRS program will serve as a key tool in ensuring long-term economic sustainability for the town.

For more information on the Rural Renewal Stream Program, please call our dedicated phone line at 1-587-742-8722. The informational website will launch on Friday afternoon at [www.rrsedson.ca](http://www.rrsedson.ca). Application forms on the site will go live on Monday, March 10, 2025, at 9:00 A.M.



Mary Bergeron School announced the launch of their OUTBACK Grab-and-Go Breakfast program. Starting at 8:15 a.m. each morning, students are able to grab a quick and tasty breakfast. Each day there are three menu items to choose from including breakfast bars, cheese and crackers, muffins, cheese strings, yogurt tubes, granola bars, and hard-boiled eggs. Students can pick up their breakfast at the back door of the gym. While they won't have a regular hot breakfast item, they will have special mornings throughout the year with extra delicious treats. submitted by Deanna Mitchener



## Know a Volunteer Hero?



Now's your chance to nominate them for Alberta Volunteer Citizen of the Year!



They could win one of three \$5,000 donations to their nonprofit of choice.

Submit by March 31, 2025 at [www.directenergy.ca/nominate](http://www.directenergy.ca/nominate) or scan the QR code!

No purchase necessary. Nominees must be over the age of eighteen (18), legal Canadian residents, and reside or work in Alberta. To nominate an individual or group of individuals, a nomination form must be completed. For complete details and eligibility, see the Official Rules and Regulations at [directenergy.ca/vcoy\\_rules](http://directenergy.ca/vcoy_rules) Information provided will be processed in accordance with our Privacy Policy. All provincial, local and municipal laws and regulations apply. Void where prohibited. ©2025 Direct Energy. All rights reserved.



## Yellowhead Gas Co-op Ltd is currently looking for a Full-time Gas Utility Operator

### Some Duties Include:

- Replacing and installing gas meters
- Installing and servicing gas utility pipeline systems
- Locating underground gas pipelines
- Routine maintenance functions
- Operate and maintain regulating, measuring and odorizing facilities
- Walking facility right of ways for leak detection
- Emergency Response to various calls
- Facilitating digital paperwork for various applications
- 

### Requirements:

- Valid Class 5 driver's license
- Ability to work independently and in a team environment
- Ability to follow Health & Safety Programs and adapt to changes within the industry
- Positive individual with customer service and communication skills
- Computer skills in Microsoft Office and experience with Tablets
- Ability to work in a physically demanding environment
- Ability to work after hours in an On-Call rotation High school diploma or equivalent, previous gas distribution system experience is an asset but not required as training can be provided, as well as Microsoft Excel, Word and Outlook.

Yellowhead Gas Co-op provides competitive wages, benefits and a pension plan upon completion of a probationary period.

Please forward cover letter and resume to [info@yellowheadgas.com](mailto:info@yellowheadgas.com) or bring into the office. Our job posting will close March 17th, 2025. Yellowhead Gas Co-op thanks all applicants for their interest; However, only those who have been selected for an interview will be contacted.

P.O. Box 7230, 210 26 Street, Edson, Alberta T7E 1V5  
Ph: 780-723-4214 Fax: (780) 723-7994 Email: [info@yellowheadgas.com](mailto:info@yellowheadgas.com)



# Edson Food Bank volunteering offers a fun and busy environment

by Deanna Mitchener

The Edson Food Bank is always very busy, but

that doesn't mean the volunteers can't have some fun while working. Monday

morning volunteers always have some fun joking with each other while getting the tasks

at hand completed. This makes for a great environment and the time passes by much quicker.

Amy Pillage, Program Coordinator with the Edson Food Bank Society, says, "It's been a very busy time for us at the Food Bank. We're seeing more and more new clients each week."

"Tomorrow is March 4, our weekly open day and we already have 32

appointments booked and will likely see closer to 40 before the phone lines close at 5:00 p.m.," said Pillage.

"We've recently made changes to help accommodate the growing demand, including extending our Tuesday morning appointment hours, adding an hour to extend our service to noon from 11:00 a.m., and capped the number

of walk-in clients to 12. Previously there was no cap. We're hopeful we'll be able to keep up with demand better with these small changes," Pillage added.

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.com



The Monday morning Work Bee Crew at the Edson Food Bank on March 3. Busy volunteers were repacking reclaimed eggs and having the best time. Seen here are Carol, Lana, Bonnie, and Joanne. photo Deanna Mitchener



Grand Trunk School's Foods Program students spoke to the Board alongside their teacher, Alyssa Schatz. The students shared their appreciation for the valuable skills they are learning alongside each other in the course. Mrs. Schatz also shared her gratitude to the community for supporting her 'farm to table' focus.

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### . Free pick-up locations:

- Edson Post office (outside boxes)
- Edson, Your Independent Grocer (inside)
- Edson Sobeys (outside box)
- Edson Tags North (inside)
- Edson and District Leisure Centre (inside)
- Edson, Home Hardware (inside)
- Edson, Thymes Two (outside box)
- Weekly Anchor (outside box and inside)
- Edson, Parkland Lodge (inside)
- Peers Trading Post (inside)
- Niton beside postboxes next to A&W (outside box)
- Wildwood Post Office (outside box)
- Evansburg Post Office (outside box)
- Evansburg Super A Foods (inside)

\*Subscription price for Edson and Yellowhead County addresses. Please contact us for pricing outside the area.



**Guest Editorial/Column**

# Tearing down internal trade barriers could save \$130 billion

Canada’s economy is being strangled—not by foreign competitors, but by our own provinces. Interprovincial trade barriers, regulatory inconsistencies, and protectionist policies bleed billions from the economy annually.

This self-inflicted wound demands urgent action—especially in light of former U.S. President Donald Trump’s tariff threats, which exposed Canada’s dangerous reliance on a single foreign market.

But there is hope. Nova Scotia has taken the lead in breaking down these costly barriers. The province recently announced the elimination of registration requirements for out-of-province companies and is working toward full mutual recognition of professional credentials. By cutting red tape, Nova Scotia is showing that meaningful reform is possible—and that other provinces have no excuse for inaction.

At a webinar hosted last month by The Centre for Innovation Studies (THECIS), experts from some of Canada’s top policy institutes dissected the problem and its solutions. Trevor Tombe, an economist at the University of Calgary, warned that regulatory clashes in interprovincial trucking alone cost the economy \$1.6 billion annually. “This is death by a thousand cuts,” added Carlo Dade, director of the Trade and Investment Centre at the Canada West Foundation, who argued that mutual recognition of provincial standards—similar to the EU and Australia—would break down these costly barriers.

The potential gains are staggering. The Bank of Canada and C.D. Howe Institute estimate that eliminating internal trade barriers could grow Canada’s GDP by up to seven per cent—equivalent to \$130 billion annually, a figure that dwarfs the benefits of most international trade agreements. Consumers would see the difference, too: the C.D. Howe Institute projects that reforms could save Canadian households up to \$5 billion annually through lower prices and increased competition.

But it’s not just the economy suffering—the courts have failed to uphold free internal trade. Ryan Manucha, a research fellow at the C.D. Howe Institute, pointed to the Supreme Court’s Comeau decision, where a New Brunswick resident was fined for bringing beer across provincial lines. The ruling upheld provincial powers to block interprovincial commerce, weakening Section 121 of the Constitution, which was intended to guarantee free trade within Canada. “The Comeau ruling shows that courts won’t solve this—only political leadership can,” said Tim Sargent, a senior fellow at the Macdonald-Laurier Institute and former deputy minister of international trade at Global Affairs Canada.

This judicial failure is mirrored in other critical areas, such as labour

mobility, where outdated regulations stifle opportunity. Manucha argued that Australia’s approach—where workers can transfer their credentials nationwide within 30 days, although the actual timeframes can vary depending on the occupation and the specific regulatory authority involved—offers a solution. He warned that Canada’s fragmented credentialing systems are worsening the labour shortage in critical sectors like health care and construction. “We are choking our health care and skilled trades markets with red tape,” he said. A national mutual recognition framework would let Canadian workers practise across provinces without redundant licensing, creating thousands of jobs and meeting labour demand where needed most.

Despite the federal government’s inaction, some provinces are making progress. The New West Partnership between Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan has slashed barriers and boosted economic growth. And now, Nova Scotia has stepped forward, becoming the first province in Atlantic Canada to tackle these restrictions head-on. If more provinces followed suit, it would pave the way for a national framework that could finally unlock Canada’s full economic potential.

Dade urged Ontario to take the next step, which would bring 70 percent of Canada’s GDP under a unified framework. “Ontario’s participation is crucial,” Dade insisted. “This is about national prosperity, not provincial politics.”

Reforms, however, won’t be painless. Some industries will feel the squeeze from increased competition. To address this, Dade proposed a federal trade adjustment assistance program, similar to those offered during international trade shifts, to support workers and businesses through the transition.

Canada’s interprovincial trade barriers are more than an economic nuisance—they are a national failure. As Dade bluntly stated: “If we can sign trade deals with Europe and Asia, why can’t we trade freely within our own borders?”

With global trade volatility on the rise, fixing Canada’s internal market is no longer optional—it is essential for economic security. As Trump-era tariffs show, Canada cannot afford to rely on a single trading partner. A robust internal market will insulate the economy from future external shocks.

Nova Scotia has proven that reform is possible. Now the rest of Canada must follow.

The time for half-measures is over. Eliminating these barriers could add \$130 billion to Canada’s economy, save households billions annually, and unleash job growth. The time for action is now. *by © Troy Media*

*Note: Troy Media is an Alberta based news agency providing independent, insightful analysis and commentary. The views, opinions, and positions expressed in the column are the author's alone. They do not inherently or expressly reflect the views, opinions and/or positions of The Weekly Anchor, its staff, or Troy Media.*

## Weekly Anchor

### Free pick-up locations:

- Edson Post office (outside boxes)
- Edson, Your Independent Grocer (inside)
- Edson Sobeys (outside box)
- Edson Tags North (inside)
- Edson and District Leisure Centre (outside box)
- Edson, Home Hardware (inside)
- Edson, Thymes Two (outside box)
- Weekly Anchor (outside box and inside)
- Edson, Parkland Lodge (inside)
- Peers Trading Post (inside)
- Niton beside postboxes next to A&W (outside box)
- Wildwood Post Office (outside box)
- Evansburg Post Office (outside box)
- Evansburg Super A Foods (inside)

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## Edson RCMP Occurrences

**For the week of February 17 – February 23, 2025**

Traffic Violations 13, ; Assistance Calls 11, and Uninsured/Unregistered Vehicle 9 topped the list of Edson RCMP occurrences. Other investigations included: Abandoned Vehicles 2; Alarms/False Alarms 1; Animal Calls 1; Assault 3; Cause Disturbance 2; Child Welfare 0; Drive While Unauthorized 0; Drugs 0; Extortion 0; Fail to Comply with Conditions 3; Fail to Stop or Remain at Collision 0; False/Abandoned 911 Call 0; Family Orders and Agreements 1; Family relations 0; Fire Prevention Act 0; Fraud 1; Harassment/Criminal Harassment 2; Impaired Operation of Motor Vehicle 0; Information File 3; Liquor act 1; Lost or Found property 1; Mental Health Act 4; Mischief or Damage 3; Missing Person/Request to Locate 0; Municipal Bylaws 0; Noise Complaints 2; Obstruct/Resist Peace Officer 0; Possess Stolen Property 0; Recovered Stolen Property 0; Sudden Death 0; Suspicious Persons 7; Theft Complaints 7; Traffic Collisions 8; Traffic Complaints 4; Trespassing 3; Unlawfully in Dwelling 0; Unwanted Person 3; Uttering Threats Against Person 0; and Wellbeing Checks 7.

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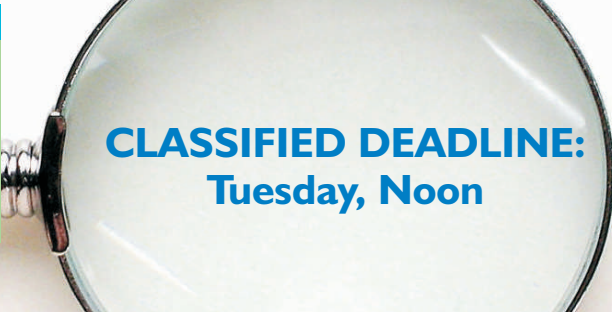


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What's happening, when and where in the community

Community Events

Fire Smart Community Series- Cadomin Hall, **February 18**  
Trail Hall, **February 20** Mackay Hall. Drop in style any  
time between 4:00-7:00pm  
**March 12:** Family Time Peers Multiplex. This is a free  
program for caregivers with children 0-5 10:30AM-  
12:30PM. Registration is required.  
[www.yhcounty.ca/registration](http://www.yhcounty.ca/registration)  
**March 12, April 2 April 20:** @ 6:00pm Wellness  
Wednesday Winter Walks. Join for a 60 min walk through  
Town of Edson starting at Edson Drive Trail Head  
**Feb 13 to Mar 20: County Free Winter Run Club:** All  
runs start at noon at the following locations: Feb 13 - Robb  
Multiplex; Feb 20 - Marlboro Community Hall; Feb 27 -

Peers Multiplex; Mar 6 - Niton Playground; Mar 13 -  
Wildwood Rec Complex; Mar 20 - Evansburg Arena. Pre-  
register at: [yhcounty.ca/registration](http://yhcounty.ca/registration) - for the runs you would  
like to join.  
**April 2:** Family Wellness Day. In Peers Baking crafts and  
exercising. Build your own sub for lunch register at  
[yhcounty.ca/registration](http://yhcounty.ca/registration) or call 780-723-4800  
**April 3:** Family Wellness Day. In Evansburg Baking crafts  
and exercising. Build your own sub for lunch register at  
[yhcounty.ca/registration](http://yhcounty.ca/registration) or call 780-723-4800  
**May 31:** Eddies Big Run. Registration opens February 10.  
Register online at [edson.ca](http://edson.ca) or in person at Edson District  
Leisure Centre.

Email us with your  
non-profit event date at:  
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**EDSON ALLIANCE CHURCH**  
5525-2nd Ave., Edson  
Ph: 723-5776 Pastor Bryan Walter  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship Service  
Wednesday: 7 p.m. Prayer Meeting.  
**EDSON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
4719 - 9th Ave., Ph: 723-3982  
Sunday Services: 10:00 a.m.  
**EDSON MENNONITE CHURCH**  
6212 - 13 Ave, Edson  
Office hrs: Tues 9am-1pm  
Office phone: 780-723-4992  
Pastor Tyson Moerike  
(Call or text 403-966-4705)  
Sunday worship - 9:45  
**EDSON-PEERS CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**  
4633-7th Ave., Edson  
Ph: 723-5242  
Pastor: Ryan Hoogerbrugge  
Worship: 10:30 a.m. Edson -  
Nursery provided Sunday School  
**EDSON SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH**  
1133-55 St. Edson - Ph: 723-5490.  
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**EDSON UNITED CHURCH**  
Edson United Church  
1214 Edson Drive Edson AB  
Phone: 723-3418  
**FAMILY OF FAITH CHURCH**  
463 72 St., Edson (formerly Glenwood Hall), Telephone: 780-517-7558  
Sunday: 10:00 am - Coffee and Donuts; 10:30 am - Morning Service  
Pastors: Pastors John and Ingrid Huizing [vfm@shaw.ca](mailto:vfm@shaw.ca)  
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# Plans underway to revitalize Westhaven Community Rink

by Niki Luymes

At the March 4, Edson Town Council Meeting, council received a request from 'Edson Healthier Together' for a letter of support. The group wishes to apply for a Community Facility Enhancement Program (CFEP) grant in order to revitalize the Westhaven Community Rink. A letter of support from the mayor is required to begin the grant application process.

Healthier Together is a collaboration committee that focuses on creating ways to enhance health and wellbeing in Edson. The community lead on this committee is the Community Engagement Action Team (CEAT), but also includes members from Alberta Health, Edson Parks, Community Development, the Edson library, and more. Healthier together is a relatively new group within Edson. Their previous project was completing the volleyball net near Griffiths Park.

"Our focus is to increase social connections by creating safe and engaging spaces where people can gather, such as active living opportunities," said Audrey St-Francois, Director of Fundraising and Grants, who presented the initiative. "If council approves of this initiative, our goal would be to make the Westhaven rink safer, more versatile, and useable across all seasons."

The proposed project would begin construction in 2026. The plan is to renovate the rink into a multi sport court. If full funding is received, the full project will include dashed boards, puck containment, a multi sport court, as well as a picnic area. "The multi sport court, along with additional structures, like a net system and basketball hoops would allow for a variety of sports to be played, including hockey, basketball, and volleyball. Once the tiling is installed, the ice can be created on top so it does not need to be removed in the winter," said St-Francois.

The project is based on an existing multi sport court in Grand Prairie. Healthier Together has planned the scope of the project to be flexible based on funding approval. If the group receives the CFEP grant, as well as other sources of funding, the project will go ahead as planned with a total budget of \$227,530. If funding is not received in full, the project will scale back and focus on simple revitalization of the rink area.

At this time the group is only requesting a letter of approval. They will be returning to council at a later date to discuss funds from the town itself. The committees from Eddie's Big Run, and Youth Interagency groups have offered to give \$20,000 each to the project. This money was raised by those



Multi-Sport Court and Dasher Boards Concept - Fall 2026

programs, and are not taxpayer dollars. However, since those committees are under the Town of Edson, council will need to approve those in a later vote.

Councillor Peter Taylor said, "Thank you for your presentation and your work for this project. It's so good to see community groups come together to do something positive in our community. This is a community run rink and there are gentlemen in the community that do the upkeep. Have you been in contact with those gentlemen about the upgrades and the things they would like to see?" St-Francois answered that yes, they have and that one of the men sits on their committee.

Councillor Krystal Cacka asked if the group will be providing a project manager or if that would fall to the Town. "We are in contact with local contractor that could help us. CEAT would also be heavily involved," said St-Francois.

CEAT member Lexi Abbot added that one of the sponsorships involves an in-kind donation to lead the project. "So we have a local contractor who's planning on working in conjunction with our Parks Department to ensure that it doesn't add a whole lot to their work load, but that it's still being completed to the Town's satisfaction."

Council did not put the request to a vote during this meeting. Council will reach out to the group after discussing the proposal with Town Administration.

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