


SAPRAE CREEK NEWS



December 2019



Updated User Rates
for municipal services take effect
January 1, 2020

▶ Learn more at rmwb.ca/userfees

User fees, rates and charges for some Municipal services are changing. The rate changes, which begin January 1, 2020, are on average 17% higher than the current rates but will remain below provincial averages.

To avoid any impact on the current and upcoming winter sport seasons, updated rates for municipal services used for these programs will take effect July 1, 2020.

User fees, rates and charges apply to various municipal services associated with:

- General Administrative and Miscellaneous Services
- Animal Control
- Assessment and Taxation
- Emergency Services
- Parks and Roads
- Recreation and Culture
- Licenses
- Transit Services
- Vehicle for Hire
- Planning and Development Services
- Safety Codes Permitting
- Solid Waste
- Water
- Wastewater

Adjustments to rates vary depending on the municipal service, with some user rates staying the same.

To learn more, including the full list of all user fees, rates and charges, visit rmwb.ca/userfees.

If you have any questions, contact Pulse at 780-743-7000, toll free at 1-800-973-9663 or online at mwb.ca/pulse

Winter Road Updates

Subscribe for email updates on winter roads and trails

Do you rely on the winter roads and trails to get around the region?

Make sure to subscribe for email updates.

The RMWB maintains the Fort Chipewyan Winter Road, La Loche Winter Trail and a portion of the Lac La Biche winter trail.

With winter coming and the weather changing, it's important to stay up to date on the condition and availability of winter roads and trails. Visit the winter roads web page and click on the link to choose the winter road or trail you'd like to know about. Click on the mail icon to subscribe for updates to either Fort Chipewyan or La Loche and stay informed this winter. When we send updates, you'll get them straight to your email.

After subscribing, don't forget to check your inbox for a confirmation email.

Visit rmwb.ca/winterroads to sign up for email updates.



Holly Jolly Tree Lighting and Santa Claus Parade

Saturday, December 7, 2019

5:00 pm Jubilee Plaza

Enjoy the magic of Christmas at the annual Holly Jolly Tree Lighting and Santa Claus Parade!

Visit: rmwb.ca/santa



Downtown Indoor Multi-Purpose Facility Feasibility Study

Learn more. Participate. Take the survey.

The Municipality is doing a feasibility study for a downtown indoor multi-purpose facility in Fort McMurray and is seeking your ideas and input to help guide the process.

Project background

On March 26, 2019 Council approved a motion requesting the Municipality do a feasibility study to change the Shell Place stadium field and bleachers to an all-weather indoor structure and as part of the feasibility study, also explore other options for an alternative multi-purposed facility within the downtown core as part of the downtown revitalization strategic initiative.

Participate. Take the survey.

The information gathered from you through this survey and at public engagement sessions will be used to help determine if you think the idea of a multi-purpose facility in our downtown is something we should further consider as a community.

Keep in mind that we are engaging with you at the beginning of the process so that your ideas can help guide the feasibility study and any recommendations on any next steps. Nothing beyond this current feasibility study is currently approved, planned or funded.

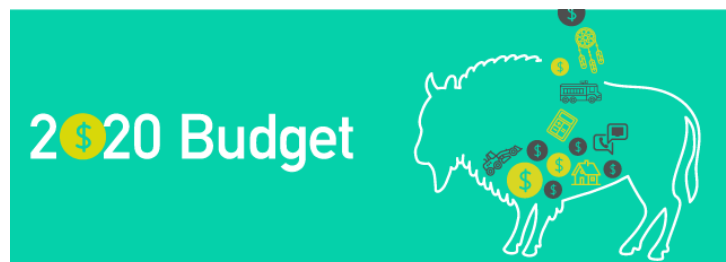
There will be additional engagement opportunities on the idea if required as part of a community-driven process. This must include engagement with Indigenous and rural communities, stakeholders and community groups.

The survey and more information are available at rmwb.ca/participate

The 2020 Budget meetings are done!

The RMWB would like to thank everyone who helped shape the municipal budget, participated in the meetings and followed along throughout the process.

As this newsletter goes to print, the 2020 Budget meetings are still happening, which means we can't share the highlights from the approved budget in this newsletter. However, once the budget is approved, you will be able to find this information and more at rmwb.ca/budget.



Making Sense of the Municipal Budget

A budget is established to provide a foundation for the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo to support the programs, services and infrastructure that contribute to quality of life in the region.

Developing the budget involves making decisions and prioritizing between essential programs, services, infrastructure demands, and the wants and needs of all stakeholders. It is the responsibility of the Mayor and Councillors to deliberate the budget and make those difficult decisions on behalf of taxpayers.

Stay tuned for more budget updates by checking the municipal website, following us on Facebook or Twitter, or contacting Pulse at 780-743-7000, toll-free 1-800-973-9663 or rmwb.ca/pulse.

Rural Water & Sewer Servicing (RWSS) Update

Residential Service Connection Plan

On November 26, 2019 the RWSS Residential Service Connection Plan was approved by Council. Administration is now preparing to bring the Residential Service Connection Bylaw forward for consideration in 2020.

Information about the RWSS Program and the Residential Service Connection Plan can be found here www.rmwb.ca/rwss



Travelling to Fort McMurray this winter?

Watch out for on-street parking restrictions!

Winter Maintenance Zones will be active October 15 to April 15, pending weather conditions. During this time there may be residential on-street parking restrictions in effect in Fort McMurray on weekdays from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Make sure to follow posted signage and electronic signage in the neighbourhood you park your vehicle.

Help us clear a path through winter and plan ahead for on-street parking restrictions at rmwb.ca/snowplow.

How do Winter Maintenance Zones work?

Every neighbourhood has been divided into five Winter Maintenance Zones, one for each weekday. Each Winter Maintenance Zone is further broken down into four subzones 1, 2, 3 and 4. On the day that each Zone is active, some of the Subzones within the larger active Zone will be serviced and others will be relaxed. Residents will be able to park in relaxed Subzones without being ticketed or towed. Relaxed Subzones will be communicated on neighbourhood electronic signage, social media and rmwb.ca.

Residents can find the neighbourhood Zones and Subzones on street signage and online at rmwb.ca/snowplow.

If you have any questions about Winter Maintenance Zones, connect with Pulse at 780-743-7000, toll-free at 1-800-973-9663 or online at rmwb.ca/pulse.

Councillor Update



I sure hope everyone is enjoying this extended fall season that we're currently getting. It's odd that we have no snow this time of year, although I'm pretty sure it won't last. I just noticed that as I write this, it's one month until Christmas Day. Santas Anonymous and the Salvation Army Kettle campaigns are in full force, and the annual Christmas Day dinner will be at Father Turcotte school.

Last month, Len Savoy and I toured the rail yard to see the mitigation steps for the coke dust. They paved the road that the trucks use, and have installed a "cattle bridge" that the trucks have to drive over to exit the yard. It's supposed to knock off the coke lumps before they hit the highway. We were also told that the sweeper is operational and that they would be cleaning the road on a regular basis, weather permitting. There was snow on the ground the day that we were there, and the plan seemed to be working.

I attended the Rural Municipalities Association conference in Edmonton and we had a meeting with Rick Wilson, Minister of Indigenous Affairs regarding Moccasin Flats, rural education and high-speed internet for rural communities. The keynote speakers were interesting and the best one in my opinion was Gordon McIntosh on promoting respectful leadership and positive group dynamics. He brought up some good points, and the audience was engaged.

Budget deliberations and presentations are this week: November 27-30, so it'll be busy for all of us on Council.

Until next month,
Sheila



Thank you to everyone who pre-registered for this year's Family Christmas Party on December 7th, 2019.

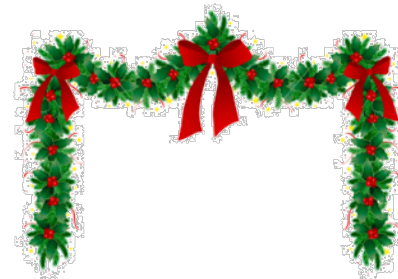
Registration is now closed; if you have children attending, please remember you **MUST** have printed an EVENTbrite ticket for your child to receive his/her gift.

Please bring a camera to take your own photo with Santa.

The Saprae Creek Residents Society would like to thank the RMWB for funding our events this past year.

Join us for the New Years Eve skate and fireworks starting at 6pm on December 31st at Vista Ridge.

Have a safe Holiday Season!



REMINDER to all residents: Please ensure you are wearing reflective clothing when you are walking in the community as it is very dark this time of year.



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:
koralee.samaroden@rmwb.ca

Deadline for November Newsletter submissions:
 Monday December 23, 2019

DECEMBER 2019 COMMUNITY EVENTS & PROGRAMS CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Holly Jolly Tree Lighting and Santa Parade 5:30 pm Jubilee Plaza Saprae Creek Christmas Party
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31 New Year's Eve Skate and Fireworks 6pm Vista Ridge				