

SAPRAE CREEK NEWS



January 2022



The Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo continues to monitor the on-going COVID-19 pandemic and follow the direction of Alberta Health Services (AHS) and the Chief Medical Officer of Health.

For provincial updates, please visit alberta.ca/COVID19.

For municipal information related to COVID-19, visit rmwb.ca/COVID19.

Free Rapid Test Kits

The Government of Alberta is providing Albertans with free COVID-19 rapid antigen testing kits for at-home use. Kits can be picked up at [select locations](#) on a first-come first-served basis, while supplies last. Additional locations will be added as more kits are available. To learn more about this program, visit alberta.ca/rapidtesting.

Vaccine Program

The Government of Alberta's Vaccine Program continues to be well underway.

Everyone 5+ can now get vaccinated. Children 5 to 11 must book online or by calling 811, walk-ins are not available at this time. [Third doses](#) will be rolled out to all Albertans 18+ in stages.

To find out if you are eligible to receive your third dose, visit alberta.ca/vaccine.

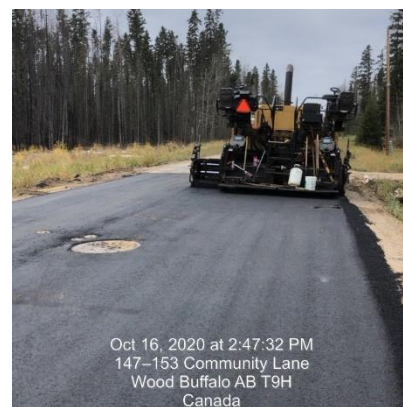
COVID-19 vaccines help prevent you from getting infected and protect you from getting severely sick if you do get it. All vaccines are safe, effective and save lives.

To learn more about Alberta's Vaccine Program, or to book your vaccine appointment, visit alberta.ca/vaccine or call 811.

ENGINEERING UPDATE

Saprae Contract 1 - RWSS

The project has achieved construction completion. No further work will take place in the winter but minor seasonal touch ups will be completed in the spring and summer of 2022.

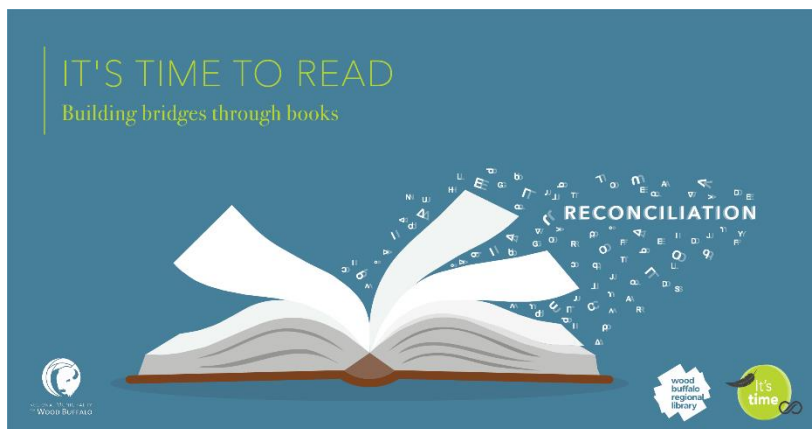


L Robert Industrial Park Lift Station, Forcemain and A Frame Road Upgrades

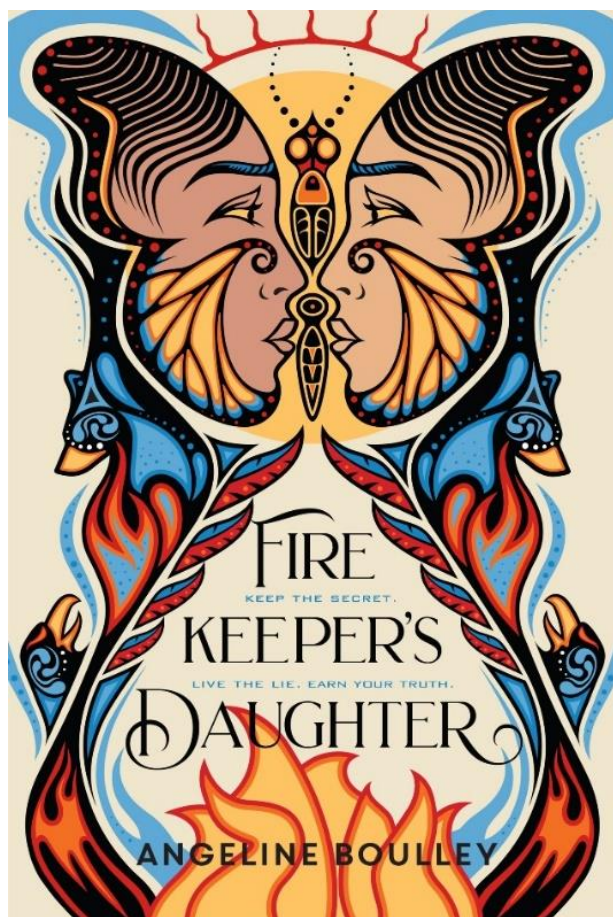
Gravel Road is complete. For the Lift Station, secant shoring is 100% complete and for the force main, a third of the pipe is laid. Next steps include continuing foundation work on the lift station and laying sanitary force main. Estimated completion date is June 30, 2023.



The Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo (RMWB) and the Wood Buffalo Regional Library (WBRL) welcome you to the It's Time to Read book club. This virtual book club will feature the works and voices of Indigenous authors to increase understanding and awareness of Indigenous culture, history, and current issues. Help us build bridges through books and advance reconciliation in the region.



Settle in with a blanket, a cup of tea and participate in It's Time to Read from the comfort of your own home! The book club is entirely virtual. Check back regularly for discussion, polls and other exclusive content. Subscribe to ensure you don't miss any of the action. All are welcome to join; however, it is important to note books may contain adult content, including but not limited to adult language and themes, and violence.



Join us as we read our first book in January 2022: *Firekeeper's Daughter* by Angeline Boulley. Copies will be available to borrow from the bookshelf. The first 20 subscribers will receive a free copy of *Firekeeper's Daughter*. Giveaway is only open to Wood Buffalo residents.

A message from Emergency Management: Extreme cold

In Alberta, an extreme cold warning is issued when temperatures or the wind chill index reach minus 40°C or colder. Being exposed even for short periods in these conditions can be dangerous.

Protect yourself and your loved ones

- Stay safe, warm and protected.
- Stay indoors when possible. If you have to travel by car, know your route ahead of time and make sure you have a well-stocked emergency kit in your vehicle.
- Dress in warm, windproof layers. Watch for signs of frostbite. Frostbite can occur in less than 10 minutes in extreme cold.
- When working outside, do not over exert yourself. Sweating can lead to hypothermia, which can be fatal.
- Make sure your pets have warm shelter during a cold snap.

For more information visit the [Government of Alberta website](#)

2022 – 2023 Wood Buffalo RCMP Policing Priorities

Have your say about policing priorities for 2022 by completing a brief survey starting Jan. 17! Each year, Wood Buffalo RCMP establish policing priorities to ensure that — in addition to responding to calls for services — officers focus on the policing issues identified as important by community members.

The RMWB has partnered with the RCMP to conduct this brief survey to make sure policing priorities align with those living, working, and playing in the region. These priorities are determined based on the feedback the RCMP receives from the municipalities and communities they serve. Information collected from this survey will be reviewed and considered by RCMP, the RMWB council and policing committees in the region.

How to Submit the Annual Policing Priorities Survey

The survey will be live Jan. 17 – Feb. 14 and will be available online and in print at various locations. Visit rmwb.ca/rcmp to learn more. Contact PULSE at 780-743-7000 to find print copies or receive support submitting your response by phone. Please mail or drop off completed hard copy surveys to Wood Buffalo RCMP at 105 Paquette Drive Fort McMurray, AB T9K 0P5.

Share your thoughts on theatres, studios and other cultural spaces in the region

Great news! The RMWB has extended the opportunity to share your feedback on cultural spaces in the region until Jan. 31, 2022. Submit your response to a short resident or cultural organization survey or contact us for a one-on-one discussion. Get started by visiting rmwb.ca/CINA.

Implementing Wood Buffalo Culture Plan Initiatives

Cultural facilities offer the spaces you need to participate in dance, art, theatre, music, and many other cultural activities you love. These places include art galleries, art studios, dance studios, community kitchens, green space and parks, community halls, libraries, museums and theatres or performing arts centres. The Cultural Infrastructure Needs Assessment is a strategic initiative stemming from the [Wood Buffalo Culture Plan](#), which was adopted by Council in May 2019. It's important to hear directly from residents on any gaps in existing spaces and resources currently available. Your feedback will be considered in conjunction with other indicators and used to guide future decision making.

Don't have access to the online survey but want to get involved? No problem! Contact PULSE for a printable survey, or ask PULSE to submit your survey responses anonymously over the phone by calling 780-743-7000.



Are you considering post-secondary education? Join the MACOY Virtual University Speaker Series to gain valuable insight

The Mayor's Advisory Council on Youth (MACOY) is inviting **local high school students** to register for the **MACOY Virtual University Speaker Series** and join current university students from across the country as they discuss different areas of post-secondary studies, the application process, life on campus and more.

The MACOY Virtual University Speaker Series will host **monthly weekend sessions** from **December 2020 to March 2021** as follows:

- Jan. 15 and 16
 - **Theme:** Medicine and Psychology
 - **Registration deadline:** Jan. 14 at 12 p.m.
- Feb. 12 and 13
 - **Theme:** Law and Business
 - **Registration deadline:** Feb. 11 at 12 p.m.
- March 12 and 13
 - **Theme:** Education and Humanities
 - **Registration deadline:** March 11 at 10 p.m.

All sessions will be held **via Microsoft Teams** and will take place from **2 – 4 p.m.** To register, visit rmwb.ca/MACOY.

BYLAW BRIEFS

Driveway snow removal reminder

Snow removal is an inevitable part of winter in our region. The proper cleaning and clearing of snow ensure public safety on roadways, sidewalks, and driveways. Collaborative efforts from the Municipality and residents make proper snow removal possible.

Bylaw Services would like to remind residents to remove snow or ice on sidewalks adjacent to their property within 48 hours after a snowfall and that the snow should not be placed on a Highway, Public Place or private property that is not their own.

Bylaw Services thanks residents for their compliance as this ensures a safe Wood Buffalo. For any questions regarding snow removal visit rmwb.ca/snow or contact PULSE at 780-743-7000. For more information, please review the [Community Standards Bylaw No. 21/010](#).



The Seasonal Wreaths Hung by ATCO and the RMWB Operations Staff.



COMMUNITY PROGRAMS, ACTIVITIES & EVENTS



If you are a vulnerable person living in the region, you may be at greater risk during an emergency. Stay prepared by joining the Vulnerable Persons Registry (VPR).

What is the VPR?

The VPR is a free, voluntary and confidential 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 local first responders.

Who is eligible?

The VPR is available to residents in the region who experience any of the following:

- Mobility issues
- Visual or hearing impairments
- Developmental or cognitive impairments
- Challenges related to mental health
- Individuals who require electricity for life-sustaining equipment (life support, oxygen or dialysis)

Individuals registering for the Vulnerable Persons Registry must have a permanent address and at least one (1) valid contact number on their application. Individuals who are unable to meet these criteria will not be eligible for the registry.

To register, visit rmwb.ca/VPR or call Pulse.



We want your original poetry for our 2022 Words in Motion Poetry Booklet! The deadline to submit is January 31, 2022. Visit <https://bit.ly/WIM2022> for all the details. All ages are welcome to enter.

Need to get your free library card or help with placing a hold? Give Miki a shout at miki.mcnaughton@wbrl.ca.

Don't forget – we're more than books! Check out video games, music and more! Browse the catalogue at wbrl.ca.

Happy New 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 February newsletter submissions:

January 24th, 2022

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)




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

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



COMMUNITY EVENTS & PROGRAMS CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1 
2	3 Municipal Offices Closed	4	5	6	7 	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 	15
16	17	18	19	20	21 	22
23	24 Newsletter Deadline	25	26	27	28 	29
30	31					