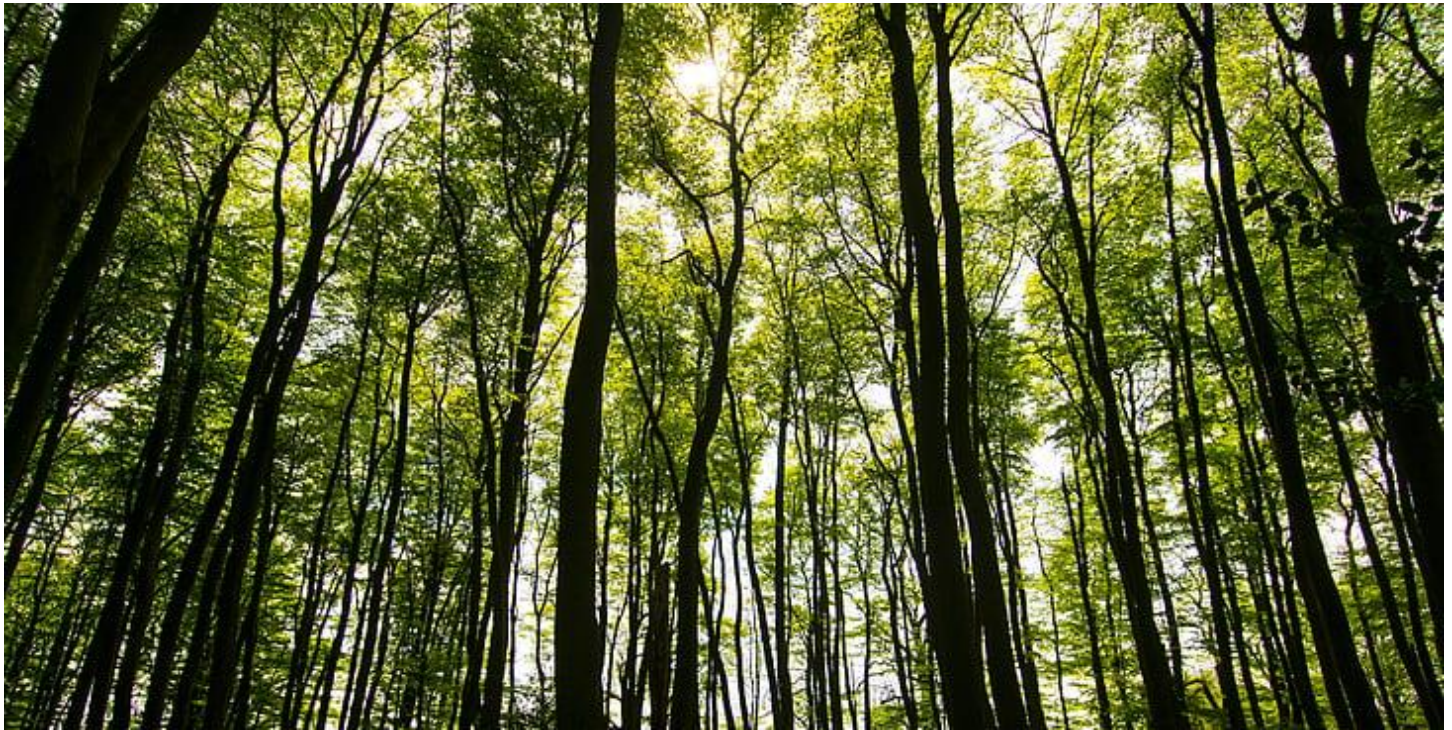


SAPRAE CREEK NEWS



September 2021



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.

Alberta's Vaccine Program

Alberta's Vaccine Program continues. Any Albertan born 2009 or before (turning 12+) can get their first and second doses now.

Vaccines help prevent you from getting infected and protect you from getting severely sick if you do get the virus. All vaccines are safe, effective and save lives.

To learn more about the vaccine program or to book your appointment, visit alberta.ca/vaccine or call 811.

COVID-19 Provincial Restrictions

Albertans are reminded that the following province-wide requirements remain in effect until at least September 27, 2021:

- Mandatory masking in publicly accessible transit, taxis and ride-shares, as well as high risk settings like acute and continuing care facilities.
- Mandatory isolation for 10 days for those with COVID-19 symptoms or a positive test result.
- Testing at assessment centres for any symptomatic individual.

For more information about province-wide requirements, visit alberta.ca/covid19.



Municipal Face Covering Bylaw no longer in effect

On June 22, 2021, Council voted to repeal the Municipal Face Covering [Bylaw \(No. 20/024\)](#), meaning this bylaw is no longer in effect. However, **masks are still required on public transit** and in taxis or rideshare cars.

Alberta's Open for Summer Plan

As of July 1, 2021, the province is in Stage 3 of the Government of Alberta's [Open for Summer Plan](#) and most COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines have now been eased. This includes the general indoor provincial mask mandate. However, masking is still required in specific settings, as determined by the Government of Alberta. This includes acute and continuing care settings, as well as on public transit and in taxis or rideshare cars.

For more information about Alberta's Open for Summer Plan at alberta.ca/openforsummer.

Visiting other communities

While the RMWB Face Covering Bylaw is no longer in effect and the province-wide mask mandate eased, there may be First Nations and some municipalities in Alberta and Canada that have additional masking protocols in place. Should you travel to another community, please plan ahead and review each area's COVID-19 mandates.

For more information, visit rmwb.ca/facecovering or call Pulse.

Engineering/Construction Updates:

Saprae Contract 1 - RWSS

Water and sanitary system are 100% complete. Second lift of asphalt laying on Weiss drive, Sol Park Drive, Freestone Way, and Saprae Crescent is completed. Ditch work, asphalt on roads, landscaping and driveway repairs are in progress. Remaining work including ditch work, landscaping, top layer of asphalt, and deficiencies are to be completed by end of October. Estimated completion date for the project is end of October.



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

Contractor has mobilized to site and is installing temporary site fencing, temporary access approach. There are no images attached as none have been taken due to the minimal work on-site to date. Next steps include commencing A Frame roadway upgrades, continue mobilization activities, and install secant concrete pipe shoring for the deep lift station excavation. Expected project completion date is June 2023.

2021 Construction Season

Did you know you could get Engineering construction updates directly in your inbox?

Residents are encouraged to sign up for updates at rmwb.ca/construction for the areas that matter to you. By signing up, you will be automatically entered to win one of three \$100 pre-paid Visas, part of the Love.Shop.Local program from the Chamber of Commerce and a chance at the grand prize, valued at \$400.

The final draw will be on October 20th, 2021.

Grants available for community organizations, athletes and performers

Local non-profit organizations, athletes, performers, coaches, instructors and artists are encouraged to apply for the Municipal grants currently available through the Community Investment Program (CIP). All applications are now being accepted **online** through the [CIP Grant Portal](#).

The **deadline** to apply for the Community Impact Grant and the Games Legacy Grant is September 7, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. MST.



CIP Grant Portal

Starting in 2021, all CIP grant applications are being accepted through the CIP Grant Portal. The online portal will make the application and reporting process easier, faster and more efficient. CIP staff will be available to assist organizations with online application submissions.

- **Are you a new applicant?** If you haven't applied for a CIP grant in the last five years, you must [register](#) to get started.
- **Are you a returning applicant?** If you, or your organization, have applied for a CIP grant within the last five years, you are pre-registered. Please reach out to CIP@rmwb.ca for login details.

One-on-one support

Staff are available to help navigate the CIP Grant Portal, application process and answer any questions you may have. One-on-one support is available to applicants through virtual meetings or over the phone. For more information on how to book your one-on-one meeting, contact [PULSE](#).

Applications are being accepted for the following grants:

Community Impact Grant – Provides funding through three grant streams to local non-profit organizations to support community needs and contribute to the priorities identified in the 2018-2021 Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo Strategic Plan.

Games Legacy Grant – Provides funding to athletes, performers, artists, teams, coaches or instructors in Wood Buffalo.

More information about the grants offered by the Community Investment Program, including guidelines and application forms, is available at rmwb.ca/CIP.

For any questions or concerns, please contact PULSE at 780-743-7000, toll-free at 1-800-973-9663 or online at rmwb.ca/pulse.

The next municipal election will be held on **October 18, 2021**. Interested candidates will find important information on rules and eligibility requirements, links to official forms, and more on our website at rwmb.ca/elections

Want to be a candidate in the
2021 Municipal Election?

RMWB **2021**
Elections



Volunteers needed for Community Cleanup!

It's time to slam dunk the junk, put trash in its place and help create a litter free Wood Buffalo!

Volunteers are needed for the Community Cleanup and [Adopt a Trail or Roadway](#) programs.

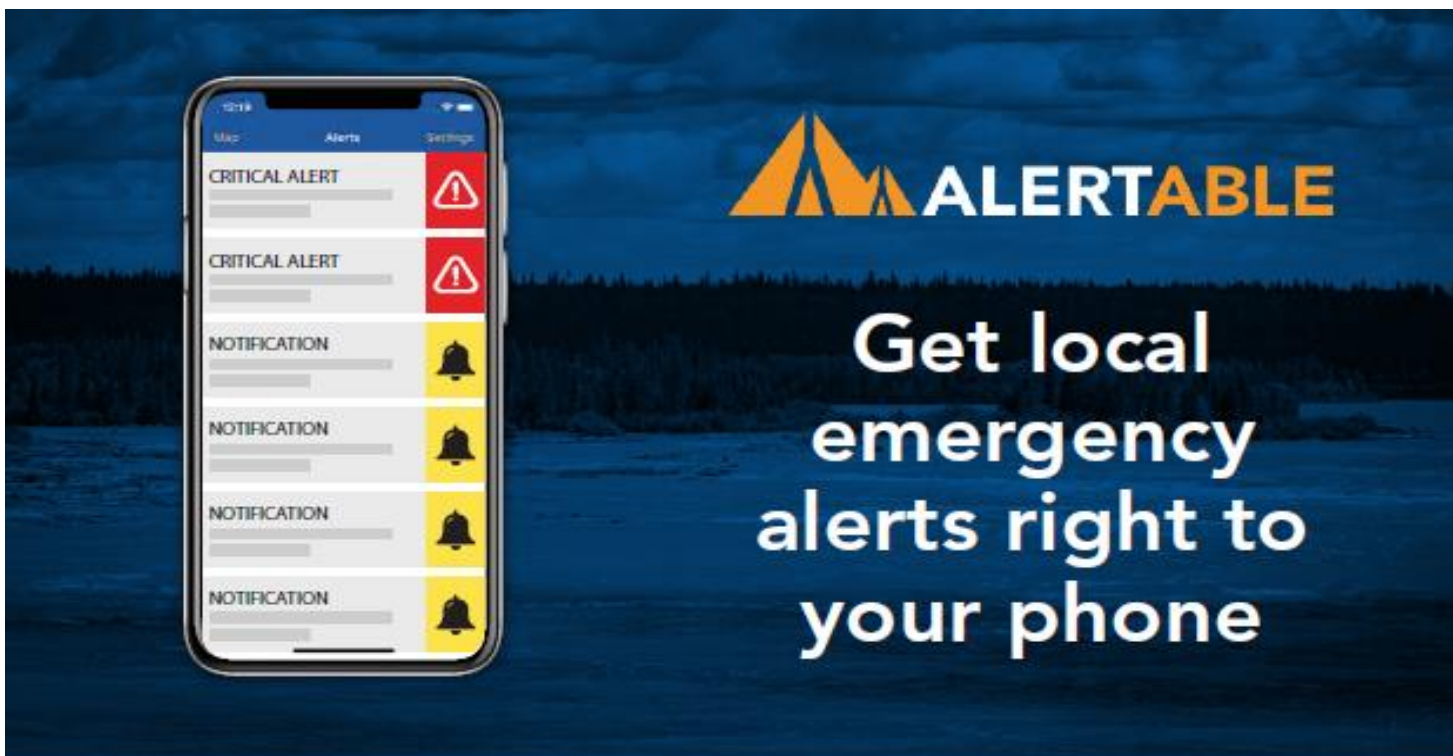
Residents, groups, teams, schools, businesses, and neighbours are encouraged to show their community spirit by volunteering to clean up their favourite park, green space, block, trail, or roadway. Bags, gloves, and picker sticks are being provided to all volunteers!

Sign up for more than 4 cleanups this summer and next and you'll get an Adopt a Trail or Roadway recognition sign installed at or near the location you're cleaning up!

Before registering, check out the [Community Cleanup map](#) to see what areas have already been completed and pick the area you want to cleanup.

All participants must follow all Alberta Health Services' public health measures and guidelines, including outdoor gathering limits.

Learn more and register at rwmb.ca/cleanup.



Get local emergency alerts right to your phone

Download Now!



How it works

Alertable is a third party platform that allows the Municipality to send local emergency alerts right to your phone through the Alertable app.

How to download

Download the free Alertable app for iOS and Android smartphones, Amazon Alexa and Google Assistant home devices. Then, select your location in the region. Now, you're ready to start receiving emergency notifications.

Why use Alertable

Alertable is free to download and simple to use. Notifications are fast, reliable, private and easy to hear, see and read. Alertable connects you to the local emergency information you need to know, when you need to know it.

Find more information about Alertable, and other emergency alert systems available to you, at rmwb.ca/emergencyalerts.



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOOD BUFFALO

SIGN UP FOR THE **Vulnerable Persons Registry**



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.

Nomination Day reminder for Municipal and School Board elections

Nomination Day for the 2021 municipal and school board election is **September 20, 2021**. Candidates have until **noon** on September 20, 2021 to file their papers.

All candidates are encouraged to file paperwork as soon as possible. The deadline for accepting nominations is legislated and cannot be changed or extended.



Changes in provincial legislation have allowed candidates to file paperwork in person or by mail or courier since January 1, 2021.

- **Due to this extended nomination period, in-person appointments for nominations will be provided in Fort McMurray.**

Past practise provided multiple locations for candidates to submit their nomination paperwork.

To make arrangements to file your Nomination for Mayor and Councillors, or for Trustee for the Fort McMurray Public School Board, please contact the Elections Office at 780.743.7001 or elections@rmwb.ca.

To make arrangements to file your nomination for the Fort McMurray Roman Catholic Separate School Trustee, please call 780-799-5700.

There are 11 positions on RMWB Council: the Mayor, who is elected at large, and 10 Councillors, who are elected under a ward system as follows:

- Ward 1 (Fort McMurray) - 6 Councillors
- Ward 2 (Fort Chipewyan, Fort Fitzgerald, Fort McKay) - 2 Councillors
- Ward 3 (Draper, Sapræ Creek Estates) - 1 Councillor
- Ward 4 (Anzac, Conklin, Gregoire Lake Estates, Janvier) - 1 Councillor

There are 7 Trustee positions for the Fort McMurray Public School Division (FMPSD) who are elected at large. The FMPSD encompasses the Municipality's Wards 1 and 3, which includes Fort McMurray, Draper and Sapræ Creek Estates.

Information for interested candidates

More information for interested candidates is available at rmwb.ca/elections.



Join the 6-Week Reconciliation Challenge

Please accept this as your invitation to join the 6-Week Reconciliation Challenge as we move forward to the first annual *National Day for Truth and Reconciliation* - September 30, 2021.

With the discovery of unmarked graves at former residential school sites, confirming the terrible wrongs etched into the Indigenous experience, many Canadians have asked how they can help advance reconciliation.

One important way is to actively participate in listening to and learning about truth and reconciliation. As such, 6 Weekly Reconciliation Challenge activities will be offered to increase awareness of the legacy of residential schools, local Indigenous culture and history, the TRC Calls to Action, Principles of Reconciliation, and the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UNDRIP).

Every Thursday, leading up to Sept. 30, new learning opportunities will be introduced based on weekly themes.

Visit RMWB.ca/TRC and to find a link to the Challenge.

- Sign and share a *Personal Pledge of Reconciliation* as an individual commitment.
- The Pledge can be shared on social media with #RMWBpledgetoTRC.

Residents who complete the Challenge will also receive a certificate and be invited to receive a gift package at a special event on September 30.

While reconciliation isn't something that can be achieved in 6 weeks, every journey begins with the first few steps – and we encourage everyone to join us in this journey of learning, by taking part in this Challenge and signing the Personal Pledge.

For more information, visit or follow the RMWB Facebook and Twitter accounts.

Review the Final Concept



The Waterfront Park final concept is available to view and provide final feedback. The Waterfront Park is a large green space in downtown Fort McMurray that will be transformed into a unique community space. The design covers 6km of Waterfront from the Athabasca Bridge to Horse Pasture Park in Waterways.

Engagement opportunities include:

- [Online Survey](https://rmwb.ca/waterfront) at rmwb.ca/waterfront;
- Phone Survey by calling PULSE at 780-743-7000 or toll-free 1-800-973-9663;
- Open Houses – Pre-Register at rmwb.ca/waterfront.

Review the design online at rmwb.ca/waterfront and provide your feedback by September 12.



Willow Lake Métis Nation Flag raised in Anzac in historic first

For the first time in RMWB history, two Métis flags are now permanently raised in Anzac — at the gazebo park and at the Anzac Fire Hall — as a visual reminder to recognize and honour that the land upon which we live is the traditional lands of the Cree, Dene and Métis people. Council unanimously passed an updated flag policy that is inclusive of Indigenous flags in July.

The Willow Lake Métis Nation Flag Raising Ceremony was held on Wednesday, August 18, at the gazebo park in Anzac. The event included Municipal representatives and Willow Lake Métis Nation leaders as well as community members.

The ceremony marks the first flag-raising since the passing of the Municipality's new Flag Policy recognizing and incorporating Indigenous community flags, including the Willow Lake Métis Nation flag.

The RMWB is committed to implementing recommendations from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada and looks forward to continuing this work with all Indigenous communities.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS, ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

THE WOOD BUFFALO ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATION'S

COMMUNITY ODOUR MONITORING PROGRAM

SMELL SOMETHING?

TELL US

WHEN YOU SMELL AN ODOUR, SUBMIT AN OBSERVATION IN THE APP

THE COMP APP

COMP.WBEA.ORG

To better understand the odours in our region, the Wood Buffalo Environmental Association (WBEA) is asking community members to check out our COMP app and share information about the odours you are experiencing.

The WBEA launched the Community Odour Monitoring Program (COMP) and the COMP App so people could anonymously submit odour observations and track odour events in the RMWB. The collected information is then compared to the ambient air quality parameters measured at the WBEA's air monitoring stations to determine if there is a relationship between regional odours and air quality. Submitted observations can be found at comp.wbea.org, and findings are reported to the public in an annual report. The 2019 COMP Annual Report can be found [here](#).

Please share your odour observations on the COMP app (available for [iOS](#) and [Android](#) devices) and help us better understand the odours in our region!



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 October newsletter submissions:

September 24, 2021

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

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



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

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



SEPTEMBER 2021

COMMUNITY EVENTS & PROGRAMS CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3 	4
5	6 Labour Day Holiday	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 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation		