

MD CONNECTION

Reeve's REFLECTIONS

Oil and gas woes impacting municipality's bottom line

Despite the wet start to the growing season, and the poor weather during the month of September, by all reports it was a successful growing season with record yields and sugar content reported by the sugar beet growers, full potato storage facilities reported by potato growers and full grain storage bins reported by grain, oilseed and pulse growers. It was an unusual year with many challenges but our local agricultural producers once again demonstrated why our region is so productive.

There certainly was much concern about the re-opening of the NAFTA agreement with some concern that the sugar beet industry would be thrown under the bus in favor of protecting other sectors of the economy. Fortunately these fears were unfounded and as it turns out an additional 9,600 tonnes of sugar will be allowed access into the U.S. market in addition to the current 10,300 tonnes. Great news for our sugar beet industry and news which ensures that the industry will continue to thrive in our region.

Locally the M.D. of Taber and the Town of Vauxhall have been working cooperatively through their joint water utility provider the Vauxhall and District Regional Water Services Commission to facilitate the construction of a raw water supply line from a Bow River Irrigation District reservoir and a treated water supply line to the Prairie Gold Potato plant located east of Vauxhall. This project will provide treated water to the Prairie Gold Plant which processes



MERRILL HARRIS, REEVE

approximately 40,000 tonnes of potatoes annually and employs over 60 people. The PGP plant is a valuable part of our southern Alberta potato industry and our local economy. Changing food safety requirements of export destined products produced at the plant required the development of an innovative partnership to ensure that this business remained viable and demonstrates the ongoing collaboration that the MD has with local business and other communities.

The Council has been engaged in the review of policies as well as the development of the 2019 municipal budget. There is no question that the inability of the provincial and federal governments to approve oil and gas pipelines continues to impact our municipality. We continue to witness a contraction of the oil and gas industry within our municipality and this trend will impact every property owner in the municipality as the

property tax burden shifts to residential and farm property owners from non-residential / linear oil and gas. 70% of property taxes collected in the MD are paid by non-residential / linear oil and gas. Without a resurgence of the oil and gas industry, an inevitable shift of the proportion of property taxes paid by each property class will occur. Council will remain vigilant to ensure that core municipal services continue within a scope which is affordable to our community.

■ Continued on Page 2

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF TABER

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
4900B-50th Street
Taber, Alberta, T1G 1T2
Phone: 403-223-3541

We're On the Web: www.mdtaber.ab.ca

Council Members

MERRILL HARRIS (Reeve)
Division 1 **403-634-0462**

JOHN TURCATO
Division 2 **403-634-1591**

BRIAN BREWIN
Division 3 **403-655-2463**

TAMARA MIYANAGA (Deputy Reeve)
Division 4 **403-308-6538**

JENNIFER CROWSON
Division 5 **403-308-8610**

MURRAY REYNOLDS
Division 6 **403-635-8449**

LEAVITT HOWG
Division 7 **403-622-1408**

Municipal District of Taber Staff

- Derrick Krizsan** – Municipal Administrator
- Bryan Badura** – Director of Corporate Services
- Angel Svennes** – Director of Assessment
- Brent McQuaig** – Assessor
- Bryce Surina** – Director G.I.S./I.T.
- Tanya Peterson** – Lands and Reception
- Joanne Bronsch** – Development Clerk
- Corry Moline** – Utilities Clerk
- Candice Robison** – Administrative Clerk
- Jill Speer** – Tax Clerk
- Sherry Crombez** – Payroll/Benefits Clerk
- Dean Parker** – Information Services Technician
- Brian Peers** – Director of Municipal Lands
- Kirk Hughes** – Director of Planning, Economic Development and Community Safety
- Jason Bullock** – Director of Agricultural Services
- Jeremy Wickson** – Director of Public Works
- Craig Pittman** – Director of Infrastructure
- Ginger Rose** – Director of Hamlets and Utilities
- John Giesbrecht** – Hays Hamlet Foreman
- Blaine Francis** – Grassy Lake Hamlet Foreman
- Brian Schafer** – Regional Fire Chief
- Joe Bruyere** – Deputy Regional Fire Chief

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE:

- AGSAFE Alberta WorkshopPage 3
- Plant Protein Alliance of AlbertaPage 4
- Tax help with FCSS volunteer programPage 6
- Taber Irrigation District UpdatePage 7
- The M.D. of Taber – Contracted WorkPage 8
- Pumpkins, Asparagus, Peas and CornPage 11
- Library NewsPage 12
- Let it Snow, Let it Snow, Let it SnowPage 14
- Where do I go for M.D. services?Page 16

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

From the Council and the staff of the M.D. of Taber

M.D. continues to deal with 2018 Spring flooding

■ *Continued from Page 1*

The M.D. of Taber applied for Disaster Recovery Program funding as a result of the spring floods. The municipality incurred \$400,000 in costs related to the mitigation of the flood event and an additional \$1.2 million in internal and contracted costs to repair the damages. The province has announced a program to reimburse eligible costs incurred by the municipality. As a result of the approval of the Disaster Recovery application, residents and businesses in the MD are eligible to make application for reimbursement of eligible uninsurable losses. If you haven't done so already please contact the M.D. office to determine your eligibility – the application period ends in early January 2019.

The M.D. of Taber is working with our irrigation districts on projects, which will enhance stormwater drainage. These projects are costly and as such the M.D. has been actively seeking funding from both Federal and Provincial sources. These projects include the West Township 8 Range 16 project, which has received \$2.3 million in funding. The Horsefly Spillway Project is a significant project for both our municipality and other southern Alberta municipalities and irrigation districts. These projects also include the development of wetlands which will significantly enhance water quality.

On behalf of the Council and Staff of the Municipal District of Taber I would like to extend to you a Merry Christmas and wishes for a Happy and Joyous New Year.

**Sincerely,
Merrill Harris
Reeve
Municipal District of Taber**

THE PUMPKIN PATCH



TREE CARE AND PRUNING WORKSHOP

March 23, 2019 • 9:30 am

**MD of Taber Operations and Maintenance Facility
171027 Hwy 3 – Located 1 mile west of Taber on Highway 3**

The MD of Taber is hosting a Tree Care and Pruning Workshop. The content will include tree selection, proper planting techniques, winter preparation and care, spring and summer production, pest and other damage identification, pruning techniques, and fruit tree production. The morning will consist of indoor classroom learning and the afternoon will be spent outdoors, so please dress accordingly.

Registration deadline is March 18, 2019. No charge to register. Lunch is provided.

To register for the workshop please contact the MD of Taber office at 403-223-3541.





AGSAFE ALBERTA WORKSHOP

January 30, 2019 • 9:00 am

**Royal Canadian Legion Hall
5205 48 Ave Taber, Alberta**

The MD of Taber is hosting a workshop provided by AgSafe Alberta. Alberta's new Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) technical rules for farms and ranches come into effect on December 1, 2018. The requirements of the OHS legislation are applicable for farms and ranches with waged, non-family workers and do not apply to owners, family members, or volunteers of farm or ranch operations. The workshop will focus on new OHS requirements, the key elements of a farm safety program, hazard assessments, and emergency response planning, and will help farmers get started on their own farm safety plan. Registration deadline is January 25, 2019. No charge to register. Lunch is provided.

To register for the workshop please contact the MD of Taber office at 403-223-3541.

Farmer Pesticide Course

The past many years has seen a large number of MD residences participate in taking the Farmer Pesticide Course. Everyone participating does have their own reasons for attending. Some need this course for Canada Gap, HACCP, Environmental Farm Plan, some need this course for accessing Gramoxone, Thimet, Phostoxin or just to learn how to be more safe and aware of chemicals around the farm.

As the Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) regularly tests the products we use everyday and rearrange the labels of those products we use daily whether in the home or on the farm. It is important to **always** read the label before using a product.

The farmer pesticide course teaches all who come about keeping yourself and others around you safe when working with chemicals. This course is traditionally taught monthly throughout the winter months here in the MD of Taber. Dates for the course can be found on our website calendar.

The farmer pesticide course takes a day to complete. The core course consists of a teaching component along with an exam. When you successfully complete the course you will be mailed a certificate from Alberta Agriculture. This certificate will expire in 5 years, you then will need to recertify and redo the course to keep your certificate active.

Recertifying is easy. If your certificate has not been expired for more than a year all you need to do is attend the core section of the course. There is no need to rewrite the exam. If you are getting a recertification for the phostoxin sections (grain bin fumigation & exterior rodent control) you will need to be part of the course and the exam accompanying the appropriate sections.

For more information about the farmer pesticide course you are welcome to call the Director of Agricultural Services at 403 634 4429.



Farmer Pesticide Course

Attending this course allows you to purchase restricted chemical such as Thimet for potato production or Phostoxin for grain bin fumigation. Also aids in obtaining Environmental Farm Plan, HACCP, and CanadaGAP.

Choose one date

January 9, 2019
February 6, 2019
March 6, 2019
April 3, 2019

at the

Taber Legion
5205—48th Avenue
Taber, Alberta
8:30 A.M.

Cost \$40.00
includes lunch and
course manual

Payment must be received
in order to be registered in
the course

Cheques payable to
*Municipal District
of Taber*

Please mail or deliver
registration forms and
payment to:

MD of Taber
4900B—50th Street
Taber, Alberta, T1G 1T2
403-223-3541

FARMER PESTICIDE COURSE REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Farm/Business Name: _____

Phone: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Course Selection: *Please pick only one date.*

Wednesday, January 9, 2019 Wednesday, February 6, 2019

Wednesday, March 6, 2019 Wednesday, April 3, 2019

Signature: _____

Payment must be received in order to be registered in the course—Cost \$40.00

Cheques payable to *Municipal District of Taber*

MD CONNECTION

PLANT BASED PROTEINS AND ADDITIVES: the Future of Agriculture in the M.D. of Taber

By: Kirk Hughes

A recent trip to Europe for two members of the M.D. of Taber staff has many wondering what is all the fuss about regarding plant-based proteins?

Kirk Hughes, Director of Planning & Economic Development and Councillor John Turcato, recently returned from the 11th Protein Innovation Conference held in Lille, France at the end of October. The conference has both global outreach and

local focus. Internationally, it put the M.D. on the world stage and allowed for networking and learning opportunities that will benefit our economy. Locally, it highlighted the need to be competitive in the world markets.

Here in Southern Alberta, the M.D. of Taber spearheads an initiative that hopes to network companies, growers, investors, post secondary educational facilities and make them aware of the huge potential in plant based protein.

The association that best represents those interest is the Plant Protein Alliance of Alberta, or PPAC for short. The PPAC is the regional partner with the Protein Industries Canada (PIC), a new organization tasked with encouraging investment in plant protein and ingredient processing across the Prairies. Sitting on that Board of Directors is Councillor Brian Brewin, a long time resident and farmer in the Grassy Lake area. With this local focus, the M.D. of Taber and it's regional partners, are hoping to bridge the gap in facilitating diverse, profitable and sustainable plant protein processing from Alberta to the world and build our economy.

Membership in the PPAC is open to any individual, company or entity in one of five categories. The value to local growers, investors and processing companies in joining the PPAC is to help carve out a dominant place for value added crops and promoting a strong future for Alberta products in the future.

For more information about the PPAC, or to join, please log on to www.ppac.ca or contact the M.D. of Taber Planning & Development Department at (403) 223-3541.

Plant Protein Alliance of Alberta

Join the Plant Protein Alliance of Alberta in building a vibrant, valuable organization that will be the dominant player in ensuring our province's place in the fast-growing world market for plant-based proteins and value-added crop ingredients.

Together we can promote Alberta growers and processors, effect change and make a difference for the future.

Who should join?

Alberta producers, processors, entrepreneurs, investors, economic development offices, municipalities, educational institutions, government and quasi-government agencies, professional organizations, associations, and individuals interested in serving and growing Alberta's crop industry.

What are the benefits of membership?

1. Access to members-only events with influential leaders in business, science and politics.
2. Coaching, information and help in connecting with Protein Industries Canada (PIC).
3. Opportunity to provide input into federal and provincial government planning around programming, funding, policy and regulatory matters.
4. Monthly newsletter with industry information, member profiles and links to relevant stories from around the world.
5. Member listing on PPAA website.
6. Member news releases posted to PPAA website and resource guide.
7. Promotion for events put on by members.
8. Discount on fee to attend events held by PPAA.

For more information about the PPAC, or to join, please visit their website: www.ppac.ca



MD CONNECTION

WHAT IS THE PROCESS TO APPLY FOR SUBDIVISION?

- The MD of Taber contracts the services of the Oldman River Regional Services Commission (ORRSC) to process subdivision applications within MD boundaries. The MD's Subdivision Authority makes the decision to approve or refuse a subdivision application.
- It is recommended that an appointment be scheduled with our Planner to discuss your proposal prior to submitting an application. She will discuss site suitability, conformity with local and provincial planning regulations, as well as additional processes and professional services that may be required.
- Your completed application along with the application fee (\$700 + \$325 per lot created) is submitted to the ORRSC office in Lethbridge.
- After the application is deemed complete, our Planner will evaluate the application and prepare a preliminary report. The application is then circulated to legislated agencies, utilities, and adjacent property owners.
- After the 19 day referral period, our Planner will review the responses, evaluate the planning issues, and prepare a recommendation for consideration by the MD's Subdivision Authority.
- Our Planner presents the responses, recommendation, legislation, and any other information to the Subdivision Authority for their decision to approve or refuse an application.
- After the decision is made by the Subdivision Authority, the applicant and various referral agencies are notified in writing by ORRSC. The conditions of your subdivision are attached to the approval letter you receive.
- When a subdivision is approved, the applicant has 1 year to meet all conditions & submit final documents and plans for endorsement by ORRSC.
- After endorsement, ORRSC will return all documents to your surveyor who will register them with Calgary Land Titles Office. The subdivision must be registered within one year.
- Land Titles will then issue new titles for the newly created lot(s). Once you have received the titles, you can consider the process to be complete.

2018 Municipal Property ASSESSMENT

2018 PROPERTY ASSESSMENT INSPECTIONS

Property inspections will be ongoing for the remainder of 2018. The MD of Taber is aware of new construction and significant renovations due to permitting processes. However, we would appreciate your assistance with demolitions or removals of homes, garages, sheds, or any other buildings and/or changes to use of land and existing buildings. An assessor must verify a building has been removed prior to December 31 or it will be assessed and reflected on your 2019 Assessment and Tax Notices. If any of these changes have occurred on your property and you are unsure if the MD is aware of it, please contact the MD of Taber Assessment Department.

FLOOD DAMAGED PROPERTIES

If you have any residential, commercial, or industrial buildings that will not be repaired prior to the end of the year, or are undergoing significant repairs resulting from this spring's flooding, please contact our Assessment Department. An Assessor will make arrangements to visit your property to ensure our records are current.

Notification of Access & Request for Information

Assessors will be visiting properties throughout the municipality this year to verify property information for the purpose of preparing fair and equitable assessments as required by provincial Statute. Assessors carry identification and will present it upon request. If you have questions or concerns, please contact us at the MD of Taber Administration Office.

For more detailed information regarding the above, please visit www.orrsc.com or contact ORRSC office at 403-329-1344

ORRSC office is located at 3105 - 16 Avenue North, Lethbridge, Alberta T1H 5E8

What is the difference between a Development Permit and a Building Permit?

DEVELOPMENT PERMIT	BUILDING PERMIT
A development permit approves the use of the land as well as the size, location and use of any buildings or structures.	A building permit ensures that what you build is done safely for the protection of you and the public.
Issued by the MD of Taber	Issued by Park Enterprises, Superior Safety Codes or Canadian Safety Consulting. These 3 agencies are authorized by Alberta Safety Codes Council to provide permitting & inspections in the MD
Required under the MD of Taber Land Use Bylaw	Required under the Safety Codes Act
Applications are submitted to the MD office	Applications are submitted to Park Enterprises, Superior Safety Codes or Canadian Safety Consulting
The approval of a development permit is proof that the development is an appropriate and permissible use of the land and conforms to applicable development standards.	The approval of a building permit is proof that the structure conforms to the applicable safety codes.
A valid development permit is required first before you can obtain a building permit.	A building permit is obtained after you have a valid development permit.

DEVELOPMENT PERMIT PROCESS

1. The applicant submits a completed development permit application form and application fee to the MD administration office.
 2. The application is reviewed by development staff using the Land Use Bylaw, policies, and procedures. After the application is determined to be complete, it is received for further processing.
 3. The completed application package is prepared for the Subdivision and Development Authority agenda and presented at the upcoming meeting. Meetings are held on the 1st & 3rd Mondays of the month.
 4. After considering the application, the Development Authority may make a decision to issue a Development Permit, refuse to issue a Development Permit, or request additional information or documentation from the applicant.
 5. If an application is approved, a Development Permit is issued with or without conditions and forwarded to the applicant.
 6. If an application is refused, a Notice of Decision is issued to the applicant outlining specific reasons for refusal.
 7. If additional information or documentation is required, the application is held over to the next meeting and a decision is made after considering the additional information provided by the applicant.
 8. Development Permits that have been issued or refused are advertised in either the Taber Times or Vauxhall Advance.
 9. The applicant or any person affected by the decision has 21 days from the date of advertising to appeal the decision to the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board.
 10. A Development Permit is valid for a period of 12 months from the date of issue which means the applicant has 1 year to commence the development indicated in the Permit.
- Development Permit application forms are available at the MD Administration Office in Taber and the MD of Taber website at www.mdtaber.ab.ca under Government > Departments > Subdivision & Development Authority > Development Forms
- If you have any questions, please contact the Planning and Development Department at (403) 223-3541. Joanne or Kirk will be able to help you with your Development Permit Application and answer any questions you may have.

MD CONNECTION

Tax help with FCSS volunteer program

Submitted by FCSS

There's great news for those needing a hand with taxes thanks to Family and Community Support Services' (FCSS) Community Volunteer Income Tax Program, which is also in need of volunteers to help out with the program.

"Volunteers are recruited to help people with modest income and simple tax situations with their income tax return. We partner with the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA)," said Cindy Lauwen from FCSS. Lauwen is based out of the Taber Health Centre.

Lauwen noted the CRA provides the training, does all the screening and all the registration goes through the agency to become a volunteer.

"We co-ordinate the clinics and take

the sign-ups for people who need help with their income taxes," she added.

Those requiring assistance need to meet income criteria, she said. "To be involved in the program. A single person needs to have an income under \$30,000. A couple needs to be under \$40,000. If you have a family of four ? each dependent adds \$2,500 to that," she explained.

Currently, the program is being offered in Taber and Vauxhall. "We also have a staff member who is of the Low-German Mennonite culture, who is going to be taking on in Barons and Nobleford. We are hoping to expand maybe to Raymond, Stirling or Milk River," Lauwen said.

Volunteers, Louwen added, are needed as soon as possible. "Because

it takes a while for them to go through the screening with the CRA and obtain an E-file number."

According to Lauwen, volunteers can be anyone with an interest in helping out their neighbour with their taxes.

"You don't have to be an accountant, you don't have to be a book keeper ? you just have to have a willingness to learn the software and the tax rules and regulations that go along with it," she said, adding the program deals with very simple tax situations.

This is the third year the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program has been offered.

For more information to volunteer or about the program call Lauwen at 403-223-7230 or e-mail

cindy.lauwen@fcss.ca.



HORIZON SCHOOL DIVISION

Early Childhood Programs 2019-2020

KINDERGARTEN...*the journey begins!*

If your child is **5** by December 31, it is time to register for Kindergarten!

EARLY LEARNING...*playful learning!*

If your child is **4** by December 31, they are eligible to be enrolled in Early Learning! Children with a diagnosed developmental delay or learning

English may qualify for early entry to a program.

Registration forms are available at your neighbourhood school. Bring your child's Birth Certificate or Canadian Citizenship Status card and Alberta Health Care Card.

If you require clarification of your neighbourhood school, please contact Horizon School Division office (403) 223-3547 ext. 145.

Registration begins January 7!



Taber Irrigation District UPDATE

Fall/Winter Projects

With the cut in Irrigation Rehabilitation Program (IRP) funding (50% over three years), large projects in the Taber Irrigation District are being rescheduled over longer timelines. TID has several

smaller rehabilitation and maintenance projects underway this year as we save up for two large projects next year. The welding and fabrication facility is being well utilized for building various turnouts, cattle guards, gates, check plates and walkways. Overshot gates at the split between the East Horsefly Main Canal and Lateral 2 East Horsefly have been designed, built and installed by TID forces.

An ultrasonic flow measurement station and water level sensor will provide input to a Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) to control gate positions. The design of the automation and control system was completed by MPE Engineering and supplied and installed by Armax Electric. This system will allow the ditchrider better control over the flows and levels at this important diversion.

The MD of Taber is continuing to involve TID as a partner in the West Township 8 Range 16 drainage project, funded in large part through the Alberta Community Resilience Program. TID is sharing our expertise in rock weir design to help minimize bed scour potential and attenuate channel inflows in the ditches upstream of our works. TID is also offering ideas such as our efficient overshoot gate design, and our experience in settling pond design and constructed wetland establishment to support the wetland component. A Water Conveyance Agreement is already in place for TID to receive the water. A long-term lease for approximately 20 acres of TID land on the south shore of Horsefly Reservoir is being developed that will ensure the sustainable operation and management of a three-cell constructed wetland to mitigate the hydraulic and water quality effects of storm water entering from the south.

Design work is also continuing on the similarly funded East Stormwater Management Facility at the east end of the Town of Taber. This project will eventually collect runoff from approximately 1/3 of the Town to a primary treatment cell and through a constructed wetland on TID land for finishing treatment prior to entering Taber Reservoir.

TID is pleased to be working co-operatively with the MD of Taber and Town of Taber on these projects. These best management practices will significantly improve TID's resilience to runoff events and help protect the good to excellent water quality of our delivered water while promoting sustainable economic development in the region.



Taber Regional Joint Economic Development

TID was pleased to attend the workshop held in October through the initiative of the MD of Taber, Town of Taber, and Town of Vauxhall. We learned of the strengths, oppor-

tunities, aspirations, risks and metrics for evaluating results for the region and shared ideas on how to capitalize on areas of strength, such as the agricultural sector. TID reinforced our important role in both conveying water under various private licenses to municipalities and industry, but also in providing current and future water security through water conveyance agreements for municipal, industrial, commercial and other purposes under TID's amended water license. TID is a signatory of the Human Use Declaration that prioritizes human and livestock basic needs ahead of irrigation during times of water shortage. This is a key selling point in attracting businesses that need a high-volume source of water as new water licenses are no longer being issued by Alberta Environment and Parks in the southern basins.

TID Annual General Meeting & Board Nominations

Irrigators please mark your calendars for the TID AGM to be held March 20th, 2019. We were very pleased to see multi-generational attendance last year and hope to see interest in the direction of TID continue to grow as we continue to adapt to a changing irrigation sector. This year we will have important



TID's David Bennett secures the hoist mechanism for the Lateral 2 East Horsefly overshoot gate

reports on current initiatives such as development of a southern tributaries water sharing framework, plans for cost-sharing SMRID's Forty Mile pump station to improve water management toward earlier water deliveries, and progress on the constructed wetland/water quality projects. We also want to hear from you on what direction we should

be taking in response to the 50% cut in IRP funding, and on future rates now that we've reached the last year in our 3-year plan to bring these in line with operational costs. This year nominations will be received for the board member representing Division 3 (Taber East - Fincastle) until February 27th. The election, if required, will be held on AGM day.



Lateral 2 East Horsefly Overshoot Gate Installed in November

Walking Trail at MD Park



Hamlet of Hays - Surfacing Improvements



The M.D. of Taber – Contracted Work

With winter fast approaching the prime construction season is wrapping up. It has been a very successful season with numerous infrastructure projects being completed throughout the Municipality. Contractors have delivered quality work in a safe and efficient manner in all regards. Contracted infrastructure projects completed include:

- Township Road 10-2 west of Range Road 17-3 – Road Replacement and culvert Installation
- Township Road 14-2 near Range Road 16-0 and 15-5 – Culvert replacements
- Range Road 16-3 north of Township Road 13-0 – Road slough repair
- Township Road 15-0 and Range Road 17-1 – Culvert replacement
- Range Road 19-0 north of Highway 521 – Ditch work
- Hays Water Plant – Backup Power
- Grassy Lake Water Plant – Backup Power
- Vauxhall and District Regional Water Services Commission / PGP
- Raw Water Pipeline
- Potable Water Pipeline
- Regional Walking Trail

The Municipal District of Taber has continued working toward the Regional Walking Trail from the M.D. of Taber Park to the existing Town of Taber Trail and the project has been completed. The trail is closed for the winter season and will open for public enjoyment in spring 2019. This trail connects to the existing Town of Taber trail at the top of the river valley and will connect to the M.D. of Taber Park below.



Hamlet of Hays - Surfacing Improvements

Hamlet of Grassy Lake – 1st Street North Surfacing Improvements



Hamlet of Grassy Lake – 1st Street North Surfacing Improvements

The municipality will continue working toward construction completion on other capital projects. These projects include:

- BRID Drop 5 and Bridge File 80155 Replacement (Enchant Area)

The M.D. of Taber and the BRID are working collaboratively to replace the existing drop structure and bridge. This drop structure is a very important piece of infrastructure that would have large economic impact to the area should it completely fail. These are currently separate structures that are nearing the end of their useful life. A substantial savings will be realized by combining these structures into one. The construction of this project underway and is on schedule for completion prior to irrigation waters entering BRID main canal.

- Bridge File 80046 (east of Taber) Replacement of a bridge sized culvert

under Township Road 10-0 west of Range Road 15-4. This project has been awarded and will be completed prior to March 15, 2019

- Township Road 11-0 east of Highway 36 – Pipe bore

The existing culvert crossing has separated and is damaged. Contractor will bore under the roadway with a smooth wall steel pipe to continue to accommodate drainage. The existing culvert will be partially removed and partially filled with grout.

- Vauxhall and District Regional Water Services Commission / PGP – Mechanical Connections

A contract has been awarded to complete the mechanical portion of the project. Once complete, this will finalized the system requirements and connections required to provide potable water to the PGP plant.



Hamlet of Enchant - Enchant Industrial Lot Servicing



Hamlet of Enchant - Enchant Industrial Lot Servicing



Bridge File 80155





Construction on Bridge File 80259

Construction occurring on Bridge File 80259 which is a STIP funded project. This project is constructed entirely using M.D. crews.



Thinking of Draining Your Land?

Before you begin the drainage of farmland there are a few things you should think about;

1. Why doesn't my roadside ditch drain properly?
 - a. Most roadside ditches are not ditches by definition – they are Borrow Pits. Their primary purpose was to provide the material necessary to construct the road not to provide drainage for water. In some locations it was possible to tie in the road ditch into a drainage system for water running off of adjacent land – in most locations the borrow pits do not tie in to any system of drainage due to either topography or the lack of either natural or man-made systems of drainage.
2. Why are there culverts in some locations and not in others?
 - a. Culverts within roads are placed there for a number of reasons.
 1. Within areas where roadside borrow pits have been tied in to drainage systems they provide a route for the water.
 2. In areas where there is a natural flow of water the culverts allow the water to continue on the 'natural' route.
 3. In many areas culverts are only there to equalize the water level on both sides of the municipal road for the purpose of reducing the possibility of water flowing over the road surface.
 4. There are some locations that require culverts that have not been installed by the municipality – many of those locations are known and will be addressed in time.
 5. There have been road approaches installed by private landowners that do not have culverts but should – these locations will be identified over time by the municipality and will be evaluated for culvert requirements. Should a culvert be required it will be the landowner's responsibility to install the culvert or the approach will be removed.
3. Why can't I do what I want on my land – including drainage off of my land or preventing water from entering my land from a neighbour's property?
 - a. Alberta Environment, the MD of Taber, the Irrigation Districts and the Courts have tools available to enforce acts, regulations and bylaws respect to any negative impacts resulting from unauthorized drainage activities including the drainage of water from land or the construction of works that prevent the natural flow of water. Save yourself the trouble and make the phone call to the MD of Taber first.
4. Who do I talk to to get an approval to do drainage work?
 - a. Call the M.D. of Taber at 403-223-3541 and ask to speak to the Director of Infrastructure. He will discuss your proposal with you and direct you to the right individuals and organizations who must be consulted prior to any work being conducted.
5. Do I need approval of the MD of Taber, an Irrigation District, an adjacent landowner or the Province of Alberta to conduct drainage work on my property?
 - a. If the drainage work that you are performing is causing water to flow off of your property the answer is yes. Any drainage work that increases the rate, timing or volume of water flowing off of your property will require an approval from one or all of those listed above. According to provincial legislation even the pumping of water from off of your land may require a Water Act approval.
6. What is the procedure for getting drainage work properly permitted?
 - a. Call the M.D. of Taber and ask to speak to the Director of Infrastructure at 403-223-3541.
 - b. Have a detailed plan outlining in particular where the drainage water will be flowing.
 - c. Be prepared to discuss your drainage proposal with:
 - i. Adjacent landowners and all other landowners that may be impacted by the increased flow of water
 - ii. Alberta Environment who will evaluate the proposal and determine whether a water act approval would be required
 - iii. The party who will accept the drainage water (irrigation district, private landowner, the municipality). Their permission is essential.
 - d. Be prepared to hire a contractor approved by the municipality to undertake any work that may be required within the municipal right of way. Individual landowners will not be permitted to undertake any excavation within the municipal right of way.
 - e. Plan ahead. Don't expect an approval process to be completed on a short timeline. Every precaution will be taken to ensure that a downstream impact of land drainage is minimized. Until all approval authorities are satisfied that all questions related to the application are answered an approval will not be issued. Now is the time to be planning work that will be performed next year.
 - f. Some projects will require an Alberta Environment Water Act approval – this process will take a considerable time to complete.
7. Who does all of this flood water belong to?
 - a. The water that accumulates during high rainfall and snow melt events that causes overland flooding is a common enemy to all. It will take the effort of all municipal, irrigation district and provincial organizations as well as individual landowners acting in good faith and with common sense, patience and respect to mitigate the effects of flooding and to work towards a beneficial solution for all.

Before you undertake any drainage work on your own land please contact Craig Pittman – Director of Infrastructure at 403-223-3541 who will provide you information on the process involved in completing an Alberta Environment water act approval.



September 1955 – New Cornwall Canning Plant Grand Opening Display



First Cornwall Canning Plant



Ted Sundal in an Experimental Tomato Field

Pumpkins, Asparagus, Peas and Corn

By: Karen Ingram
For the Taber Irrigation Impact Museum

“Medium to light sandy soils, particularly adapted for the production of high quality vegetable and fruit products,” this was the way a letter written in 1928 to the Broder Canning Co. Ltd. started to try and sell Taber as “the town” to build a cannery in. As the Secretary-Manager for the Taber Irrigation District, Ted Sundal, was writing to follow up a visit by a representative of the Broder Canning Co. from Edmonton. He went on to say that farmers of the community had been growing field and sweet corn for the past seventeen years, “during which he could not remember a time the crop failed. Cobs were perfect from butt to the tip.” He went on to say that tomatoes, strawberries, peas, beans and asparagus do equally well here and that he was satisfied local growers would be interested in increasing production of these crops. The Edmonton company wrote back with some interest but stated they felt Taber was too far for shipping of corn and fruit but they would be interested in purchasing tomatoes from Taber

growers for their smaller canning operation in Medicine Hat.

The first canning operation in Alberta had opened in Edmonton in 1927, they hoped that a commercial cannery pea could be grown successfully in the area where a native pea vine grew wild. As it turned out canning peas did not grow well in the Edmonton area and that plant closed down in 1930 after canning for only three seasons. By then the smaller cannery in Medicine Hat was opened and the company moved all their operations there. A number of Sugar Beet growers in the Taber Area were talked into planting three hundred acres of canning peas for testing purposes for the 1929 crop year. Spring of 1930 saw Taber farmers branch out with growing pumpkins and green beans as well as the peas.

The Broder Canning Company (Alberta) Ltd. was starting to look at Taber as a strong possibility for a canning plant as they felt the 80 mile haul to Medicine Hat made trucking from Taber expensive and the small acreage the cannery had in the river flats near Medicine Hat was too small to grow enough vegetables for canning. Meetings were held over the next few years between the Taber Irrigation District, the Town of Taber, Broder Canning Company and area farmers. Test plots were grown proving that Taber growers were capable of growing high quality vegetables consistently. The Town and TID did work together, using bricks, lumber, doors and heating equipment from the now dismantled King George Hotel (also known as the Rhonalda Hotel), they built a cannery that was finished and ready for use in the spring of 1935.

This building was leased to Mr. Robert Broder and Mr. Elwood Cross for a term of five years with an option to purchase.

chase.

Success, Mr. Broder did purchase the building, paid in full by August 1941, seven years after construction. This industry was soon an important part of the Taber agricultural scene. A company that began during the Dirty 30's, years known as the “Great Depression” started in Taber becoming an active part of the community for nearly 100 years before shutting down the Taber plant in 2014.

The cannery went through many changes over the course of its life, adding on, tearing down and changing hands. Vegetable crops such as peas, asparagus, spinach, string beans, navy beans, pumpkin and sweet corn were canned there, giving work to many Taber residents including the teens who needed summer jobs, also supplying many crop choices for the growers to use in their rotations.



Hauling Corn – 1949



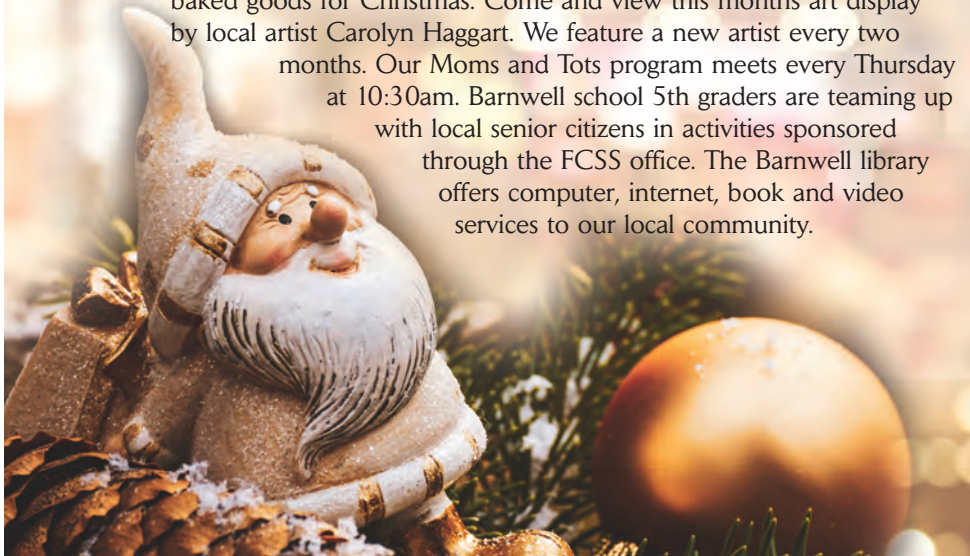
Forking Peas in the Field – 1949



Barbara Frey at Work inside the Cannery

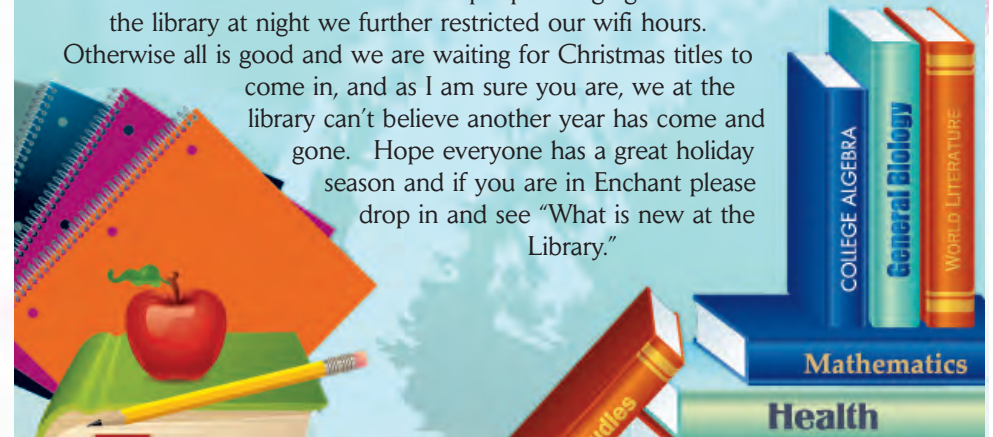
BARNWELL LIBRARY

Santa is coming to the Barnwell library on December 8 at 11:00am. There will be popcorn for all and a bake sale so you can pick up baked goods for Christmas. Come and view this month's art display by local artist Carolyn Haggart. We feature a new artist every two months. Our Moms and Tots program meets every Thursday at 10:30am. Barnwell school 5th graders are teaming up with local senior citizens in activities sponsored through the FCSS office. The Barnwell library offers computer, internet, book and video services to our local community.



ENCHANT LIBRARY

Enchant has been busy this last while hosting some family courses and of course buying more books and movies to keep our library as current as possible. Unfortunately we experienced some vandalism outside the library with our memorial statue being stolen and then destroyed in the park area across the street. We were very disappointed that someone would show such little respect, but such is life. In an effort to minimize people hanging in front of the library at night we further restricted our wifi hours. Otherwise all is good and we are waiting for Christmas titles to come in, and as I am sure you are, we at the library can't believe another year has come and gone. Hope everyone has a great holiday season and if you are in Enchant please drop in and see "What is new at the Library."



GRASSY LAKE COMMUNITY LIBRARY

The fall has been very busy and exciting as all the students were eager to take books out of the library when they returned to school. More excitement was created when we had a very successful Book Fair in October. We were able to get many free books and resources for our library that the patrons will enjoy in the future. (see first picture below)

We had our Christmas craft day which was very well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all. The students went

home with beautiful Christmas decorations to hang on their tree. (see second picture below)

The community library will be hosting HOJA, an A Capella performance. It is a live performance, by Quest Theatre. This will take place on November 29, at 9:30am at the Chamberlain School gym. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The library continues to be a thriving part of our community.

The computers and the IPADS are always in demand by both the patrons and the students.

We would like to welcome everyone to the library to check out our assortment of books and DVD'S.

We are open Mon.-Thurs from 8:30 am-3:40 pm.

We will be closed over the Christmas holidays from Dec21, 2018 – Jan. 6, 2019



HAYS PUBLIC LIBRARY

After a busy summer in which we were lucky enough to be able to hire (under the Alberta STEP Program) a University Student, Anika Huvenaars, to manage the library, we are now back into our fall/winter schedule. Open hours now are Tuesday 8AM – 5PM, Wednesday 1PM – 5PM and Thursday 10AM – 5PM.

Anika organized 14 different Summer Reading Program sessions with a total of 25 children attending. The program concluded on August 16 with a wind-up wiener roast/ice cream and prizes!

Check out all the new books at the library – these range from children's picture books, easy readers, chapter books, junior non-fiction books, young adult series fiction books right through to adult fiction and non-fiction books.

Also available for loan are many specialty

items such as Pedometers, Energy Power Monitoring kits, Heart and Stroke Heartsaver kits to practice your CPR and AED skills and new at the library are Science Magic Kits donated to the library by the "Five by Five Coalition". These Early Childhood Development kits are designed to balance Technology with Play for 3 – 6 year olds.

If you are looking for a family activity for a winter's evening, check out the many puzzles and now new at the library are numerous Board Games. These are available for the 3-week loan period. Memberships continue to be free.

Students are encouraged to use their library card to check out the Online Study Guide "Solaro" for help with homework, studying and exam prep in core subjects for Grades 3 – 12



TABER PUBLIC LIBRARY

We had another very successful and FULL Summer Reading Program. All six weeks were full of fun and adventure. We had weekly visitors to SRP but the most popular was where the library staff and one parent had brought their dogs. The children had the opportunity to play with them which turned into a regular library program called Read with Daisy. Daisy is a Shih Tzu and is owned by Tara Wiebe the Taber library's assistant manager. Tara brings Daisy once a month to the library and children of all ages sign up to read to Daisy for 15 minutes. Of course snug-

gles are also included! Please go to our website or facebook page to find out when the next visit will be.

Don't miss out on our annual Christmas Concert. This year it will be held Friday, November 30 at 7:00 pm. We are featuring Global Drums from the University of Lethbridge.

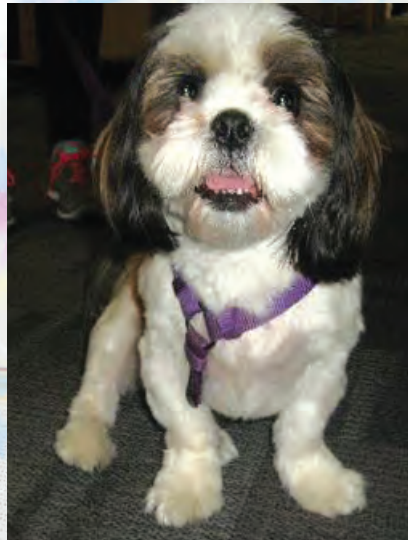
Of course Santa will be here again on Saturday, December 15 from 2:00 to 3:00 pm. Have your picture taken in the Program Room where it is warm, quiet and roomy.

Upcoming events include:
Giant Games for tweens and teens

Jan 2 and Teen Movie Day Jan 3. That gives the kids something to do before school start up again in January. Check our Website for further details.

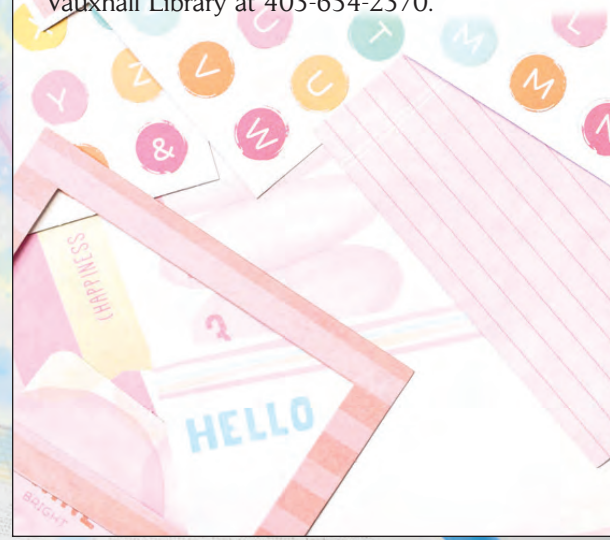
Family Literacy Day event Saturday, January 26, 2019 We will have guest speakers coming to read or storytelling from different cultures. Begins at 1:30 pm

January Month Long Book Sale – We have been overloaded with donations and need to sell!!! We will have great titles at great prices



THE VAUXHALL FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

The Vauxhall Friends of the Library is having a spring Scrapbooking. It will be the weekend of April 12-14 at the Vauxhall Community Center. March 15th 2019 is the Early bird registration \$110. After the 15th the price is \$125. There will be no refunds after March 29, 2019. If you have any questions please contact the Vauxhall Library at 403-654-2370.



TAX INSTALLMENT PAYMENT PLAN (TIPP)

WHAT IS THE TIPP?

TIPP (Tax Installment Payment Plan) is a monthly tax payment plan that allows taxpayers the option to make manageable, convenient, budgeted monthly payment installments for property taxes by pre-authorized bank withdraw on the 15th of each month, rather than a single annual payment.

HOW DOES TIPP WORK?

Upon enrollment in TIPP, monthly payment installments will be calculated by dividing the prior year's tax levy by the remaining months in the calendar year. Once the current year's tax levy have been applied to the tax roll the remaining monthly installment amounts shall be calculated by taking the actual current years' tax levy, subtracting the prior monthly installments that have been received to date (if any), and dividing by the remaining months in the calendar year.

You will be notified on your tax notice of the total amount of installments paid to date and the new installment amount required for the remaining payment in the year, the last being December 15.

All previous years' taxes and penalties, if any, shall be paid in full prior to being eligible to entering the plan.

Outstanding taxes for property tax rolls that are part of TIPP will not be subject to the 5% penalty applied to current taxes outstanding after November 15th of each year, unless the conditions stated in Bylaw #1915 and Agreement are not fulfilled by the Taxpayer.

HOW DO I APPLY AND WHEN CAN I START TIPP?

Taxpayer's may enter into TIPP at any time prior to July 1st for payment of the current years' tax levy. Application made after July 1st will be for the following tax year and installments will begin the following January. A void cheque or Bank Information EFT Form from your financial Institute must be attached to your application.

Applications are available at the Municipal District of Taber Administration Office or online at www.mdtaber.ab.ca.

WHAT IF I CHOOSE TO CANCEL TIPP?

Taxpayers may cancel TIPP at any time upon fifteen (15) days written notice. All taxes shall then become due and payable in accordance with the Municipality's Tax Penalties Bylaw.

12% PENALTY ON ALL UNPAID TAXES

**All property taxes remaining unpaid
after December 31, 2018 will be subject to a
12% penalty on January 1, 2019**

Options for payment are:

- Cash, cheque or debit at the Municipal Office 4900B – 50th Street Taber, AB during office hours (8 am - 12 noon & 1- 4:30 pm)
- Online banking (your 10 digit roll number is your account number)
- Drop box outside the main entrance of the Administration Building (4900-50 Street, Taber)
- Canada Post - payments sent in the mail must be stamped with a Canada Post date stamp of no later than December 31, 2018

Please note in the event of a Canada Post strike any payments post marked after December 31, 2018 will be subject to Penalty.



Let it Snow, Let it Snow, Let it Snow

It is that time of year again, honest! Just look outside....no wait, is that the sun and clear skies? With temperatures hovering between 5 and 10 degrees at the end of November during the day its time to start thinking about snow issues.

Last year and earlier this year was unprecedented with the amount of snow that fell across the MD of Taber and overland flooding that occurred through-out the region. The MD of Taber Regional Enforcement Services would like to remind residents that clearing snow across or onto a roadway, or filling of ditches is not permitted and may result in fine.

According to MD of Taber Bylaw 1806, Unauthorized Use of Municipal Land, Section 3.14 – "Unauthorized Use" means use of Municipal Property, through the construction, storing landscaping, erecting, placing or removal of anything on, in, under or over Municipal Property, without the written approval of the Municipality. Examples of Unauthorized Use include but are not limited to: digging, cutting, excavating or filling, removal of gravel or soil. Part of Section 3.8 – Definitions of this Bylaw, defines Municipal Property. Listed in Section 3.8 is highways, roads, roadways, streets, lanes and drainage rights of way.

When the snow falls and it will, let all of us do our part not to create further driving hazards on the roadways. This will allow our Snow Removal Operators to effectively clear the snow from the roadway and push it far off the road. Please do not pile your snow into the ditches creating new Mountains in Southern Alberta.





Vauxhall & District CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

After overcoming many obstacles, the Vauxhall and District Chamber of Commerce was created on June 11th, 2018. We are now a member of the Alberta & Federal Chamber of Commerce.

With some financial help from the Vauxhall Business Society the VDCC was able to start down the road towards helping and growing our Vauxhall and District area businesses. On October 29th, 2018 the first ever VDCC Board of Directors were elected, moving forward we are still looking for business passionate people to join our team.

Our district runs North of highway 521 and highway 875 to the Bow River and East of highway 845 to the Bow River. This includes Vauxhall, Enchant and Hays. We are offering an unbelievable "Chamber Plan" for extended health care to our registered VDCC members. Whether you own/operate a business with many employees, a small family farm or run a one-man ranch, as a member of the VDCC you qualify for the very affordable and extensive extended health care benefit plan.

As we all know its small and medium size business that drive our local economy. Now more than ever we need to come together and support our local industries to secure future business, for development of future industry and the survival for our work places. With our economy struggling and future tax hikes on the way, we need solidarity and team work to be successful. As the VDCC moves forward it is going to be the participation of local business, the Boards ability to listen and take positive actions to grow and maintain our Vauxhall and District Chamber of Commerce.

Thank you.



8th Taber Pheasant Festival a success

Taber Pheasant Festival wrapped up their 8th successful year on October 27 this fall. The week long event had 700 hunters attending, and featured a culinary pheasant tasting event with added entertainment from Tanner James, a scotch and wing night, and the Heritage Inn Celebration Banquet and Silent Auction. The Cabela's Novice Hunt registration was up this year with 100 youth and adults participating. Next years registration will be June 3-14, 2019, with the festival running October 19-26, 2019. Mark your calendars!



WHERE DO I GO FOR MD SERVICES?

MD ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

The Administration Building in Taber houses the staff responsible for daily operations of the municipality relating to finances, record keeping, billing, assessment, taxation, personnel, IT, etc.

You would attend the Administration Office for the following services:

- Tax, utility, and all other payments
- Purchase MD maps
- Development permit applications
- Assessment & taxation inquiries
- Council, ASB, SDA meetings
- Approach & road crossing agreements
- MD Lease agreements
- Reservations for group areas at MD Park
- Tender openings
- Job applications

Main Office
phone (403) 223-3541
Address:
4900B - 50 Street, Taber



MD OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE CAMPUS

New Home of the MD Public Works Department and Agricultural Service Board

This building houses the staff responsible for the maintenance of municipal equipment as well as offices and meeting rooms for the Public Works and Agricultural Service Board departments.



You would attend the MD campus when you are:

- A Salesperson or supplier coming to see the partsman or shop foreman
- A Ratepayer with an appointment to see the Public Works, Infrastructure or Agricultural Service Board
- Needing an application for the Disaster Recovery Program (ends Jan. 2019)
- Picking up skunk/racoon/magpie traps from the Ag Service Board
- Renting equipment & picking up strychnine (**Spring 2019**)
- ASB Workshops

PW Office:
Phone (403) 223-3142

ASB Office:
Phone (403) 223-8735

Rural Address:
171027 HWY 3