



APRIL 30, 2025

TOWN OF BEAVERLODGE

Beaver Tails News

New Transportation Service Expands Access for Beaverlodge Residents

A new transportation initiative in Beaverlodge is hitting the road — and the impact is expected to go far beyond the town limits. Thanks to funding from United Way Alberta and Healthy Aging, Beaverlodge Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) has launched an expanded community transportation program. The initiative adds a second weekly trip to Grande Prairie and, for the first time, introduces a local, door-to-door transit option for residents within Beaverlodge.

Connecting People and Places

This expansion is more than just a convenient ride — it's a crucial step in addressing rural isolation, improving mental health, and boosting the local economy. For many, especially seniors, people with mobility challenges, and those without regular access to a vehicle, transportation is a barrier to accessing healthcare, groceries, and even friendship. The new service aims to change that. "Reliable transportation means our residents can attend appointments, visit loved ones, shop locally, and take part in community life," said Reanna Stockman of Beaverlodge FCSS. "It's about connection — to services, to each other, and to a sense of independence."

Economic Ripple Effects

By helping residents get to local businesses and bringing in foot traffic on service days, the new transportation model also offers a quiet but steady economic boost to Beaverlodge.

continued on next page



Council Corner

Mayor
Gary Rycroft

Councillors

Cal Mosher

Hugh Graw

Cody Moulds

Cyndi Corbett

Judy Kokotilo-Bekkerus

Next Council Meeting:

May 12

May 26

7pm - Council Meeting





New Transportation Service Expands Access for Beaverlodge Residents

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More shoppers, more appointments, more participation — it all adds up to a healthier local economy. And with just a \$5 fare, the service remains affordable for all.

“Transportation is the thread that ties everything together,” said one local business owner. “We’re excited to see how this brings more people into our stores and strengthens our local economy.”

Flexible, Affordable, and Safe

The door-to-door service will run every Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. **starting May 20th, 2025**. Riders can book up to three days in advance or as little as 30 minutes ahead of time. Same-day rides must be booked by 2 p.m. to ensure scheduling. To keep rides safe and efficient,

guidelines include secured strollers, infant carriers, and accommodation for accredited service dogs.

Riders can purchase discounted punch passes at the Town Office, and all bookings go through our driver from Beaverlodge FCSS at **780-296-6944**.

Driving Toward a Stronger Community

In a time when rural isolation and mental health challenges are on the rise, initiatives like this are more than welcome — they’re essential. Whether it’s a senior attending a medical appointment, a parent running errands, or a neighbour dropping in on a friend, this service opens doors — literally and figuratively.

Beaverlodge’s new transportation option is more than a ride. It’s a road to connection, wellness, and resilience — and it’s rolling forward with the whole community on board.



2025

Beaverlodge Volunteer Winners



Joann Rueckert

Joann Rueckert has been an active and dedicated participant in her hometown for over 40 years, consistently stepping up to support her community in countless ways. For 35 years, she was the welcoming face at the local RCMP detachment, where she organized numerous public events—including golf tournaments and RCMP balls—raising funds that were funneled back into the community.

Joann is known for her dependability, initiative, and ability to get things done without hesitation. An avid curler, she served on the Diamond Dinner Committee and the curling executive, helped organize bonspiels, and led the ladies' Riverbend Golf League.

A cornerstone of the Hythe Legion for over 35 years, Joann has held nearly every executive role and currently serves as president, a position she's held for the past decade. She coordinates Friday night suppers, helps with funerals, recruits volunteers, and always lends a hand in the kitchen or wherever needed.

In retirement, Joann expanded her volunteerism, taking on the role of secretary at the Beaverlodge Hospital Auxiliary Thrift Store. She's a reliable presence on work-bee days and ensures behind-the-scenes operations run smoothly. Creative and generous, Joann donates handmade items for fundraisers and contributes her time to many organizations as a casino volunteer. She also supports local arts, volunteering at the Demmitt Hall music events and Bear Creek Folk Festival.

Joann's tireless energy, leadership, and heart for service make her a truly remarkable volunteer and a treasured part of our community.

Jazmyn Kay

Jazmyn Kay has been an active volunteer with the Beaverlodge Fire Department since she was 18, bringing over five years of unwavering commitment, compassion, and leadership to the team. Recently recognized with a service plaque for her dedication, Jazmyn continues to be a vital member of the department and her community.

As a Medical First Responder Lieutenant and Subject Matter Expert, Jazmyn creates and leads impactful medical training sessions for her fellow firefighters, combining her knowledge as a Primary Care Paramedic and 911 Dispatcher with a relatable, supportive teaching style. Her lessons are informative, practical, and memorable—often sweetened with a little chocolate bribery.

On calls, Jazmyn is known for her calm, steady presence and exceptional bedside manner. She handles high-stress medical situations with grace, putting patients and fellow responders at ease while also mentoring newer firefighters. Her courage and quick thinking have been proven on countless occasions, from tackling wildland fires to wading through rivers to reach patients.

Beyond the department, Jazmyn supports the ATCO Fire Cadet Program and Camp F.I.R.E.—a leadership program for young women exploring careers in emergency services. Her mentorship builds confidence and resilience in the next generation of responders.

Jazmyn also provides peer-to-peer support, recognizing the toll first response can take on mental health. Her empathy, strength, and unwavering dedication make her not only a remarkable firefighter, but an invaluable volunteer and role model in our region.



2025

Beaverlodge Volunteer Winners

Community Ambassador

If you've ever attended a community event, admired a mural, or walked through the beautifully lit campground in winter, chances are you've experienced the impact of Gena Jones. Her unwavering dedication to the betterment of our town is nothing short of inspiring, and she embodies the very spirit of what it means to be a Community Ambassador.

Gena is a visionary, a doer, and a quiet leader whose fingerprints are on some of Beaverlodge's most meaningful community initiatives. She is the creative mind behind the Campground Lightshow, a magical and heartwarming holiday experience that has now seen three successful seasons. The event has grown into a highlight of the winter season, drawing families together in celebration and wonder—all thanks to Gena's vision, hard work, and love for her community.

Her commitment to community extends far beyond seasonal events. As a key member of the Beaverlodge Chamber of Commerce, Gena plays an instrumental role in helping organize community-wide initiatives, including the much-loved annual Art Walk. Her work fosters local talent, boosts small business visibility, and encourages residents to engage with the heart of their town in meaningful ways.

Gena also volunteers on the Beaverlodge Mural Foundation, helping to bring color, culture, and beauty to our public spaces. Each mural is a reflection of the town's history, people, and pride—and Gena's passion helps bring these stories to life.

Recently, she helped form the Beaverlodge Walking Trails Committee, bringing forward ideas and initiatives aimed at creating accessible, welcoming outdoor spaces for all to enjoy. Though the trails are still in the planning stages, Gena's enthusiasm and thoughtful leadership were welcomed.

What sets Gena apart is not just her impressive list of contributions—it's her genuine, selfless dedication to the people of Beaverlodge. She gives her time, energy, and creativity with no expectation of recognition. Her leadership is quiet but powerful, and her actions speak volumes about her love for this town and its future.

We are incredibly fortunate to have someone like Gena Jones living, volunteering, and dreaming in our community. She has made a lasting difference through her tireless work, and there's no doubt that Beaverlodge is a better, brighter place because of her.



Gena Jones

Congratulations!



MAY 2025

Volunteer Group Spotlight

Beaverlodge Art Walk

Each month Beaver Tails will featuring a different volunteer organization to learn more about.

The Beaverlodge & District Chamber of Commerce's annual Art Walk has become one of the most cherished events of the summer, a true celebration of creativity, community, and collaboration – built not just by volunteers, but by the families who stand behind them.

The idea for the Art Walk took root in 2022, when Callie, Shone, and Amie began brainstorming ways to bring more energy and vibrancy to Beaverlodge. Inspired by fond childhood memories of Pioneer Days and Barn Dances, and Shone's recent experience at an Art Walk in Hawaii, the team envisioned a street festival full of light, music, art, and laughter – reviving a beloved sense of community spirit.

Soon, the rest of the executive board joined the effort. Becky, Linsy, Gena, and Tracy B, and Tracy F brought their talents to the table, and together they created a plan: divided the workload, rallied volunteers, and tapped into community support through sponsorships and donations. Their passion was matched by the tireless efforts of their families, who quickly became the backbone of the project, helping every step of the way.

Each person played a key role in shaping the Art Walk:

- Becky took the lead on integrating children's activities, designing spaces for bouncy houses, face painting, and kids' parties to ensure fun for all ages.

- Callie, Chamber President, made sure the event was properly insured and all safety protocols were in place. Also putting out many fires and assisting with vendors.
- Gena, as volunteer coordinator and town liaison, kept logistics tight.
- Shone embraced multiple roles as marketing guru, event designer, chaos coordinator, and beer garden lead – with her family pitching in every step of the way.
- Linsy organized a full slate of musical talent and entertainment, ensuring non-stop live performances throughout the day.
- Michelle added magic by coordinating circus performers, bringing extra excitement to the streets.
- Tera stepped up to lead vendor and food truck coordination, recruiting new board member Crystal, who added fresh energy and a market management background
- Meagan, another key addition, has been an incredible support system and community advocate. She is now leading volunteers coordination.

Sponsorship and community partnerships were vital, and Tracy – with the invaluable help of her husband Lyle – managed sponsorship initiatives, following up with donors and ensuring every sponsor felt appreciated.

The success of the Art Walk wouldn't be possible without the families and spouses behind the scenes. Spouses helped with logistics, heavy lifting, barricades, stage setups, beer gardens, running errands, and endless hours of volunteering. It's truly a family affair, and their hands-on involvement has been critical to making the Art Walk what it is today.

New team members Brit White and Deri Lefley have recently joined, strengthening the event's future – Brit lending her financial expertise this year and Deri providing support for event coordination and grant writing.

In 2024, the Art Walk drew approximately 2,000 people, featuring over 40 market vendors, 6 food trucks, beer gardens, street performers, kids' zones, and live music. What began as a small dream has grown into a major summer attraction, where the only problem now is too many food trucks wanting to participate – a far cry from the early days when organizers were pleading for vendors to join.

Focused on showcasing local talents and celebrating Indigenous and diverse cultural art forms, the Beaverlodge Art Walk has become a symbol of what is possible when a community, and its families, come together with passion and heart.

Now heading into its fourth year, the event stands as a shining example of how small towns can achieve extraordinary things – fueled by hard work, strong community spirit, and the unwavering support of the families behind the scenes.

Do you want your organization featured?
Email rstockman@beaverlodge.ca



NuVista Energy Centre - Aquatics & Facility Schedule

May 1 - 31, 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Lane Swim 7:00am-8:30am	Lane Swim 7:00am-8:30am	Lane Swim 7:00am-8:30am	Lane Swim 7:00am-8:30am	Lane Swim 7:00am-8:30am		
Aquafit Parent & Tot 9:00am-10:00am	Aquafit-Shallow Parent & Tot 9:00am-10:00am	Aquafit-Combo Parent & Tot 9:00am-10:00am	Aquafit-Deep Parent & Tot 9:00am-10:00am	Aquafit Parent & Tot 9:00am-10:00am		
	School Lessons 10:00am-3:00pm			Public Swim 12:30pm-2:30pm		
					Public Swim 12:00pm-5:00pm	Public Swim 12:00pm-5:00pm
Senior Lane Swim Parent & Tot 3:00pm-4:00pm	Senior Lane Swim Parent & Tot 3:00pm-4:00pm	Senior Lane Swim Parent & Tot 3:00pm-4:00pm	Senior Lane Swim Parent & Tot 3:00pm-4:00pm	Lessons 3:30pm-6:00pm	Private Rental 5:00pm-6:00pm	Private Rental 5:00pm-6:00pm
Barracudas Swim Club 4:00pm-7:00pm						
Public Swim 7:00pm-9:00pm	Aquafit-Deep 7:15pm-8:00pm Adult Swim 8:00pm-9:00pm	Public Swim 7:00pm-9:00pm	Aquafit-Shallow 7:15pm-8:00pm Adult Swim 8:00pm-9:00pm	Public Swim 6:00pm-9:00pm	1016 4th Ave Beaverlodge AB 780-354-2203	

FITNESS CENTER & FRONT DESK HOURS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
6:00am-9:00pm	7:00am-9:00pm	6:00am-9:00pm	7:00am-9:00pm	6:00am-9:00pm	10:00am-6:00pm	10:00am-6:00pm

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Friday, May 16th- No Public Lessons	NuVista Energy Ltd. Sponsored Swim May 19th 12:00-5:00pm
Public Swim Cancelled Saturday, May 24th	
July/August swim lesson registration will open at 9:00am on June 19th	
Schedule subject to change	

May Fitness Classes

NuVista Energy Centre 1016 4th Ave, Beaverlodge

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	Fitness Centre Bootcamp May 6,13,20,27 6:00am-7:00am \$24/Month		Fitness Centre Bootcamp May 1,8,15,22,29 6:00am-7:00am \$30/Month	*Schedule is subject to change*
Aquafit-Combo 9:00am-10:00am	Aquafit-Shallow 9:00am-10:00am	Aquafit-Combo 9:00am-10:00am	Aquafit-Deep 9:00am-10:00am	Aquafit- Uninstructed 9:00am-10:00am
Spin May 5,12,26 6:00pm-6:45pm \$18/Month	Adult Strength May 6,13,20,27 5:30pm-6:30pm \$24/Month	Ride & Strength May 7,14,21,28 5:15pm-6:15pm \$24/Month	Adult Strength May 1,8,15,22,29 5:30pm-6:30pm \$30/Month	
Hatha Yoga With Christine May 5,12,26 7:00pm-8:00pm \$18/Month	Aquafit Combo 7:00pm-8:00pm	TRX May 7,14,21,28 6:30pm-7:30pm \$24/Month	Aquafit-Shallow 7:00pm-8:00pm	

Important Information

Drop-Ins available for all classes when space allows.

Facility will be open 12-5pm May 19th

Aquafit is drop-in only.

Front Desk & Fitness Center Hours

Monday: 6am - 9pm

Tuesday: 7am - 9pm

Wednesday: 6am - 9pm

Thursday: 7am - 9pm

Friday: 6am - 9pm

Saturday: 10am - 6pm

Sunday: 10am - 6pm



ARE YOU OVER 18? A CANADIAN CITIZEN?

HAVE YOU BEEN A TOWN RESIDENT FOR AT LEAST 6 MONTHS?

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHAPE THE FUTURE OF YOUR COMMUNITY?

NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN

for the Municipal Election

until noon September 22, 2025

Visit beaverlodge.ca to download a Candidate Handbook
or pick-up from the Town Office

Media Contact: Jeff Johnston,
Returning Officer or
Tina Letendre, Deputy Returning
Officer at 780-354-2201



**Municipal Election
October 20, 2025**

2025 MUNICIPAL ELECTION – TOWN OF BEAVERLODGE

REGISTER TO VOTE TODAY!

VOTE!

You are eligible to vote if you can show authorized ID that proves you are:

- At least 18 years old
- A Canadian citizen
- A resident of Beaverlodge

All voting will take place at the Beaverlodge Community Centre (except Institutional Voting)

Incapacitated Voting Available

Unable to attend a voting station due to physical limitations?

- 🕒 Available by request: October 15–17 | 10 AM – 4 PM
- ✉ Contact Nichole by October 13 at
- ✉ nyoung@beaverlodge.ca or ☎ 780-354-2201 ext: 1013 (Proof of incapacity required)

For Candidates:

The 2025 Municipal Election Handbook is now online!
Visit: www.beaverlodge.ca → Local Government → 2025 Municipal Election
Get informed. Get registered. Get ready.

KEY DATES TO REMEMBER

NOW: Register to vote at voterlink.ab.ca
(All voters must be on the Permanent Electors Registry)

Nomination Period:
January 1 – September 22, 2025 at noon

Advance Voting:
Wednesday, October 15 | 4 PM – 8 PM
Saturday, October 18 | 10 AM – 8 PM

Election Day:
Monday, October 20 | 10 AM – 8 PM
Beaverlodge Community Centre

Institutional Voting:
Monday, October 20 | 2 PM – 4 PM
Amisk Court – for residents only

Honouring the Heart of a Community: A Tribute in Paint

Local artist Coralie Rycroft has beautifully captured a cherished piece of Beaverlodge's past in her latest painting—a tribute to the original Beaverlodge Community Centre.

This historic building, officially opened on May 14, 1946 with an open-air dance accompanied by Doug McFarlane's orchestra, quickly became the social hub of the town and surrounding area.

Fondly remembered for its lively theatre, dance hall, rifle range, library, coffee shop, and the "best popcorn ever" at its concession, the Community Centre was a bustling space that brought people together. It housed the Elks and Legion rooms, supported local crafts, and served as a gathering place for generations.

The building stood proudly until 1977, when it was sadly demolished due to unaffordable fire insurance and prohibitive upgrade costs. Though the site is now home to the Town Office, the original structure remains deeply rooted in the hearts of many who remember its warmth and energy.

Coralie Rycroft's painting serves as both a nostalgic remembrance and a celebration of this once-vibrant cornerstone of community life. Her work brings new life to old memories and ensures that the spirit of the Beaverlodge Community Centre lives on.



Beaverlodge Town Council pose with Coralie Rycroft's painting

May

2025

Upcoming Events:

May 3 – Community Clean-Up

May 6 – Service Canada Walk-in Clinic

10am – noon

May 8 – Youth Self-Defence Class

May 23 – Babysitting Course

May 27 – C.A.R.E. Creating Awareness,
Reducing Exposure 9am-12pm

May 29 – Teen Skill

May 30 – Teen Chill

Did you Know About The Town Community Calendar?

October 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
Frequent Shopper Program Aug 8-Oct 7, 2022						Sept 30 - National
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12a Frequent Shopper Program Aug 8-Oct 7, 2022						* 4p Grand Prize
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Thanksgiving Day						
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

Submit your Event

Submit your community events by going to beaverlodge.ca website. Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click "view calendar". This will take you to the calendar page and at the bottom of the calendar click "submit your event."

Water Utility and Garbage/Recycle ByLaw Amendments

This notice is to inform you of recent amendments to our Water Utility and Garbage & Recycling Bylaws. These bylaws were passed at the April 28, 2025 Council meeting. The following changes will take effect **June 1, 2025:**

WATER UTILITY BYLAW 923L



All consumers connected to municipal sewer shall pay a monthly sewer distribution charge and this charge shall be based on water meter size:

a. 5/8" (15mm)	\$10.50
b. 3/4" (18mm)	\$11.25
c. 1" (25mm)	\$12.20
d. 1 1/2" (37.5mm)	\$35.50
e. 2" (50mm)	\$42.50
f. Greater than 2" (50mm)	\$64.00

All consumers connected to municipal sewer shall pay a consumption rate based on the meter reading of the supply of water to the consumer. The rate shall be **\$2.20** per cubic metre (m³) of water used per month. (Previous rate was \$2.00 per cubic metre)

BULK WATER RATE



All purchasers of water from the truck fill station at the Water Plant shall pay **\$10.75** per cubic metre (m³) (Previous rate was \$10.50)

GARBAGE & RECYCLING BYLAW 1014-1

All consumers with Town garbage bins shall pay the monthly garbage fee as follows:

a. 1 set of Black, Green, & Blue bins	\$16.50
b. Each extra bin	\$ 7.50
(Previous rates were \$15.00 and \$6.50)	

