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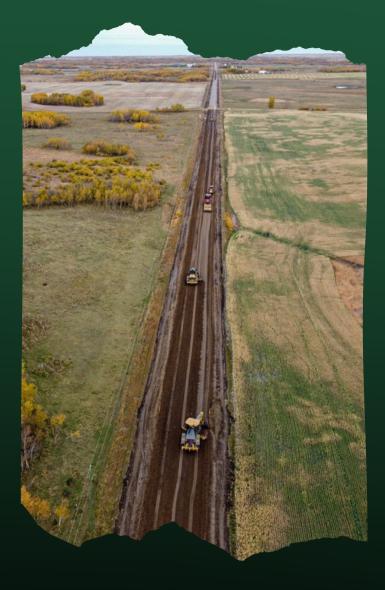
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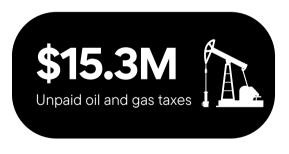
# Reflecting, Responding, and Planning for the Future

Each spring, Council works collaboratively with staff to review the previous year's successes and challenges. This process begins with an annual workshop, where every department presents an overview of the programs and services delivered throughout the year. These presentations allow Council to evaluate whether services are meeting the needs of Flagstaff County stakeholders and to assess their effectiveness, efficiency, and sustainability.

With this insight, Council is well-positioned to make informed decisions about service levels, programming, and budgeting for the upcoming fiscal year. The Annual Report is an important public document that provides transparency and accountability regarding the direction Council has chosen.

# Navigating Challenges in 2024

In 2024, Flagstaff County continued to face challenges influenced by factors beyond our control. While many oil and gas companies operating within the County remain strong community partners and meet their municipal tax obligations, a small number of non-compliant companies—referred to as "bad actors"—are placing a significant financial burden on our municipality. As of January 31, 2024, unpaid taxes from these few companies totalled \$15.3 million.





Despite ongoing inaction from the provincial government on this issue, Flagstaff County—along with many of our neighbouring municipalities—continues to advocate for change and highlight the impact of these unpaid taxes to our provincial partners.

Thanks to strong fiscal management and careful decision-making, Flagstaff County was able to maintain a **0% mill** rate increase in 2024. This means we did not pass the financial burden onto the residents, businesses, and producers who call Flagstaff County home.

# **Staying Aligned with Community Priorities**

Flagstaff County is committed to aligning our direction with the priorities and needs of the community. Public engagement results from 2024 helped guide our decisions, and tools like the Service Request Module (SRM) provide Council with real-time insights into where additional support may be needed.

We encourage residents to bring concerns forward in a respectful manner—your elected officials are here to listen and help.

**Looking Ahead** 

Above all. Council and staff remain committed to being innovative. responsive, and proactive in our approach. We are dedicated to offering a full range of efficient and effective services while maintaining a strong financial foundation. Our focus is on ensuring the longterm sustainability and vitality of Flagstaff County for generations to come.





# COUNTY



DON KROETCH Reeve Division 5



HOWARD SHIELD Deputy Reeve Division 7



RICK MANNING Division 1



MAT PONTO Division 2



JEFF ECKSTRAND

MELVIN THOMPSON

Division 4



LARRY HILLER

Division 6



Division 3

To be a strong, vibrant and sustainable regional Community of communities through collaboration and a focus on economic, social and environmental cooperation that contributes to rural essence and quality of life.

# GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE



The purposes of a municipality, as defined in the Municipal Government Act (MGA), are to provide good government, foster the well-being of the environment, provide services, facilities or other items that, in the opinion of Council are necessary or desirable for all or part of a municipality, develop and maintain safe and viable communities, and work collaboratively with neighbouring municipalities to plan, deliver and fund intermunicipal services.

A municipality consists of two branches:

- · A legislative branch, comprised of Council; and
- An administrative branch led by the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO).

County Council is elected by residents of their divisions to serve a four-year term and governs in accordance with powers granted under the MGA.

Flagstaff County Council currently consists of seven Councillors that represent the seven divisions. The Reeve is determined by Council. Council provides strategic direction to administration through a variety of plans, bylaws, policies and other governance processes.



Flagstaff County's Agricultural Services Department focuses on weed control, pest management, and soil conservation. The department, along with the Agricultural Service Board, partners with provincial and private agricultural and environmental organizations to deliver programs and services beneficial to our residents.

# **CUSTOM WEED CONTROL**

Custom herbicide application services are offered on private land to control small infestations of persistent weeds such as:

- Absinthe (Wormwood)
- Common Tansy
- Scentless Chamomile (pictured)
- Toadflax
- · White Cockle
- · Leafy Spurge

Flagstaff County also operates as a registered pesticide vendor to help bring access to controlled pesticides locally and at cost recovery.



# ROADSIDE BRUSH & WEED SPRAYING

Weeds and brush are sprayed to improve sightlines, protect infrastructure, and minimize the spread of weeds onto adjacent properties. In 2024, the central one-third of our County was sprayed, which includes roadsides south of Twp Rd 440 and north of Twp Rd 420.

# ROADSIDE MOWING AND ROADSIDE HAYING

Municipal right-of-ways are mowed twice a year. Landowners who want to hay right-of-ways must:

- Complete a Roadside Haying Permit prior to May 15th.
- Be aware each agreement is effective for one year.
- Complete their haying by July 15th of each year after they've been permitted.
- Remove bales from municipal right-of-ways within seven days of baling.

## **LEAFY SPURGE PROGRAM**

The Leafy Spurge Program will be offered in support of controlling Leafy Spurge on private lands. Treatment by contracted helicopter services will be offered in support of controlling Leafy Spurge at a 75/25 (75% County) cost-share between the County and landowners for inaccessible areas and areas greater than 20 acres. For areas less than 20 acres, Flagstaff County will offer custom spraying at a 50/50 cost-share.

## **NO SPRAY AGREEMENTS**

No Spray Agreements are available to landowners and tenants who do not want herbicide application on roadsides adjacent to their property. Weed and brush control along municipal right-of-ways will then be the responsibility of the landowner or tenant. Please note that Flagstaff County refrains from spraying herbicide 500 feet before and after all yard sites.

- The Agreements must be signed prior to June 1st.
- The Agreements are in effect for five years.
- "No Spray Zone" signs will be provided and must be posted where they can be viewed from the road.
- Landowners and tenants must assume responsibility of weed and brush control along roadsides according to municipal standards.

# SHELTERBELT ESTABLISHMENT

The County orders trees for County ratepayers as a single order, to achieve bulk discounts and receive free shipping. Specialty trees are also ordered but are not included in the 50% cost-shared portion. In 2024, 6,873 trees were ordered through the program.

# POLLINATOR HABITAT ESTABLISHMENT

The County will seed small plots of land, typically 1-5 acres in size, with a pollinator seed blend. The costs of seed and labour are fully covered by Flagstaff County. In 2024, the County seeded 28.4 acres for eight applicants.

### **ROADSIDE RE-VEGETATION**

After the completion of road construction projects, Ag Services reseeds municipal right-of-ways. In 2024, 25.5 miles of municipal right-of-ways were hydroseeded and 7.5 miles were reseeded. All seed purchased is certified and comes with a seed certificate.

### WATER LOADING STATIONS

Seven water loading stations are established within the municipality. The water at these facilities is non-potable and is suitable only for crop spraying and irrigation.

The following five facilities operate year-round and provide rural residents with a reliable and adequate supply of water to utilize for agricultural and firefighting purposes.

- NE 11-44-11 (NE of Lougheed)
- SE 27-41-16 (SW of Forestburg)
- SW 10-45-16 (S of Daysland)
- SE 2-43-13 (SW of Sedgewick)
- NE 3-44-14 (SW of Killam)

The following two facilities operate on a seasonal basis from April 15th to September 30th.

- NE 8-41-12 (NE of Alliance)
- SW 27-41-10 (S of Hardisty)

### **CLUBROOT**

Clubroot is a concern for farmers across Alberta. Clubroot is a serious soil-borne disease of canola and has been declared a pest under the Alberta Agricultural Pest Act. In 2024, one positive location with clubroot was found out of 186 surveyed fields.



# CONSERVATION EASEMENT AND WETLAND MANAGEMENT

Flagstaff County is a qualified organization that can administer conservation easements on private property at the request of landowners. A conservation easement is a solution for landowners that want to preserve certain features of their property, even if the land is sold. An easement is the legal transfer of select development rights to a land trust organization. It is a legally binding contract recognized by both provincial and federal law.

## **EXTENSION ACTIVITIES**

Throughout the year, the Agricultural Services Department offers extension events on local agricultural issues and topics such as:

- Semi-monthly newspaper columns; be sure to read the Between the Roots column in The Community Press
- Classroom Agriculture Partnership public and private school presentations on agricultural topics such as local weeds and opportunities within the agricultural industry
- Fall tree pruning workshop with tree expert Toso Bozic and related webinars
- Helping producers develop Environmental Farm Plans, which acts as a prerequisite for provincial and federal grant opportunities.
- Photography contest for National Agriculture Day
- Farm Succession Planning workshops
- Farmer Pesticide Certification courses
- Rural Farm Security workshop
- AG Drone School

If you have an interest or topic that you would like to see addressed, please contact our department.

# **LOOKING FORWARD TO 2025**

- · Continued weed control along provincial highways
- Supporting province with pest monitoring
- Installing solar panels at the Hastings Coulee water loading station
- Upgrading pest traps for rent
- Introducing a new arsenic water testing program for new well owners
- Inclusion of towns and villages (non-residential) in Shelterbelt Establishment Program



### **RECREATIONAL PARKS**

#### **Diplomat Trout Pond**

Situated 16 km southwest of Forestburg, the Diplomat Trout Pond has 15 non-serviced sites, a gazebo, two fishing docks, firepits, a new campground shelter and the Diplomat Mine Interpretive Site is located across the highway. The pond is stocked annually with trout and is a great place to take the family fishing. In 2024, a new fishing dock was installed for \$12,000.

#### **Edgerton Day Campground**

The Edgerton Day Campground, equipped with 12 powered sites, is south of the intersection of Hwy 13 and Hwy 855 on the outskirts of Daysland.

#### **Galahad Municipal Grounds**

The gazebo west of Merlin Street in Galahad can be rented out for family reunions or large functions. There is an open area to park trailers, as well as washrooms, including shower facilities, water, and a sewage dump available.



#### Fish Lake

Fish Lake Campground is located 3 km west of Hardisty. This campground offers eight spacious power sites and 12 non-serviced sites near the beach. A gazebo, a playground, an outdoor kitchen, and fishing docks are also on site. There is centralized water (non-potable) available. In 2024, new outhouses were completed for \$33,000, as well as a refurbished entrance sign.

#### **Strome Campground**

The Strome Campground is on the northwest edge of Strome. This campground offers 25 non-serviced sites, fire pits, fire grills and is adjacent to the ball diamonds, school playground, community hall and gazebo.

#### **Galahad Campground**

Galahad Campground is situated along Guinevere Ave East in Galahad. This campground offers six fully serviced sites with washroom and shower facilities.

## **LOOKING FORWARD TO 2025**

- Conducting playground inspections and maintenance
- Upgrading the Fish Lake Campground trailer fill water treatment system
- Enhancing the Edgerton Campground playground
- · Replacing the Diplomat gazebo roof
- Installing water-proofing material within the Edgerton and Diplomat outhouses



The Assessment Department establishes and maintains property valuations (assessments) for all property within Flagstaff County for the purpose of distributing annual property taxes. We provide annual valuations for approximately 8,000 County properties, including the Hamlets of Galahad and Strome.

# UNDERSTANDING YOUR PROPERTY ASSESSMENT

Property assessment is the process of assigning a dollar value to a property for taxation purposes. In Alberta, property is taxed based on the ad valorem principle. Ad valorem means "according to value." This means that the amount of tax paid is based on the value of the property. Assessed values are based upon regulated assessment and market value assessment. Regulated assessment applies to four types of properties: farmland, linear, machinery and equipment, and railway. Market value is used to determine all other properties such as residential and non-residential.

# **MARKET VALUE**

The market value-based standard is used to determine the assessed values for most properties in Alberta. Market value is the price a property might be expected to sell for if sold by a willing seller to a willing buyer after appropriate time and exposure in an open market.

# KEY CHARACTERISTICS OF MARKET VALUE

- It is the most probable price, not the highest, lowest, or average price.
- It is expressed in terms of the dollar value.
- It assumes a transaction between unrelated parties in the open market.
- It assumes a willing buyer and a willing seller, with no advantage being taken by either party.
- It recognizes the present use and potential use of the property.

# **REGULATED ASSESSMENT**

Some types of properties are difficult to assess using a market value-based assessment standard because:

- They seldom trade in the marketplace. When they do trade, the sale price usually includes non-assessable items that are difficult to separate from the sale price.
- They cross municipalities and municipal boundaries.
- They are of unique nature.

Municipal Affairs prescribes rates and procedures to assess these types of properties, which are referred to as "regulated property." Rates and procedures are determined by what a type of property is used for, its activity, or its production capability.

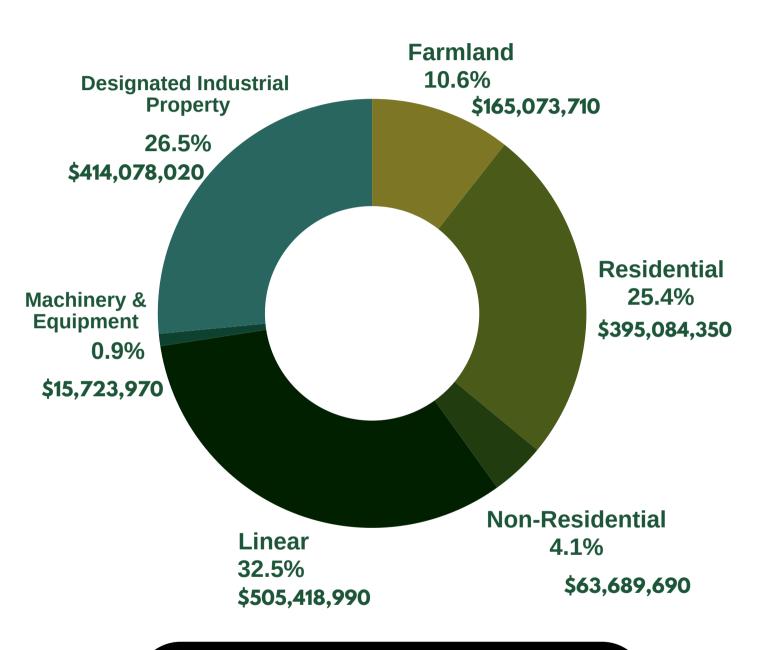
There are four types of regulated property:

- 1. Farmland
- 2. Linear property
- 3. Machinery and equipment
- 4. Railway property



# **ASSESSMENT SUMMARY**

# 2023 Assessment / 2024 Tax Year

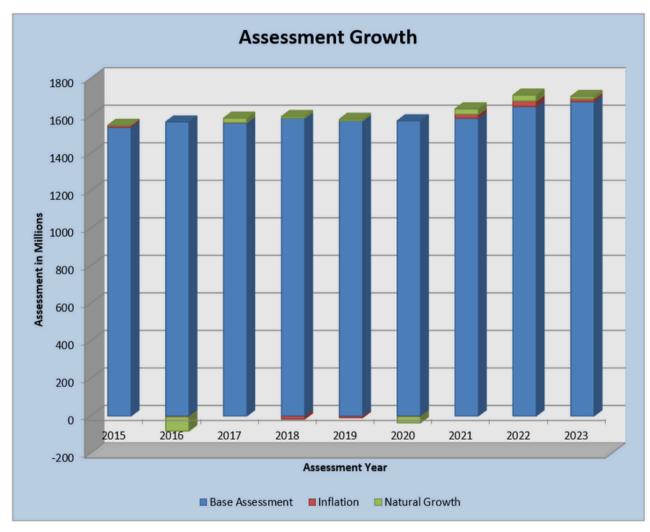


**\$1,559,068,730**Total Assessment

# **FARMLAND**

Farmland is assessed based on its productive value; that is, the ability of the land to produce income from the growing of crops and/or the raising of livestock. The productive value of farmland is determined using a process that sets a value for the best soils, and then adjusts for less-than optimum conditions such as stones, the presence of sloughs, or topography.

# **ASSESSMENT GROWTH**





Flagstaff County continues to contract the assessment services to Accurate Assessment Group Ltd. Accurate Assessment Group Ltd. was incorporated on April 16, 1997, in the province of Alberta. Since that time, they have developed a track record of performance with municipalities across the province. Accurate Assessment provides assessment services to complete assessments on the farmland, residential, commercial, and industrial properties only. All linear and machinery and equipment (DIP – designated industrial property) assessment is completed by the provincial assessment services branch.

Accurate Assessment Group employs highly knowledgeable and experienced staff. Using Geographic Information Systems, they have pioneered the way assessments are being analyzed, which allows them to provide a more efficient and effective assessment of the highest quality.

For more information on our Assessment Complaint and Appeal System, please visit our website at www.flagstaff.ca.

If you have any questions regarding Assessment, please contact Sean Cosens at:

#### **Accurate Assessment Group Ltd.**

780-464-4655 171 Pembina Rd. Sherwood Park, AB T8H 2W8 www.aag-gis.com





Economic Development focuses on joint regional Economic Development initiatives. This includes marketing, promotions, tourism, business retention and expansion, citizen retention and attraction, and investment attraction. Programs and services are offered to citizens and businesses in the Flagstaff Region, focusing on entrepreneurship, sustainability, and community development.

# **BUSINESS HUB OF SERVICES**

#### **Business Support Program and Social Enterprise Support Program**

Partially funded through the Government of Alberta's Northern and Regional Economic Development Program, Flagstaff County implemented tailored support programs that provided businesses and social enterprises with access to professional services and implementation supports with the following outcomes:

- Seven businesses received professional services from subject matter experts and implementation support in different business areas, including human resources, financial advice, and marketing and digital services;
- Nine social enterprises received professional services from subject matter experts and implementation support in different business areas, including strategic planning, communications, board governance, and marketing and digital services.

# **BUSINESS HUB OF SERVICES**

#### **One-on-One Business Coaching Sessions**

One-on-one virtual coaching sessions were offered to provide business owners with personalized support tailored to their unique goals and challenges. These sessions focused on skill development, strategic guidance, accountability, and confidence-building—helping entrepreneurs overcome obstacles and stay motivated.

In 2024, 18 participants accessed these sessions with professional business strategists. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, with many participants choosing to continue working independently with the coaches for ongoing support.

#### **Thought Exchange Program**

The Thought Exchange Program is a virtual event that brings together rural leaders, innovators, and community builders to share ideas, spark collaboration, and explore strategies that support rural success.

Each session focuses on a key theme—like innovation or networking—and features expert speakers (thought leaders), open discussion, and practical takeaways. Resources are shared after the session to keep the learning going.

Eight Thought Exchanges were facilitated in 2024 with an average of six Flagstaff Region participants and 12 outside participants attending each one.

#### **Flagstaff Region Succession Program Support**

Flagstaff County partnered with professional accountants to provide one-on-one support for businesses in the Flagstaff Region navigating succession planning. Each participant received a personalized consultation to explore their unique situation and identify the most relevant next steps. In 2024, three businesses accessed the program. To improve future uptake and ensure the program remains relevant, a Succession Readiness Plan was developed.

#### **Seminar Series**

Flagstaff County hosted a variety of seminars throughout the year, focused on topics relevant to small business owners and entrepreneurs. These sessions provided practical knowledge, expert insights, and opportunities for local businesses to learn, connect, and grow. Topics included customer service, marketing, content creation, strategic planning and business development, with sessions designed to be accessible and applicable to businesses at all stages. Four seminars were offered with 93 participants.

# **SMALL BUSINESS EXPOSURE**

#### **Flagstaff Region Featured Business**

The Flagstaff Region Featured Business program continued, in partnership with The Community Press, for the seventh consecutive year. The program gives businesses in the region a chance to highlight what makes them unique and reaches a wide target audience with marketing support from Flagstaff County and The Community Press. In 2024, four businesses and five community groups participated and received a write-up in The Community Press and a promotional video produced by Flagstaff County. The cost to participating businesses is simply their time and enthusiasm! The program had 42,500 watches on social media, 364 YouTube watches, and the many readers of The Community Press newspaper.

# **BUSINESS RESOURCE PROGRAM**

#### **Rural Unrecognized: The Podcast**

We continue to produce the "Rural Unrecognized" podcast, where we highlight the inspiring stories of small business owners from the Flagstaff Region and beyond to share resources, insights, experiences, and learning opportunities amongst business owners with common issues. The podcast's goal is to do this through inspiring storytelling and driving business owners to use our other resources (coaching, resource page, blog post, etc.). Nine episodes were released with 620 total downloads, reaching seven countries, and landing in the Top 50 of Buzzsprout podcasts.



#### **Flagstaff Crafted Blog**

The Flagstaff Crafted Blog shares stories, tips, and resources designed to support and inspire local entrepreneurs. Blog content highlights regional makers, offers business advice, showcases upcoming events, and celebrates the creativity and resilience of small business owners in the Flagstaff Region. With a focus on connection and community, the blog serves as both a spotlight and a resource hub for entrepreneurs looking to grow their business and reach new audiences. In 2024, 13 blog articles were published.

#### **Small Business Resource Page**

The resource page is a centralized online resource hub that breaks down targeted supports to each business stage: Ideation, Building, Growth, and Scaling and gives instant access to business owners on a wide range of useful information, tools, and resources that can help them start, manage, and grow their business. In 2024, there were 286 views on the resource page.

# ENTREPRENEURSHIP ADVANCEMENT

#### **Flagstaff Crafted**

Flagstaff Crafted is a business directory and support initiative that showcases local makers, producers, service providers, and artists from the Flagstaff Region and surrounding area (within 40 km). The program helps small businesses grow by offering free promotions through flagstaffcrafted.ca, social media, photography, blog features, and gift guides. With 100 participating businesses ranging from food and wellness to handmade goods and creative services, Flagstaff Crafted connects entrepreneurs to new customers, collaboration opportunities, and retail exposure. In 2024, we had 14 new entrepreneurs sign up to participate.

#### Flagstaff Fresh Market

The County hosted the third annual Flagstaff Fresh Market. Partnering with the Town of Killam, 31 vendors were present with their booths. The public expressed positive feedback, and the vendors saw strong sales.



#### **Flagstaff Crafted Gift Guide**

The seventh annual edition of the Flagstaff Crafted Gift Guide was launched in the Fall of 2024. Thirty-one businesses submitted 50 products and services combined. Six hundred copies of the gift guide were printed and distributed throughout the region. The digital copy of the gift guide was shared on Flagstaff County's social media platforms and on participating businesses' social media. The digital copy of the 2024 annual gift guide received 602 views to date and can be found on the Flagstaff Crafted website.

#### Wild Rose Co-op Marketplace Partnership

The Flagstaff Crafted/Wild Rose Co-op Marketplace in Killam is a partnership aimed at boosting local businesses and economic growth. It consists of a four-day Pop-Up Market where Flagstaff Crafted members can sell their products, potentially leading to a permanent spot in the Wild Rose Co-op's "Flagstaff Crafted" aisle. The Co-op supports vendors in becoming retail-ready through education and resources. This initiative is not just a temporary market but a path to broader retail opportunities. In 2024, 15 businesses began selling at the Killam marketplace, with 12 becoming permanent retailers with \$49,300 in total sales through the marketplace. Additionally, the partnership expanded to the Wild Rose Co-op Camrose food store and the Sedgewick home store.

# PROMOTIONAL CAMPAIGN

#### **Flagstaff Region Tourism**

The Flagstaff Region is home to an abundance of hospitality and recreation activities.

Flagstaff County promotes and fosters growth of this industry with the following outcomes:

- 1. The Flagstaff Region Travel & Activity Guide helps to easily combine all the available options into one publication. Six hundred printed copies were distributed, and they are available online.
- 2. 'Explore Flagstaff Region' Instagram was created and has 665 followers.
- 3. Eleven paid advertisements on various topics reached 601,887 people.
- 4.We partnered with Go East of Edmonton Travel Guide, which reaches 200,000 readers.

#### Flagstaff County/Region Promotional Items

Flagstaff County utilizes promotional items as a tool to elevate the municipality's presence, strengthen regional identity, and foster community pride. Branded materials such as apparel, mugs, tote bags, and printed publications help increase visibility at events, meetings, and public engagements. These items are strategically distributed to raise awareness of County initiatives, support local programs, and create a recognizable and consistent image for the region. In 2024, nine out of 12 promotional items were procured locally.

# **COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS**

#### Plant a Tree Day

Plant a Tree Day connects graduating students to their community by planting trees as symbols of growth and positive change. In 2024, 40 students from three high schools participated, creating a legacy and greener future.

#### Santa Day

Santa Day welcomed 125 children for a festive day of holiday fun, complete with visits from Santa. New in 2024 was a cheerful mini market. The event brought families together and supported local vendors.



#### Flagstaff Fitness Challenge

The Flagstaff Fitness Challenge inspired 171 participants to stay active and prioritize wellness through a fun, community-wide initiative. The challenge promoted healthy habits, local engagement, and a bit of friendly competition across the region.

# **COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS**

#### **Youth Development**

In lieu of the ACCA Youth Camp not running, Tyler Smith, mental health advocate and former Humboldt Bronco, spoke to 320 students about resilience, healing, and personal growth. His visit also included community and industry sessions.

#### **Flagstaff Bucks**

Flagstaff Bucks is a local currency initiative that encourages residents to shop close to home, supporting small businesses and strengthening the regional economy. In 2024, 49 local retailers participated in this shop-local campaign, helping keep spending in the community.



#### **Collective Impact Project**

Flagstaff County supports collective impact projects that foster collaboration and community development. The 2024 project included strategic planning support for the Daysland Health and Wellness Hub, helping shape its vision and long-term sustainability.

# INVESTMENT ATTRACTION

#### **External Investment**

Flagstaff County is committed to welcoming new business owners and promoting long-term economic vitality across the region.

Through the Alberta Advantage Immigration Rural Entrepreneur Stream, the County helped facilitate the arrival of one successful applicant in 2024—bringing new investment, innovation, and energy to our local economy.

We also actively respond to Requests for Information (RFIs) from Invest in Alberta, ensuring the region is well-positioned and represented in provincial and global investment opportunities.

Additionally, in 2024, Flagstaff County completed a Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Operational Plan to guide strategic efforts in attracting international business and investment. The plan outlines priorities, target sectors, and actions to position the region for sustainable economic growth.

# INVESTMENT ATTRACTION

#### Biofuel Development Opportunity Zone (BDO Zone) Initiative

The BDO Zone Initiative, funded through the Clean Fuels Fund, positions Flagstaff County as investment-ready in the bioeconomy by identifying and promoting local biomass assets. Flagstaff County received an A rating for wheat straw, supporting rural innovation and attracting investors focused on sustainable and circular economy opportunities.



# **SMALL BUSINESS CELEBRATIONS**

#### **Flagstaff Celebrates Success**

During Small Business Week (October 20–26, 2024), Flagstaff County ran a digital campaign promoting local business support and success stories. The week culminated in the Flagstaff Celebrates Success gala, where 200 attendees gathered to honour local entrepreneurs with a showcase, locally sourced meal, and keynote speaker.

#### **Small Business Awards**

Flagstaff County launched a new Small Business Awards program in 2024, celebrating local entrepreneurship and innovation. The inaugural year featured seven award categories with 53 nominations from across the region.

#### **Looking Ahead to 2025**

Flagstaff County remains committed to fostering a strong, resilient business community. In 2025, we will:

- Continue virtual one-on-one business coaching to support entrepreneurs at every stage.
- Maintain open intake for the Flagstaff Region Small Business Programs, creating needsbased support for businesses.
- Expand the Flagstaff Crafted Marketplace to create more retail opportunities for local makers.
- Launch and support events, workshops, and campaigns that strengthen local business and community connections.

# **FINANCE**

## \* FINANCIAL SUMMARY ANNUAL REPORT

Flagstaff County is required by provincial legislation to prepare annual financial statements by May 1 for the preceding year. These statements are consistent with principles and standards for financial reporting established by the Public Sector Accounting Board of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada as required by the MGA.

Canada's public sector accounting standards aim to ensure that a public entity's financial statements:

- Account for the full nature and extent of the financial affairs and resources that the entity controls.
- Show the entity's financial position at the end of the fiscal period, so the entity's ability to finance its activities and provide future services can be evaluated.
- Describe the entity's change in financial position during the fiscal period; and
- Demonstrate the entity's accountability for the management of the resources, obligations, and financial affairs for which it is responsible.

Public sector financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. This method records transactions and their effect when they occur, which is often in a different period than the associated cash exchanges to settle the transaction.

There are three separate statements that make up a full set of financial statements. The three statements are described briefly below:

- Statement of Financial Position This overarching statement summarizes a municipalities financial position at a point in time. Changes in the financial position of the entity are summarized in the statements.
- Statement of Operations This statement explains the change in the overall financial position of the municipality during the accounting period.
- Statement of Cash Flow This statement explains the change in the cash and cash equivalents from the prior year and provides important information about the municipality's ability to generate cash to meet its cash requirements.

## \* ACCOUNTING PROCESS

Flagstaff County maintains an accounting system consistent with accepted standards for local government accounting in Alberta and Canada, and Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) guidelines relative to accounting for local governments. The finance and accounting services are administered under the direction of the Corporate Services Director and Chief Administrative Officer.

# **\*** AUDIT PROCESS

Pursuant to the MGA, Council must appoint one or more auditors for the municipality. In September 2022, Gitzel & Company was awarded the contract for professional audit services for a three-year term from 2023 to 2025. The preparation, accuracy and integrity of the financial statements is the responsibility of municipal administration. The auditor's responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on their audit results.

# **\* BUDGET PROCESS**

Flagstaff County prepares a three-year Operating Business Plan and Budget, as well as a five-year Capital Plan, which is updated and presented to Council annually. This document provides information and budgets for all programs and services based on Council's priorities. Monthly revenue and expense variance reports are provided to Council based on the approved budget.

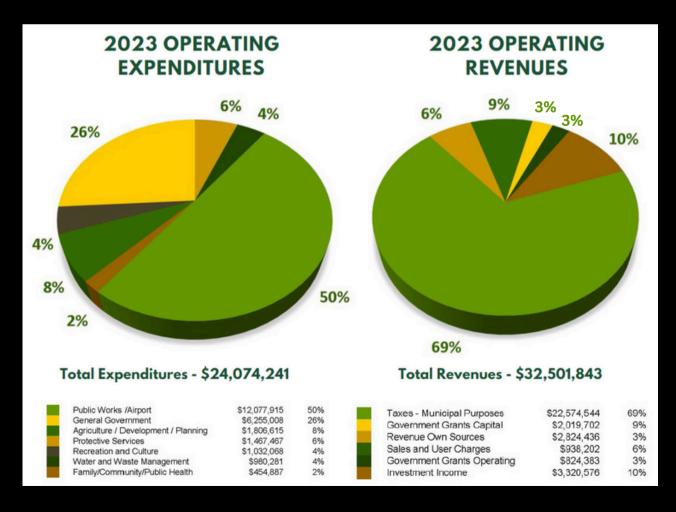
The budget process begins each year reviewing current programs and services, and Council priorities, which also includes public participation according to policy, which is required by the MGA.

# \* FINANCIAL POLICIES

Flagstaff County is currently working on a Long-Range Financial Plan, which will include financial polices to ensure good governance and fiscal responsibility. Our policies are available on the Flagstaff County website.

## \* ASSET MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

In 2019, an Asset Management Committee was formed for the purpose of developing an asset management program for the county. The committee is made up of members from the Municipal Services and Corporate Services departments. This committee continues to develop the Asset Management Program with the approval of Council.

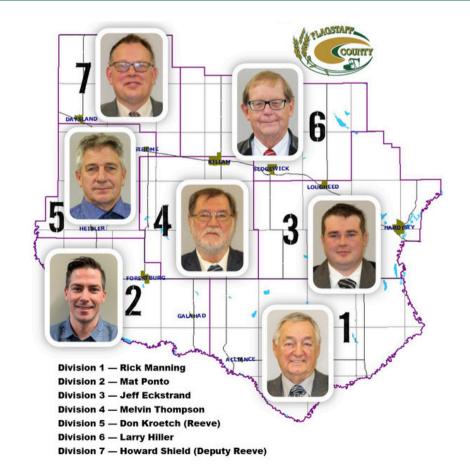


#### SALARY AND BENEFITS DISCLOSURE

Disclosure of salaries and benefits for elected municipal officials as required by provincial regulation is as follows:

	Div. 1	Div. 2	Div. 3	Div. 4	Div. 5 (Reeve)	Div. 6	Div. 7
Salary	\$43,165	\$43,165	\$43,165	\$43,165	\$47,482	\$43,165	\$43,165
Benefits & Allowances	\$754	\$6,978	\$6,978	\$4,401	\$7,622	\$4,401	\$6,978
2024 Total	\$43,919	\$50,143	\$50,143	\$47,566	\$55,103	\$47,566	\$50,143
2023 Total	\$42,346	\$48,349	\$48,349	\$45,868	\$53,189	\$45,868	\$48,349

Salary includes regular base pay and gross honoraria. Benefits and allowances figures for the Councillors include the employer's share of Canada pension, WCB and the additional taxable benefit of group life insurance paid for by the employer as well as the County portion of the RRSP contribution.



# PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT



# PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT CREATES AN ATTRACTIVE AND VIBRANT MUNICIPALITY, WHICH ENHANCES THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF ITS RESIDENTS.

This is achieved through the goals and regulations set out in the Land Use Bylaw, Municipal Development Plan, and Intermunicipal Development Plans. Following these plans results in less conflicting developments, addresses safety and environmental concerns, and creates productive land management.

### **DEVELOPMENTS**

All residents are reminded that no development shall be undertaken within the municipality unless an application for it has been approved and a development permit has been issued, other than those designated in Section 3.5 of the Land Use Bylaw, which can be accessed on our website. Please refer to the definition of "development" under Part 1.3.76 of our Land Use Bylaw.

Development Permits are required to ensure that:

- 1. The regulated setback distances from all property boundary lines will be met.
- Setback distances are required to ensure safety from roadway traffic, minimize dust and noise, ensure sightlines to the roadway are clear, and to provide sufficient distance for possible road development in the future.
- All developments within the Agricultural District must be set back a minimum of 40 metres (131.2 feet)
  from the front line of the property. Side and rear yard setback distances vary for structures, dugouts and
  shelterbelts. Please refer to the Land Use Bylaw 01/23 for required setback distances.
- All development within the **Hamlets** must be setback a minimum of 6.0 metres (19.7 feet) from the front property line. Side and rear yard setback distances vary within Hamlet Land Use Districts.
- 2. The land is properly zoned for the proposed use (i.e. agricultural, commercial, industrial, residential, public use):
- To ensure that land uses will not conflict with one another (e.g. Industrial development does not conflict with agricultural or residential land users), and
- To encourage industrial development in environmentally suitable locations and to a high environmental standard.
- 3. Those who may be affected by a proposed development are provided with an opportunity to comment.



# **Developments in 2024**

Commercial/Industrial Non-Residential Residential

Number of Permits Issued

5 29 14

Value of Permits Issued \$1.1M \$5.1M \$4.5M

# BUILDING, ELECTRICAL, PLUMBING, PRIVATE SEWAGE, GAS, AND NATIONAL ENERGY CODE PERMITS

Under Alberta's Safety Codes Act, all contractors and homeowners must obtain permits before starting work on buildings, including mobile homes. Permits ensure compliance with codes for building, electrical, gas, plumbing, private sewage, and energy efficiency. Inspections by a certified Safety Codes Officer help ensure safety and protect property owners, particularly for insurance purposes.

Flagstaff County partners with Superior Safety Codes Inc. to issue these permits and conduct inspections. Applications are available at the County Office by calling 1-888-358-5545 or online at <a href="https://www.superiorsafetycodes.com">www.superiorsafetycodes.com</a>.

## SUBDIVISION OF LAND

Flagstaff County aims to preserve valuable agricultural land by regulating subdivision through the Land Use Bylaw and Municipal Development Plan. Subdivision parcel sizes vary by Land Use District—e.g., Agricultural District parcels typically range from 1 to 15 acres. Other districts include Agricultural Small Holdings, Country Residential, Commercial, Industrial, and various Hamlet designations. In 2024, 12 subdivision applications were received.

For guidance on applications or regulations, contact the County Office. Relevant bylaws, plans, and forms are also available at www.flagstaff.ca.



Peace Officers provide services and education in the area of Traffic Safety, Infrastructure Protection, and Emergency Response. Flagstaff County is authorized by the Department of Public Safety and Emergency Services to employ two Community Peace Officers with the authority to enforce legislation and regulations relating to:

- The Traffic Safety Act
- The Provincial Offences Procedure Act
- The Highways Development and Protection Act
- The Gaming, Liquor, and Cannabis Act
- The Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act
- Other Provincial Acts and Legislation

The Peace Officers work in partnership with various federal and provincial agencies to patrol and enforce legislation and regulations. Community Peace Officers enforce weights and measures to ensure that road users are working within legal allowances, therefore protecting the infrastructure from damage and increasing safety on our roadways. The Peace Officers are also contracted to provide enforcement services for the urban municipalities with the region.



# TRANSPORTATION (PUBLIC WORKS)

The Transportation Department, formerly known as Public Works, is responsible for the construction and maintenance of all municipal roadways and bridges throughout the County. The objective is to provide a responsible level of service to our residents by working as a team to achieve successful programs approved by Council.

# **FLEET MANAGEMENT/SHOP**

Shop staff is responsible for the service, maintenance, and repairs of all mechanical resources ranging from small, powered equipment to our largest piece of machinery. This includes routine inspections for trucks and trailers as required by the Alberta Transportation Vehicle Safety Act.

# ROAD RECOVERY/REHABILITATION

The Road Recovery/Rehabilitation Program is described as a process to rehabilitate a road structure, restore drainage, and dispose of any rocks and regrowth of trees and shrubs. The Road Recovery Program is executed by County resources, and it includes the following maintenance procedures:

Shoulder Pulling is utilized on roads that are in excess of 10 metres wide. This program extends the life of the road and reduces maintenance costs. This process may include drainage improvements, culvert replacement, reshaping backslopes and grade slopes, re-compacting the sub-grade, re-establishing the road surface crown, restoring the road surface width that it was originally constructed to, and the disposal of any rocks or shrubs. Gravelock, a soil stabilization product, is utilized in all these projects. We have observed improved performance of the sub-grade by incorporating Gravelock.



The following projects were completed in 2024:

Location	Distance	Cost
ENE 07-46-16 Rge Rd 165	6.0 miles (local)	\$323,955
ENE 35-46-15 Rge Rd 151	4.0 miles (local)	\$233,810
ENE 33-42-14 Twp Rd 143	6.0 miles (local)	\$378,320
NNW 22-42-14 Twp Rd 424	5.0 miles (local)	\$359,540
NNW 22-46-16 Twp Rd 464	3.0 miles (local)	\$176,660

**Sub-Grade Preparation** is performed on roads where the sub-grade has lost its compaction. This maintenance procedure includes re-compacting the sub-grade, re-establishing the crown on the road surface, and includes incorporating Gravelock, a soil stabilization product, to strengthen the sub-grade. In 2024, we continued testing a new soil stabilization product called Perma-Zyme for a one-mile section.

The following project was completed in 2024:

Location	Distance	Cost	
NNW 22-45-16 Twp Rd 454	1.0 mile (Local)	\$51,440	



# **DUST SUPPRESSANT**

Strategic locations have dust suppressant applied, which helps reduce the frequency of maintenance, improve safety while mitigating the nuisance of dust to residents, and minimizing the environmental impact. The dust suppressant program consists of the following:

- MG30
- · Oil Surface
- Pavement
- Test Products



**MG 30** is utilized exclusively for all dust suppressant applications. MG 30 is a water-soluble dust suppressant product, which also has road surface stabilization characteristics that bind aggregate materials, therefore keeping aggregate on the road. MG 30 has also proven to help reduce washboard, grader maintenance, and the frequency of graveling, thus extending the life of our gravel sources.

In 2024, MG 30 was used on approximately 64 residential locations, 68 arterial residential locations and 32 strategic locations (intersections, hills, curves, and sections of road to reduce the frequency of maintenance).

#### **Residential Dust Suppressant**

Residents have the option to allow Flagstaff County to apply residential dust suppressant in front of their residence or to hire a qualified private company.

#### 1. Service Provided by the County

Flagstaff County provides an MG 30 dust suppressant application for residents on a cost recovery basis. An application form for residential dust suppressant is available online at <a href="https://www.flagstaff.ca">www.flagstaff.ca</a> or by contacting the Transportation Department at 780-384-4100.

#### 2. Service Provided by a Contractor

No residents participated in the option to hire a private company to apply dust suppressant.

#### **Arterial Residential Dust Suppressant**

Residents on Arterial roads are eligible for 200 metres of MG 30 dust suppressant, free of charge. In 2024, residents along the arterial roads received two applications of MG 30 dust suppressant, free of charge.

# **OIL PRODUCTS**

Specific roads are designated, in policy, to be maintained with an oil surface treatment to help reduce the frequency of maintenance:

Roads Remaining with Oil Surface		
LOCATION	DISTANCE	
Strome East - Rge Rd 151	0.40 miles	
North from Highway 13		
Airport Road (Hardisty) – Rge Rd	2.75 miles	
103 South from Hwy 13		
Shop Road West - Twp Rd 442	2.10 miles	
East from Range Road 130		
Shop Road East- Twp Rd 442 East	0.4375 miles	
from SH 869		

#### Hamlet of Galahad

- Sir Galahad Street (Main Street) from Guinevere Avenue West to SH 861
- Lady Helen Avenue East (Health Care Centre) from Sir Galahad Street to King Arthur Street

#### **Hamlet of Strome**

- 50th Street (Main Street) from 50th Avenue
   North to 52nd Avenue
- Highway Access Road from Hwy 13 North to 50th Avenue
- 52nd Avenue from Rge Rd 151 West to the west boundary of the Hamlet

Roads identified to be removed from the oil road inventory will continue to be transitioned back to a gravel surface road as they dehydrate.

# **PAVEMENT**

The following roadways are designated pavement roads:

Pavement Roads		
Location	Distance	
Twp Rd 410 - to ATCO Power Plant	1.75 miles	
Rge Rd 131 - north of Highway 13	0.75 miles	
Twp Rd 412 - west of Highway 36	4.0 miles	

A maintenance program for oiled and paved roads includes patching, rip and relay, seal coat application, crack filling, line painting, snow plowing and sanding.



# **TEST PRODUCTS**

New dust suppressant products are tested to determine whether they are effective, affordable, and environmentally suitable.

Products that have been tested:

- Formula 35+
- · Canola Oil
- Durasoil
- · Earth Glue
- Magnesium Chloride
- Dust Lynx
- NoDust
- NoDust Enviro

In 2024, Formula 35+ was applied to 12 200-metre test sections on Township Road 440 and Township Road 452 for a total of 2,400 metres.

Formula 35+ is a calcium chloride product with a corrosion inhibitor that is sold by the manufacturer as an equivalent to MG 30.

Flagstaff County continues to consult with industry and municipalities to seek out new and alternative products. We also continue to perform testing on new dust suppressant products in search of cost effective alternatives.

# **SERVICES FOR TOWNS AND VILLAGES**

If requested, Flagstaff County will provide assistance with minor construction, maintenance, application of dust suppressant or recycled oil on streets and roads within the towns and villages, upon availability of resources. This service is provided on a cost recovery basis.

In 2024, dust suppressant work was completed for:

- · Town of Daysland
- · Village of Heisler
- Town of Hardisty
- Village of Alliance

In addition, towns and villages are permitted to purchase gravel, cold mix, and sand/salt material.

# **ROAD BANS**

Road Bans define the maximum allowable weights permitted on certain municipal roads. Weight restrictions are applied to protect the road structure and minimize damage. Oil roads are typically banned at 50% during the spring, 75% during the summer and fall, and 90% during the winter months. Gravel roads are banned only if deemed necessary to protect the infrastructure. Certain dirt/sand roads have an annual weight restriction of 75% to minimize heavy oilfield traffic. Please refer to our website at <a href="www.flagstaff.ca">www.flagstaff.ca</a> for the most current Road Ban Order.

# **GRAVEL PROGRAM**

#### Gravel

On average, 150,000 tonnes of gravel are required annually for the following programs: regravel, road construction, road recovery, spot patching, washouts, approaches, and road repairs. Typically, gravel roads are re-graveled on a five-year cycle, which equates to an average of 275 miles annually; however, other factors such as "Average Annual Daily Traffic/types of vehicles, and road designation, etc., influence cycle times. Within the re-gravel program, all 8-metre-wide roads are graveled at 330 tonnes per mile. Narrower road widths are graveled at a reduced rate: seven (7) metre roads at 290 tonnes per mile and six (6) metre roads at 246 tonne per mile. In-house resources are utilized to complete the gravel program, which includes gravelling, road repairs, patching and stockpiling.

#### **Gravel Stockpiling**

Interim stockpile sites are utilized to increase efficiencies for the summer gravel haul program.

In 2024, approximately 25,060 tonnes were hauled and stockpiled:

- Daysland stockpile site (17,640 tonnes)
- Sedgewick stockpile site (7,420 tonnes)

#### **Gravel Production**

Gravel Production (crushing) replenishes our supply of gravel and ensures inventory levels are adequate to support our programs. Crushing projects are tendered to ensure that a competitive price is obtained. All gravel is crushed to a required specification and quality controls are completed by in-house personnel.

Two gravel production projects were completed in 2024 at the following locations:

- McDonald Pit (NW 14-45-19 W4) 50,000 tonnes
- McNabb Pit (SW 35-41-17 W4) 80,010 tonnes

# **GRAVEL PROGRAM**

#### **Gravel Reclamation**

The County is responsible for reclamation at seven gravel pits that we manage and lease. Reclamation is performed in accordance with a Code of Practice prepared by a consulting firm and approved by Alberta Environment. In-house equipment is utilized for the purpose of gravel exploration, pit preparation, and reclamation.

#### **Gravel Exploration**

In an effort to secure a long-term gravel supply and/or source, we are continually increasing inventory and conducting gravel exploration for the purpose of purchasing and/or leasing future gravel sources.

As potential gravel sources are identified, a Gravel Testing Agreement is acquired prior to the commencement of exploration.

#### **Gravel Sales**

Landowners may purchase a maximum allotment of gravel of up to 150 tonnes per year per residential/farm/acreage site within the County. Anyone wishing to purchase gravel must contact the Transportation Department to make arrangements to obtain a "Permission for Purchase of Gravel" form prior to receiving any gravel sales.

Please note that the intent of County gravel sales is for use on residential laneways and yard sites and the gravel is not for re-sale.



#### **Maintenance Area Graders**

This includes grader maintenance on Collector, Local and Field Access roads. There are more than 1,800 miles of bladed roads that are divided into nine Maintenance Areas. Within County boundaries, there are 151 miles of secondary highways, which are maintained by Emcon on behalf of the Province of Alberta.

#### Winter Maintenance

Roadways are cleared of snow as necessary. During normal winter conditions, gravel roads should be cleared of snow within four days of a snow event, unless there is heavy snowfall and persistent winds. If reduced visibility becomes a safety concern, snow plowing operations will be suspended until conditions improve.

In each maintenance area, three routes are established. When plowing is required, the starting point is rotated between routes to ensure that an equitable level of service is provided. Spare graders may be utilized to help during winter storms. Upon request, field access roads may be plowed, one time only, to permit access to grain bins, re-locate livestock and/or oil/gas lease sites.



#### **Summer Maintenance**

Grader operators are able to blade approximately 15-25 miles/day; these roads receive maintenance once per month. Specific heavy traffic routes have an increased maintenance cycle. Field access roads are to be graded once a month, weather permitting. These roads are low priority, have an organic surface and will only have aggregate applied to fill in low spots.

#### **Arterial Road Maintenance**

Arterial roads are graded twice per month and cleared of snow as necessary. During normal winter conditions, arterial roads should be cleared within one to two (1-2) days of a snow event unless there is heavy snow and persistent winds. During winter, if required due to a severe or prolonged storm, additional resources may be utilized to clear arterial roads more quickly. Approximately 130 miles of arterial road is maintained utilizing two graders.

#### **Private Laneway Maintenance**

The service of snowplowing and grading is available for residential laneways on a cost recovery basis. To obtain this service, the following process is required:

- The landowner is required to sign a Private Laneway Service Agreement;
- County Staff will conduct an Occupational Health and Safety Inspection/Hazard
   Assessment prior to any work being completed; an inspection fee of \$149 will be charged for the assessment;
- The Service Agreement and Inspection/Hazard Assessment will be automatically
  extended for one year from the present or any future expiration date, unless thirty (30)
  days written notice is provided terminating the agreement;
- Services to the public will be conducted after all scheduled road maintenance is completed on gravel, oil, and paved surface roads;
- A maintenance fee of \$87/half hour (half hour minimum charge) or \$174/hour will be charged for this service.

#### **Grade Repair**

This program is to address short sections of road that have inadequate grades that require re-construction, repairs or upgrades. This process may include a short section of road that has sightline issues (hills or curves) or a grade that crosses a slough that has become soft or narrow due to erosion and is unable to support equipment and truck traffic.

#### **Hamlet Street Maintenance/Repair**

This includes snow removal, crack filling, repairing potholes, sidewalk maintenance, street sweeping, grading, and providing dust suppression. To reduce road damage and manage traffic flow, designated truck routes were implemented for both hamlets. To view the maps and for more information, please refer to www.flagstaff.ca.

#### **Culvert Maintenance**

Culvert maintenance includes replacement, cleaning, thawing, repairs to damaged ends, and the addition of extensions. All culverts are replaced, and diameters are increased where required to improve water flow. In 2024, four 400-900 mm centerline culverts were replaced in-house. New culverts are installed under new construction projects and may be replaced on road recovery projects.



#### Brushing/Backsloping/Mulching

This process increases the level of safety by increasing sight lines and the contouring of ditches and backslopes. Brushing and mulching provides landowners an opportunity to control brush growth adjacent to road allowances. This service is provided to landowners upon request and as equipment and resources become available because the same resources are utilized in gravel production and reclamation programs. Brushing on road allowances is not permitted without authorization from the County.

## Signs

All signs are inspected on an ongoing basis, including an annual inspection of every sign. Any signs requiring maintenance are prioritized and scheduled for repair or replacement. In 2024, four entrance signs to the Hamlet of Galahad and Strome were refurbished for a total cost of \$13,230.

#### **Approaches**

Approaches located within the road's right-of-way are under the direction, control and management of Flagstaff County, and as such, the Transportation Department retains the authority to approve the installation of new approaches. In the interest of public safety, approval will only be granted where the requested location is considered practical and ensures that all approaches are constructed in accordance with County standards and policy PW 004-Approaches.

Oil and gas companies must submit an application in the form of a letter along with a site survey plan, which must be accompanied by a \$250 inspection and administration fee. Where access is required off of a partially or undeveloped road allowance, the applicant is required to enter into the appropriate Road Use/Construction Agreement.

#### **Roadside Clean Up**

Landowners are prohibited from dumping rocks and debris in the County right-of-way. This debris causes hazards in the right-of-way. The landowner will be responsible for the clean-up of any new rock piles found. Ditches within our County right-of-ways on developed and partially developed road allowances will be periodically cleared of debris such as rocks, garbage, and dead trees.

#### **Bridge Maintenance and Repair**

Bridge maintenance includes deck sweeping, vegetation control, beaver dam removal, replacement of bridge decking, guardrails, and hazard markers. This maintenance preserves the capital asset and contributes to safe crossings.

A number of culvert structures were identified to meet the criteria to be listed as a bridge file and thus qualify for provincial funding for repair and replacement. There are now 103 bridge files (33 bridge structures and 70 culvert structures) within the County that are inspected and analyzed on a five-year cycle for major deficiencies.

## **Culvert Replacement Projects**

The following project was completed in 2024:

Bridge File	Work	Cost
Bridge File # 72912 Twp Rd 401 A (south of Alliance)	In-house 1,600- mm culvert replacement	\$33,260



# **Bridge Projects**

The following projects were completed in 2024:

Bridge File	Work	Cost
Bridge File # 07688 Rge Rd 122 (north of Sedgewick)	Bridge Repair	\$235,605
Bridge File # 02408 Rge Rd 124 (north of Sedgewick)	Bridge Repair	\$33,250
Bridge File # 77982 Rge Rd 105 (west of Hardisty)	Bridge Repair	\$22,645
Bridge File # 01019 Twp Rd 460 (north of Daysland)	Bridge Replaced with 2,200 mm Culvert	\$412,020
Bridge File # 76355 Twp Rd 422 (south of Sedgewick)	Bridge Replaced with (2) 2,400 mm Culverts	\$466,500
Bridge File # 01459 Rge Rd 120 (west of Hardisty)	Bridge Replacement – Preliminary Engineering	\$25,000



# FLAGSTAFF REGIONAL AIRPORT

The Transportation Department provides administration and maintenance services for the Flagstaff Regional Airport.

The airport has a paved 2,950-foot runway along with an Aircraft Radio Control Aerodrome Lighting (ARCAL) System. We offer a 24-hour cardlock fuel system as well as a comfortable terminal facility with most amenities required by recreational pilots.

In 2024, the following projects were completed at the airport:

- Kitchen upgrades in the terminal building;
- Extension to the parking apron.



# UTILITIES - WATER/WASTEWATER/GARBAGE COLLECTION

Water treatment and distribution, wastewater collection and treatment, and garbage collection services are provided to the residents within the Hamlets of Strome and Galahad.

No projects were scheduled in 2024 for the Hamlet of Galahad.

The following infrastructure upgrades were completed in 2024 for the Hamlet of Strome:

- Electrify Diesel Emergency Pump Replacement of the emergency diesel pump in the water treatment plant with an electric emergency pump at a cost of \$46,975;
- Upgrades to the Bulk Water Station at a cost of \$28,150.

# ROAD CONSTRUCTION

Evaluation criteria, such as safety concerns, historical maintenance, average annual daily traffic, sightlines, grade width, grade slopes/backslopes, drainage, and type of traffic, are used to determine which roads will be constructed and prioritized for reconstruction.

The transportation department will continue to monitor and evaluate local roads to determine if they meet the required criteria for future road construction.

# REPORTING ISSUES OR INFORMATION

Please contact the Transportation Department at 780-384-4100 with any issues such as:

- A plugged culvert where drainage is a concern or to purchase a used culvert.
- To report a sign that has been vandalized, missing, or faded.
- Bridge concerns or washouts.
- Application of dust control.
- Maintenance of laneway.
- Purchase of gravel.
- Rental of equipment.
- If you require any type of access or brushing/backsloping/mulching on a road allowance.
- Information on constructing an approach.

#### Please remember:

- Where you have more than ten (10) loads of 11,797 kgs or greater in a 24-hour period to or from the same location, a Multiple Load Road Use Agreement (MLRUA) is required. For more information, please refer to <a href="https://www.flagstaff.ca">www.flagstaff.ca</a> or contact the Transportation Department at 780-384-4100.
- Any activity within a municipal right-of-way requires approval from the County prior to commencing (i.e. brushing, snowplowing, temporary fence, gates, signs, etc.).

#### Looking forward to 2025 ...

- Contracting gravel haul of 80,000 tonnes from McDonald Pit to Daysland Stockpile and 50,000 tonnes from Skori Stockpile to Pyra Stockpile.
- Runway micro surfacing at the Flagstaff Regional Airport.
- Replacement of the concrete floor in the Lougheed Grader Shed.

# **SCHEDULED FOR 2025**

#### **Gravel Production**

• Purchase of 15,000 tonnes of gravel in the southwest area of the County.



# **Bridge Projects**

Bridge File	Work to be Completed
BF # 02408 – Rge Rd 124 (north of Sedgewick)	Bridge Repair
BF # 07692 – Twp Rd 450 (north of Killam)	Bridge Repair
BF # 75491 – Twp Rd 410 (south of Hardisty)	Bridge Repair
BF # 79104 – Rge Rd 104 (south of Daysland)	In-house 1,800 mm Culvert Replacement
BF # 83194 – Twp Rd 434 (north of Heisler)	In-house 1,200 mm Culvert Replacement
BF # 01459 – Rge Rd 120 (southwest of Hardisty)	Bridge Replacement



## **Road Recovery Projects**

Location	Distance
ENE 23-42-14 Rge Rd 141 South	4.0 miles (Local)
NNW 22-44-14 Twp Rd 444 East	2.0 miles (Local)
ENE 12-44-16 Rge Rd 160 South	8.0 miles (Local)
ENE 36-42-12 Rge Rd 120 South	6.0 miles (Local)
NNW 19-46-15 Twp Rd 464 East	3.0 miles (Local)
NNW 21-45-13 Twp Rd 454 East	3.0 miles (Local)



# **Hamlet Infrastructure Upgrades**

No infrastructure upgrades in the hamlets scheduled for 2025.

# RECREATION

In 2024, \$641,268 in recreation funding was distributed to the 10 Agricultural Societies within the region. The amount of funding provided to each society is based upon a formula of the percentage of the rural population applied to the total population of each community. Flagstaff County provides 90% grant funding to Agricultural Societies and releases the remaining 10% only if all conditions of the grant are satisfied by the specified deadline of September 30th. Some Ag. Societies have chosen to distribute the remaining 10% in 2025.

# **2024 Recreation Funding Allocations**

Agricultural Society	Funding Distribution		Total Grant Amount
Alliance	Valley Ski Hill Alliance Ag Society Village of Alliance Carry Forward	\$6,000 \$2,263 \$10,000 \$4,362	22,625
Daysland	Friends of Daysland Public Library Daysland & District Cultural Arts Society Daysland School Daysland Fitness Centre Valley Ski Club Daysland & District Aging Place Foundation Daysland Soccer Club Killam Recreation Board (Aquatic Centre) Daysland District Memorial Arena Association Daysland Golf Club Thunderstars Minor Hockey Association Daysland Sports & Recreation Society Daysland Minor Ball Forestburg Riding Arena Forestburg Swimming Pool Association Heisler Archery Club Battle River Warriors	\$2,500 \$6,000 \$6,500 \$3,000 \$1,000 \$1,150 \$3,000 \$31,943.50 \$31,943.50 \$4,000 \$5,000 \$1,500 \$1,500 \$1,500 \$1,500	\$107,537
Forestburg	Walter Jahn's Singers Society	\$1,000	



	Forestburg Swimming Pool Association	\$15,000	
	Forestburg Riding Arena	\$7,500	
	Forestburg Power Sports Association	\$6,000	
	Forestburg Library	\$3,000	
	Forestburg Golf Club	\$8,000	
	Forestburg Community Centre	\$5,000	
	Forestburg Arena & Multiuse Facility	\$15,000	
	Forestburg Community Development	\$10,000	\$112,360
	Forestburg School	\$11,000	(\$2,370 from
Forestburg	Forestburg Minor Ball	\$2,000	Unallocated
	Flagstaff Scottish Club	\$500	Carry Over)
	Valley Ski Hill	\$5,000	
	Thunderstars Minor Hockey	\$4,000	
	Battle River Fish & Game	\$1,000	
	Hastings Coulee 4H Beef	\$1,000	
	Heisler Archery Club	\$1,000	
	Forestburg Ag Society	\$16,360	
	Forestburg Golf Club	\$2,500	
	Valley Ski Club	\$3,500	444447
Galahad	Galahad Agricultural Society	\$7,447	\$14,447
	Archery Club	\$1,000	
	Archery Glub	\$1,000	
	Hardisty Rodeo Association	\$7,500	
	Flagstaff Scottish Club	\$1,500	
	Hardisty K Club	\$4,500	
	Hardisty Agricultural Society	\$25,100	
	Hardisty Minor Hockey	\$9,000	\$74,690
Hardisty	Hardisty Public Library	\$5,000	
	Lakeview Golf Association	\$22,090	
	Heisler Seniors	\$1,000	
	Heisler Municipal Library	\$1,700	
Heisler	Heisler Community Centre	\$2,500	
ricisici	Daysland School	\$700	¢19.400
	Daysland Arena	\$500	\$18,400
	Daysland Minor Ball	\$600	
	Forestburg Golf Course	\$600	
	Valley Ski Hill	\$750	
	Village of Heisler	\$1,000	
	Hesiler Archery Club	\$1,200	
	Heisler Ag Society Carry Forward	\$6,010 \$1,840	
Villam	Killam Recreation Board	\$100,000	\$125,119
Killam	Killam Agricultural Society	\$25,119	Ψ123,119
		1 2 000 B 1000001	
Lougheed	Lougheed Curling Club	\$6,000	
Lougheeu	Lougheed Library	\$2,000	



Lougheed	Lougheed Community Hall	\$7,000	\$30,667
<b>_</b>	Lougheed Trout Pond	\$2,000	
	Lougheed Playschool	\$1,000	
	Lougheed Senior Center	\$2,500	
	Village of Lougheed	\$5,500	
	Lougheed Field House	\$4,667	
	Friends of the Sedgewick Recreation Centre Society \$81,000		
Sedgewick	CHSPS Parent Support	\$1,800	\$103,721
- ca.gaman	Valley Ski Hill	\$900	198 204 040 0 <b>42</b> 7 0455 355 A
	Sedgewick Library	\$450	
	Carry Forward	\$19,571	
	Strome Senior Citizens Club	\$7,000	
Strome	Strome Curling Club	\$7,000	\$34,073
01.00	Strome Willing Workers	\$20,073	



# REGIONAL **PROGRAMS**

# **FLAGSTAFF FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES**

FFCS is an intermunicipal agency providing a range of support programs for individuals, families, and communities. Operations are funded on a per capita basis by Flagstaff County and local municipalities, with overall funding split 20% municipal and 80% provincial.

## LIBRARY SUPPORT

Financial support is provided to the Parkland Regional Library System, a cooperative network serving over 200,000 central Alberta residents by sharing library materials, resources, and expertise.

# **FLAGSTAFF REGIONAL EMERGENCY SERVICES SOCIETY (FRESS)**

Flagstaff County is a member of the Flagstaff Regional Emergency Services Society (FRESS), which delivers rural and urban fire services. ensuring consistent emergency response while reducing risk and liability.

# **FLAGSTAFF HEALTHCARE ATTRACTION &** RETENTION COMMITTEE

To support the FIHAR Committee's goals, administrative assistance was provided to help coordinate and execute programs throughout the year.

In 2024, the committee delivered eight monthly appreciation baskets to various healthcare departments, seven "Thank You Healthcare Professionals" signs with coffee and nursingthemed stickers during National Nursing Week, and hosted a Mental Health Summit during Alberta Rural Health Week, drawing 125 attendees to discuss rural mental wellness.

These efforts aim to recognize, support, and retain healthcare professionals while promoting rural healthcare careers.



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE GRANT

Funding is provided to non-profit organizations that provide programs, services, and activities with the aim of enhancing the social well-being of residents and communities in the Flagstaff Region.

The following non-profit organizations were provided with funding in 2024:

- Flagstaff Community Adult Learning
- · Parents for Fun in Flagstaff
- Flagstaff's Informed Response Sharing Team (F.I.R.S.T)
- Flagstaff Victim Services
- Flagstaff Satellite Family Day Home Society
- Flagstaff Kids Connection Daycare

# CEMETERIES ASSISTANCE GRANT

Financial support is provided to rural community groups who are operating a cemetery in the County to complete improvements and maintenance

# FLAGSTAFF TOURISM ASSISTANCE GRANT

Tourism plays a vital role as an economic driver for our community and exposes our region to visitors who may otherwise never experience it. Providing financial support to non-profit organizations engaging in tourism activities allows Flagstaff County to enhance that draw of visitors.

The following non-profit organizations were provided funding in 2024:

- Friends of Battle River Railway Society
- Flagstaff Scottish Club Society
- Buckin' in the Burg
- Lougheed Iron Creek Museum

## **STARS**

Flagstaff County proudly supports STARS Air Ambulance with an annual donation, a commitment maintained since 2008 to help ensure life-saving emergency care remains accessible to rural Albertans.



# CONTACT US

