

County matters

Digest



Dates

Budget approved

Strathcona County Council approved the 2012-2014 Business Plan and 2012 Budget on December 13. The budget generally maintains municipal, utility and library services at 2011 levels, while continuing to position the County for a sustainable future. For an average residential property assessed at \$424,050, the annual municipal tax dollar increase will be approximately \$82.90 (4.84 per cent).

Visit the website for full details on the budget.

• www.strathcona.ca/budget 780-464-8053

Community calendar

Community groups and organizations now have a new and improved calendar to promote their events. For residents, this online calendar is a place to find out what is happening in the community. Check it out and let us know what you think.

• www.strathcona.ca/calendar 780-464-4242

Winter wise information on website

All you need to know to be wise about winter in Strathcona is now readily available on the County website.

• www.strathcona.ca/winter

January 31 deadline for Pride of Strathcona nominations

Great accomplishments, in a great community, deserve great applause. Do you know someone who has reached a significant achievement, or who keeps giving back to the community? Nominate him or her (or them) for a Pride of Strathcona Award. Deadline for nominations: January 31. The awards recognize outstanding contributions and achievements in the following newly revised categories: Community Service; Arts, Culture and Heritage; Professional Achievement; Youth; Seniors; and also Sports and Recreation for Athletic Achievement and for Development.

• www.strathcona.ca/pride 780-410-6595

Waste collection calendar coming soon

Watch for your 2012 waste collection calendar coming in the mail in early January. Copies will also be available for pickup around the County.

• www.strathcona.ca/utilities 780-449-5514

Conference – just for women

Make it a day about you ... attend, connect, rejuvenate! The 9th Windows on Wellness - A Women's Conference is on March 17, 2012. Start the day with an energizing drumming activity. For the low cost of \$45, you can choose from nearly 50 sessions on personal wellness, relationships and wisdom. Registration forms are available online or at Strathcona County Family and Community Services, #200, 501 Festival Avenue, Sherwood Park. Register early; this conference sells out fast!

• www.strathcona.ca/fcs 780-464-4044

Youth drop-in activities

The new youth lounge and gymnasium are now open at Millennium Place for drop-in activities. The youth lounge will also be used in part to accommodate other programs, temporarily while construction continues in the back of the building.

• www.strathcona.ca/youth 780-416-3300

Christmas in the Heartland thank you

Christmas in the Heartland took place during the holiday season and was warmly received by the community. Thank you to all our dedicated volunteers, community halls, sponsors and participants. Look for us again in late November 2012.

• www.strathcona.ca/holidayfun 780-410-8511 or 780-464-8095

Volunteers needed for tax clinics

Strathcona County is looking for volunteers to help residents prepare their tax returns, and benefit and subsidy applications. Volunteer greeters are also needed. Training, computer and software are provided. Apply by January 13. Tax return clinics will be offered at the Strathcona County Library in March and April 2012.

• www.strathcona.ca/fcs 780-464-4044 or 780-464-8210

Council Meetings in January

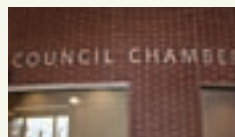
Tuesday, January 10

Council Meeting 2 p.m.
Council Open House 5:30 p.m.
Public Hearings 5 p.m. or 7 p.m.

Tuesday, January 24

Council Meeting 2 p.m.
Council Open House 5:30 p.m.
Public Hearings 5 p.m. or 7 p.m.

Meetings are subject to change or cancellation.



Meetings are held in Council Chambers in the Community Centre, 2001 Sherwood Drive, Sherwood Park. Members of the public are welcome to observe.

Council meetings are now webcast. Go to the Strathcona County website to watch and listen to meetings live. Or, view them later online for up to six months after the meeting date.

Agendas and reports are available by the Friday before the meeting date on the County website, at the Council meeting and at the Strathcona County Library.

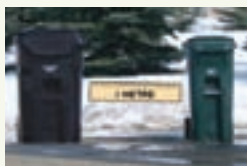
Council Meetings

780-464-8105 or 780-464-8060
www.strathcona.ca/council

Council Committee Meetings

780-464-8296

Put out both carts next week



In lieu of there being no waste collection between December 26 and 30, residents can put out both their waste and organics carts during the week of **January 2 to 6**. Remember

to leave at least one metre of space between your carts.

• www.strathcona.ca/utilities 780-449-5514

Parenting seminar series

This seminar series aims to equip parents of children newborn to 12 years old with skills to reduce the stress of parenting. There is no charge to attend. Call to register.

- The Power of Positive Parenting leads parents in the advantages of a loving, supportive and predictable family environment - Saturday, **January 21** from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

- Confidence and Competence for Kids explores the ways to equip your children with essential social skills. Saturday, **January 28** from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

• www.strathcona.ca/parentlink 780-464-4044

Stay & Play Whitecroft

Parents with newborns to six-year-olds – join us on Thursday mornings from 10 a.m. - 12 noon at Whitecroft Hall (314, 52313 Range Road 232) for a drop-in play program for parent and child led by Parent Link.

• www.strathcona.ca/parentlink 780-416-6730



New Year's Eve Festival in Sherwood Park

Ring in 2012 with a night of free family fun on **December 31** from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Broadmoor Lake Park, the Community Centre and Festival Place. Indoor and outdoor activities include face painting, an ice playland, skating, petting zoo, giant inflatables and more. Fireworks will dazzle at 8 p.m. at Broadmoor Lake.

• www.strathcona.ca/events 780-467-2211

Free transit services on New Year's Eve

Free Park and Ride is available from the Sherwood Park Transit Centre to Broadmoor Lake for the New Year's Eve festival, starting at 3 p.m. and running every half hour. The final shuttle leaves Broadmoor Lake Park at 8:45 p.m.



Local transit service within Sherwood Park is free December 31, starting at 12 noon until 2 a.m. January 1.

Commuter service to downtown Edmonton is free after 4 p.m. Last bus leaves downtown Edmonton at 1:30 a.m.

• www.strathcona.ca/transit 780-464-RIDE (7433), press 0

New Year's Day activities



The FUN continues on **January 1** from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Your choice: Lace up your skates for an afternoon of skating at the Sherwood Park Sports Centre. Or head out to the Strathcona Wilderness Centre to take part in toonie ski lessons and a snowshoe ramble, after which you can keep warm around a campfire, and enjoy apple cider, bannock, pancakes and games (register on-site).

• www.strathcona.ca/events 780-467-2211

Check out notices for other County programs, services and events on adjacent pages.