

1 Ward

from your County Councillor Vic Bidzinski



Wow! I cannot believe that winter hung on for as long as it did. Susan and I always take a winter vacation later in the season so that when we return, the corner has been turned and spring is on its way. Not this year, but hopefully this better weather we are beginning to experience is the start of something good and warm weather is truly on its way.

We in Strathcona County have also been experiencing some amazing challenges and opportunities since the municipal election last October. The biggest challenge of course is the proposal by Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO), along with EPCOR and AltaLink, to build twenty (20) storey towers for high-voltage transmission lines along the west side of our community.

There are numerous concerns about this proposal the least of which

is why they are being built in the first place and the need for this type of transmission. I have always been a think out of the box person, so why are we not looking to other methods of generating the power we need other than building big plants and transporting the generated power?

I am convinced there are greener ways to obtain the power we need, such as cogeneration since a number of our industries today produce more power than they can use for their own needs. Our Council is on the record as advocating the burial of these lines if they are near densely populated

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Strathcona
County

www.strathcona.ca

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FSC logo

Ward 1



Coffee chat

Saturday, June 11

2 - 4 p.m.

Café Haven

Corner of Broadmoor Boulevard
and Sioux Road

From your County Councillor
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areas, schools or playgrounds. We are in the midst of hearings by the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) Board to determine not need, but where and how these lines should be built.

We as a Council have also experienced some good opportunities to show our residents that we are elected to do their will as a body and listen to their concerns, needs and wants. The vision of our residents as to what this municipality will look like should be uppermost in our minds when we determine our strategic plan. To this end we have finalized a number of initiatives over the past six months.

Council passed our 2011 budget unanimously without “stealing” from past or future years. Council reviewed and changed our sign bylaw when we were informed by a number of our corporate residents that business was not being treated fairly and we were losing a vital part of this community due to this unfairness. Council also, through the perseverance of the Mayor, re-instituted our Economic Development Committee made up mostly of our citizens to advise Council on future plans to ensure we remain

a leader in the region with regard to economic opportunities.

We have also initiated a number of projects throughout our community through our Recreation, Parks and Culture department to help our residents continue to enjoy the best possible amenities we can provide. The additions and revamping of the ice at Millennium Place plus the restructuring of the clubhouse at the Broadmoor Golf Course are but some of these projects. We have a plan in place to continue these initiatives well into the future.

Council also has put in place a number of policies and procedures to govern their own behaviour and responsibilities as were recommended previous to the last election.

Thank you again for your confidence in my ability to work on your behalf and I will continue to communicate with as many of you as possible to understand and formulate your views in my decisions.

We hope you have an enjoyable and safe summer. We need you to help us fulfill all our dreams.

Tell us what you think about County Transit

To serve you better, Strathcona County Transit has been gathering input from residents about Transit service, design and costs. We want to make sure we are meeting the County’s busing needs and expectations, so we will be sharing the draft Transit Master Plan recommendations in early summer 2011. We’d love to hear from you. To sign up for notification of when the draft plan is available for your feedback, please visit www.strathcona.ca/transit.

Preparing your child to thrive

Are you concerned about how your child deals with negative influences? Join resiliency expert Dr. Wayne Hammond as he shares ways parents can prepare their child to deal with life’s challenges. Plan to attend May 26 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Community Centre. Tickets are \$15 each or two for \$25. Registration deadline is May 23. Call 780-464-4044 or go to www.strathcona.ca/fcs.

What do I get for my taxes?

How does the County make decisions?

Where is the County going in the future?



Strathcona County has created a new and interactive Business Plan and Budget video that answers these and other questions that you have about local government.

Also, learn about some of the County’s efforts to build a more sustainable community.

View it now at www.strathcona.ca

sustainability
emergency services
property taxes
revenue mix
social media
Ardrassan Recreation Complex
strategic business plan
business plan initiatives
interactive
value for taxes

Questions?
780-464-8089

Strathcona
County

Large item pickup

Do you have large items that are no longer useable? Coming in May and June, residents who subscribe to waste collection services from Strathcona County can put out two large items at the front curb or end of the driveway on their regular collection day and we will haul them away.

Large item collection days

Regular collection day	Large item collection day spring event
Monday	May 30
Tuesday	May 24
Wednesday	June 1
Thursday	May 26
Friday	June 3

There is a limit of two items per household. Please have items out by 7:30 a.m. on collection day.

All items must be less than six feet by three feet (1.8m x 0.9m) and weigh less than 200 lb (90 kg). Please remove doors and lids to fridges and freezers, and make sure the coolant system is not damaged. Items with fuel or oil tanks (barbecues, lawnmowers etc.) must have tanks removed. Fuel and empty fuel tanks can be taken to an Enviroservice event.

Refer to your 2011 waste collection calendar or our website for a list of acceptable and unacceptable items.

Have questions?

Go to www.strathcona.ca/utilities or call 780-449-5514.



Enviroservice events

Enviroservice events are back for another season to help Strathcona County residents keep harmful materials out of the landfill and recycle items not collected.

The Enviroservice event is available for all Strathcona County residents even if you do not subscribe to the Green Routine. The Enviroservice event takes place at Streambank Avenue Recycling Centre, 420 Streambank Avenue, Sherwood Park.

Enter the event on Streambank Avenue northbound via Petroleum Way. There is no entrance westbound on Streambank Avenue. Please obey all signs.

Please note: This is a drop-off event. These items are not collected with weekly waste collection.

2011 dates

Date	Time
May 12	4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
May 28	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
June 9	4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
June 25	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
July 7	4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
July 23	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
August 4	4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
August 20	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
September 1	4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
September 17	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
September 29	4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
October 15	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.



Do you have extra yard waste?

During the weeks of May 16-20 and June 13-17, 2011, residents who receive weekly waste collection from Strathcona County can put out extra yard waste for collection on their regular collection day only.

During these weeks only, extra yard waste that does not fit inside your green organics cart must be placed in clear bags and put out on your regular collection day. There is no limit to the amount of clear bags you can put out during these days only.



Get prepared, Strathcona!

Everyone has a role to play when a disaster strikes. Do you know what to do? Learn how Strathcona County is prepared to handle a disaster and what you can do to prepare your family for an emergency.

Plan to attend the Get prepared, Strathcona event Sunday, May 15 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Community Centre. Activities include interactive displays, parade of emergency vehicles, guest presenters and door prizes. If you don't have time to prepare your own 72-hour emergency kit, one-person kits are available at the event for \$47.25 each and pet first aid kits for \$26.25 each. Kits will be delivered within a month. Cash or cheque only; all taxes included in the price. Free parking available in the parkade.

New! Digest & Dates

A new feature, Digest & Dates will run on page 9 of the Sherwood Park - Strathcona County News the last Friday of each month. Digest & Dates will highlight news and updates from Strathcona County and is meant to serve as a "quick read" to help you stay informed of what's happening in our community – all at a glance.

The Digest carries short announcements, news bits, and current events and programs. And if you want to know more about the subject, follow the link to the website or call the phone number included.

In addition to the newspaper, you can find the Digest & Dates as a PDF on the County website at www.strathcona.ca under Notices.

Below are three items covered in the April Digest and Dates:

Enter our photo contest by May 31

Showcase what you love about our community. Enter your photo images – taken in Sherwood Park or rural Strathcona – in the Quick Pics Photo Contest for a chance to win an iPod. The top five images will be featured in future marketing.

- www.strathcona.ca/edt 780-464-8095

Take adult learning needs survey by May 31

Norquest College is assessing the adult learning needs in our community for future education opportunities. The two surveys – one for business and one for residents– are open to anyone 18 years or older who lives and/or works in the County. Share your thoughts.

- www.campusalberta.norquest.ca, www.strathcona.ca/edt or 780-464-8095

Have your say in the aquatic strategy

Provide your input on the County's aquatic needs (indoor and outdoor). Attend an open house:

May 17, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Community Centre, Sherwood Park

May 18, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Ardrossan Recreation Complex

www.strathcona.ca 780-467-2211

Let us know what you think of Digest & Dates. Send your comments to info@strathcona.ca.

Don't miss your chance to give a High Five!

Kindergarten to Grade 12 students can nominate an adult in Strathcona County for a High Five Award. This event gives young people a chance to thank an adult who has made a positive difference in their lives. The nomination deadline is May 13. Fill out a form today!

Call 780-464-4044 or go to www.strathcona.ca/youth

Strathcona County wins Alex Metcalf Award

Strathcona County was among a handful of winners of the 2011 Economic Developers Association (EDA) Awards of Excellence, recently presented at the Minister's dinner and awards banquet. The Alex Metcalf Award recognizes the most successful projects in business attraction, retention and expansion in Alberta.

In its project submission, titled Celebrate Success, Economic Development and Tourism (EDT) emphasized its partnerships with Shell Canada and with the Alberta's Industrial Heartland Association (AIHA) on the Shell Scotford Upgrader Expansion One project.

The criteria for the award considered factors such as overall economic impact, contribution to the tax base, job creation, relationship building and transferability to other communities. The County won in the large community category (50,000+).

Working with AIHA, EDT acted as liaison between County administration, industry and community representatives. The department fostered dialogue between key stakeholders, working collaboratively to resolve issues in transportation, infrastructure and community engagement.

The project was the largest union construction job in 2010, employing over 12,000 workers at the peak of construction and creating over 400 full-time jobs. Another 3,600 jobs were created indirectly.

For a complete list of EDA award winners, visit: <http://www.edaalberta.ca/>. Additional information on the Shell Scotford Upgrader Expansion One project is available on the County website at www.strathcona.ca/edt.