

County matters

Digest



Dates

Budget deliberations underway

Members of the public are invited to attend Budget Meetings, or watch the live or recorded webcasts of the proceedings. Meetings are scheduled for November 25, 28, 30 and December 2, and tentatively December 5. Council is expected to approve the final 2012 – 2014 Business Plan and 2012 Budget on December 13. www.strathcona.ca/budget 780-464-8053

Strathcona pursues excellence

Strathcona County is now undergoing a review of its operations, process and structure. In a competitive process, Russell Farmer and Associates Consulting Ltd. was selected to conduct the review In Pursuit of Excellence, which aims to provide recommendations on how Strathcona can improve service delivery, enhance its organizational effectiveness and adopt leading practices. A report is expected in early spring. • 780-464-8261

The snow is here to stay! Travel safely

Check out the County website for details about when the roads are plowed. The website is updated regularly during snow clearing periods. • www.strathcona.ca/tas 780-417-7100 (24-hour road maintenance line)

Clearing sidewalks and driveways of snow

Did you know Strathcona County has a bylaw (Bylaw 33-94) that prohibits residents from moving snow on to streets, sidewalks and fire hydrants? When you shovel your driveway and sidewalk, please do not put the snow on the street. Additional snow on the streets causes a hazard to motorists and pedestrians, makes it difficult for plows to clear streets and sidewalks, and restricts proper spring run-off. • www.strathcona.ca/tas 780-417-7100

Keep fire hydrants clear of snow

If there's a fire hydrant near your home, please clear away snow or ice around it. If there is an emergency, our crews need to find and access the hydrant without delay. • www.strathcona.ca/utilities 780-467-7785

Be fire safe for the holiday season

Before the celebrations begin, check our website for tips to help ensure a safe holiday season. • www.strathcona.ca/sces

Holiday stress buggin' you out?

When it comes to holidays we can all get stressed. Do you know where to turn when you start to feel overwhelmed? Family and Community Services offers counselling services. Contact us out to learn more. • www.strathcona.ca/fcs 780-464-4044

Next year's 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

Register with the Business Mentorship Program

Spots are still available in the Business Mentorship Program, which matches those starting out in business with seasoned professionals. Register as either a mentor or mentee. This is a partnership with Strathcona's Economic Development and Tourism department and the Sherwood Park and District Chamber of Commerce • www.strathcona.ca/edt or www.sherwoodparkchamber.com 780-464-8241

New categories for Pride of Strathcona Awards

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 them for a Pride of Strathcona Award. Deadline for nominations: January 31. The awards recognize outstanding contributions and achievements in the following 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

Council Meetings in December

Friday, December 2

Council Budget Meeting 9 a.m.

Monday, December 5

Council Budget Meeting (tentative) 9 a.m.

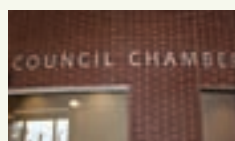
Tuesday, December 13

Council Meeting 2 p.m.

Council Open House 5:30 p.m.

Public Hearings 5 pm 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

Christmas in the Heartland



Don't miss out on Christmas in the Heartland this weekend – **November 26 and 27!** Venues are located throughout rural Strathcona County. Enjoy baking, craft sales, and fireworks on Saturday. New this year: activities at Bremner House on Sunday.

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

Christmas break for waste collection

There will be no waste collection during the week of **December 26 to December 30**. Both carts will be collected 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

Stay & Play Whitecroft

Thursday mornings in Whitecroft just got really exciting for newborns to six-year-olds and their parents! Join us from 10 a.m. to 12 noon on Thursday mornings 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

Stuff a bus to help the food bank

Please drop off a non-perishable food donation and join Strathcona County Transit in feeding our community. Saturday, **December 3**, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at all Sherwood Park Save-On Food locations. All donations made in our community stay in our community! All donations are greatly appreciated.

Santa's Breakfast

December 10, 9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Enjoy a delicious hot breakfast; tickets are \$11 and can be purchased at event venue, Millennium Place. Sit on Santa's knee and receive a gift. There will be free admission to Shell Edutainment Centre from 9 a.m. - 12 noon, and fun entertainment and Christmas prize draws.

Santa Skate – December 18

Enjoy a skate with Santa at Glen Allan Recreation Complex, Sunday, **December 18** from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

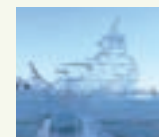
Gallery@501 exhibit

Sitting Bull and the Moose Jaw Sioux until **December 22**. This four-channel video installation traces the history of Lakota and Sioux settlements in Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Artist: Dana Claxton
• www.strathcona.ca/artgallery

Volunteers needed for magical evening

Strathcona County's New Year's Eve Festival is looking for volunteers from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday, **December 31**. Show your community pride; come and help out with this holiday event. • www.strathcona.ca/events 780-464-8013

Free family fun on New Year's Eve in Sherwood Park



Ring in 2012 with a night of magical fun on **December 31** from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Broadmoor Lake Park, Community Centre and Festival Place. Come for exciting indoor and outdoor activities, and then fireworks at 8 p.m. at Broadmoor Lake. Free Park and Ride is available. • www.strathcona.ca/events 780-467-2211

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.