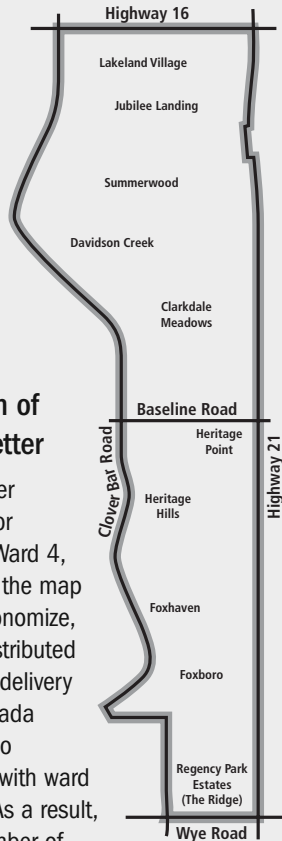


# Ward 4



### Distribution of this newsletter

This newsletter is intended for residents of Ward 4, as shown on the map above. To economize, it is being distributed according to delivery zones of Canada Post, which do not coincide with ward boundaries. As a result, a limited number of households in Ward 3 may receive a copy. If so, please enjoy the information and note that the councillor for Ward 3 is Linda Osinchuk, 464-8149.

This is the last Ward 4 newsletter you will receive before the municipal election on October 15, 2007. Some adjustments will occur to ward boundaries, so please watch for information in local newspapers and at [www.strathcona.ab.ca](http://www.strathcona.ab.ca).

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# Strathcona County

[www.strathcona.ab.ca](http://www.strathcona.ab.ca)

# Ward 4 update May 2007

## From your councillor



Councillor Peter Wlodarczak

I was looking at my newsletter of November 2006 and comments on the snow removal from last year. I mused about our snowfall not coming all at once like it did last March, thus we could manage it a bit better. I sure misjudged that point. It seems like Mother Nature wanted to show who was in command again and she sure did. We got a lot of snow in a hurry and I heard about our snow removal policy from many people. Many of the comments were most relevant and timely. When our crews got going on the snow removal, they did an excellent job in a short period of time.

All Councillors expressed concern

over our snow removal policy and since that time Council has amended that policy.

Our old policy required us to wait until we received a certain depth of compacted snow on certain roadways. We have now changed that to a snowfall level rather than wait for compaction.

What will ensue is that we will see the collector roads in the subdivisions cleared on a timelier basis. Then when needed, we will be able to get into the residential roads sooner.

Residents living in areas where there are a number of hilly roads, such as in Heritage Hills, spoke to me about not being able to navigate hills when

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# Ward 4 update

## News for Ward 4

From your Councillor, continued from page 1

the snow was heavy. I know on the crescent where I live, there is a hill and it came to the point where we could no longer push vehicles out. I commented on this aspect of snow removal when we were discussing the policy. Transportation and Agriculture Services indicated they are keenly aware of that problem and they will have a hot spot team that will deal with such areas on a timely basis in the future.

After our long winter, summer is approaching and with it comes the Western Canada Summer Games being held from August 3rd to 11th. I know the organizing group is still looking for volunteers to assist in this tremendous event. This event will bring much recognition to our community and with it considerable economic benefit. For the first time ever the opening ceremonies will be broadcast live by Global TV. If you are interested in volunteering, check out their web site at [www.2007westerncanadasummergames.ca](http://www.2007westerncanadasummergames.ca).

This will be my last newsletter for the term. Elections will be held in October of this year and in all likelihood I will be running again. We have what you might call an agreement, that after June in an election year we do not disburse discretionary funds nor do we send out any newsletters. By doing that, we would not be taking undue advantage of our positions in the election year.

Owing to population growth, a new municipal ward has been created, effective with the October election. This will alter the Ward 4 boundaries. Please check page 4 for more information.

As you can see, with an election coming time sure has flown. To say I have learnt a lot and made some mistakes would be an understatement. Regardless of all the duties I have to undertake, I still believe that by far my

most important role is assisting the Ward 4 residents. That is the goal to which I will always strive. I hope that the coming summer will bring all of you a wonderful and restful time and I hope that your holidays are filled with family, joy, happiness and safety. Take care and may God Bless Strathcona County.



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## Residents test out roll-out carts

Until the end of May, 600 households in Strathcona County have volunteered to test out a new way of waste collection. Residents from selected rural and urban areas will use roll-out carts for their weekly waste collection.

Part of the pilot will be to determine whether Strathcona County will offer this service County wide.



Roll-out carts are being tested as part of the County's waste collection system

and empties it into the truck. It only requires a few seconds.

The system is almost completely automated. A waste collection truck will be fitted with a mechanism that picks up the cart

Because the roll-out carts are designed for automated collection, the process is cleaner, more efficient and safer for workers. The carts are on wheels and are easy to manoeuvre. The new method of waste collection:

- Decreases litter
- Eliminates carrying heavy bags to the curb
- Would be more aesthetically pleasing

The County would most likely purchase and distribute the carts to waste collection customers, with the cost included as part of the utility fee.

The pilot project is part of an extensive review of Strathcona County's waste management programs including recycling services. Recommendations for changes to waste services are expected to be presented to Council this fall for implementation in 2008.

# Transportation

## Traffic

One issue that keeps rising to the surface from a resident perspective is the operation of motor vehicles in residential areas. In the Ward, some of the residential streets are very narrow and parking is allowed on both sides. In addition, there are many children that play in their yards in close proximity to the streets. I know I have had comments on this issue many times. In speaking with the residents, they know that the majority of the people using the streets abide by the law but they also comment to me that there are a large number of drivers who for reasons best known to themselves, seem to ignore the laws. To those people who obey the law, I thank you for doing that. To those who, through self assessment, would agree that they could slow down, your courtesy would be greatly appreciated. Remember it can only take a moment to drastically affect your life or the life of another.

## Highway 16

In my May 2006 newsletter, I outlined some improvements that would happen to the Broadmoor Boulevard, Sherwood Drive and Clover Bar Road interchange areas. A good deal of work was done in these areas but it was, to say the least, somewhat slow moving. It was certainly good to see the traffic lights installed at the south end of the Clover Bar Road interchange area. This was a critical need, owing to the back up of traffic during the rush hour. There is still some remedial work and paving to be done in all those areas and I trust the construction will be completed soon in this construction season.

## Clover Bar Road

Funds have been set aside in this year's budget to complete the twinning of Clover Bar Road to Highway 16.

The northern part of Sherwood Park is the last growth area for the community and the build out of this road will help tremendously with traffic flow from this busy area. As you are aware, this is the area where they will be building the hospital, thus the build out is very timely.

## Traffic Light — Clover Bar Road and Foxboro Drive

I hear from a number of residents in Foxboro Landing about the difficulties of accessing Clover Bar Road especially during the rush hour periods. Relief is finally coming for you. During the budget debate this year, Council approved a capital expenditure to install a traffic light at Foxboro Drive and Clover Bar Road. I have been told that the contract has been let so I am hopeful that it will be up very soon this summer.

## Lakeland Drive

It has been a long time but finally during this summer construction season, Lakeland Drive from Davenport to Highway 21 will be built out. This will certainly provide some relief to all of Clarkdale Meadows residents who have long suffered a lack of inadequate entrances and exits to Clarkdale.

## Twinning of Highway 21

The twinning of Highway 21, though long overdue, has created some noise issues for residents who back onto that highway. Pretty soon, the construction season will be ramping up and there will be no doubt more construction noise which is unavoidable perhaps. A longer term issue for those residents backing onto Highway 21 is the noise that will be generated by that Highway when it is built out in 2009. At present, Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation does

not have any plans to provide sound attenuation in the form of berms or trees. It is important that residents who have concerns express them to the Minister responsible, the MLA and the Construction Engineer.

The Minister responsible, can be accessed through the Alberta Infrastructure website. Your MLA can be contacted at [strathcona@assembly.ab.ca](mailto:strathcona@assembly.ab.ca). The Construction Engineer for the project is Bruno St. Amand and can be reached at [Bruno.St-Amand@gov.ab.ca](mailto:Bruno.St-Amand@gov.ab.ca). It is most important that the affected residents make their voices heard.

We still have a significant window of opportunity to influence the government in their decision on sound attenuation and I would encourage all affected residents to make their concerns known.

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## Seeking members for new committees

Two new committees recently established by County Council need public members who are willing to contribute their time and ideas.

The **Rural High-Speed Internet Committee** will explore options for making high-speed internet service available to residents in rural areas.

Five members of the public are needed for this committee.

Further information: Kelly Rudyk, 464-8089.

The **Seniors Advisory Committee** will provide advice to Council regarding the needs, concerns, and ways to enhance the quality of life for seniors in the community.

Seven members of the public aged 55-plus are needed for this committee.

Further information: Dodi Barnard, 464-4044.



Councillor Włodarczak with Aurora and Borealis, Games mascots, at the launch of the culture program for the Western Canada Summer Games.

## Volunteering for the Games will be exciting

The Games would not be possible without strong community involvement. In total, 3,000 volunteers are needed for the event.

Please call the Games office at 702-2007 or visit us online to find out more about the benefits of volunteering.

[www.2007westerncanadasummergames.ca](http://www.2007westerncanadasummergames.ca)

## Library update

As the Councillor representative on the Strathcona County Library Board, I have the pleasure of working with nine other community volunteers.

It's an exciting time for the Library. The Board is putting into action the library's new Plan of Service, adopted for 2007 – 2009. This plan was developed following a community consultation and focus groups gathering input from these various groups in our community. Many needs identified in this planning process have resulted in enhanced services, with more adult and family programs than ever before, and more ways to improve the accessibility of the collection.

This year marks the 30th anniversary of Strathcona County Library. The new Books for Babies program is a special initiative to celebrate and encourage life-long library use. More receptions are planned to celebrate this special year. As well, the library will soon be ordering its new low-floor Bookmobile.

Special fundraisers are also coming up, including the annual booksales, (June 22/23, and August 10/11), the Friends of the Library Water Garden Tour (July 8), the Strathcona Heritage Tour (September 15), and the next Weather Bound gala on October 9 at Festival Place, starring the internationally famous Canadian Brass.

Meanwhile, planning continues on the design for the new Strathcona County Library, which will be constructed as part of the Community Centre in Centre in the Park, and scheduled to open in late 2010.

## Sump pump retrofit

This season, work will continue on the sump pump retrofit program. Approximately 151 houses are scheduled for retrofitting in Ward 4 in 2007. Work will continue as it can be scheduled starting in the spring. Residents scheduled for retrofit will receive further information in the mail before the work begins. Detailed retrofit maps are on our website at [www.strathcona.ab.ca/utilities](http://www.strathcona.ab.ca/utilities).

The retrofit is an underground piping system that collects water released from your sump pump, and directs it into the stormwater drainage system. This will minimize the risk of basement flooding, help eliminate algae on the sidewalks in the summer and ice on sidewalks in the winter caused by sump pump discharge.

If your home has problems with sump pump discharge and your area is not immediately scheduled for work, staff is available to inspect your lot, and discuss recommendations with you on how to improve drainage. For further information call 467-7785, or e-mail [drainage@strathcona.ab.ca](mailto:drainage@strathcona.ab.ca).

## Ward 8 — new with the October 2007 municipal election

With the municipal election this fall, Strathcona County Council will consist of nine members, the mayor and eight councillors. A new ward, Ward 8, has been established and its boundaries take effect in October.

More information on the election will be provided in local newspapers and at [www.strathcona.ab.ca](http://www.strathcona.ab.ca).

