Pembina Pipelines Field Project manager Wayne Carey updated the crowd at the April 26 Redwater Mayor’s Breakfast on Pembina’s activities and the pending start of construction of the Canada Kuwait Petrochemical Corporation (of which Pembina is a partner) propane dehydrogenation plant and polypropylene upgrading facility.

Ground work on plant south of Redwater starting this summer

Canada Kuwait Petrochemical Corporation (CKPCC) is currently selecting engineering, procurement and construction firms for its propane dehydrogenation (PDH) plant and polypropylene (PP) upgrading facility south of Redwater. Construction is expected to begin in September and be completed in 2023. “You can expect to see some yellow iron out there moving dirt July first,” said Pembina Pipelines Field Project manager Wayne Carey during the April 26 Redwater Mayor’s Breakfast. CKPCC is a joint venture by Pembina Pipeline Corporation and Petrochemical Industries Company K.S.C. (PIC) of Kuwait. The $4.5 billion PDH/PP facility will be constructed south of Redwater and east of Gibbons near Pembina’s Redwater fractionation facilities (RFS). It will consume approximately 23,000 barrels per day of local propane from Pembina’s RFS and other regional fractionation facilities. It has a capacity of 530,000 metric tonnes of PP per year.

Carey said Canada currently imports 100 percent of its PP while it has an increasing supply of propane. Western Canada produces more than five times the propane it uses. It is all shipped by rail, with much of it being sold to the United States at a discount. Pembina’s RFS facilities fractionate natural gas liquids (NGLs) into world class products. It has the largest NGL rail yard in Canada and leads over 220 rail cars per day. The Redwater site employs 182 full time staff and 100 full time contractors (many of whom work in the rail yard). Starting May 1, Pembina will take over the rail loading operations with 50 new staff members.

Carey said Pembina staff “work hard to help make great communities.” Last year they held a record breaking Redwater United Way campaign. Through its community investment program, Pembina supported the Jessica Martel Foundation in Morinville, the Gibbons playground and curling club, Redwater Centennial Park ball diamond and the Thorhild swimming pool.

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Redwater mayor Mel Smith (L-R) and Diane Pyxmeny share a laugh with Redwater Museum vice president Audrey Petruk during the town’s Community Information Fair April 24.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>SATURDAY / SUNDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grow a Row for the Redwater Food Bank</td>
<td>Lighthouse Youth Group Bible Study at Redwater Alliance Church</td>
<td>Golf Club - Ladies Intro to Golf, Part 1</td>
<td>Library - Books Alive</td>
<td>Library - Seniors Afternoon</td>
<td>Garage Sale at Egremont (9:00-10:30 am)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legion - Coffee, Monday to Friday (7:30 am)</td>
<td>Pioneer Club - Council of Aging Workshop (10:00-11:00 am)</td>
<td>Golf Club - Ladies Intro to Golf, Part 2</td>
<td>Library - Books Alive</td>
<td>Library - Seniors Afternoon</td>
<td>Town-Wide Garage Sale (8:30-4:30 pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town Office Closed</td>
<td>Art Society - Drop-In Art (10:00-11:30 am)</td>
<td>Library - Youth Action Club (3:30-4:30 pm)</td>
<td>Library - Books Alive</td>
<td>Library - Seniors Afternoon</td>
<td>Library - Hot Dog Sale and Book Sale (9:00-10:30 am)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria Day - No School</td>
<td>Legion - Coffee, Monday to Friday (7:30 am)</td>
<td>Library - Youth Action Club (3:30-4:30 pm)</td>
<td>Library - Whist (4:00 pm)</td>
<td>Library - Seniors Afternoon</td>
<td>Quilters Guild at United Church (9:00 am)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Headstart</td>
<td>Art Society - Drop-In Art (10:00-11:30 am)</td>
<td>Library - Youth Action Club (10:00-11:30 am)</td>
<td>Library - Books Alive</td>
<td>Library - Seniors Afternoon</td>
<td>Legion - Steak BBQ (4:00 pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ochre Park - Track Day</td>
<td>Art Society - Drop-In Art (10:00-11:30 am)</td>
<td>Library - Youth Action Club (3:30-4:30 pm)</td>
<td>Library - Books Alive</td>
<td>Library - Seniors Afternoon</td>
<td>Breakfast Men’s Day! Golf club - Mothers golf free with family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gibson’s Cultural Centre</td>
<td>Library - Books Alive</td>
<td>Museum - General Meeting (1:30 pm)</td>
<td>Library - Children’s Afternoon</td>
<td>Library - Seniors Afternoon</td>
<td>PD Day - No School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town Centre Library</td>
<td>Redwater School - Elementary Track Meet (All day)</td>
<td>Museum - General Meeting (10:00-11:00 am)</td>
<td>Library - Books Alive</td>
<td>Library - Seniors Afternoon</td>
<td>Citizens on Patrol - Volunteer Training at Legion (9:00 am)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library - Books Alive</td>
<td>Sturgeon Regional Senior Transportation Open House at Gibson’s Cultural Centre (9:00-11:00 am)</td>
<td>Library - Books Alive</td>
<td>Library - Whist (10:00 am)</td>
<td>Library - Seniors Afternoon</td>
<td>Public Health Clinic at Redwater Health Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library - Books Alive</td>
<td>Sturgeon Regional Senior Transportation Open House at Gibson’s Cultural Centre (9:00-11:00 am)</td>
<td>Library - Books Alive</td>
<td>Library - Whist (10:00 am)</td>
<td>Library - Seniors Afternoon</td>
<td>Thursdays from 8:30 am-4:45 pm Ph: 780-942-6635</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Upcoming Programs and Events**

Check out www.redwater.ca for information on upcoming programs:

- Planting Bee
- A Slice of Happiness Basics (May 23)
- Seniors Block Party (June 1)
- Navigating the Golden Years (June 5)
- Babysitter Safety Course (June 7)

**Community Planting Bee**

Help us make Redwater bloom this spring! Volunteers are needed to assist with planting the Town of Redwater flower beds and planters in late May or early June.

If you are interested in volunteering, please call the Community Services Office at 780-942-4101 for more information.

**Town-Wide Clean Up**

Redwater residents and businesses are encouraged to participate in the Town-Wide Clean Up initiative. Help make our community shine this spring by cleaning up the debris around your property.

Please use extra care and attention when driving on May 1 and as our school students will be picking up and tiding various areas around town.

**Town-Wide Garage Sale**

Saturday, May 11 from 8:30 am-4:30 pm
Call Wash Tub and Tailor @ 780-580-4444 for more details or to book your space!

Sponsored by The Redwater Lions Club
Payton Majeau shares one geode from her collection with her class. The grade 3 class at Thorhild Central School has been learning about rocks and minerals.

Lemonade Day expands to Smoky Lake and Vilna as kids learn business

Lemonade Day is Coming to the Smoky Lake and Vilna areas this year too!

Lemonade Day is a free, fun, experiential learning program that teaches kids how to start, own and operate their very own business – a lemonade stand. Lemonade Day has spread to over 57 cities in 23 states and three countries. This year kids living in many Northern Alberta towns will get to join in on the fun.

Lemonade Day is open to kids’ Pre-K to High School. Each child that registers will attend two mentor sessions where they will receive a free backpack with an Entrepreneur Workbook that teaches them the valuable lessons of Lemonade Day — including how to set a goal, make a plan, work the plan and achieve their dreams. The instructor will lead the kids through their workbook at the sessions.

Then on June 22 all across Northern Alberta kids will set up their business during their licensed areas, community-wide Lemonade Day.

After the big day participants then pay their investor back and then they keep all of the money they have earned, although they are encouraged to spend some, save some, and share some of their profit with a charity of their choice.

Anyone and everyone can be involved in Lemonade Day! Young entrepreneurs with lemonade stands need mentors, investors, business partners, great locations, and customers! Sponsors and volunteers are also needed to make Lemonade Day a success. Details are available online.

Spring Turkey Bingo
Friday May 10, 2019
Thorhild Community Hall
Doors Open at 5:30 Bingo at 7
(20 Games) all Ages • All ages welcome!
Advance Tickets $5 available at Thorhild Central School
Tickets at the door $5/10, Raffle, Bake Table, Concession
Proceeds will support the Athabasca 2020 Travel Group
Please bring a donation for the local Food Bank

Tree Maintenance Workshop
Join us for this informative workshop to learn about Tree Maintenance, Pruning and Care.

- When is the right time to prune your trees?
- How much do you need to prune?
- When do you water and how much?

When: Thursday, May 16
Time: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Where: Cardiff Park
Cost: Free

Please register by May 14, call 780-939-8349 or email agricultureservices@sturgeoncounty.ca.

For more information, you may contact the CN Public Inquiry Line at 1-888-888-5909.

COMMUNITY NOTICE
Annual Vegetation Management Program

CN is required to clear its rights-of-way from any vegetation that may pose a safety hazard. Vegetation on railway rights-of-way, if left uncontrolled, can contribute to trackside fires and impair proper inspection of track infrastructure.

As such, for safe railway operations, the annual vegetation control program will be carried out on CN rail lines in the province of Alberta. A certified applicator will be applying herbicides on and around the railway tracks (mainly the gravel area/ballast). All product requirements for setbacks in the vicinity of dwellings, aquatic environments and municipal water supplies will be met.

At this time, we expect that the program will take place from April 29, 2019 to July 31, 2019.

Visit www.cn.ca/vegetation to see the list of cities as well as the updated schedule.

Egremont Community Club
Garage Sale
Saturday
May 4, 2019
9-4pm

Egremont Hall
To rent a table and sell your treasures, please call
Donna @ 780 777-7757

Come find a treasure & have Breakfast or a Burger

100

SPRING TURKEY
BINGO
FRIDAY MAY 10, 2019
THORHILD COMMUNITY HALL
Doors Open at 5:30 Bingo at 7
(20 Games) all Ages • All ages welcome!
Advance Tickets $5 available at Thorhild Central School
Tickets at the door $5/10, Raffle, Bake Table, Concession
Proceeds will support the Athabasca 2020 Travel Group
Please bring a donation for the local Food Bank
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Proposed Bylaw No. 14-2019 Land Use Bylaw Amendment

Take notice that pursuant to the Municipal Government Act, R.S.A. 2000, as amended, Thorhild County Council has scheduled a hearing in regard to the proposed Bylaw 14-2019, being a Bylaw to amend Thorhild County Land Use Bylaw No. 1194-2015, as amended, as follows:

(i) that Block B, Plan 2638 MC be changed from C2 Large-Lot Commercial to R1B Low-Density Residential District as shown on Schedule “A” attached hereto.

Date: Tuesday May 14, 2019
Location: Thorhild County Council Chambers

The proposed Bylaw and Schedule “A” may be viewed at the County Office and is available on the Thorhild County Website (http://www.thorhildcounty.com/Residents/Public-Notices). You may request a copy via email to laurie.andrushchyshyn@thorhildcounty.com or by phone at 780-398-2802.

The Public Hearing on Bylaw 14-2019 will commence at 1:30 pm. Persons interested in speaking at a public hearing shall register with the Development Clerk (phone: 780-398-2802 or email from kelly.karty@thorhildcounty.com or by phone at 780-398-2802). The proposed Bylaw and Schedule “A” may be viewed at the County Office and is available on the Thorhild County Website (http://www.thorhildcounty.com/Residents/Public-Notices). You may request a copy via email to kelly.karty@thorhildcounty.com or by phone at 780-398-2802.

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Access Pipelines is now Wolf Midstream, but its service, staff and projects haven’t changed.

“It’s a privilege to operate in all the communities along our pipelines,” said vice president of operations Kurt Roebuck during the April 26 Redwater Mayor’s Breakfast. “We have an uncompromising commitment to health, safety and the environment.”

Roebuck said Wolf Midstream is a responsible owner, operator and developer of midstream infrastructure projects with two major business units: its pipeline system and the carbon trunk line.

The Alberta Carbon Trunk Line (ACTL) construction began in October 2018 and is now mostly completed. It was drilled beneath the North Saskatchewan River during the winter. As much sourcing and contracting as possible was done by Albertans. Commissioning and start-up will be in late 2019 and the first quarter of 2020.

This 240 km, 16” high pressure pipeline will be the largest capacity carbon dioxide (CO2) pipeline in the world. It will initially transport 4,400 tonnes per day, but at full capacity will move 40,000 tonnes per day. That’s the equivalent of taking 2.6 million cars off the road.

The CO2 will be carried from the Heartland to south central Alberta and used in enhanced oil recovery (EOR) at depleted oil fields. Nutrien and the North West Redwater Sturgeon Refinery will capture and transport CO2 via the trunk line. Roebuck said they are looking for more CO2. It is an open line, so other companies and industries are welcome to add their CO2 to it.

The pipeline unit consists of the Access Pipeline system running from the Fort McMurray area to Edmonton. It includes the Sturgeon Terminal in the Industrial Heartland and moves diluted bitumen south and returns diluent north.

Wolf Midstream is an Alberta company based out of Calgary. It is focused on investing in western Canadian energy infrastructure.
Accepting Applications for the 2019 Dale MacMillan Memorial Scholarship!

The Dale MacMillan Memorial Scholarship for Community Leadership is funded by the Calahoo-Villeneuve Gravel Extraction Community Enhancement Fund. It publicly recognizes and commemorates the contributions and dedication of Dale MacMillan, who was instrumental in helping achieve a balance between residents and gravel extraction operations in the Calahoo and Villeneuve area.

Criteria for Selection
- Must be a resident of Sturgeon County. Students residing temporarily outside of Sturgeon County for schooling are eligible to apply.
- Evidence of enrollment in a recognized post-secondary institution
- Supporting materials of leadership and involvement benefitting their community within Sturgeon County.

Download the application form at www.sturgeoncounty.ca and submit before May 24, 2019.

Residents Could Save on Fire Insurance

Sturgeon County Protective Services has been accredited by Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) to provide Superior Tanker Shuttle Service (STSS). The Districts of Bon Accord, Calahoo, Legal, Namao, Redwater and the Fire Service Areas of Gibbons and Morinville have been accredited for the delivery of Superior Tanker Shuttle Services and the appropriate changes have been made to the fire insurance dwelling protection grading index.

What does this mean for you?
Residents within the Fire districts and Fire Service Areas named above who own detached dwellings and are within 8 km of an accredited fire hall and 5 km of a recognized water supply may be eligible to receive an improved Fire Insurance Grade.

We recommend that you contact your insurance agent directly and review your current Property Fire Insurance ratings. If your insurance company does not wish to apply the STSS Accreditation, it is recommended that you explore options by obtaining quotes from other companies.

For more information, please visit www.sturgeoncounty.ca/STSS to review the FAQ or contact Chief Pat Mahoney at 780-939-8400 or by email at pmahoney@sturgeoncounty.ca.

Time for Spring Cleaning

Household Hazardous Waste Round-Up (HHW)
Saturday, May 25, 10 a.m.—2 p.m.
Gibbons Public Works Yard
5127-41 Street
Certain household wastes need special treatment. Things like antifreeze, paint, solvents, batteries and cleaning fluids can be harmful to the environment. That’s why we’re offering county residents an opportunity to do the right thing and bring your household hazardous waste to our place!

Items should be tightly sealed in original or clearly labeled containers.
For a full list of items accepted at the Household Hazardous Waste Round-Up, visit sturgeoncounty.ca.

All Sturgeon County offices will be closed Monday, May 20 for Victoria Day.
Helping you is what we do.

Trevor Yurchak
Broker
780-206-5511
trevoryurchak@royallepage.ca

Alex Weinberger
Realtor
®
780-918-2593
alexw@royallepage.ca

Fully finished hillside walk out bungalow on full ¼ section, 15 minutes from town. 4 bdrm, 3 bath. Large shop. Fenced pasture, corrals & shelters.

E4146480     SMOKY LAKE       $699,900

Beautiful country living at this well cared for and updated bi-level home on a full ½. 24x40 shop & quonset, 30x30 barn with equipment in & out doors. 3 bdrm, 2 bath. Fully finished basement with walking out entrance.

E4142372     WESTLOCK COUNTY $495,000

Your new home awaits in the Meyonohk neighborhood in SE Edmonton. 3 bdrm, 2 bath corner unit, bi-level townhome condo with many upgrades inside! Reasonable condo fees. Close to park.

E4144183     EDMONTON         $169,900

Helping you is what we do.

Renovated 3 bdrm, 2 bath home on 11 acres minutes north of Thorhild. Fully updated kitchen, new flooring throughout, updated ensuite, partially covered back deck.

E4140984     THORHILD           $269,900

Need a property for a business? Check this out. 12 acre property with 5 bdrm home, 2 shops, barn, wrap around driveway.

E4128773     NEWBROOK        $429,000

Tidy 2 bdrm, 1 bath home with single car garage located on 5th Street. Newer shingles & HE furnace!

E4126279     THORHILD           $69,900

Pride of ownership. 3 bdrm, 2 bath hillside bungalow built in 2003 on 160 acres. 55 acres hay. Balance trees.

E4131033     THORHILD         $459,000

Beautiful country living at this well cared for and updated bi-level home on a full ¼. 24x40 shop, 30x32 shop & quonset set up for horses.

E4146272     WESTLOCK COUNTY   $495,000

Join us for Mother’s Day Brunch!

SUNDAY, MAY 11TH FROM 11:00AM-2:00PM

$21.90 / person, Youth 50% off (ages 5-10), Kids under 4 eat free!

Come out for a round of golf, Moms golf for 50% off all day!

www.smokylakegolf.com

STEEK NIGHT is back!

Fridays starting May 17th
Join us for a fabulous steak supper catered by Noeis Catering. Steak, Buffet Sides, and Dessert for $20!

*Weekly Drink Specials*

KITCHEN is opening May 1st
We’re having specials all month long to launch the new menu items and promote past favourites.

Smoky Lake Golf Club
www.smokylakegolf.com

Smoky Lake County

The Kaminsky hotel was built in 1920. In 1949 it was destroyed by fire along with the pool hall next door. The site was used to build the Roxy Theatre, now Redwater Auto Parts.

--photo courtesy Redwater Museum

Redwater Recollection

Jim Yent (L-R) talks with Redwater Public Library director of library services Alica Paszek and Friends of the Library Society members Jeanne and Ernest Frederiksen during Redwater’s April 24 Community Information Fair.

Wellness Workshops

Do something for YOU, try something new and connect with others. Join us for the first of four workshops for 2019, light treats are on us.

It’s free to attend, but spots are limited. Please R.S.V.P. at https://programs.sturgeoncounty.ca. Course No. 4304W519

Blanket Exercise

A blanket exercise is a participatory history lesson that helps us understand, respect and become part of the reconciliation between indigenous and non-indigenous people.

The activity begins with blankets arranged on the floor to represent Canada before the arrival of Europeans. Participants representing indigenous peoples move around on the blankets as if they are using and occupying the land. At the end of the exercise, only a few people remain on the blankets, covering only a fraction of their original area.

More information about the exercise can be found at www.kirosblanketexercise.org

When: Wednesday, May 29 6:30-9:30 p.m.
Where: Cardiff Hall, 55320 RGE RD 251
Register by: May 23
Facilitator: Raymond Soetaert
Email: programs@sturgeoncounty.ca

Redwater & District Chamber of Commerce president Nicole Krill (L-R) and directors Karen Schnaiderger and Sam Baldwin were happy to promote the Chamber during the April 24 Redwater Community Information Fair.
Sturgeon County

passes zero tax hike, but is that sustainable?

Sturgeon County council held its planned zero tax rate increase this year and passed a mill rate bylaw with some of the municipal tax rates set slightly lower than last year. The town will collect more in taxes primarily because the taxable assessed increases.

The total municipal tax levy being collected this year is $5.5 million. In 2018 total municipal taxes collected were $49.3 million. The county assessment increased from $7.2 billion in 2018 to $7.3 billion this year.

Although second and third readings of the tax rate bylaw passed unanimously, council held a lengthy discussion before voting, and some councillors noted that zero tax rate increases are not sustainable.

Coun. Susan Evans said she was concerned that a zero tax increase means the county’s level of service remains the same. “We have residents who want it increased,” she said, adding that in the early 1980s, many municipalities refrained from raising taxes and created infrastructure deficits that took decades to catch up.

Coun. Gary Crouse noted the county pays inflation increases (1.5 percent last year) on the goods and services it purchases.

Coun. Wayne Bokenfeld felt it prudent to keep the zero tax increase council planned last November, but said it is not sustainable. He reminded everyone that not too long ago (2015) the county had to implement an 8.5 percent tax increase to catch up to where it needed to be.

“That large increase hurt,” said Coun. Karen Shaw. She said council needs to take care to not put the county in a position where it again needs to catch up.

Coun. Patrick Tighe favored no tax increase and having administration look for efficiencies, including possible salary rollbacks, within the county organization.

“I disagree with throwing money at things,” Tighe said. “I disagree we need an increase. Electricity took a 25 percent rollback at one point. We’ve never looked at that here.” He felt the county could get more efficient in its operations and through collaborations.

Coun. Dennis Pawelak agreed, saying the county is under new management with departments spending money more wisely and providing higher levels of services. He said there is an economic recession, and the county is not yet receiving tax money from the Sturgeon Refinery.

Coun. Neal Comeau “whole heartedly” supported a zero tax rate increase. “We have to find efficiencies, not increase because other municipalities increase,” he said.

Mayor Alanna Hnatiw agreed it’s important to look for efficiencies, but pointed out that alone is not sufficient to generate funds for transportation and drainage issues.

“We have roads that need fixing,” she said. “We have drainage issues to deal with. People expect higher level of services, and efficiencies won’t cover all of that. Once we’ve proven we can be efficient with taxpayers’ dollars, we should look at an increase.”

This year the residential mill rate decreased marginally, from 3.6465 mills in 2018 to 3.6449 in 2019. The non-residential and machinery and equipment mill rate also decreased, going from 10.3820 in 2018 to 10.2808 in 2019.

Farmland mill rate stayed the same at 9.4700.

Vacant residential properties have a 2019 mill rate of 5.0996, down from 6.0004 in 2018.

The Homestead Housing Students Foundation mill rate increased slightly from $633,600 in 2018 to $683,400 in 2019. To collect that, ratepayers pay a 0.95 mill tax (was 0.880 last year).

Because of the recent provincial election, the Alberta School Foundation Fund (ASFF) requisition has not been set by the provincial government. Sturgeon calculated a three percent increase to the 2018 requisition and will collect $16.7 million for ASFF. This will be done through a 2.5260 residential and farmland mill rate.

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Redwater council benefits up, but not salaries

Town of Redwater council received 2.5 percent more in salaries and benefits during 2018 than in 2017, and the increase was all in their benefits and allowances. Council did not receive a cost of living allowance (COLA) in 2018.

Mayor Mel Smith said that is “quite common with new councils; it is a ‘let’s save money’ thing.”

Council’s salaries and benefits total for 2018 was $187,300 which is 2.5 percent higher than the 2017 total of $182,800. The benefits and allowances for 2018 totaled $76,800 which was seven percent higher than the 2017 benefits total of $71,800. Council salaries totaled $110,530 in 2018, marginally lower than the 2017 total of $110,970.


Coun. Les Dorosh served as deputy mayor from July to December of 2018. He received $29,370 (salary $17,450; benefits $11,930) in 2018 and $22,950 in 2017.

Coun. Connie Butcher was deputy mayor from October 2017 to June 2018. She received $29,100 (salary $18,720; benefits $10,380) in 2018 and $22,950 in 2017.

Coun. Rob Olsen filled the deputy mayor position from February to October 2017. He received $20,300 (salary $13,550; benefits $6,750) in 2018 and $22,950 in 2017.

Coun. Dody Kluttig resigned in August 2018. She received $15,940 (salary $8,290; benefits $7,660) in 2018 and $20,520 in 2017.

Councillors Dave McRae and Joanne Williams were elected in October 2017. McRae received $25,510 (salary $14,000; benefits $11,510) in 2018 and $20,520 in 2017.

Williams received $24,020 (salary $12,580; benefits $11,440) in 2018 and $20,520 in 2017.

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Coun. Dwayne Spicer was elected in an October 2018 by-election. He received $3,880 (salary $2,000; benefits $1,880) that year.

Smith noted that this year a salary decrease was created in January when the one third of councillor salaries that was formerly tax free became taxable. That money was cut. Council salaries and benefits will remain the same in 2019, Smith said, because of the COLA. “We take home quite a bit less,” said Smith. “The COLA will help re-coup some of it. For example, I lost $330 per month.”

Amounts were taken from the 2018 audited financial statements. Salary includes monthly base pay and any gross honoraria. Benefits and allowances include the employer’s share of professional memberships, Canada Pension Plan, health care and dental benefit plans, group life insurance and disability coverage.
Guests at the Redwater Mayor’s Breakfast last week got a look at some of the details of how campaigns to keep Alberta’s oil and gas from being exported at market value were, and still are, funded. Battling that activity was one of premier-elect Jason Kenney’s campaign promises.

Researcher Vivian Krause, the keynote speaker at the April 26 breakfast event in Redwater, showed copies of tax returns detailing donations of millions of dollars per year from foundations such as Rockefeller Brothers and Tides to organizations such as the Tar Sands Campaign which was established to block the market for Alberta oil sands products. This began around 2003. She has been investigating it for the past 10 years.

“The Rockefellers fund a lot of good things,” said Krause. “But this is not acceptable.”

Krause showed how funding supported studies presenting negative information, and financed and organized activities such as protests against proposed pipelines.

In addition to blocking pipelines, the American foundations poured millions into preventing construction of an oil tanker port on Canada’s west coast.

Krause presented quotations from documents prepared by those organizations which stated they were established to landlock the tar sands so crude oil could not reach international markets where it could fetch a high price.

She also produced written statements by officials of some American organizations in which they claimed to have helped defeat prime minister Stephen Harper’s federal Conservative government because it was working to break Canada’s energy sector free.

Krause received a standing ovation when she concluded with, “Finally, with premier Kenney, we have someone to take on these foundations.”

During the past few months Krause’s research and articles have been printed on various social media platforms and by news outlets such as the CBC and the Financial Post.
A new destination park in the Town of Smoky Lake will have its grand opening during the first weekend of August, when Smoky Lake celebrates its Heritage Days parade and stampede. The Kinette Club of Smoky Lake is excited to announce the plans are finalized and ordering of play structures underway. Installation is planned during July.

The $300,000 handicap-accessible, state-of-the-art playground will be in Kin Park, south of 54 Avenue, across the street from the popular Smoky Lake Ag Complex and right next to the brand new spray park. Open to kids of all ages, it will feature a zip line, multi-spring tractor, enclosed stand-n-spin, rubber matting from recycled tires, and much more.

“The Kinettes had a vision of upgrading a very old and worn-out park into an amazingly fun, accessible park for all kids,” said Smoky Lake Kinettes president Ashley Losier. “But adults can play too!”

After nearly two years of fundraising and applying for numerous grants, Smoky Lake Kin are on the cusp of reaching their funding goal for the playground. Fundraising was led by a Joint Kin Committee with three Kinette and two Kinsmen members.

Nearly half of the funds were granted, with $95,000 received from the Government of Alberta, $30,000 from a recycling grant, and $15,000 from the Richardson Foundation. Generous contributions from community members and those in the surrounding area have been vital to the success of the fundraising. The final goal of raising $295,000 has nearly been met.

“Our help of all our members and amazing community we would not be here or able to start this project we have been working so hard to complete,” Losier said.

To help reach the final total needed for the playground, the Kinette Club invites area women to their sixth annual Ladies Night to be held May 4. Tickets are $40, which includes the night out plus dinner.

Cocktails begin at 5:30 p.m. at the Smoky Lake Agricultural Complex and the catered dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. What could be better than spending a Saturday night hanging out with phenomenal ladies, except for doing so while enjoying a glass of wine in your favourite loungewear? That’s right, it’s a Pyjama Party! Games, raffles, prizes, silent auction and – returning by popular demand – improv comedy by Grindstone Theatre. This class act was such a hit last year, they’re returning for twice the time and twice the fun.
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Phone: (780) 938-2000 or Toll Free: 1-(866) 398-2001

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Seasonal Grass Mower Operator (1 Position)

Lamont County is seeking a qualified candidate for the position of a Mower Operator. The Mower Operator will report directly to the Agricultural Fieldman. This is a seasonal position starting from June 1 to October (date may vary on weather).

Duties and Responsibilities

The successful applicant will be responsible for:
- Operating an all-wheel drive tractor with a side arm and deck mower to mow grass
- Conducting road side brush and/or grass control within designated divisions
- Conduct daily service and/or maintenance of equipment
- Report and completion of work orders through the shop foreman for the equipment.

Qualifications:

The ideal candidate will possess some basic mechanical skills and have experience operating tractors and rotary mowers. They shall possess good communication and be safely oriented. All applicants must be a minimum of 18 years of age, possess a valid Class 5 driver’s license and provide their own reliable transportation to work. A driver’s abstract will be required prior to employment commencement.

Lamont County offers a competitive wage based on experience and qualifications. This competition will remain open until May 6th, 2019 at 4:00 pm. Please forward your resume/application to:

Lamont County
HR
P.O. Box 5303 – 50 Avenue
Lamont, AB T0B 2R0
Email: hr@lamontcounty.ca
Fax: 780-895-7404

Lamont County thanks all applicants for their interest. However, only those who have been selected for an interview will be contacted.

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