

Wednesday, September 10, 2025

Leduc County Community Operations Centre, CoC Boardroom, #101, 1101 – 5th Street, Nisku

1. **Order – 6:30 p.m.**
2. **Adoption of agenda**
3. **Adoption of previous minutes**
- Regular PRAC Meeting – June 11, 2025
4. **PRAC update** Dean Ohnysty
5. **Department reports and recommendations**
 - a) 2026 operation business plan ✓ Dean Ohnysty
 - b) Jubilee Park operation summary ✓ Dean Ohnysty
 - c) Athletic field feasibility report ✓ Dean Ohnysty
 - d) Summer events and programs summary ✓ Andrea Oneski
 - e) Department Activity Report ✓ Dean Ohnysty
6. **Information items**
 - a) Owl Release Andrea Oneski
7. **Regional reports**
8. **Adjournment**

✓ Attachment provided

1. Order and roll call

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 11, 2025, by the Chair, Mary Ann MacDonald, Beaumont representative, with the following committee members present:

- Tanni Doblanko – Leduc County Mayor
- Cindy Miller – Thorsby representative
- Chris Hahn – Calmar representative
- Missy Chehayeb – Leduc representative

Other attendees:

- Dean Ohnysty – Director, Community Services
- Andrea Oneski – Supervisor, Community Programs
- Victoria Fulton – Administrative Assistant

Regrets:

- Dal Virdi – Leduc County Councillor

2. Jubilee Park Campground Site Tour

Dean led the committee on a tour of the day-use area and campground, highlighting the amenities and services each location provides to the community.

3. Agenda Adoption

10-2025 Mary Ann MacDonald – that the agenda for the September 10, 2025, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

4. Adoption of previous minutes

11-2025 Missy Chehayeb – that the minutes from the June 11, 2024, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

05. Department reports and recommendations**a) Recreation programs update**

Andrea provided an overview of upcoming programs and events for the summer season, including:

- Schedule of Lego, cooking, creator and amazing race summer camps from July 8 to August 12.
- Community events to be held from June 19 to August 16, including Parks Day, ice cream socials, and a puppet show.
- Schedule of youth day trips, Activate & Movie and Snow Valley Aerial Park, from July 28 to August 20.

- Schedule of Park and Play drop-in times and locations at the East Vistas Diamond Estates Park, New Sarepta Centennial Park, and Warburg Community Park.
- Highlighted Leduc County Days to be held on June 19 at Sunnybrook Community Hall, and on August 14 at the New Sarepta Agriplex.

11-2025 Missy Chehayeb – that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee receives the recreation programs update as information.

Carried Unanimously

6. Information items

a) Department Activity Report:

Dean provided the following administration updates as information:

Business Plan

- The 2026 Winter Initiatives are being developed with an approved annual budget of \$15,000. The initiative will include a commitment agreement with the Wizard Lake Watershed Association to host the Try It Festival each February, as well as winter walking activities at Jubilee Park.
- The Council Policy committee reviewed the partnership policy in May and will be presented at Council in June for approval.
- An athletic field consultant will soon be selected to do a feasibility study with a plan to be presented to Council in Q1 2026.

Community Partnerships

- The East Vistas playground is scheduled to be completed by July 1 with an opening celebration scheduled on July 5.

Cost Share

- Council approved the recreation cost-share agreements with the City of Beaumont, the Town of Thorsby, and the Village of Warburg. The City of Leduc agreement was approved and signed in 2024. The Town of Calmar agreement will be brought to Council in July.
- Council approved the 2024 final payments and the 2025 budget payments for the Village of Warburg and the Town of Thorsby. The Town of Calmar payments will go to Council in July.

Community Facilities

- The Leduc Library Board presented to Council a feasibility study that reviewed the need for a stand-alone library in New Sarepta.
- The Provincial CFEP grant announcements are anticipated at the end of the month. Leduc County has committed to support the New Sarepta Agriplex with a matching grant to support a new ice plant condenser for the arena.
- The front entrance and accessibility ramp renovation project at Rollyview Hall is almost complete. This project was supported by Leduc County and funding received from CFEP.

Community Resources and Support

- Andrea highlighted the resources and support services Leduc County offers community organizations, including workshops, webinars, and grant support. She also shared information on

the lend-out program and highlighted upcoming community events that utilize these County resources.

Parks Operations - Campgrounds

- All campgrounds opened in May. Administration will support the new campground manager during the transition to operating and managing Jubilee Park Campground.

Parks - General

- Contractors have begun construction of the new playground at the East Vistas with completion anticipated in July.
- Over 100,000 trees were planted along Blackmud Creek to support the naturalization of the area.

Recreation - Programs

- The Leduc County Scavenger Hunt in April was a huge success, with over 67 groups participating in more than 1,000 activity challenges.
- The Try-a-Trail program was held in May, promoting trail locations and amenities throughout Leduc County.
- Summer camps and day trip programs are now open for registration on the Leduc County website.

Recreation – Events and Community Support

- The Go Girl workshop celebrated its 15th Anniversary, with 63 girls who participated in various activities.
- Leduc County celebrated Recreation Parks month in June, encouraging residents to visit and enjoy recreation and park amenities throughout Leduc County.
- Leduc County Days will be held at Sunnybrook on June 19 and at the New Sarepta Agriplex on August 14, featuring a free BBQ, a variety of activities and department presentations for residents to enjoy.
- Parks Day was celebrated on July 12 at the Jubilee Park Day-use area, offering fun activities for families of all ages.

12-2025 Cindy Miller – that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee receives the department activity report as information.

Carried Unanimously

6. Regional Reports

There were no regional reports.

7. Next Meeting – September 10, 2025, at Leduc County Operations, C&oC Boardroom

Adjournment

13-2025 Mary Ann MacDonald - that the PRAC meeting be adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Carried Unanimously

Chairman

Director

REPORT NAME

2026 Operational Business Plan update.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee receive the 2026 Operational business plan report as information.

BACKGROUND

Administration has submitted the 2026 Parks and Recreation budget and business plan for executive leadership and Council. Once the executive leadership approves the plan, an interim budget is presented to Council in December for final approval. Ideas and plans will continue to be reviewed before final submission.

All projects that are noted below align with the Recreation and Parks Master Plan that was approved in 2026.

Business Plan

1. Conduct a community survey to better understand East Vista residents participating in recreation

In the past year, several hundred residents have moved to East Vistas, bringing the estimated population to over 2,000. With this growing population, it will be important to engage residents to better understand their participation in recreation, sport and cultural activities. Gathering this information will help us identify and better understand community needs, trends and priorities, including the types of activities and the locations.

2. Implement phase one of the Athletic Field Feasibility Study

In 2025, a feasibility study will be undertaken to identify opportunities to support expanded athletic field opportunities within the Leduc and Beaumont regions. A draft plan will be presented to Council in the New Year. If approved, implementation will begin in 2026. This is anticipated to include securing municipal and stakeholder partnerships as well as securing possible external funding opportunities. No construction is planned for 2026.

3. Include Natural assets within the Parks asset management program

Over the past few years, Parks has worked to further define, assess, and log all parks assets. This includes creating an inventory of not only major features, but also of signs, benches, trails and other minor amenities. A value and replacement plan has been identified for all assets.

In 2026, we will begin inventorying all natural assets. This will include marking and valuing trees, plantings and other natural features. This is especially important for understanding our urban growth area parks and will also support future planning and budgeting for all areas of the County.

4. Develop a community sponsorship program for recreation programs and events

In 2026, a sponsorship program will be developed to provide opportunities for corporate donations and sponsorship of our community programs and events. While no specific target funding goal has been established, we are simply creating a program and opportunity when approached by a local business wishing to contribute to the community.

REPORT NAME

Jubilee Park Campground operations.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee receive the Jubilee Park Campground operations report as information.

BACKGROUND

In 2025, Jubilee Park campground transitioned from a direct service delivery model to a contracted service model. A contractor was selected in January following an open posting on the Alberta Purchasing Connection website. Throughout the spring, administration worked closely with the contractor to provide orientation on the campground and operational processes.

The following is a summary of the 2025 season and the ongoing efforts to prepare for the 2026 season.

1. Camping and maintenance

- The contractor continued to use the online reservation system, which was effective in attracting new guests and simplify the reservation process.
- A reduced level of security was offered, but overall, very few complaints were received regarding noise and disruptive behavior within the campground.
- Maintenance standards were a concern early in the operating season, but the contractor addressed these issues, resulting in minimal complaints throughout the season.
- A septic issue early in the season required the closure of the concession washrooms for a large portion of the season. While this led to several complaints, the matter was outside of the contractor's control.
- Concerns regarding customer service were raised and subsequently discussed with the contractor.

2. Concession

- We received several comments regarding the change in concession service delivery, including increased rates and a reduced variety of items for purchase, primarily non-food items.
- While prices have risen, they are comparable and appropriate to similar vendors. Pricing will continue to be monitored in 2026.
- Although we do not intend to make direct decisions, the contractor has been encouraged to review concession offerings in 2026, with an emphasis on food services.
- Hours of service will be further discussed for 2026.

3. Day-use

- Operations of the day-use area have been a primary focus for several years due to the capacity of parking and the demand from visitors and boaters.

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- Managing parking authority and guest activities continued to be challenging for the contractor.
 - For 2026, we are reviewing opportunities to support the contractor with operational changes or further supporting enforcement rules.
 - In recent years, there has been an increase in disruptive guests unwilling to abide by rules, which remained the primary concern in 2025.

A summary of findings will be reviewed this fall. We will continue to refine the partnership from lessons learned from 2025.

REPORT NAME

Athletic Field Feasibility Project.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee receive the Athletic Field Feasibility Project report as information.

BACKGROUND

The 2025 budget includes \$80,000 to complete a concept design and feasibility study to support the development of future athletic fields within the Leduc and Beaumont regions. In July, a request for proposals was advertised and a successful proponent was contracted in August. Throughout the fall, this consultant will lead a process to identify community needs, create concept designs, and develop project costing to help inform stakeholders. Currently, members of Leduc and Beaumont baseball associations, as well as representatives from the Cities of Leduc and Beaumont will join the committee.

Once the feasibility report is complete, it will be presented to Council early in 2026. If supported, we will then formally work to secure our municipal partnerships and pursue additional funding supports throughout 2026.

The primary focus of this project is to develop a premier-style facility to support athletic associations with baseball as a central focus. Additional sport opportunities that may fit within the identified space will also be explored. In addition to supporting local minor sports, this facility is also intended to be a showcase venue for hosting other communities as well as participants from across the Province and western Canada.

ADMINISTRATION

Budget

- ▶ The 2026 budget has been submitted for review by executive leadership. An interim budget will be presented to Council in late November for consideration. Key changes include:
 - Minor operating increases to support inflationary costs of parks maintenance and the expanded service areas within the East Vistas.
 - Minor operating increases to support event costs and partner support to events hosted by not-for-profit associations.

Community Partnerships

- ▶ The East Vistas Playground project, in partnership with the East Vistas Community Association, was completed on July 1. A grand opening celebration was held on July 5 with a ribbon cutting ceremony, ice cream truck, games and activities. Approximately 190 attended the opening event.
- ▶ On June 24, Council approved the new Community Partnership Policy (CD-06), which outlines the County's standard approach to providing resources and assistance to community associations.
- ▶ The Rolly View Community Association completed their front entrance project. A grand opening celebration was held on August 20, with a ribbon cutting ceremony, and BBQ. 60 people attended the grand opening celebration.

Cost Share

- ▶ On August 26, Council approved the City of Beaumont 2024 final cost share capital payment. Project support included repair to the Beaumont Sport and Recreation Centre and the CCBCC community hall.
- ▶ On August 26, Council approved the updated recreation cost share agreement with the Town of Calmar, along with the approval of the Town's 2024 final and 2025 budget cost share payments for shared recreation and library cost services.
- ▶ On August 26, Council approved sponsorship funding for the Alberta Zirka Ukrainian Performers Association in support of their 50th Anniversary celebrations in 2026 and approved a three-year funding commitment to the Special Olympics Leduc to assist with year-round sports programming.

Community Facilities

- ▶ Rollyview completed their front entrance and accessibility ramp renovation project, and an opening celebration was held on August 20.
- ▶ Sunnybrook received a \$53k CFEP grant to support interior upgrades to their ceiling, lighting, and front entrance.
- ▶ New Sarepta Agricultural Society received a \$107,982 CFEP grant to support their ice plant replacement project. This project was also supported with conditional funding from Leduc County Council.
- ▶ Leduc County supported Cloverlawn Community Hall and Telfordville Community Hall with CFEP grant applications. These applications were submitted in May 2025; we expect to hear results of these applications by the end of the year.



- ▶ Leduc County supported the Thorsby Agricultural Society with an FCC AgriSpirit grant in June. This funding will help replace the holding pen, lighting, and add an energy efficient bay door.

Community Resources and Support

- ▶ On June 24, Council approved the new Community Partnership Policy (CD-06), which establishes a framework for providing resources and assistance to community associations.
- ▶ The 2026 Community Association Grant intake will be open from September 1 to 30. Applications will be reviewed in October, with funding recommendations presented to Council for approval on December 9.
- ▶ To date, Administration has hosted two Community Association workshops in 2025, providing associations with knowledge and resources on grant writing, bylaw review, roles and responsibilities, and strategic planning. The most recent workshop, held on September 6, focused on helping participants better understand Leduc County grants and improve their chances of success, as well as general grant writing tips and tricks, and association networking.
- ▶ To date, Administration has hosted three Community Cafés, providing organizations with opportunities to connect and collaborate with other volunteers, ask questions, and learn from one another.
- ▶ The New Horizons for Seniors Program (NHSP), a federal community-based grant, was open from August 1 to September 12. The program supports projects designed by seniors, for seniors, in their communities. Administration encouraged community associations to submit applications for a variety of projects and offered support with project ideas and grant writing.
- ▶ The summer season was busy with eight community events held throughout the summer, and supported 14 special community events with equipment, activities, staff assistance, and resources. Upcoming events include Culture Days at Rolly View Hall on September 20 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Harvest Festival at Strawberry Hall on October 4 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Please see the attached poster.
- ▶ The Provincial government has an online non-profit learning center available to County not for profit associations. This is a collection of online courses, live webinars, documents and guides to empower non-profits, their board members and volunteers through training. There are over 60 online courses, with topics ranging from agendas to understanding your legal landscape.
<https://www.alberta.ca/non-profit-learning-centre>

PARKS

Parks Operations

Campgrounds

- ▶ Jubilee Park Campground had a busy season, with comfort cabins booked every weekend and approximately 2,711 total bookings, generating about \$350,000 in revenue. The campground's operating season was extended until September 14.
- ▶ Centennial Park also had a successful season, which closed on September 1.
- ▶ Group campgrounds were well used this season, with 21 bookings at Sunnybrook and 14 bookings at Genesee. Both campgrounds will remain open until October 5.

General

- ▶ Seasonal employees concluded their work on August 29, and we are now wrapping up the year with our two full-time staff.

- There was a significant decrease in maintenance concerns this year which we attributed to increased staffing levels.
 - A few issues occurred with key equipment failures during the summer; these aging items have been added to the capital plan for replacement.
- ▶ With the warm fall weather, regular park maintenance is expected to continue well into September before transitioning to our planned fall projects.
- ▶ Discussions with Roads department regarding winter responsibilities have taken place, and Parks will primarily provide support in the East Vistas area and around the County Centre.

RECREATION

Programs

- ▶ The summer season was busy with eight community events held throughout the summer, 15 special community events supported by Leduc County with equipment, activities, staff assistance, and resources.
- ▶ Upcoming events include Culture Days at Rolly View Hall on September 20 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Harvest Festival at Strawberry Hall on October 4 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Please see the attached poster.
- ▶ Throughout the summer, we hosted six summer camps, including cooking, creator, Lego and amazing race, along with 19 drop-in programs, and five special trips.

Events and Community Support

- ▶ On June 19, Leduc County Days at Sunnybrook welcomed over 300 attendees. A second event was also held at the New Sarepta Agriplex with over 540 attendees. Both events featured a variety of activities, department information booths, live music, a free BBQ, vendor showcases and an exhibition of local artists who participated in the “We ♥ Local Art” contest, which received 63 submissions across youth and adult categories.
- ▶ Throughout the summer, we hosted two ice cream socials, two puppet shows, Parks Day, and a playground grand opening at Diamond Estates Park.

CULTURE DAYS FESTIVAL



- Indoor market
- Bouncy castles
- Local performances
- Food trucks
- Petting zoo
- And more!

Rolly View Hall

Saturday, Sept. 20

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.



For more information, visit
www.leduc-county.com/recreation



Harvest Festival

Saturday, Oct. 4
2 to 5 p.m.

Strawberry
Community Hall
1544 Township Rd. 502



- Pumpkin patch photos
- Cookie decorating
- Donut eating contest
- Games
- And more!

www.leduc-county.com/recreation





**Join Us Celebrating the recovery of a rehabilitated Great
Horned Owl!**

Release @

Wizard Lake Saturday

August 30th, 2025 6:30pm

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/great-horned-owl-release-at-wizard-lake-tickets-1644617588479?aff=oddttdtcreator>