VILLAGE OF VILNA
Newsletter
November, 2025

MUNICIPAL ELECTION RESULTS

On October 20th, 2025 you elected your new Council, then at their Organizational meeting they selected your Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

Mayor Leroy Kunyk
Deputy Mayor Tammy-Lynn Thompson
Councillor Jennifer Trider



November is a month to Remember

We recognize and remember those who gave their lives and those who have served and are in service.

WATER RESERVOIR PROJECT UPDATE

As mentioned in our last Newsletter, the construction of the Water Reservoir is going to take approximately another year. The concrete walls are poured. It takes approximately a month for concrete to cure to its maximum strength and shrinkage.





ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A WAY TO GIVE TO YOUR COMMUNITY?

The Vilna Fire Department is recruiting for firefighters.

Training and gear are supplied.
Call Vilna Fire Chief Ray Soch 780-656-0104.

SAVE THE DATE!! Vilna & District Volunteer Firefighter's Association will be holding their annual Dine and Dance on January 31, 2026.

ARE YOU LEAVING YOUR HOUSE WITHOUT HEAT IN WINTER?…. **Shut off the main in your home and drain your pipes (open faucets)!** ***Have your water meter removed. If it freezes and breaks – you will be charged $250.00. Estimates WILL be HIGH*****. Not to mention what it will do to your pipes and property. Need help? Call the Village office.**

FIRE ADVISORY

The Fire Restriction has been downgraded to a FIRE ADVISORY. This means the Fire Rating is classified as Moderate.

Unless we get a lot of snow, this Advisory will extend through the winter.

Please be cautious about fires.

1. **The use of fireworks is strictly prohibited**. No fireworks permit will be issued at this time.
2. Fire Services issued warnings to use caution with portable heaters during a cold snap, highlighting general fire safety concerns even in winter.
3. Warm and dry conditions through the autumn can lead to a high fire danger.
4. Even with snow on the ground, quads (ATV's) can start a fire quickly that would endanger everyone in the Village. Respect private property! If you don't know for sure, contact the Village.
5. Earlier occurrences**:** Historical accounts and fire officials have noted fires have occurred in Alberta in every month of the year, especially during periods without significant snow cover.
6. A fire advisory in winter is not a one-time event, but a periodic measure taken by the province or specific municipality in response to unusual warm, dry, or windy conditions that expose dry vegetation (fine fuels like dead grass) to fire risk.



A NOTE OF CAUTION

Please refrain from feeding wildlife. It's fun to watch the squirrels and the birds, but remember … the free food brings in coyotes, wolves and bears also.



BYLAW #611-25 SMOKY LAKE REGION FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES

This Bylaw comes into effect January 1, 2026 And creates a regional fire & rescue service that provides for the sharing

of services and enhance the safety, health and welfare and protection of people and property.

The Regional services operational costs will be shared by the 4 participating municipalities – Smoky Lake County, Town of Smoky Lake, the Village of Waskatenau and the Village of Vilna.

If you have had Fire Services attend your property:

1. an invoice for Fire Protection charges shall be sent to:
   - **1.1** the person causing or contributing to the fire; or
   - **1.2** the owner or occupant of the Property.
2. Fire Protection charges will be levied for fires as deemed by the Regional Fire Chief.
3. The schedule of fees and charges by the Smoky Lake County Regional Fire Rescue Services are as set forth within the Bylaw.
4. If fees or charges that have been levied and remain unpaid for longer than ninety (90) days, notification will be sent in writing, a method will be used which is most appropriate to recover the costs. and submit it to the Smoky Lake County Regional Fire Rescue Services. If unpaid, the amount will be added to the tax roll.

Every property owner should carry fire insurance for their property.
A tenant should also have it for their own belongings – the landlord is not liable for your belongings.

Without insurance, property owners will be solely responsible for the costs of fighting the fire as well as the cost of repairing or replacing your neighbour's damaged property, as well as any injuries that may have occurred, not to mention the costs to repair or rebuild your own home and replace your belongings.

KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE

Message from Sergeant Doktor:
The RCMP warns of phone scams using AI generated voices of relatives.

Be aware of fraudulent telephone calls that utilize artificial intelligence programs to replicate the voice of friends or relatives. The fraudster will often give a sad story to gain sympathy from the victim and eventually ask for a large quantity of money.

The RCMP offers the following tips - if you are unsure you're being targeted by this type of scam:

- Establish a unique and secret pass phrase with close relatives to verify their identity.
- Hang up and call the relative back to ensure you are talking to the correct person.
- If you sense anything is suspicious, hang up and call the police. ***Do not, under any circumstances, send money to anyone without verifying the identity of the people involved.***

Report any criminal or suspicious activity to the Police. The RCMP does not accept reports by e-mail

RCMP – *EMERGENCIES – 911*
Smoky Lake Detachment days 780-656-3550
For NON-Emergencies – 310-RCMP (310-7267)

DID YOU KNOW?

You can attend any Council meeting which are held at the Village Office. If you wish to make a presentation to Council at a meeting, there is a process in ***S.11*** of the Village of Vilna Procedural Bylaw found at:
https://www.vilna.ca/public/download/files/321833

If you need a hand with the procedures, call or email the office. We're happy to assist you.

AND

Seniors can pay $50.00 to have their driveway cleaned for the winter, provided there is significant snow and after the snow is cleared in other locations.

AND

If you have a skid steer or other equipment and are using it to remove snow, please call to have public works assess the situation beforehand.

It's easy to cause damage to the road, sidewalk, water valves, manhole accesses or other public assets and it will be your responsibility for the costs to repair. If you wish to clear your own (or other's) streets etc., please call the office and we will arrange for public works staff to come and have a look.

VILLAGE OFFICE
5135 – 50 Street
Box 10, Vilna AB T0A 3L0
Email: vilna@mcsnet.ca
Office: 780-636-3620
Website: www.vilna.ca
Check the webpage for updates and schedules

The Village office will be closed for a major computer software upgrade on November 20th but will be open at 5:30 for the Council meeting.

Upcoming Regular Council Meetings are now held the 2nd Thurs of every month unless periodically substituted:

- November 20th 5:30 p.m.
- December 11th 5:30 p.m.

Meetings and other local events are posted, with virtual links when available, on the Vilna website at https://www.vilna.ca/events/