BOSTER BRETON BOSTER

HIGHWAY 621 IMPROVEMENTS

Brazeau County, August 14, 2025

Design phase begins for Highway 621 improvements

Alberta's government is partnering with Brazeau County to make Highway 621 safer and more efficient for vehicles carrying oversize and overweight loads.

A design consultant will be hired to complete planning, engineering and design work for 30 kilometres of grade widening between Highways 22 and 753. The upgrades will improve safety, support Alberta's heavy load corridors, and strengthen the province's economic competitiveness by making it easier for industry to move goods. Brazeau County will lead the hiring of the consultant and deliver the design work.

Highway upgrades will accommodate a 7.32-metre-wide load (with a permit) passing a 2.6- metre-wide regulated commercial truck. Highway 621 carries approximately 1,300 vehicles per day, with 8.5 per cent truck traffic (about 87 trucks daily).

The design phase is expected to take two to three years, subject to right-of-way acquisition and utility relocations.

Highway 621 is part of Brazeau County's Western Economic Corridor, and is the only route in the region that accommodates over-dimensional traffic to Whitecourt, Grande Prairie and Peace River. This critical link supports resource industries, agriculture, and emerging sectors like hemp and geothermal, connecting them to markets across Alberta and beyond.

"Upgrading Highway 621 is about more than just paving a road—it's about building a more efficient transportation network that connects Alberta's industries to markets while keeping our economy competitive," says Devin Dreeshen, Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors. "This investment will help ensure that heavy loads and critical goods can move safely and reliably for vears to come."

"Highway 621 has been a long-standing concern for residents across the Drayton Valley—Devon region" says

Minister of Sport and Tourism Andrew Boitchenko. "As MLA, I heard loud and clear from constituents that safety and infrastructure improvements were urgently needed. Today, I'm proud to stand with the Government of Alberta and Brazeau County to announce that we're getting it done—delivering on our commitment to make this vital corridor safer, more efficient, and better equipped to support local industries and communities."

"This project has been sought after for quite some time, and we are grateful to Minister Dreeshen and Minister Boitchenko for making this project a go," says Brazeau County Reeve Bart Guyon. "This will make the road safer and more accessible for industry. Brazeau County and Alberta move on wheels, so we are grateful to have this project go ahead. It will be very well-received by our residents, businesses, and industries."

Quick Facts:

- Highway 621 runs near Cynthia, Alberta, and spans approximately 30 km between Highways 22 and 753.
- It is part of Brazeau County's Western Economic Corridor, which is an emerging industrial hub designed to attract investment and drive innovation.
 It leverages the region's strengths in oil and gas, forestry, and agriculture while creating opportunities in emerging sectors such as hydrogen, biomass, geothermal, rare-earth minerals, and helium.
- Current width of Highway 621 ranges from 8.3 metres to 8.6 metres; ideally, highways that carry oversize/overweight loads should be at least 10 metres wide.
- Approximately 145,000 oversize and overweight permits are issued annually in Alberta.



Classifieds

GARAGE / YARD SALES

MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE 4902- 48 Street, Thorsby Saturday & Sunday, August 23 & 24 from 9-5pm. Tools, clothing, puzzles, books, housewares, plants & more.

GARAGE/YARD SALE - Fri. Aug 22 from 5-9, Sat. Aug 23 from 9-5, Sun. Aug 24 from 9-5PM. 6 ½ miles south of Warburg on Sec Hwy 770 & RR 31.Tools, Furniture, antiques, dishes, clothes and much more misc.

MOVING SALE - Includes all household furniture, antique vintage furniture, glassware & more. Call 780-696-3592 to inquire or view.

FOR SALE

Community United Church has **NUMEROUS ITEMS FOR SALE:** shelving, desks, cork boards, electric piano, organ, & much more. Open to offers. Contact Bea Moore at 780-389-4104 or Frances Thompson at 780-696-3808

J-G GREENHOUSE HAS VEGGIES ready to be picked. Beets, cabbage, carrots, cucumbers, garlic, onions, & potatoes are ready now. Phone: 780-915-1211.

ARCTIC SPA 7' YUKON SPA - includes grey cover with lifter, Bluetooth, family lighting package, \$4995 OBO. Text/call Carol 780-777-8472.

FOR SALE - Auto darkening welding helmet NEW in box \$50 obo; 2 compound bows \$50 obo ea; 12x12 screen gazebo NEW \$75 obo; Clairol foot bath \$25; family ceramic stones w/verses \$20. Phone 780-234-5656

FOR SALE - Mastercraft air-powered coil roofing nailer \$60; dog grooming table \$75 obo; Nintendo WII & 2 Playstations offers; Princess Auto mini bike \$550; Princess Auto go-kart \$800 obo. Phone 780-234-5656

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6	1	7	4	3	5	8	9	2
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Sudoku Answers from August 13 Issue

The object of the puzzle is to fill the remaining squares, using all the numbers 1–9 exactly once in each row, column, and the nine 3 × 3 subgrids.

VILLAGE OF BRETON



Our Office will be CLOSED **Thursday August 21st From 1 pm - 4 pm For Staff Training**

Sorry for the Inconvenience



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UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS (Breton, Thorsby, Warburg & Surrounding Areas)

<u>August Summer Programs</u> - Contact your local FCSS, Library or Recreation Complex for more information.

<u>August 21</u> - Fireside Finds Market at the Thorsby Lions Campground from 4-7pm. Bring your lawn chair to cook FREE s'mores sponsored by Thorsby CIB.

<u>August 23</u> - Buckin' at the Brook - Bull Riding, live music, food trucks and more at Sunnybrook. Gates open at 4pm. Tickets available www.showpass.com/buckin-at-the-brook-2/

<u>August 23</u> - Annual Car/Truck Show in Thorsby presented by Wilde Mechanical (4813 - 50 Avenue). Mega Trucks, Car Crushing, Tug-a-war and more. 10am - 5pm.

<u>August 23</u> - Pancake Breakfast at the Thorsby Seniors Centre hosted by the Thorsby Lions Club from 9am - noon.

<u>August 24</u> - Pancake Breakfast at Sandholm Hall (corner 616X and Hwy 778) from 8am to 11am. EVERYONE WELCOME! For information call 780-389-2381

<u>August 26</u> - Warburg School Community Awareness, Meet the teacher from 4:30 - 6:30pm. Market from 4-8pm. Contact Warburg FCSS if you would like to be a vendor.

<u>August 28</u> - Seniors Day out at the Leduc Rec Centre. Bus leaves Warburg Manor at 11:30am. Ages 60+. Register at the Warburg Village office by August 26.

<u>September 3</u> - Sizzling Summer BBQ at the Warburg Cloverleaf Manor. Live Music by Dwayne Oko. \$10 each. *RSVPto 780-848-7177 by August 27.*

<u>September 6-7</u> - Fundraiser Jackpot for Trinity Chubocha at the Thorsby Haymaker. For more information or to donate contact <u>loreleimcleod911@hotmail.com</u>

<u>September 7</u> - Dance to No Hitchiker Band at Winfield Community Centre from 1-4pm. Admission by donation. Lunch contribution appreciated. Everyone Welcome.

<u>September 16</u> – Breton Community Information Night and Chili Cook Off, Learn about activities, groups & services in Breton & area, with tasting & judging the best Chili around. Contact Breton FCSS for more info.

<u>September 21</u> - Thorsby Indoor Soccer Registration Closes. U5-U17 players from Thorsby, Warburg, Calmar, Breton, Pigeon Lake & surrounding areas invited to join. <u>www.thorsbysoccerclub.ca</u> or FB for more info.

<u>September 25</u> - Warburg Chili Cookoff & Market at the Pioneer Rec Centre from 5:30-8pm. Contact the Warburg Village office to register 780-848-2841 or office@warburg.ca.

<u>September 25</u> - Creating Hope at the Thorsby Municipal Library from 1-3pm in honor of Truth & Reconciliation month. Bannock, Tea & sharing. *Registration required 780-789-3808*.

<u>September 27</u> – Roper Romp – Ladies Night, hosted by the Breton Agricultural Society, Trivia, Comedians, Music, and additional entertainment. Tickets available at Breton ATB, 780-696-4890 or contact <u>bretonagsociety@gmail.com</u>

October 4 - Genesee Pumpkin Festival hosted by the Genesee Ag Society. Pancake breakfast, children's games, live music, hay rides, market and more. 780-940-7229 for info.

October 4 - Harvest Fest at Strawberry Hall, Leduc County run, children games in afternoon, Family friendly Smokie & perogy supper & dance, Cash bar-door prizes

Community Events & Information is <u>FREE</u> to advertise



to the <u>BRETON LADIES GOLF</u> Committee members and also to the ladies who participated in the golf tournament on August

15th. The Committee raised an overwhelming \$1500.00 and the ladies who golfed in the tournament donated a total of 258 lbs of non-perishable food with an estimated value of \$908.16!

(Calculated according to the 2024 Food Banks Canada estimated average cost of a lb of food)

CONGRATULATIONS! Well done ladies!

THANK YOU to everyone for their work, and time spent to make this fundraiser fun and successful, and also for everyone's generosity.

May God Bless you all abundantly!

BRETON FAITH COVENANT CHURCH FOOD BANK Volunteers and Clients



Brazeau County

ELECTION WORKERS NEEDED

Brazeau County is looking for people interested in working the Municipal Election on Monday, October 20, 2025.

We are looking for workers interested in working at the following voting stations:

Division 1 Dynthia

Division 1 Desyford

Division 4

Whitby Hall

Workers are not required to live in the division in order to work at the voting station.

Workers will be paid for Election Day as well as for attending a mandatory half-day training session in September. Election Day workers will be required to be at their assigned voting station from 9 a.m. until after polls close at 8 p.m. and all ballots are counted.

For more information or to add your name to the list please contact Returning Officer Jasmine Nuthall at 780-920-3537.

UPDATE YOUR VOTER INFORMATION!

Voters in the 2025 Municipal Election are required to appear on a permanent electors register. To make sure you appear on the register, and to update any important information like your municipal address (blue sign), go online to voterlink.ab.ca by September 15, 2025.

Voters can also register/update their information by calling 310-0000 then dialing 780-427-7191.

If your name does not appear on the permanent electors register on Election Day you will be required to fill out a form to be added to the list.

IMPORTANT DATES

September 1 | Labour Day | Brazeau County Administration Building Closed

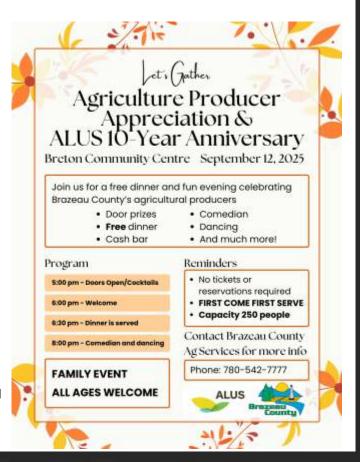
September 2 | Council Meeting | 9:00 a.m.

September 4 | ALUS PAC meeting | 9:00 a.m.

September 9 | Municipal Planning Commission meeting | 10:00 a.m.

September 16 | Council Meeting | 9:00 a.m.

September 17 | Agricultural Service Board meeting | 9:00 a.m.





Bart Guyon Reeve 780-542-0999



Glen Gunderson Councillor Div. 1 780-621-6459 ggunderson@brazeau.ab.ca



Donna Wiltse Councillor Div. 2 780-898-0247 dwiltse@brazeau.ab.ca



Kara Westerlund Councillor Div. 4 780-898-4561 kwesterlund@brazeau.ab



Anthony Heinrich Councillor Div. 5 780-696-2468



Dallas Ekstrom Councillor Div. 6 780-898-9129 lekstrom@brazeau.ab.ca



PROGRAMS & REGULAR EVENTS

(Breton &Surrounding Areas)

MONDAYS

BUS TO DRAYTON VALLEY (Aquasize or Walmart) Must pre-register. Contact Warburg FCSS 780-848-2828 or Breton FCSS 780-696-3636 for more info.

CARDS & FLOOR CURLING at the Breton Golden Age Club at 1pm (\$3)

TUESDAYS

<u>STAY, PLAY & GROW</u> - FREE Drop in for 0-6 years old from 10am -11:30am at the Breton Faith Covenant Church. Hosted by Brighter Futures. For more info 780-514-5070.

FLOOR CURLING at the Breton Golden Age Club at 12:30pm

FOOT WELLNESS services the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month in Breton. Contact Christa at 780-514-5640

TRADE PARADE - 2nd Tuesday of every month 6-8pm at the Winfield Hall. <u>www.winfieldagsociety.com</u> or FB for more info.

WEDNESDAYS

BRETON BOOK CLUB meets at the Breton Library the second Wednesday of the month at 1pm *from September until June*. All readers are welcome to join the conversation!

KNIT & KACKLE - knit and crochet items for non profits. No experience necessary. 2nd Wednesday of the month at the Breton Faith Covenant Church at 1pm. Gaylene 780-696-3597

<u>MOVIE AFTERNOONS</u> on Wednesdays at the Breton Library from 3:30 - 4:50pm. All ages welcome. Children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult.

THURSDAYS

 $\frac{\text{CRAFT NIGHT FOR ADULTS}}{\text{month at the Breton Library from 5-8pm.}} \text{ every second Thursday of the month at the Breton Library from 5-8pm.} 780-696-3740 \text{ for info.}$

CHILDREN'S STORY TIME at the Breton Municipal Library on Thursdays from 11:15am - 11:45am

LOW IMPACT EXERCISE CLASS at the Buck Lake Seniors Centre from 11am - 12pm. Drop in \$2. Call Erin at 780-352-3321 for more info.

TACO THURSDAYS at the Breton Youth Center. Grades 6-12. from 3:30-6pm.

FRIDAYS

JAM DANCE & CARDS NIGHT at the Buck Creek Community Hall the first Friday of every month.

MUSIC, BIBLE & PIZZA on alternating Fridays at the Breton Youth Center. Grades 6-12 from 4:15 - 6:15pm.

SATURDAYS

<u>CRIB</u> at the Breton Golden Age Club on Saturdays at 12:30pm. Contact Larry at 780-975-8755

*PLEASE NOTE:

All events are subject to change. Please email us at media@community39.com or call 780-434-7446 to add an event or if we have incorrect information.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

WELCOME TO BRETON - We want to help newcomers feel

welcome by giving you a package of promotional and informational items from local businesses and community organizations. We look forward to meeting you! Call or text: Diane - 780-514-4273

MEMORIAL PLAQUE - Anyone wanting to put their loved ones name on the memorial plaque at the Breton Cemetery can contact Diane with the Breton Royal Purple Elks at 780-514-4273 for more information.

<u>TABS FOR TOTS</u> - The Breton Elks collect the tabs off beverage cans and other recyclable metals. This is sold for scrap and the funds help local hospitals. To donate your tabs or other recyclable metals please call 780-696-3800

BRETON YOUTH CENTRE is volunteer run located at the Carolyn Strand Civic Centre. All activities are FREE! All kids grade 6-12 are welcome. Activities are advertised on social media or contact them at bretonyouthcenter@gmail.com

<u>COMMUNITY CALENDARS</u> - FREE! Pick up at the Village of Breton Office or the Breton Municipal Library located in the Carolyn Strand Civic Centre at 4916 - 50 Avenue.

BRETON FOOD BANK - provides food hampers to community families who are struggling to place food on their tables due to tough economic times and/or circumstances beyond their control. Not a permanent food source but they provide hampers as a hand up during difficult times. Call 780-696-3669 and leave a voice mail in box #3 if you need help or to donate. Located at the Breton Faith Covenant Church.

TENT RENTALS - the Breton Elks have 3-20x20 and 1-20x40 tents for rent. Contact Darren Scott at 780-696-3800.

BUCKS FOR BOOBS - Donate your bottles for Breast Cancer Research and get entered into a draw. Contact Tracy Bolton at 780-696-0006 or 780-202-7874. Tax receipts available for donations over \$20.



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DALLAS

EKSTROM

BRAZEAU COUNTY COUNCILLOR

DIVISION 6 Vote: October 20th



Thorsby Stockyards **CUSTOMER APPRECIATION**

10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Monday, August 25, 2025



www.thorsbystockyards.ca



FCSS NEWS

from Deanne Young

780.696.3636

<u>Summer Youth Program</u> – It is hard to believe that we only have a few more days left of our Summer Program. Most of the final events are full but you could still join us on:

- Tuesday August 26 for Craft time from 9:30 11:30
- Combat Laser Tag from 1-3pm on August 28
- End of Summer Party on August 28 from 11 3pm Call in to register and for additional information.

We sure have had a bunch of fun with the kids and hope they have as well.

Thank you to the following for their generous donations to our program: Breton ELKS / Breton Agriculture Society / County of Wetaskiwin FCSS / Lindale Truck Service / WC Trucking / Canline Pipeline Solutions / Insulation Snakes / Gazelles Group of Companies

Community Information Night – Celebrate Breton & Chili Cook Off / Dessert Bake Off – Tuesday September 16, 2025 - This will be a time for community members to plan their fall activities, volunteer commitments and know of all the services available in and around our community, along with learning about the great businesses we have in our area. Breton FCSS will be coordinating this evening. We are adding to this year's event and inviting any groups / businesses that would like to be a part of a Chili Cook Off and or a Dessert Bake Off. The Cook Off will be organized by the Breton Agricultural Society. Save the date and plan to join us that evening. Anyone attending the evening will sample and judge the Chili and Dessert entries.

This evening is designed to do the following:

- 1. To give your agency / organization the opportunity to let the community know who you are and what services/and or purpose you give to the community and surrounding area.
- 2. If you hold a registration night for your group this could be done at the same time.
- If your agency is in need of recruiting new members or volunteers this would be a time for community members to see what groups are operating and decide where they would like to commit some of their time.
- 4. Promote your business or services that you provide to the area. Use it for staff recruitment, letting the community know services that you offer

<u>September 27 – Roper Romp – Ladies Night</u> – hosted by the Breton Agricultural Society – Trivia, Comedians, Music, Fun Casino, Signature Drinks, Cash Bar, Prizes, Light evening meal. Tickets are available at the Breton ATB. \$55/ticket. Don't delay they will go quickly! **TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE.**

Service Canada - We are excited to announce that Service Canada will be holding appointments here in Breton starting in September. They will be coming to our Community Centre once a month. Appointments can be made through Breton FCSS starting on August 18. There will also be some walk in appointments available. To access your information, you will need your Social Insurance Number and valid Photo ID. The services are available from 10:00- 2:00. The dates for the clinics will be: September 16 / October 21 / November 17 & December 10

The services that they will be able to assist you with are:

- Assistance with applying for Canada Pension Plan (CPP), Old Age Security (OAS), or other federal government funding.
- Help with creating a My Service Canada Account.
- Support with various other Service Canada programs.
- A crucial note: workers at these appointments do not handle passport applications.

SAVE THE DATE- Community Fall Supper and Entertainment on Friday October 17, 2025 - This will be an evening to celebrate all of the great people that we have in our community. The evening will include great food and the Amazing Feud Game Show! If your community group or friends/ family would like to enter a team, contact Breton FCSS - 5 players ages 12 and older. Tickets will be available on September 2. Adults \$15 and Youth 6 - 12 - \$10, under 6 free.





5004 - 52 Street, Warburg, AB | Bar (780) 848-2359 | Tammy Cell (780) 984-0855

Exciting Events Coming Up!

AUGUST 30 - FCSS Poker Run

SEPTEMBER 6 - Name that tune with Lorre Mitchell

SEPTEMBER 13 - Car & Truck Show.

Sponsors welcome.

Free Sponsor / Information & Vendor booths. Registration starts at 1pm, Awards at 6pm. \$20 per vehicle. Cash, prizes & trophies.

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Breton Museum

4711 - 51 Street, Breton / 780-696-2551 / bretonmuse@yahoo.com

DRESSED FOR SUCCESS: BE IT FUR, FIBER, OR FEATHERS

by Krystal Goltz, museum assistant

Settling in Alberta was a great struggle of man vs. nature. Even today, with Alberta's incredibly varied climate, it can be difficult to dress appropriately for the weather. Now, imagine travelling to Alberta around 1910, coming from the warm, arid climate of the Southern United States; every belonging you have packed into a rail car along with livestock and your family as you head north towards the Canadian border. Once at the border, you are held in quarantine as the Canadian Government tries to stop black settlers from gaining access to the prairies, using the argument that African-Americans were not "suited" to the climate.

In reality, it was simply a ploy used to control who could and could not immigrate to the Canadian Prairies. While the climate was drastically different from the Southern United States, the African-American settlers were like many new Canadians and would come to learn how to Dress for Success in the new environment.

Pioneers had many ingenious ways of dealing with the harsh Canadian winters, the most basic of which was the layering of clothing to keep warm and dry, but this was a time before synthetic fabrics were invented, let alone available to the masses. Consequently, natural fibers reigned supreme in this era.

The base layers of a pioneer wardrobe would have been made of cotton and wool as both of these materials helped to insulate the wearer and keep moisture away from the skin. While cotton would be purchased whether in-store or via mail order, some families in the Keystone/Breton area kept sheep so that they could process the fleece to make their own wool. There are several steps to get from untreated fleece to useable yarn, including shearing, skirting, scouring, dyeing, carding, and spinning (not to mention the work of keeping the sheep alive when their curiosity often led them into precarious situations).

The sheep would first be sheared to remove the fleece, which was then skirted to remove the most soiled parts before scouring. Scouring the fleece involved breaking it into smaller pieces and washing it in very hot water to remove any remaining dirt, debris, and the natural lanolin from the fibers.

After scouring, the fleece may have been dyed. While there were dyes commercially available, many rural folks would have opted for natural dyes made from things such as beets, onion peels, and other vegetables or flowers that were foraged or purposefully grown. Wool can also be dyed in later stages, such as after spinning,

or even after a garment was knit. Whether or not it was dyed, wool would need to be thoroughly dried before it was carded.

Carding was done using large combs, or a carding drum, to align the individual fibers to make a stronger yarn. The final step was spinning, which required a great deal of patience and skill. In order to create a uniform and useable material, the spinner would hold the fibers and constantly adjust the tension while also keeping the spinning wheel in motion with foot pedals. After spinning you would have created single ply yarn, which can still be pulled apart with relative ease, so two strands would often be twisted together before being knit. Once all the easy work was done, all that was left to do was actually knit the item you wanted!

In addition to wool and cotton, there was also a variety of furs used for winter clothing in the early 1900s. Some furs commonly used included beaver, wolf, mink, coyote, and even muskrat! Settlers often took cues for their winter clothing from the First Nations communities, as mukluks and moccasins were popular as winter footwear due to their warmth and waterproof nature. Many winter accessories, such as hats, gloves, and stoles, were also made from fur.

Feathers were another way to add some flare to an outfit in the early 1900s. Men and women would decorate their hats with feathers of various colours and sizes. Nick Raczuk, a local store owner in the 1950s, was known for changing the feather in his hatband to match the tie he was wearing. Ostrich feathers were a favorite for ladies' hats in the 1900s, as they had voluptuous, silky plumes and could be dyed many colours.

The variety of natural materials, be it fur, fiber, or feathers, were keystones of the pioneer wardrobe and essential to keeping early settlers both warm and stylish!

Are you a fiber artist, or know someone with a stash of yarn or fabric? Do you want to learn about what settlers wore in the early 1900s? Come to the Breton Museum and check out our summer exhibit, Dressed for Success, and learn about the history of Pioneer Clothing in the Breton area!!



- Derek W. Banman CPA, CA Partner
- Kyle Westerlund CPA, CA Partner

Box 367, 5012 - 50 Avenue Breton, AB TOC 0P0 E: dbanman@banwest.ca #401, 9426 - 51 Avenue NW

F: 780.696.2017
T: 780.426.3943

T: 780.696-2511

Edmonton, Alberta T6E 5A6 F: 780.424.1875



Village of Breton 2025 Election October 20, 2025

Do you want to make a difference in your community?

This fall you have the chance to do so: not only by the vote you cast for your municipal Councillors, but also by running for municipal office yourself. Here are some things you should consider before you file a nomination paper.

Do I qualify?

To become a candidate you must be:

- at least 18 years old on nomination date
- a Canadian citizen, and
- a resident of the municipality for the six-months preceding nomination day.

You are NOT eligible to be nominated if:

- you are an employee of the municipality, unless granted a leave of absence
- your property taxes are more than \$50 in arrears or you are in default for more than 90 days, or owe any other debt in excess of \$500 to the municipality.

(See the Local Authorities Election Act for further details.)

Do I have the time?

There will be demands on your time. You will be elected for a four-year term and during that time you will be required under the Municipal Government Act to attend:

- Regular Meetings of Council (once a month excluding July and August)
- Meetings of Council Committees (varies but usually a few times per year)
- Meetings of other boards and agencies to which you are appointed as Council's representative (varies from monthly to quarterly but generally one a month)
- ◆ Conferences, conventions, seminars, and workshops for training and discussion (varies from twice to three times per year)
- Social and other events promoting your municipality.

Some of these meetings are during the daytime, so it is important to ensure you can get the time off from your employment.

Filing your nomination

September 22, 2025 has been declared nomination day. The completed nomination form is to be filed with the Returning Officer before 12:00 noon this day. Nomination packages can be picked up at the Village office.

Please feel free to drop into the Village office with any questions or just to chat about what being on council is like.

TIPS FOR GETTING KIDS READY FOR BACK-TO-SCHOOL

submitted by Breton FCSS, Deanne Young

Whatever their age, many kids are apprehensive about starting school or going back to school. The good news is there's a lot you can do to ease their minds and help them get ready for a new school year.

1. Early to bed, early to rise

Getting back into a school sleep schedule won't happen overnight! A few weeks before school starts, get your child into the habit of going to bed earlier. Gentle winding-down activities such as bath time and reading before bed can help your child relax.

2. Re-establish a routine

Establishing a consistent routine is important for kids. Write out the steps in the routine and rehearse them with your child. In the evening, this could include doing homework, playtime, brushing their teeth, having a bath, and reading before bed.

3. Encourage independence

Children who play an active role in preparing for back to school — such as choosing and organizing school supplies and new clothes — are more likely to get excited about going back to school, which in turn eases their jitters. Is your child old enough for chores like emptying the dishwasher or making lunches? Daily, ageappropriate tasks will help your child gain independence and confidence.

4. Choose the right backpack

Backpacks that are too heavy or worn improperly could result in muscle strain, headaches, and neck pain. Try to choose a backpack made of sturdy, lightweight fabric with wide, padded straps that will support your child's shoulders. Watch that they don't sling it over just one shoulder.

5. Talk about safety

Review outdoor safety rules – things like looking both ways before crossing the street, taking the same route every day if they are walking, familiarizing themselves with crosswalk rules, and being cautious in talking to strangers.

6. Establish healthy habits

Involve your children in choosing and <u>preparing healthy</u> <u>lunches and snacks</u>. Help them find physical activities they enjoy. Take them shopping for <u>healthy snacks and lunch items</u> they can pack themselves. Try to stick to regular meal times.

7. Limit screen time

Back to school is the perfect opportunity to re-establish screen time limits. Why not have the whole family "unplug" in the evenings before bedtime? Choose a spot where everybody can charge their devices overnight. Use an alarm clock instead of a cellphone to wake up in

the mornings.

8. Map it out

If your kids are starting at a new school, practice walking or driving to the bus stop or to the school building a week or two before school starts. You could even play in the school playground before school starts. This creates fun memories associated with the school before summer vacation ends.

9. Talk about first-week jitters

Reassure your child that being nervous is natural – even for teachers. You can help your child cope with these feelings when you:

- Let them express their fears. Perhaps you can offer stories of your own first-day jitters when you were a child.
- Teach them to breathe deeply and slowly to calm their nerves.
- Discuss the scenarios that worry them. For example, if they're worried about who to sit with or talk to on the first day, help them plan a strategy and rehearse it so they'll know what to do.

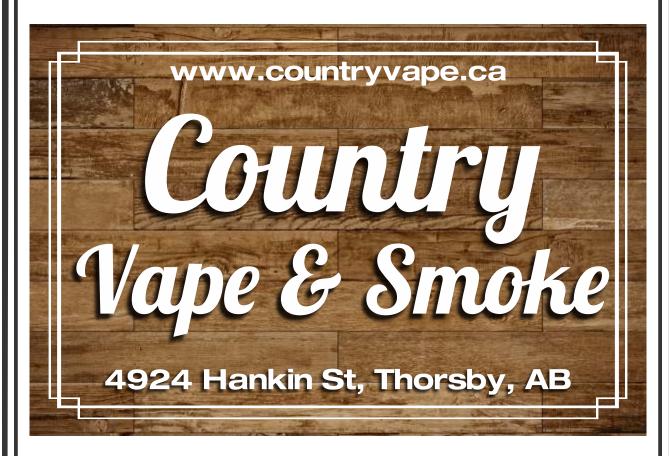
10. Celebrate the start of a new school year

If you celebrate the first day of school, your kids will see back-to-school as a transition they can really enjoy. Try a back-to-school party the day before school starts, complete with cake, balloons and educational gifts. And don't forget to take a picture on the front step in their first-day-of-school outfits. It's going to be a great year!



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(must be 18 or older to enter)



The Breton Book Club will begin a new season on September 10, 2025, with a discussion of "The River We Remember" by William Kent Krueger.

The book club meets at the Breton Municipal Library on the second Wednesday of the month at 1:00pm from September to June.

This season we are excited to be celebrating our 15th anniversary in January, and some of our original members are still regular participants.

Books are chosen by members of the book club. The discussion is lively and the snacks are delicious. Members often comment that they read things for book club that they would never have chosen themselves, and they are often delightfully surprised to find new authors and genres that they enjoy. Books are made available at the library in advance of each meeting.

If you think this sounds like something you would enjoy, please stop by the library and pick up a copy of the book, and join us on September 10th. New members are always welcome.





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MEASLES ARE YOU IMMUNIZED?

Dr. Sunil Sookram, Alberta's interim Chief Medical Officer of Health, August 13, 2025

Measles remains one of the most contagious illnesses in the world, spreading through the air when an infected person breathes, coughs or sneezes. In recent months, measles has been spreading in Alberta, across Canada and around the world.

While measles can be serious for anyone, it's especially dangerous during pregnancy. Infection increases the risk of miscarriage, early labor, low birth weight, and even infant death. In rare but devastating cases, the virus passes to the unborn child, causing congenital measles—a serious condition that can lead to lifelong disability or death. Pregnant individuals also face a far greater risk of severe complications, including pneumonia and hospitalization.

So far in 2025, fewer than five babies in Alberta have been diagnosed with congenital measles—all born to mothers who were not immunized. Some required intensive care. There have also been 46 confirmed cases among pregnant individuals, with fewer than five hospitalizations. While the numbers are low, they serve as a stark reminder of what can happen when immunity gaps persist. If you are pregnant and think you may have been exposed to measles, stay home and contact your health care provider, midwife or Health Link at 811 for further guidance.

If you're planning to get pregnant or considering it, ensure you receive two doses of the vaccine at least one month before conception. Although the vaccine isn't given during pregnancy, immune mothers can pass temporary protection to their newborns — a crucial safeguard, since babies under six months are too young to be immunized. In some cases, immune globulin may be offered to exposed pregnant individuals or infants, but it provides only short-term protection. Being immunized before pregnancy provides the best protection from getting infected.

Canada eliminated measles in 1998 through strong routine immunization programs. But outbreaks can still happen. In areas where immunization coverage is low, measles can spread more easily and quietly, making it harder to control.

As children head back to school or start homeschooling, now is the time to check your immunization status as well as that of your children. Whether in classrooms, homeschool co-ops, or community programs, children are often in close contact. Even if one child is unprotected, measles can spread rapidly – putting classmates, siblings, and vulnerable individuals at risk.

The good news? Vaccination efforts across Alberta are

making a difference. Since March 16, more than 92,000 measles vaccines have been given – a 56% increase over last year. Uptake has risen by 119% in the South Zone and 92% in the North. Early doses for babies aged 6 to 11 months in high-risk areas have increased by 432%, thanks to targeted outreach.

Since mid-May, Alberta has run a provincewide immunization campaign in more than 14 languages. The message is clear: Don't get measles. Get immunized. With strong uptake continuing, the campaign is being extended and will include new messaging focused on back-to-school season and pregnancy.

While weekly case numbers have fluctuated, we're encouraged by the lack of any sustained upward trend. Expanded clinics, focused outreach, and consistent public health messaging are helping to ensure this important information reaches all Albertans and helps to slow the spread.

Still, the work isn't done. Community protection depends on immunization rates of 95 per cent or higher. Getting both doses of the vaccine is a simple but powerful way to protect our homes, schools, and communities.

If you're unsure about your immunization status or that of your children, speak with your doctor or midwife. You can also call Alberta's measles hotline at 1-844-944-3434 to check your records, ask questions and book an appointment.



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Village of Breton DEVELOPMENT PERMIT NOTICE

The Village of Breton has Approved a Development involving the building of a back deck, August 7, 2025, located at 105 Juniper, Breton, Alberta; legally described as Lot 20 & 21, Block 17, Plan 7921795, as further described in Application No 0007-25.

Objections to the above must be made in writing via email, mail, fax or delivered to the Village of Breton office by 12 pm, August 21, 2025.

Further information is available at the Village office. Email-admin@breton.ca

Village of Breton PO Box 480 4916 50th Avenue Breton, AB ToC oPo

Date of Decision: August 7, 2025

Date of Issue of Development Permit: August 21, 2025

Laurie's Laughs



I officially resign from being an adult.

Decision will be made using the EENIE-MEANIE-MINIE-MOE method.

Arguments will be settled by sticking out my tongue.

I'll be at recess if you need me.









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Answers will be published in the next issue!



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