

SMOKY LAKE COUNTY

Grapevine Communication

August 2013

2013 MUNICIPAL ELECTION: INFORMATION AND KEY DATES

2013 General Election – What's New Nomination Day: Monday, September 23, 2013

What do potential candidates need to know before an election? Alberta Municipal Affairs supports a website that assists citizens, potential candidates and official agents to prepare for the upcoming local government elections.

Before you file your Nomination Papers: To have a better understanding of the election process, review the website www.albertavotes.ca

NEW Term of Office: The term of office for local elected officials has been increased to four years.

NEW Voter Identification and Eligibility: There is now a requirement for a person to provide proof of identity and current residence in order to vote, unless the elected authority prepares a list of electors and the person's name appears on the list. The basic requirement consists of a single piece of government issued identification authorized by the Chief Electoral Officer under the *Election Act* that includes the person's name and current address.

Nomination Papers will be available for pickup at the Smoky Lake County Administration Office, 4612 McDougall Drive, beginning on Wednesday, August 14th, 2013. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday. Nominations Papers will also be available on the County's website: Look for the "2013 Municipal Election" link on the left hand side of the homepage.

*Bernadette Dalpé, Returning Officer,
Smoky Lake County*

IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES

- **Nomination Day:** Monday, September 23, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. to noon at the County Office
- **Advance Poll:** Saturday, October 12, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the County Office
- **Election Day:** Monday, October 21, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Information on Polling Locations will be provided closer to Election Day.

Information for Prospective Candidates in the 2013 Municipal Election

The Society of Local Government Managers, on behalf of Alberta Municipal Affairs, will be conducting on-location refresher training sessions for prospective candidates in various locations between August 27 and September 13, 2013. Details and registration information for the sessions can be found at: Prospective Candidates Workshop <http://www.albertaleaders.ca/training-program/training-program.aspx>

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Council Meeting: August 22, 2013 @ @ 9:00 a.m., and beginning at 9:15 a.m.: 'Public Hearing regarding Recreational Vehicles; Land Use Bylaw 1250-12 (see additional information within this Grapevine)

Utilities Meeting: Tuesday, August 27, 2013 @ 9:00 a.m.

- Natural Gas and Environmental Operations, and
- Agricultural Service Board

Council meetings are held in the County Administration Building located at 4612 McDougall Drive in Smoky Lake.

The meetings are open to the public.

The "2013 Budget Summary" brochure is now available on the County website and from the County Office.

The Smoky Lake County
Office and the Public Works Office
will be closed on
Monday, September 2, 2013 in
recognition of Labour Day.

The origins of Labour Day in
Canada can be traced back to
December 1872.



Please watch for children crossing the road, and drive carefully around school buses and in school zones. **Back to School dates:**

Thursday, August 29: Holy Family Catholic School in Waskatenau.

Tuesday, September 3, 2013: Vilna School, and
H.A. Kostash School in Smoky Lake



NOTICE OF SMOKY LAKE COUNTY PUBLIC HEARING

Take notice that the Council of Smoky Lake County is proposing to pass a bylaw pursuant to Section 692 of the *Municipal Government Act*.

The purpose of public hearing is to obtain public input on proposed **Bylaw No. 1256-13 which is an amendment to replace Section 7.23 Recreational Vehicles of Land Use Bylaw 1250-12**. The proposed amendment is as follows:

1. The year round placement of two (2) recreational vehicles on a parcel in Multi-Lot Country Residential, Residential (Cluster) Conservation, Victoria Residential or Hamlet Residential Districts is allowed without a development permit.
2. Additional recreational vehicles shall be permitted within the Multi-Lot Country Residential, Residential (Cluster) Conservation, Victoria Residential or Hamlet Residential Districts for a maximum of four (4) consecutive days.
3. Notwithstanding subsection (2) a development permit may be approved, at the discretion of the Development Authority, for up to one (1) additional recreational vehicle per lot may be allowed for a maximum of thirty (30) days. The 3rd recreational vehicle on a lot is considered a permitted use under the Land Use Bylaw.
4. No recreational vehicle shall be permanently connected to any utility or municipal service, such as power, gas, water supply, or sanitary sewage disposal facilities unless the recreational vehicle is located in an approved recreational vehicle park.

The Public Hearing will be held as follows:

Date: Thursday, August 22, 2013

Time: 9:15 a.m.

**Place: Smoky Lake County Council Chambers
4612 McDougall Drive in the Town of Smoky Lake**

NOTE: This section is only applicable to parcels of land zoned as Multi-Lot Country Residential District (R1) District, Residential (Cluster) Conservation District (R2), Victoria Residential District (R3) or Hamlet Residential District (R4). To verify the zoning of your land, you may access WebMap at <http://webmap.smokylakecounty.ab.ca>, click "GO" and turn on the "Zoning Layer" and "Zoning Label" by using the checkbox under Planning & Development and then search for your property under "Search by Legal Location".

Anyone who is interested in speaking on the proposed bylaw is encouraged to attend the public hearing or, alternatively, present a written submission at the Smoky Lake County Office prior to **4:00:00 p.m. on Monday, August 19, 2013**. A copy of the proposed bylaw can be obtained at the Smoky Lake County Office during normal business hours or from the County's website. For further information please contact Cory Ollikka, Chief Administrative Officer or Aline Brousseau, Planning & Development Manager at 780-656-3730.

Smoky Lake County 780-656-3730

Toll free 1-888-656-3730

www.smokylakecounty.ab.ca

Keep up-to-date by following the County on the website,
Facebook and Twitter



SMOKY LAKE COUNTY COMMUNITY EVENTS

Vilna Boomtown Days: August 17 and 18, 2013

Food, culture, laughter and a good time!!

Saturday: A Parade, Fair and Dance

Sunday: Show and Shine is not to be missed with proceeds going to a great cause.

Visit Historic Vilna and savour the community spirit and the beautiful Main Street!!



Victoria Settlement Field and Fort Day: Sunday, August 18, 2013

Celebrate the mighty potato! Learn about the key role of the potato during the early days of our province, and about the importance of potatoes for the survival of this community.

This event begins with an 11 a.m. church

service, followed by a black powder re-enactment camp, demonstrations, and hilarious potato competitions for kids and adults. Try Alberta's first potato racing track! Stay for the day and enjoy hot food, prizes and entertainment. Victoria Settlement will close for the season after Labour Day.

The search is on for Alberta's outstanding volunteers.

**Nominations are now open for the 14th Annual
Stars of Alberta Volunteer Awards.**



The Stars of Alberta Volunteer Awards recognize extraordinary Albertans whose volunteer efforts have contributed to the well-being of their community and fellow community members. Six awards, two in each category of youth, adult and senior are presented annually on or around International Volunteer Day, December 5.

The deadline for the submission of nominations is September 16, 2013.

Albertans who meet the following criteria are eligible for a Stars of Alberta Volunteer Award:

- Exemplifies the spirit of community service
- Demonstrates exemplary initiative, leadership, and creativity in his/her service to others
- Serves as a role model for others in his/her community
- Inspires others to engage in volunteer service
- Improves the overall quality of life of fellow Albertans and community as a whole

Applications are available on the website at
'Alberta Culture/Stars of Alberta Volunteer Awards'

COUNTY COUNCIL COMMUNITY FUNDING APPROVALS



\$250.00 Sponsorship of the Children's Event — Local Charity Give-Away organized by the Smoky Lake Riding Club. This was an informal event was held at the 32nd Annual 2013 Smoky Lake Stampede and open to Children Organizations within the community.



WHAT'S IN OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD: A HISTORICAL TOUR OF SMOKY LAKE COUNTY

Smoky Lake County is recognized as one of the most historically interesting areas in Alberta. Spend some time visiting these and other interesting sites in the County.

Victoria Trail is the oldest road in Alberta that is still in regular use. Begun as an Indian trail running along the banks of the North Saskatchewan River, the 58 kilometre road winds from Secondary Highway 38, southeast of Redwater, to the Victoria Settlement Provincial Historic Site in south Smoky Lake County. In 1991, interpretative signs were installed along the Trail, making the drive an interesting full day trip.

Lobstick Settlement located on Victoria Trail

By 1873, homesteads were starting to appear in the area now known as the Lobstick Settlement. In the first half of the 20th century, Lobstick Settlement had a succession of schools and churches, and a post office. Eventually, however, services moved to larger towns and the population at the settlement declined. Today, Lobstick Settlement serves as a reminder of some of Alberta's earliest farmers and landholders.



Victoria Park Cemetery

This is one of six cemeteries within the Victoria Settlement. The Victoria Park Cemetery was established in about 1896 at the top of the rise of land above the, then, existing church. With perhaps 100 burials, it may be the largest cemetery in the Victoria Settlement. Today just over

six acres remain as the property of the United Church of Canada. Although most of the graves are unmarked and the wooden memorials long vanished, the clearing of overgrowth has revealed the outline of many burials, and some stone monuments can now be viewed.

RCMP Memorial

The memorial honours the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and commemorates the 1874 North West Mounted Police trek west. The horse and rider monument are a symbol of the modern RCMP. The force was created in 1873 to bring law and order to the Canadian west. On July 7, 1874, 275 men set off from Fort Dufferin, Manitoba.



The men and livestock endured water shortages and inadequate food so they split into two groups on July 29, 1874. The 20 individual named on the Memorial stones (photo above) constitutes the north bound group which passed the spot marked on Victoria Trail in late October 1874 on the way to Fort Edmonton. The Memorial is located at Victoria Trail and Range Road 183 and was placed by the Victoria Home Guard Society.

Vilna Pool Hall

In 1921, Steve Pawluk built a two story pool and dance hall but the building burned down later that same year. Months later, Pawluk opened the doors to a new one story wooden building which stands today. The building consisted of the Pool Hall (with Barbershop) at the front, and a house with 4 rooms at the back. In 1935, John Taschuk bought the Pool Hall and in September 1947 his son Bill took over the store from his father. After WW2, Bill trained to be a barber and the price for a game of snooker was 10 cents. During that time, women or boys under 15 were not allowed in; however, this rule was regularly broken. (continued)

(Vilna Pool Hall, continued)

A new floor was put into the Pool Hall in 1937. The front of the building was rebuilt in the 1960's: Apparently a number of vehicles drove into the front of the building. By the early 1970's, pool halls and barbershops began their decline. Bill Taschuk continued to operate the Barbershop and Pool Hall until 1997 when he retired. The building was acquired by the Vilna Pool Hall Society whose intention was to restore it.



The Pool Hall still contains the original pool tables, original pool cue racks, scoring boards, and handmade benches. The stove (photo right) that is in the store was always in its present location. Vilna's Pool Hall and Barbershop remains Alberta's oldest operating pool hall and barbershop. It has also received designation from the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation. Stop in for a haircut and a game!



Waskatenau's 1919 Wooden Railway Trestle: In 1919 the St. Paul de M tis Railway, part of the CNO system was open between Waskatenau and Heinsburg. The aim was to serve the settlements east of Edmonton and north of the North Saskatchewan River. The trestle was erected in 1919 and a dam built to provide water for the steam locomotives. Now half of its original length, the gully at each end of the trestle was filled with soil in 1958 and the dam was removed when trains switched from steam to diesel power. (Source: [Rails Across the Prairies: The Railway Heritage of Canada's Prairie Provinces](#) by Ron Brown)

Other Interesting Places to Visit:

Victoria Settlement Provincial Historic Site: Victoria Settlement is the location where Reverend George McDougall founded a Methodist Mission to the Cree in 1862, and where the Hudson's Bay Company established Fort Victoria in 1864 as a trading post. Today, step inside the 1864 Clerk's Quarters or the 1906 Methodist Church, and learn why this thriving settlement experienced a sudden decline and all but vanished. Exhibits, trails, and a variety of activities are provided by costumed interpreters. The Site is located 10 km south of Smoky Lake on Secondary Highway #855, and 6 km east on Victoria Trail. Open daily from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. until Labour Day.

Smoky Lake CN Museum and Visitors Centre: The Museum and Centre holds the interesting history of the railway in the area, and has current information to help you plan your travels in the County. It is located at 155 West Railway Drive next to the huge pumpkins in the centre of the Town of Smoky Lake. The Museum and Centre is open every day during the summer from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Smoky Lake Museum: The building at one time was the Victoria School which dates back to one of the oldest school districts in the area. Displays include artefacts and antiques, including farm machinery. The old Pakan Ferry is situated in front of the Museum. The Museum is located at 5622 - 49 Street which is just south of the intersection of Highway 28 and Secondary Highway 855. Museum hours during July and August are Saturday and Sunday from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 pm.

Heritage Corner Shoppe in Bellis: Visit this antique store whose selection reflects the area's interesting past with its antiques, collectibles, and more. Summer Hours: Monday to Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m./ Sunday from 12 noon to 5 p.m. Other hours during the winter. Have a look and enjoy a piece of the best pie in the County!! (photo: An owl made from shells, just one of the many finds at the Shoppe)

