



# COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2024

## VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION EVENT

EVERY MOMENT MATTERS

**APRIL 18 | VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION**

**EVERY MOMENT MATTERS**



**VOLUNTEER BÉNEVOLES CANADA**

**NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK**  
APRIL 14 - 20, 2024

#NVW2024 #EveryMomentMatters

Thursday, April 18 | 5:00pm - 7:00pm  
Pincher Creek Community Hall | 287 Canyon Drive

The Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9 and the Town of Pincher Creek are celebrating National Volunteer Week. We invite members of your organization to a celebratory social to honor the many volunteers in our community. Enjoy a light meal, cash bar, and entertainment FREE!

## 2024 PROPERTY ASSESSMENT NOTICES

The Assessment Roll for the Town of Pincher Creek has been prepared for the 2024 taxation year. Notice is hereby given, as required under the Municipal Government Act (s.311) that the Assessment Notices have been sent. This is NOT your Property Tax invoice. Property Tax invoices will be sent out separately in May.

The Assessment Roll of the Municipality can be found on the Town of Pincher Creek website at [www.pinchercreek.ca/assessments](http://www.pinchercreek.ca/assessments) or by at the town office during regular business hours.

Any person who wishes to object to the entry of his or her name or of any other person upon the said roll or to the assessed value placed upon any property, may lodge their complaint, in writing, with the applicable complaint fee, by June 10, 2024, at 4:00pm attention Legislative Services Manager at the town office located at 962 St. John Avenue.

Prior to filing a written complaint, you are encouraged to fill out the assessor's inquiry form at <http://kcl-consulting.com/inquiry-form> or contact the Town at 403-627-3156 to request that the designated assessor review your property assessment. If the assessor determines that an error has been made, your assessment will be revised.

Mailing date: April 2, 2024 | Notice of Assessment date: April 9, 2024 | Appeal deadline: June 10, 2024

## COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS - MARCH

### TRADE SHOW BOOTH

Come check out the Town's booth at the Pincher Creek & District Chamber of Commerce annual Trade Show on April 26 & 27. Visit with members of Town Council and fill out the Snow and Winter Maintenance Survey!

### MARCH 11 COUNCIL MEETING

#### Sunrise Solar Project, Evolugen

Town Council agreed to approve a second letter of objection regarding the Sunrise Solar Project proposal in the MD of Pincher Creek.

## Community Recreation and Event Centre

Town Council plans to provide, to the public, information illustrating complete Concept, Engineering, Geotechnical details, construction cost analysis, facility ownership, lease, partnership and proposed operating and management projections related to the proposed Community Recreation and Event Centre to be located at the Golf Course and that the above-described information be made available in total, in a public information event to be scheduled not later than August 15, 2024.

## **MARCH 14 SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING**

### Land Use Bylaw Review

Town Council has begun the process of reviewing the Land Use Bylaw.

## **MARCH 25 COUNCIL MEETING**

South Canadian Rockies Tourism Association Delegation attended to provide an overview to Town Council about what they do and ways we can collaborate, share resources, and build relationships in relation to Tourism in Southwest Alberta.

### Community Housing Committee Terms of Reference

The terms of reference for the Community Housing Committee were amended to include economic development and community interest.

### Signage Request from Class 6A at Canyon School

Students from Class 6A at Canyon School sent requests to Town Council that Blackfoot language be added to two of the Town's welcome signs. Town Council has directed administration to investigate costs and grant options.

### Lebel Mansion Solar Array

Town Council agreed to move forward with the installation of a Solar Array at the Lebel Mansion to be funded from grants.

### Bylaws

Town Council passed third and final reading of the Council Code of Conduct Bylaw 1622-24.

Town Council passed the annual Municipal Borrowing Bylaw 1570-24 required for the line of credit and credit cards.



# EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

## MANAGER OF FINANCE

Become the cornerstone of the Town of Pincher Creek's financial operations by stepping into the role of Manager of Finance! In this pivotal position, you will spearhead our finance team and take charge of the day-to-day functions of the department, with a specific focus on payroll and supervisory responsibilities. Your direct oversight will extend to three Administrative Assistants, ensuring not only their productivity but also strict adherence to policies and procedures.

As a key player reporting to the Director of Corporate Services, your duties will encompass fostering collaboration between departments and meticulously managing the finance department's budget. Moreover, you will be at the forefront of payroll and benefits administration, financial reporting, and providing essential support to the Director of Corporate Services. Your expertise will be instrumental in maintaining a smooth workflow and upholding compliance standards within the finance domain.

If you are an experienced payroll professional with at least 3 years in a supervisory or managerial role, we want to hear from you!

Join us and make a lasting impact on the financial landscape of Pincher Creek!

Please submit your resume and cover letter to Brian Millis, Manager of Human Resources and Health & Safety at [hr-safety@pinchercreek.ca](mailto:hr-safety@pinchercreek.ca) by April 17, 2024.

View the full job description at: <http://pinchercreek.ca/town/employment.php>

We thank all applicants in advance for their interest, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

## ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT – TAX | CASUAL FULL-TIME

This position is full-time (35 hours per week) and temporary until the return of the incumbent employee.

Reporting directly to the Administrative Manager, the Administrative Assistant for Tax will handle all assigned duties relating to property taxes. This person will provide backup reception for incoming telephone calls, counter service for citizens and respond to citizen concerns. As well as, assist with general office duties and provide clerical assistance where required.

View the full job description at: <http://pinchercreek.ca/town/employment.php>

Please submit your resume and cover letter to Brian Millis, Manager of Human Resources and Health & Safety at [hr-safety@pinchercreek.ca](mailto:hr-safety@pinchercreek.ca) by April 10, 2024.

# ALLIED ARTS COUNCIL OF PINCHER CREEK

Visit [www.thelebel.ca](http://www.thelebel.ca) for more information or call 403-627-5272  
696 Kettles Street

## GIFT SHOP AND GALLERY HOURS

Wednesday – Friday | 10:00am – 5:00pm  
Saturdays | 12:00pm – 4:00pm  
Closed holidays

## GREY AREA

Exhibition of photography by Twinkle Banerjee  
March 9 – April 24

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, April 23 | 7:00pm  
Lebel Mansion Boardroom  
Reach out to purchase your 2024 membership

## PROGRAMMING

Friday Art Classes | \$5 each | March 1, 8, and 22  
After School Program | ages 6-9 | 1:45pm – 2:45pm  
Artists @ Heart | ages 9+ | 3:00pm – 4:30pm

## MUD MAKERS

Clay workshop for ages 9+  
Beginning Wednesday, April 17  
Wednesdays | 3:45pm – 5:15pm  
\$140 per person includes materials

## JUNIOR CERAMICS GUILD SPRING SESSION

For ages 9+ with clay experience  
Beginning Thursday, April 18  
Thursdays | 3:45pm – 5:30pm  
\$150 per person + cost of clay



## **ALL AGES POTTERY**

Register as an adult or parent/child pair

Six week clay workshop begins Wednesday, April 17

Wednesdays | 6:00pm – 8:00pm

\$235 for adult spot | \$363 for parent/child pair | includes all materials

## **IMPROV WITH STACY BENSON**

For ages 10 – 12

Six week program beginning Saturday, May 4

Saturdays | 10:30am – 12:00pm

\$60 per person

## **THE CREATIVES MEETUP**

Free Drop in Open Studio

Wednesdays | 1:00pm – 4:00pm | bring your own materials

*Ages 18 and under must be accompanied by an adult*

## **CERAMICS STUDIO**

Drop-ins \$10 each

Folks with pottery experience are invited to use the pottery studio during scheduled hours. Please visit

[www.thelebel.ca](http://www.thelebel.ca) for the schedule.

## **SEWING BASICS WITH LAURA RANCE**

Four week workshop beginning Monday, April 8

Mondays | 6:00pm – 8:00pm

\$135 includes materials

## **MINDFUL WRITING WORKSHOP WITH GUEST AUTHOR ASHLEY HOLLOWAY**

Saturday, April 27 | 1:00pm – 4:00pm | Ages 18+

\$50 per person includes materials, coffee, and tea

# PINCHER CREEK SKATING CLUB

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

April 24, 2024 | 6:00pm

The Annex | 753 Kettles Street

The Pincher Creek Skating Club is looking for new board members. Everyone is welcome to attend.

## RECREATION PROGRAMMING

### PITCH-IN TO PICK LITTER

A graphic for the 'Pitch-In to pick litter' event. It features a green circular background on the left with the text 'Pitch-In to pick litter' in white. To the right is a photograph of two people wearing blue gloves and holding green plastic bags, picking up litter in a grassy area. Below the photo is a grid of dots and a small circular logo for Pincher Creek.

April 14 - May 14  
Pitch-In to pick up litter  
Garbage Bags & Gloves available from  
Recreation Office 895 Main Street



### WINTER SOLES WALK

Thursdays | 10:00am | 1 hour

Contact Rhonda at 403-627-4322 for the meeting location

- Guided walk – explore different neighborhoods and trails of Pincher Creek
- Everyone is welcome



- Meet new friends, walk, and chat
- Walking buddies
- Wear appropriate footwear for conditions and walking poles/cleats if you wish
- Cold tolerance up to -15°

Contact Rhonda at the Recreation Office for more information and for the meeting location each week.  
403-627-4322

## SKATEBOARD JAM

Sponsored by Boarderline

April 27 | in conjunction with the Trade Show

12:00pm – 1:00pm | free skateboard lessons

1:00pm – 2:00pm | Boarderline Skateboard demo

2:00pm – 3:00pm | Skateboard jam session

## SPORTS FIELDS AND PARKS

Spring is here and our sports fields and parks are getting busy with kids and activities. Make sure you are observing any playground speed zones and keep a sharp eye out for kids dashing in and out of parks!

Of course, we can't forget about our furry kids too! The West end off leash dog park located at Range Road 301 next to Juan Teran Park is open for business – just remember to scoop that “business” and place it in an appropriate garbage bin.

For private bookings of sports fields and parks, contact Rhonda at 403-627-6322.

# PINCHER CREEK & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

## ANNUAL TRADE SHOW

April 26 | 3:00pm – 8:00pm

April 27 | 10:00am – 4:00pm

This is an excellent opportunity to learn about diverse products and businesses available in Pincher Creek and beyond in a fun atmosphere for the entire family.

The Trade Show is free to attend, but make sure to bring some spending money because there will be lots of cool things to purchase from various vendors in the Main Show, crafters and fun food in the Spring Market, and food trucks outside!

For more information, visit <https://www.pincherchamber.ca/>

## WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW TO START A COMMERCIAL OR INDUSTRIAL BUSINESS IN THE TOWN OF PINCHER CREEK?

Are you thinking of opening a retail store, restaurant, or an automotive repair shop? How about starting a manufacturing, processing, or assembling business with outdoor storage of goods, machinery, vehicles, building materials, scrap metal material? The Town of Pincher Creek is the perfect place to operate that commercial or industrial business.

Adjacent to highways 3, 6, and 507, the Town of Pincher Creek sees travellers heading to Waterton Lakes National Park, Castle Mountain Ski Resort, and the Old Man River Dam, offering a wide variety of possible customers. There are also many residents within the Town and surrounding areas that may require the type of service you are offering.

Step one for any new business in Town is to reach out to the Planning and Development Officer to discuss if your business is a good fit in the area you are thinking of operating. The Officer will confirm if the use is allowed in the district according to the Town's Land Use Bylaw. If the use is neither a permitted nor discretionary use, the Officer will go over some options that you can consider before purchasing or renting lands or buildings.

If your business is considered a permitted use within the district, the Planning and Development Officer can determine the decision on your application. When a business is considered a discretionary use, development permit application must be taken reviewed by the Municipal Development and Subdivision Authority (MDSA) who will make the decision.

How quickly can you expect a decision on your application? For permitted uses, the average time is two to four weeks. For discretionary uses, the time frame is approximately six to eight weeks.

Did you know that the Town of Pincher Creek does not charge separate business taxes, off-site development levies, and Business License fees are only \$125 annually.

Call 403-627-3156 to connect with our Planning and Development Officer and get your business plans started!



# PINCHER CREEK FOUNDATION

## MEN'S SHEDS ALBERTA

### What is a Men's Shed?

A Men's Shed is a space where men gather to work on projects that are fun and help out in their community. In other words, it's guys getting together to create, to tinker, to drink coffee and tell stories.

### What happens at a Men's Shed?

That's up to the men who join. Some Men's Sheds focus on woodworking, while others like to do bicycle repair, metalwork, furniture restoration, cooking or even puzzles! It's whatever the local Shed members decide.

### Why Start a Men's Shed in Pincher Creek

To create positive opportunities that focus on the well-being of men

### Why do Men Join Men's Sheds?

- It's fun, new friends, learn new skills, share your skills, work on community projects, drink coffee, talk and tell stories
- Men with time on their hands – bored
- Retired with no plan or job jar
- Separated, divorced, partner died....lonely
- Downsized home, lost work area
- Unemployed, lost network of friends
- Underfoot at home
- New to Town

### How is the Shed set up?

- Sheds can be set up as an independent group in the community that may become a not-for-profit organization.
- Sheds could be supported by another Community Organization that is willing to share space (they should have compatible goals)
- Sheds could be a program of another organization. This model creates challenges as Men's Sheds are grassroots where the men make the key decisions.

Men's Sheds are open to all men ages 18 – 101

To find out how to start a Men's Shed in Pincher Creek, contact the Alberta Men's Shed Association at [Albertamenssheds@gmail.com](mailto:Albertamenssheds@gmail.com), or visit <http://www.albertamenssheds.ca>

# LIFEGUARD COURSES

Registration the following courses can be found at [www.pinchercreek.ca/swim](http://www.pinchercreek.ca/swim) or by calling the pool at 403-627-2565.

## NATIONAL LIFEGUARD COURSE

April 12 – 14 & April 19 – 21 | \$367

**Prerequisites:** Minimum 15 years of age. [Bronze Cross](#) certification and Lifesaving Society [Standard First Aid](#) (need not be current)

National Lifeguard - Pool certification is designed to develop the fundamental values, judgment, knowledge, skills and fitness required by lifeguards. The National Lifeguard course emphasizes the lifeguarding skills, principles and practices, and the decision-making processes that will assist the lifeguard to provide effective safety supervision in swimming pool environments.

## MESSAGE FROM COUNCILOR NODGE

Hello Folks, it has been a while since my last newsletter update. Lots of things are on the go, as usual—and some more unusual, as the Council is again in the process of selecting a Chief Administrative Officer to lead the Town staff. Through this time of transition, I thank you for your ongoing patience and understanding.

Council recently got our first look at the draft of the Land Use Bylaw (LUB), which governs how development unfolds in our community. I am keen to update the LUB, address outdated processes, and incorporate more variety in housing types. I am also looking forward to hearing from you. There will be public engagement opportunities rolling out this spring—keep a look out or contact me with your concerns.

The Municipal Development & Subdivision Board recently approved the development of 6 new units of 2-bedroom homes, 4 units in a redevelopment in the downtown core, and a semi-detached in-fill. Also approved was the subdivision of a land on the north hill. The subdivision is a step towards a future development on the parcel consistent with the North Hill Area Structure Plan (2016), which envisions a multi-unit development of a portion of lands west of Briar Road. I am encouraged by the development of new homes and the growth it represents.

It is Property Assessment Season. Please look out for your assessment notice in the mail. Property assessment is the basis of how the tax burden is shared among property owners in a municipality. In Alberta, property assessment is done by regulated professionals called Assessors. They use a market-based method to assign a value to all property in a municipality. This means that the value a property receives is based on the general market sales of comparable homes from the previous year. When home sales are high the following



year, the assessment values for similar homes may be adjusted to reflect the increasing value in the market. The process is regulated through legislation, which allows for an appeal if you believe your assessment is inaccurate. The first step is to speak with the Assessor if you think your assessment needs to be corrected.

The Council sets the mill rate and determines the annual operating and capital budget required to support the Town's services and projects. The budget determines how much total tax money needs to be collected. The mill rate is applied to an assessment value to determine the tax to be collected. One reason that new development benefits the Town is that it distributes the tax burden over more properties.

Through the tax bill, the Town also collects taxes on behalf of the province and Senior Lodges. This means that the Town also collects taxes to support school requests and Crestview Lodge. The amount of funds collected for third parties is not determined by Council but collected by the Town and forwarded to the others.

I empathize with all of you for whom the increases in assessment value result in a significant rise in your proportional share of the municipal tax. I also feel the crunch of increasing costs. While determining the budget and contemplating projects and expenses of the Town, the options are to reduce services, seek out efficiencies, and increase the total tax collected from you. In the 2024 budget, we applied all these methods. The tax required to operate the Town is a 2% increase from the last year, service levels have been reduced in some areas, and processes have changed to reduce costs.

Until next time!  
Councillor Sahra Nodge