



Strathcona County

Living

Keeping you informed

September 2008

Strathcona County's new urban centre

Mayor Cathy Olesen comments on the process ahead



These days there's a lot of interest as Strathcona County begins the long-term work to develop a new urban area on 9,600 acres north of Highway 16 and east of Highway 21. The new urban area is a major element in the County's Municipal Development Plan, approved by County Council in May 2007. The Municipal Development Plan is a

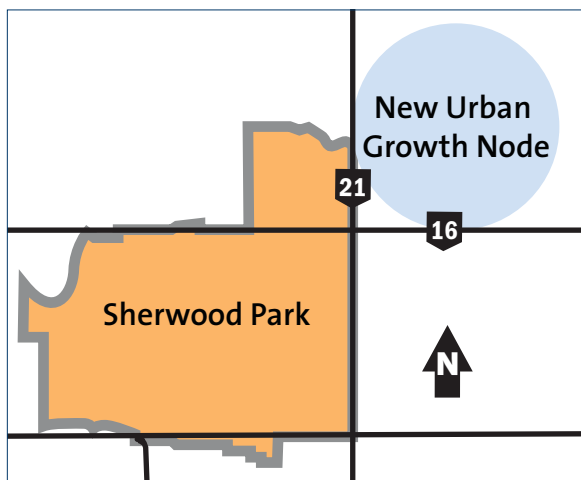
statutory document that guides long-term growth and development.

Portions of the MDP had been appealed to the Alberta Municipal Government Board by the City of Edmonton. Now, after a decision announced by the Municipal Government Board on August 20, Strathcona County can proceed with its plans.

On behalf of Council, Mayor Cathy Olesen explains the next steps.

Q. Where did the idea of a new urban centre originate?

A. We expect that within a decade or so, Sherwood Park is likely to be built out to the limits of its current boundary. This means we need to be looking ahead for other areas that would be suitable for urban growth. After a comprehensive review and consultation process, we concluded this location is the best option.



Q. How soon can we expect to see construction start?

A. It's important to keep in mind that we're at the start of a very long-term project. It's likely to be at least 10 years—even longer—before development actually begins. Many factors can affect the pace of development—for example, how soon

Sherwood Park reaches its physical limits, or whether our population growth moderates from the high rates we've seen in recent years. Much will also depend on what happens with the economies of our region and the province. As well, for Council, our first responsibility is for the well-being of our citizens of today. Any resources that we put toward the new urban area need to be balanced against our current needs.

Q. What are the County's next steps?

A. The first thing we need is a growth management strategy to set out broadly how the new area will develop, and the timeline. Along the way, we will need to involve the private sector, the Province and the community.

Q. Will the public have any input?

A. Definitely. As we begin to plan the new urban area, input from residents and others will be needed and invited at multiple stages.

Q. What is the effect on other municipalities?

A. In planning the new urban area, we will need to take into account the regional plan being developed by the new Capital Region Board, and consult with neighbouring municipalities. For example, our Municipal Development Plan identifies a specific role for Edmonton to be consulted about an area extending for 1.5 kilometres on either side of our mutual boundary.

Q. Will the new urban area be similar to Sherwood Park?

A. One thing that will set this new area apart is the emphasis on sustainability. That means a diversity of housing and employment opportunities to suit people of different ages and lifestyles, the use of technology to reduce energy and resources, and emphasis on the natural environment. We're using ideas like this already in Emerald Hills Urban Village and Centre in the Park. The new urban area will apply sustainability lessons learned in these developments on a much larger scale.

As plans develop for the new urban area, information will be posted on the County's website, www.strathcona.ab.ca.

Healthy Trees & Healthy People: Strathcona County hosts national conference



You might say it's in the nature of things that Dr. David Suzuki finds himself speaking at the 2008 Canadian Urban Forest Conference at

Millennium Place on September 23, 2008.

The award-winning scientist, environmentalist and broadcaster will kick off a three-day conference with a keynote address.

Both inspiring and controversial, Dr. Suzuki is sure to make everyone in the audience think about the world we live in, says Sheila Flint, of Recreation, Parks and Culture; and Conference Chair.

Strathcona County, in partnership with Tree Canada, is hosting the 2008 Canadian Urban Forest Conference from September 23 to 26. More than 200 delegates are expected to attend.

Tree Canada is a charitable organization that partners with local volunteers to improve Canadians' quality of life by planting and caring for trees.

The conference theme, Healthy Trees and Healthy People, makes a connection that is important to every community.

"You can often judge the health of a community by the health of its urban forest," says Sheila. "A healthy community is marked by healthy trees that provide shade and do their part in contributing to clean air."

Topics range from the value of connecting children and nature, to dealing with the mountain pine beetle, and the effect of trees on human health.

The Canadian Urban Forest Conference first took place in Winnipeg in 1993, and has since been held every two years at a different community across Canada.

"It's a very fitting time for the conference to be held here," says Sheila Flint. "The County has recently undertaken several new initiatives focusing on reducing human impact on the environment. This event gives us a great opportunity to highlight the success of our programs and learn from others."

For more information, please visit www.cufc8.ca.

Strathcona County

Hunting in Strathcona County 2008

Hunting season in 2008 runs from September 3 to December 7.

While there are many benefits to having wildlife in the rural area, an overabundance of animals may cause problems within the urban and farming communities. In Strathcona County in 2006, there were 236 collisions between motor vehicles and moose and deer. Wildlife can also damage grain and forage crops, which are extremely important to our local farmers.

Wildlife management

Hunting is a major component of wildlife management. Hunting season in 2008 runs from September 3 to December 7. Alberta Fish and Wildlife, Edmonton District, is responsible for wildlife management and enforcement of The Wildlife Act.

Important changes for 2008

There have been several important changes to hunting in Strathcona County:

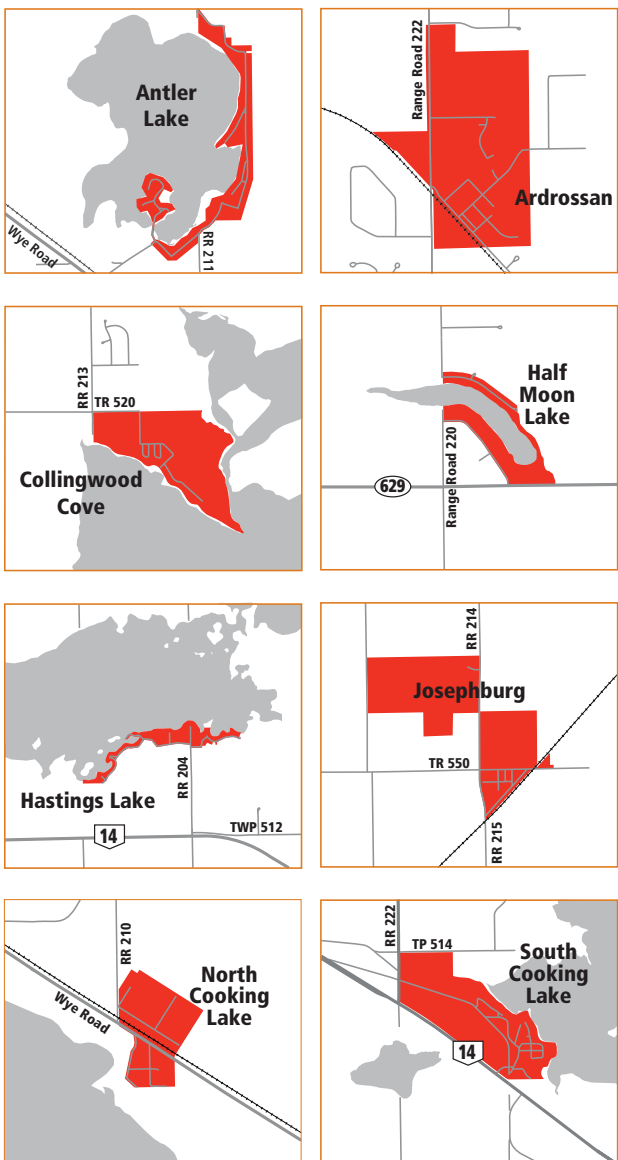
- Bowhunting and game bird hunting is now permitted on Sundays.
- Holders of a Strathcona White-tailed Deer Licence may harvest three white-tailed deer, only one of which may be antlered.

The rights of landowners

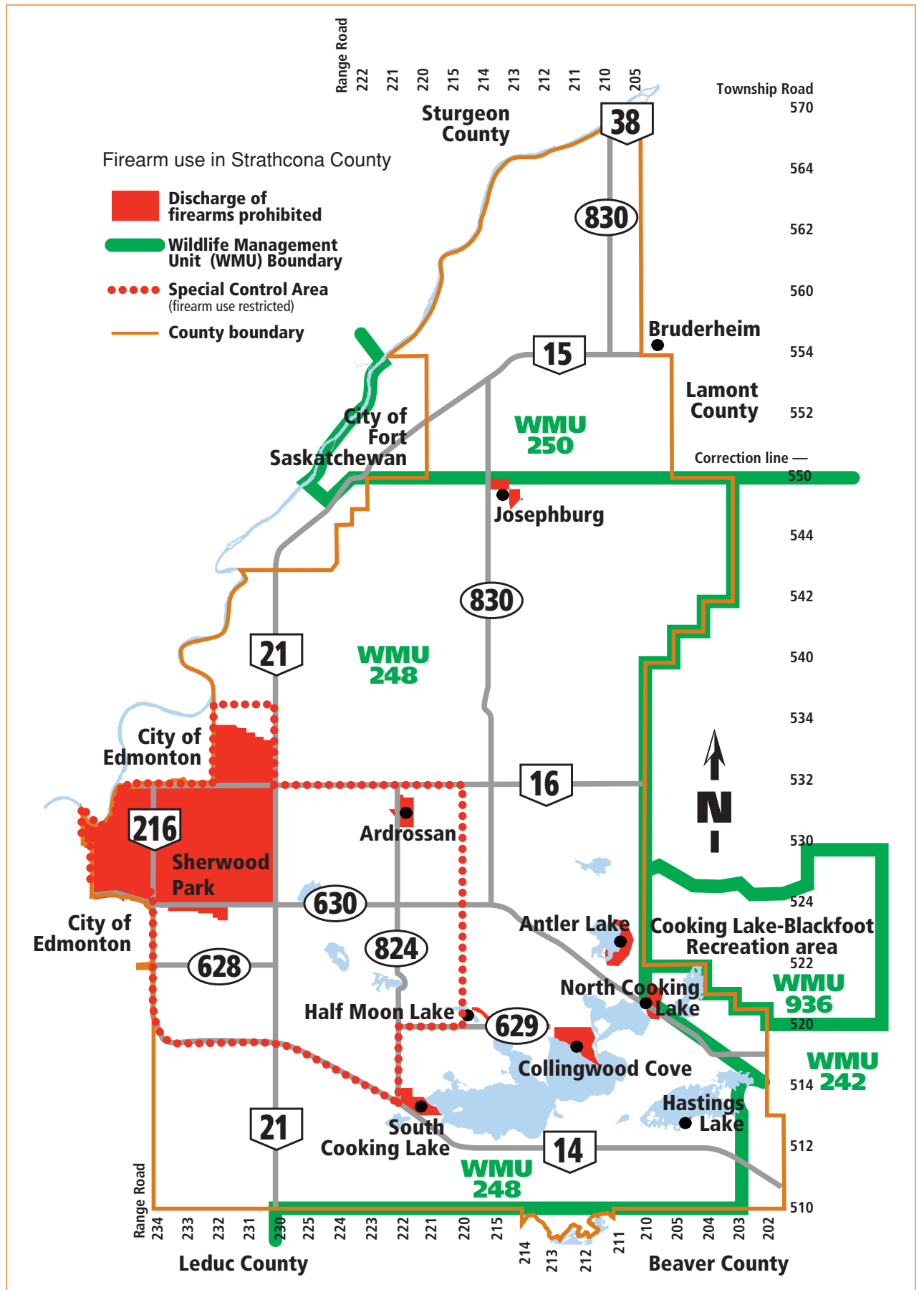
A large portion of the privately-owned land in the County falls into the category of occupied land under The Wildlife Act. The following regulations apply to hunting on occupied land.

A hunter needs permission from the owner or occupant to hunt. It is entirely the decision of the owner or occupant whether to allow hunting on the property.

The landowner should ensure that the hunter understands any conditions on which hunting is being permitted. For example, hunting may be allowed for one day, several days or longer. The landowner may specify the number of hunters allowed, or particular areas they should avoid.



Hamlet Policy Area — The use of firearms is not permitted in the Urban Service Area of Sherwood Park or in the Hamlet Policy areas.



Where hunting is and is not permitted

The discharge of firearms in Strathcona County is controlled by the Firearms Control Bylaw and enforced by the RCMP. Firearms may not be used for hunting in the Urban Service Area of Sherwood Park or the Hamlet Policy Area for the rural hamlets:

- Antler Lake
- Ardrossan
- Collingwood Cove
- Half Moon Lake
- Hastings Lake
- Josephburg
- North Cooking Lake
- South Cooking Lake

The use of firearms is restricted within the Special Control Area. In this area, shotguns and muzzle loading rifles may be used to hunt moose and deer during the Strathcona White-tailed Deer Hunt from October 25 to December 7, Monday to Friday only.

Outside of the Special Control Area, Urban Service Area and Hamlet Policy Area, Strathcona County does not have bylaws restricting the use of firearms. Provincial and federal regulations do apply in these areas.

The County is broken into three different

Wildlife Management Units (WMU). Different regulations apply to each one so check regulation details. Hunting game birds with a shotgun on road allowances is not allowed in the County. Strathcona County is a Specialized Municipality and because of this designation, all road allowances are considered County property. There is no hunting allowed on County property.

A discharge permit may be granted to allow the use of shotguns to control problem wildlife in the Urban Service Area, Hamlet Policy Area and the Special Control Area. Application for these licences must be made to Transportation and Agriculture Services.

Further information

The 2008 Alberta Guide to Hunting Regulations is available from any hunting licence issuer; the provincial website lists locations, or call 1-888-944-5494.

Alberta Fish and Wildlife Edmonton District Office 780-427-3574

24-hour numbers

RCMP Sherwood Park 780-467-7741
Report-a-Poacher 1-800-642-3800



Graffiti

If your neighbourhood is targeted by graffiti, be sure to report it to the RCMP at 780-467-7741. Graffiti needs to be cleaned up as quickly as possible on both private and public property.

If a fence has been hit by graffiti, Strathcona County residents can apply for a free removal kit. Here's how:

- Report the graffiti to the RCMP
- Take a photo and complete the Graffiti Removal Kit application online at www.strathcona.ab.ca/graffiti (kit includes 1 gallon of paint, paint brush, roller, a tray and gloves)
- Drop off the form at 2025 Oak Street or email graffiti@strathcona.ab.ca

Here are different methods of removing graffiti.

Paint

A patchwork of paint or a large block of different color invites more graffiti. Please be sure to paint the entire surface evenly. If your fence has been hit by graffiti apply for a free Graffiti Removal Kit.

Chemical removal

Solvent works well to remove graffiti from most surfaces, including stucco, natural brick and cement.

Power washing

Power washing may be used after applying a paint solvent to the graffiti area.

More information on the program is available online at www.strathcona.ab.ca/graffiti or by calling 780-464-8470.

Prompt and continual removal of graffiti is the best way for you to protect your property and preserve the image of your neighbourhood.

Hybrids added to the fleet

If you're a transit passenger, you might find yourself on a new vehicle this fall--one of seven new hybrid diesel-electric buses, the first of their kind to be acquired by Strathcona Transit.

Environmental benefits of the new vehicles include reduced greenhouse gas emissions, and savings of 10 per cent to 30 per cent in fuel compared with a conventional bus.

Passengers can look forward to a comfortable ride as the vehicles are equipped with the latest in heating and air conditioning systems, and well-designed upholstered seating. All the hybrids are wheelchair-accessible.

The new buses are funded with support from the Canada/Alberta Municipal Rural Infrastructure Program.



Strathcona
County Transit

Alarm systems require registration

If you have an alarm system in your home, business or other building, you must register the system with Strathcona County Enforcement Services by January 1, 2009.



This measure is being introduced to help reduce the number of false alarms requiring response by the RCMP.

In 2007, the Strathcona County

RCMP responded to 1,842 false alarms. Many of these were multiple calls to the same location. False alarms unnecessarily consume RCMP time and resources.

By requiring registration, the County hopes to encourage property owners to ensure their systems are operating properly. The information provided when owners register will enable the RCMP to more easily contact the owner in the event of an alarm.

The County's new Alarm Systems Bylaw (Bylaw 31-2008) also sets out fines for property owners whose system generates three or more false alarms within a six-month period.

A number of other communities including Edmonton and St. Albert have similar bylaws.

Registration is free until December 31, 2008

- There is no charge for property owners who register their alarms by December 31, 2008.
- Starting January 1, 2009, a one-time fee of \$30 will apply to register an alarm.
- Also starting January 1, 2009, if a property owner has not registered and the RCMP respond to a false alarm, the owner may be fined \$300.

How to register

- Go to the Strathcona County website, www.strathcona.ab.ca, and register online beginning September 15, 2008.
- If you prefer, you can use the application form included with your utility bill in September and October. The form must be returned to Enforcement Services at 911 Bison Way in Sherwood Park.

Further information

Review the Alarm Systems Bylaw
www.strathcona.ab.ca

or contact Enforcement Services at 780-449-0170

We're diverting 73 per cent!

Over the last couple of months Strathcona County has done extremely well! The first six weeks of the program, we sent 842.5 tonnes of waste to landfill, 1,210 tonnes of organics to be composted, 366 tonnes of paper and 229 tonnes of containers to be recycled.

How does this compare to previous years? In July 2006 and 2007, Strathcona County sent an average of 1,850 tonnes of waste to the landfill. This July we sent 580 tonnes to landfill!

Collection day reminders

- Have your cart and recycling out for collection by 7:30 a.m.
- Rinse your containers for recycling – dirty containers may contaminate the recycling process
- Flatten your cardboard – cardboard must be broken down to a maximum size of 1 m by 0.3 m (3 feet x 1 foot). Larger pieces can be taken to a recycling station.
- Ensure that your paper recyclables do not exceed 55 pounds per container or bag. This helps the haulers maintain a safe working environment when manually lifting your recyclables.
- Make sure your cart is placed at least one metre away from recycling, trees, cars, fences or any other object.



Get with the
GREEN ROUTINE!

Enviroservice event

It is important to keep any hazardous materials we can from going to the landfill. Many household materials are toxic to the environment and should be disposed of properly.

Bring your household hazardous waste, old electronics and appliances to the Enviroservice event. This event will be held twice a month from May to October. This is a drop-off event for items that are not collected at the curb with weekly collection.

The Enviroservice event is located at 420 Streambank Avenue, Sherwood Park. The next Enviroservice events are:

- Saturday, October 4
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Thursday, October 16
4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

For a complete list of materials collected at the Enviroservice event, visit www.strathcona.ab.ca.

Extra yard waste during fall cleanup

During the weeks of October 27 to 31 and November 3 to 7, residents who receive weekly waste collection from Strathcona County can put out extra yard waste for collection.

Extra yard waste **must** be placed in clear bags and put out for collection on your regular collection day.

There is no limit to the amount of clear bags you can put out during these dates only.



Good Growing Neighbours

A grass roots approach to a healthier yard

preparing your lawn for winter

One way to a healthy lawn next spring is to start this fall. Healthy well maintained lawns are less likely to have weeds and need little or no chemicals. Topdressing and overseeding may take a bit of effort now, but you'll be pleased with the results next spring.

- 1** — **mow** one last time before hard frost sets in (keep grass at 6 cm / 2.5 inches).
- 2** — **aerate** the lawn if your soil is compacted. Remove the plugs and compost them.
- 3** — **rake** a thin layer of compost or topsoil (1 cm / 1/2 inch) into the grass.
- 4** — **seed** at a rate of 5 kg/100 sq m and lightly rake into the topdressing. Get a more drought tolerant lawn by using Creeping Red Fescue, Hard Fescue, Fine Fescue or Perennial Ryegrass seed.

www.strathcona.ab.ca/goodgrowing
780-464-8493

Strathcona County is pleased to partner with the City of Edmonton to pass along Good Growing tips for a healthier yard and environment.



www.strathcona.ab.ca



Front, from left: Vic Bidzinski, Linda Osinchuk, Cathy Olesen, Roxanne Carr, Jacquie Fenske; centre, Alan Dunn; back, Glen Lawrence, Jason Gariepy, Peter Wlodarczak

History corner

Archives now open at Strathcona County Museum

After years of work, the Strathcona County Museum and Archives is pleased to announce its archives is now open for public research. Residents are invited to drop by the Strathcona County Museum and Archives to learn more about the archives and what it contains.

The archives houses historical records relating to the communities that make up Strathcona County and the people who have lived here over the years. There are now 100 fonds (or collections) that have been donated by individuals, families, schools, organizations and groups throughout the County.

Records once collected by the Strathcona County Library and the Strathcona County Retired Teachers' Association are also now part of the collection.

Different from books, most of the records in the archives are unpublished documents. Spanning a period of time, these records are kept for safekeeping because they have lasting research value. The archives also includes 150 oral histories and transcripts, many of which



Archives volunteer Judy Fehr shows a pamphlet from a fonds found in the Strathcona County Museum and Archives. A fonds is a collection of records donated by a particular individual, family or group.

Do you have materials to share or donate?

The Strathcona County Museum and Archives is interested in materials like these;

- Records from an individual or family may involve letters, papers, photographs, scrapbooks, financial records and diaries.
- Examples of archival records from a group or organization are administrative files, correspondence, and minutes from meetings.

were done by volunteers in the early 1980s.

Through the Community Heritage Legacy Initiative, Strathcona County has supported the museum in its efforts to get the archives ready for public access, supplying special acid-free files, envelopes and boxes, and hiring a professional archivist to train museum staff and volunteers.

"All of these records are here because someone cared and took the time to donate them," says Starr Hanson, Manager/Curator of the museum. "It is so important that we save these documents as they reflect the daily activities of their time. They are essential for research, and help tell the story of our past."

The museum is now inviting residents to donate old photos and documents, or even to share copies of them. The museum is also calling for long-time residents who would like to be interviewed for their stories and memories of the past. Call the Strathcona County Museum and Archives at 780-467-8189.

Located at 913 Ash Street in Sherwood Park, the museum is open Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. or by appointment.



Contact information for Council

Cathy Olesen	Mayor	464-8000	olesen@strathcona.ab.ca
Vic Bidzinski	Councillor, Ward 1	464-8005	bidzinski@strathcona.ab.ca
Roxanne Carr	Councillor, Ward 2	464-8002	carr@strathcona.ab.ca
Linda Osinchuk	Councillor, Ward 3	464-8149	osinchuk@strathcona.ab.ca
Peter Wlodarczak	Councillor, Ward 4	464-8146	wlodarczak@strathcona.ab.ca
Jacquie Fenske	Councillor, Ward 5	464-8147	fenske@strathcona.ab.ca
Alan Dunn	Councillor, Ward 6	464-8206	dunn@strathcona.ab.ca
Glen Lawrence	Councillor, Ward 7	464-8003	lawrencg@strathcona.ab.ca
Jason Gariepy	Councillor, Ward 8	464-8158	gariepy@strathcona.ab.ca

Key County contacts

www.strathcona.ab.ca

Emergency, Fire, Ambulance, Police	911
Information all departments and services	780-464-8111
Planning and Development	780-464-8080
Recreation, Parks and Culture	780-467-2211
Roads, streets and drainage	780-417-7100
Transit	780-464-RIDE (7433)
Waste collection	780-449-5514
Water and sewer	780-467-7785

Strathcona County

2001 Sherwood Drive, Sherwood Park, Alberta
464-8111

www.strathcona.ab.ca
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