
MILESTONES

Lesser Slave River

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT *of* LESSER SLAVE RIVER *no.*124

DISCOVER US

PHOTOGRAPHED BY STEVE KAY OF WIDEWATER

A PLACE OF RUGGED BEAUTY

A PLACE OF REAL PEOPLE

DISCOVER US

Important Contacts

EMERGENCY NUMBERS & RESOURCES

Ambulance/Fire/Police:	911
Alberta Health Link:	811 (<i>health advice 24/7</i>)
Wildfire Hotline:	310.FIRE (3473)
Municipal Emergency:	780.849.4888 (<i>24-hour</i>)
RCMP:	780.849.3999 (<i>non-emergency</i>)
Addiction Services:	866.332.2322
Kids Help Phone:	800.668.6868
Mental Health:	877.303.2642
Burning Permits:	780.849.7377
Alberta One-Call:	800.242.3447
Regional Landfill:	780.369.2590
Emergency Alert:	emergencyalert.alberta.ca
Alberta Road Report:	511.alberta.ca
FireSmart:	livefiresmart.ca
Wildfire Status:	wildfire.alberta.ca

SLAVE LAKE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OFFICE

3000, 15 Avenue SE **780.849.4888**
Slave Lake AB T0G 2A0 *toll-free:* 866.449.4888
fax: 780.849.4939

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 722
Slave Lake AB T0G 2A0

FLATBUSH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OFFICE

P.O. Box 93 **780.681.3929**
Slave Lake AB T0G 0Z0 *toll-free:* 866.681.3929
fax: 780.681.3936

STAY IN-TOUCH WITH US ONLINE

Website: **mdlsr.ca**
Facebook: facebook.com/mdlsr124
Twitter: [@RUGGEDandREAL](https://twitter.com/RUGGEDandREAL)
YouTube: youtube.com/user/RUGGEDandREAL
Instagram: instagram.com/explorelsr

Table of Contents

ADMINISTRATION

- 04. Message from your CAO, Allan Winarski
- 05. Interview with your Reeve, Murray Kerik
- 06. Messages from your Councillors
- 08. Update from Tri-Council
- 09. Tri-Council Regional Growth Plan
- 10. Interview with RCMP Officer Chris Murphy

FIRE & PROTECTIVE SERVICES

- 12. Lesser Slave Regional Fire Service
- 14. Becoming a Volunteer Firefighter

OPERATIONS

- 16. About Planning & Development
- 18. About Transportation
- 19. About Water & Utilities
- 20. About Agriculture
- 21. About Waste Management

HUMAN RESOURCES

- 22. Careers with the Municipal District
- 23. Service Awards & Recognitions
- 24. Lesser Slave River Brand Ambassadors

FINANCE

- 26. Independent Auditors' Report
- 27. 2014-15 Capital Budget Highlights
- 27. 2014 Financial Statements

TOURISM & COMMUNITY

- 34. Rugged & Real Recreation



Message from your CAO, Allan Winarski



ALLAN WINARSKI

allan.winarski@mdlsr.ca

780.849.4888

"Each time I come home to Lesser Slave River, a strong sense of northern pride grows as the yellow of canola yields to spruce, balsam fir and tamarack.

And yet, the kilometres of sandy beach and crashing waves of Lesser Slave Lake can tease of ocean paradises far away.

This is a special place".

— Allan Winarski

This issue of *Milestones* is an attempt to capture the essence of Lesser Slave River and show how the Municipal District works to provide the services and build the infrastructure within its bounds. Readers will also learn that this new edition of our report to the community is the spiritual launching pad for many exciting new initiatives. By the time you read this message, our new website will have launched at www.mdlsr.ca. Citizens will also see new boundary entrance signage coming in 2016 to enhance our identity to locals and visitors alike.

Of course, you will see that much has been going on. In addition to normal MD operations, some project highlights include the completion of water transmission lines to Poplar Lane, and to Bayer Road from Slave Lake. A new booster station and reservoir at Widewater is nearing completion to serve customers from the Canyon Creek Water Treatment Plant. Smith residents and friends celebrated the long-awaited opening of the Smith Community Hall and upgraded arena at a dinner dance on November 7th. Kids can now enjoy playing at the new FireSmart-inspired playground at Canyon Creek.

In 2015, the MD — along with the Town of Slave Lake and the Sawridge First Nation — adopted a joint regional plan entitled the *Tri-Council Regional Growth Plan*. In addition to providing guidance in land use, this new document provides economic development directions as well as a comprehensive current snapshot of key data and facts concerning our region. As we move into 2016, this foundation will assist the MD as it prepares to participate in the *Upper Athabasca Regional Plan* that is one of the master planning documents for managing Alberta's land and natural resources to achieve long-term economic, environmental and social goals. At a more applied local level, a much-needed review of the new Land Use Bylaw has commenced to better clarify community norms for development in the various areas of the municipality.

Moving forward, the MD is currently in the process of finalizing its strategic priorities for 2016 and beyond. With new provincial and federal governments, and with new and different perspectives, Council and Administration will continue to work together to seize opportunities available for service and infrastructure funding that could come our way.

No issue of *Milestones* would be complete without providing our audited financial statements as of December 31, 2014 and related information. Once again, the financial position of the Municipal District is strong. I would like to acknowledge and thank the Council and staff for their steadfast commitment to our community, and for their dedication to riding for the brand. Whether it's working late at night in the depths of a muddy trench fixing a waterline, participating in hours of meetings, or being there to help our people at a time of need such as during this summer's Old Smith Highway Fire...**thank you.**

Allan Winarski, CPA, CGA
Chief Administrative Officer

Interview with your Reeve, Murray Kerik



REEVE MURRAY KERIK

murray.kerik@mdlsr.ca
cel. 780.349.0518

"I encourage anyone with good ideas, a good heart and a solid work ethic to run for election and have a chance to help guide our region's future."

Q: Share with us a bit about your background.

"I've had the honour of serving as Reeve for the MD since the fall of 2013. Prior to this role, I served two additional terms as a Councillor. I am a third-generation resident of Lesser Slave, and aside from my service as a public official for the MD, I have also spent many years as a firefighter, rancher and Board Member for the Alberta Beef Producers. My lengthy experience in our region's civic, public safety and agriculture sectors has taught me that there are many challenges we face, but there's an equal amount of opportunities."

Q: What is your philosophy on civic leadership?

"My first taste of working on Councils was with the Alberta Beef Producers where I spent six years on their Board of Directors. I quickly learned the importance of representing the priorities of all the people of Alberta, not just those of my immediate neighbours. I have brought this same attitude to our Municipal Council, as I felt right from my first term that my fellow Councillors and I were entrusted with the care of the entire municipality rather than just the individual district in which we reside.

I have watched many other municipalities at work. It appears in many cases that the Reeve makes all the decisions and guides the agenda as to what must be done. I can assure you that this is not that way in our region. My main responsibility as Reeve is to chair the Council meetings not guide decisions or promote agendas. The MD has three Councillors elected out of district one and three from district two. I am elected out of the entire municipality. This equals seven distinct members of Council — each with one vote — who help steward our region."

Q: What were the MD's biggest accomplishments of 2015?

"Looking back at the past year, it makes me wonder where the time went! We have managed to get a water reservoir completed near Widewater, and we've added water lines into both Poplar Lane and Bayer Road. A wonderful new community hall has been completed in Smith, along with renovations to the arena. A FireSmart-inspired

playground in Canyon Creek now stands in the place of a vacant lot, and there are plans for another one in Widewater. We continue to be involved with trail developments as well as looking at improvements to boat launches."

Q: What projects are being contemplated for 2016?

"As we look forward to the 2016 year, we know we all have many infrastructure needs and wants that Council must balance with the MD's fiscal abilities. Poplar Road rebuilding will unfortunately not be completed until next spring, but should provide us with a decent road base in preparation for paving.

We are just beginning our budgeting process for the upcoming year so at this time I cannot say what capital projects we may start. Ours is a large municipality and we have to consider the needs and priorities of all our areas. We have many diverse issues facing us, but with the guidance of Council and the help of our efficient MD staff, I am confident we will have another productive year."

Q: In closing, what would you like to say to the community?

"I'd like to close by thanking all citizens for working together during the good times and bad. I feel that one of our biggest assets as a municipality is the strong, close-knit fabric of our communities. I would also like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all our employees and administrative staff for their steadfast commitment to the Council members and communities of our great rugged-and-real municipality."

Messages from your Councillors



DARREN FULMORE
darren.fulmore@mdlsr.ca
cel. 780.805.2020

Councillor Darren Fulmore

DIVISION 1

This was a year of progress, but it also had its frustrations. Anyone who has built a new home knows that the completion date is rarely met. The Smith Community Complex was no exception. However, I'm glad to see that the hall has taken shape. I want to thank my fellow Councillors for their commitment to the rebuilding of the hall, and look forward to working with them to see if we can get the curling rink back up. The welcome sign into Smith was a much-needed upgrade, and it looks great. Thanks to Lucy Dixon for the artwork, and to the MD for buying and installing the sign. I'd also like to thank Debbie Parsons and SHARA for putting on Family Day and Canada Day events, both of which were well attended and appreciated. All in all, it was a really good year!



ROBERT ESAU
robert.esau@mdlsr.ca
cel. 780.349.0212

Councillor Robert Esau

DIVISION 1

There's no shortage of things to take care of in the rural areas of our municipality. As Chairman of the Agricultural Service Board, I work with volunteers from the Ag sector to improve things for our area farmers and ranchers. This year we worked very hard to get the message out on weed control. We're also moving forward on advocacy with respect to recycling agricultural plastics and twine to the province. I continue to be concerned about the affordability of housing; an issue extremely important to the seniors in our communities. To this end, I serve on the Westlock Foundation to help ensure quality care at an affordable price is provided. And lastly, we need to ensure access to places like the river in Chisholm so we can all enjoy our entire region to its fullest.



GARRY HORTON
garry.horton@mdlsr.ca
cel. 780.849.1173

Councillor Garry Horton

DIVISION 1

As an elder statesman of Council, I like to ensure that my fellow Councillors know some of the history of how things have come about. I'm concerned about roads and bridges. Brushing, clear site lines and the elimination of blowdown on our roads are meat-and-potato issues that are part of a safe road network. So too are safe spots for school children to get on and off their buses. The government is working on watershed planning, so I'm representing Council on the Athabasca Watershed Council. The work this group has ahead of itself is a handful given the geography to cover, but I'm doing my part to ensure our interests are heard. One thing I'd like to see is a new beach access to Fawcett Lake. I was certainly pleased to see the new seasonal wharf at the MD boat launch, and a new community hall in Smith — along with the renovations to the arena.



BRAD PEARSON
brad.pearson@mdlsr.ca
cel. 780.805.2559

Councillor Brad Pearson

DIVISION 2

It is my privilege and pleasure to represent Division 2 as a Councillor. I will be the first to admit that the learning curve has been steep. I learned very quickly how difficult it is to steward a region the size of a European country, especially now that provincial and federal program grants are next to nonexistent. I learned that every dollar counts, waste must be eliminated, and efficiencies must be sought from each of the thirty-five or so different entities that place demands on our tax dollars. Within our team of MD staff and Council — and among our numerous volunteers — I have found groups of people who genuinely care, and who are diligent about solving numerous problems in the most cost-effective manner possible. With their continued direction and drive, our MD will continue to be a great place to live, work and play.



BRIAN ROSCHE
brian.rosche@mdlsr.ca
cel. 780.849.0263

Councillor Brian Rosche

DIVISION 2

Despite significant challenges, we have achieved some real milestones to be proud of this past year. Some of the most noteworthy include the completion of the new Smith Community Hall, completion of the Canyon Creek Wildfire Legacy Park, and the Regional Water Project installation of Southshore main lines through to Poplar Lane. As your elected representatives, my fellow Councillors and I continue to respond to the present economic realities. We cut costs wherever possible, and we strive to maintain service levels for our ratepayers through this present — and hopefully brief — downturn in the economy. I'm confident in our collective ability to navigate these storms through to brighter days. And I look forward to another great year in 2016.



MIKE SKRYNYK
mike.skrynyk@mdlsr.ca
cel. 780.805.0801

Councillor Mike Skrynyk

DIVISION 2

Now two years in, I can reflect upon some of our accomplishments to date as a Council. We've worked successfully with the Economic Development Committee to strengthen our community both now and into the foreseeable future. We have evolved Lesser Slave Lake Regional Housing into a progressive organization that effectively meets the needs of many in our region. We've secured a new seniors' shuttle bus through Tri-Council, and because of our collective efforts the Smith Complex has now become an achievable project that meets the need of the community. There is still much to address, but I believe we can achieve real, lasting results for residents and industry alike. It is with my family's future as well as yours in mind that I do my part to make our municipality a place we can continue to be proud to call home.



Update from Tri-Council

Legacy Centre; a highly anticipated & much-needed new home.

Just as Tri-Council began to collaborate on recovery efforts from the 2011 wildfires, funding came pouring in from a number of different sources. Individuals, corporations, and, of course, the Government of Alberta sent considerable support to the region. Twelve notable petroleum companies came together and consulted with local stakeholders on ideas for a lasting legacy project that could provide a meaningful social hub and enhance the quality of life for residents.

The community identified that the Slave Lake Childcare Society and the Benevolent Protective Order of the Elks Lodge #379 were potential partners in a legacy project. The petroleum partners donated \$6.4 million to the new Wildfire Legacy Project. These funds became the start-up capital for the Legacy Centre: a 33,000 square foot facility designed to house a daycare and 500 seat performing arts theatre. It will also function as a reception and emergency evacuation centre for residents in the Tri-Council region.

The vision behind this project was to distill the collaboration between the three jurisdictions and local community groups, and, in turn, create both a tangible and metaphoric legacy piece.

The Legacy Centre project has created a dynamic relationship between many distinct groups: the Municipal District, the Sawridge First Nation, the Town of Slave Lake, the Elks Lodge and the Childcare Society. Members of the not-for-profit Wildfire Legacy Corporation meet each month to ensure the construction is going well, and to prepare for its pending completion in April 2016.

The sod turning event on September 17, 2014 marked the start of construction. Children from the community enthusiastically broke ground with their colourful shovels. After overcoming some initial bumps and hurdles, the construction was soon underway and continues to proceed quite smoothly. The unusually nice weather this summer provided perfect conditions for the crews.

The Legacy Centre Fundraising Committee deserves a huge round of applause. This group of passionate individuals set a goal of raising \$920,000. A significant number of community members and local businesses are now providing financial support toward the project due in large part to the efforts of this Committee.

In commemoration of the 2011 wildfires, focal points in the Legacy Centre are dedicated to the region's history, and to FireSmart education. The children's rooftop playground reflects a renewed ambition, and the Elks' side of the building shows the potential for new growth. Seating 500 guests, the stage and theatre bring with

Regional Growth Plan

them opportunities for expansion of arts and culture in the region. Policy makers truly understand the power of arts in a community to not only strengthen the social fabric, but to also introduce new economic potentials.

The two main operating partners are the Elks Lodge and the Child Care Society. Each will contribute to the overall facility operating costs through program revenues.

This Legacy Centre represents collaboration. It's about friends and family. It's about community. It's about finding our way forward.

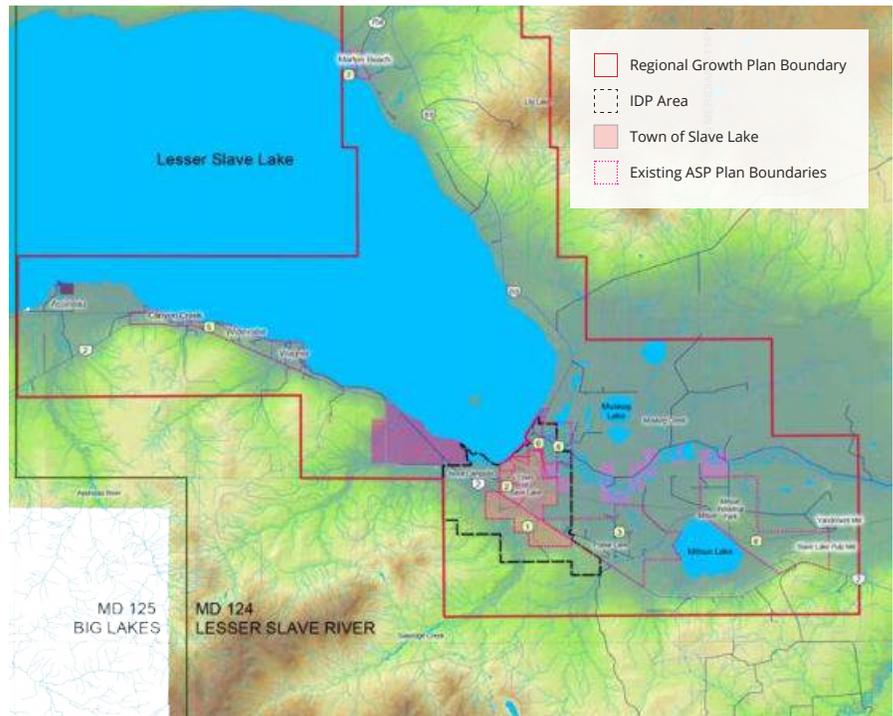
— Ann Åsfrid Holden
Tri-Council Executive Assistant

Interested in becoming part of our legacy?

When individuals donate to the Legacy Centre, they gain the same tax benefits as they do when they donate to any registered charity.

In appreciation of donations over \$500, donors will be recognized on the "Tree of Thanks" in the lobby. Founding members will form the trunk of the tree graphic. The leaves will represent additional donors. The colour of each leaf will represent a donor's contribution level.

Learn more about this initiative online at LegacyCentre.ca.



What is the Tri-Council RGP?

The Regional Growth Plan (RGP) is a study that brings different planning initiatives together in an efficient and well integrated single document. The goal of the RGP is to better position the region and its communities by fostering regional cooperation and collaborative strategies which produce balanced, integrated, sustainable and resilient growth.

The RGP builds on and replaces an Intermunicipal Development Plan (IDP) which was approved in 2000. This plan also includes lands outside the IDP 2000 boundary; a new jurisdiction and regional partnership including Sawridge First Nation and Lesser Slave Lake Region Tri-Council, and; topics in addition to land use such as regional economic development.

Interested in learning more? Visit SlaveLakeRegion.ca/downloads.



Interview with RCMP Officer Chris Murphy



OFFICER MURPHY

chris.murphy@rcmp-grc.gc.ca
780.849.3999

"There's not one person who makes our detachment; it's the efforts of every single person."

Q: Were you born and raised in Lesser Slave River?

"I was born in Saskatchewan actually, but I spent all my childhood years in Lac La Biche, Alberta, which is about two and half hours away from here. I visited the region a few times growing up, so I became somewhat familiar with it; I have a lot of really great memories here with my parents and childhood friends.

Being raised in Lac La Biche, there are a number of similarities between the two communities. Lac La Biche is a bit smaller. However, it's northern Alberta, and has the same challenges and some of the same benefits, like the beautiful backyards."

Q: What made you want to become a Police Officer?

"Thinking back, becoming an RCMP Officer is something I had always wanted to do; I knew it was the job for me. As I was growing up, I had a close friend whose Dad was an RCMP Officer. I thought it was the coolest thing ever! Once I finally turned 18, I volunteered with the RCMP as an Auxiliary Constable. I spent a few summers with them as a student, and was exposed to some of the inner learnings of the job. In 2000, I was accepted into Depot: the RCMP Training Academy."

Q: How long have you been with the Slave Lake RCMP?

"Once I graduated, Slave Lake was actually my first posting. I worked as a Constable here from 2000 until 2006, then was transferred to Fort Chipewyan for two and half years. A promotion became available in Slave Lake's General Investigation Section. I applied and was successful. I returned to Slave Lake in 2009 with my wife and son, and we had our second son in 2011. My role has since changed a few times. I was promoted to the Plain Clothes Unit as Corporal, promoted to Sergeant in 2012, and then promoted last year to Staff Sergeant."

Q: How would you best explain your current role?

"As the Staff Sergeant, I'm responsible for the Slave Lake RCMP detachment and its employees; twenty three RCMP members and support staff — the day-to-day operations. Because I'm a Police Officer however, if something serious comes in, I'm still responding. And the same can be said for any

serious incident or emergency — I would definitely be involved in a situation like that. I get to deal now with the public quite often, which is a really great aspect of my job. I have more time to attend meetings with partner agencies and community groups, and share messages from the RCMP or just simply listen to any concerns. I then bring those concerns back to my team. And we really truly are a team. So many people put in such hard work behind the scenes, and go largely unnoticed. In being the face of the detachment, quite often I get a lot of the credit. But it's the hard work that everyone's putting in — that's not lost on me for a single second. We're like a family."

Q: What are some of your key goals for the upcoming year?

"I see first-hand how much we've progressed since the 2011 wildfires. We need to keep going in that direction. Clear communication tactics and partnerships have been established. My ultimate goal is to achieve open dialogue; to continue working hand-in-hand with partner groups, agencies and the community-at-large; to build comfort; and to bring down any barriers.

Police visibility is one of my top priorities, and is something I feel very strongly about. Dialogue starts to happen. People become more comfortable with each other, and with sharing and addressing concerns. Some of our members are involved in the community after-hours volunteering as coaches on teams, and supporting different clubs. We want to be proactive in ensuring the safety of our citizens, not wait for complaints."

JUDGED BY YOU
& YOUR PEERS!
SEASONAL
PHOTO CONTESTS

CAPTURE

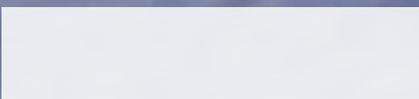
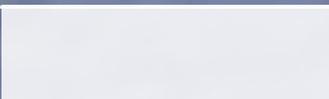
Lesser Slave River

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT of LESSER SLAVE RIVER no.124

DISCOVER US

We're looking for photos of people enjoying all the fascinating places to see and countless things to do in Lesser Slave River that make our community such an exciting place to live, work and play!

CATEGORIES, CONTEST RULES AND FULL DETAILS WILL BE RELEASED ONLINE EACH SEASON AT MDLSR.CA.





Lesser Slave Regional Fire Service

A duty to protect, preserve & restore.

We protect, preserve and restore public safety through programs and services of the Lesser Slave Regional Fire Service, 911, and emergency disaster response systems.

We do this with a staff of 125 dedicated paid on-call and volunteer firefighters as well as nine full-time staff. LSR Fire Service works in partnership with community agencies, social partnerships, and a network of provincial and federal departments and emergency management agencies.

Integrated fire services under one command.

The LSR Fire Service is unique within Alberta as a regional integrated and multi-jurisdictional volunteer fire department operated under one administration and command. It has a full-time Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief, Administrative Assistant, and Maintenance Officer. Being a regional fire department, it also has a full-time Deputy Chief of Rural Operations, plus four members of the FireSmart crew.

FireSmart is living with and managing for wildfire.

FireSmart is here to educate and inform residents across Alberta about the risks of wildfire. We must all work together to help prevent

wildfires. We all need to learn how to live FireSmart. Visit [FireSmart.ca](https://www.fire-smart.ca) for helpful tips to make your home and your community much safer.

Safeguarding the citizens of Lesser Slave River.

There is a total of five halls in the region — the greatest distance between halls being 120 kilometers. These halls serve and protect more than ten thousand square kilometers entirely through volunteer firefighters.

We attend an average of 350 calls each year, including structure fires, wildland fires, motor vehicle collisions, dangerous goods, disaster response, water response, water rescue, industrial incidents, and technical rescue (rope, ice).

A noble calling. A **vital** community role.

Marten Lakes

Structure Protection Deployment
Summer 2015



Flashing Green Lamp Bylaw

As a rural municipality, our fire protection is delivered in large part by volunteer firefighters — many of whom respond to emergencies in their own private vehicles. When emergency situations happen, every second counts. Volunteer vehicles need to respond to fire and rescue situations with the same urgency as other emergency responders.

When you're on the road and you see a vehicle with a green flashing light, please be courteous and yield to that vehicle. The green lamp gives no special privilege to a volunteer; it simply identifies the driver as a volunteer firefighter so other vehicles can give up their right-of-way and allow the responder to get to an emergency event unimpeded.

Be found when it matters most.

Make sure you and your family can be reached quickly in the event of a water line break, road closure or more urgent matter. Submit your contact details today and get onto Lesser Slave River's emergency callout system.

In an effort to enhance our emergency communications system and ensure accurate and rapid community response, everyone who lives and works within the Lesser Slave River boundaries is encouraged to provide the MD with a primary home phone number as well as at least one backup number such as a mobile or work phone number.

This information will then be added to the municipal callout database, ensuring you're contacted immediately and automatically in the event of a water line break, road closure or more critical emergency.

Take a few moments to complete the simple registration form online at mdlsr.ca or call 780.849.4888.

Please note that this program is entirely voluntary, and your contact information will never be disclosed to any third party other than emergency services personnel.



Becoming a volunteer firefighter.

Make a real
difference in your
community.

Volunteer firefighting can be an extremely rewarding and valuable way to serve your community. However, it is a decision that should not be taken lightly. It takes considerable dedication, a serious ongoing commitment to mental and physical fitness, and many hours of training.

If you think you've got what it takes and want to attend an upcoming information session, complete the online registration form and submit it to Lesser Slave Regional Fire Services. Forms are available on our website at mdlsr.ca.

It's not merely a job;
it's a *way of life*.

Your mission is to enhance Lesser Slave Regional Fire Service through quick response to emergencies, fire safety education, and support of the fire departments' other activities.

YOUR CHARACTERISTICS

- You are a team player, a quick thinker, and a natural leader
- You are an excellent communicator
- You are able to thrive in high stress situations
- You are available Monday evenings



YOUR CREDENTIALS

- You have a valid Alberta driver's license
- You have completed grade 12 education or equivalent
- You have excellent verbal and written communication skills
- You possess the ability to understand and communicate in English
- You are in excellent physical condition
- You have current standard first aid and CPR (*an asset*)

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Work as part of a team to respond to emergency situations
- Protect citizens in times of crisis
- Rescue and evacuate people from hazardous environments
- Perform the duties of emergency responder, fire suppression, and public education as assigned
- Learn the trades of emergency responder including different jobs such as hose and pump operator
- Respond to a broad range of emergency situations including motor vehicle accidents, search and rescue, and dangerous goods
- Provide pre-hospital care for victims
- Be a community role model
- Upgrade and maintain skills, knowledge and physical requirements

ESTIMATED TIME COMMITMENT

- Hall 1: six hours per week
- Hall 2, Hall 3, Hall 4, and Hall 5: three to four hours per week

2016 Future Firefighter Program

Each year LSRFS mentors and trains a small group of capable and energetic teenagers for potential careers as firefighters, EMTs, police, or forestry officers. The program is designed for youth between the ages of 14 to 17 years, and runs from March until June 2016.

There is a limited number of spaces due to the nature of the activities and the supervision required. You can register online at mdlsr.ca.

This program involves a number of different agencies including Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, RCMP, Alberta Health Services, and LSRFS, who introduce the group to the different aspects of their organization's scope of responsibilities in emergency response and management. Youth take part in tons of activities, such as hazard reduction burning, vehicle extrication, air tanker operations, wildfire operations, policing, and emergency medical services.

About Planning & Development

Fulfilling your vision for an exceptional Municipality.

The Planning & Development department coordinates and manages orderly land development in the municipality that both protects the interests of the community and complies with the Municipal Government Act of Alberta.

This department examines issues of compatibility, environment, health, aesthetics, equity and efficiency in land use planning and development. It helps ensure the ongoing conservation of the region's natural environment and cultural heritage while heavily promoting healthy, sustainable communities.

In response to the ongoing evolution in settlement patterns, agricultural and industrial practices, community development and technology, the MD remains committed to managing growth in a responsible, effective and economical manner. The MD is also committed to promoting strong and effective public participation in all planning processes.

Mass Notification System

Following a year of planning and development, the MD has launched its Mass Notification System. The purpose of this new system is to inform residents and landowners before, during and after an

emergency or other significant event. It has the ability to rapidly notify a large number of people by leveraging a variety of targeted media.

This system has been tested numerous times already, ranging from fires to public utility emergencies. The MD is committed to keeping the public safe and informed about the critical events that impact their daily lives.



NEW SMITH COMMUNITY COMPLEX

New Mapping System

The Municipal District recently installed an advanced GIS mapping system called GeoMedia® 2015. This tool will enable the Planning & Development department to create customized maps that are more intelligent and intuitive, thus allowing the MD to construct detailed current maps of all hamlets, residential neighbourhoods, zoning districts, trail systems and public facilities.

This system will provide an important component in the MD's upcoming Land Use Bylaw review when illustrating the proposed amendments to Council and the

public. With this exciting new system, Administration is working toward having more detailed and accessible mapping available for residents, developers and visitors to the region.

Subdivision & Development

In 2014, the MD approved 17 new subdivision applications, allowing for the creation of 56 parcels throughout the region. This was an unusually high rate of subdivisions over other years. In 2015, the MD received 11 subdivisions with the potential of creating 21 new lots.

The Planning & Development department had 32 single family dwelling development permit applications approved in 2014. We have been extremely busy in 2015 with a much higher volume of development permits since our rebuild from the fire, receiving 92 applications ranging from decks and single family dwellings to industrial shops.

Land Use Bylaw Underway

The Municipal District's new Land Use Bylaw 2004-06 is about to kick off. Administration has now received the first proposed draft. This new Land Use Bylaw will be addressing current issues, and is designed to establish positive, progressive change for both existing and future residents. Council will begin reviewing the new Bylaw in the New Year, and residents can look forward to being engaged on its proposed amendments.

Smith Community Complex

For years, the Smith Agriplex served as the social and recreational hub for the Hamlet of Smith. On November 29, 2012, a building inspection report revealed a number of structural, electrical and mechanical concerns, prompting MD Council to close the facility.

The MD fully realized the importance of this facility to the community, and as such was eager to scope, budget and break ground on this reconstruction project.

On May 29, 2014, Council moved to proceed with construction of the 500-seat capacity community hall and recreation facility for Smith.

Following months of community meetings, extensive planning and acquisition of the required construction funds, the project was

approved. Construction began that summer. The official grand opening of this highly anticipated new facility took place on November 7, 2015.



NEW CANYON CREEK WILDFIRE LEGACY PARK

The MD wishes to thank the residents of Smith for their patience during Council's work to secure funding and find a solution that worked for all involved.

Canyon Creek Playground

On February 13, 2013, Council accepted a report outlining a proposed park in the Canyon Creek community for information.

The proposed development was made in response to the Canyon Creek Concept Plan. On October 20, 2012, an open house was held to engage the community to develop and identify the vision for community growth and enhancement. The Summary Report indicated that 76 per cent of the responding public wanted to see recreational amenities in the community.

Open to the public in the Fall of 2014, the FireSmart-inspired park and gathering point for all ages stands as a legacy to the 2011 wildfires.

FOG

Stands for FATS, OILS, GREASE.

It's namely the stuff that gets poured down your kitchen drain after cooking meals and washing dishes. Just like with clogged arteries, FOG **hardens and sticks** to the inside of sewer pipes, eventually forming a blockage that can cause a backup or sewer overflow.

EASE THE
**STRAIN ON
YOUR
DRAIN!**



About Transportation

Services & Infrastructure

The Transportation department provides and maintains the infrastructure in Lesser Slave River's transportation network.

This department aims to provide safe and cost-effective systems for all modes of transportation, maintains these systems at acceptable levels of service, and expands these systems to facilitate the population growth and economic development of our community.

It is responsible for repairs, rehabilitation, and maintenance including oiling, roadside brushing, gravelling, sanding, and snowplowing; construction and maintenance of roads, public walkways, sidewalks, trails within the road allowance, street lights, bridges, and drainage systems; administration of road closures and bans; maintenance of traffic and directional signage, and; acquisition and maintenance of the vehicles and equipment in the municipal fleet.

Understanding Road Bans

The MD implements Road Bans for the purpose of restricting the weight of commercial vehicles (and the goods being carried by commercial vehicles) on our municipal roadways. These restrictions protect our roads from damage. Actual ban dates depend on road and weather conditions. Roads are restricted typically due to construction, maintenance, or seasonal conditions like spring thaw.

YOUR LAND. YOUR SNOW.

A gentle reminder...

Snow that falls on your property is **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY**.

Please **DO NOT PUSH** your snow onto the roads, ditches or right-of-ways.

Keeping your snow on your land helps **prevent DANGEROUS** drifting, icy roads and flooding.

AND —

Don't forget to buy your **Snow Flags**.

AVAILABLE AT OUR MD OFFICES.

780.849.4888

3000, 15 AVENUE SE SLAVE LAKE

Posted Axle Weights

Axle weights are the weight restrictions for vehicles that lower the maximum legal registered permitted weight placed on a road. This protects the infrastructure from damage. In accordance with the Traffic Safety Act, permits are required for all overweight and over-dimensional loads.

Obtaining Road Permits

Road Permits can be obtained online through RoaData at RoaData.com or call 888.444.9288. Road Permits are not available through the MD.

Dust Control Program

We offer residents and property owners the opportunity to apply for dust control on rural roads in front of their homes. This program typically begins each year in May and is completed by end of June, weather and road conditions permitting.

Gravel roadways are treated with a calcium chloride solution in front of residences once the Re-gravelling Program is complete. This helps maximize the efficiency of the dust mitigation agent. Applications are available online at mdlsr.ca.

WINTER Road Priorities & Maintenance

Roadway maintenance standards are at Council-approved service levels that minimize cost and inconvenience to the community.

Snow will be cleared from roads in order of priority. The degree and frequency of clearing will be according to the level of service outlined for each priority.

PRIORITY 1: Major Arterial Roads

Protect public safety and ensure key emergency transportation routes are passable within one working day. The full road list is available at mdlsr.ca.

PRIORITY 2: Industrial Roads

Mitsue Industrial Park municipal and contract roads, fire halls, water treatment and sewer facilities.

PRIORITY 3: Major Collector Roads

Ensure the majority of school bus routes will be passable within two working days following a snowfall.

PRIORITY 4: Minor Collector Roads & Hamlets

To allow safe and normal movement on traffic within three working days following a snowfall.

PRIORITY 5: Local Roads

Given to roads kept open twelve months of the year. Plowing to be completed within four days.

PRIORITY 6: Driveway Plowing

Driveways will be plowed following completion of road plowing, which under normal conditions is three to four days following a snowfall.

PRIORITY 7: Community Complexes

Facilities will be plowed as a community service at no cost upon completion of Priority 6 requests.



About Water & Utilities

Water conservation is everybody's business.

The Water & Utilities department provides reliable, quality water and wastewater systems, and maintains all septage waste facilities.

This department ensures that all utilities infrastructure meets current standards and practices, operates all systems according to applicable codes and approvals, and responds to emergencies and concerns.

NEW Widewater Reservoir & Booster Station

The Widewater Reservoir and Booster Station project is nearing completion, and will serve residents from the Canyon Creek Water Treatment Plant. Feeding directly from the booster station 1,000 metres away, this reservoir provides additional water storage for the communities of Canyon Creek, Widewater and Wagner.

The storage capacity at the old Water Treatment Plant has grown inadequate for fire, emergencies and peak day buffers. The additional capacity provided by the new reservoir will satisfy the treated water storage capacity volume recommended by the Alberta Environment and Parks.

The reservoir's capacity provides 950 cubic metres of additional treated water storage. From the reservoir, treated water flows by gravity through a 350 millimetre HDPE combined fill/distribution line into the booster station, where the water is then distributed to two elevation zones. The two metering facilities provide residential potable water delivery, in addition to flow/chlorine level monitoring and boosting when necessary.

Poplar Lane & Bayer Road

Construction is now complete on the Poplar Lane and Bayer Road water transmission lines. The Boil Water Advisory has been lifted for the area of the Poplar Lane subdivision.



About Agriculture

Working to cultivate a healthy municipality.

The Agriculture department works with the public and inter-jurisdictional partners to coordinate and deliver agricultural services to residents, while meeting the legislated requirements of the Agricultural Service Board Act (ASB), Weed Control Act, Soil Conservation Act, Agricultural Pests Act, and the Livestock Diseases Act.

In addition to controlling weeds and maintaining municipal road allowances and drainage ditches, this department provides identification and information services on weed, pest, and insect control and offers an array of programs, information, advice, and education to the agricultural industry and the ASB.

A Beautiful INVADER: the Himalayan Balsam

Himalayan Balsam can be spotted in a number of municipalities across Alberta and is especially common in flowerbeds. Before it was added to the Weed Control Regulations in the prohibited noxious category, it was a very popular ornamental. It was even readily available in greenhouses.

Balsam is incredibly invasive in wet areas. It out competes the natural vegetation, and is able to launch seeds up to 5 metres in distance, allowing itself to spread

relatively rapidly. Once the plant takes over an area, its shallow root system leaves riparian areas prone to erosion in the spring and fall.

The weed is easily identified when its orchid-like flowers begin to bloom. Plants stand 1 to 3 metres in height, flowers range from pale pink to purple in colour, and have lance-shaped, sharply serrated leaves. If this noxious weed is discovered, pull and burn it immediately, or place in a garbage bag and dispose at the landfill.

Weed Inspection Program

The MD hires seasonal weed inspectors each year. Their job is to look for noxious and prohibited noxious weeds on land within the Municipal District, to notify landowners/occupants.

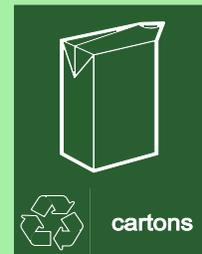
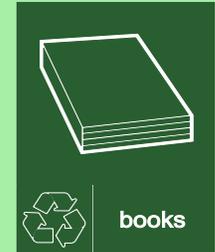
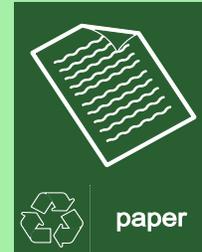
The Government of Alberta's Weed Control Act, Section 12, states that an inspector may enter land or inspect land or personal property at a reasonable time:

(a) to monitor compliance with this Act, including making inquiries, taking samples or performing tests,

(b) to enforce an inspector's notice, local authority's notice or Minister's notice in accordance with Section 18.

This allows the weed inspectors to perform their duties efficiently. If the inspector does find any legislated weeds, they will then contact the landowner/occupant to let them know about the weed(s) in question. Inspectors are also available to identify plant species for landowners and to assist in creating a management plan for weeds.

R
E
C
Y
C
L
E



About Waste Management

Did you know that at our rate of waste, our landfill cell will be full in less than 5 years? Because the cell is filling much faster than expected, rates will have to increase to pay for a new development. Opening a new cell costs \$1.5 million dollars.

Reduce, reuse, recycle & respect.

The Municipal District has representation on two landfill commissions; the Lesser Slave Lake Regional Waste Management Services Commission and the Athabasca Regional Waste Management Services Commission. The MD also operates three transfer stations.

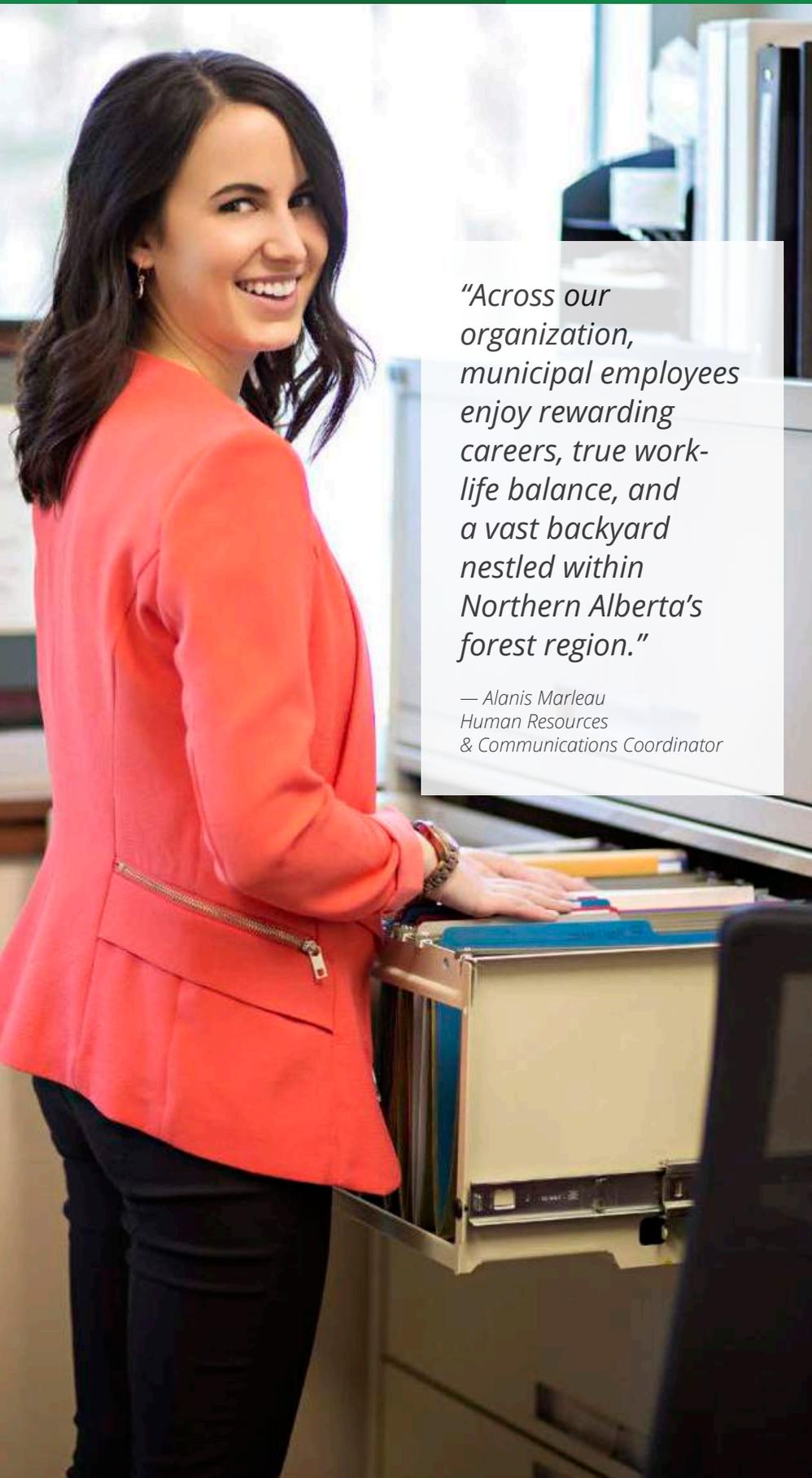
The regional landfill is under the guidance of the Lesser Slave Lake Regional Waste Management Services Commission, which is comprised of three Council members from the MD and three from the Town of Slave Lake. It operates under approval from Alberta Environment and provincial legislation.

Free Appliance Disposal

In 2015, the MD began providing appliance disposal free of charge at all times. Previously, this was available only once per month. Domestic appliances and household electronics are now accepted free of charge at transfer stations and the regional landfill. This promotes less waste in ditches and backcountry dumping sites. Accepted appliances include stoves, washing machines, dryers, dishwashers, and refrigeration units. There is a limit of one of each type of appliance per household. Appliances from commercial entities will not be accepted free of charge.

Want to learn more?

Visit slregionalwaste.com and/or athabascaregionalwaste.com for more info on regional waste.



“Across our organization, municipal employees enjoy rewarding careers, true work-life balance, and a vast backyard nestled within Northern Alberta’s forest region.”

— Alanis Marleau
Human Resources
& Communications Coordinator

Careers with the Municipal District

The MD of Lesser Slave River offers a variety of employment opportunities to help you make a difference in your community and grow professionally.

From permanent roles to seasonal positions, there are a number of different ways to ply your trade at the municipality while furthering your career path and working with a diverse and dedicated group of colleagues. We offer competitive wages and benefits, true work/life balance, family-friendly policies, and an environment of respect.

As a service-oriented employer, we seek individuals with a solid work ethic and a genuine passion for customer service. Explore the opportunities on our new municipal government portal at mdlsr.ca.

Email your cover letter and resume to us at hr@mdlsr.ca, even if we have no career postings. We are always on the lookout for outstanding people!

ADMINISTRATION

AGRICULTURE

EMERGENCY SERVICES

FINANCE

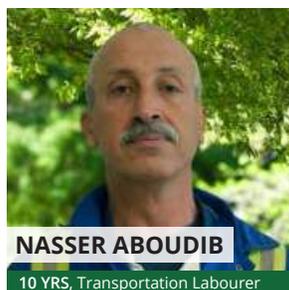
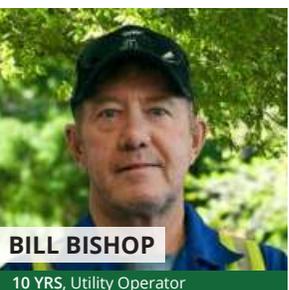
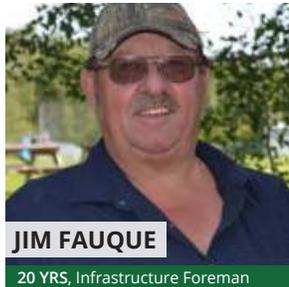
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

TRANSPORTATION

WATER & UTILITIES

CONGRATULATIONS!

In recognition of their years of service, hard work and dedication, these fourteen MD staff received **SERVICE AWARDS** in 2015.



We **ARE** Rugged & Real

Mission, Vision & Values

MISSION STATEMENT

We manage and develop the infrastructure of our MD to protect the inherent beauty of our landscape. We provide stability and opportunities for growth, for businesses, and for the individuals who live here.

OUR VISION

In the coming years, we will:

- Capitalize on our geographic location to realize our potential as a major route to the North and the Pacific
- Leverage our renewable resources to provide sustainable infrastructure with responsible taxation
- Pursue opportunities for concentrated processing of our resources at Mitsue Industrial Park and elsewhere where infrastructure, environment, and lifestyle warrant
- Plan our communities with consideration for environmental impact, design integrity, segregation of use, the nature of neighbourhoods, the placement and type of local improvements, and the sense of privacy and space in rural settings
- Support initiatives for community halls, common green spaces and places for recreation and socializing
- Provide opportunities for youth and stability for seniors
- We will sustain the municipality as a place where prosperity is the norm, and where people are equipped to care for themselves, for the land, and for one another

OUR VALUES

- We serve our municipality with respect for the environment and the people who have placed their trust in us
- We are called to be good stewards and faithful guardians of the land for future generations
- We see the traditional farm family as the building block of agriculture in our region
- We believe that fellowship, generosity, and compassion are foundations for strong, sustainable communities
- We cherish the crown lands and provincial parks within our bounds
- We welcome visitors who are mindful of the land and the communities that we love
- We foster a sense of history, of pride in our surroundings, and of gratitude for the people and places that enrich our lives



**UNION
OREGON**



**LONDON
ENGLAND**



**MONTEGO BAY
JAMAICA**



**PIRAN
SLOVENIJA**



BANFF
ALBERTA



EDINBURGH
SCOTLAND



WINFIELD
BRITISH COLUMBIA



McBRIDE
BRITISH COLUMBIA



MAUI
HAWAII



ROME
ITALY



LA SAGESSE
GRENADA



PLAYA DEL CARMEN
MEXICO



KASLO
BRITISH COLUMBIA



DAWSON CITY
YUKON



GREAT WALL
CHINA



GOLD CANYON
ARIZONA



ST. JOHN'S
NEWFOUNDLAND



SILVERTON
BRITISH COLUMBIA

Independent Auditors' Report

April 8, 2015

Edmonton, Alberta

To the Reeve and Council of the Municipal District of Lesser Slave River No.124:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Municipal District of Lesser Slave River No.124, which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2014 and the statements of operations and accumulated surplus, changes in net financial assets, and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Managements' Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We have conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Municipal District of Lesser Slave River No.124 as at December 31, 2014 and the results of its operations, the changes in its net financial assets, and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Other Matter

The financial statements of the Municipal District of Lesser Slave River No.124 for the year ended December 31, 2013 were audited by another auditor who expressed an unmodified opinion on those statements on April 9, 2014.



Hawkings Epp Dumont LLP

Hawkings Epp Dumont LPP
Chartered Accountants

2014–15 Capital Budget Highlights

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Southshore Paving	\$3,960,000
Canyon Creek Raw Water Intake	\$262,000
Mitsue Industrial Road Chip Seal	\$417,000
Muskeg Creek Bridge	\$984,000
Purchase of (160M) Grader	\$358,000
Purchase of Rubber Tired Backhoe	\$24,000
Canyon Creek Legacy Park (Install & Site Work)	\$312,000

EXPENDITURES

\$3,960,000
\$262,000
\$417,000
\$984,000
\$358,000
\$24,000
\$312,000

PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

Poplar Lane Waterline	\$3,600,000
Bayer Road Waterline	\$2,100,000
Widewater Reservoir & Booster Station	\$5,300,000
Poplar Lane Road Reconstruction Project	\$2,000,000
Canyon Creek Raw Water Line	\$450,000
Smith Community Complex	\$3,900,000
Mower Tractor	\$154,000
Fire Tanker Truck – Flatbush	\$268,000
Emergency Generators	\$695,000

ESTIMATED COSTS

\$3,600,000
\$2,100,000
\$5,300,000
\$2,000,000
\$450,000
\$3,900,000
\$154,000
\$268,000
\$695,000

Salary & Benefits Disclosure

Disclosure of salaries and benefits for Municipal Officials, the Chief Administrative Officer and designated Officers as required by **Alberta Regulation 313/2000** are as follows:

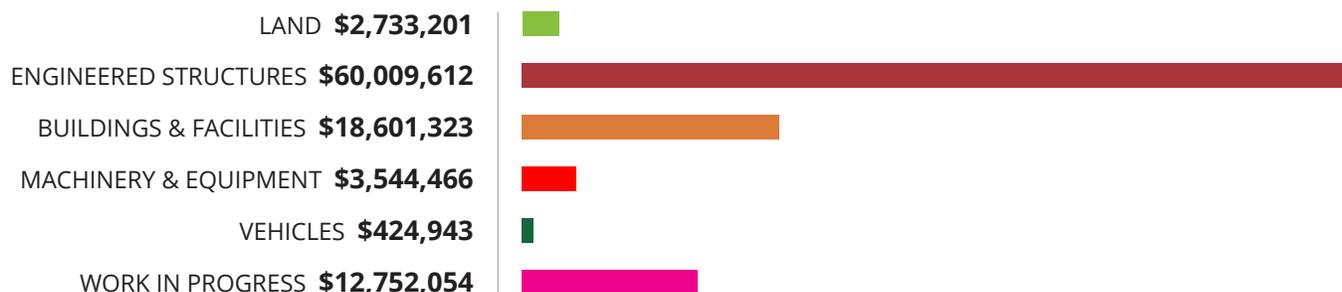
⁽¹⁾ Salary includes regular base pay, bonuses, overtime, lump sum payments, gross honoraria and any other direct cash remuneration. ⁽²⁾ Employer's share of all employee benefits and contributions or payments made on behalf of employees including pension, healthcare, dental coverage, vision coverage, group life insurance, accidental disability and disbursement insurance, long and short-term disability plans, professional memberships and tuition.

SALARY & BENEFITS DISCLOSURE

COUNCILLORS	SALARY ⁽¹⁾	BENEFITS & ALLOWANCES ⁽²⁾	2014 TOTAL	2013 TOTAL
Reeve Murray Kerik	\$36,598	\$204	\$36,802	\$23,088
Denny Garratt	–	–	–	\$28,156
Darcie Acton	–	–	–	\$18,482
Jeff Commins	–	–	–	\$18,326
Division 1: Robert Esau	\$24,936	\$204	\$25,140	\$20,276
Division 1: Darren Fulmore	\$21,584	\$204	\$22,058	\$19,178
Division 1: Garry Horton	\$19,620	\$137	\$19,757	\$4,150
Division 2: Brad Pearson	\$27,540	\$204	\$27,744	\$4,370
Division 2: Brian Rosche	\$20,156	\$204	\$20,360	\$19,003
Division 2: Mike Skrynyk	\$26,235	\$204	\$26,439	\$4,150
Municipal Manager	\$202,088	\$28,685	\$230,773	\$206,086
2014 TOTAL	\$379,027	\$30,046	\$409,073	\$365,265

Did you know?

The Municipal District of Lesser Slave River's assets are property owned, controlled and/or used by local governments. These assets are managed directly or indirectly for the benefit of constituents to achieve local service delivery goals. The Municipal District had assets valued at just over **\$98 MILLION** at the end of 2014:



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

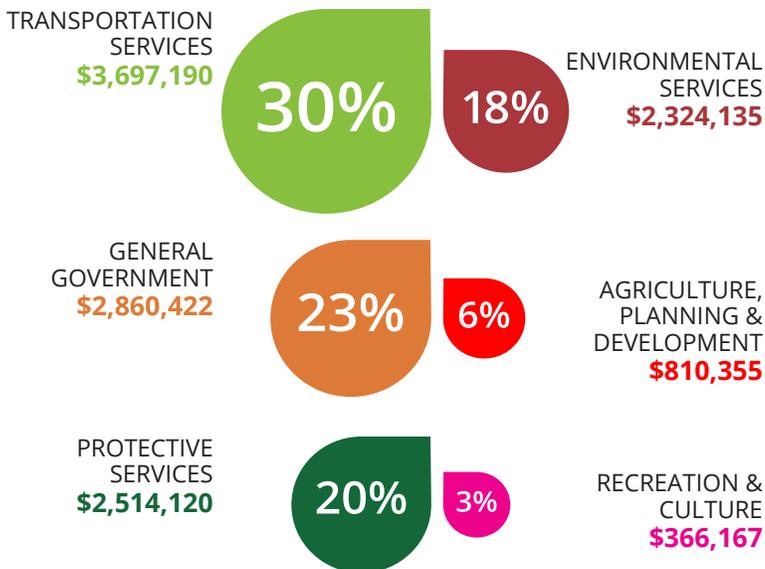
DECEMBER 31, 2014	2014 ACTUAL	2013 ACTUAL
FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Cash (Note 2)	\$27,972,829	\$24,231,952
Receivables		
Taxes and grants in lieu of taxes (Note 3)	\$266,699	\$321,422
Trade and other receivables	\$2,108,994	\$2,975,862
Other long-term receivables	\$1,743,966	\$1,923,104
Investments (Note 4)	\$10,211,406	\$178,756
	\$42,303,894	\$29,631,096
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$5,233,527	\$2,726,050
Deposit liabilities	\$297,827	\$103,579
Deferred revenue (Note 6)	\$14,403,049	\$5,522,167
Employee benefit obligations (Note 7)	\$203,389	\$266,372
Reclamation liabilities (Note 8)	\$73,400	\$253,280
Long-term debt (Note 10)	\$3,712,297	\$3,988,207
	\$23,923,489	\$12,859,655
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS	\$18,380,405	\$16,771,441
NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Tangible capital assets (Schedule 1)	\$98,065,599	\$88,322,009
Inventory of consumption (Note 9)	\$1,628,882	\$949,344
Prepaid expense	\$184,580	\$205,064
	\$99,879,061	\$89,476,417
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS	\$118,259,466	\$106,247,858

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS & ACCUMULATED SURPLUS

DECEMBER 31, 2014	2014 BUDGET (Note 20)	2014 ACTUAL	2013 ACTUAL
REVENUE			
Net municipal property taxes <i>(Schedule 3)</i>	\$12,990,857	\$13,646,388	\$12,254,583
User fees and sales of goods	\$1,492,439	\$1,486,318	\$1,361,788
Government transfers <i>(Schedule 4)</i>	\$340,010	\$1,048,461	\$1,632,266
Investment income	\$456,560	\$543,757	\$433,343
Penalties and costs of taxes	\$68,000	\$70,149	\$68,605
Licenses and permits	\$55,000	\$33,414	\$45,650
Other	\$41,455	\$234,554	\$1,111,446
TOTAL REVENUE	\$15,444,321	\$17,063,041	\$16,907,681
EXPENSES			
Legislative	\$289,139	\$270,332	\$232,108
Administration	\$2,314,024	\$2,180,561	\$2,250,506
Protective services	\$1,032,428	\$2,514,119	\$929,172
Roads, streets, walks, lighting	\$4,346,632	\$2,480,868	\$3,442,067
Common services	\$1,734,420	\$1,216,322	\$1,291,349
Water supply and distribution	\$1,605,551	\$1,171,781	\$1,525,254
Wastewater treatment and disposal	\$1,216,586	\$890,017	\$1,022,313
Waste management	\$320,811	\$262,720	\$257,402
Family and community support	\$85,558	\$70,421	\$91,419
Agriculture, planning and development	\$891,403	\$739,934	\$609,993
Parks, recreation, culture	\$400,537	\$366,167	\$290,600
Amortization	-	\$6,393,875	\$6,317,434
Inter-municipal cost sharing <i>(Note 17)</i>	\$345,000	\$409,145	\$118,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$14,582,089	\$18,966,262	\$18,377,617
ANNUAL SURPLUS (deficiency) BEFORE OTHER REVENUE	\$862,232	(\$1,903,221)	(\$1,469,936)
OTHER REVENUE			
Government transfers for capital <i>(Schedule 4)</i>	\$25,417,265	\$13,863,229	\$3,392,307
Gain (loss) on disposal of tangible capital assets	-	\$51,600	\$104,017
	\$25,417,265	\$13,914,829	\$3,496,324
ANNUAL SURPLUS	\$26,279,497	\$12,011,608	\$2,026,388
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$106,247,858	\$106,247,858	\$104,221,470
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS AT END OF YEAR	\$132,527,355	\$118,259,466	\$106,247,858

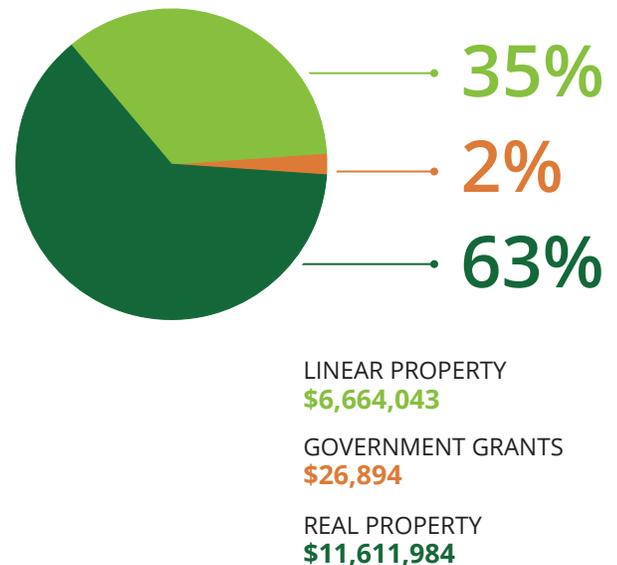
Municipal Expenditures

Almost everything the Municipal District does has a cost associated with it. Councillors spend a lot of time on making financial decisions. Their role is to safeguard the taxpayer's money and make the best use of financial resources.



Tax Revenue by Assessment Class

Each sector represents the taxes paid in 2014 by groups in the Municipal District.



STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN NET FINANCIAL ASSETS

DECEMBER 31, 2014	2014 BUDGET (Note 20)	2014 ACTUAL	2013 ACTUAL
ANNUAL SURPLUS			
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	\$26,279,497	\$12,011,608	\$2,026,388
Proceeds on disposal of tangible capital assets	(\$30,341,180)	(\$16,137,465)	(\$7,522,650)
Amortization of tangible capital assets	\$145,000	\$51,600	\$110,806
(Gain) loss on disposal of tangible capital assets	-	\$6,393,875	\$6,317,434
	-	(\$51,600)	(\$104,017)
	(\$3,916,683)	(\$9,743,590)	(\$1,198,427)
Change in inventory consumption	(\$174,667)	(\$679,538)	\$418,710
Change in prepaid expenses	-	\$20,484	(\$47,580)
	(\$174,667)	(\$659,054)	\$371,130
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET FINANCIAL ASSETS	(\$4,091,350)	\$1,608,964	\$1,199,091
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$16,771,441	\$16,771,441	\$15,572,350
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$12,680,091	\$18,380,405	\$16,771,441

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW

DECEMBER 31, 2014

NET CASH INFLOW (OUTFLOW) RELATED TO FOLLOWING:

2014 ACTUAL

2013 ACTUAL

OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Annual surplus	\$12,011,609	\$2,026,388
Non-cash items included in annual actual:		
Amortization of tangible capital assets	\$6,393,875	\$6,317,434
(Gain) loss on disposal of tangible capital assets	(\$51,600)	(\$104,017)
Net change in non-cash operating working capital balances:		
Decrease (increase) in taxes and grants in place	\$54,724	(\$51,104)
Decrease (increase) in trade and other receivables	\$866,869	\$756,347
Decrease (increase) in long-term receivables	\$179,137	(\$513,085)
Decrease (increase) in prepaid expenses	\$20,484	(\$47,580)
Decrease (increase) in inventory for consumption	(\$679,538)	\$418,710
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$1,778,099	\$671,836
Increase (decrease) in deposit liabilities	\$924,277	\$291,728
Increase (decrease) in deferred revenue	\$8,880,231	\$819,536
Increase (decrease) in employee benefit obligations	(\$62,983)	\$52,479
Increase (decrease) in closure and post-closure costs	(\$179,880)	\$10,000
Cash provided by operating transactions:	\$30,135,302	\$10,648,672

CAPITAL ACTIVITIES

Purchase of tangible capital assets	(\$16,137,465)	(\$7,522,650)
Proceeds on disposal of tangible capital assets	\$51,600	\$110,806
Cash applied to capital transactions	(\$16,085,865)	(\$7,411,844)

FINANCING ACTIVITIES

Long-term debt issued	-	\$326,835
Long-term debt repaid	(\$275,910)	(\$300,615)
Cash provided by (applied to) financing transactions	(\$275,910)	\$26,220

INVESTING ACTIVITIES

Purchase of investments	(\$10,032,650)	(\$97,328)
Cash provided by (applied to) investing transactions	(\$10,032,650)	(\$97,328)

CHANGE IN CASH DURING THE YEAR

\$3,740,877

\$3,165,720

CASH AT BEGINNING OF YEAR

\$24,231,952

\$21,066,232

CASH AT END OF YEAR

\$27,972,829

\$24,231,952

TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS

DECEMBER 31, 2014	LAND	ENGINEERED STRUCTURES	BUILDING & FACILITIES	MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT
COST				
Balance, beginning of year	\$2,513,651	\$123,021,995	\$28,501,848	\$7,967,429
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	\$219,550	\$3,137,795	\$89,138	\$602,359
Transfer in (out) of WIP	-	\$3,485,765	\$1,451,008	\$12,571
Disposals	-	-	-	(\$179,369)
Balance at end of year	\$2,733,201	\$129,645,554	\$30,041,993	\$8,402,989
ACCUMULATED AMORTIZATION				
Balance, beginning of year	-	\$65,266,350	\$10,496,615	\$4,140,594
Annual amortization	-	\$4,369,593	\$944,055	\$897,298
Disposals	-	-	-	(\$179,369)
Balance at end of year	-	\$69,635,943	\$11,440,670	\$4,858,523
NET BOOK VALUE OF TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS	\$2,733,201	\$60,009,612	\$18,601,323	\$3,544,466
2013 NET BOOK VALUE OF TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS	\$2,513,651	\$57,755,645	\$18,005,233	\$3,826,835

EXPENSES BY OBJECT

DECEMBER 31, 2014	2014 BUDGET (Note 20)	2014 ACTUAL	2013 ACTUAL
COST			
Salaries, wages and benefits	\$5,634,137	\$5,050,681	\$5,062,139
Contracted and general services	\$4,641,844	\$2,986,277	\$3,800,241
Materials, goods and utilities	\$2,796,840	\$1,875,201	\$2,231,328
Provision for allowances	-	\$26,907	\$8,957
Transfers to local boards and agencies	\$1,334,083	\$2,460,911	\$762,813
Bank charges and short-term interest	\$1,200	\$1,195	\$596
Interest on long-term debt	\$173,985	\$171,215	\$194,108
Amortization	-	\$6,393,875	\$6,317,434
TOTAL	\$14,582,089	\$18,966,262	\$18,377,617

FULL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT WWW.MDLSR.CA
A HARDCOPY IS AVAILABLE AT THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

VEHICLES	WORK IN PROGRESS	2014 ACTUAL	2103 ACTUAL
\$1,104,681	\$5,785,423	\$168,895,027	\$162,000,948
\$172,650	\$11,915,974	\$16,137,465	\$7,522,650
-	(\$4,949,343)	-	-
-	-	(\$179,369)	(\$628,571)
\$1,277,331	\$12,752,054	\$184,853,123	\$168,865,027
\$669,459	-	\$80,573,018	\$74,877,367
\$182,929	-	\$6,393,875	\$6,317,434
-	-	(\$179,369)	(\$621,783)
\$852,389	-	\$86,787,524	\$80,573,018
\$424,943	\$12,752,054	\$98,065,599	\$88,322,009
\$435,222	\$5,785,423	-	\$88,322,009

Visitor Information Centre



OPEN YEAR ROUND, we invite you to stop by and inquire about local activities and tourism opportunities. Be sure to check out the gift shop showcasing work from talented local artists and craftsman.

DID YOU KNOW THE MD HAS...

- 1534** RESIDENCES
- 7** HAMLETS
- 4** FIRE HALLS
- 72KM** OF WATER MAINS
- 65KM** OF WASTEWATER MAINS
- 2** LOADERS
- 257KM** FROM EDMONTON
- 1,168KM²** SIZE OF THE LAKE
- 3,074** RESIDENTS
- 57** FULL-TIME POSITIONS
- 698KM** OF MUNICIPAL ROADS
- 5** GRADERS
- 124,300** ACRES OF LAND UNDER AGRICULTURAL USE
- 11,757** CATTLE & CALVES
- 60** BRIDGES



Rugged & Real Recreation

Lesser Slave is full of recreational opportunities.

The Municipal District is a paradise of lakes, natural areas and outdoor adventure. Home to Alberta's inland sea, Lesser Slave Lake, it's a popular destination for tourists and travelers, especially those who love land and water sports.

The area offers boundless recreational adventures including sandy beaches stretching for many kilometers, private and provincial campgrounds, maintained and natural trails for biking and off-road vehicles, as well as sport fishing, hunting, hiking, horseback riding, cross country skiing, snowmobiling, and boating.

Venture far off the beaten path.

ATVs & Off-Roading

Off-roading and quadding are popular pursuits for many local residents, and draw nature-seekers from near and far to the region. Across all seasons, ATVs of every type navigate Lesser Slave's vast wooded terrain, from the well-marked Peace River Trail and sandy stretches of Chisholm to the largely-uncharted boreal forest areas. Some of the back lakes in the MD's eastern region can only be accessed through trail riding.

With the recent opening of the Peace River trail from Sawty to Moose Portage, riders have even more access to the back country. With sand and mud to cut lines and hard packed trails, the area is full of great riding for all to enjoy.

Breathtaking views. Fantastic experiences.

Camping

The Lesser Slave River region is in the heart of northern Alberta, with a fabulous mix of landscape and leisure. Camping is a favourite activity enjoyed by residents and visitors alike. Immerse yourself in the great outdoors, get away from civilization, and enjoy nature on a relaxing trip. From full service lakefront campsites to backcountry campsites, the region boasts a large number of camping facilities to suit any outdoor enthusiast.

Experience nature at its finest.

Canoeing & Kayaking

Canoeing and kayaking allow people of all ages and abilities to experience paddling the serenity of calm water. A trip to Lesser Slave offers multiple recreational opportunities. The Athabasca River is also a great place for some river paddling. Stop to visit unique sites and islands on your trip or do some shoreline exploring; you are bound to experience eye-catching geology, abundant bird life, or catch a glimpse of a boreal bison.

Test yourself against our breathtaking fairways.

Golfing

The forest and sparkling blue lake provide a gorgeous backdrop for a relaxing round of golf. From our 18-hole competitive course at the Gilwood Golf and Country Club to our 9-hole course at Flatbush River Valley Golf Club, fairways in and around Lesser Slave are a challenge for players of every skill level.

Discover a place you'll never want to leave.

Hiking

Stay at one of the local cabin rentals, then take a guided tour or hike on your own to one of our many forest trails or shorelines. Visit the Provincial Park or pack a lunch and enjoy one of our day use areas at Lily Creek or Marten River. Trails include the Trans-Canada, Lily Lake, Walk Through Time, Jack Pine, Whispering Sands, Peace, and Songbird. Other activities to enjoy while hiking include bird watching, wildlife photography, berry picking, and shoreline fishing.

A year-round angler's paradise.

Fishing

Lesser Slave River caters to all manner of fishing enthusiast. From fast-running streams to the

expansive Lesser Slave Lake, fishing is a year-round way of life for weekend hobbyists and seasoned competitors alike. Tournaments abound in the region but Lesser Slave Lake's Anglers Cup is the most anticipated of them all.

If you're new to the area and want to try your hand at fishing, the community of Widewater is a great location for outfitting, hiring a guide and finding accommodations. It is also a great place to chat with some of the locals before you head out onto the lake.

Endless opportunities for sub-zero adventure.

Winter Activities

With its always-ample seasonal snowfall and endless expanses of unspoiled wooded areas to explore, Lesser Slave River provides a truly breathtaking backdrop for any type of arctic adventure. The region's extensive trail system and vast Lesser Slave Lake provide a host of opportunities for all manner of outdoor enthusiasts.

Take in a truly one-of-a-kind winter landscape as you trek through a crisp white, snow-silent boreal forest on cross-country skis or snowshoes at the Nine Mile Creek Recreation Area. Search for animal tracks with the kids at Lesser Slave Lake Provincial Park. Any way you choose to enjoy it, winter is especially wondrous in Lesser Slave River.

Nature like you've never seen it.

Wildlife

Lesser Slave Lake Region is one of the largest pristine wilderness areas in Alberta. Nestled in the scenic Provincial Park, the Lesser Slave Lake Bird Observatory is the ideal place for wildlife viewing.

Depending upon the season, bird-watchers will see several species of migratory songbirds, the common raven, bald eagles, geese, rare trumpeter swans, numerous species of ducks, sharp-tailed grouse, spruce grouse and ruffed grouse. We also have willow ptarmigan, gray jay, boreal chickadee, and several species of woodpecker.

Mammals include boreal bison, moose, elk, woodland caribou, bears, cougars, timber wolves, fox, martin, wolverine and squirrels, snowshoe hare and lynx. The Boreal Centre for Bird Conservation also provides a variety of interpretive and educational exhibits, events, and programs. Bring your camera and get set for an unforgettable adventure.

Interested in learning more?

For more information about recreational activities in and around the Lesser Slave River region, checkout our brand new municipal government portal at mdlsr.ca.



Local Flatbush cowboy,
Ryley Borris, rides to first place
at the 2015 Calgary Stampede.