



The 2026 Federal Census is underway and your support is needed. Census data are critical to decision makers and Canadians from coast to coast to coast. The Census of Population provides high-quality information on key socioeconomic trends and analysis that helps Canadians make important decisions that affect our families, our communities and our businesses. Accurate population figures are important to the Town when it comes to determining the size of many of the grants we apply for. Participation is mandatory by Federal law.

The 2026 Census is being done across the country and households received a census invitation letter by mail or at the door, with information on how to complete the questionnaire. Completing the census questionnaire online is easy, secure and confidential. Respondents without reliable access to the Internet can request a paper questionnaire or complete it over the phone by calling the Census Help Line. For more information visit: census.gc.ca/contact-us.

When the Town Administration office and Council chamber were moved in April to the Harry Strom Municipal Building, the new chamber was named in honour of our former MLA and Mayor, Alan Hyland. This coincided with the dedication of the street being built north of First Avenue at First Street West, also named in Alan's memory. Council was pleased to have Alan's wife Dianne on hand for the unveiling of the sign bearing the name of our colleague who dedicated much of his life to our community.



In honour of the past, present and future contributions of the seniors of our community, I have joined with the Province and many other municipalities in declaring June 1-7 as Seniors Week in Bow Island. Announcements of activities and events for the week will be made as we closer to the end of this month.

Last week Council received the audited 2025 financial statements from the auditing firm of MNP. The auditor advised us that the Town remains in a strong financial position and has been able to meet all of its fiscal obligations. There is a link to the statements on our web site under the "Government" tab.

Bow Island campsite registrations have moved online, and the self registration box has been removed. For the first time users can book and pay ahead. Link to the booking site: [Bow Island Centennial Park and Campground](#)

There's about 9 weeks left until the Southern Alberta Summer Games here in Bow Island, the County of Forty Mile and Foremost. There will be about 20 sporting and cultural events happening between July 8th to 11th and registration opens next Monday. Check out the Summer Games link on our website and most importantly, sign up as a volunteer. Besides having a lot of fun over those 4 days, it is a great opportunity to showcase our community.

On April 13th, Council gave final reading to the bylaw adopting the new Municipal Development Plan. This plan will fit with South Saskatchewan Regional Plan as well as the Intermunicipal Development Plan that we have with the County of Forty Mile. Deliberations of the plan and the bylaw included a review of the results of the online survey many of you took part in. Almost half of the respondents indicated they wanted to see more housing developed. A strong majority indicated that a variety of housing was very important. Green spaces and walking trails in new subdivisions had very strong support. Upgrading current infrastructure also came through as a priority. 92% feel it is important to protect agricultural land while planning for urban growth and that the Town should encourage infill development ahead of developing Ag land. This plan will provide a framework and policies that will guide future growth and development of the Town.

It was wonderful to see so many turn out last week for the Physician Appreciation event at the Health Centre courtyard to thank Dr. Tawfee and Dr. Edwards for what they are doing for our community. Their commitment is truly admirable and appreciated.

Mayor Gordon Reynolds