



# February



# VILLAGE COUNCIL

## COUNCIL MEETINGS

- February 2, 2026
- February 17, 2026

COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE HELD IN THE VILLAGE  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS 5015 - 50 STREET  
STARTING AT 7:00PM.  
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO  
ATTEND.

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Council has recently been advised that the Government of Alberta is changing long-standing funding arrangements. One of those changes affects how policing is paid for. As a result, the Village of Kitscoty will now be responsible for a significant portion of policing costs, and this will lead to a municipal tax increase.

Municipalities operate under provincial authority and rely mostly on property taxes and grants to provide everyday services like water, sewer, fire protection, roads, and sidewalks. Over the years, some costs that were once covered by the province have been shifted to municipalities. A familiar example is Alberta's education tax. While it appears on your property tax bill, the Village simply collects it and sends it to the province, it does not support local services.

The province's funding comes from non-renewable resource royalties (oil and gas), personal and corporate income taxes, federal transfers and investment income. Until about ten years ago, policing for communities our size was fully funded by the province, that has changed. While the early costs were manageable, they are now expected to rise significantly. By 2030, Kitscoty's policing costs are projected to more than double, reaching nearly **\$110,000 per year**, and this cost must be paid directly by the Village.

Because property tax is our main source of revenue, Council has few options. To cover these new costs while continuing to provide essential services, a municipal tax increase will be necessary. Council has worked hard to keep the mill rate stable for many years, but this change in funding makes that increasingly difficult. We remain committed to managing your tax dollars responsibly and advocating for fair funding for small communities.

Until next month,

Joy Bell

E: [joyce@vokitscoty.ca](mailto:joyce@vokitscoty.ca) T: 780-846-2221 F: 780-846-2213 [www.vokitscoty.ca](http://www.vokitscoty.ca)



## Notice of Public Open House

### Proposed New Area Structure Plan & Land Use Bylaw Amendment

You are invited to attend a Drop-in Open House to learn about and share feedback on a new proposed Area Structure Plan just outside the Village of Kitscoty boundaries, shown on the location map below. The open house will feature information displays on the proposed new Area Structure Plan and Land Use Bylaw Amendment. The project consultant will lead you through the displays and answer questions. The vision for the proposed plan is a multi-lot residential lot and a highway development lot.



#### Drop-in Open House Details

Date: February 5, 2026

Time: 6 PM – 7:30 PM

Location: Village of Kitscoty Council Chambers, 5015 50 St, Kitscoty, AB T0B 0E1

Contact: Lyndsay Francis, Registered Professional Planner

lyndsaymfrancis@gmail.com or 587-985-8100



# PET LICENSES

It's that time of the year to renew your pet license.

Dog: \$15.00 Cat: \$10.00

After February 28, 2025 you will pay Full Rate

For more information, please drop by or call the  
Village office.

## **"Celebrating our Staff Members**

**Congratulations to our Public Works staff member Simon Bergquist on completing the Alberta Environment Water Operator Level 1 Course in December 2025 with a successful exam challenge. Simon is now recognized as a Level 1 Water Operator for the Village of Kitscoty in addition to his Public Works duties. Simon was also promoted to the position of Lead Hand for the Public Works Department as of January 2, 2026. The Village of Kitscoty appreciates his dedication to the Public Works Department and commitment to lifelong learning in completing his Level 1 Water Operator certification.**

**On behalf of the Village of Kitscoty Council and Administration, Congratulations Simon!"**



# Kitscoty Public Library


## Lots of Learning Opportunities this February at the Library!

**Confident Communicator Series** - Join us for 1 of 4 unique interactive workshops where we will work on building confidence, improve communication and speaking with Impact! See poster for more details

**Library Board Meeting** - Everyone is welcome to attend! Thursday February 19 at 7pm

**Book Club** - Our current read is the *The Let Them Theory* by Mel Robbins. Book discussion March 25 at 6:30pm

**Ongoing Programs** - Books for Newborns, Take & Make Kits and more. Check out our website for details about these programs and watch for other events



Kitscoty Public Library

# Confident Communicator Series

Build confidence. Improve communication. Learn to speak with impact.

**Public Speaking For Athletes**  
Feb 4<sup>th</sup> 3:30–5:30 PM  
Build confidence and public speaking skills for athletes. Learn how to communicate with coaches, teammates, and the media.


**Job Interview Workshop for Students**  
Feb 18<sup>th</sup> 4:00–6:00 PM  
Prepare for job and practicum interviews with mock interviews, confidence tips, and guidance on dressing for success. Hands-on and interactive for high school and post-secondary students.

**Adult Public Speaking & Sales Skills Workshop**  
Feb 21<sup>st</sup> 1:30–3:30 PM  
Improve communication skills for presentations, customer service, and sales. Learn how to create a mission statement and deliver a strong elevator pitch.

**Public Speaking & Networking Workshop**  
Feb 25<sup>th</sup> 4:00–6:00 PM  
Learn how to network with confidence, master active listening, and create a clear pitch for networking events.

**Register Now**

<https://www.kitscotypubliclibrary.ab.ca/Events>





# FREE indoor playground FEBRUARY

**Tuesdays:** 9 am to 7 pm

**Wednesdays:** 1 to 3 pm  
5 to 7 pm

**Thursdays:** 1 to 3 pm

**Fridays:** 9:30 to 11:30 am  
1 to 3 pm

**Saturdays**  
February 7<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>  
9:30 am to 1:30 pm

**SUPER SATURDAY**  
Meet our Preschool Mental Health Team  
February 7th! Fun activities in the  
Education Room & take home  
Connecting Play activities.

**Extended Play Day**

The playground is an inclusive play space. We welcome children and parents with disabilities including those with intellectual disabilities.

**NEW**



103, 4910-50th Street, Lloydminster, SK  
P: 306-825-5911 or 1-866-651-5911  
E: [info@midwestfamilyconnections.ca](mailto:info@midwestfamilyconnections.ca)

## WELCOME TO KITSCOTY'S CROSS-COUNTRY SKI TRACK!!!

Enjoy multiple trail systems totalling over 2.5km of dual groomed track!!

Open for public use, operated and maintained by volunteers and donated equipment!!

Staging and starting points are marked and cleared for your convenience.

Trail fees are a "by donation" basis, and all proceeds will be utilized to further enhance the system and provide other future winter activities for our community!!

Should you choose to donate, please e-transfer to: [ski-kitscoty@outlook.com](mailto:ski-kitscoty@outlook.com)

**Enjoy!!**  
**Kitscoty Golf Club**



We would like to let the community know about our Free-To-Use Cross country ski track that will be implemented once the snow accumulation has allowed the groomer to get out and build trails. We have a sign being made up to describe the track, its purpose and what people can do should they choose to support the future of the Cross-Country Ski program in Kitscoty .

# Kitscoty Legion

As the year 2025 comes to a close, Kitscoty Legion would like to sincerely express a big thank you for all your support in the past. An announcement from Command :

**Free Membership:** New members in 2026 join at no cost.

You do not need a veteran relative to join. Everyone is welcome. You can join online at [Legion.ca](http://Legion.ca).

Please call any members or reach out on Facebook for any new announcements or questions.

Thank you.

## Collaborative Economic Development Project Launching in January

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The County of Vermilion River and our partner Villages will begin a regional collaborative economic development project this January. Local businesses will have opportunities to participate in upcoming engagement sessions and provide input that will help shape future economic growth across our communities. Watch for more details in the new year.



For more information or questions about the project, please contact:  
Wendy Wagner, Economic Development Officer, County of Vermilion River  
[economicdevelopment@county24.com](mailto:economicdevelopment@county24.com) | 780-846-0158



## KITSCOTY COMMUNITY CENTRE

We are inviting all members of the community to come and enjoy the activities at the centre, which includes floor curling on Mondays at 1:30 p.m.; pool on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 1:30 p.m. and cards (cribbage) on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. other activities or other times could be arranged

should there be sufficient interest. About 65 members attended the Christmas dinner. 16 turned up for the inaugural New Years Eve for seniors, that ran from 5-9 p.m. with a pot luck and games. If there is interest we would consider a similar event at other times throughout the year, open to the community, and at a different time. We would like to have input from the community regarding activities that would bring the community together. You can always contact me at 780-846-2832 or to [johnandshirleyscott@xplornet.ca](mailto:johnandshirleyscott@xplornet.ca)

If you would like to learn more about your Community Centre, consider attending the Annual Meeting, to be held at the Centre, commencing a 7:00 p.m. on March 19th.



## KITSCOTY DAYS

The Ag Society and Kitscoty Days is gauging interest and looking for feedback on the future of Kitscoty Days Events. If you want to give your input and want to see the weekend (or however you see it) continue on, please reach out to Candice McLean 780-872-0868





**The Kitscoty RCMP will be hosting a Town Hall on February 18, 2026 at 7:00PM at the Village of Kitscoty Council Chambers  
5015 - 50 Street Kitscoty.**

Topics for discussion will be focused on rural crime reduction. We will have a guest speaker delivering valuable information regarding crime prevention strategies and programs available to the communities the RCMP serves.

Information packages will be available and will include forms for tracking valuables, information regarding online crime reporting and Rural Crime Watch and Community Assisted Policing Through Use of Recorded Evidence (CAPTURE).

The evening will also provide an open forum where questions are welcome.

The Kitscoty RCMP look forward to the opportunity to meet with residents we serve. We hope to see you there.

Corporal Trevor Schmidt  
Acting Detachment Commander  
Kitscoty RCMP

## GRIEF AND LOVE

"Grief is really just love. It's all the love you want to give, but cannot. All that unspent love gathers up in the corners of your eyes, the lump in your throat, and in that hollow part of your chest. Grief is just love with no place to go." – William P. Spence

For many people, February brings added opportunities to reflect on love and relationships. However, this can come with potential difficulty for those experiencing grief and loss. The above quote provides a perspective about grief that acknowledges the love that we have as being ongoing and not something that ends when someone dies. Finding ways to continue expressing our love can be a helpful way to give your love somewhere to go.

Consider the following activities to honour your experiences of grief and love:

1. Write a love letter to your loved one who has passed. Take time to find some special paper or a notebook. You can write about memories, things you miss about the person, things you wish you could tell them, etc. You may choose to keep the letter, leave it at a gravesite, or dispose of it in a way that feels comfortable to you.
2. Take part in your loved one's favourite activity. Ask yourself, what did my loved one *love* to do? Even if it is not something that you particularly love, it may help you to reflect on memories by participating in something they enjoyed doing. This can be an extension of your ongoing love and your desire to keep their memories alive.
3. Continue to use your loved one's name out loud. Share stories that use their name and help others in your life to also continue to love your person.
4. Create a memory box for your loved one. This can be done in as simple or elaborate way as you choose. Some people may like to purchase a special box while others may like to create their own. Think about what personal items, pictures, letters, song lyrics, or other things that you can fill the box with.
5. Allow yourself to feel all the emotions that come with wanting to continue loving someone who is not physically here. There may be times of deep sadness mixed in with joyfulness that come with remembering the special times you spent with your loved one.

By choosing to actively express your love, you can seek to accept that missing your loved one is proof that you loved them dearly and that your love will continue.

Submitted by: Walking Through Grief Society

Funded by FCSS; City of Lloydminster, Towns of Vermilion and Wainwright, Village of Kitscoty. and County of Vermilion River.

# Public Works

## SNOW REMOVAL AND SANDING FOR ROADWAYS

As we prepare for the upcoming winter weather please be reminded that the Village of Kitscoty provides snow removal and ice control on municipal streets according to determined priorities. These priorities are set out in Policy PW 001 and are illustrated below.

**Priority #1**— Village entrances and exits, Emergency routes, main School bus routes, Water Reservoir and Lift Station access;

**Priority #2**— Any streets not identified as Priority #1;

**Priority #3**— Lane ways and back alleys

**REMINDER TO OUR RESIDENTS:** In accordance with Community Standards Bylaw No. 10-2017 a person shall remove snow and ice from any sidewalk adjacent to Property they Own or Occupy within 48 hours after the snow or ice has been deposited. **A Person shall not deposit snow or ice upon any Road, Public Place or Property that is not their own.**

### **ADDITIONAL REMINDERS:**

- Please refrain from crossing extension cords across sidewalks
- All curb ramps must be removed
- Please do not shovel onto village owned properties ( ie: alleys and roads). The only exception of this is the Commercial areas.
- Please be mindful of Public Works when they are removing snow. Stay back 15 ft from the equipment and do not pass while equipment is in operation.

# Public Works

## VILLAGE CONTACTS

WATER & SEWER EMERGENCIES: 780-205-3745  
 Phone: 780-846-2221 Box 128, 5011 - 50 St Email: info@vokitscoty.ca

Jason Olson, Chief Administrative Officer cao@vokitscoty.ca  
 Simon Bergquist, Public Works Lead pwsuper@vokitscoty.ca  
 Kelley Wright, Public Works Operator  
 Joyce Bell, Mayor joyce@vokitscoty.ca

### Office Hours

Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm  
 Lunch Hours 12:00pm –1:00pm

**THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON  
 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2026**

## WASTE MANAGEMENT

<b>WASTE TRANSFER STATION</b>	<b>WINTER HOURS: November 1– April 30</b> Wednesday 2-5 Saturday 10-4
<b>RECYCLING</b>	Co- mingle recycling bins are located at the WTS for all your recycling activities (except plastic)
<b>INCLEMENT WEATHER</b>	<b>In the event of inclement weather</b> call the Vermilion River Regional Waste Management Services Office at 780-853-1070 to get updates on transfer station sites. Automated recording will inform you of any changes