



TOWN OF BLACKFALDS

# REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

# 2025

**BLACKFALDS**  
ALBERTA

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# MAYOR'S MESSAGE

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*The Town of Blackfalds continues to be a wonderful place to live, work, and do business. On behalf of Council, it is my pleasure to introduce the 2025 Annual Report. This report gives us an opportunity to reflect on our achievements and to share some of the highlights of the past year.*

*People continue to choose Blackfalds because we have so much to offer. We have great parks and trail systems throughout our community. Our new schools are thriving, and we look forward to celebrating our first graduating class in 2026. We have many sports teams and were able to welcome our very first football team in 2025. There is so much more that I could mention. I believe it is also the people of Blackfalds who make this community a great place to call home.*

*We welcomed several new businesses to our community this year. Council also reviewed some of the Area Structure Plans to help support future development in our community.*

*The North West Stormwater Project has been a part of our plan since I was first elected to Council in 2017 and we were finally able to complete it this year.*

*Another major project this year was the Broadway Avenue Reservoir Expansion. We were grateful to receive approximately \$2.3 million dollars in grant funding from the Province of Alberta for this project. This project will continue into 2026 and once complete, there will be a green space on top of the Reservoir for our residents to enjoy.*

*We welcomed the return of the Street Dance, brought back this year by the Heart of Blackfalds Society. This event was a great success, and it was clear how much our community missed it. Thanks to all the volunteers who made this event truly successful.*

*In October we held our municipal election. I want to thank you for entrusting us as your new Council. We are a strong, dedicated team and we look forward to serving our community together. I have enjoyed speaking with many residents and businesses since the election and I look forward to many more conversations in the months ahead.*

*Thank you for taking the time to read our Annual Report. It is an honour to serve you as your Mayor, and I am excited for everything we will accomplish together.*



*Mayor of Blackfalds*  
**Laura Svab**



## CAO's MESSAGE

Thank you for reading our 2025 Annual Report. The past year introduced new challenges and opportunities, and Council and staff met them with focus and determination.

2025 brought significant legislative changes from the Province that required municipalities across Alberta to reassess and adjust many of their processes and policies. These changes had direct impacts on areas such as municipal governance, land-use planning, information management, and Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks. I am proud of how our administration responded, working diligently to interpret new requirements, update our bylaws and procedures, and ensure that Blackfalds remained compliant while continuing to deliver high-quality services to our residents. This work required cross-departmental collaboration, detailed analysis, and thoughtful implementation, and our team rose to the challenge.

This year also included a municipal election, giving residents the opportunity to shape the next four years of local leadership. Elections bring both transition and renewal, and we welcomed the newly elected Council while ensuring a smooth handover through comprehensive orientation sessions and strategic planning discussions. The commitment shown by both incoming and outgoing members reflects the strength of our community and its dedication to good governance.

One of our most notable achievements in 2025 was the successful grant application submitted in partnership with Lacombe County. Together, we secured \$2.3 million in provincial funding for the Broadway Avenue Reservoir Expansion, a critical infrastructure project that will enhance capacity, improve system resiliency, and support long-term growth for the region. This funding represents not only a major financial win but also a testament to the strong and productive relationship between the Town, Lacombe County and the Province. Collaboration at this level is essential for the sustainability of shared infrastructure and the prosperity of our region as a whole.

Throughout 2025, we continued to advance key initiatives, strengthen partnerships, and make progress on long-term infrastructure, operational excellence, and community-focused priorities. Despite the challenges that came with legislative shifts and an election year, the Town remained steady in our commitment to providing efficient, transparent, and accessible services to residents.

I invite you to explore the remainder of this report to learn more about the accomplishments, improvements, and activities undertaken across all departments over the past year. Thank you for your continued support as we work together to build a resilient and thriving community.

Kim Isaak, CAO  
Town of Blackfalds

**Chief Administrative Officer**  
**Kim Isaak has been with the Town**  
**of Blackfalds since 2023.**

**In 2025, Isaak was presented with**  
**the Long Service Recognition**  
**Award from the Canadian**  
**Association of Municipal**  
**Administrations, in recognition**  
**of her twenty years of service**  
**in municipal government**  
**management roles.**

# 2025 HIGHLIGHTS

## WELCOME COUNCIL



2025 was an election year, and resulted in two returning Councillors, four new Councillors, and a new Mayor for the 2025 - 2029 term.

1,124 eligible voters cast their choices over the three election days and Council was officially sworn-in in October 2025.

Both Council and Administration are excited for the upcoming term and the collaboration it will bring!

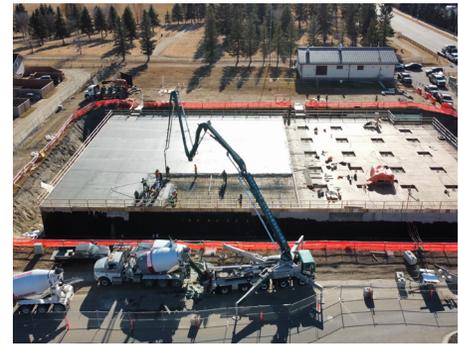


## PARTNERSHIPS EXPAND

This summer, the Town of Blackfalds partnered with the Heart of Blackfalds Society to bring back a well-loved family event, the Blackfalds Street Dance!

The Heart of Blackfalds Society worked with local businesses and organizations to line Broadway Ave with fun activities; connecting the community.

## CAPITAL PROJECTS BREAK GROUND



2025 was the starting year for many of our capital projects; specifically the Broadway Avenue Reservoir Expansion, and the Northwest Area Stormwater Project. Both of these projects will help our water sustainability, conservation, and dissemination within the Town and throughout the County.

# COUNCIL 2025 HIGHLIGHTS



30 council meetings live-streamed on YouTube

With a total of 1,728 views



20 presentations/delegations were made to Council from businesses, partners, organizations, and residents



There were 329 resolutions made by Council



Council held 8 public hearings



# 2025 OPERATING BUDGET

*In compliance with the Municipal Government Act (MGA), Council approved a three-year operational budget in the amount of \$36,789,536 for 2025 fiscal year.*

The Town operations remain similar to prior years. The budget includes funding from sale of goods, licenses, rentals, user fees, grants, and property taxes. Expense categories are salaries, wages & benefits, contracted services, materials & supplies. Reserves are used to fund capital projects and one-time initiatives.

As a result, the Town revenue exceeded the budget in 2025 mainly due to higher than budgeted returns on investments. In addition, higher revenue was reported in permit fees, licensing, and recreation user fees.

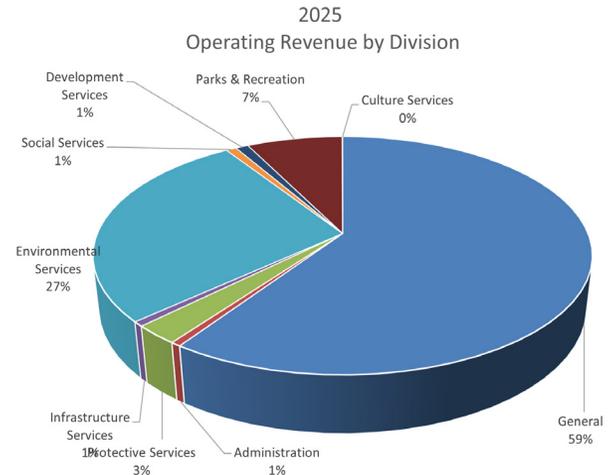
The Town also had lower expenses than budgeted. Salaries and wages were low due to staffing vacancies and recruitment delays for some positions. Lower than expected costs in contracted service, and professional services.

The Town of Blackfalds continues to have strong capital reserves. The five-year capital plan is both practical and achievable, supporting expansion, growth, and infrastructure requirements over the next five years.

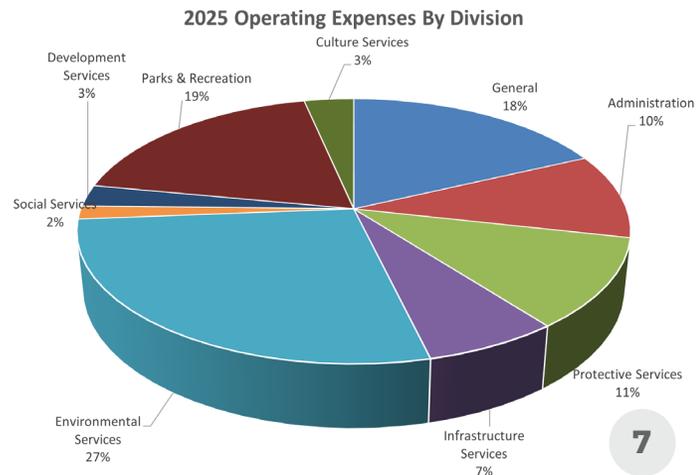
**The 2025 Operating Budget**

**totalled \$36,789,536**

# 2025 Operating Revenue



# 2025 Operating Expenses



# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

*In 2025, we had a total of 62 new business licenses issued!*

2025 was a great year for the Blackfalds business community! We saw a 2% growth of businesses from 2024 and welcomed all kinds of new businesses like Firehouse Subs, Little Soldiers Daycare, the Hitchin' Post, and so many more!

Neuron was welcomed back to the community, and e-scooters were well used from May - October! According to Neuron's 2025 stats, there were 804 unique riders, and over 12,119 kms travelled!

Our Economic Development Officer (EDO) was busy this year creating and retaining business relationships with the inaugural Business Walk, where he and members of the Economic Development and Tourism Advisory Committee surveyed 43% of all businesses in Blackfalds.

The EDO attended the Alberta Economic Developers conference, Inventure\$, and the Alberta Craft Brewers Awards to not only network, but also promote Blackfalds as a business-minded community.

The first Chairs for Charity had a successful year with 18 businesses participating and over \$4,000 being raised for the Blackfalds Food Bank and Beyond Food Community Hub.

This year was also the first Lemonade Day in Blackfalds! 8 booths registered to participate in creating their very own lemonade booths, teaching them fiscal responsibility, branding, and budgets!

The Town hosted many events throughout the year, becoming one of the hot spots of Central Alberta with baseball tournaments, Blackfalds Days, Blackfalds Street Dance, Summer Culture Series, and Light Up Blackfalds!



# PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

*The Planning & Development (P&D) team processes development permit applications, subdivisions, requests for certificates of compliance, works with developers to prepare Area Structure Plans (ASP) to guide the development of new communities, and they work closely with our neighbour, Lacombe County, to ensure development at the Town's doorstep will not impede our future growth and vitality.*

The Department completed a comprehensive overhaul of the P&D webpage on the Town's website to ensure that all information on it is up to date and relevant, and reorganized to make it more user-friendly.

An Encroachment Agreement template was created to ensure the Town's interest are adequately covered when the Town enters into an Encroachment Agreement with a private landowner.

A permanent Urban Hen Bylaw was prepared and ultimately approved by Council early on in 2025 to replace the temporary Urban Hen Bylaw created to allow for the pilot program.

Six (6) subdivision applications were processed and approved in 2025.

Six (6) redistricting (rezoning)

applications were processed by the Department and approved by Council in 2025.

Six (6) Development Agreements were prepared and at the time of writing this submission, four (4) have been fully executed. The Department also revamped our Development Agreement internal process.

P&D is constantly monitoring the effectiveness of the Land Use Bylaw to ensure it continues to support our community's vision, is responsive to development trends, and meets the needs of our residents and business community.

## DEVELOPMENT PERMIT COMPARISONS

2024\*

2025

PERMITS

472

275

SUBDIVISION APPLICATIONS

6

6

PAYMENT VALUE

\$127,636,178.58

\$64,073,039.24

*\*2024 was an exceptional year for permits that included a major institutional use (new elementary school in the Aspen Lakes West community) and a large comprehensive townhouse development which bumped the 2024 numbers up.*

# PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT CONT...

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In 2025, P&D brought forward 50 Land Use Bylaw housekeeping amendments that were ultimately approved by Council, including:

- **Removing the distinction between “Modular Homes” and “Detached Dwellings.”** This change aligns with the Federal Government’s new *Build Canada Homes* initiative, which aims to accelerate affordable housing through innovative, prefabricated, and modular construction. Since the only difference between the two housing types is where they are built (off-site for Modular Homes and on-site for Detached Dwellings) the Town combined them to better support this shift. It’s important to note that “Modular Homes” are not the same as “Manufactured Homes”.

**Manufactured Homes remain a separate category and are the long, narrow units typically found in Manufactured Home Parks.**

- **Amendments also included improvements to clarity, consistency, and functionality of the Land Use Bylaw including removing identified inconsistencies in regulations, clarified confusing setback requirements, and fixed some administrative errors.**
- **Added “religious assembly” back into several Districts they were previously allowed in under our 2016 Land Use Bylaw.**
- **Updated sign standards that were causing unnecessarily long process timelines for temporary sign applications and fascia sign applications**

In 2025, the Department also introduced two key tools to support consistency and transparency for new Area Structure Plans and amendments to existing ones. The first tool is a visual graphic outlining each step of the approval process and its requirements. The second tool is an Internal Area Structure Plan Review Administrative Policy and Procedures document to clarify expectations for every Town Department involved in the review.



# ENGINEERING SERVICES

***Engineering Services provides road, sidewalk, water, sewer, stormwater, environmental stewardship, and regulatory management.***

In 2025, the Town of Blackfalds drafted the Asset Management Strategy in order to provide clear guidance and leadership to both Council and Administration in the development and implementation of the Town's asset management program.

The Town has obtained the Permit to Practice from the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta in October 2025. This will allow the Town to do some engineering work in-house.

The Broadway Avenue Reservoir Expansion Project began in 2025. This expansion doubles the reservoir volume to support long-term growth for Blackfalds and Lacombe County. The concrete structure has been completed in 2025, and the full project will be completed in Spring 2026.

Construction of the new Northwest Storm Project to Lacombe Lake began in 2025 and will be completed in 2026. This stormwater outlet is critical for growth to continue to the northwest.

Seasonal completion (landscaping and paving) for the Blackfalds Crossing Sanitary Trunk was completed. The trunk was a critical segment to service future northwest Blackfalds growth as well as Lacombe County's Aspelund Industrial Park.

A conceptual plan and opinion of probable costs were prepared for the future Duncan Avenue Storm Lift Station, which will accommodate industrial development on the west side of Blackfalds.

Top lift of paving and landscaping was completed on the north and south ends of Leung Road, essentially completing the major multi-year road upgrade for Sterling Industries Sports Park and both the Iron Ridge Junior and Secondary Campuses.

Landscaping was completed and grass was established for the new football field, adjacent to Sterling Industries Sports Park, so that it will be playable in 2026.

Conceptual planning and opinions of probable costs for the snow dump were completed to select a location for the new site. The previous snow dump location was cleared so that the site can be redeveloped as a multi-family site.

Roadway work (gravels, concrete, and paving) was completed as part of Aspen Lakes West Phase 2 to provide access to the school that is currently under construction.

Miscellaneous landscaping and seasonal works were also completed in 2025.



# PUBLIC WORKS

***Public Works is responsible for managing road maintenance, snow removal, water and wastewater systems, as well as public facilities from sidewalks and streetlights, to utilities.***

Environmental services commenced hydrant flow and pressure testing, concentrating initial efforts on the west side of 2A, for 2025. This initiative, time permitting, should be complete summer of 2027.

First phase of inlay crosswalks and stop bars was successful. Initial efforts were concentrated around the schools and high traffic areas. Public Works will continue this initiative which will reduce/eliminate annual maintenance costs while freeing up staff requirements.

Completion of first phase of Cross Connection Control Program - ensuring all Town owned buildings systems are tested and in compliance. Phase 2 to be rolled out early 2026 which ensures all privately owned commercial and industrial buildings are tested and compliant.

Alberta Recycling Management Agency award accepted by Transfer Station Operator Jodie Pearson at

the Annual Collection Site Awards of Excellence conference. This award recognizes the Town's commitment to recycling initiatives.

Two inoperative water mains valves were repaired using a contractor with one being dug up for valve body replacement. These valves need to be operational when emergencies arise, and the water line must be isolated to accommodate a water mains break repair.

Successful completion of phase 2 of the Transfer Station upgrades: constructing a Z-wall rubble bin which assists contractor with safe rubble switch-outs.

Crews added additional gravel to over 90% of alleys ensuring proper drainage, that ruts and low spots including potholes are filled and drive-ability is greatly improved.

A residential service line was repaired after homeowner noticed surface pooling of water that led to a section of sidewalk and roadway sinking.

Successful hiring/training of a Public Works Transportation Services Foreman.

Initiated a private hydrant agreement on privately-owned fire hydrants located at condominium developments and commercial sites, ensuring they are annually inspected, tested and repaired to the same standard as municipal hydrants.



# MUNICIPAL ENFORCEMENT

*The Town's Municipal Enforcement Department consists of 4 Peace Officers which includes the Director of Emergency Management & Protective Services, and a Sergeant position. The Peace Officers enforce the Town's bylaws and provincial laws, with a focus on traffic and public safety.*

2025 was a busy year for Municipal Enforcement Officers who ensured a balanced approach to enforcement through proactive work and responded to complaints in a timely manner. From municipal reports and violation tickets to community standards and animal control concerns, our Officers demonstrated a consistent commitment to supporting the community and maintaining road safety.

There are five schools within Town limits, with a sixth coming in 2026. The Officers worked diligently to enhance relationships with the schools, working together with the RCMP School Resource Officer as well as school administrators ensuring a strong presence supporting the youth.

Officers participated in numerous community events, some of these being Blackfalds Days, Kids & Kops, Breakfast & Brunch with Santa, CPKC Holiday Train, Youth Bike Rodeo and Light Up Blackfalds. The Annual Charity Check Stop in partnership with the Blackfalds Food Bank was once again an incredible success, showing how generous people are.

A total of **2,625** files were opened and recorded in the operational file system, showcasing the diverse range of issues. Our enforcement team addressed **1,042** violation tickets that were issued and processed along with **2,942** vehicle queries.

2026 will see the addition of a summer student, whose focus will be on patrolling the numerous parks within Blackfalds, ensuring the safety of all while providing a positive role model for youth.

As we move forward, we remain committed to continuous improvement and collaboration with our community to address concerns effectively and uphold standards.



# RCMP

***Blackfalds RCMP Detachment is currently staffed by 29 regular member RCMP Officers, 10 of which are funded by the Town of Blackfalds, including a School Resource Officer and a plain-clothes crime reduction team member.***

In 2025, the Detachment's plain-clothes unit was able to assist Major Crimes with a homicide which took place in the Town of Blackfalds. This unit proved invaluable to successfully investigate such a complex and time-consuming case.

The Detachment continued to work within a framework of partnerships that effectively provide a well-rounded law-enforcement approach to public safety. The Alberta RCMP's Real Time Operations Centre provides 24 hour assistance to coordinate responses to in-progress events that cross municipal boundaries and ensures the most effective responses are being deployed.

Central Alberta District RCMP provides integrated specialized units for assistance where need be, along with

Alberta RCMP resources such as Police Dog Services and Emergency Response Teams when needed. Blackfalds RCMP utilized Provincial RCMP Police Dog Services in many instances throughout the year.

More locally, the Detachment partners closely with the Town of Blackfalds Peace Officers to provide coordinated responses to the public's needs.

The Detachment was involved in many community and partner led initiatives in 2025, including the Christmas Charity Check Stop in support of the Blackfalds Food Bank, an open house BBQ supporting many local partnerships, such as Rural Crime Watch, and fostering community connection, Blackfalds Days, parades, and Remembrance Day Services.

The continued growth of the high school and youth community in Blackfalds has shown the vital role of the Detachment's School Resource Officer, bridging the link between the school and youth community with the law enforcement community.

Calls for service in Blackfalds increased in 2025 by almost **7%**. In 2025 the Town of Blackfalds generated **2,213** calls for service to the RCMP; this compared to **2,071** in 2024 and **2,010** in 2023. These numbers include calls for service from the public, as well as self-generated proactive files discovered or initiated by Officers of the Detachment. They do not include Traffic Unit related files. This increase in calls for service has translated into increased number of Criminal Code Offences within the Town in 2025 compared to 2024.

Mental health related file types was ranked as the highest "workload" file type in 2025; that is, what took up the most amount of work hours to deal with.

The overall highest volume of calls for service from the public was "Other Moving Traffic Violations" and "Wellbeing Checks" / "Assist General Public".

One of Blackfalds RCMP Officers was recognized with a Provincial award for their dedication to traffic safety related to impaired driving investigations.

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

*The Blackfalds Fire Department currently maintains a roster of three full-time staff members and 26 paid-per-call members. We are actively seeking residents interested in joining as paid-per-call firefighters.*

In 2025, the Fire Department responded to **255** emergency incidents, representing a 7% decrease compared to 2024. Of these, 48 incidents occurred within Lacombe County. The majority of responses were for alarm activations, which accounted for 51% of all incidents. Motor vehicle collisions made up 16%, while medical responses remained consistent with the previous year at 10%.

Alarm calls continue to be a significant concern. Most are related to cooking incidents, lack of system maintenance, expired devices, or residents failing to respond to alarm

monitoring company calls before Fire Department arrival. We encourage all residents to keep their contact information current with their alarm companies and to replace expired devices promptly.

Please note that all monitored alarm systems must be registered as per the Security Alarm System Bylaw 1219/17 with an Alarm Permit, available at the Civic Cultural Centre.

The Fire Department participated in numerous community events throughout the year, including Winterfest, Blackfalds Days, the RCMP Open House, Fire Prevention Week Open House, and multiple

fire hall tours. We also took part in McHappy Day.

Our members are trained to National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1001 Level I and Level II standards, with additional certifications in vehicle extrication and first aid. Our training curriculum also includes hazardous materials response to meet NFPA 472 standards.

The annual Santa Run was once again a tremendous success, bringing joy to the community over two nights. The generosity of our residents was overwhelming, with donations totaling **9,835** pounds of food and **\$3,447** for the Blackfalds Food Bank.



## PARKS & FACILITIES

*Parks staff manage the maintenance and operations of all our public parks, trails, playgrounds, and outdoor areas including Parallax Energy Bike Skills Park, Sterling Industries Sports Park, community gardens, skating areas, cemetery, Optimist All Wheels Park, and Pine Crescent Skate Park. The Parks crew is also responsible for the Tayles Water Spray Park, Light Up Blackfalds display, and Blackfalds Bark Park.*

*Facilities staff manage all the maintenance and operations in all Town facilities (repairs, preventative maintenance, and custodial services).*

The Parks & Facilities department welcomed 10 summer staff to assist with projects throughout the summer.

Through Capital Budget funds, the Blackfalds Food Bank roof was repaired.

The Parks department purchased replacement equipment:

- Wide area mower
- Skid steer snow wing
- Articulated loader (this piece of equipment is a smaller loader that can access tight spaces for snow clearing and removal and is also used to clean trails and other parks tasks).

The Parks team (with support from Public Works) built the Willow Park Community Garden, the third within the Town of Blackfalds, which will be open for spring 2026.

Chain link fence installation around the south end of Womacks Pond.

Top dressing in the Vista soccer field, Cottonwood ball diamond and Westbrooke ball diamond.

Accessibility renovation project at Support Services facility (washroom door and reception area access widening).

Replaced sand with engineered wood fibre at Centennial Park playground as well as replaced borders and improved landscaping surrounding the structure.



## FACILITIES

Arena #1 ice surface installed in the middle of August and Arena #2 ice installed in the beginning of September, with over **4,300** hours of ice rentals during 2024-25 season.

Blackfalds Bulldogs spring and fall camp as well as the two-week Minor Hockey camp were held at the Eagle Builders Centre in mid August.

Eagle Builders Centre hosted Seniors 'C' Lacrosse Provincials.

Sterling Industries Sports Park hosted 12 events from May to October, including 4 fast pitch provincial tournaments and weekly games featuring the Co-Ed Blackfalds Slo Pitch League which comprised of 11 registered teams.

## EVENTS

Canada Day, Monster Bash, Breakfast and Brunch with Santa, and the weekly Summer Culture Series were all very well attended and successful.

Winterfest held at the Eagle Builders Centre featured a charity BBQ provided by the Blackfalds Fire Department, free public skate, family bingo, and library activities.

New events in 2025 included the Veterans Show & Shine, National Day of Truth and Reconciliation ceremony, and the Blackfalds Street Dance in partnership with the Heart of Blackfalds Society.

Blackfalds Days featured two concerts, parade, fireworks, kidzone, Councillors Pancake Breakfast and Youth Night Out.



# ABBHEY CENTRE

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## ACHIEVEMENTS AND MILESTONES

Several major mechanical systems were replaced, including the fire control panel, building management system network controller, spray park manifold, and the full re-grounding of the Outdoor Aquatic Centre.

Field House curtains were replaced and new Field House numbers installed, improving user experience and navigation.

Guest Services temporarily relocated during late October to mid November while the service desk underwent ergonomic and safety focused renovations, including the addition of standing desks.

The Indoor Play Space received a refresh with a full inspection, partial repainting, new murals, and a new safety track system for cleaning and maintenance.

A dedicated enclosed outdoor pool chemical storage shed was installed to enhance staff safety.

Online gift card purchasing was added to the online portal, offering users convenient access to electronic gift cards.

## OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Volunteer engagement remained strong across Aquatics and Camp Curious programs, as well as the new summer basketball camps and Intro to Pickleball classes which were also led by volunteers.

An anonymous donation enabled us to host Red Hot Science programs from Red Deer Polytechnic and bring back the Planetarium. The Blackfalds & District Ag Society also sponsored the Kraay Family Farm field trip for Camp Curious.

A summer traffic flow redesign introduced speed bumps and shifted traffic south of the Veterans Monument to one way eastbound. New signage and directional arrows significantly improved safety and flow.

A major break in the hot tub skimmer line required operating at 50% capacity for the season under AHS.

Aqua Size successfully returned to the spring pool schedule and is planned to resume again in 2026 for the entire pool season.

The Field Houses hosted a wide range of activities including markets, elections, and numerous provincial level sport events - highlighting the Abbey Centre's value as a central venue.

Additional single day camps were offered to support families during the fall teachers' strike.

A privacy screen was installed between Field House 1 and the foyer to prevent stray balls from entering public areas.

Staff training, safety programs, inspections, and documentation continued to be a major focus as we effectively managed seasonal fluctuations, routine maintenance, and operational challenges throughout the year.

## NOTABLE INITIATIVES & POLICY CHANGES

In January, we launched \$4 Fridays on randomly selected Fridays throughout the year. All age category admissions are \$4 (free admission for ages 2 and under).

The Kick Start Your Health 10-Week Challenge launched and quickly became a core program, now offered twice annually.

The Abbey Centre Walking Club began in January including two leader-led weekly walks on the Indoor Track.

Fit for All, a six-week adaptive fitness and wellness program, was introduced to support participants with physical, cognitive, or developmental disabilities.

New 30-minute training sessions were added alongside existing 60-minute options.

Environmental information highlighting our Outdoor Nature area and its visitors, as well as information on the rooftop solar panels was added to the website.

A new administrative policy for renter insurance requirements for high risk rentals was approved and implemented impacting Field House rental requirements.

Growing a Row launched with the Community Gardens, encouraging community gardeners to donate harvests from designated rows to the Blackfalds Food Bank.

Three sensory backpacks were added for visitor use, offering tools to help regulate sensory input based on individual needs.

The first 12 Days of Christmas event featured daily giveaways, activities, and discounts, along with a successful food bank donation drive.



## 2025 ATTENDANCE

Quarter	Day Admission Visits	Member Visits
1	9,730	28,428
2	9,980	28,338
3	17,289	25,190
4	6,321	22,228
<b>Total</b>	<b>43,320</b>	<b>104,184</b>

**147,504 visits** which doesn't include rentals, supervisors, child minding, spectators, events etc.

As of December 31, we had:

- **635 annual members**
- **542 monthly members**
- **2,691 punch pass holders**

There were **669** rentals held in the Abbey Centre in 2025 with an additional **147** uses occurring through the Wolf Creek School Joint Use Agreement.

Field House 3 saw a notable increase in rental demand.

# FAMILY & COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

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## OUR OFFICE

In December of 2025, we welcomed Erin Dahl into the temporary Administrative Assistant position.

In 2025, we had 2,497 visits to the FCSS office!

## FCSS GRANT FUNDING

**\$9,000** was allocated to BGC Wolf Creek in support of expanding programming.

**\$9000** was given to Big Brothers & Big Sisters Lacombe and District towards their mentoring programs.

**\$5,775** was awarded to Iron Ridge Elementary Campus in support of their Connection Club.

## VOLUNTEER PROGRAMMING

In 2025, **241** volunteer positions were filled within the Town of Blackfalds which resulted in **1,858** hours being dedicated towards volunteering.

## VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

**442** people attended the Volunteer Recognition Events including Best of Blackfalds on April 17, Youth

Recognition Night on May 1, and the Christmas Volunteer Open House on December 1.

Number of Nominees: **69**

Grant: Volunteer Alberta **\$1,200**

Donation: MEGlobal **\$3,000**

## AWARDS PRESENTED IN 2025

Carol Simpson Volunteer of the Year  
**ALEX GARCIA**

Gloria House Mentor Award  
**JAXSON OVERACKER**

Outstanding Group: Adult Category  
**URBAN BULLDOGS AGAINST KIDS ABUSE**

Outstanding Group: Youth Category  
**BLACKFALDS SKATING PROGRAM ASSISTANTS**

Leaders of Tomorrow: Elementary  
**LIAM WOMACKS**

Leaders of Tomorrow: Junior High  
**EMMA CITRIGNO**

Leaders of Tomorrow: High School  
**QUAID VANDENBRINK**

Gary Kroetsch Volun-Told Award  
**RIED PENNER**

## SNOW ANGEL PROGRAM

**25** individuals/families volunteered  
**21** residents accessed the program  
**2** residents participating in the Neighbourhood Snow Angel Program

## SUPPORT PROGRAMMING

### WINTER COATS FOR KIDS

**135** coats were given out this year as we continued our partnership with Mountain Wear House. An in-office store was set up for the convenience of our Blackfalds residents, where families chose a new, well-fitting, quality coat that they were excited to wear. Families could select either a coat, a pair of ski pants, or snow boots, ensuring children received the winter gear that best met their needs.

The 2025 Winter Warmth Fundraiser was a huge success due to the generous hearts of community members, we raised **\$22,222** in support of the Winter Coat Program.

## CHRISTMAS BUREAU

**379** residents accessed the program. This consists of **227** children, **103** women and **46** men.

A total of **103** hampers were given to **89** families and **14** seniors/singles.

This program continues to be an invaluable support for residents in our community, providing festive food and gift cards that allow parents to choose meaningful Christmas gifts for their children.

### **BACK TO SCHOOL PROGRAM**

**163** students received support through the program.

**73** unique families accessed the program.

Families received gift cards to purchase the school supplies their children needed. This approach ensures that every student can access the items required for their specific grade, school, and personal preferences, and decreases duplication.

### **COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX PROGRAM**

**111** tax returns were completed free of charge for people with a low to modest income and a simple tax situation in the Town of Blackfalds.

### **ABBEY CENTRE MEMBERSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

**14** memberships completed, assisting 16 adults and 32 children with free access to the Abbey Centre for two months.

### **EVENTS**

**Seniors Week:** 10 events were held and **256** seniors participated.

**Clean Up Blackfalds:** **156** people from 10 groups participated.

**Interagency:** 6 meetings hosted with a total of **46** organizations, agencies and community groups attending.

**Get Comfy in the Kitchen Series** -  
*In partnership with Beyond Food Community Hub*

**Digital Danger Information Session**  
*(an evening with ALERT)*

**Ask a Lawyer**  
30-minute free one-on-one sessions

### **YOUTH PROGRAMMING**

**CHILD SAFE CANADA HOME ALONE:**  
Offered 7 times and saw **87** youth participate.

### **INTERNET SAFETY- CHILD SAFE CANADA (NEW)**

4 sessions, **31** youth registered.

### **YOUTH COOKING CLUB**

2 multi week sessions, **21** youth registered.

### **YOUTH NIGHT OUT (NOVEMBER)**

**133** youth registered.

### **SKATEBOARDING**

2 multi week sessions, **16** youth registered.

### **INSPIRING VIRTUES**

3 programs, **23** youth registered.

### **BLACKFALDS YOUTH CREW**

**852** youth visits in 2025.

### **EXPRESSIVE ARTS**

5 sessions, **48** youth registered.

### **LIFE LITERACY CAMP**

8 sessions, avg. **8** youth registered per session.

### **YOUTH WEEK**

**101** youth participated in a variety of activities per session.

# FAMILY & COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES CONT...

## 50+ PROGRAMMING

Funding: Lacombe County additional project funding **\$4,000**.

Donation: Blackfalds & District Agricultural Society **\$3,000**.

## WALKING CLUB

**88** people participated, averaging 25 walkers per week.

Walking Club was held **34** times.

## SENIOR FITNESS CLASSES

**361** registrants which is a 61% increase compared to 2024, which was **222**.

**70%** of participants were Blackfalds residents, while **30%** came from outside Blackfalds and Lacombe County.

## PROGRAM CAPACITY HIGHLIGHTS

Friday Chair Yoga: **100% full**

Monday/Wednesday Yoga: **83% full**

Tuesday Fit & Functional: **95% full**

## MONTHLY MOVIES

We hosted 9 It's More Than Just a Movie events in 2025. **43** unique community members attended, averaging 22 guests per movie.

## MONTHLY SENIORS SESSIONS

New in 2025, a variety of free Seniors Sessions were offered thanks to strong partnerships with local businesses and community organizations. A total of **127** participants attended the following 10 sessions:

### Transitioning to Your Next Chapter

Selling your home, partnered with a local realtor and the Lacombe Foundation.

**7** attendees

### Wills & Estate Planning Session

partnered with Servus Credit Union.

**17** attendees

### Medication & Supplements: What Every Senior Needs to Know

partnered with Blackfalds Shoppers Drug Mart.

**7** attendees

### Tenant Rights & Responsibilities

partnered with a community legal clinic.

**11** attendees.

**Nutritional Eating Classes** with cooking opportunities partnered with Alberta Health Services (AHS).

**12** attendees

**Empowering Seniors** A session on Elder Abuse Awareness partnered with law enforcement, AHS & Sylvan Lake FCSS.

**7** attendees

**Watercolor Wonders:** 2 watercolour painting instructor-led classes.

**17** attendees

**Aging in Place:** tips for staying in your home longer.

**25** attendees

**Falls Prevention** partnered with Abbey Centre fitness staff, Lifeline Canada and Primary Care Network.

**24** attendees

# SERVUS CREDIT UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY

*The Blackfalds Public Library strives to be responsive and accountable to the community through cooperation, partnership, innovation, communication and flexibility in providing activities and programming to the community.*

We have **1,679** active cardholders

**57,274** in-person visits

**200,793** wi-fi/internet users

**83,827** items loaned out

**22,518** items in the library collection

**1,220** program sessions

**10,776** program attendees

**2,021** people reached to promote library awareness



**PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BLACKFALDS**



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**BLACKFALDS**  
ALBERTA