



# TOWN NEWSLETTER

403-641-3788 | 502 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue | [town@bassano.ca](mailto:town@bassano.ca) | [bassano.ca](http://bassano.ca)

## 2025 UTILITY RATES BYLAW

will be passed at the  
February 2025 Council  
Meeting.

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**RCMP Monthly Mountie  
Updates are posted  
regularly under 'Town  
News' – keep informed**

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## UPCOMING MEETINGS

Join us at the Town Office

*The January 13, 2025  
Council Meeting has been  
cancelled. All business will  
be addressed in February.*

Regular Council Meeting  
Feb. 10, 2025 at 6:30  
p.m.

Regular Council Meeting  
Mar. 10, 2025 at 6:30  
p.m.

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## Strategic Priority G3 – T2

Infrastructure Renewal  
Community Engagement  
Meeting with Council  
Time to Talk Roads and  
Deep Utilities

April 29, 2024 at 7:00  
p.m. at the Bassano  
Community Hall

## Strategic Plan Update 2019-2028

In late 2024, council met informally to review the Town's strategic priorities and checked several tasks off the project task list for the year. An updated strategic plan for Bassano was approved by council on December 9, 2024 noting that council remains steadfast in their commitment to achieve a unified vision for Bassano, "to be the most attractive and affordable urban community under 2,500 in Alberta where industry leaders want to invest, where tourists come for a new experience, and where people choose to live, work and play." This commitment is evidenced through intentional delivery and activation of the Town's strategic priorities.

Here is a quick snapshot of Bassano's strategic priorities for the coming year.

### Goal 1 – Regional Partnerships

Task 3 – Regional Emergency Services – this remains a priority to approve, implement and build upon the Newell Regional Emergency Management Plan.

Task 4 – Promote the Construction of a Healthcare Asset & More Seniors Housing in Bassano – remain committed to advancing/partnering to advance the construction of a healthcare asset and seniors housing in Bassano.

### Goal 2 – Community and Economic Development

Task 2 – Beautify Bassano Initiative – remain committed to local beautification projects that enhance the overall quality and aesthetics of Bassano.

Task 5 – Implementation of the Recreation & Leisure Master Plan – promote, develop, and enhance recreation and leisure services in Bassano.

Task 6 – Intermunicipal Development Plan (IDP) Updates – review and update the IDP with the County of Newell that aligns with local/regional growth and development goals on fringe lands.

### Goal 3 – Infrastructure Renewal

Task 1 – Sewer Lagoon Upgrade – this is substantially complete. A small paving project is planned for 2025 to repair RR185 from construction.

Task 2 – Infrastructure Upgrade – Priority Zone 1

Task 3 – BUILD Bassano 2024 Development Projects – complete infill development lots and the large lot residential subdivision in 2025 to support growth of the community.

## THRIVE FITNESS CENTRE RENOVATION PROJECT

Council elected to renovate the former Parks and Recreation Shop and move the gym to 317 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. The space is larger and more conducive for the fitness centre. The current space leased by the town for Thrive expires on August 31, 2025. Stay tuned for progress updates and get ready to sweat!

## MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS ARE HELD ACROSS THE PROVINCE IN 2025

You may wonder what life looks like as an elected official. Becoming an elected official can be a rewarding experience because you are fully involved in setting the direction for the current and future growth and development of the community.

You will be involved in many local and regional boards developing policies regarding things such as: waste management, recycling, recreation, water, and wastewater, library and literacy, emergency management, healthcare, arts and culture, economic development, investment attraction, social service functions and much more.

You are responsible for setting bylaws and policies to govern how the Town operates. You will work with many volunteer organizations to ensure our facilities are operating to meet the needs of the community and in alignment with the Town's strategic plan. In addition, you will interact with many professional organizations, upper levels of government and other politicians.

You will be involved in planning all capital infrastructure in Bassano from roads, underground utilities, to buildings. While the position is rewarding it is also challenging. As a council, you make decisions that have a real impact on the lives of people, businesses, and the community. There will be opposition at times. You will hear the concerns of the public and receive complaints which require your care and attention.

It is important that you stay informed and engage yourself in council related functions and community activities. Come to the table with a desire to serve your community in a new way and a willingness to learn. Orientations are provided. On average, you will spend 15 hours per week in your role as an elected official. There are five councillor positions available in Bassano during the 2025 local election.

Over the next few months, attend the council meetings to learn about the business of the day. Meeting are held the second Monday of each month unless otherwise posted at 6:30 p.m. in the chambers at the Town Office.

### **BUILD Bassano 2024 Development Projects Update (PART 3)**

#### **P-TOB66-005-24 – Large Lot Residential Development Incentive Policy**

Council passed the above policy by establishing a list price and development incentive for the new acreage lots being constructed south of the tracks.

#### **Incentive Summary**

The Town is constructing large lot residential parcels (2-4 acres) for purchase and development. Find your perfect partially serviced parcel at \$60,000 per acre. Upon purchase, buyers will receive three years of municipal tax credits from the date of title transfer. The Town is open to negotiations on multiple lot purchases (3 or more at one time). Lots may be purchased anytime. Titled parcels will be ready by late Spring early Summer 2025 and there is no timeline for a required build. However, the sooner you build, the more you save in municipal tax credits.

For additional information, contact Amanda Davis, CAO at the Town Office at 403-641-3788 or [cao@bassano.ca](mailto:cao@bassano.ca).

**Land Use Bylaw Amendment 942/24** received first reading in December. The bylaw proposes to amend the Large Lot Residential District (R3) to allow for Ready to Move Homes and Shipping Containers, Permanent (discretionary use). A public hearing will be held at the February 13, 2025 council meeting.

We completed the first phase of the Regional Emergency Management Plan – find it online at [bassano.ca](http://bassano.ca)

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**Bassano Library Updates**

Council appointed Laura Harkin as the newest Library Board Member.

Thank you, Theresa Kelly for your years of service and dedication as she's retired from the board.

## JOIN THE BASSANO OUTDOOR POOL TEAM!

Applications open February 3, 2025.  
Look for more information in the  
coming weeks.



**REMINDER! Follow-up Forms for the 2024 Recreation Funding Committee Grant cycle are due January 31, 2025. Reach out to the Town Office with questions.**

### Jan-Feb Newell Adult Education Programs

- 1. Literacy Building Blocks** - in conjunction with Bassano School, NAEC is providing the opportunity for families to participate in this 6-week online reading program.- Starts the week of Feb. 10, 2025.
- 2. Computers and More** - this 6-week introductory computer course will cover how to use everyday programs, internet usage, and internet safety. Starts the week of Jan. 20, 2025.
- 3. English Language Learning (ELL)** - this tutoring program is to assist community members learn and improve their English language skills. Ongoing with flexible start dates.

For more information or to register for any of these courses call 403-641-3444 or email [newelledcentre@gmail.com](mailto:newelledcentre@gmail.com) or our website [www.naec.ca](http://www.naec.ca)

**REMINDER! When walking outside, please wear reflective and/or brightly colored clothing. Stay visible and stay safe!**

## UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS

**Bassano Mens Curling Bonspiel** takes place Jan. 5-11, 2025. If you would like to enter a team contact Jose Rabadan – 403-793-9249  
**Bassano Ladies Curling Bonspiel** is taking place from Feb. 24 – Mar, 1, 2025. If you would like to enter a team contact Carla Rabadan – 403-376-5742. Cost to enter is \$240 per team.

**Bassano Bowling Club Winter League** begins on Jan. 6, 2025, ending March 26, 2025. Registration will remain open until January 15, 2024, pending availability. Mixed, Mens, Ladies, Youth, and Senior bowling leagues are available. \$50.00 per person.

**Bassano Memorial Library** is hosting 5 programs throughout January.

- Family Movie Day – Call of the Wild – Jan. 11, 2025
- Kids Movie Day –The Iron Giant – Jan. 14, 2025
- Teen Night – Nerf Games – Jan. 17, 2025
- Mini Book Nook Craft – Jan. 23, 2025
- Percy Jackson Escape Room – Jan. 25, 2025

**Bassano 4H** is hosting a public speaking competition on Jan. 30, 2025. Location to be determined. Follow the public Facebook group “Bassano 4H Club” for more details.

Keep an eye out for the **new outdoor rink** operated by the Bassano Fire Department! The rink will be available throughout the winter season, weather pending. Please follow the posted rules.

**Want to be more involved in the Bassano School?** Bassano School Parent Advisory Board and Friends of Bassano School are looking for new members. Contact Denise Brown at [dbimage@hotmail.com](mailto:dbimage@hotmail.com) for more information.

**The Pioneer Damsiters Drop-in Center** is hosting a couple of events open to both members and non-members. Everyone is welcome.

- Soup and Sandwiches - \$7 per person – Jan. 15, 2025, 12PM-1PM.
- Jam Session – Bring your instrument or just come listen, \$2 entry – Feb 12, 2025

Come and support our skaters at the **Bassano Skating Competition** on Jan. 18, 2025, at the Bassano Arena. More details can be found on the Bassano Skating Club Facebook page.

**DID YOU KNOW?** The Bassano Arena does skate sharpening, \$5 per pair of skates.

**Bassano Arena** is hosting 7 hockey tournaments in Jan. and Feb. and one adult ringette tournament on January 18, 2025. Keep up to date on the Bassano Arena Facebook page.

**Art and Soul** are hosting jewellery repair and restringing 7-PM-10PM on Jan. 15, 2025, Open Studio – Bring a project or just come to coffee 1PM-4PM Jan. 12, 2025.

## Community Christmas Hampers

We are grateful to share that thanks to the incredible support from our community, we were able to provide 29 hampers to families and individuals in need this year! This marks another successful year of our hamper initiative, and we couldn't have done it without the generosity and kindness of so many people like you. This year, with your donations, we were able to ensure that families had access to essential items and a little extra holiday cheer. The hampers, filled with food, household supplies, and personal care items, made a significant difference in the lives of those facing challenging times.

The success of this initiative is a true reflection of our community's spirit. Together, we've made a lasting impact, ensuring that those in need feel supported and valued.

## Fit and Free Programs

We are thrilled to announce a brand-new initiative sponsored by Communities Choosewell, launching in January 2025! Our goal is to provide you with an abundance of free and unstructured opportunities to engage in a variety of health and recreation activities, right in your local community.

This initiative will open the door to new ways of staying active and connected with others in a relaxed, informal setting. Whether you're looking to try something new, explore different activities, or simply enjoy time outdoors, our program will offer something for everyone, all at no cost.

### What's in store?

- We're excited to announce the launch of our **Lending Shed** at the Outdoor Arena, designed to make it easier for everyone to participate in recreational activities by providing access to the equipment you need – for free! Simply access the items you need for participation and return once play is complete.
- **Fit and Free:** Look forward to inclusive access to fitness opportunities, with all equipment provided. Participants can design their activity to suit personal goals. Sessions will be available on Monday, Wednesday and Friday through the winter at the Community Hall from 9 - 11:30 am, allowing you to join in at your convenience. So grab a group and come for some fun.
- **Fit and Free - Youth :** Bassano FCSS will be hosting Fit and Free youth alternating Fridays through out the school year. This program allows youth the opportunity develop healthy habits in fitness while providing opportunities to develop social connection. We will also be hosting **Midday Mattinee** an opportunity to enjoy an afternoon theatre, follow Bassano FCSS on Facebook for notifications.

Our initiative is designed with families in mind. To provide opportunities for children and adults alike to engage in fun and energizing activities together through barrier reduction.

No matter your fitness level, age, or ability, there will be something for everyone. This initiative is all about making recreation accessible and enjoyable for all members of our community.

There is only 1 step to participation, stop in at Town Office to complete your Release of Liability Waiver and enjoy all the benefits of these programs made possible through Communities Choosewell sponsorship, volunteerism and Town of Bassano. Schedule of events will be accessible on the Town of Bassano website under Upcoming Events. For more details call us at 403-641-3788.



Stay updated to Bassano FCSS programs  
on Facebook @ Bassano Family and  
Community Support Services