

**SUMMER VILLAGE OF ISLAND LAKE
AGENDA**

Tuesday, February 24th, 2026

Via Teams

Commencing at 5 p.m.

As per Bylaw 02-2022 there will be no audio/video recordings of meetings.

1.	<u>Call to Order</u>		
2.	<u>Agenda</u>	a)	<p>February 24th, 2026, Regular Council Meeting</p> <p>Council Motions for Consideration</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. THAT Council approves the presented February 17th, 2026, Regular Council Meeting Agenda. 2. THAT Council approves the amended February 17th, 2026, Regular Council Meeting Agenda.
3.	<p><u>Minutes:</u></p> <p><i>Attachment 3a.</i></p>	a)	<p>January 20th, 2026, Regular Council Meeting Minutes</p> <p>Council Motions for Consideration</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. THAT Council approves the January 20th, 2026, Regular Council Meeting Minutes as presented. 2. THAT Council approves the amended January 20th, 2026, Regular Council Meeting Minutes.
4.	<u>Delegation</u>	(a)	<p>Development Officer</p> <p>Council Motions for Consideration</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. THAT the Development Officers report be received as information.
5.	<p><u>Bylaw</u></p> <p><i>Attachment 5a.</i></p>	(a)	<p>Records Management</p> <p>During budget deliberations decision was made to convert to full electronic records. Administration has been working on the retention schedules, processes and guidelines.</p> <p>Council will find Bylaw 01-2026 attached for review and discussion and 1st Reading.</p>

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	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Separate Cover 5b</i></p>	<p>The Records Management Program has also been sent under separate cover for Council review and comment.</p> <p>Council Motions for Consideration</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. THAT Council give 1st Reading to Bylaw 01-2026 Records Management Bylaw and circulate to residents for responses.
<p>6.</p>	<p><u>Request for Decision</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Separate cover 6a.</i></p>	<p>a) Tax Service Engagement</p> <p>Tax recovery is a very sensitive issue for most municipalities, and while Island Lake has not had an auction in many years, we do have a few properties that are on the collection list each year.</p> <p>In efforts to remain neutral and unbiased we use the services of TaxService for collection, tax recovery is a very date specific process and missing a date could result in adding years to the process.</p> <p>The cost of utilizing TaxService is born by the property owner and goes directly to the tax roll.</p> <p>Currently there are 6 properties 2 years in arrears and 20 properties 1 year (2025) in arrears with a total of 35,000 owing. Administration will keep Council updated with collection efforts over the next few months. We have already cleared 1 account, and partial clearance on another. We anticipate receiving approximately 50% of funds by end of March.</p> <p>Council Motions for Consideration</p> <p>WHEREAS The Municipal Government Act requires the municipality to conduct tax recovery proceedings every year;</p> <p>AND WHEREAS council for the municipality deems it to be in the municipality's best interest to hire Taxervice Inc. to manage tax arrears recovery on its behalf;</p> <p>NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that Summer Village of Island Lake hire Taxervice Inc. to manage tax arrears recovery on the municipality's behalf for a term of 3 (three) years.</p>

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		<p>AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the administrator be and is hereby authorized to sign the Taxervice Inc. engagement letter on behalf of the municipality.</p>
	<p>b)</p>	<p>AB Munis Convention Resolutions</p> <p>Is there a municipal issue that you think requires advocacy by Alberta Municipalities (AB Munis) to the provincial or federal governments? Sponsoring a resolution for debate at ABMunis’ 2026 Convention is an excellent way to bring attention to an issue and empower ABMunis to take action if your resolution is supported by the majority of ABMunis’ members.</p> <p>Council Motions for Consideration</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. THAT Administration draft resolution on _____? 2. THAT Council receives as information.
	<p>c)</p>	<p>Assessment Review Board</p> <p>As a participant inn CRASC’s Assessment Review Board program, Council is required to appoint the ARB Officials for 2026 as listed below:</p> <p>Chairman: Raymond Ralph</p> <p>ARB Clerk: Gerryl Amorin</p> <p>Panelists : Darlene Chartrand Sheryl Exley Tina Groszko Richard Knowles Marcel LeBlanc Roland Merkosky Raymond Ralph</p> <p>Council Motions for Consideration</p> <p>THAT Council approve Assessment Review Officials:</p> <p>Chairman: Raymond Ralph</p> <p>ARB Clerk: Gerryl Amorin</p> <p>Panelists : Darlene Chartrand</p>

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			<p>Sheryl Exley Tina Groszko Richard Knowles Marcel LeBlanc Roland Merkosky Raymond Ralph for 2026.</p>
		d)	<p>Forest Protect</p> <p>Discussion on a conversation between Deputy Mayor and Firesafe AI.</p> <p>Council Motions for Consideration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. THAT Council request Administration to _____. 2. THAT Council receives as information.
	<i>Attachment 5e</i>	e)	<p>Request for Support</p> <p>At the Regional Health Care Attraction and Retention Committee meeting held January 5th, 2026, the following motion was carried:</p> <p><i>“Motion by Councillor Minns to contact the Summer Villages to ask them to contribute to the Regional Health Care Attraction and Retention Committee.”</i></p> <p>Council has allocated \$900.00 for donations in 2026, to date none have been made.</p> <p>Council Motion for Consideration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. THAT Council request Administration to _____.
		f)	<p>Letter of No Objection</p> <p>A letter of No Objection has been requested by the landowner of 194 Lakeshore Drive; the request is for a temporary dock to be placed off of the reserve at 202 Lakeshore Drive South.</p> <p>At the previous meeting Council asked Administration to provide the following information: Reach out to province for number of TFA that have been issued at Island Lake in the past 5 years?</p>

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		<p>Information request has been submitted to Lac La Biche office and we are awaiting response.</p> <p>Review Island System to see how many letters have been issued: 2020 – 14 2021 – 2 2022 – 1 2023 – 8 2024 – 3 2025 – 1</p> <p>Who is responsible for the abandoned lift in the lake? Awaiting answer from Lac La Biche Field Office.</p> <p>A spreadsheet has been started that shows who has been approved by the Summer Village, who has their provincial authorization when we receive it.</p> <p>Administration has reached out to Shores Jardine for clarification on;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who is supposed to police the activities once the province issues a temporary field authorization • Can Council limit the number of upland owner approvals on the reserves • Can Council limit the approvals to residents being as the lands are “public” • What liability is the municipality open to in issuing the letters of non-objection <p>Further information will be provided to Council as we receive it.</p> <p>Council Motions for Consideration</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. THAT Council receives for information.
	<p>g)</p>	<p>Culvert Replacement</p> <p>Administration has received 4 quotes for the Culvert Replacement Project; and has sent those under separate cover to Council to allow for time for consideration prior to discussion and decision at this months meeting.</p> <p>Council Motions for Consideration</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. THAT Council award engineering, tendering and contract management to _____ for an amount of no more than_____.

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates to website • Assisting with Development activities • Tax payments • General admin • Culvert Quotes • Records Management • Streetlight Installation <p>Council Motions for Consideration THAT the Administrative reports be received as information.</p>
10.	<u>Correspondence</u>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Letter from Milestone Municipal Services 2. Alberta Emerald Foundation Report 3. ASVA Insurance Coverage for Fire and Docks information. <p>Council Motions for Consideration THAT the correspondence be received as information.</p>
11.	<u>Closed Session</u>		N/A
12.	<u>Next Meeting</u>		The next Meeting is scheduled for March 17 th , 2026, at 5:00 p.m. via Teams.
13.	<u>Adjournment</u>		

Future Meetings:

April 21, 2026
June 16, 2026
August 18, 2026

May 19, 2026
July 21, 2026

SUMMER VILLAGE OF ISLAND LAKE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 20TH, 2026
VIA TEAMS

Council: Mayor Newton
Deputy Mayor McIntosh
Councilor Lachambre

Administration: Chief Administrative Officer, Phyllis Forsyth
Administrative Assistant, Les Forsyth

1. **CALL TO ORDER** Mayor Newton called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. **AGENDA**
 - a. **January 20th, 2026, Regular Council Meeting**

26-001 **MOVED** by Deputy Mayor McIntosh
THAT the January 20th, 2026, Regular Council Meeting Agenda be approved as presented. **CARRIED**

3. **MINUTES**
 - a. **December 16th, 2025 Regular Council Meeting Minutes**

26-002 **MOVED** by Councilor Lachambre
THAT Council approves the December 16th, 2025 Regular Council Meeting Minutes as presented. **CARRIED**

4. **DELEGATION** N/A

5. **BYLAW** N/A

6. **REQUEST FOR DECISION**
 - a. **FRIAA Grant**

26-003 **MOVED** by Mayor Newton
THAT Council approve participating in a FRIAA Community Fireguard Program Expression of Interest on a regional basis. **CARRIED**

 - b. **Multi-year Operating Plan**

26-004 **MOVED** by Councilor Lachambre
THAT Council approve the 2027 – 2029 Financial Plan as presented. **CARRIED**

SUMMER VILLAGE OF ISLAND LAKE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 20TH, 2026
VIA TEAMS

c. Multi-year Capital Plan

26-005 **MOVED** by Deputy Mayor McIntosh
THAT Council approve the 2027 – 2031 Capital Plan as amended.

CARRIED

d. Appointment of Director of Emergency Services and Deputy Director of Emergency Services

26-006 **MOVED** by Mayor Newton
THAT Council appoint Phyllis Forsyth as the Director of Emergency Management and Les Forsyth as Deputy Director of Emergency Management.

CARRIED

e. Emergency Management Plan

26-007 **MOVED** by Mayor Newton
THAT the Emergency Management Plan be received as information with Administration continuing to develop a Regional Emergency Management Program with the partnership.

CARRIED

f. Letter of No Objection

26-008 **MOVED** by Mayor Newton
THAT this item be tabled to allow Administration to contact Public Lands for information on number's of permits issued, locations, enforcement actions and updated maps, and bring back to the February 17th, 2026 meeting.

CARRIED

7. FINANCIAL

a. Operating Statement December 31st, 2025

26-009 **MOVED** by Councilor Lachambre
THAT the presented December 31st, 2025, Operating Statement be received as information.

CARRIED

b. Cheque Listing December 31st, 2025

26-010 **MOVED** by Mayor Newton
THAT the presented December 31st, 2025 Cheque Listing be received as information.

CARRIED

SUMMER VILLAGE OF ISLAND LAKE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 20TH, 2026
VIA TEAMS

- c. December 2025 Bank Reconciliation**
- 26-011** **MOVED** by Deputy Mayor McIntosh
 THAT the presented December 2025 Bank Reconciliation be
 received as information.
- CARRIED**
-
- 8. COUNCIL REPORTS**
- 26-012** **MOVED** by Mayor Newton
 THAT the Council Reports be received as information.
- CARRIED**
-
- 9. ADMINISTRATION REPORTS**
- 26-013** **MOVED** by Deputy Mayor McIntosh
 THAT the Administrative Reports be received as information.
- CARRIED**
-
- 10. CORRESPONDENCE**
- 26-014** **MOVED** by Mayor Newton
 THAT the correspondence be received as information.
- CARRIED**
-
- 11. CLOSED SESSION** **N/A**
- 12. NEXT MEETING** The next meeting is scheduled for February 17th, 2026 at 5:00 pm via
 Microsoft Teams
- 13. ADJOURNMENT** Meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Mayor, Chad Newton

Chief Administrative Officer, Phyllis Forsyth

**A BYLAW OF THE SUMMER VILLAGE OF ISLAND LAKE, FOR THE
PURPOSE OF MANAGING THE SUMMER VILLAGE’S CORPORATE
RECORDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ACCESS TO INFORMATION
ACT & THE PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT AND THE MUNICIPAL
GOVERNMENT ACT.**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions contained in the *Access to Information Act* and the *Protection of Privacy Act*, Island Lake must protect personal information by making reasonable security arrangements against such risks as unauthorized access, collection, use, disclosure, or destruction.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions contained in the *Municipal Government Act* (Alberta), Section 214, the Council of the Summer Village of Island Lake may pass a bylaw of a local government body.

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Summer Village of Island Lake, in the Province of Alberta, duly assembled, hereby enacts as follows:

DEFINITIONS

- 1) In this Bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires:
 - a) "*Archives*" means an archival storage site where records may be transferred.
 - b) "*Digitization*" means the process of rendering physical (hard copy) recorded information in electronic (digital) format.
 - c) "*Digitization Program*" means the process and standards to create digitized records that are sufficiently authentic, trustworthy, and reliable to serve as Summer Village records and allow for the suitable management of digitized records as Summer Village records.
 - d) "*Disposition*" means:
 - i) The destruction of records,
 - ii) The storage of records, or
 - iii) The transfer of records of value to Archival Facility for archival purposes.
 - e) "*Outside Agency*" means an organization under Contract with the Summer Village.
 - f) "*Record*" means a record of information in any form and includes notes, images, audio-visual recordings, x-rays, books, documents, maps, drawings, photographs, letters, vouchers and papers and any other information that is written, photographed, recorded or stored in any manner, but does not include software or any mechanism that produces records.
 - g) "*Records and Information Management*" means the application of systematic control

over records throughout their life cycle, including, but not limited to, forms management, publications management, records inventory, corporate records structure development and implementation, file maintenance procedures development, filing equipment selection, correspondence and reports maintenance, records scheduling and disposition, Protection of Private Information co-ordination, management and maintenance of records management software, disaster prevention and recovery planning, and creation of vital records management.

h) "*Summer Village*" means the Summer Village of Island Lake.

CORPORATE RECORDS STRUCTURE, RETENTION, AND FINAL DISPOSITION

- 2) All records in custody and/or control of the Summer Village of Island Lake must be managed in accordance with the Records Management Program established by the Summer Village of Island Lake pursuant to controlling legislation such as the Municipal Government Act, the Protection of Privacy Act, the Access to Information Act and the Limitations Act.
- 3) The Summer Village adopts the Island Lake Records Management Program and authorizes the CAO to move any required amendments thereto from time to time, upon annual notification of changes to Council.
- 4) This bylaw addresses the lifecycle of the record, which includes the creation, use, receipt, access, maintenance, disclosure, retention and final disposition.
- 5) The classification, maintenance, retention and final disposition of all Summer Village records shall be in accordance with the Summer Village of Island Lake Records Management Program, as amended from time to time.
- 6) If an individuals' personal information will be used by the Summer Village to make a decision that directly affects the individual, the Summer Village shall retain the personal information for at least one year after using that information so that the individual has a reasonable opportunity to obtain access to the information.
- 7) Where, in the Summer Village of Island Lake Records Management Program, it is provided that a record shall be:
 - a) Destroyed, such records shall be destroyed without any copy thereof being retained, or
 - b) Placed in archives, such records shall be released to Archives upon the decision of the Records Management Coordinator, or
 - c) Placed in off-site storage, shall be so placed, to live out their retention period on the condition that the records are inactive or semi-inactive, or
 - d) Remain active within the Summer Village or under the custody of an outside Agency.
- 8) The complete and proper destruction of records under this Bylaw is the responsibility of administration on the Summer Village in accordance with the Island Lake Records Management Program and any guidelines approved by the CAO regarding the destruction of records.

CORPORATE RECORDS CARE AND CUSTODY

- 9) Records in the care and custody of Island Lake Administration are the property of the Summer Village of Island Lake.

10) Records in the care and custody of an outside agency are under the Summer Villages' control when:

- a) the record is specified in the contract as being under the control of the Summer Village;
- b) the content of the record relates to the Summer Villages' mandate and functions;
- c) the Summer Village has the authority to regulate the records use and disposition;
- d) the outside agency is a consultant, and the record was created for the public body; or
- e) the contract permits the Summer Village to inspect, review or copy the records produced, received or acquired.

COMING INTO FORCE

This Bylaw shall come into effect upon the third and final reading and signing of this Bylaw and Bylaw 02-2012 shall be rescinded.

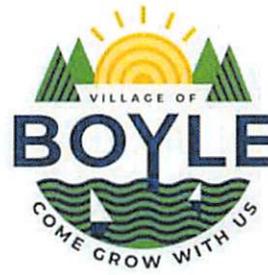
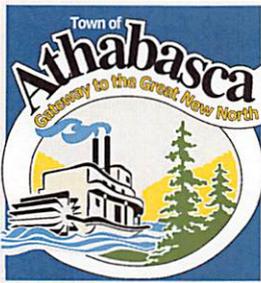
READ a first time this day of

READ a second time this day of

READ a third and final time this day of

Mayor, Chad Newton

Chief Administrative Officer, Phyllis Forsyth



February 9, 2025

Summer Village of Island Lake
Box 568
Bruderheim, AB T0B 0S0
info@islandlake.ca

Sent Via Email

RE: Regional Health Care Attraction & Retention Committee Donation

The Regional Health Care Attraction & Retention Committee was established in November 2021 with the purpose of developing and supporting a sustainable system for health care provider attraction and retention that will ensure ongoing health care services to the community. The Committee is comprised of representatives from local physicians, the community, Alberta Health Services, Athabasca County, Town of Athabasca, Village of Boyle, M.D. of Opportunity and Buffalo Lake Métis Settlement. It also includes a Physician Resource Planner and RhPAP Rural Community Consultant as advisory members.

Over the past year, the Committee has focused on strengthening physician recruitment efforts and supporting the health care professionals currently serving our region. Local physicians Dr. Schaub and Dr. Craig travelled to Red Deer, Edmonton, and Grande Prairie to host recruitment lunches with medical students preparing to begin their residency programs, helping to promote the community as a place to live and practice. The Committee also welcomed and toured five prospective physicians throughout the region. In addition to recruitment initiatives, the Committee hosted the annual health care appreciation BBQ, held another successful High School Skills Day event, provided snacks to hospital staff during Nurses Week as a gesture of appreciation, and continued to operate the transition house, which remains fully utilized by health care professionals.

At the Regional Health Care Attraction & Retention Committee meeting held January 5th, 2026, the following motion was carried:

"Motion by Councillor Minns to contact the Summer Villages to ask them to contribute to the Regional Health Care Attraction & Retention Committee."

On behalf of the Regional Health Care Attraction & Retention Committee, I would like to thank you for your consideration of a potential contribution in 2026. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 780-675-2063 or rachel@athabasca.ca.

Sincerely,

Rachel Ramey, CLGM
Chief Administrative Officer
Town of Athabasca

/pm



PO Box 1075, Onoway, AB T0E 1V0 • 780-691-4465 • www.milestonemunicipalservices.ca

January 1, 2026

RE: 2026 Annual Subdivision and Development Appeal Board (SDAB) Services – Invoice & Records Confirmation

On behalf of Milestone Municipal Services Inc., please find enclosed the invoice for the 2026 Annual Subdivision and Development Appeal Board (SDAB) Services.

~~This annual fee covers the ongoing administration, training, coordination, and advisory support required to ensure your municipality's SDAB remains compliant with the Municipal Government Act and applicable regulations.~~

SDAB Board Members & Clerk Records – 2026 Confirmation

As part of our annual review process, we are confirming the individuals currently appointed and trained to serve on SDABs administered by Milestone Municipal Services.

Current SDAB Board Members on Record:

- Angela Duncan
- Jamie-Lee Kraley
- Denis Meier
- John Roznicki
- Jason Shewchuk
- Tony Siegel
- Rainbow Williams
- Chris Zaplotinsky

Current Trained SDAB Clerks

- Emily House
- Cathy McCartney
- Janet Zaplotinsky

Please review the above information and advise us if:

- Any Board Members are no longer appointed by your municipality; or
- Clerk designations have changed.

If there are no changes, no response is required and we will proceed using the records noted above.

Should you have any questions regarding the invoice, SDAB services, or board administration requirements, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your continued trust in Milestone Municipal Services. We appreciate the opportunity to continue supporting your municipality in 2026.

Kind regards,

Emily House
Executive Managing Director

:ejh

ANNUAL REPORT

to the community

2025



Alberta
Emerald
Foundation

Accelerating Environmental Excellence

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 3** About Us
- 4** Letter from the Board Chair
- 5** Impact at a Glance
- Our Programs**
- 6** 34th Annual Emerald Awards
- 7** Emerald Award Recipients
- 8** Emerald Award Updates
- 9** Emerald Documentary Series
- 10** What On EARTH Can We Do? Podcast
- 11** Emerald Youth Grants
- 12** Other Highlights
- 13** Funding Partners
- 14** Financials
- 15** Thank You for Your Support



To our friends and supporters

On behalf of The Alberta Emerald Foundation’s (AEF) Board of Directors, I am pleased to present our 2025 Annual Report to the community. As we approach AEF’s 35th anniversary in 2026, this report reflects not only the impact of the past year, but the enduring commitment of the Foundation to recognizing and advancing environmental excellence across Alberta. It is a testament to the passion and dedication of not just the AEF staff, but the diverse environmental leaders working in every corner of our province.



This year, we set a record for the most Emerald Award nominations since 2014, receiving 72 nominations from 21 communities across Alberta. 40 of these nominations were recognized through our shortlist, having their achievements showcased at the 34th Annual Emerald Awards at the Timms Centre for the Arts in Edmonton. We welcomed 14 recipients and 26 finalists to our impressive list of nearly 1,300 Emerald Award alumni, highlighting their dedication to environmental excellence.

Throughout the year, we shared the stories of Emerald Award recipients and beyond through our Emerald Documentary Series and What On EARTH Can We Do? podcast, creating awareness of our province’s home-grown solutions and inspiring pride and action amongst Albertans.

We didn’t just stop at uplifting our province’s environmental leaders; we invested in our young leaders through the Emerald Youth Grant program, offering \$15,000 in grants to support youth-led projects that foster environmental stewardship.

None of this work would be possible without the generous support of our funding partners, whose commitment ensures that Alberta’s environmental leadership does not remain behind the scenes, but is made visible, celebrated, and shared across the province and beyond. As we look ahead to our 35th year, we do so with gratitude for the collaboration that has carried AEF forward—and with confidence in the role we continue to play in building a more resilient and sustainable future for Alberta.

Trina Innes

Chair of the Board
Alberta Emerald Foundation

OUR MISSION

We accelerate environmental excellence by identifying and celebrating Alberta’s visionary leaders and sharing best practices through the power of compelling educational narratives.

OUR VISION

A future where all Albertans advance environmental excellence where they live, work, and play.

STAFF

Marisa Orfei
Executive Director

Sabrina Huot-Boer
Communications & Engagement Specialist

OUR 2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Committee

Trina Innes
Board Chair

Steve McIssac
Vice Chair & Resource Development Chair

Anna Kauffman
Secretary

Alex Sabharwal
Treasurer

Che-Wei Chung
Governance Chair

Lee Funke
Past Chair

Directors

John Parkins

Mark Brostrom

Debbie Rheinstein

Christine Hornung

Patrick Arnell

Jaclyn Schmidt

Cody Field

IMPACT AT A GLANCE

2025 marked another successful year of accelerating environmental excellence across Alberta. Here's our impact at a glance...

72

NOMINATIONS
received

40

ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERS
recognized

14

COMMUNITIES
represented

We brought Alberta's environmental leaders into the spotlight through our year-round programming and marketing efforts, reaching

258,633

PEOPLE

inspiring awareness, pride, and action across the province and beyond

6,393

YOUTH

empowered to take environmental action through their own youth-led projects, supported by \$15,000 in Emerald Youth Grant funding



34TH ANNUAL EMERALD AWARDS



On June 5, 2025, we hosted the 34th Annual Emerald Awards at the Timms Centre for the Arts in Edmonton to celebrate and recognize the achievements of environmental leaders across Alberta.

We were joined by numerous special guests including her Honour, the honourable Salma Lakhani, co-hosts Julian Faid and Sarah Matiello, and musical guests, Jed and the Valentine.

213 people attended the awards in person and 316 people tuned in online through our live-stream video.

40 Shortlisted groups

14 Communities represented

14 Recipients

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING

The Emerald Awards are synonymous with inspiration and hope. It is a critically important event that spotlights the critical, passionate work being done by people across Alberta to preserve nature while living a happier, healthier, more connected life.

“ It's a point of pride for me to point to these awards as evidence that Albertans care about the environment and its future.



EMERALD AWARD RECIPIENTS



Air

Innovations in Air Quality
Public Education
Alberta Capital Airshed

Business

Ecco Recycling & Energy

Community Group or Non-Profit

Oldman Watershed Council

Education

Future Energy Systems

Energy

Salay Prayzaan Solar
Project
*Otipemisiwak Métis
Government*

Infrastructure

High Efficiency Homes for
Indigenous Communities
Trade Winds to Success

Land

135 Years of Stewardship
and Regenerative Ranching
Burke Creek Ranch

Lifetime Achievement

Dr. Brad Stelfox: A Legacy
of Changing the Way We
Think About the Landscape

Public Engagement & Outreach

Water Wednesday
The City of Lethbridge

Shared Footprints

Four Winds & Associates

Waste Management

Echo Food Rescue

Water

Glass of the Sask
EPCOR

Wildlife & Biodiversity

Native Seed and Plant Ex-
change
Friends of Fish Creek

Youth

Aaron and Justin Tan
*Inspiring the Next Genera-
tion Through Microbial Fuel
Cell Games*

UPDATES TO THE EMERALD AWARDS

For 35 years, the Emerald Awards have celebrated Albertans who are tackling environmental challenges and creating meaningful change in their communities.

To mark this milestone, we refreshed our Emerald Award categories, which included the introduction of six brand new categories that reflect the diverse and evolving landscape of environmental work across the province. These updates were developed in collaboration with an advisory committee made up of leaders from a range of sectors and industries, all of whom play a vital role in addressing Alberta's environmental challenges and opportunities.

In addition to these updates, we launched a simplified nomination form and publicly available judging criteria, making the nomination process more accessible and transparent than ever before.

Discover the new categories

Climate Adaptation & Resilience

Recognizing initiatives that help communities, ecosystems, or industries adapt to climate impacts or build resilience by strengthening their ability to withstand, recover from, and thrive amid environmental change.

Emerging Solutions

Celebrating research, pilot projects, or organizations that show strong potential for adaptability and real-world impact, even before implementation.

Emissions Reduction

Recognizing initiatives that improve air quality, reduce pollutants, and/or reduce emissions.

Green Building

Honouring initiatives that rethink how we design, build, and renovate spaces to minimize environmental impact and support healthier, low-carbon communities.

Land Use, Agriculture, or Forestry

Recognizing initiatives in land use, agriculture or forestry that demonstrate environmental leadership or innovation.

Schools

Recognizing K-12 schools, classrooms, students or teachers that demonstrate environmental leadership, inspiring action, fostering stewardship, or creating positive change within the school community.

THE EMERALD DOCUMENTARY SERIES

Through compelling micro-documentaries, the Emerald Documentary Series brings Alberta’s environmental solutions to a wider stage. Each episode dives into the stories behind Emerald Award recipients—their ideas, their impact, and the passion driving their work. By making these leaders and their solutions more visible, we help amplify their influence and inspire Albertans with real, hopeful examples of environmental progress.

Season 6

Released in January 2025, season six of the Emerald Documentary Series dives into the stories of the 33rd Annual Emerald Award recipients.

This season received **over 55,000 views, an increase of 114% compared to season five!**



Here’s a glimpse into the stories we shared this season



Caribou Habitat Restoration Project
Cenovus



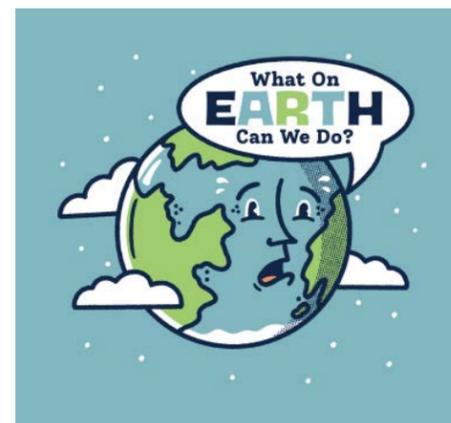
Repair for Good Program
Goodwill Industries of Alberta



Transforming Alberta’s Orphan Wells into Small-Scale Solar Sites
RenuWell Energy Solutions

[Discover more Emerald Doc Series videos!](#)

WHAT ON EARTH CAN WE DO? PODCAST



This seasonal podcast, hosted by our Communications & Engagement Specialist, Bri, shines a light on the people and organizations driving environmental change in Alberta. Each season focuses on a different topic, from food waste to low-carbon solutions, exploring the challenge, solutions, and inspiring stories behind them. Through conversational interviews and real-world examples, we share how Albertans are creating a brighter, more sustainable future for our province and beyond!

1,775
DOWNLOADS

41
COUNTRIES TUNED IN

Season 7

Over the past six seasons of the podcast, we explored everything from orphan wells to coexisting with urban wildlife. This year, we focused our entire season on one pressing topic — food waste.

Across seven episodes, we dove deep into food waste: what it is, how it happens, its massive impact, and the Alberta-based initiatives that are doing something about it.



WOECWD S7 E6
How One Alberta Community Rescued Nearly a Million Pounds of Food

[Listen to the podcast](#)

EMERALD YOUTH GRANTS

After a year-long pause, we were thrilled to bring back the Emerald Youth Grant program, thanks to the generous support of Pathways Alliance!

The Emerald Youth Grant program empowers youth aged 5-25 across Alberta to take on environmental projects that inspire change and foster environmental stewardship. Each grant provides up to \$1,000 in funding to support meaningful initiatives.

630
DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN PROJECTS

8
COMMUNITIES SUPPORTED

5,763
YOUTH IMPACTED

Project Highlights



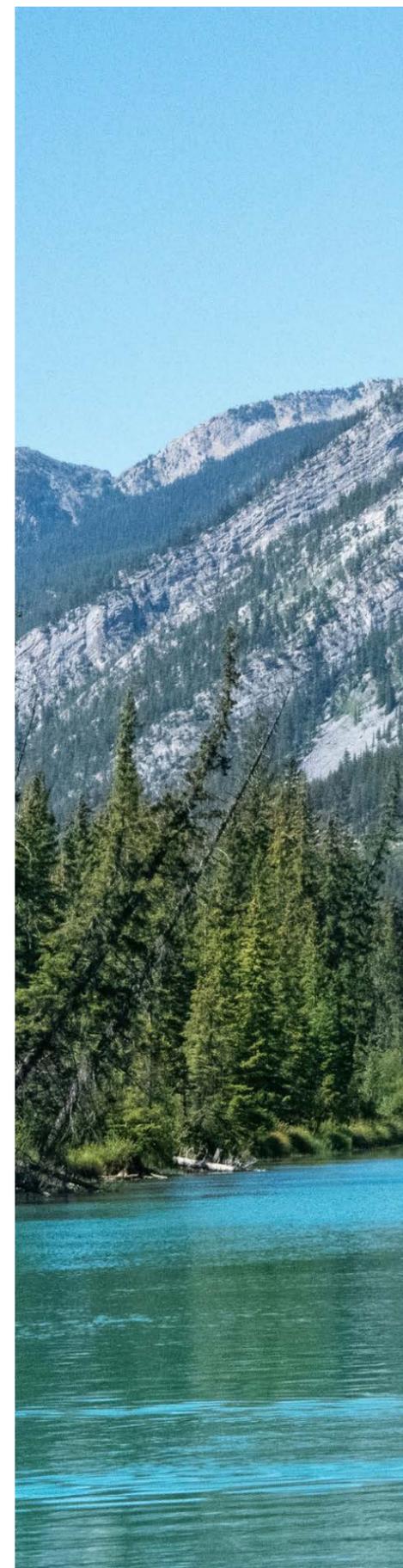
Not the End of the World! media campaign

Together, seven high school students challenged climate-anxiety by producing hopeful, solutions-focused radio and social media content. Through research, expert interviews, and community storytelling, they fostered environmental stewardship by shifting the narrative—empowering peers to feel informed, inspired, and motivated to protect their local environment.



Mini MFC Olympics

Led by two high school students, Justin and Aaron Tan, grade six students across Calgary explored renewable energy by building microbial fuel cells powered by backyard soil. Through hands-on science, peer learning, and friendly competition, youth were empowered to tackle eco-anxiety with action—developing environmental literacy, teamwork, and a belief in their power to make change.



OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

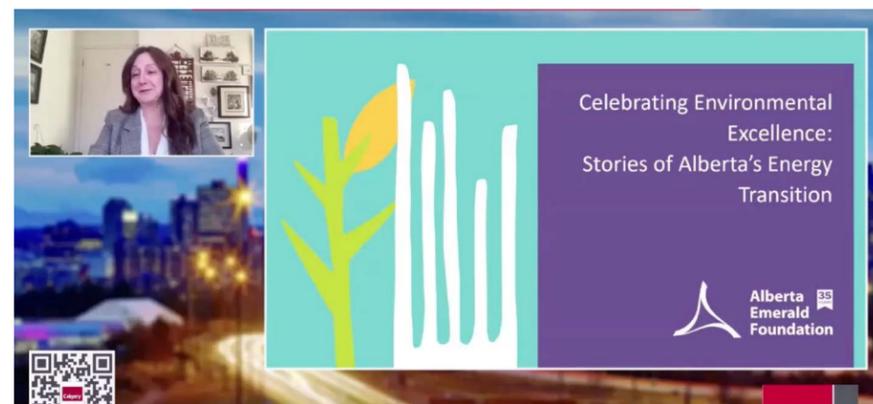
Environmental Gathering

In May, we had the opportunity to attend and present at the Alberta Ecotrust Foundation's environmental gathering, which brings together people from across sectors who are passionate about sustainability in Alberta. Our Communications & Engagement Specialist, Sabrina, participated in the 'The Power of Collaboration: Multi-Interest Holder Success Stories' session, where she spoke about the critical role collaboration plays in the environmental excellence recognized through the Emerald Awards each year.



Calgary Climate Symposium

As a part of the City of Calgary's Seventh Annual Climate Symposium, our Executive Director, Marisa, presented alongside the Calgary Region Hydrogen Hub and Calgary Transit for the 'Powering Alberta's Future: Clean Energy Innovations in Southern Alberta' webinar. She not only highlighted Emerald Award Alumni making strides in clean energy innovations, but how telling their stories helps accelerate environmental excellence in our province.



OUR FUNDING PARTNERS

We wouldn't be able to accelerate environmental excellence across Alberta without the support of our funding partners. We're incredibly grateful for their support and for their own commitment to reaching their climate and environmental goals.

Visionaries



Champions

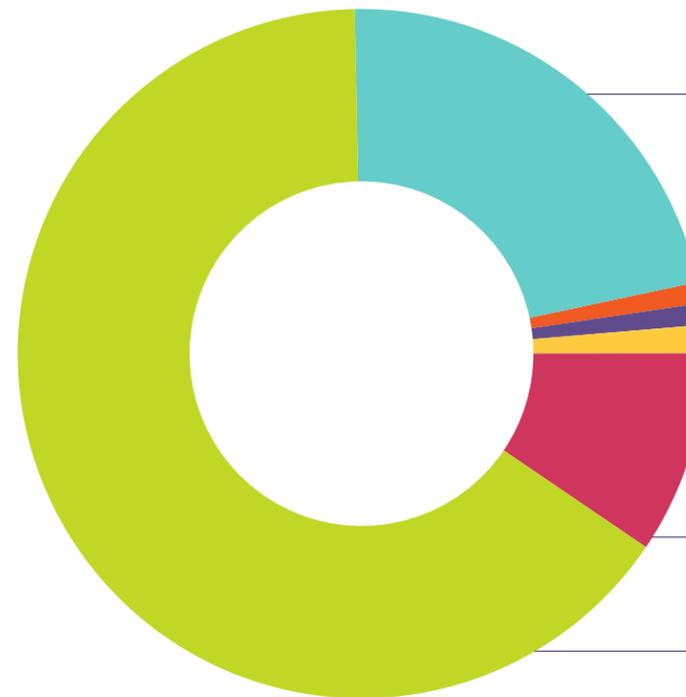


Leaders



Revenue

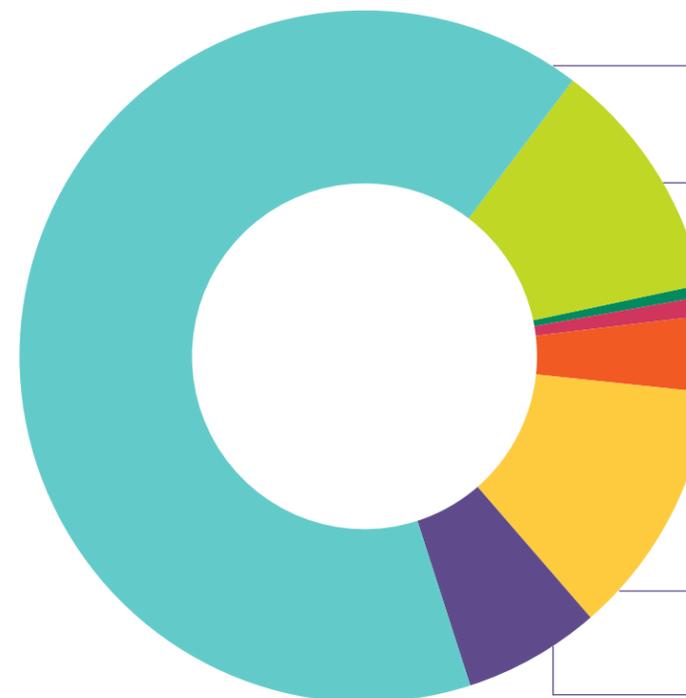
\$315,919



Investments	21.97%
Donations	0.99%
Other Grants	1%
Event Ticket Sales	1.33%
Endowment Grants	9.50%
Sponsorships	65.21%

Expenses

\$301,102



HR and Direct Program Delivery	65.28%
Communications	11.35%
Advertising	0.55%
Travel	0.89%
Administration	3.56%
Grants Distributed	11.96%
Non-HR Program Delivery	6.41%

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



As 2025 comes to a close, we reflect with pride on another year dedicated to making Alberta's environmental excellence more visible, celebrated, and connected. Through our programs and storytelling initiatives, the Alberta Emerald Foundation continued to shine a provincial spotlight on the people and projects strengthening our communities and shaping a more sustainable future, reminding Albertans that meaningful solutions are already at work across the province.

This impact is the result of collaboration. As a small staff of two, our work is only possible because of the passion and commitment of the environmental leaders we celebrate, the community members who engage with our programs, our dedicated volunteers and Board of Directors, as well as the funders who believe in the importance of accelerating environmental excellence in Alberta. We are deeply grateful for your trust and support.

Looking ahead to 2026 and the celebration of our 35th anniversary, we remain committed to building awareness, fostering collaboration across sectors, and amplifying Alberta-grown solutions—together.

Marisa Orfei, Executive Director (left)
Sabrina Huot-Boer, Communications and Engagement Specialist (right)



emeraldfoundation.ca
[@albertaemerald](https://twitter.com/albertaemerald)

The Alberta Emerald Foundation is a registered charity
CRA BN# 13380 0771 RR0001



Association of
SUMMER VILLAGES
OF ALBERTA

January 26, 2026

Dear member CAOs,

At the most recent ASVA Board meeting, the subject of insurance coverage for fire incidents and docks was discussed. Insurance providers offer a wide range of home insurance policies. The majority of Summer Villages fund Fire Services to remain on standby; however, if firefighters are dispatched, the landowner is responsible for the related service fees. These costs can be significant if residents lack sufficient insurance coverage. It is strongly advised that all residents review their policies to confirm that they have appropriate protection for firefighting expenses. Insurance companies typically charge only a nominal fee for this additional coverage.

Dock replacement costs can be considerable, and it is possible that some residents may not have ensured their docks are adequately covered by insurance. Residents are advised to carefully review their insurance policies to confirm they possess sufficient coverage for potential loss or damage to their docks.

Feel free to share this information with your residents.

Sincerely,

Brian Waterhouse
President, ASVA