



VOL. 29 | DECEMBER 2022

THE DIAMOND

The information source for Residents & Business in Black Diamond



Please Note

Town Office Closure

Town Office and Public Works will be closed on Monday, December 26, and Tuesday, December 27. They will be open December 28, 29, 30, closed again January 2, and back to normal hours January 3.

December Council Meetings

Council meetings will be held December 7 and 21 at 6:30 pm, and the Joint Friendship Meeting will be held 6:00 pm December 14. Minutes and Agendas can be found under Government --> [Agendas/Minutes](#).

Advertising Community Events

The Town of Black Diamond invites local community organizations to submit public events for posting. Visit our [website](#) to submit a form for one or all the below options:

- Event sign boards
- Town website; Events Sections & Calendar
- The Diamond Newsletter
- Facebook and Instagram

Diamond Valley Election Results

Unofficial results of the 1st Town of Diamond Valley Elections were announced in the early morning of November 29, 2022. The deadline to make a request to the Returning Officer for a recount was Wednesday, November 30 at 4:00 pm. Official results will be announced at 12:00 pm on Friday, December 2, 2022.

Town of Diamond Valley Council members will be sworn in on Monday, January 9, 2023. The first Council meeting will be held on January 11, 2023. Until the new council is sworn in on January 9, 2023, current Black Diamond and Turner Valley elected officials will continue to govern as a united Council.

Municipal Election - Unofficial Results			
Candidate	Position	Votes	Elected
Mayor (Chief Elected Official)			
Crane, Barry	Mayor	1084	*
Williamson, Randy	Mayor	128	
Council			
Borgie, Mykayla	Councillor	146	
Dixon, Curtis	Councillor	537	
Ford, Shay	Councillor	224	
Gordon, Jonathan	Councillor	760	*
Harrison, Dale	Councillor	522	
Holladay, Cindy	Councillor	822	*
Kelly, Brendan	Councillor	979	*
Kloiber, Veronica	Councillor	616	*
Martin, Hazel	Councillor	669	*
Thomson, Heather	Councillor	698	*
Williamson, Barry	Councillor	371	

Bylaws and Policies

Many residents have been asking about changing certain bylaws and policies or what happens to the current ones in each town. If the bylaw/policy has not already been aligned, the former Municipal Authorities bylaws and resolutions will continue to apply within the boundaries of the former municipality until such time they are repealed, amended, or replaced by the new Council.

Messages from our Mayors



What an experience. Either way you look at it, this will be my last Mayor Message for quite some time. After winning a seat as a Councillor in the new municipality of Diamond Valley, I look forward to the new and exciting challenges ahead. Thank you to everyone who has supported me and my family along the way, and has continued to have faith I can help make a difference. Our new Council will have our work cut out for us, but with your support, we'll make Diamond Valley one of the best communities in Alberta!

We finally got "back to normal" this year. We had our Diamond Valley Day Parade this summer; it was hot and well attended. We had a massive turnout at our informational session regarding Amalgamation at AG Foods; over 300 people attended. Light Up Diamond Valley is this weekend, Dec. 3rd. It's been wonderful seeing friends, visiting family and breathing fresh air!

You will receive information mailed out soon regarding amalgamation that will answer some questions about items such as driver's licences and registrations. We are waiting on the final words from the province. Passports and other forms of identification should not be impacted nor should your postal box. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the appropriate town office to get answers. We have done well in managing misinformation, but if you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask for clarity!

Exciting times wait ahead. Before the amalgamation comes to fruition, please join us at Millennium Park on New Year's Eve to celebrate. This will be the final night and last New Year's Eve celebrated as Black Diamond and Turner Valley separately! I am so proud of our town. We will not forget our past but honour it moving ahead. We will celebrate Black Diamond for what it has given us and what Diamond Valley will give the generations to come!

Mayor Brendan Kelly

Many exciting things are about to happen; thank you to the community for voting for such an experienced and dynamic Council to help with the transition. It's an uncomfortable and exciting feeling to be part of an election. Without candidates, we wouldn't have a democratic process, so thank you to the candidates for bringing your thoughts and hearts to the forefront for public consumption. A huge thank you to all the elected officials' husbands, wives and children. These family members sacrifice time away from loved ones for the betterment of the community. I want to thank the Diamond Valley Chamber of Commerce, who set up a great forum to open the floor to allow communication with you, the public, and to ask your questions.

To you, the community, we are honoured to represent. We are here for you; we want your voices to be heard. We will remain transparent and communicate frequently and in the way that makes the most sense. Please continue to reach out to the members of council you feel most connected to; let us know what is going well and your concerns. You will be heard. Together we will plan for a bright future and celebrate this amazing community, Diamond Valley.

Christmas is upon us, and with that, family and friends will be travelling to share precious memories that will last a lifetime. Soak up every ounce of the magic; it goes so quickly that it's important to stop and recognize your family. The holidays are a time to embrace those important to you and prepare your thoughts for the New Year ahead. Reminisce about accomplishments, good or bad, and set a new schedule—a new path. Diamond Valley is no different. We have set a new course together as one united community. A great way to celebrate with your family and the community is to join us for Light Up Diamond Valley on Dec 3 and our New Years' Extravaganza on Dec 31! We want to see Diamond Valley come together for the holidays!

Remember to be neighbourly, get out and shovel your neighbour's walk and do a good turn every day, speak of the positive things happening in your life and laugh. As I say to my kids, "if you're not laughing, then what are you doing?" All the best on behalf of the Turner Valley Council, and I look forward to serving as the new Mayor of Diamond Valley on your behalf.

Merry Christmas,
Mayor Barry Crane

LIGHT UP DIAMOND VALLEY

SATURDAY, December 3, 2022

5:00 TO 9:00 PM

Diamond Valley Christmas Market

Benefitting the High Country SPCA

Flare 'n' Derrick Community Hall, Turner Valley
Saturday, December 3, 2022

9:00 am to 4:00 pm

- Local Artists, Crafts & Businesses
- Christmas Basket Raffle Tickets - \$5
- Muffins

Find us on Facebook!



LEGEND
PARTICIPATING LOCATIONS

VISIT SANTA AT THE
GRIFFITHS CENTRE

WAGON RIDES, CAROLERS
HOT DRINKS COURTESY OF
DIAMOND VALLEY CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

LIGHT DISPLAY
LIONS CAMPGROUND

ATB Financial Handing our treats & warm up at the fire pit

PHARMASAVE Free cotton candy, specials, sales, shopping & more

1

Do you need help, THIS CHRISTMAS?

ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE FOR RESIDENTS OF BLACK DIAMOND / TURNER VALLEY, HIGH RIVER, OKOTOKS & FOOTHILLS COUNTY:

CHRISTMAS FOOD HAMPERS

Contact your nearest food bank:

- Oilfields Food Bank, Register at: www.oilfieldsfoodbank.com, 403-612-1291
- Okotoks Food Bank, Register at: www.okotoksfoodbank.ca, 403-651-6629
- The Salvation Army Foothills Community Ministries, 403-336-4387

CHRISTMAS MEALS

- Baby It's Cold Outside, Christmas Meal, 403-660-3648

Email: bcohelp@hotmail.com

TOYS & GIFTS

- The Salvation Army Foothills Community Ministries, (Children 18 & under), 403-336-4387
OR

- My City Care, 403-606-6812
Register at: okotoks@mymycare.ca
OR

- Baby it's Cold Outside, 403-660-3648
Email: bcohelp@hotmail.com



Sandstone Pharmacies

Spinning wheel of discounts & free goods, fishing pond for kids up to 12 yrs old, cash draw, 13 to 18 punch for a prize or discount. All purchases get to spin the wheel

2



Free hot chocolate, country Christmas featuring Glen Brown and Heading West from 6 - 8:30

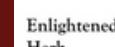
Foothills Pizza Pizza slice special

4



Fresh popcorn & candy canes

6



18+, everything in store 10% from 5 - 9 pm. Check out our FB and Instagram.

7



Crafter's Corner Treat bags for kids, free flannel handwarmers for the first 35 customers with \$25 min purchase

3



Hot apple cider & candy, door prizes & in-store specials Food bank donation box

3



Half price teens, face painting, colouring contest, and much more! Our festivities will begin 12-9 Saturday and Sunday 12-9

5



Pet photos with Santa, pet treats, hot chocolate, treats for owners & bonfire!

8



Free wine and beer tasting, free hamburger and hot dogs and fire pit

8



Heartland Dental Hygiene X-mas goodies, free answers to questions on oral health.

9



Fire pit seating area, hot chocolate, candy canes, Reindeer Ring Toss, cookies, music

10



Specials:
\$3.49 Poutine
\$3.49 Peanut Buster Parfait
Free Hot Chocolate (While supplies last)
Free Hot Dogs (While supplies last)

11

The annual New Year's Celebration is going to be extra special this year, as we are welcoming not only the year 2023, but also the birth of the new Town of Diamond Valley!

Starting at 5pm, join us for Ice Skating on the outdoor rink, Horse-drawn Hay Wagon Rides, Face Painting, a fun family Dance Party and snacks including hotdogs, popcorn and hot chocolate. A spectacular Fireworks display will take place at 8pm, a perennial crowd-pleaser, but that's not all! Following the fireworks, our friends from the Diamond Valley Sustainable Living Centre are helping us convert the celebration to a family-friendly GAMES NIGHT with musical entertainment and a cash bar featuring libations from local purveyors.

Ring in the New Year with friends and neighbours as we celebrate the dawn of a new era and the inauguration of the new Town of Diamond Valley!

All aspects of the celebration are free of charge with the exception of the cash bar benefiting the DV Sustainable Living Centre. Donations are also accepted for the snacks provided by the First Oilfields Scouts Canada group.

Thank you to event sponsors Park Enterprises, Turner Valley Esso, and the Foothills Lions Club!



Amalgamation FAQs

Current Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

Some of this information could change; please refer back to the website regularly for the most up-to-date version
<https://www.town.blackdiamond.ab.ca/553/Proposed-Amalgamation>

Animal Licensing

Starting January 3, Animal licences can be renewed online or at either town office. Notices for renewal will be mailed in early January. Upon renewal, the new permanent tag will be issued to pet owners. Please note licences are no longer required for cats in Diamond Valley. Dog owners must obtain a new permanent Diamond Valley identification tag for all licensed animals.

Business Licensing

All current licensed businesses will be sent renewal notices in January. Businesses will have until February 28 to renew without penalty. Payments for renewals must be made to the new Town of Diamond Valley and can only be accepted after January 1, 2023

Firefighters Food Drive



The communities of Black Diamond, Longview & Turner Valley donated 6000 kgs of food with an inventory value of \$30,000 & cash donations of \$6000. It's been 3 years since the Oilfield Food Bank storerooms have been as full as they are right now.

Every person who donated, every firefighter who trudged through the snow & every volunteer who lifted, weighed & sorted have the heart-felt thanks of the Food Bank and community who benefits from your hard work. Special thanks to Dave Hinman of Granny's Pizza for donating food for the volunteers and firefighters.

Special thanks to the Oilfields Scouts and their leaders for their strong backs! Chris Theti for taking pictures. Volunteerism is essential in order for the Food Bank to deliver as much food as possible.



Town of Black Diamond
301 Centre Avenue
Black Diamond, AB T0L 0H0
(403) 933-4348
www.town.blackdiamond.ab.ca

Tax & Utility Payments

Utility bills will be sent out on December 31, 2022, and billings for utilities will be sent out by Turner Valley and Black Diamond separately. These billings will be paid to the new entity, the Town of Diamond Valley. Current utility account numbers will remain the same under Diamond Valley.

For anyone on the Utility Payment Plan, the funds will continue to be automatically withdrawn from your bank account on the due date. There will be no change other than the name that will show on your bank statement as the payee.

For residents choosing to pay through their financial institutions, you will need to set up a new bill payee after January 1. It will either be listed as Town of Diamond Valley or Diamond Valley, Town of; depending on how your bank has it set up.

For those that are on the Tax Installment Payment Plan, the funds will be automatically withdrawn from your bank account on the 4th of every month. So for any current Black Diamond residents the withdrawal date is changing and for everyone the payee will change.

Addressing

The name of the town where you currently reside or do business will change, but your box number and postal code will remain the same. Residents may update their addresses to reflect the town name change to Diamond Valley with various parties at their convenience. As long as the box number and the postal code are correct, the mail will still be delivered. The only part of your street address that will change currently is the name of the town.

Driver's Licences and Vehicle Registrations:

Updates to addresses on driver's licences and vehicle registrations will be required after January 1, 2023. The province of Alberta will waive the provincial portion of fees, but residents will be required to pay the private agency portion of the registry fees. Details can be found at <https://bit.ly/3U0PAiM>

<https://www.alberta.ca/update-driving-documents.aspx>

