



Amalgamation Update

December 2, 2022



Town of Diamond Valley

On May 25, 2022, the Province of Alberta issued an [Order in Council](#) to form the new Town of Diamond Valley, with an incorporation date of January 1, 2023.

The following is an update of important information for residents and businesses.

Election

By [Ministerial Orders 035/22](#) and [161/22](#), an election must occur to elect a new Council for the new Town of Diamond Valley. The first election for the municipality was held on November 28, 2022.

Official Election Results

Mayor:

- **Barry Crane**

Councillors:

- **Jonathan Gordon**
- **Cindy Holladay**
- **Brendan Kelly**
- **Veronica Kloiber**
- **Hazel Martin**
- **Heather Thomson**

Diamond Valley Council members will be sworn in on Monday January 9, 2023. The first Council meeting will be held on January 11, 2023. Between January 1 - 9, current Black Diamond and Turner Valley elected officials will continue to govern as a united Council.

Items of Note

Bylaws and Policies

Bylaws and resolutions of each of the former Municipal Authorities continue to apply within the boundaries of the former municipalities until the bylaws and resolutions are repealed, amended or replaced by the Council of the Town of Diamond Valley.

Animal Licensing

Dog owners must obtain a new permanent Diamond Valley identification tag for all licensed animals. Notices for the renewal of animal licences will be mailed in early January. Licences can be renewed at both current town office locations after January 1. Upon renewal, the new permanent tag will be issued to pet owners. Please note, licences are no longer required for cats in Diamond Valley.

Business Licensing

Business licence renewal notices will be sent to current business owners in the new year. Businesses will have until February 28 to renew their business licences without penalty. Payments for renewals must be made to the new Town of Diamond Valley and can only be accepted after January 1, 2023.

Tax and Utility Payments

Utility bills will be sent out for December 31, 2022, and this billing will be sent out by Turner Valley and Black Diamond separately. These billings will be payable 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For anyone on the Utility Payment Plan, the funds will continue to be automatically withdrawn from your bank account on the due date.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 those 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 residents on the Tax Instalment Payment Plan, funds for all accounts will be automatically withdrawn from bank accounts on the 4th day of the month – this is a change for Black Diamond residents whose withdrawal was formerly on the 3rd. No other changes will take place except the name of the payee to Town of Diamond Valley.



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Addressing: What's Changing

Postal addresses

The name of the town where you currently reside or do business will change to Diamond Valley, 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 be delivered to the correct mailbox.

Street addresses

Your street address will remain the same with only the town name changing. Administration is working with external partners to minimize the issues arising from the municipal name change.

Driver's Licences and Vehicle Registrations

Updates to addresses on driver's licences and vehicle registrations will be required after January 1, 2023. More information will follow in the coming weeks.

Details related to address changes can be found at <https://www.alberta.ca/update-driving-documents.aspx>

Please note: These changes can only be made **after** January 1, 2023.

Land Titles

The province of Alberta will automatically update land titles documents after January 1, 2023 at no charge to residents or business owners.

Passports

In Canadian Passports, the person's address is written in by the person themselves. To change the address in your passport:

1. Cross out the old address on page 4.
2. Write the new address in the space above the old one. If there isn't enough room on the page, write the new address on a separate piece of paper and insert it into your passport.
3. Don't use correction fluid (whiteout).

A change of address does not make a passport invalid.

After January 1, 2023 - at the time of renewal - a new address can be submitted, and there will be no additional charges other than the standard renewal fee. For details visit the Canadian Passports Help Centre.

Firearms / PAL (Possession and Acquisition Licence)

After amalgamation on January 1, 2023, registered firearms owners must change their address in writing, by phone or online. The *Firearms Act* gives firearms owners 30 days to notify the CFP of a change of address.

Visit <https://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/firearms/contact-the-canadian-firearms-program> for more information and to access the web link to make the change.

VoIP Telephones – 911 Service

Residents who have Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP or internet telephones) will need to update their information with their service provider effective January 1, 2023, in order for 911 calls to be routed accurately.

**For more information, updates and previous FAQs go to
'Amalgamation Information' on our websites**

www.turnervalley.ca/amalgamation

www.town.blackdiamond.ab.ca/553/Proposed-Amalgamation