

THE DIAMOND

The information source for residents and businesses in Diamond Valley



Advertising Community Events

The Town of Diamond Valley invites local community organizations to submit public events for posting.

Visit our [website](#) under "Community" --> "Promoting Local Events" to submit a form for event promotion in the following mediums:

- Event sign boards including the Electronic signboard in Turner Valley
- Town website; Events Sections & Calendar
- The Diamond Newsletter
- Facebook and Instagram

HAPPY NEW YEAR DIAMOND VALLEY!

It is finally official; our municipality is now the Town of Diamond Valley!

As our historic union took place on January 1, 2023, we celebrate the people, organizations and businesses that help make us the gem of the foothills.

There will be one Mayor, one Council, and one united staff, but there will always be two distinct communities within our town, each with a rich history that should be remembered and preserved for future generations. We have shared those histories, as well as people and resources, for decades, and we will continue to share as we make new history as a strong, united municipality.

In a ceremony at the Turner Valley Legion, the new Council of the Town of Diamond Valley will be sworn in on January 9, 2023. Meet the members of the new Diamond Valley Council on page 2. These representatives will continue the hard work of bringing our town together, beginning with the first official Council Meeting on Wednesday, January 11, at 6:30 pm. The new Council will be working to ratify bylaws identified as a top priority and are legislated operational requirements.

Regular Council meetings will occur at the main Town Office - 301 Centre Ave W, Diamond Valley, in Council Chambers on the lower level. Sign up to receive notifications from the Council Calendar, including agendas for upcoming meetings, on the new website www.diamondvalley.town.

WELCOME

DIAMOND VALLEY COUNCIL



Mayor Barry Crane has embraced the Diamond Valley community for the past 15 years. He first moved here with his wife, Christine, for the small-town feel, the natural beauty, and the safety of raising a family where neighbours are like family and the spirit of volunteerism runs deep. His commitment to the community is defined best by living the motto, 'actions speak louder than words,' and we need to 'be the change we want to see as a community.' Since arriving in Turner Valley, volunteering and working directly with the amazing volunteers from local groups: Foothills Lions Club, Griffith Centre, church groups, Sustainability Committee, Oilfields High School, Scouts Canada, and many more have been part and parcel of his life. Mayor Crane often says his greatest desire is to see more affordable seniors housing and recreational opportunities for youth. He wants to further embrace our art culture through visual and performing arts of our town's history and hopes to create a new Arts and Culture Committee.



Councillor Jonathan Gordon settled with his family in the Diamond Valley area in 2014 to help support his parents so they could age in place. They were drawn here for the small-town feel and the beautiful Rocky Mountain backyard, as they enjoy the outdoor lifestyle this provides. Councillor Gordon enjoys volunteer work, often behind the scenes, and has been involved in multiple non-profit startups across the globe over the years. Some of his commitments include transparent governance; stewardship of resources; asset management; and strategic community planning; including water, housing, economic and recreation master plans.



Councillor Cindy Holladay has been a resident of Diamond Valley for over ten years and has served as a Councillor for the past five years in the Town of Turner Valley. As a busy mom of four kids, she enjoys volunteering with her children's schools, basketball teams, and church youth programs. Councillor Holladay has a background in accounting and holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree with a specialization in Forensic Accounting. She is serving a second term on the Alberta Municipalities Municipal Governance Committee, and has enjoyed working with the Municipal Planning Commission and other inter-municipal committees. She is excited about the future of our community and will focus on understanding what is best for residents when making decisions.



Councillor Brendan Kelly and his family chose the Diamond Valley as their home because they believe this is the best place in Alberta to raise their kids and grow deep roots. He has been a proud English and Social Studies teacher in Eden Valley for the past nine years. During the past year, as the Mayor of Black Diamond, Councillor Kelly worked hard to increase communication and transparency for residents. His goals remain to keep the communication lines wide open. He wants to maintain the unique and diverse community of Diamond Valley by building up local businesses, upgrading infrastructure, increasing affordable housing, and growing the community purposefully. You are his priority.



Councillor Veronica Kloiber and her family have called the Diamond Valley home since 2009 when she and her husband moved back to the area to raise their son in a small-town setting, close to extended family. Veronica studied communications with a minor in journalism at Mount Royal University (then Mount Royal College). Having sampled life in other small communities, she can genuinely say this area is her true home. As the current chair of Community Futures Highwood, a member of the Intermunicipal Economic Development Committee, and through her work with the Foothills Tourism Association, Veronica supports economic growth, business development and retention, and of course tourism in the Foothills region. You can often find her out on the trails west of town exploring Kananaskis on horseback or walking her two dogs around town.



Councillor Hazel Martin was born and raised in the Diamond Valley area, graduating from Oilfields High School and then setting out to work in the oil and gas industry, which is where she met her husband. They returned to the community in 1981 to raise their children. They also have two darling grandchildren who live close by. For over 25 years, Hazel worked for the Town of Turner Valley, first as a water-meter reader and progressing to a role organizing community events such as Discovery Day and the annual New Year's Eve Party. Before retiring in August of 2021, she provided administrative support for all departments within the organization. Councillor Martin's goal over the next three years is to continue to support managed community growth and maintaining the qualities that make Diamond Valley such a great place to live, work and play.



Councillor Heather Thomson has lived with her family in the Diamond Valley area for over 46 years, raising her children and now continuing to live, work, and play here with her grandchildren. She has been avidly involved in the community, volunteering on non-profit boards and organizations, including as current Director of the Future Cowboys and Cowgirls Rodeo Society of Alberta. After retiring from the town of Turner Valley as the Legislative Services manager and acting as Interim Chief Administrative Officer, Councillor Thomson has been heavily involved in the amalgamation process. "Moving into the future together; we have a better chance of sustaining financial resiliency, economic development, responsible growth, asset management and residential service levels."

TOWN OF DIAMOND VALLEY



Diamond Valley
Chamber of Commerce



Sheep Creek
Arts Council



Park Enterprises
Permits & Inspection
Services



Foothills Lions Club



Hi-Ho
Gas & Grocery



Diamond Valley
Sustainable Living Centre



Marv's Classic Soda Shop

Heartfelt Thanks

to our 2022 Diamond Valley Holiday Events Sponsors!

**SOCIAL MEDIA
AND ONLINE SAFETY
AN EVENING FOR
PARENTS WITH
PAUL DAVIS
C. IAN MCLAREN
JANUARY 20, 2023
5:30 PM**

TOPICS INCLUDE:
SNAPCHAT / TIKTOK / INSTAGRAM / DISCORD
SMARTPHONES AND DIGITAL TRAILS
CYBERBULLYING / IMAGE SHARING
PRIVACY & ONLINE SECURITY

EMPOWERING
PARENTS IN THE DIGITAL AGE



You are invited to an evening with Paul Davis at C. Ian McLaren school on Friday, January 20, 2023, starting at 5:30 pm. Paul Davis is a social media & cyber bullying educator. He will be in our community to help parents understand the different social media platforms children are using and being influenced by. Topics include; Snapchat • TikTok • Instagram • Discord • Smartphones • Digital Trails • Cyberbullying • Image Sharing • Privacy & Online Security.

For more information Paul Davis and how he empowers parents in a digital age, visit his website <https://socialnetworkingsafety.net>.

Check the Town's website for an update after January 9, 2023 regarding the event, or reach out to C. Ian McLaren School.

WINTER IS HERE!

Heavy snowfalls have come and gone, and could continue for a few more months. This accumulation combined with extreme temperature fluctuations is causing a lot of ice buildup on streets and walkways.

For everyone's safety, please keep your sidewalks and walkways free of snow and ice. If you notice a neighbour who may be struggling to keep up, check in on them and see if they need some support. Or have them contact the Town Office to enroll in the Snow Angel program.

Keeping snow off our roadways helps prevent vehicles from getting stuck. You can help keep the streets clear by not pushing the snow from your vehicle, driveway, or sidewalk onto the road. Put that snow on your yard instead. Your grass and garden will thank you come spring!

Also, please help keep drainage areas and grates free of snow and ice. This helps prevent overflowing when we have one of our glorious Chinook winds and everything melts!



ORGANICS PICKUP REMINDER

JANUARY WINTER ORGANICS COLLECTION
TURNER VALLEY: JANUARY 4 & 18, FEB 1
BLACK DIAMOND: JANUARY 11 & 25



Garbage and recycling are still picked up EVERY week. If your pickup does not happen when it is scheduled to take place, reach out to waste@okotoks.ca with your address in the subject line. In the body of the email, be sure to include what service wasn't picked up; collection address; resident first/last name; email; phone number.



The Sheep Creek Arts Council will be hosting an Open House on Saturday, Jan 7, from 1 pm - 3 pm. Stop in and speak to class instructors, club leaders and members of the Arts Council, sign up for classes that interest you, and renew your membership. Visit www.sheepcreekarts.ca for more information.

Kevin Belzner, Big Dave McLean, Tim Williams!
From blues clubs and venues across
Canada and around the world, these
three veteran performers are favourites!



Concert Sponsors:
Eastern Slopes Veterinary Clinic
One on One Studio
Country Food Mart
Club Car Beverage

BMW
Saturday, Jan 28, 2023
7:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Parks & Recreation Skating/Hockey

FREE Public skating is available Sundays at the Oilfields Regional Arena from 3-4 pm, Sponsored by Pharmasave. The Oilfields Regional Arena (ORA) is also available for private bookings.

The covered refrigerated outdoor rink - the Scott Seaman Sports Rink (SSSR), is located west of the Oilfields Regional Arena and is open for skating and pickup hockey on a first-come, first-serve basis when not booked for private groups. Every day has at least two dedicated public skating times for family / after school skate times.

The Black Diamond small outdoor rink is located west of the SSSR and is available all day and evening for everyone to skate. This ice is not available for rent and is intended for skating without sticks and pucks.

The Turner Valley outdoor rink located north of the Flare n' Derrick is available for the entire community to use. There are designated shinny and "no-stick" skating times. All information is posted on the website.

The Lions Campground skating rink is back again for it's second season and is beautifully lit for skating at most times of day and evening. This ice is provided by the Fire Department, with fire pits and wood provided by the Foothills Lions Club.

Please check the website for the most up-to-date schedules and availability for the Oilfields Regional Arena and SSSR.

If you have questions regarding ice rentals, public skating etc., visit www.diamondvalleytown.ca under Community.



IMPORTANT UPDATES

ADDRESS UPDATES

We have received official notification from the provincial government that driver's licences, vehicle registrations and Alberta ID cards DO NOT have to be updated with the new town name until such time as they are required to be renewed. When your registration is up for renewal in 2023, you will renew as you always have, ensuring the new town name is Diamond Valley. You are only required to update your Driver's Licence / ID card with the new town name by the regular renewal date. **Regular renewal fees will apply at the time of your regular renewal.**

Changing the address on your passport is as simple as crossing out the old address and writing in the new one. Do not use white-out.

Changing your address for insurance purposes requires you to call/email your insurance broker and have them update the town name so that it shows correctly on the paperwork.

Updating your PAL (Possession and Acquisition Licence) can be done in 3 ways:

- Online: ([click here](#))
- Phone: (800) 731-4000
- In writing: your letter must include your full name, PAL #, date of birth, old address, new address (mailing AND physical), your current phone number, the date of the move (change of town name). Send to Royal Canadian Mounted Police - Canadian Firearms Program - PO Box 1200 - Miramichi, NB E1N 5Z3

Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) Phones MUST be updated with your service provider to reflect the town's new name of Diamond Valley. This is important for internet phone users so that emergency services can find your correct address.

Business Licensing

All current businesses licenced in Turner Valley and Black Diamond will be sent renewal notices mid-January from the Town of Diamond Valley. Owners will have until February 28, 2023 to renew without penalty. You can also renew or apply online at www.DiamondValley.town.

Payments for renewals by cheque must be made to the new Town of Diamond Valley. Payments via cash or debit can be made at either town office, or online using Option Pay (credit cards), or by e-transfer sent to info@diamondvalley.town.

Tax & Utility Payments

The utility bills for December 31, 2022, have been 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 (UPP), 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 residents on the Tax Installment Payment Plan (TIPP), funds will be withdrawn from all bank accounts on the 4th day of the month – Black Diamond residents were formerly the 3rd. No other changes will take place except the name of the payee to Town of Diamond Valley.

Bylaws & Policies

Many residents have been asking: "If Turner Valley and Black Diamond have different Bylaws, what Bylaw do we follow January 1, 2023?"

Bylaws and resolutions of the former municipal authority (town) will continue to apply within the boundaries of the former municipality until such time they are repealed, amended, or replaced by the new Council.

