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# The Beaver County Chronicle

A Free Weekly Publication Serving All of Beaver County

Wednesday, October 23, 2024, Volume 17, Issue 43

**Ryalta Industries Ltd.**

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## Smook returned as Beaver County Reeve at organizational

Patricia Harcourt

For the final year in the 2021-2025 municipal term, Kevin Smook has been returned as the Reeve of Beaver County, following an organizational meeting Oct. 16.

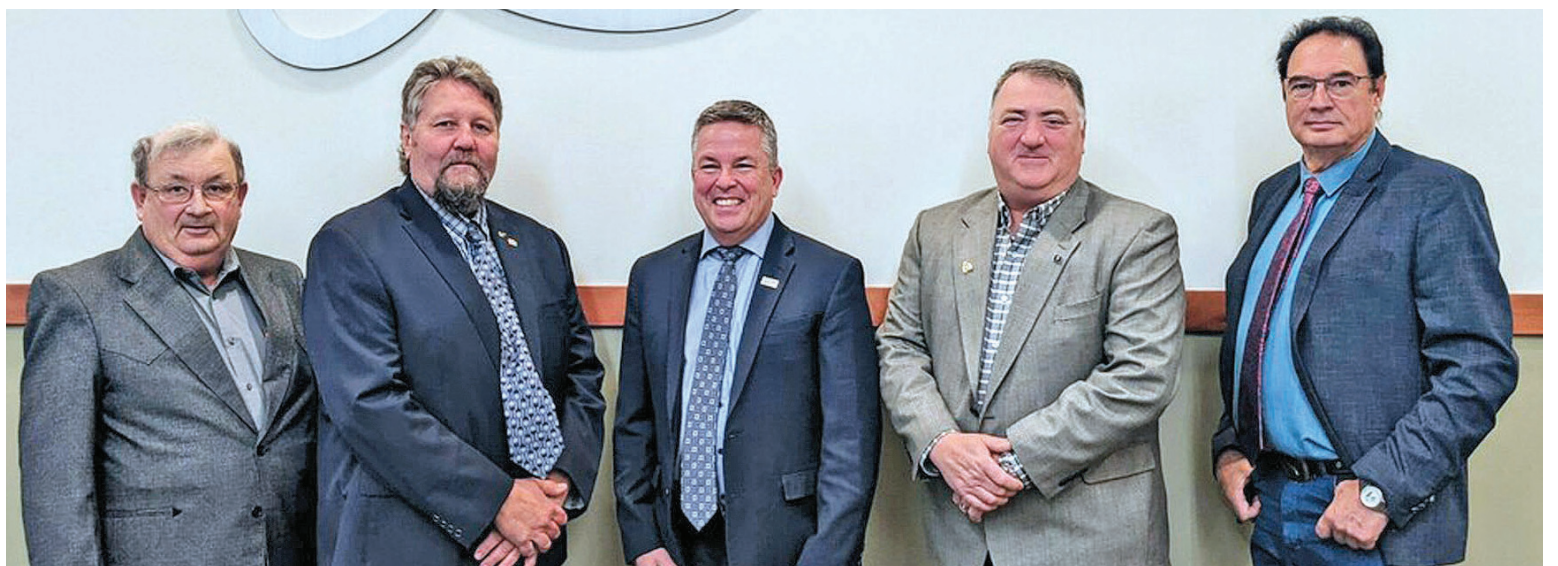
Gene Hrabec was also returned as Deputy Reeve. However, the new Acting Reeve for the final year of the municipal term will be Lionel Williams.

This time, however, all officials went into their offices by acclamation.

Smook (Division 1 councillor) was nominated by Hrabec (Division 3) with no other contenders; Hrabec was nominated by Williams and Williams was nominated by Dale Pederson (Division 5).

In other years, Hrabec ran for the reeve's position but this year opted to keep his name out of the running. Hrabec indicated he would be busy between now and the upcoming Rural Municipal Association annual convention as he will be running for Presidency of the RMA.

"Thank you council," said Reeve Smook. "I look forward



Beaver County holds Organizational: Beaver County Council held its organizational meeting prior to the regular council meeting on Oct. 16. Councillors are, from left: Dale Pederson for Division 5, Gene Hrabec (returned as Deputy Reeve) for Division 3, Kevin Smook (returned as Reeve) for Division 1, Lionel Williams (acclaimed as Acting Reeve) for Division 2; and Barry Bruce for Division 4.

to another exciting term

Margaret Jones, manager of legislative services, reviewed council's responsibilities, as well as pecuniary interest and conflict of interest rules.

Council then appointed Tricia Chrystian, Erin Hollar, and Debbie Oracheski to the Viking/Beaver Family and Community Support Services Board for a three year term effective October 31.

Then all of county council was appointed to the Agricultural Service Board.

Brad Boettger was also appointed as a public at large member for a second term to expire on Oct. 31, 2027.

Council also appointed Hrabec to the position of temporary chairman of the Ag Service Board until a new full-time chairman could be chosen at the ASB organizational.

On a motion by Hrabec, councillors were again appointed to the committees on which they previously sat, except for the revived Snow Goose Festival Committee and

library appointments.

"I do think it's important to have a say at that table," said Smook, about the Snow Goose Festival. "I would like to be at that table."

Williams nominated Smook who was then appointed to serve on the festival committee.

Then Smook, Hrabec, and Councillor Barry Bruce (Division 4) were appointed to the Economic Development Advisory Committee.

"I think the county should

be at the table," said Hrabec, with Bruce becoming the third council representative on the committee.

Williams agreed: "The more councillors on the committee the more tentacles there are to reach out...Having three members is good."

Council also recommended the libraries in the county keep their existing appointments already on the boards of each library.

Council's meeting schedule for 2025 was also approved.

## Fall intake of community support requests approved by Beaver County council

Patricia Harcourt

Beaver County's fall intake of community support requests were all approved except for one at the regular meeting of council Oct. 16.

There were five requests approved for \$2,500 each, including the Blackfoot Grazing Association for clearing and replacing fence line; the Happy Wanderers to help with transportation costs for seniors; the Borschiw Social Guild for upgrades to the hall; the Beaverhill Bird Observatory Society for mileage and

expense costs for school presentations; and, the Association for Life-Wide Living of Alberta to support the upcoming BRAIN (Battle River Arts Innovation and Neuroscience) conference.

Also awarded was \$3,500 as an operating grant to the Katchemut Creek Family Horse Club for insurance, equipment and building a storage shed.

The Holden Municipal Library received \$1,200 towards the upgrading of two computer stations.

The Viking Senior Citizens Centre was granted \$880 for a pool table cover.

And the Cloverlodge Stampede Association received an operating grant of \$8,150.27 to build back pens for their annual rodeo.

And two organizations were granted funding over and above the \$2,500 limit, he noted, citing Katchemut and Cloverlodge.

In all the amount given out for the fall intake was \$26,230.27.

Ryan Arndt, general manager of corporate services, explained that all the requests meet the policy criteria except the Bruce Hotel's request regarding its

annual car show.

As the hotel is a for profit organization, it is not eligible for the community support funding, he said. The hotel had requested \$1,695 to cover expenses to host their Show and Shine event.

"Administration has reviewed this request and it does not meet the policy eligibility criteria as the Bruce Hotel is not a community organization but a private for profit company," stated Arndt.

"I understand it doesn't fit the criteria," said Councillor Lionel Williams (Division 2),

"but I wonder if the county could somehow support that event."

And Councillor Dale Pederson (Division 5) said he "wondered if the hotel could partner with a community organization like 4-H," that would be eligible for a support request.

Reeve Kevin Smook (Division 1) agreed that with that kind of scenario and partnering with a non-profit, the car show could re-apply in time for the spring intake for next year's car show.





## PROPERTY TAXES DUE

### Deadline for payment of 2024 property taxes:

4:30 PM, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2024  
(if paid in person at the County Office)

or

Postmarked on or before OCTOBER 31, 2024 (if paid by mail)

or

Payment processing dated on or before OCTOBER 31, 2024 (if paid online)

To avoid line-ups, please consider early remittance. Postdated cheques are being accepted.

INTERAC, cheques, online, pay simply and telephone banking are encouraged. Please ensure adequate time for payment processing.

If you missed us during regular office hours, please use the mail drop box at the Beaver County Service Centre located at 5120 50 Street, Ryley, Alberta. Payments received in the drop box will be cleared from the box at 8:30 am each morning and deemed received the previous business day.

Hours for the Beaver County Service Centre are: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (weekdays).

Please call ahead (780-663-3730) if an appointment with the Assessor is required.

A penalty of 10% will be added to outstanding CURRENT taxes on November 1, 2024

## 2024 COUNTY CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

(SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

	START DATE	EST. END DATE
<b>Culvert Maintenance</b>	Ongoing	Nov 1
<b>Patching oil roads throughout the season</b>	Ongoing	
<b>Terra-Cem</b>		
<b>Constructed in the following phases:</b>		
Phase 1 (Cement), Phase 2 (Chip Seal - 1st Lift), Phase 3 (Chip Seal - 2nd lift) Phase 4 (Final sweep of Chips)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rge Rd 161A between Hwy 14 &amp; Hwy 855                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Phases 1, 2, 3 &amp; 4 Complete</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>		Complete
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rge Rd 200 between Hwy 630 &amp; Blackfoot Grazing Reserve entrance</li> </ul>		Carried over to 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rge Rd 202 between Twp 502 &amp; Twp 504</li> </ul>		Carried over to 2025
<b>Rechip 2 miles</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TWP RD 502 between RR 202 to 205</li> <li>RR 112 between HWY 619 to Camp Lake Entrance</li> <li>TWP 470 between HWY 870 to RR 105</li> </ul>		Complete
<b>Shoulder Pulls</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shoulder pull Rge Rd 202 between Twp 502 &amp; Twp 504</li> </ul>		Complete
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TWP 500 between RGE RD 143 &amp; 142</li> </ul>		Complete
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TWP 500 between RGE RD 133 &amp; HWY 36</li> </ul>		Complete
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TWP 482 between RGE RD 122 &amp; 123</li> </ul>		Complete
<b>Gravelling</b>	Ongoing	Dec 22

### Bridge Repair - TWP 492 HWY 834 & RR 185

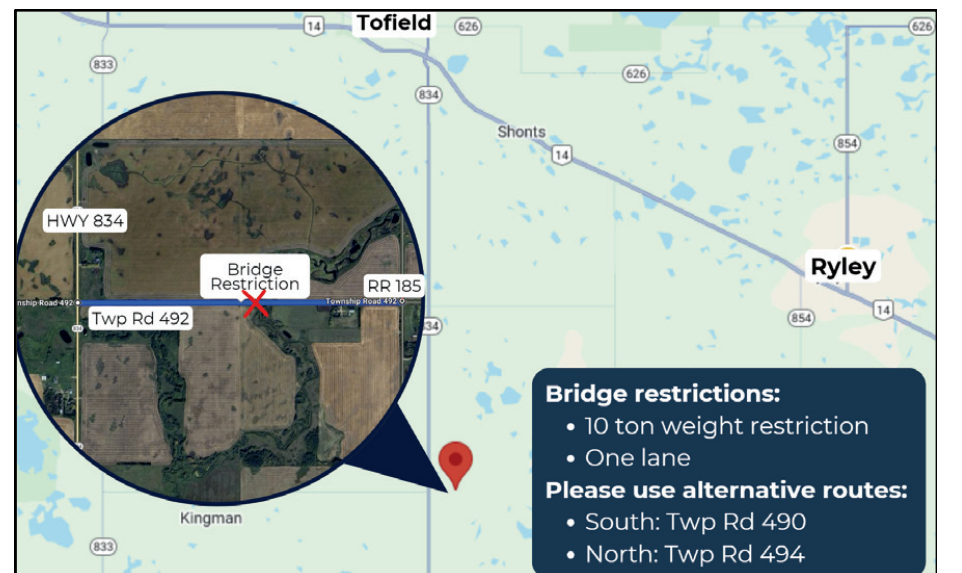
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Phase 1 (Engineering)</li> <li>Phase 2 (Special order materials &amp; install signage)</li> <li>Phase 3: Closed for construction</li> <li>Phase 4: Reopened for use</li> </ul>	Phase 1: Complete Phase 2: In Process Phase 3: Phase 4:
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## TWP RD 492 - PARTIAL CLOSURE

The bridge on TWP 492 between HWY 834 and RR 185 is damaged and requires a specialized bridge contractor to complete the repairs. For everyone's safety, the bridge will remain one lane, with a 10 ton weight restriction until further notice.

Please use alternate routes, such as TWP RD 490 or 494, until the repairs can be completed.

We're working to resolve this as quickly as possible—thank you for your patience and understanding.



## CLAYSTONE WASTE LTD. PROUDLY PRESENTS

# THE 2024 FALL INTAKE OF THE COMMUNITY AND PARTNERSHIP GRANT PROGRAM

## APPLICATION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 30

Are you a not-for-profit group that supports the residents of Tofield, Viking, Holden, Ryley, or Beaver County?

You may be eligible for a grant from Claystone Waste for your upcoming project, event, or program that supports the community.

Visit [claystonewaste.com/grants](http://claystonewaste.com/grants) for more information on the Community and Partnership Grant program and submit your online application today!





## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Beaver County will be holding a public hearing to give residents an opportunity to provide input on the proposed **Municipal Development Plan** and **Land Use Bylaw**.

- Date: **Tuesday, October 29, 2024**
- Time: **3:00 PM**
- Location: **Ryley Community Centre, 5103 - 49 Street, Ryley**
- Contact: **Margaret Jones at 780-663-3730 ext. 1016**

If you wish to provide feedback at, or prior to, the Public Hearing, please see below options:

Register to Speak in Person:

- Register to speak at the Public Hearing by 4:30 PM on Thursday, October 24, 2024. Using the form found on our website.

Submit Written Comments:

Written submissions must be received by 4:30 PM on Monday, October 21, 2024. You can submit your comments in the following ways:

- Deliver them in person to the Beaver County Office, attention: Delayna Koch.
- Submit your comments online via the Public Hearing Feedback Form
- Send a message to "Public Hearings" through the website contact form.

**Note:** written submissions will NOT be accepted during the public hearing.

If you submit written comments regarding the proposed bylaws, the information you provide may be made public subject to the provisions of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

All information is available at [www.beaver.ab.ca/government/meeting-schedule](http://www.beaver.ab.ca/government/meeting-schedule)



## IMPORTANT DATES

### October 23

- 2 - 4:30 PM: Agricultural Service Board Meeting

### October 29

- 3 PM: Public Hearing - MDP & LUB. Ryley Community Centre

### November 11

- Office Closed in observance of Remembrance Day

### November 13

- 9:30 AM - 4:30 PM - Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting

## WHATS HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY



### Book Club

Location: Ross Creek Community Hall, 531041 Rge Rd 191

Rural book club that meets the first Tuesday of each month. Meetings run from 7PM - 8PM, all ages welcome!

**Tofield AA** - Thursdays, 8 - 9 PM

Basement of Bardo Lutheran Church, 4737 57 Ave, Tofield.

**Viking AA** - Wednesdays, 8 PM, Zoom option also available.

Golden Valley Lutheran Church, 5327 56 Ave, Viking.

<https://area78aa.org/meetings/147-3>

Submit your event/s, meetings and/or gatherings to the events calendar on the website! Just head to the website, under the Explore menu click on County Region Events Calendar. We have partnered with Go East to share local events on our website!

## DEVELOPMENT PERMITS

None this week

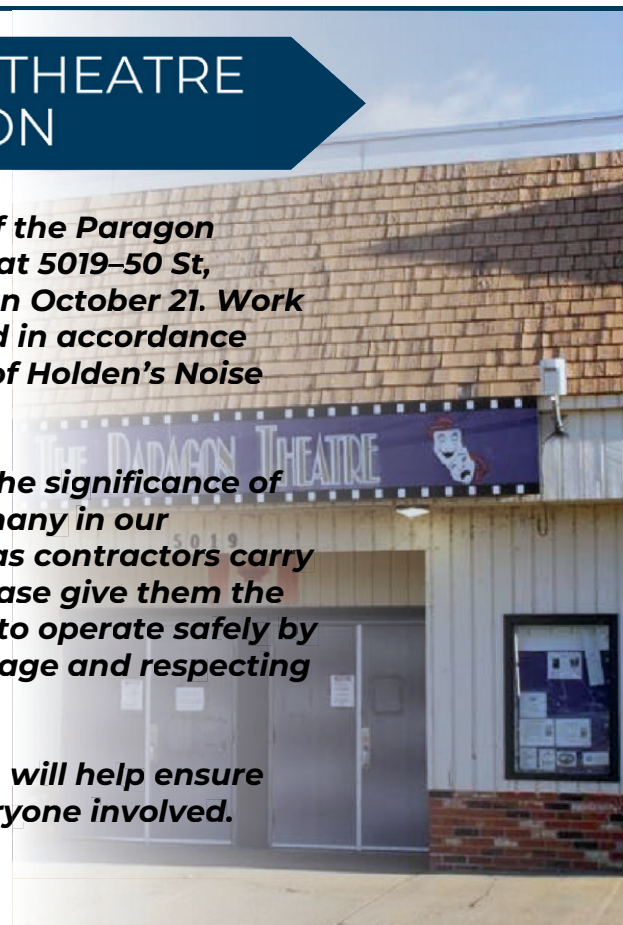
## PARAGON THEATRE DEMOLITION

The demolition of the Paragon Theatre, located at 5019-50 St, Holden, AB, began October 21. Work will be conducted in accordance with the Village of Holden's Noise Control Bylaw.

We understand the significance of this building to many in our community, but as contractors carry out the work, please give them the space they need to operate safely by following all signage and respecting fenced-off areas.

Your cooperation will help ensure the safety of everyone involved.

*Thank you*



## HOLDEN MUSEUM

Remains available for viewing from:

**SEPTEMBER 2024 to MAY 2025**

By Appointment



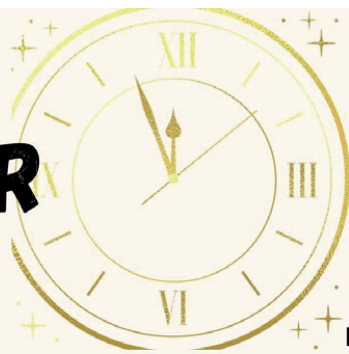
For info contact:

Dave at 780-720-5839 or email: [holdenmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:holdenmuseum@gmail.com)

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### Mailing list

Get news, meeting highlights, the road construction schedule, the Chronicle, and more - direct to your inbox!

### Website

Information on County programs and services can be found on our website, along with the latest news.

### Social media

Find us on Facebook, X (Twitter), Instagram, YouTube, and LinkedIn.





# Contractor begins work on Paragon Theatre demolition

Patricia Harcourt

The contractor for the Paragon Theatre demolition began this week preparing to tear down the historic building on Monday of this week.

The deadline for McColman & Sons Demolition to complete the demolition is set for the end of November. The company was awarded the job with a tender bid of \$161,826.

The theatre is dear to the hearts of Holden's villagers and the surrounding countryside as it has been in the community for decades entertaining in various forms.

But water damage to the building meant it was no longer viable and the "tough decision" was taken to demolish it.

While the work is being done, people are being asked to exercise caution around the demolition site.

"We understand the significance of this building to many in our community but as contractors carry out the work, please give them the space they need to operate safely by following all signage and respecting fenced off areas," said Beaver County in its posting notifying the public that the work was about to begin. "Your cooperation will ensure the safety of everyone involved."

The history of this regional entertainment centre is a long and storied one.

In earlier days, the Beaver Regional Arts Society ran the building for four decades.

"The society successfully operated and brought entertainment to its theatre until the last performance commemorating the society's 40th anniversary was cancelled due to Covid," recalled Christine Mackay, society board member.

For years, busloads of people filled the theatre for entertainment followed by a supper prepared by local community groups. The society board closed down due to the inability to run programs during Covid.

"We are saddened to hear that...the building that began as a movie theatre then a regional arts centre is being demolished," said Mackay, but noted that the building would have closed sooner had it not been for the arts society that ran it for 40 years.

More recently, the building was renamed Paragon Theatre after its movie house beginnings, and movies were once again being shown there, along with plays and other special events.

But the decision to close the building meant Beaver County Council putting out tenders for its demolition. Once tenders were received and a contractor chosen, council went into closed session at their regular meeting Oct. 16 to hear the details.

Dan Blackie, General Manager of Infrastructure, stated that the tender for the demolition of the Paragon Theatre was issued on September 17.

"The tender required a mandatory site tour which was held September 26, 2024, to ensure that contractors had time to see the exact needs of the project," he said. "The tour was well attended with 21 contractors participating. The tender closed on October 4, 2024, and administration received seven submissions."

Blackie said he was "shocked" when 21 interested contractors came to view the site all at once but got concerned when not one offer came in before Oct. 4.

"We didn't have one (submission), then we got seven legal offers," he said.

And when tenders were opened, he said the concern was more for health and safety issues, such as dealing with the potential for asbestos, than the dollar values involved.

Blackie's report in open council stated that "administration evaluated the submissions based on the criteria outlined in the tender."

He added: "As always, the lowest price is not auto-

matically awarded and part of the requirements were the ability to complete the job by November 30.

"Infrastructure feels that it is crucial to get this project completed as soon as possible knowing that winter is coming and this is a priority project in the community."

"Administration awarded the project to the company that met all requirements and...their quote for the demolition was less than the budget approved by Council."

Details of the successful company's name and the project amount were released once the contract documents were signed.

Then work was scheduled to begin "as soon as possible," he said.

WSP, the county's engineering firm will monitor the work, along with the staff from the county's

Infrastructure department.

The awarded bid for the project will be funded from the recreation and parks reserve as was approved by council earlier this year.

The Paragon Theatre, a structure 40 feet wide and 130 feet long, was erected in 1952 as the enterprise of Nick Bilyk and Harry Poole of Holden and Joe Dubuque of Vegreville, according to the Holden history book. It was built by local carpenters Adam and Con Giebelhaus. Behind were two story living quarters. It was sold in 1960 to Philip Mae of Wainwright and he sold it in 1962 to Bert Appleby of Holden who ran it for two or three years. It was closed for a few years then George Baker, County of Beaver Recreation Director and the Regional Recreation Board began the task of renovating it to accommodate live Theatre.



## We Are HIRING

### Manager Position for Holden Lodge, Northview Manor, & Ryley Manors 1 & 2

Beaver Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing safe and affordable housing for seniors citizens and low income tenants who are functionally independent, with the assistance available through existing community-based services within Beaver County. We are seeking a dedicated and compassionate Lodge Manager to cultivate an outstanding work environment and deliver exceptional service to our senior residents/tenants.

#### Job Details:

- Type: Full-Time
- Schedule: Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (40 hours per week, with potential for weekends and evenings in emergent situations)
- Location: Holden Lodge, Holden, AB
- Compensation: Competitive Salary and benefits package, determined by education and experience

#### Key Responsibilities

- Foster strong relationships and coordinate with residents, family members, home care staff, healthcare professionals, internal staff, and community groups to enhance the well-being of our seniors.
- Daily management oversight of Lodge. Develop, manage, and monitor site operations within budgetary constraints, accounts payable and receivable. Implement, monitor, and enforce organizational policies, goals, and procedures.
- Ensure compliance with relevant legislation, including the Continuing Care Act, Accommodation Standards, Protections for Persons in Care, OH&S Act, and Labour Standards.
- Oversee staffing requirements, including interviewing, hiring, training, scheduling, staff meetings, payroll and performance evaluations.
- Equip staff with the necessary skills and resources to exceed job expectations.
- Lead, train, and respond to all emergency situations, providing appropriate leadership, direction, follow-up, and documentation.
- Monitor and manage third-party businesses and suppliers to ensure efficient and effective service delivery.

#### Requirements

- Education in related field: such as Alberta Seniors & Community Housing Association, Site Management Certificate from Red Deer Polytechnic, or equivalent experience and training.
- Experience with seniors, addictions and mental health is an asset.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office.
- Understanding of legislation that applies to seniors housing.
- Strong understanding of human resources, unionized environments, and financial management.
- Excellent leadership, organizational, and problem-solving skills with a collaborative and flexible approach.
- Exceptional negotiating, conflict resolution, communication skills.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Clear vulnerable sector check and criminal record check required.
- Please include references with resume.

Submit Resumes by 12:00 noon, November 5, 2024

Owen Ligard, CAO  
e-mail: [bvrfndtn@mcsnet.ca](mailto:bvrfndtn@mcsnet.ca)  
Fax: 1-780-688-3330  
[www.beaverfoundation.ca](http://www.beaverfoundation.ca)

**MORE INFO**

