

# Talk of the Town



January 2025



Access to Staff Vault: [www.whitecourt.ca](http://www.whitecourt.ca) | e: [administration@whitecourt.ca](mailto:administration@whitecourt.ca) | p: 2022WCTStaff

## Happy New Year

Please visit our website for a list of facility closures and changes in hours of operation for New Year's Day, January 1.

We wish all of our staff and their families a safe and happy New Year!

We're looking forward to another great year ahead in 2025.



## Tree Pick Up

Crews will be picking up Christmas trees from across the community on a weekly basis throughout the month of January as time permits, beginning on January 7.

For more information on Christmas Tree Pick Up details, please visit our website at [www.whitecourt.ca](http://www.whitecourt.ca)

## Upcoming Events

Run4Fun Registration Opens  
January 1

Flirt with Fitness  
January 6-11

Christmas Tree Pick Up  
Weekly in January Starting  
January 7

Molly's Comedy Cabaret  
January 10

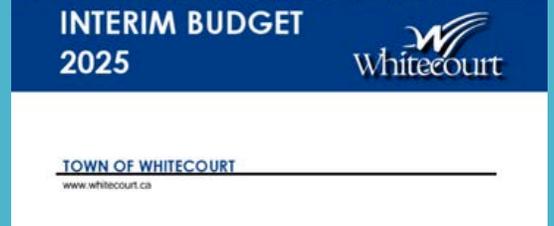
Community Fun Night  
January 11

Sloan Concert  
January 23

# Council Approves the 2025 Interim Budget

Whitecourt Town Council has approved the 2025 Interim Budget. The budget, totaling \$106,288,969, consists of a \$53,481,399 operating budget and a capital budget of \$52,807,570. The budget maintains service levels and funds important capital investments with a 3.77% tax rate increase.

The 2025 Budget will be finalized in the spring of 2025 once the Provincial budget is adopted, and final assessment figures are established. Specific tax rate impacts will vary by property type depending on the assessed value of a home or business, and will be determined once the final budget is adopted.



Visit [www.whitecourt.ca](http://www.whitecourt.ca) to view the full report.

## Ecole St. Joseph School Municipal Government Project

Mayor Tom Pickard was invited to Ecole St. Joseph School to judge the Grade 6's Municipal Government Projects. Pictures along with this caption are some of our Town Staff's children and grandchildren that were participants in creating their own municipalities!



Pictured: Cooper Perrin & Classmate – the creators of “Sportcourt”.



Pictured: Sawyer Hogberg and Peyton Black – the creators of “Bardown Town”.



Pictured: Zyanya Grande & Classmate – the creators of “KFCville”.

# 2024 Annual Champ Award Winners

Congratulations to the 2024 Annual Champ Award Winners! Winners were announced at the December 14, 2024 Social Club Adult Christmas Party!



## Jay Granley Spirit Award - Excellence in Leadership

Jaymee Feist  
Arena Coordinator



## Excellence in Service Delivery Award

Kerina Sorochan  
Senior Development Officer



## Outstanding Team Player Award

Nicole Cone  
Family Support Worker



## Innovative/Creative Solution Award

Ann-Marie Green  
Payroll/Finance Clerk III



## Health, Wellness, & Safety Award

Martie Jendrick  
Manager of Public Works



## Finding the Positive Award

Matthew Hill  
Lifeguard/Instructor I

Special thanks to Brandi Warr, HR/Payroll Clerk II, for organizing and administering the CHAMP Award Program for our organization!

## Champ Awards & Nominations

The Champ Awards system was implemented to recognize employees who demonstrate their exceptional skills and dedication to the community we serve. Congratulations to all November 2024 nominees. The draw winners are highlighted in blue below.

Don't forget to take a minute to complete a CHAMP nomination to recognize a co-worker who demonstrates excellence in leadership; innovative/creative solutions; excellence in service delivery; being an outstanding team player; health/wellness and safety; or finding the positive.

Samantha Kemp, Planning & Development  
Justin Labine, Community Services  
Marie Del Vecchio, Corporate Services  
Gloria Johnson, Corporate Services  
Krista Spivak, Corporate Services  
Michelle Leighton, Corporate Services  
Maureen Humby, Corporate Services  
Carizza Perrin, Corporate Services  
Chloe Buck, Corporate & Community Services

Rachel Payne, Infrastructure Services  
Miranda McPhee, Infrastructure Services  
Cherylee 'Sheesh' Doerksen, Infrastructure Services  
Donavan Stroeder, Infrastructure Services  
David Feist, Infrastructure Services  
Chelsea Grande, Community Services  
Jaimee Sutton, Community Services  
Ashley Ellis, Community Services  
Aaron Humby, Community Services

Fay Arcand, Community Services  
Kelly Sadoway, Community Services  
Corrina Marusyk, Planning & Development  
Kerina Sorochan, Planning & Development  
Sydney Barry, Planning & Development  
Jennine Loberg, Planning & Development  
Wendy Grimstad-Davidson, Administration  
Rhiannon Bisson, Administration  
Meghan Jesso, Administration

# Employee Updates

## New Employee

Angela Davis  
Food Bank Coordinator  
Community Services

## Returning Employee, New Position

Tessa Scoular  
Family Violence  
Prevention Worker  
Community Services

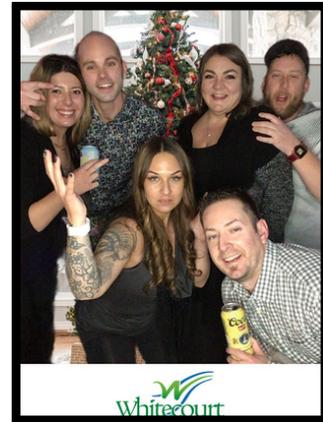
## Change of Position

Aaron Floyd  
Fire Chief  
Community Safety

# Social Club Annual Adult Christmas Party

The Annual Social Club's Adult Christmas Party was held on December 14, 2024 at St. Joseph Parish Hall. Staff got together to enjoy a fun night out at Santa's Workshop, enjoying a delicious meal catered by North Country Meat Market and entertainment by Bare n' Von Hair.

Special thanks to the Social Club's executive team, President Brandi Warr, Vice-President Ashley Ellis, Treasurer Carizza Perrin, and Secretary Lynn Oliver for planning such a spectacular event for staff, and for all of your hard work putting on events for staff all year long!



# Happy Retirement, Fire Chief Brian Wynn!

The Town of Whitecourt wishes Fire Chief Brian Wynn a happy retirement. Chief Wynn has served as the Fire Chief on the Whitecourt Fire Department since 2013, and has served on the Department for 33 years. Brian's last day with the Whitecourt Fire



Department was December 20, 2024. Brian's leadership, commitment, and unwavering dedication to the community have made a lasting impact, and his legacy will be remembered and honoured for years to come.

Congratulations Brian, and enjoy your retirement. You've earned it!