

### What We Do

The Community Safety Department provides an integrated approach to protecting our community:

- ✓ Emergency Management
- √ FireSmart Program
- ✓ Community Policing & Crime Prevention Programming
- ✓ Municipal Enforcement
- ✓ Automated Traffic Enforcement
- ✓ Whitecourt Fire Department
- ✓ Municipal Safety

### Did You Know?

- Whitecourt Fire Department employs 1 Fire Chief, 1 Deputy Chief, 1 Training Officer, 1 Part Time Administrative Clerk along with 42 paid on call Firefighters.
- Whitecourt RCMP employs 1 Staff
  Sergeant, 1 Sergeant, 12 Members (14 municipal), 4 Municipal Support Clerks, and 1 Crime Prevention Coordinator.
- Whitecourt Municipal Enforcement employs 3
  Community Peace Officers.
- Whitecourt's Fire Department responded to 386 emergency calls in 2024.
- Whitecourt's Municipal Enforcement responded to 2,163 complaints in 2024.
- Whitecourt Fire Department Members devoted 5,288.5 hours towards training and fire prevention in 2024.
- Whitecourt is considered a recognized leader in the province for FireSmart work.
- The Whitecourt Fire Department provides protection to the Town of Whitecourt, as well as Woodlands County.





# 2025 Municipal Budget

# 2025 Projects and Priorities

### Community Safety - 2025 Interim Figures

Revenues \$ 10,453,977

**Expenditures** \$ 13,648,447

Balance from Taxation \$ 3,194,470

\$ 0.18 of each tax dollar is allocated to this function

#### Capital

•	Disaster Recovery Projects to repair damage from 2023 flood (drainage pathways, spurs)	\$3,386,476
•	Completion of the Community Fireguard on the eastern boundary	\$1,534,180
•	Completion of interpretive signage at the Athabasca River Erosion Project	\$16,000
•	Flood mitigation projects to protect critical infrastructure	\$1,289,055

#### **Operating**

- Undertake FireSmart vegetation management activities.
- Continue fire prevention and education.
- Continue enhanced training for our Fire Department, including: 1006 Level 1 and 2 vehicle extrication/heavy rescue;
  1002 Aerial Operator; 1002 Pump Operator; Live Fire Instructor; and, Ice/Water Rescue.
- Continue to focus on Crime Prevention, emphasizing Citizens on Patrol and program such as Block Party Program, Community Crosswalk Grant Program, PARTY Program, and fraud prevention.
- Continue to build capacity in the Town's Incident Management Team by offering ICS 100 to 300 training.





# CAPTURE Program

You can help protect your property, your family and your community by registering your security cameras with the CAPTURE Program.

By registering your camera, you are taking an active role in deterring crime and assisting the Whitecourt RCMP with its overall crime prevention goals in our community. This registry is completely voluntary and secure.

For more information on the CAPTURE program, scan this QR code:







# 2025 Municipal Budget

### Be Prepared

Similar to other municipalities across the province, the Town of Whitecourt is preparing for another wildfire season.

### What are we doing to prepare?

- A community fireguard is being constructed along the eastern boundary of Whitecourt.
- FireSmart vegetation management activities will continue to mitigate the wildfire risk in the community.
- The Whitecourt Fire Department will continue with public education and awareness initiatives to property owners on FireSmart principles and best practices.

#### Are you and your family prepared for an emergency?

It is critical that the public be prepared for emergencies in order to handle the challenges that our community may face in the event of an emergency.

• Every family should have an emergency kit that includes water, food, blankets, medications, a radio, and any other specific family needs. For further information, visit the Whitecourt website.

#### How will we communicate with the public in the event of an emergency?

- www.whitecourt.ca is your number one source for up-to-date information.
- Follow @townofwhitecourt on Facebook and Instagram.
- Download the Alberta Emergency Alert app.
- Listen to local radio stations for updates and information during an emergency.



For more information on emergency preparedness resources, scan this QR code:





# Community Fireguard Construction Underway

The Town of Whitecourt, with support from Alberta Forestry and Parks, was approved for funding from the Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta Community Fireguard Program. The \$1,534,180 in funding is being used to construct a community fireguard with access points, approximately 4.5 kilometres long and 100 metres wide, on the eastern boundary of town. Construction began on January 31, 2025.

The Community Fireguard Program is designed to help protect communities by clearing areas near or surrounding a community. The fireguard, a strategically constructed feature where trees, brush and fuel sources are removed, will break the path of wildfire that could potentially move towards property, infrastructure, and other values at risk.

Whitecourt, in consultation with community stakeholders, recently completed a Community Fireguard Plan that involved planning and mapping the fireguard location. The project area extends from Ecole St. Joseph School in the north, to Highway 43 in the south. This span incorporates diverse terrain, including wetlands, mixed wood forests, and is located in close proximity to critical infrastructure, including schools, power substations, and wastewater treatment facilities. Construction is scheduled to be completed by March 31, 2025.

