

The Municipal CONNECTION

Winter Workshop Series

Mark your calendars so you don't miss out on the upcoming workshops organized by the M.D. of Wainwright Ag Service Department! Full event details can be found on the M.D. Facebook page, website (mdwainwright.ca), or by emailing Kaitlin at khirsekorn@mdwainwright.ca

Environmental Farm Plan Workshop

Wednesday February 4th, 2026

M.D. Admin Office (717 - 14Ave Wainwright, AB)

1:30pm-3:30pm

EFP technicians will teach you how to navigate your workbook and share tips for efficient completion. This event is offered at no cost.

Residential & Agricultural Solar Workshop

Thursday February 12th, 2026

Prairie Rose Wainwright

6:30pm-7:45pm

Join the MD of Wainwright along with Jason Theils & Kin Lee (EVOLVsolar) for an evening workshop on solar solutions. This event is offered at no cost.

Shelterbelt Establishment Workshop

February 25th, 2026

Prairie Rose Wainwright

6:30pm-8:30pm

Join the M.D. of Wainwright and Winston Gamache of Agroforestry & Woodlot Extension Society (AWES) for an informative evening on Shelterbelt Establishment.

Register by emailing Kaitlin at khirsekorn@mdwainwright.ca or by calling the M.D. Admin office at 780-842-4454. Please note registration is required to attend these events.

Battle River Research Group Partnership

The M.D. of Wainwright and Battle River Research Group (BRRG) have partnered to enhance agricultural research and extension services for local producers, with a focus on webinars and on-farm research trials. BRRG is a non-profit applied research association and a member of the Agricultural Applied Research and Extension Council of Alberta (ARECA). BRRG will cover topics specifically tailored to M.D. of Wainwright producers covering crop performance, soil health, fertilizer efficiency, livestock and grazing systems, and regional production insights. On-farm research trials will be offered when producers express interest and agree to participate as hosts. Seasonal research updates and conclusions from any hosted trials, will be shared through BRRG communication channels.

If you are interested in hosting an on-farm research trial please contact Shelby or Kaitlin at asbprograms@mdwainwright.ca



Battle River Research Group Events Integrating Poultry & Other Livestock Into Regenerative Farming Systems (Webinar)

February 4th, 2026 3:00pm - 4:00pm

Carbon Sequestration in Prairie Farms (Webinar)

February 18th, 2026 10:00am - 11:00am

Crop Protection

February 26th, 2026 10:00am - 3:00pm

Stettler Agricultural Society

For more information and to register visit battleriverresearch.com

Agricultural Service Board

Agricultural Service Boards (ASBs) are special committees appointed by rural municipal councils to address concerns in their local jurisdictions. They can be comprised of any combination of elected municipal officials and public at large. The ASB is funded through a provincial grant to hire an Agricultural Fieldman and develop and enforce policies for their local agriculture sector. They currently work with the province to enforce 5 separate pieces of legislation and associated regulations, and provide feedback and advice to the associated ministries through an annual resolution system. This program is unique to Alberta and has a long history of service starting with its formation in 1945. The ASBs are represented provincially by the ASB Provincial Committee.



The Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference took place in Edmonton on January 20th - 22nd. The conference was hosted by the Northeast Region of the Association of Alberta Agricultural Fieldmen (AAAF) which includes the M.D. of Wainwright, M.D. of Provost, County of Vermilion River, M.D. of Bonnyville, Beaver County, County of St. Paul, Lamont County, County of Two Hills, Lac la Biche County, and Smoky Lake County. This year's event theme was Cultivating Resilience, exploring how our agricultural community can adapt to change, thrive in the face of adversity, and overcome challenges in an ever-changing landscape. The ASB Conference is an opportunity to come together, share ideas, inspire one another, and cultivate a future filled with innovation and strength in both our own backyard, and further afield. Throughout the conference, 23 presenters spoke on topics such as resilience, AI in agriculture, economics and tariffs, weather and climate, renewable energy, rural veterinary shortages, and operational diversification. The NE Region of the AAAF highlighted the Region by drawing on local speakers and vendors to make the conference unique. A NE Market took place during the opening reception where 13 local vendors attended and were able to showcase and sell their goods, including Clay and Iron Pottery of Wainwright. To further promote our local businesses, Bar 5J Leather Co. from Edgerton was retained to supply 450 custom hats - which have since travelled home to 68 Municipalities across the Province. Throughout the conference a tradeshow was available to attendees with 23 booths. The M.D. of Wainwright Agriculture Service Board and Councillors attended the event learning, networking and participating in the resolution sessions.



Canada's Agriculture Day

Canada's Agriculture Day marks its 10th anniversary as a national day of recognition on February 10th, 2026. While Canada's agriculture legacy goes back generations, this milestone highlights ten years of formally honoring the hardworking individuals who bring food to our tables and the incredible contributions of agriculture to our nation's prosperity, health, and well-being.

On Farm Climate Action Fund (OFCAF)

Canadian Forage and Grassland Association (CFG) - OFCAF intake opens February 1st, 2026 under the Rotational Grazing Program. To access this funding, producers must have a grazing plan in place. Plans help improve pasture management and profitability. Eligible projects receive up to 70% rebate on rotational grazing infrastructure. For more information visit canadianfga.ca

Spotlight Portraits with Presence Photography

Founded in 2008, Portraits with Presence marks 18 years in business in 2026, a milestone that reflects both artistic dedication and an evolving passion for photography. What began as a personal interest for Tiffany Davis quickly grew into something more meaningful - a professional business rooted in connection, authenticity, and preserving history for future generations.

The vision for the business is captured perfectly in its name "Portraits with Presence", representing Tiffany's goal to create images that go beyond appearance, portraits that allow viewers to feel the presence of the person within the photograph and experience a genuine sense of connection.

Over the years, Tiffany has thoughtfully diversified her services to meet a wide range of client needs. She offers an extensive array of digital photography including business headshots, family portraits, graduations, newborn and baby milestone sessions, passport photos, seasonal mini-sessions, as well as macro and wildlife photography.

In addition to photography sessions, Tiffany also provides convenient professional photo printing services, allowing clients to easily upload images directly through her website. She further supports preserving family history by offering photo scanning services digitizing old and fragile photographs and restoring them so they can be safely enjoyed for generations to come.

Tiffany describes the most impactful part of her photography business as witnessing the changes in her clients lives over time. From capturing graduation portraits to wedding days and later returning for family sessions, she has had the privilege of documenting life's milestones and watching stories unfold through her lens.

In 2024, Tiffany expanded her craft even further by acquiring specialized equipment to offer the rare and historic art of wet plate photography. Originally invented in 1851, wet plate photography is now an uncommon practice. It is estimated that only around 1,000 photographers worldwide offer this technique, with just a handful based in Canada.

Wet plate photography is a hands-on process that requires patience, precision, and deep technical knowledge. A glass or metal plate is coated with light-sensitive collodion, sensitized in silver nitrate, exposed in-camera, and developed while still wet in a darkroom. Once developed, the plate is sealed with shellac, resulting in an image with remarkable longevity. Each plate is entirely one of a kind, producing strikingly detailed, timeless images that cannot be replicated.

Driven by curiosity and a passion for the historical photographic processes, Tiffany immersed herself in research by learning from books, suppliers, and extensive hands-on experimentation. Through this dedication, she acquired several specialty cameras, one approximately 120 years old and another 75 years old, both still producing extraordinary results today.

Tiffany offers both tintypes, where images are created on metal plates, and ambrotypes, where images are captured on glass. Clients can choose from a range of sizes, from classic 8x10 plates to small, wearable pendants designed for jewellery, transforming portraits into quality keepsakes.

As a small rural business owner trying to diversify and expand her services, Tiffany acknowledges the challenges when introducing something as rare as wet plate photography, a process many people are unfamiliar with. Educating clients about what wet plate photography is, why it matters, and why it is worth preserving has required persistence, patience, and a deep belief in the value of the craft.

With nearly two decades of experience, Portraits with Presence continues to evolve while remaining grounded in its original vision, creating meaningful enduring portraits that respalte. Through both digital photography and rare historical techniques, Tiffany Davis offers clients not just images but connections to people, moments, and memories, capturing personality and their tangible presence.



Prairie Staples

Small-Leaf Pussytoes *Antennaria parvifolia*

Small-Leaf Pussytoes are a low-growing western native perennial. This creeping plant spreads locally by growing above ground stems that establish new rooting points from which new leaf mats grow. In summer, the plant sends up erect, reddish-green stems up to 6", boasting clusters of small, rayless, creamy-white flower heads that bloom between May and June. Small-leaf pussytoes is tolerant of trampling and will grow in overgrazed pastures due to its preference for exposed sites with slightly disturbed soils and low overstory. This wildflower may be naturally found in prairies, dry meadows, open forests, rocky slopes, and along roadsides. The common name of pussy-toes comes from the tiny soft, fuzzy flower clusters, which resemble a kitten's paw.



Summer Employment Opportunities

The M.D. of Wainwright is getting ready for a busy summer season! We are currently seeking high quality summer staff for:

- Riverdale Mini-Park
 - Clubhouse Workers
 - Grounds Crew - Outside Maintenance
- General Parks & Recreation / Public Works

Further information regarding these positions may be obtained by contacting the Public Works Shop at 780-842-4024.

When submitting an application, please state which position you are applying for and forward your resume to safety@mdwainwright.ca

We thank all applicants for their interest. Those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Application Deadline: February 13th, 2026

Do Roof Mounted Solar Energy Panels require a Development Permit?

As per Section 5.2.1.u. Roof Mounted Solar Energy Panels **shall not** require a development permit if the development otherwise complies with all the other regulations of the Land Use Bylaw No. 1695.*

Commercial Solar Energy Conversion Systems and ground mounted solar arrays **do** require development permits in addition to safety code permits.



* Roof Mounted Solar Energy Panels require BUILDING & ELECTRICAL Safety Permits

Wild Boar in Alberta

The government is changing how it manages wild boar to protect Alberta's livestock industry. Amendments to the Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation are in force as of December 1st, 2025, declaring wild boar a pest in all circumstances, not just when at large. This means this it is illegal to keep, import, purchase or otherwise obtain, export, sell or otherwise dispose of or transport live wild boar or wild boar hybrids without a permit. It is illegal to hunt or trap boar in Alberta, with certain exceptions. If you see signs or suspect boar - Squeal on Pigs and contact the M.D. immediately.

Shelterbelt Establishment Program

The M.D. of Wainwright is pleased to announce the creation of the Shelterbelt Establishment Program in partnership with Alberta based nursery TreeTime! This new program launched January 2026 and is available to M.D. of Wainwright ratepayers to help establish and maintain healthy shelterbelts on our local landscape. Shelterbelts conserve soil, protect crops and yard sites, trap snow, provide wildlife habitat, and beautify the landscape.

The Shelterbelt Establishment Program is delivered through an application process under a 50/50 cost share model. Applicants can utilize this program for up to 1,000 trees per applicant per year. The program runs on a first-come, first-served basis and intake will close once the cap is reached. Applications will be accepted from November 1st until January 31st annually. Please note: the application deadline has been extended until **February 13th at 4:30pm** for the inaugural year.

Applicants will be advised of final pricing once the order has been submitted to the supplier - prices are subject to change pending the total order quantity (see pricing range below). Tree delivery is expected in mid May and applicants will be advised of the delivery date in advance. Trees must be picked up and paid for within 5 business days of arrival - invoices will be available at the time of pick up. Please note that planting and maintenance of trees is solely the responsibility of the applicant.

Species offered in 2026 include:

- Conifers - White Spruce (\$2.49-\$0.99), Blue Spruce (\$3.49-\$0.99) & Lodgepole Pine (\$1.99-\$0.99)
- Tall Deciduous Trees - Okanese Poplar (\$3.79-\$0.99), Manitoba Maple (\$5.99-\$1.49) & Trembling Aspen (\$4.99-\$1.49)
- Deciduous Shrubs - Red Osier Dogwood (\$4.99-\$1.49) & Villosa Lilac (\$5.99-\$1.49)

Visit <https://treetime.ca/> for resources and to start planning your spring shelterbelt today!

For full program details and the application package visit mdwainwright.ca or contact Shelby or Kaitlin at asbprograms@mdwainwright.ca

