



Seniors Community Conversation Notes: January 10, 2024

Betsy DeClercq, Jasper Seniors Society:

- Society has 150 members and is growing.
- Board is looking at the society's mandate, programming and would like feedback from members and community on what they could be doing/serving their members.
- Seniors Dinner will be hosted April 22nd. Details coming soon.
- Contact Betsy DeClercq with any questions for the Seniors Society.

Kacie Whyte, Community Outreach Services:

- Thank you to all who donated and supported Santas Anonymous last year, the program served a record number of over 200 families in the community.
- Kacie offering social prescribing for seniors through one-on-one connections to services in Jasper.
- Weekly program for seniors beginning February 7th, every Wednesday afternoon in Quorum room (library basement)
- Looking into a volunteer-based program called Drive Happiness. Program is like Uber for seniors offering local transportation to appointments and programming.

Meghan Gifford, Alpine Summit Seniors Home (Evergreens Foundation)

- Currently advertising for a Site Manager. Posted on Indeed.com
- Seniors activity calendar is listed on Alpine Summit website each month and printed.
- Programs and activities open to the public to attend include: Mexican Bingo on Saturdays
- Planning for Seniors Week -week of June 3-7.

Traudi Golla, Jasper Municipal Library

- Library is now open on Mondays 10am -5pm.
- Staff are aiming to respond to community needs through adult programming: many new programs coming up in response to what has been heard in these community meetings.
- Food for Fines will run the entire month of February. Make a non-perishable food or cash donation to the food bank box at the library and have your fines waived!
- New book club available to join. Reading a different genre each Month. First book is available to pick up. The first meeting will be held on February 22nd.
- New upcoming programming: Free Yoga 'Poses and Prose' on Jan 25, on a budget on Jan 31st, insight into homelessness on Feb 8 and Visible mending for clothing in February.
- From the Stacks every second Thursday, knitting group on Wednesdays 10:30 am
- Library are looking for locals willing to share their knowledge and interests for

Cristin Murphy, Jasper Food Bank

- Trend: Week before Christmas saw a record number of individuals and families served with 150 people accessing the program.
- Food bank open 5:30-6:30pm Thursdays in basement of Anglican Church. There is no need to line up – everyone will be served.
- Food Bank delivery and monthly boxes are available for those with limited mobility or diverse needs.
- Trend: Reduced hours and seasonal layoffs directly impact food security.
- [Coldest Night of the Year](#) Fundraiser coming up February 24th. Sign up to a local team or create your own and help raise funds for the Jasper Food Bank and Community Caring Fund. 100% of funds raised go directly to meeting and providing peoples basic needs in Jasper: Shelter, food and clothing. Option to walk 2 or 5 km with rest stops along the way



serving hot chocolate. Community Soup Dinner sponsored by local restaurants will be held at the Activity Centre after the walk for all participants.

- Food Bank received a grant to distribute packages of Menstrual products in partnership with COS and Jasper Junior/Senior High School.
- Food Bank will be looking for new volunteers for the summer months and is well suited to seniors looking to volunteer. Contact Cristin for more information.

Jo Ann Sherlow, Fitness & Aquatic Centre

- Renovations continue as scheduled.
- Gym is busy, reaching maximum capacity in peak hours of use.
- Potentially offering Aqua Fit and limited swimming lessons in February in collaboration with Tonquin Inn. More details to come.
- Trend: Staff have seen an increase in requests for subsidized/ free passes through COS.
- Trend: Increased interest in the learn to curl program.
- Jo Ann is working with local physiotherapist to start a new program for seniors.
- Activity Centre remains open with lots happening including shinney hockey, free skate, roller skating, Coffee Connections, free soup program & Food Recovery fridges.

Mayor Ireland and Counselor Waxer, Council Updates

- Council passed 2024 budget with a 9.1% increase. Note to residents to keep in mind that this reflects increases to RCMP administration costs and Parks Canada Land Use in addition to public facility renovations.
- Council will advocate for Jasper to receive resort town status to potentially alleviate pressure on municipal taxes.
- Council received a presentation and passed the application to apply for an additional 5 years of funding from the IRCC for Settlement Services, Jasper Local Immigration Partnership & participation in a national project.
- Council also received a presentation and annual review of Community Conversations, lighting the value of sharing information in a life stage approach. See Council minutes and agenda for more information.
- Seeking board members for Municipally controlled Housing Corporation and Communities In Bloom. Applications close soon.

Melissa Day, Community Development

- Community Dinner running again Sunday evenings. First week served over 500 residents. Seniors and people with diverse needs will be seated first at the new time of 4:30pm. Families with young children at 5pm and Everyone welcome from 5:30pm.
- Food Security Survey is open to take through Jasper food Alliance.
- The Library of Things is still open at the Jasper Activity Centre. [Check out what's available on the website.](#)
- ESS are always looking for volunteers with training opportunities

What do you think?

- ✓ [Engage Jasper – Jasper's brand-new online engagement portal. It's a place to share your ideas and provide feedback.](#)
- ✓ [Municipal public engagement opportunities](#)
- ✓ [Give feedback, contact council or report an issue.](#)
- ✓ [You can also contact council by emailing them.](#)



Promote your program or event:

- ✓ [Check the Community Calendar to find out what's going on in Jasper.](#)
- ✓ [Add your program or event to the calendar.](#)

Share your passion:

- ✓ [Fill out this form](#) and we will contact you to discuss your idea!

All things Community Conversations:

- ✓ [Community Conversations schedule and information](#)
- ✓ [Community Conversations most recent notes](#)
- ✓ [Register to join Community Conversations](#)
- ✓ [Municipal Community Conversations policy.](#)

Do you have neighbours or colleagues who are new to Jasper?

- ✓ The [New to Jasper page of the website](#) has helpful information for them.
- ✓ Welcome them to your neighbourhood using our [welcome bags](#).
- ✓ [Plan a neighbourhood gathering using our Neighbourhood Connections program.](#)

Contact:

Lisa Riddell, Community Development Manager
Municipality of Jasper | 627 Patricia St.
780-852-2100 | liddell@jasper-alberta.ca