



Adult Community Conversation Notes: June 7, 2023

TRENDS:

- Increase in Temporary Foreign Workers (TFW) coming to Jasper.
- Increase in permanent resident applications (PR).
- Still seeing an increase in seniors wanting to work.
- Seeing a need among seniors to up their skills so they can enter the workforce.
- Crisis response service requests continue to be elevated.
- Lots of talk about patio seating in town, Council is considering applications for alternative patio arrangements.
- Seeing an increase in Ukrainians moving to town with low English literacy. Ukrainians are also facing a risk of homelessness as their subsidized housing ends.
- Newcomers are being offered jobs, but people don't have anywhere to put their children. There is difficulty in accessing or affording childcare.
- There's been an influx of people getting onto the MPL housing waitlist.
- Lots of newcomers were not able to make it work in Jasper and have left.
- Newcomers find getting a driver's license in Jasper very difficult. The drivers' license test only happens in winter. You cannot have a cracked windshield for the test.
- Residents with a history of trauma, or those living with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) are struggling with all the emergency situations this spring.
- The foodbank is seeing higher numbers (over 100 people) waiting 2 hours for food.
- 70% of the foodbank users are newcomers.
- The foodbank is worried about sustainability long-term. Food bank use is high everywhere right now, so they are getting less in the deliveries.
- There has been an increase in memberships at the Fitness and Aquatic Centre.
- The thrift store has been a lot busier in the afternoons with newcomers.
- Jasper Art Gallery (JAG) traffic is down to a third of the normal levels compared to before COVID. The location in the cultural centre seems to be part of the challenge.
- Children and youth are submitting art for the BUZZ exhibit.

COMMUNITY UPDATES:

- Ola Volo finished their mural on the tennis courts wall.
- New public transportation plan is underway with a report, proposed routes and cost expected by Fall.
- Council made a proclamation about the first week of June being Seniors Week.
- Municipal Council submitted a Rent Control Resolution to Alberta Municipalities to support vulnerable tenants. *Details and draft Resolution are available to read in the [April 18th Regular Council Meeting Agenda](#) (See Agenda item 6.6, pages 36-39).*
- There is one full time mental health therapist position available with Alberta Health Services (AHS).
- AHS mentioned they are prioritizing access to the provincially funded treatment facility for addictions and mental health.
- AHS is also streamlining support so clients need to tell their story over and over less. They will also be offering virtual groups & workshops soon.
- There is new sand in the volleyball courts, they will open on June 10th.



- The first aid courses are now done from Fitness and Aquatic centre.
- The Municipality of Jasper is working on a video project that highlights newcomers' stories and contributions in Jasper.
- United Church has a shared worship space arrangement with the Ukrainian Lutheran Orthodox Church. They are open to anyone coming.
- Farmers Market Starting Next Week.
- JAG is revising their vision/mission/purpose. There have been 5 new applicants to JAG. Volunteers are keeping JAG open.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS OR EVENTS:

- L'Association Canadienne Francaise d'Alberta (ACFA) is planning festivities for St, Jean Baptiste day (June 24th) at the CN Stage in Commemoration Park. They are looking for Francophone artists or performers for the event.
- ACFA are looking for suggestions for programming for seniors and suggestions of Francophone artists & performers in general. ACFA will be offering the babysitter's course in French.
- Habitat for the Arts has summer camps starting soon. Habitat is hosting an open house at Andromeda to see what the needs of the arts and culture community are. Cowboy Culture is coming on September 16th. Canada Day Artisan Market in Robson Park 2-5PM.

What do you think?

- ✓ [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
- ✓ Application 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.