



The Wood Buffalo Monthly

Volume 25 November 2009

Welcome to our newest members:

Rochelle Homes – Morgan Simms
Colliers International - Ken Shebib

CMHC 4th Quarter 2008 is now available and can be reached by using the links below to review

http://www.udiwodbuffalo.com/pdfs/CMHC_4th_QuarterHousingNowPrairieRegion.pdf

Also the Prairie region highlights link below

http://www.udiwodbuffalo.com/pdfs/CMHC_4th_QuarterPrairieRegionHighlights2009.pdf

Parsons Creek - Informational Open Houses

Alberta Housing & Urban Affairs welcomes you to a series of Informational Open Houses. You will find notices in the local newspaper on a regular basis, with the next Open House happening in early December. The public is encouraged to attend as this will be your chance to gather information and discuss with Planners and Engineers the future development of this area. Following is the news release.

<http://alberta.ca/home/NewsFrame.cfm?ReleaseID=/acn/200909/26984F24918CD-ECEC-F906-3B8521D7162A3164.html>



The Fort McMurray Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a community engagement initiative to assess the satisfaction of Wood Buffalo residents with their quality-of-life and to see how we, the citizens, can collectively improve it. To participate in this initiative by completing the survey please use the following link. www.mycommunitymyvoice.com

The **Alberta Green Building Technologies 2009 Symposium** is being held in Calgary on December 8th and 9th 2009, for more information click below.

<http://www.udiwodbuffalo.com/pdfs/GreenBuildingTechnologies2009Symposium.pdf>

Permit Stats

Building permits issued for the month of September

Single Family Dwellings – 69

Multi Family Dwellings – 14

Building permits issued for the month of October

Single Family Dwellings – 72

Multi Family Dwellings – 9



Santa Claus Parade: The RMWB is preparing for the 2nd Annual Evening Santa Claus Parade for Saturday, November 28th at 6:30 pm. For sponsorship opportunities and information please see the package below.

<http://www.udiwodbuffalo.com/pdfs/SantaClausParade.pdf>

2010 Expos: The Must –Do for Landscapers & Contractors are being held February 10 & 11, Roundup Centre, Calgary and February 23 & 24 Prairieland Park, Saskatoon. The show and seminar attendance is FREE to qualified industry personnel. For those interested visit www.landscapingexpo.net or call the toll free show hotline at 1-888-570-0499 to register.

Members Profile



Wood Buffalo Housing & Development Corporation (“WBHDC”) was incorporated as a subsidiary Part 9 Not-for-Profit Corporation of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo under the Companies Act in 2001. We were created to provide affordable housing options to senior citizens, low and middle income families living within the Municipality and are able to achieve this by developing housing projects and/or programs that meet identified community housing needs.

Our first major project was completed in the summer of 2002. Edgewater Court A saw 120 families move into this new development where rents were geared to tenant’s income. In 2003 the second phase of Edgewater Court was completed and became home to an additional 55 families.

Since 2001 WBHDC has continued to grow and currently owns and manages over 1,000 units. In addition to managing our own units, WBHDC also manages the Region's social housing portfolio on behalf of the Province.

WBHDC doesn't just look after providing houses in Fort McMurray. We have built new units in both Janvier and Conklin and manage properties in both Anzac and Fort Chipewyan.

Wood Buffalo Housing & Development Corporation has implemented innovative ways to get families who might not have been able to jump into the housing market in Fort McMurray's rapidly growing market. In 2005 WBHDC developed housing solutions to assist with recruitment and retention challenges being experienced by small business. WBHDC created 24 single homes on Parry Crescent which were sold to employees of qualifying small business. The employer provided the down payment and WBHDC provided the second mortgage thereby providing quality, affordable home ownership opportunities.

To assist the school districts, RCMP, the Municipality and the Northern Lights Health Region with their recruitment challenges, WBHDC entered into a partnership giving their employees access to affordable rental units.

In 2007 we completed 93 townhouses in Meadow Creek Village that are heated by Geothermal heating systems.

To assist the Municipality to get a new industrial park to market in a timely manner, WBHDC undertook the development and sale of the TaigaNova Eco Industrial Park located north of Fort McMurray on Highway 63. All proceeds will go toward providing future affordable housing in the Region.

Construction is well underway on the 128 unit Hawthorne Heights, an Eagle Ridge development that will be offered for sale on our Affordable Second Mortgage Program in 2010.

Construction is about to start on the 125 unit Stony Mountain Plaza in Stone Creek with units in this geothermally heated rental development becoming available in late 2010.

We are currently taking applications at our Morrison Centre office for the 172 unit Sandpiper Cove, at Eagle Ridge slated to open in January 2010.

WBHDC has had the distinction of being listed Venture Magazine's 50 Fastest Growing Companies three years in a row. We continue to provide new and innovative ways to provide housing to residents of the Region and have plans to add a number of units each year for the next 6 – 8 years as needs dictate.

Please consider supporting our members if you have a need for the services they provide.

If you have any comments, concerns or suggestions please feel free to contact us.

HOW TO REACH US

108-9908 Franklin Ave
Fort McMurray, AB T9H 2K5
Ph: 780-743-2900 Fax: 780-743-2915
Email: udiwb@telus.net
Web: www.ud WoodwardBuffalo.com

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

People who say it cannot be done should not interrupt those who are doing it.

- Unknown