

The Connector

Building your best city through community connections

by us,
for us



4All Woodwork & Photography,
By Dean McMurrer

Happy New Year Wetaskiwin!



“May we all have a vision now
& then of a world where
every neighbor is a friend.

ABBA

Successful 2023 Year in Review

Last year was a busy one for Connect Wetaskiwin, marked by the formation of many new meaningful connections. Our primary focus was to increase awareness of Connect Wetaskiwin and our mission to promote community connections in innovative ways. Our Community Survey played a key role in our success and will continue to do so in the future. If you haven't already filled one out, please do so by visiting our [NEW website](#). We value your input and want to hear about your ideas, skills, and passions. It doesn't matter who you are, your age, or where you live – your input is important and we want to connect with you!

BIG Highlight

June 2023 marked a significant milestone when Connect Wetaskiwin co-hosted the National Tamarack Conference in St. Albert. The conference, "When Communities & Municipalities Meet in the Middle," was a huge success, thanks in part to Natalie Pearce, who served as co-emcee and represented Wetaskiwin with distinction. The event brought together 170 community leaders from around the world who shared their ideas and stories about building more collaborative communities. It was an inspiring experience that left us eager to continue making more & more connections.



"When Communities & Municipalities Meet in the Middle"
June June 6-8, 2023, St. Albert.

News Highlights



NEW website launched
connectwetaskiwin.com



**Application to form Alberta
Not for Profit Society
submitted**



**Meet & Greet Neighbors with
a Front Yard Fire. We bring
the propane firepit, hot
chocolate & smores**



CONTACT US:

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Expanding Our Reach: Building Connections

Our team has engaged with many people at events such as the Children's Festival, Parade of Programs, Farmers' Market, Seniors Centre Spring Tea, and Arts & Music Festival. One of our most notable achievements was the *October Community Celebration* at the Heritage Museum, where we presented the results of our survey. If you couldn't make it to the event, don't worry – you can access the findings on [our website](#). We encourage you to share your ideas with us. We're excited to see what other amazing projects our community members will come up with next.

New Connections: Sneak Peek at NEW GROUPS forming

Collective Garden ~ Initiated by Andreas & Mary Ellen (formerly Greens Eggs & Ham). This is a tremendous opportunity to learn about creating a **sustainable, collective garden project**. In order for this to work Andreas & Mary Ellen need community members to get involved. For more information or to get involved email: megrueneberg@gmail.com.

Geek'd Wetaskiwin ~ This is a one day event for geeks, similar to a Comic con. Geek is defined by those who enjoy video games, anime, cartoons, comics, board games, table top games, live action role playing (LARP), manga, or cosplay. The event will involve a chance for people to learn new things, participate in various games, attend a geeky market and enjoy stage events. For more information or to get involved email geekdwetaskiwin@gmail.com. There will also be an in-person meeting at the **Heritage Museum at 1:00 pm on January 27**.

Grumpy Tax Payer ~ Rather than be grumpy over any issue (not just taxes), this idea is about creating a facilitated workshop where community members are invited to come together and work collaboratively with the City to find a creative solution to the problem. Stay tuned.

Truth & Reconciliation ~ We will be using lots of hands & wool, as stories of hurt & sadness caused by colonization are shared. Felting is perfect to illustrate what can be accomplished when we work together. Thank you to the Heritage Museum who continues to support this project 100% by providing the space and all materials. The 2023 project is currently on display at the Heritage Museum. Details for the 2024 project will be announced soon.



Community Celebration Door Prize
Winners: The Wold Family



September 30, 2023
Truth & Reconciliation Day

Looking Ahead for 2024



Front Yard Fire ~ Would you like to host a Front Yard Fire? We bring the propane firepit, the hot chocolate & marshmallows and everything to make your own smores. This is a fantastic opportunity to meet your neighbours and talk about what is going on in *your* 'hood'. Our second front yard fire was Saturday January 20. The community hostess invited the Fire Department and Peace Officer Trent, too. It really was fun! If you would like to host a front yard fire for your neighbourhood, please email connectwetaskiwin@gmail.com.



Fire Side Chats ~ Join us for our on-going Fire Side Chats, designed for one purpose - to chat! There's no specific agenda, so feel free to talk about whatever is on your mind. It's an excellent opportunity to meet new people, gain fresh perspectives, and enjoy a cup of coffee. **Join us at the Heritage Museum this Thursday, January 25th from 6-7 pm.**

New Comers' Festival ~ Are you NEW TO WETASKIWIN? A New Comers' Festival is in the works for Fall 2024. Interested to get involved? Email: connectwetaskiwin@gmail.com

