

Coaldale Town Council Adopts New Strategic Plan

The plan builds on the momentum of Council's 2021-2025 Strategic Plan while establishing clear priorities for transportation, infrastructure, safety, advocacy, and sustainable growth.

Coaldale Town Council has officially adopted its 2026–2029 Council Strategic Plan.

Serving as a roadmap for Council and Administration over the remainder of the term, the plan is organized around six strategic pillars: Transportation and Mobility; Asset Management; Community Care and Safety; Community Experience; Governance and Advocacy; and Growth and Investment.

Under each pillar, the plan sets out clear focus areas and strategic actions aimed at improving traffic flow, transportation, and accessibility throughout the community; maintaining and investing in critical infrastructure; supporting community safety and strengthening enforcement partnerships; enhancing parks, programs, events, and public spaces; advancing key advocacy priorities with other orders of government; and encouraging sustainable growth, investment, and economic development.

Several of the strategic actions outlined in the plan include:

- completing key intersection upgrades along Coaldale's highway corridors;
- implementing a 10-year Capital Plan;
- expanding community policing visibility and outreach;
- completing and implementing the Downtown Area Re-development Plan;
- continuing to advocate for a sustainable cost model for policing in Coaldale; and
- securing water rights for future growth.

“The adoption of this Strategic Plan marks an important step forward for our Council and community,” said Coaldale Mayor Jack Van Rijn. “Building on this Council's previous Strategic Plan, it reflects our continued commitment to responsible growth, strong governance, and tackling issues that matter most to Coaldale residents. This plan gives us a

clear framework for how we intend to move Coaldale forward over the next four years.”

Now that the plan has been adopted, Administration will begin implementing it, including the development of tools and reporting mechanisms that will allow Council and the community to monitor progress over time. Next steps are expected to include publishing the plan on the Town's website, sharing it across the Town's communication channels, and establishing regular progress updates so residents can follow along as strategic actions move forward.

To view the Town of Coaldale's 2026–2029 Council Strategic Plan, please visit: <https://www.coaldale.ca/government/town-council/strategic-plan>.

Town of Coaldale Welcomes High School Students for EPIC Day Career Exploration Initiative

On Wednesday, April 22nd, the Town of Coaldale welcomed 41 high school students to Civic Square as part of EPIC Day 2026, an annual career exploration initiative that introduces young people to a wide range of industries, occupations, and future career pathways.

Through a series of short, six-minute conversations with the Town's elected official and municipal staff, the students learned more about the work being done across the organization, and the wide range of skills and experience required to help a community like Coaldale function and grow.

“EPIC Day is an important reminder that career exploration is most meaningful when young people can connect directly with people in the workforce and hear firsthand how different career paths take shape,” said Town of Coaldale Mayor, Jack Van Rijn. “We were very pleased to welcome these students to Civic Square and to show them that a municipality like Coaldale depends on many different skills, professions, and areas of expertise to serve the community well.”

Town of Coaldale Receives Canadian Award for Financial Reporting

The award marks the Town's seventh consecutive Canadian Award for Financial Reporting.

The Town of Coaldale has been awarded the Canadian Award for Financial Reporting for its 2024 Annual Report.

Presented by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA), the Canadian Award for Financial Reporting recognizes excellence in government accounting and financial reporting. According to the GFOA, the award represents a significant accomplishment by a local government and its management.

“To receive this award is a strong reflection of the professionalism, care, and attention to detail that goes into the Town’s financial reporting,” said Mayor Jack Van Rijn. “As a Council, we place a high value on transparency, accountability, and responsible financial management. Recognition like this demonstrates that the Town is not only meeting those expectations, but doing so in a way that is clear, credible, and accessible to the public.”

The GFOA’s Canadian Review Committee evaluated the Town’s report across a range of categories, including compliance with generally accepted accounting principles and provincial requirements, completeness, clarity, consistency, reader appeal, and disclosure quality. The report met the program’s standards in every category.

“The purpose of the Town’s annual report is not simply to satisfy a reporting requirement,” said Tim Koba, Chief Financial Officer for the Town of Coaldale. “It is also to clearly communicate the Town’s financial position, explain the decisions and obligations that shape our finances, and make that information accessible to Council, residents, businesses, and other stakeholders. Receiving this award confirms that the Town continues to meet a high standard in how it presents that information.”

The Canadian Award for Financial Reporting is valid for one year. To receive the award, a municipal government must publish an annual financial report that is easily readable, efficiently organized, and designed to clearly communicate its financial picture while going beyond the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles.

To read the Town’s award winning 2024 Annual Report, please visit: <https://www.coaldale.ca/annual-report>

TAKE YOUR RECYCLING BEYOND THE BIN!

JOIN THE BEYOND-THE-BIN RECYCLING ROUNDUP TO RECYCLE YOUR ELECTRONICS, PAINT, TIRES, AND USED OIL MATERIALS FOR FREE!

Is your basement becoming the final resting place for old electronics? Is your garage looking like a tire museum? Good news! **On Saturday, May 9th**, the Town of Coaldale will host a "Beyond-the-Bin Recycling Roundup" event sponsored by Alberta Recycling. Go beyond the bin and reclaim your space - bring your old electronics, paint, tires, and used oil materials to **1406 13th Street (the Town shop)** from **10:00am-2:00pm**.



What’s Happening in the Community?

On Saturday, May 2nd, from 10:00am-3:00pm the Gem of the West Museum will officially open for the season. Explore new exhibits and enjoy a free BBQ, carnival games, and a fun family activity area.

On Saturday, May 9th, from 10:00am-1:00pm, Rehoboth Garden Centre will host its annual Spring Bake Sale & BBQ. The garden centre will be open from 9:00am-5:00pm and coffee will be served as early as 9:30am.

On Saturday, May 30th, from 11:00am-1:00pm, MyCityCare Coaldale will host its annual Spring Pop-Up Shop at the Coaldale Community Centre. Everyone is welcome to shop for a wide assortment of free clothing and footwear. There will also be hygiene items available including shampoo/conditioner, soap, toothpaste, etc. Shoppers are welcome to fill a bag with any needed items.