

EAGLE POINT-BLUE RAPIDS PARKS
COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT 2020



"When Life Gives You
Lemons Make Lemonade
Edition"

EAGLE POINT-BLUE RAPIDS PARKS COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive

| | |
|----------------|---|
| President | Avalie Peck Sand & Gravel Representative |
| Vice-President | Dollard O'Connor Drayton Valley Horse Club |
| Treasurer | Tammie Stafford Pembina Nordic Ski Club |
| Secretary | Tammy Orban Assoc. of Adjacent Land Owners |

Directors

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| Denis Poissant | Brazeau ATV Club |
| Leonard Claffey | Brazeau Bowbenders Archery Club |
| Elaine Tambouline | Drayton Valley Paddling Club |
| Dave Swindlehurst | Drayton Valley Rotary Club |
| Dustin Euchner | Evergreen Shooting Club |
| Wayne Stec | West Central River Boat Assoc. |
| Mike Karach | Oil & Gas Representative |
| Greg Nelson | Alberta Environment & Parks |
| Kara Westerlund | Brazeau County |
| Tom McGee | Town of Drayton Valley |

Parks Council reflects the Community through:

Operating Partners

Special Interest Members

Government Members

For more information about the Eagle Point-Blue Rapids Parks Council events, partner clubs and programs check our website or call 780-898-5234

www.epbrparkscouncil.org

MISSION & VISION

Mission

To enhance and protect the Eagle Point Provincial Park and the Blue Rapids Provincial Recreation Area by working collaboratively with our partners to implement innovative park planning, funding and management for the benefit and public enjoyment of current and future generations.

Vision

A sustainable balance of diverse recreational opportunities and environmental protection for all to enjoy in the Eagle Point Provincial Park and Blue Rapids Provincial Recreation Area.



What happened in 2020?

Well...lots of things happened! Everybody knows about the one BIG thing (Covid-19) that happened, but we don't really want to focus on that. We want to talk about how challenges can turn into opportunities for growth. That is what the Eagle Point-Blue Rapids Parks Council experienced in 2020; organizational growth and capacity building! Out of restrictions and limitations we had to reimagine how to do our day to day work, how to facilitate governance meetings, how to recreate safely, how to modify delivery of environmental and outdoor education programs, as well as how to create community events, when the community could not gather together.

This document will share highlights from our 2020 story. Even though things did not always go the way we planned or intended, as an organization we learned that we are resilient, creative and adaptive. We became proficient at taking life's lemons and turning them to lemonade!

Cheers!

Sandra Bannard
Executive Director

Avalie Peck
Board Chairperson



Eagle Point- Blue Rapids Parks Council governance meeting on Zoom

2021 started off as usual and we were thrilled, to once again host the "Fire & Ice" Family Day Eve Festival on February 16th...





Community fun! Parks Council and the Town of Drayton Valley hosted over 1,000 people in the Downtown Park for a celebration featuring free food, music, dancers, skating, hay rides, fire artists, trappers, library visits and fire truck tours

- 900 hamburgers
- 236 hay rides
- 51 volunteers
- 286 maple taffy suckers
- 786 library visits
- 876 cups of hot chocolate
- 1 flash mob
- 10,000+ smiles

Little did we know what was coming our way in March....

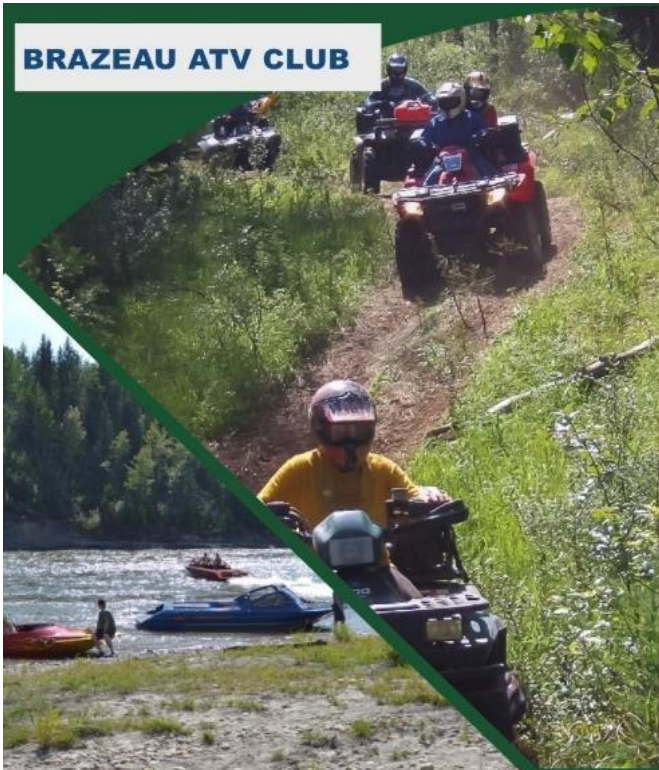
Covid-19! At the beginning of March, implications from the Corona Virus Pandemic were being experienced in Canada. Organizations were having to re-examine how to continue operations in the midst of lock downs and restrictions. It was the beginning of numerous challenges; it's when we started making lemons into lemonade.



|  | Challenges |  | Solutions |  |
|--|---|--|---|--|
| | Governance Meetings, Working from Home and Communications | | Zoom Meetings, Remote Desktops and Email | |
| | Parks Council Member Clubs and Group Recreation | | Self-Directed Recreation with cohorts where possible | |
| | Environmental & Outdoor Education Programming | | Eagle Point Nature Newsletter and Eagle Point-Blue Rapids Produced YouTube Videos | |
| | Parks Day Festival | | "Summer Adventure in a Box" | |
| | Community Engagement | | First Annual Pumpkin Walk and Critter Christmas Tree | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

PARKS COUNCIL MEMBER CLUBS

BRAZEAU ATV CLUB



**PEMBINA
NORDIC SKI CLUB**



**WEST-CENTRAL
RIVERBOAT ASSOCIATION**



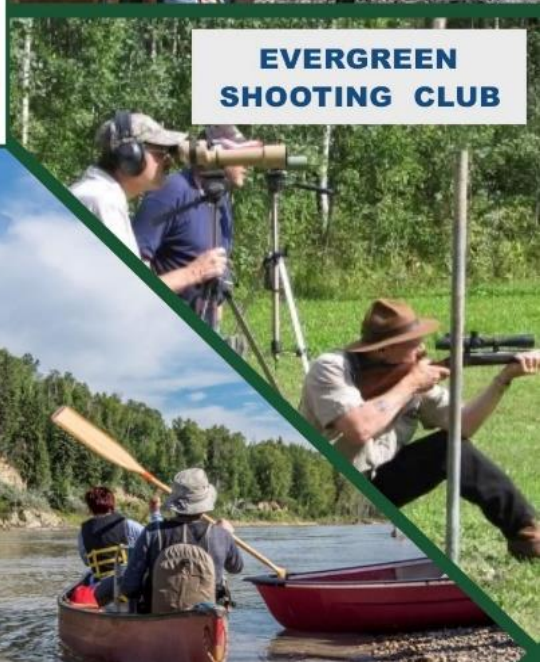
**DRAYTON VALLEY
HORSE CLUB**



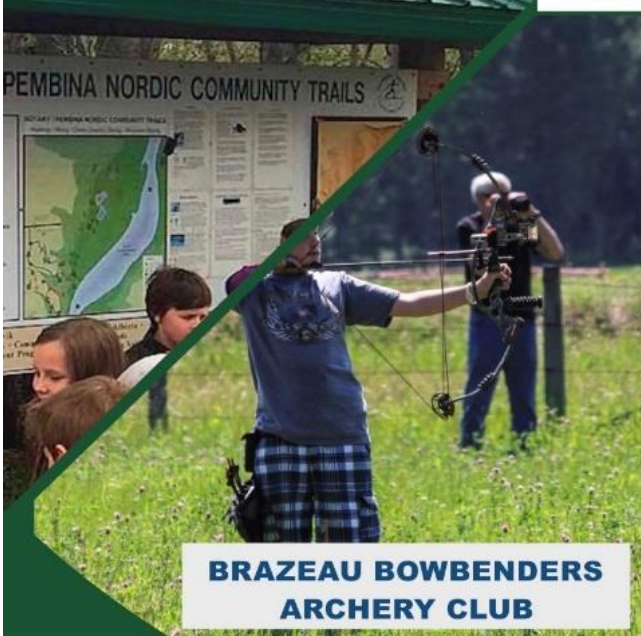
**DRAYTON VALLEY
ROTARY CLUB**



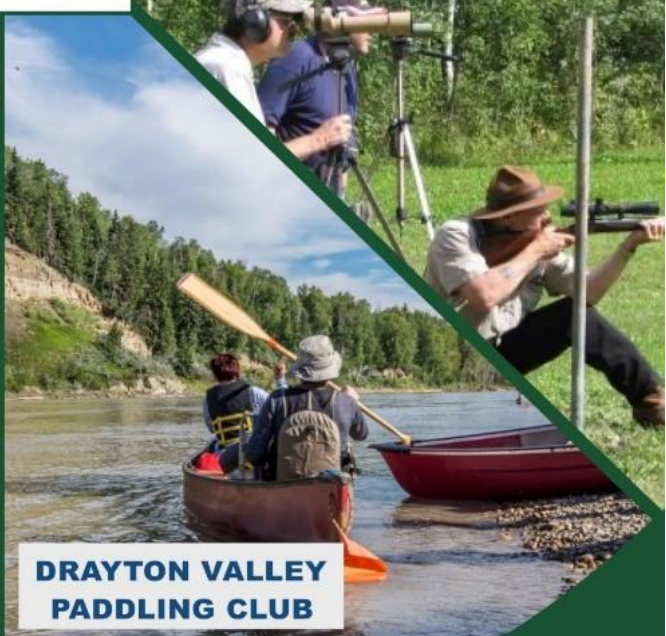
**EVERGREEN
SHOOTING CLUB**



**BRAZEAU BOWBENDERS
ARCHERY CLUB**



**DRAYTON VALLEY
PADDLING CLUB**



Member clubs are foundational partners in the Parks System. Volunteers from these clubs host events, maintain, enhance and develop recreational facilities that can be enjoyed by residents and visitors.

How to get through a pandemic? That's what many people were asking during the year, and for many area residents and visitors, outdoor recreational assets were a refuge for some fun and normalcy. Some member clubs were able to facilitate safe, social distanced ways to recreate...some had a slightly more difficult time. We asked Club Directors to describe what 2020 was like for their club with one word...

Brazeau ATV Club

"Frustrating"

Maintenance permits were not accessible during 2020 so little work was able to be done on the trail system

Brazeau Bowbenders Archery Club

"Challenging"

The Club was able to hold one shoot during restrictions, however overall memberships declined

Drayton Valley Horse Club

"Adaptive"

Club activities had to be modified to meet restrictions, but trails were utilized

Drayton Valley Paddling Club

"Calm"

Between the weather and the pandemic, paddlers frequently participated in self directed adventures

Evergreen Shooting Club

"Chagrined"

Access or waiting to use the range was never something members had to think about until the pandemic

West Central River Boat Association

"Complicated"

Between Covid-19 restrictions and Mother Nature's gravel deposits in front of the existing boat launch, river access was a challenge

Drayton Valley Rotary Club

"Connection"

Efforts were continually made for connection with each other and the community

Pembina Nordic Ski Club

"Discover"

Being able to facilitate skiing, hiking, biking and disc golf, the club was utilized by many first time users



Club Volunteer Hours

Club Labour Hours= 4376.5

Equipment Hours= 1455

Value to the community in dollars= \$153,280

ENVIRONMENTAL & OUTDOOR EDUCATION



**Early 2020.
Business as
usual...**

Early 2020 started like any other year...

- * In person Environmental and Outdoor Education programs
- * Classroom visits
- * Kids visiting the Parks
- * Enhancing existing programs
- * Developing new programs

Then, the COVID pandemic brought our "regular programming" to a complete halt.



**How to reach
our students
and teachers
during
lockdown?**

**Eagle Point Nature News
Our Digital Newsletter is Born!**

- * Positive response from teachers & families
- * Focus on getting families outdoors
- * Sparks a spirit of exploration, observation and connection with Nature



**Special
Events**

**Global Big Day 2020
A Citizen Science Project**

- * Record participation
- * Record 90 Species count
- * Over 1600 birds observed & identified
- * Peregrines, Turkey Vultures, Ospreys, Barred & Great Grey Owls observed



ENVIRONMENTAL & OUTDOOR EDUCATION



New ways
to reach our
"audience"

EPBRPC Produced YouTube Videos Plus Zoom!

- * Night Visitors
- * Spring in the Forest
- * The 100 Bug Challenge
- * Pond Dipping
- * Puddle Rafts
- * Bird Songs
- * Adapting programs to Zoom



A return to
in-person
but
different...

September 2020 Adapting to Pandemic Norms

- * High demand for outdoor programs
- * Revised program delivery
- * Many classroom programs moved to outdoors
- * Minimal equipment sharing, masking, physical distancing, disinfecting gear & hands



Program
Stats

Participation Numbers Rocked!

- * 1604 in-person experiences
- * 1150 Environmental Education website visitors (blogs, activities)
- * 149 Eagle Point Nature News subscribers
- * 1363 YouTube views
- * 60 Zoom Participants
- * TOTAL 4326 experiences



The Good
News...

Adapting Made Us Better!

- * Broader Reach
- * Wider Audience
- * More Accessible Product
- * More ways to experience a connection to Nature



PARKS DAY 2020



Typically, Parks Day is a huge celebration of all things outdoors with the addition of games, music, entertainment, club hosted activities, and a free community barbecue. That was a no-go in 2020, so we developed "Summer Adventure in a Box" to honour Parks Day. One hundred families were able to register and "drive-thru" to pick up a box containing pond dipping supplies, a bug hunting kit, an activity book, and a three-man tent. We included items that would encourage folks to get outside for an awesome adventure!



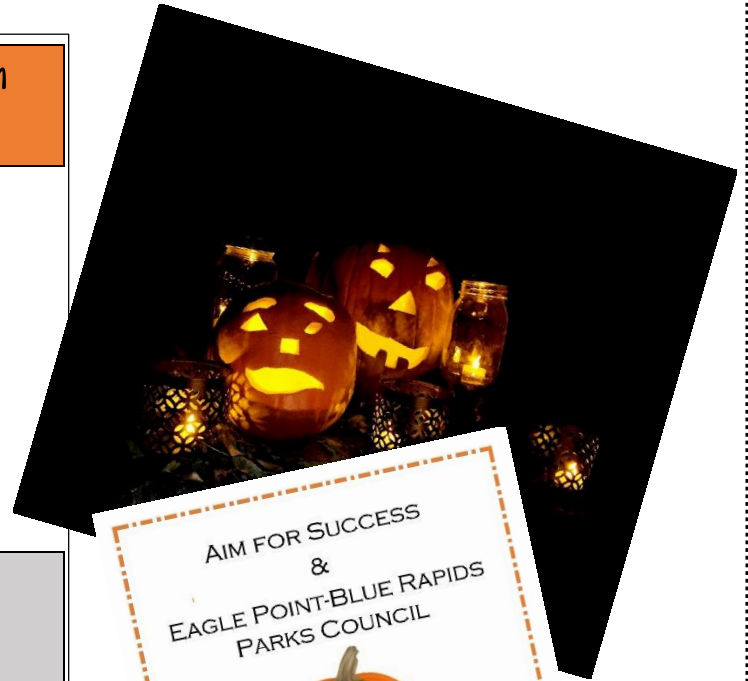
We asked families picking up boxes to tell us in a word, how they feel when they spend time outdoors?

COMMUNITY EVENTS

How do you hold community events when you can't gather as a community?

- ✓ Go outside so you can socially distance
- ✓ Create self-directed activities
- ✓ Have activities open for multiple hours, or even days
- ✓ Stay with your family or cohort

This process seemed to work for our "Community Pumpkin Walk" we hosted with Aim for Success and our "Critter Christmas Tree" in partnership with DV Family and Community Support Services. Both events were held on the Rotary Pembina Nordic Community Trail South. We had such positive community responses, they are soon to become annual events!



ACTION FOR ENERGY PROJECT

In 2019, Eagle Point-Blue Rapids Parks Council was awarded a grant by the Community Environmental Action Program to create a new Environmental Education program called Action for Energy. The aim of Action for Energy was to introduce our participants to alternate energy forms and energy efficient construction while exploring Climate Literacy and encouraging participants to improve their own energy consumption habits. We have created a program which includes a movie, a board game, classroom visits and remote learning.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

By mid 2019, we successfully facilitated several Action for Energy group experiences in partnership with Drayton Valley Centre for Water Intelligence. This modified version included a presentation on Climate Literacy, a tour of the water treatment facility's energy saving features, and construction of small solar powered pizza box ovens with participants aged 12 to 14. As a followup activity, participants did 12 challenges to reduce their personal energy use at home and in the classroom. We collected and analyzed their responses to compute the reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.



CLASSROOM VISITS

In the fall of 2020, we booked the Action for Energy program with more classes, but due to COVID restrictions, we brought Circuit Meter Technology to their classroom. The students were able to log in to the Outdoor Education Centre's Circuit Meter Dashboard and see in real time the Outdoor Education Centre's energy use (heating system, lighting, etc). They could also observe the solar panel power generation in real time, study the historical data, and test out several appliances to compare their energy usage, all from the classroom and their own chrome books!



A MOVIE!

Creating an online Action for Energy learning resource was important, so we produced "Action for Energy - The Movie." We used local students as actors and a videographer to create this 30 minute online teaching resource. We plan to launch the premiere in autumn 2021 before sharing it with the teaching industry. The movie will include a lesson plan and the 12 challenges followup activity.



A BOARD GAME

We developed "Action for Energy - The Board Game," which measures 12' x 16.' The game is a hybrid spin on Snakes and Ladders and Trivial Pursuit with a Climate Literacy theme. When the game board is laid out on the floor of a school gallery, it is a magnet for students! The game has been used by several classrooms with great responses from teachers and students. We've also developed a table top version of this game which we lend out to groups.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

It is always great to have friends! We are delighted that many organizations, businesses and groups share common interests and values with us. These friends have been financial donors and supporters who have helped us to do our work in the community.

Financial Donors

ATCO Pipelines

Drayton Valley FCSS

Servus Credit Union

Alberta Environment & Parks

Town of Drayton Valley

Drayton Valley Community
Foundation

Brazeau County

Metis Multi-Cultural Youth Society

Carlson Roberts Seely

Drayton Sand & Gravel

Drayton Redi-Mix Ltd.

Dennis McGinn Holdings Ltd.

Lafarge

Weyerhaeuser

Individual Donors



Supporters

Drayton Valley IGA

Drayton Valley Municipal Library

Hayduck Picker Services

RCO Energy Services

Brazeau County

Koerr

Servus Credit Union

Staff at the DV Municipal Library

West Central Trappers Association

Gacelas Ballet

Drayton Valley Rotary Club

Frank Maddock High School Blue and
Gold Club

Frank Maddock High School Rugby
Girls

St. Anthony School

M & M Meats

Drayton Valley/Brazeau County Fire
Services

FINANCIAL DATA

Eagle Point-Blue Rapids Parks Council

Statement of Revenues & Expenditures

Year Ended December 31, 2020

| | Total 2020 | Total 2019 |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Revenues | | |
| Grant Revenue | \$405,984 | \$254,865 |
| Cash Donations | 3,080 | 500 |
| Service Revenue | 2,778 | 3,584 |
| Event Revenue | 933 | 2,914 |
| Sponsorships | 900 | 4,700 |
| Reimbursed Supplies | 443 | 3,333 |
| | \$414,118 | \$269,896 |
| Expenses | | |
| Sub-Contracts | 64,864 | 27,584 |
| Core Contractors | 61,816 | 50,106 |
| Salaries and Wages | 51,209 | 54,302 |
| Supplies | 26,649 | 23,284 |
| Office | 13,429 | 12,353 |
| Advertising and Promotion | 4,409 | 1,650 |
| GST Expense | 4,092 | 2,731 |
| Professional fees | 3,500 | 3,500 |
| Insurance | 2,734 | 3,079 |
| Telephone | 2,551 | 1,399 |
| Utilities | 2,380 | - |
| Travel | 1,062 | 4,287 |
| Interest and bank charges | 398 | 138 |
| Repairs and maintenance | - | 232 |
| Training | - | 81 |
| Amortization | 7,109 | 6,794 |
| | \$246,202 | \$191,520 |
| EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES FROM OPERATIONS | 167,916 | 78,376 |
| OTHER INCOME | | |
| Interest Income | 1,890 | 2,699 |
| Government assistance | 27,816 | - |
| Total | \$197,622 | \$ 81,075 |

FINANCIAL DATA

Eagle Point-Blue Rapids Parks Council

Statement of Financial Position

Year Ended December 31, 2020

| | Total 2020 | Total 2019 |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| CURRENT | | |
| Cash | \$431,479 | \$154,272 |
| Accounts receivable | 917 | 613 |
| Government receivable | 10,668 | 15,600 |
| Goods and services tax recoverable | 4,145 | 2,780 |
| | \$447,209 | \$173,265 |
| LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS | | |
| CURRENT | | |
| Accounts payable | \$21,110 | \$4,150 |
| Employee deductions payable | 984 | 1,553 |
| Deferred income | 20,071 | 140 |
| CEBA Loan | 40,000 | - |
| | \$82,165 | \$5,843 |
| NET ASSETS | | |
| Reserve Fund | 20,000 | 17,000 |
| Net assets | 345,044 | 150,422 |
| | 365,044 | 167,422 |
| Total | \$447,209 | \$173,265 |

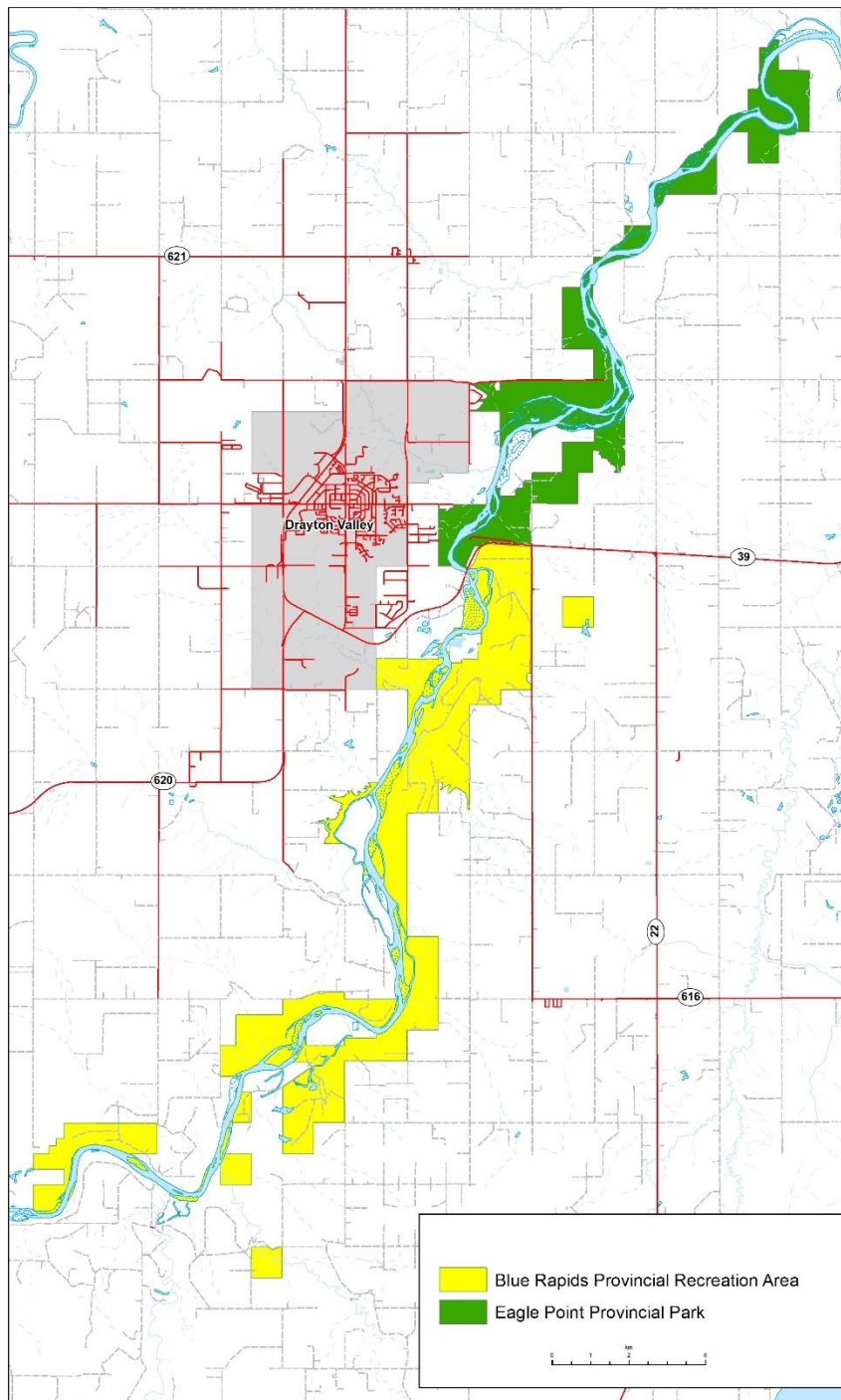
Complete financial statements available at www.epbrparkscouncil.org

Financial statements prepared by Carlson Roberts Seely LLP

EAGLE POINT-BLUE RAPIDS PARKS COUNCIL

Life is much better when you make lemons into
lemonade!

Check us out at www.epbrparksCouncil.org



Established in 2007, the Eagle Point Provincial Park and Blue Rapids Provincial Recreation Area, together referred to as the Eagle Point-Blue Rapids Park System, are located in central Alberta just east of the Town of Drayton Valley. Together they protect the natural and cultural landscape features of a 53 km stretch of the North Saskatchewan River Valley.



**Eagle Point-Blue Rapids
Parks Council**