

# ANZAC COMMUNITY HALL

Presented by Anzac Recreation & Social Society



# Overview

- In 1987 – ARS&S was established with one of it's mandates being to develop, build, and maintain a Community Hall that would meet the needs of the community.
- In the early 90's the Anzac Community Hall was built. Throughout the years the community hall has been well utilized to host countless events such as , dances, weddings, funerals, Anzac Daze, charity fundraisers, pancake breakfasts, Community Dinners, and more
- The community hall functioned as a service center as social non profit groups, AHS Public Health Nurse, RMWB Contact Office, Food Bank, AR&SS programming, Anzac FCSS programming and Laundry Facilities operated in the hall.
- The Community Hall supports rural community development through meaningful social, recreational, traditional, and cultural events and programs
- The ARS&S board is still as committed to ensuring the provision of these services in a centrally located community hall as the previous board members were 30 years ago!

In the 1990'S the AR&SS contributed \$50,000  
dollars from fundraising to support the  
community hall

**IN ADDITON** to Countless volunteer hours



FEB 12 '90 TUE 13:45 IDIS H H ARCHITECTS TEL 101433 425-0535 8796 P32

ANZAC COMMUNITY HALL  
CAPITAL BUDGET PROPOSAL

Capital Expenditures:	
Building	\$510,000.00
Furnishings	40,000.00
Total Cost	\$550,000.00
Capital Funding:	
IDIS Contribution	\$500,000.00
Anzac Community	10,000.00
Fundraising & Donations	40,000.00
Total Funding	\$550,000.00

NOTES to Funding in addition to Capital Budget:

1.	Anzac Community will provide labour and materials for building sitework.	
	Estimated Contribution value	\$200,000.00
2.	Donations and contributions on hand including salvage for equipping the new hall	\$ 30,962.38
3.	Total estimated project value including contributions as noted	\$600,962.38



# Programming

- Since 2017, ARS&S has not received any funding from the RMWB to offset programming/event costs.
- ARS&S has remained active in facilitating community programming since the closure of the Anzac Community Hall – November, 2017. This has been in large part due to sponsorship & donations making the funding available, but also to volunteers for giving their time to facilitate programming for community members to enjoy.
- Costs of family vents such as Anzac Daze, Winterfest, Family Movie Day, Easter Egg Hunt, Family Halloween Party have increased due to higher rental costs thereby reducing the funds available for direct programming.

# Location

- One of the reasons the location was chosen, was for the proximity to the “core” of Anzac. For many long term residents it was seen as the “heart” of the community. Post Wildfire 2016, many residents were welcomed home by going to the Community Hall prior to even visiting their own residence.
- It is within walking distance for our elders (Woodsmoke Elders Lodge), as most do not have transportation, they were still able to partake in activities and utilize the services offered (i.e. Health Nurse, Contact Office) by walking a short distance. They also benefitted from the Seniors programming offered at the Community Hall.
- As central as the location, the community hall provided space that was conducive to offering health care, social support and municipal services in a confidential, comfortable environment. Services included; municipal services available through the contact office, or meeting with Parole Officers, or Waypoints counsellors.

# Partnership with Anzac & Bill Woodward Schools

- Letter from the Principal – Cal Johnson from Anzac & Bill Woodward Schools stating support of the Community Hall
- Due to the proximity of the schools, it was also a designated “muster point” in the event of emergencies
- In previous years, ARS&S worked with BWS to offer the Paradigm Esteem program an anti bullying program that also enhanced self confidence and self esteem and allowed the high school students to earn credits towards their High School Diploma upon completion of the course



September 5, 2019

Re: Anzac Community Hall

Dear Anzac Recreation and Social Society Members:

In the event that a new community hall is built in the vicinity of Bill Woodward School our students and staff would utilize it multiple ways.

In the old community hall we held many fundraising and community engagement activities. It allowed us to build a connection and a partnership with our community members and groups. We miss that connection.

Prior to the community hall closing we used it as a muster point for emergencies and if students were out of the school during a lockdown or hold and secure. Due to the proximity this was an ideal location for that.

Moving forward we could definitely work with the community and have our high school students mentor and volunteer at the hall to receive high school credits. I believe that there would be many opportunities that we would explore should a new hall be built so close to our facility.

Good luck moving forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cal Johnson'.

Cal Johnson

Principal

# Caught in the Act

- AR & SS continues to work with both Bill Woodward and Anzac Community School by sponsoring the "Caught In the Act "
- Students can receive caught in the act for different things. It could be using manners, doing homework, helping a classmate or a teacher, attendance, following instruction... the list goes on! The purpose is to reinforce the positive behaviors in our students that we want to see in members of society. We like them to be noticed for making the right choice. The more good choices they make, the more caught in the act tickets they earn!
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# Facilities & Services

- Laundromat – Being able to offer laundry facilities to residents for whatever reason such as they may not have a washer or dryer, unable to access laundry mat facilities in Fort McMurray.
- Nurse – Alberta Health Services leased an office that they were able to have a key and lock their equipment in and keep it on site instead of having to transport it back and forth every visit. They have cut down their visits from 2 times a month to once a month. Currently, getting vaccines or talking to the health nurse is not in a very private setting, and undressing babies for weighing and needles is very drafty in a large open workout room.
- Waypoints – This organization offers free counselling services to members of the community, however, many community members have declined due to privacy issues.
- Contact Office – When approaching the municipal worker, community members are also in close proximity to the customer service representative at the front desk of the Anzac Rec Centre. There is no privacy and some members like to speak to their personal matters more privately. They have been told that if there is a room available, they can use that, or just sit at the tables next to the desk (Which also happens to be in a large open space)
- Youth Room – With the relocation of the daycare in Anzac (Which is very well utilized), unfortunately, that ends the use of the youth room at the Anzac Rec Centre. Our Junior Leaders were renting/utilizing this room every Thursday prior to taking a summer break to reformat their programming, and now that is no longer available. They have now booked into a meeting room, but that is at an extra cost also.
- Community Group Office/Program Space – Being able to offer a discounted rate for non-profits so that monies can be allocated for more programming as opposed to paying higher rental fees.

## Facilities & Services – Cont'd

- Fort McMurray Food Bank – dropping off hampers for families and having a designated pick up space that is quieter and more discreet
- Funerals – Community members were able to prepare traditional foods in a commercial kitchen, as well as, being able to have a more private atmosphere as other programming was cancelled. There was also a separate room made available for immediate family with the option of a cot as more traditional funerals/wakes the family does not leave the vicinity. Thus, also requiring the use of a 24/7 kitchen
- Family events -Having a different option in regards to what is available and offered and being able to host more private functions.
- Anzac FCSS – had a private office that if a community member was needing support/ resources this could be handled in a confidential setting.
- Food Bank shelf- dried canned food n toiletries where stored in the hall for emergency use to our members

# Initial Community Hall Needs Assessment

Way Points – Private office space

AHS –Private space for Public Health Nurse

BWS/Anzac School – Muster Point/Emergencies/ fund raising functions

Willow Lake Metis Local – Office space, boardroom, storage, hall for cultural functions

Anzac FCSS – Office space, boardroom, storage, hall for Seniors activities

AR&SS – Office space, youth room for programming, storage

# Rebuilding – Now What?

- As the recommendation is to rebuild the Anzac Community Hall, the ARS&S would like to remain involved in the planning and development.
- We would be looking to engage community members and user groups to design a hall that meets the current and future needs of the community and non for profit organizations that provide services and programming.
- We believe the location is ideal for all community members – centralized and accessible to all, located on municipal land (no leases on the land to expire) meaning it could be used to serve the community for many years and generations to come.
- AR&SS is willing to commit to the rebuild and would like the same from the RMWB – A guarantee (however that may be) that the Community Hall WILL BE rebuilt and WILL BE a Community Hall for the community



# In Closing...

- AR&SS has complete preliminary cost assessment of a new hall which \$300.00 per square and at 9500 square feet total cost is 2.9 million
- We, as a board, and a community, have shown through countless volunteer hours that we are dedicated to our community members and this building.
- We hope the RMWB will allow the ARS&S to continue to operate the Community Hall for Anzac and the surrounding communities.



**WAYPOINTS**

#100, 130 Prospect Drive  
Fort McMurray, AB T9K 2Z5

T 780.743.4691  
F 780.791.5560

[www.waypointswb.ca](http://www.waypointswb.ca)



September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Dear Anzac Recreation and Social Society,

As a local social profit operating out of Fort McMurray and providing free and accessible services to all residents of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo (RMWB), Waypoints' is pleased to hear that the current RMWB Administration is working with the Anzac Recreation and Social Society to assess and evaluate community and organization's needs for the rebuilding of the Anzac Community Hall. Waypoints is a local social profit operating within the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo (RMWB) since 1982, and through a range of free programs and services, support children, women and men affected by family violence, sexual assault, abuse and homelessness. The Waypoints' Outreach Program has been providing direct client services, public awareness and education in Anzac for nearly 3 years now and are always looking for ways to engage with the residents of our region.

Prior to the Anzac Community Hall being closed, the Waypoints Outreach Program utilized the space on a weekly and ad-hoc basis, providing services and activities to residents of Anzac, Fort McMurray #468 First Nation and Gregoire Lake Estates for about a year and a half. Since the recommendation to close the Community Hall, we've worked hard in order to continue to serve Anzac and area residents through paid partnerships with the Regional Recreation Corporation and the Willow Lake Community Association. Having a new Community Hall would enable us to continue to provide free and accessible services to residents, while reducing barriers and associated costs.

As we provide direct-client services, such as Counselling and Support Services, our organization would benefit from having a dedicated space in the proposed new Community Hall. Our wish list for the new space would include an office space, approximately 130 square feet that is accessible outside of regular business hours. Ideally, this would serve as an off-site central location that staff may also work from while providing direct client services to residents of the south-side. This space would be safe, secure and private with a closet for the storage of program materials and supplies. Along with the office space, a central location for brochures and program materials from other social profits would also benefit residents of Anzac and area, providing them with information about upcoming activities and events throughout the Region.

In addition to our weekly Counselling and Support Services, the Outreach Program also hosts free community and family events for all residents throughout the year, including in November for Family Violence Prevention Month. Pending available space, the Outreach Program would also like to host Women's Wellness Groups in Anzac, so having a multipurpose main hall would not only benefit our clients and community, but other groups or social profits who are looking to host larger groups. The multipurpose main

*A safe place to choose your direction*

**Working toward a community free of domestic violence, sexual assault,  
abuse and homelessness.**





September 10, 2019

The Anzac Recreational and Social Society  
Christina Drive  
Anzac, AB T0P 1J0

RE: Community Health Services (Public Health) Office Space

The Anzac Recreation and Social Society,

On behalf of Alberta Health Services Community Health Services Department I would like to express my appreciation for being consulted in consideration for space to deliver community health services.

The Community Health Services (Public Health) team has had many years of successful partnership with the Anzac Recreation and Social Society to bring health services to the community of Anzac. Since the loss of the old building, we have struggled to secure a space that is conducive to offering healthcare in a confidential, comfortable environment.

Our request at this time would be for one office space that is at least 12x9 ft. in size. This will allow us to set up a clinical space to offer a full range of public health services including immunization, well child clinic and health promotion consultations.

We will also require small storage cabinets for clinical supplies; a sink for handwashing and counter and desk space to conduct growth measurements and documentation.

Thank you for taking the time to consult Alberta Health Services Community Health Services team.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Splaine".

Jennifer Splaine  
Area Manager Population Public Health



September 5, 2019

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Good luck moving forward.

Sincerely,

Cal Johnson

Principal





**Willow Lake Metis Nation**  
Box 30580 Clearwater PO  
Fort McMurray, AB T9H 0C4  
(780) 334.0008

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Anzac Recreation & Social Society

September 10, 2019

Dear: Vanessa Hodgson

Thank you for your letter dated September 4<sup>th</sup> regarding the recommended outcome of the Anzac Community Hall. The Willow Lake Metis Association is pleased with the recommendation going forward to council that the Anzac Community Hall be demolished and rebuilt. We believe this is a necessity to the wellbeing of the community as it has, and always will be a place where our community connects and grows in spirit, moral and kinship.

This opportunity provides our community for a fresh start. With the understanding of the era in which the previous Community Hall was constructed, it is clear that our community has evolved significantly since then and there are additional needs of our current community that the previous establishment would not have been able to support. If planned and executed appropriately the Anzac Community has an opportunity to align the needs of the non for-profit organizations within the community and provide them with the facilities to run their operations which in turn will help the community of Anzac prosper.

**Willow Lake Metis Association Needs Assessment:**

Based upon our review of current and near future demands the Willow Lake Metis would like to run their daily operations from the community center once constructed. To achieve this WLMA will require 6-10 office spaces, a storage facility for stationery and office storage, A board room which will hold 20-30 people min.

With respect to the main hall area, WLMA would be using the hall on a frequent basis for regular planned activities such as: (Not Limited to)

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- ☐ Community Bingo
  - ☐ Celebrations
  - ☐ Cultural events
  - ☐ Industry/government meetings/interactions
  - ☐ Annual General Assemblies
  - ☐ Community meetings
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Additional uses of the Main Hall would be for community members weddings, funerals, birthday etc.