

# MUNICIPAL NEWS

## 2026 Budget Approved

On December 16, 2025, Hinton's Town Council approved a \$37M Operating Budget and \$14.9M Capital Plan, focusing on maintaining services while investing in quality of life and taking steps to prepare Hinton for economic growth.

Key highlights:

- Recreation Centre modernization savings (\$1.45M annually)
- Support for regional organizations (\$520,000)
- Capital projects: skate park resurfacing, playground replacement, and utility upgrades.

Property taxes will increase about \$23 per month on a \$400,000 home, to help fund these initiatives.

Learn more: [www.hinton.ca/engage](http://www.hinton.ca/engage)

## Recreation Centre Modernization Update



Council has not decided which modernization option to pursue: Maintain, Expand, or Build New. They will discuss options in spring 2026.

However, \$1.45M has been included in the 2026 Budget to begin saving for modernization work.

Learn more: [www.hinton.ca/engage](http://www.hinton.ca/engage)

## Friendly Visitor Program

Connecting caring volunteers with recipients who could benefit from regular social visits. Trained volunteers spend one to two hours per month visiting or make regular phone calls. Sign up to volunteer!

Register for two weeks of free in-person training on

**Monday, January 26: 6 - 7:30 p.m.**

**Monday, February 2: 6 - 7:30 p.m.**

Then attend a volunteer and client meet-and-greet on

**Monday, February 9: 6 - 7:30 p.m.**

Learn more: [www.hinton.ca/FriendlyVisitor](http://www.hinton.ca/FriendlyVisitor)

## January is Alzheimer's Awareness Month

About 50,000 Albertans live with dementia, nearly half with Alzheimer's disease. Awareness helps fight stigma and build dementia-friendly communities. Hinton is showing support by lighting up the West Fraser Guild and Green Square Visitor Centre in blue.

Local resources and a monthly Dementia Care Partner Support Group are available through Hinton FCSS (780-865-6036). No one needs to face dementia alone—support is here.

Learn more: **780-865-6036**





## Simplify Billing Go Electronic

Paper invoices cost \$2 per bill. **Sign up for electronic billing** to avoid this charge. Just provide your account number and email address.

780-865-6014

[ar@hinton.ca](mailto:ar@hinton.ca)



Feeling connected is essential to well-being, yet people are spending less time building face-to-face relationships, especially with diverse populations.

### Sign up for a free Neighbourhood Connection Kit!

Each kit includes helpful ideas, mental health resources, and \$30 in #HintonFirst Bucks!

Learn more:

[www.hinton.ca/HeyNeighbour](http://www.hinton.ca/HeyNeighbour)



## 50% of Residential Water Meters Installed

So far, residents have helped Neptune Technology Group install 50% of the mandatory residential water meters in Hinton.

- Waiting for yours? Residents will receive a letter from Neptune with a booking reference and instructions.
- Appointments are flexible, including evenings and weekends.
- There is no cost for installation. Meters will be used for billing starting in spring 2026.

More info: [www.hinton.ca/engage](http://www.hinton.ca/engage)

## Upcoming Events

**January:** Hinton Municipal Library events for kids and adults including Storytime, Early Readers, Adult Crafts, Genealogy, Family Art, and more.

**February 6 - 23:** Hinton's 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Magic Festival. Host or attend an event: [www.hinton.ca/wintermagic](http://www.hinton.ca/wintermagic)

**Every Tuesday at 4 p.m.:** Regular Council or Committee Meeting at the Government Centre.

More info: [www.hinton.ca/calendar](http://www.hinton.ca/calendar)