









#### **OFFICE HOURS**

Tuesday - Saturday ~ 9am - 3pm (September 1-12) 10am-2pm (September 13-30)

#### **OUR VISION**

Millarville Racing and Agricultural Society is dedicated to building community spirit.

#### **OUR MISSION**

Millarville Racing and Agricultural Society provides authentic family experiences and exceptional facilities which celebrate our agricultural heritage, inspiring a sense of belonging for the community.



Track Watch

**TABLE OF CONTENTS** 

3

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This month's message from, Anna De Paoli MRAS President.

5

#### **MRAS EVENTS & DIRECTORS**

List of events happening at MRAS all year long and a list of MRAS Board of Directors.

7

#### **MRAS EQUINE NEWS**

Information on MRAS Equine activities and events.

10

#### **PRIDDIS & MILLARVILLE FAIR**

Information on 115th Priddis & Millarville Fair on August 20-21, 2022.

13

#### MILLARVILLE LIBRARY

List of events happening this summer at the Millarville Community Library.

14

#### **HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

The Millarville Historical Society's profile on Thomas Adams and his hard-working family.

18

#### **QE II JUBILEE MEDAL**

Nominate someone from our community to receive recognition from the crown.

19

#### **SEAMAN SPORTS PARK**

Pathway opening event on September 17th

September 2022

## PRESIDENT'S Message



Dear MRAS Members,

I hope that you had an opportunity to visit the 2022 Priddis & Millarville Fair, "Country Fun for Everyone." What a wonderful event for the whole family. A huge thank you to Suzanne Sills and the many hundreds of volunteers who worked tirelessly to make the fair such a success. We saw many changes this year, from the gymkhana events on Friday evening to the Wardens concert on Sunday. It is too early for us to have all the numbers together for attendees and results, but the smiles on faces said it all for me. Thank you so very much to all involved! Special congratulations to Gwen Blatz, who was awarded Outstanding Exhibitor / Contributor for 2022, you are truly worthy of this award Gwen.

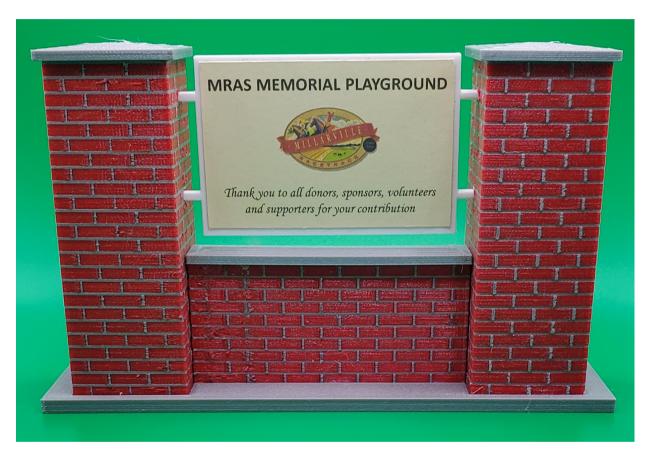
In August our Saturday farmers' markets have been attracting over 2,500 people each week which is tremendous. Thank you to Shayla for stepping in to run daily operations while Melonie took some well-deserved vacation in August. Thank you also to those who have volunteered to work on the MRAS gate and information and merchandise table. These are important customer facing roles and many people have learned about our organization, events, and history from interactions with our gate and table volunteers.

A quick update on the playground project, Blaine Clark has stepped forward to manage the construction operations side of this project, thank you Blaine. It now looks like installation will be in the spring of 2023, as the lead time for equipment is long at the moment. Please help us to raise



## PRESIDENT'S Message

the remaining \$30,000 for this project so that we can install our playground in the spring. Our "Name a Brick" campaign is now open. For a \$200 donation, you can add your name, a family or business name to a brick on our playground recognition structure. Donations of \$1,000 or more will be recognized on the central sign. More details and donation forms can be found at <a href="https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/donate/">https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/donate/</a>.



Looking forward to September, we have an exciting line up for you on September 9th to 11th with the Chuckwagons, Chariots and Bulls Under the Lights. More details and tickets can be found at: <a href="https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/chuckwagons-chariots-bulls-under-the-lights/#">https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/chuckwagons-chariots-bulls-under-the-lights/#</a> Thank you to Lori Lohnes and the chucks committee for all of your work to date on this event. We are looking forward to hearing the wagons thundering around our newly upgraded track shortly.

Anna De Paoli MRAS President



Mark your calendars for our 2022 events!

CAMPGROUND NOW OPEN FOR BOOKINGS

CAMPGROUND OPEN
- MAY 20, 2022

MILLARVILLE SPRING MARKET - APRIL 30, 2022

MRAS GOLF TOURNAMENT
- JUNE 10, 2022

RUN TO THE MARKET HALF MARATHON - JUNE 18, 2022

SUMMER FARMERS' MARKET
- EVERY SATURDAY
FROM JUNE 18-OCTOBER 8 2022
9 AM - 2 PM

MILLARVILLE RACES
- JULY 1, 2022

PRIDDIS MILLARVILLE FAIR
- AUGUST 20 + 21, 2022

CHUCKWAGONS, CHARIOTS,
AND BULLS
- SEPTEMBER 9-11, 2022

MILLARVILLE CHRISTMAS

MARKET
- NOVEMBER 3-6 + 10-13,

2022

## 2022 MRAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Anna De Paoli President

Barb Parker Vice President

Brent Foster
Treasurer

Patt Peterson
Secretary

Sylvia Checkley
Director

Lai Chen Director

Darcie Jensen
Director

Janice Tranberg

Director

Nancy Seaman Director

Roy Mathis

Director



## MRAS EQUINE NEWS

Questions about the MRAS Equine Facilities and memberships, please email: mras.equine@gmail.com

#### **MRAS Riding Memberships**

August - October quarter riding memberships AVAILABLE for purchase.

Membership fees and registration information available on the MRAS website: <a href="https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com">www.millarvilleracetrack.com</a> under Get Involved > Memberships > Riding Memberships

Should you have any questions, please contact MRAS.equine@gmail.com

New riding members will need to come into the office or make an appointment to complete their registration and receive their access FOB and information about booking riding times.

### **MRAS Equine Activities**

We are planning activities, both Western and English, through the winter months for our members and non-members.

If you have an idea for a clinic or activity you would like to see, please contact MRAS.equine@gmail.com

Check the website regularly to find out what's going on and how to register for any of the upcoming equine events, clinics and activities:

https://www.millarvilleracetrack.com/our-facilities/#equine







# MILLARVILLE ANNUAL COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE

## SATURDAY OCTOBER 8th 2022 MILLARVILLE RACETRACK RIDING ARENA 10 AM - 2 PM

#### **INDOORS - RAIN OR SHINE**

Tables are \$15 each, 3 or more \$10 each contact the office at <a href="mailto:ava@mras-track.com">ava@mras-track.com</a> to reserve your tables.

#### **Over 35 participants!**

call the office (403) 931-3411 for information

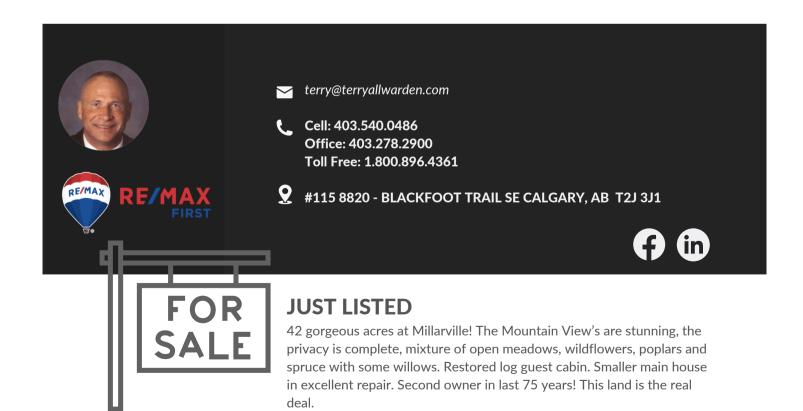




Photo Credit: Katherine Matiko and Carol Papworth

## **Country Fun for Everyone**

The Fair attracted over 4000 visitors and 343 exhibitors who displayed, rode, drove or showed 2191 exhibits over the weekend of August 19th-21st...and it was fun! It is all possible thanks to the dedication of our volunteers and sponsors.

#### **THANK YOU!**

#### Photo Gallery & Media Links:

https://www.cbc.ca/listen/live-radio/1-95-daybreak-alberta/clip/15932004-the-licked-salt-block-competition-priddis-millarville-fair

https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/millarville-licked-salt-block-competition-1.6559103?cmp=newsletter\_CBC%20Calgary\_1652\_664130

https://www.okotokstoday.ca/wheels-west/priddis-millarville-fair-marks-its-115th-year-5683259

### 2022 Award of Excellence Winners





#### **Exhibitor Name** Wendy Bradley **Kess Chapotelle** Finn Blatz Robyn Anderson Adam Scanlan Paul Rishaug Wyatt Wilkie Elinor Melnyk Jadyn Brown Laura James **Brvcen Warwick** Kathy Stevenson Reece Kinnear Patric Lyster Shelby Oldale

Alicia Brydyes

Gavan Klemencic

Kendra Warren

Tyler Haneman

#### **Department** Arts & Handicrafts Arts & Handicrafts Junior Beef Cattle Dairy Goats Show 1 Dairy Goats Show 2 **Flowers** Flowers Junior Home Cooking & Baking Home Cooking & Baking Junior **Photography Photography Junior Poultry Poultry Junior** Sheep **Sheep Junior** Vegetables & Fruit **Vegetables Junior** Woodworking

Woodworking Junior

### 2022 Outstanding Exhibitor/Contributor Award Winner Gwen Blatz

Since 2010, the Fair has named individuals and/or families who have demonstrated outstanding performance and contribution to the ongoing success of the Fair. Criteria include long standing contributions in volunteering, sponsorship, leadership, mentorship and creativity that culminates in a significant impact on the continuing success of the Fair. Gwen Blatz fits all those criteria. She has grown up with the Fair – her grandmother rode

criteria. She has grown up with the Fair – her grandmother rode her horse in the first fair and her grandchildren compete and volunteer today. Her resolve and determination in roles as chair, executive member, Committee member and volunteer not only benefited the fair but encouraged others to do the same. She is responsible for the criteria on the judging cards used in the Home Cooking & Baking Department as well as initiating the pie eating contest and pie auction. Most recently she participated in bringing in the cookie decorating activity during the Fair. Gwen was nominated by Patty Webb and Donna Kendall and has the unanimous support from the Fair

Committee for this award. Thank you Gwen!



Hand Crafted Items



Created by Local **Fibre Artists** 

OCTOBER 15 & 16, 2022 10am to 4pm

Millarville Racetrack Hall

## Millarville **Horticultural Club**

Meetings are held at Ranchers Hall in Millarville on the second Tuesday of the month, September to May, at 7:00 p.m. Please do not use Google to try and locate Ranchers' Hall as it will direct you to Heritage Park. Millarville only has one main street so you cannot miss it. It is located beside the school.

Our September meeting will be on Tuesday, September 13 at 7:00 p.m. The Wild Bird Store will be bringing their truck for you to make purchases and doing a presentation on birds and feeding them.

If you are interested in attending any of our presentations, please contact Gail Dziuba at millarvillehorticulturalclub@gmail.com. Whether you are a novice or expert in landscaping or gardening, join our club; \$15/year for singles or \$20/year for a family.

We invite you to like us on our Facebook page where we share lots of tips and tricks!





September already! Back to school and back to regular hours for the Millarville Library. We look forward to seeing you all in the library and online as you order library materials through Marigold.

Our little library, run with the help of one energetic and enthusiastic part-time librarian (Natasha Grusendorf) and many equally energetic and enthusiastic volunteers, is

looking for a bit of help. A decrease in grant money and an increase in insurance and utility costs has made a bit of a hole in our budget. We are certainly not in dire straits

but in order to bring you the materials and services that you expect we are embarking on some fundraising ventures.

**Bottle Drive!** A bottle trailer will be parked outside the school/library from September 7-9, so save all your bottles and cans and fill that trailer to bursting! We thank Square Butte Ranches for donating all their bottles collected in August and library volunteer Ada Morgan for her help with this project.

We will be offering our first workshop for the fall on September 10 at the library. We are privileged to have Paula Kroeker from the Sheep Creek Weavers facilitate **Needle Felted Landscapes**. Paula will guide you in creating landscape pictures together using beautiful shades of lovely soft wool. Kits will be provided at a reasonable cost for all the materials necessary, you need only bring your imagination. Paula is donating a portion of her fee to the library - thanks! For more information please check Facebook, Instagram or call the library at 403-931-3919. Class size will be limited to ten people so register as soon as possible. **All donations to the library will receive a tax receipt! There is a donation book in the library and at the store!** 



Once again our library ran a successful summer drop-in program for local kids. Everyone had lots of fun playing with airplane designs as well as doing crafts and science experiments. Thanks to our librarian Natasha Grusendorf and her two student assistants Hannah Mortimer and Chris Grusendorf! As always check our Instagram and FB pages for more information including upcoming workshops in the months leading up to Christmas. Welcome back to school and the library!

## MILLARVILLE fistory

### MILLARVILLE 130TH BIRTHDAY PARTY

SUBMITTED BY GENE BLAKLEYAND LORRETTA STABLER - MILLARVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Well, August 07, 2022, will live on as a great day for Millarville and the Millarville Historical Society. The day dawned with a beautiful blue sky and the sound of combines and balers. The Agricultural segment of the local population were in the process of ever diminishing circles of insanity with the best of talk radio in their ears.

Meanwhile at the Millarville Race and Agricultural Hall members of the Millarville Historical Society Board were setting up for the celebration. Wonderful saskatoon treats were prepared and coffee was brewing.

It was wonderful seeing so many friends, neighbors and former neighbors and friends that came from distances. Such a feeling of pride to witness so many people coming together to share community history. Many of the 160 people who came signed up as newly minted Founding Members of the Millarville Historical Society. Five other Historical Groups were in the audience showing support which means a lot.

The idea was to have a member of each family that had been Postmaster and store owner to come and share their family's time at the store. Gene initiated this with memories of pioneers that first came and how they would become Heroes and Role Models for us all.

Unfortunately, Curtis MacMillan was one of the people doing the circles of insanity so Gene shared about Curtis' grandfather Malcolm Millar who had started a trading post on his land and was the first Postmaster, April 1892. He held that position until 1911.

Next Jean Slemco talked about her grandfather W. H. King who built a new store to the North of where the store is now, become Postmaster and held that position until 1920.

Anne Walton and her husband Enoch and their partner Luke Forward took over in 1920. They also bought the Kew Store and left Anne to run the store and be Postmaster until 1926.

In 1926, Norman Pegler bought an acreage from Ted Rawlinson and built a new store on the site of the store today. His grandson Steve Pegler came and brought two great pictures of the old store. He gave a good talk on his family's history, reminiscing about his Dad recalling the store being full of canned tomatoes and corned beef. He disliked them both having eaten them so often during the Depression. They held the store until 1944.

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## MILLARVILLE fistory



In 1944, Jappy Douglas took over the store and this was the time of the oil boom in Millarville. Joan Christianson, his daughter, told of a terrifying experience she remembered when Joe Fisher rode his horse into the store to pick up his mail. There were marks on the oiled wooden floor left by the horseshoes. Their family ran the store until 1956.

In 1956, Carl Orthner bought the store. This was a time when you could shop for your groceries, and itwould be marked down in your charge book to be paid later. All the charge books were kept under the counter.

In 1958, Clarke and Pat Jacobson bought the store and their son Perry told of their time at the store. Clarke started the rural route delivery and continued to do it for a while after they sold the store to the Laycrafts.

In 1959, Arlie and Veryl Laycraft and son Ron took over the store. They ran the store until 1974 when Arlie and Veryl retired. Pearl talked about delivering mail for more than 11 years, so thankful for those who kept the snow shovelled away from mail boxes so she wouldn't get stuck. She called herself, Pearl the Mail Girl, so that dogs wouldn't want to bite her as she wasn't the mail man.

In 1974 Nick and Janet Cooke took over the store and Janet was Postmaster.

In 1978 Karen and John Clarke bought the store.

In 1978 Rick and Pan Shindruk bought the store.

This was a bad period for the store as John Clarke was electrocuted at the store and Rick Shindruk became infected with a tropical disease, he got from a spider bite.

In 1982 Wendy and Brian Kinsman bought the store and although they owned and ran the store until 1993, they suffered the loss of their store and home by fire on December 22, 1988. The community rallied around them, Pearl organized the mail relocated to Millarville Motors by the next day, the store was rebuilt within a year and stands as it is today.

In 1993 Mike and Leslie Patterson took over – a time of huge changes such as: Canada Post automation, movie rental to streaming services, and a time when you could get a liquor licence if you were a certain distance from a liquor store. Mike said it was community support that made their years as store-owners so fulfilling, along with long time employees and invaluable assistance given by Ron & Pearl Laycraft.

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## MILLARVILLE Story

In 1915 Hamid and Nazima Narsinani took over the store and ran it until 2020. Lottery and Hallmark cards were added to the store at this time.

In 2020 Tim Babey took over the store and is putting his own stamp on it. No celebration of Millarville would be complete without Millarville Motors. Ev Prestie gave a good talk about her family's ownership of this institution. This is still in the family – now three generations of Backs ownership.

Although times have changed in Millarville - from Robert Turner settling the land in 1887, to Ted Rawlinson buying it and plowing up the polo grounds in 1922, to Norman Pegler building the new store in 1926, to the Sheep Creek School moving to Millarville in the 1950's along with the new Rancher's Hall being built. The cost of a stamp being 2 cents and a loaf of bread 10 cents, to an oil boom, and now to being a home to many acreages. In all that time, the General Store and Post office have served the residents of Millarville and district very well and the history continues.

Community members were invited to design a unique historical postage stamp and Livy Tosh and Louise Patterson Bruns were awarded gift certificates for their winning postage stamp entries. All the contest entries, various photos depicting the transformations of local buildings in 130 years, special artifacts from Millarville Community School Archaeological Digs 2003-05, and photos of Governor General Michael Jean's royal visit were displayed. Treasured western equipment from the late 1800's, honoring the time period of the first Millarville post office, were also exhibited.

We are starting a new era for the Millarville Historical Society, with individual and family memberships available. With a paid membership, members will get access to the new Facebook page where we will be writing articles that will take us up to 1976, reduced rates for historical presentations, and the ability to help us keep and expand the history of this area. Our long-term goal is to create a museum to showcase significant local artifacts and continue researching, collecting, and sharing stories. We encourage each of you to become members and continue this journey with us. Membership payment can be made by cash, cheque, or e transfers <a href="millarvillehistoricalsociety@gmail.com">millarvillehistoricalsociety@gmail.com</a> . Find more info on our new website: millarvillehistoricalsociety.weebly.com



## **DAVID** "DAVE" **EVANS 1871 - 1937**

## MILLARVILLE Sistory

SUBMITTED BY GENE BLAKLEY - MILLARVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Dave Evans left the farm he was raised on near Llandilo, Wales in 1897 to emigrate to Canada. He was accompanied by his boyhood friend Conwil Williams. They got employment with the CPR building bridges in the Crows Nest Pass.

That fall they heard that Malcolm Millar was looking for someone to manage his sheep. Having raised sheep in Wales he got the job and stayed for about a year and then moved on to work for W.H. King. He stayed here for three years and while there purchased the



Dave and Mary Evans with Mary's sister, Edith Edwards taken in front of their home around 1912

adjoining piece which he developed in his spare time. This is the home quarter that the Evans still live on. Having "batched" for seven years on the land and having built a log house he married his schoolgirl sweetheart Mary Ann Thomas on St. Valentine's Day in 1910. Having a wife meant adding a kitchen to the cabin and lining it to keep out the cold. For many years Dave would wake up on cold mornings to find his moustache frozen to the bedclothes. Son D.E. Evans was born on August 10, 1914. To parents that were both forty-three at the time this was like the second coming so Dave Sr. lit ten sticks of dynamite one after the other. The booms echoed all down the Cheep Creek Valley and this sent Nick Nichols galloping to all his neighbours to warn them that the Germans were attacking Calgary.

Dave got his first car in 1919, a Baby Grand Chevrolet. Dave never became a good driver, so incidents were sure to follow. One time after being parked in Okotoks, Dave, Mary Ann, and son started for home. A pedestrian was crossing the street. He stopped; Dave stopped. He started Dave started and ran over the man who let out a fearful scream. Being excited, Dave then backed over the man. A crowd then took the man to the doctor. Dave said that he would pay for all costs which came to a doctor's prescription for two bottles of whisky. Dave was better with horses and bred Shire horses from his imported French stallion.

Dave died in 1937 and Mary Ann retired to Calgary until her death in 1953. They both are buried with their friends at Millarville Christ Church.

Follow more stories of our pioneers by joining our Facebook group Millarville Society History or email us at millarvillehistoricalsociety@gmail.com

If you have stories or photos to contribute to our growing archives.



## QUEEN ELIZABETH II



Miranda Rosin MLA. Banff-Kananaskis

I am seeking nominations for individuals from our community who you believe to be recognized for their public service at the highest level – from the Crown.

If you know me, you will know that I admire Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. So much so, that my mother and I recently flew to London, England to participate in the Platinum Jubilee celebrations. At 96 years old, Her Majesty has served as a mechanic in the war, trained and raced her own fleet of horses, personally driven around the Saudi King at a time when it was still a punishable offence for women to drive in his home country, and participated in high level tactical and political conversations with some of the most iconic leaders of our lifetime. She has held over 50 ranks in the British military, given assent to over 4000 acts of parliament, and served as a beacon of stability on the world stage. In 2022, much of this may seem ordinary, but when put in the context being a woman thrust into public service at just age 27 in the mid-1900s, it is all quite extraordinary.

That is why our government, and every other provincial government across the country, will be honouring Her Majesty's Jubilee through Platinum Jubilee Medals. These medals will be given to outstanding individuals who have, as she has done, dedicated their lives to family, community, and country.

This is where I need your help: I am seeking nominations for the medals. If you know someone in our constituency who has led a life of service, please nominate them.

#### We will need their:

- Full name
- Age, or your closest estimate
- Field of endeavour
- Home address
- Phone number and email, and
- 300 word maximum justification for nomination.

My office will then choose those most deserving candidates and submit them to the Jubilee Medal Office for validation. The medals will subsequently be awarded at a ceremony full of fanfare in true Crown style. As Her Majesty is celebrating 70 years on the throne, making her the longest serving British Monarch in history, a total of 7,000 medals will be awarded to deserving Albertans.

To nominate someone, please email my office at Banff.Kananaskis@assembly.ab.ca. The deadline to submit nominations will be November 30, 2022.

Queen Elizabeth performed her first public engagement at age 16, and at age 21 recited her ever-famous quote that her whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to our service. In honour of her Platinum Jubilee, we are searching for other individuals in our community that have embodied that same mantra. I look forward to receiving your submissions, and eventually meeting the incredible individuals behind your nominations.



**Pathway Opening EVENT on September 17:** The North West Foothills Recreation Board (NWFRB) invites you to join us on Saturday, September 17, 2022, from 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm to test out our new pathway at Seaman Sports Park! Stop by after the Millarville Market. Meet the Board, go for a walk and enjoy a refreshment with us.

**Pathway Location:** Our pathway is situated on 30 acres in the Seaman Sports Park, which is located directly south of Highway 549, approximately 0.8 km east of the intersection of Highway 549 and Highway 22 (Street address: 192133 Hwy 549 W). Parking is available at the site.

Park photos can be viewed on our Facebook page: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/NWFoothillsRec">https://www.facebook.com/NWFoothillsRec</a>

For **background info**, visit our webpage: <a href="https://www.foothillscountyab.ca/community/recreation-boards/north-west-foothills-recreation-board">https://www.foothillscountyab.ca/community/recreation-boards/north-west-foothills-recreation-board</a>

**Project Update:** NWFRB is pleased to announce that our pathway project is open for use! Since 2010, our recreation board, volunteers, donors and partners have planned and built Phase 1 Outdoor projects in the Seaman Sports Park, including two regulation ball diamonds, access roads and a parking lot. As we continue to develop Phase 2 Outdoor facilities, our latest endeavor features this 1.2 km long, 2 m wide, leveled, shale-surface pathway in a beautiful mountain-view setting. Enjoy the pathway for walking, running, biking, snow-shoeing and cross-country skiing! No horses or motorized vehicles are permitted on the pathways or park grounds. Dress for the weather. Please keep pets on a leash and under control at all times, and please clean up after yourself and any pets.

**Next Steps Together:** We hope the community enjoys this facility while working together towards the next phase of the Seaman Sports Park! We invite you to become involved and join us as we begin planning and fundraising for a picnic area, a specialized accessible playground area, a multi-sport field and other upgrades. Please see our draft site plan, printed here, which shows our pathway and the proposed future project locations on the site.

**Let's Make It Happen**: Your involvement is welcome! Help us plan these projects to build out our park. Help us with your tax-deductible donation (receipts available for amounts over \$100). Your support is our future!

#### **Contact The NWFRB Regarding Information or Donations:**

Phone: 403.603.6244

Email: NWREC@FoothillsCountyAB.ca

Hope to see you on the 17th!



CONTACT MELONIE at melonie@mras-track.com

## The MRAS is looking for 1 New Volunteer Board of Director Member

Preference will be given to those that can fill some of the specialty gaps we currently have such as IT or financial expertise (CPA or equivalent).



If you are interested in joining the Board, please contact Anna De Paoli – MRAS President at mraspresident@gmail.com

### IRONWOOD

### BUILDING

### CORP

Ironwood Building Corp. is a company specializing in the design, manufacturing and construction of steel based buildings. A second generation company, our head office in Calgary has grown into a diverse team of engineers, designers, technicians, project managers, administrators and constructors working in a collaborative environment. Additionally, we maintain a dedicated network of dealers throughout Western Canada. **www.ironwood.ca** 

#### THANK YOU TO OUR MAJOR SPONSORS



