

Community Services



2024 Year in Review

Staying Connected

The Town of Penhold, Town of Penhold Community Support Services and Penhold Youth Club (PYC) social media pages & website are valuable information sources for residents.

Facebook followers:
3,518 TOP
495 PYC
980 FCSS

Instagram (TOP)
1,348 followers

X/twitter (TOP)
2,229 followers

E-NEWS subscribers
463

Website views
average 150 daily



**PYC raised
\$7,073.43 from
Smile Cookie Week**



Penhold Family & Community Support Services (FCSS) offers a variety of programs, presentations & activities for all ages

FCSS Community Navigators design and deliver preventative social initiatives, programs, and services that enhance the social well-being of individuals, families, and the community. By collaborating with various community groups such as the Community Services Advisory Board, School Councils, and other organizations at interagency meetings, they aim to bridge the gap between service providers and the community. Events like Penhold Discovery Night, and the variety of programming offered, highlight this commitment to community engagement.

Programs:

- Tech Tips for Older Adults & Seniors
- Drop-In Playgroup
- Lego Club
- Craft & Connect
- Craft Club
- Snow Angels
- Adulting Unlocked
- Yard Angels
- Palliative Ponders – Death Café
- Home Alone Safety for Kids
- Daddy & Me Play Day
- Stocking Stuffers for Seniors
- Babysitters courses
- Family Play Day



Presentations:

- Supporting Caregivers
- Family Law presentation / Ask-A-Lawyer from the Central Alberta Community Legal Clinic

Workshops:

FCSS Regional Project "Every Little Bit Helps" workshops: Seniors Benefits & Energy Efficiency



Adulting Unlocked



PYC Bowling Fieldtrip



Craft Session

Penhold Youth Club (PYC)



Events & Activities to note: Youth Week, Smile Cookie Week, Wake-Fest, Princess Tea, Bottle Drive, Family Time with PYC, West Edmonton Mall field trip, Escape Room and bowling field trip and, Leaders in Training (LiT) Orientations, LiT field trip & Teen Nights.

226
Youth in
grades 4-12
registered

866

Volunteer
hours at
PYC

In 2024 there was a significant increase in youth volunteering within the PYC program. Many of these young individuals have formed positive connections through the Grade 4-6 youth program. The PYC Program is incredibly fortunate to have such dedicated youth who are passionate about improving their community. As a result, many of these volunteers choose to pursue careers involving working with children in various capacities.

During the summer, two Leaders in Training (LiT) were hired to assist with the Kids Summer Camps. These emerging community leaders are often seen volunteering at Town events, assisting with activities such as pie-eating contests, cookie decorating, crafts, glitter tattoos, and even helping run the Easter Bunny photos station.

PYC members participated in several fundraisers and earned \$11,429.22 towards field trips, program supplies and other activities.

Community Events

The Community Services team hosted four (4) major events and worked with Canadian Blood Services to launch the first annual Penhold Cares campaign in 2024. Admission fees were removed from events in 2024 to ensure there was not a financial barrier for anyone to attend.

Penhold Cares February 1 to 29



In partnership with Canadian Blood Services, the goal of this campaign is to encourage local residents, and all of Central Alberta, to donate blood throughout the month to acknowledge the world record accomplishment of Penhold resident Josephine Michaluk.

The challenge was Penhold VS the rest of Central Alberta with the area divided into zones using HWY 2 and HWY 42 at dividing lines, with the

City of Red Deer as it's own zone as well. The 2024 campaign was a success with 1,055 units of blood collected by Canadian Blood Services and Penhold having the third most donors at the Red Deer Donor Centre.

Easter Eggstravaganza Saturday March 23

Approximately 275 attendees, no admission fee. The community enjoyed wagon rides, cookie decorating, crafts, bouncy slide, face painting, Easter Bunny photos and glitter tattoos.

Canada Day Celebration Monday July 1

PYC Pancake Breakfast raised over \$950 for the PYC program.

Despite having to be moved indoors at the last minute, over 200 attendees came to celebrate Canada's birthday on the arena pad at the Multiplex. Activities included mini golf, bubble station, games, face painting & balloon animals.

Fall Festival Friday September 5 & Saturday September 6

The largest event of the year was a tremendous success with the return of rides on Friday & Saturday to go with the other Fall Festival activities. There were over 100 staff, volunteer fire fighters and community members from local groups who volunteered their time to help make Fall Festival a success.



Community Christmas Friday November 22

Even the Grinch couldn't take away the Christmas Spirit in our community for Community Christmas with the tree lighting, music and dance performances, crafts, face painting and cookie decorating. The Museum Society and Senior Drop-In Centre had successful fundraisers at the event and 115 Little Shoppers purchased gifts for family and friends with the assistance of Church of Hope volunteers in the Little Shoppers area.

The event was also the kick-off to the holiday season in Penhold and there were activities and contests from November 22 through until December 15. Community engagement during the holidays was higher this year than it has been in previous years.



10

Community Volunteer Groups

donated their time to ensure the success of Town of Penhold events



Easter
Eggstravaganza



Canada Day
Bubble Station



Mayor Mike's
Mini Marathon