



GROVEDALE COMMUNITY &
AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Club Overview 2025



Board of Directors

Executive Directors

President	Jordan Penson
Vice President	Shannon Bartlett
Treasurer	Leah Diachuk
Secretary	Nicole Thetrault

General Directors

Andrea Penson	Kaitlyn Braun
Joanne Bremner	Kris Tenney
Colin McAusland	





VISION * MISSION * VALUES

Vision:

Grovedale is a proud community. Active, connected and engaged.

Mission:

Through facilities, programs and events the Grovedale Community & Agricultural Society builds the future of our community.



VISION * MISSION * VALUES

Values:

GCAS will be guided in its actions by the following value statements:

- * Pride in responsibility to our community.
- * Family and community is our focus.
- * Success through communication and teamwork.
- * Compassion and respect for each other.
- * Friendships and fun make the difference.



Facility Operation

GCAS OPERATES 3 MAIN FACILITIES:

- **ICE ARENA:**

ARENA RENTALS WERE AT AN ALL-TIME HIGH LAST YEAR. GROSS REVENUE INCREASED 51.5% BETWEEN 2023-2024. WE HAVE A VERY WIDE SERVICE AREA IN THE PEACE COUNTRY, PROVIDING RENTALS TO WEMBLEY AND GRANDE PRAIRIE, BOTH MEN'S LEAGUES AND MINOR HOCKEY. RENTALS TO GP REBELS HOCKEY DEVELOPMENT, GRANDE CACHE FIGURE SKATING, AND AS FAR AS PEACE RIVER FIGURE SKATING. WE ALSO SUPPORTED LA GLACE LEAGUES WHILE THEY WERE UNDER CONSTRUCTION. WE HAVE RECEIVED MULTIPLE COMPLIMENTS ON OUR ICE QUALITY AND HAVE A VERY SOUGHT-AFTER FACILITY.

WE EMPLOY 3 GREAT LOCAL EMPLOYEES, AND MANY LOCAL CONTRACTORS IN THIS FACILITY.

IT TRULY IS THE HUB OF OUR COMMUNITY.

- **COMMUNITY HALL:**

HALL RENTALS REMAINED THE SAME BETWEEN 2023-2024. WE ARE BOOKED ALMOST EVERY WEEKEND THROUGHOUT SUMMER MONTHS.

OUR RECENT CEILING UPGRADES AND RENOVATIONS HAVE BEEN A GREAT DRAW FOR WEDDINGS.

WE HOST MANY GREAT FAMILY EVENTS INCLUDING, FREE MOVIE NIGHTS, HOCKEY WATCH PARTIES, BINGO NIGHTS, DANCES AND MORE.



Facility Operation



To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Alana Bangs, and I am the Director of Grovedale Daycare, a position I have proudly held since October 2024. While our daycare is still relatively young, we have experienced tremendous growth and development over the past three years.

Recently, we underwent a licensing inspection, and I am pleased to share that our licensing officer was very impressed with the progress and improvements we have made. She specifically noted the high quality of our program and expressed her appreciation for the number of educators on staff who hold qualifications higher than a Level 1—particularly significant given that approximately 40% of the province's educators are at a Level 1.

Prior to my tenure, the board made a critical decision to increase educator wages in an effort to improve staff retention. While this has resulted in higher payroll costs, the benefits have been substantial. Employing more experienced and better-educated staff has greatly enhanced the quality of care and learning experiences we offer.

To further support professional excellence, we have implemented a policy requiring all educators to complete a minimum of 20 hours of professional development each year. This ensures our team remains current with best practices in the ever-evolving field of early childhood education and fosters a culture of continual growth and innovation.

In our field, we often speak of "Champion Daycares"—centres that set high standards for care, offer exceptional programming, and are highly sought after by families. I firmly believe Grovedale Daycare has the potential to be one of these Champion Daycares. We have already made remarkable strides toward this goal. We now have a waitlist for enrollment, and I have submitted a request for an additional 10 spaces in our license renewal to help meet the growing needs of our community.

Our team is deeply committed to enhancing our program—both in aesthetics and in the design of meaningful experiences for children. Our educators embrace a child-centered approach and are eager to expand their knowledge and impact.

Of course, we have faced challenges. Before the wage increases, staff retention was a significant issue. Our rural location makes finding substitute educators difficult, and we are limited in the types of field trips we can offer. However, these obstacles have encouraged us to think creatively and develop innovative ways to meet the needs of our children and families.

I am incredibly proud of the Grovedale Daycare—of our passionate educators, our supportive community, and the progress we have made. I am excited for the future and confident that we will continue to grow into a recognized leader in early childhood education.

Sincerely,
Alana Bangs
Director, Grovedale Daycare



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Community Involvement

EXAMPLES OF OUR
COMMUNITY IMPACT
INCLUDE:

- SPONSORING PENSON SCHOOL PANCAKE BREAKFASTS.
- PROVIDING FREE EVENTS FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS.
- SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL SENIOR'S GROUP.
- PROVIDING CLINICS AND EDUCATIONAL COURSES.
- PROVIDING RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS.
- ANNUAL GROVEDALE AGRICULTURAL FAIR (44 YEARS)



SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

We are a young vibrant society dedicated to serving the needs of our community and making a positive difference in the lives of those around us. Our group is made up of passionate individuals who are committed to creating a safe and welcoming space for everyone. Whether you're looking to volunteer your time, connect with others in the community, or simply take advantage of our fantastic facility, we're here to help.



Community Involvement

EXAMPLES OF OUR
COMMUNITY IMPACT
INCLUDE:

- DONATING FACILITIES FOR YEAR END CELEBRATIONS, TOURNAMENTS, ICE SHOWS ETC.
- SUPPORTING “GIRLS HOCKEY DAY IN GROVEDALE”



EVERY PROJECT IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO
LEARN



2024-25 Year in Review

2024 In Grovedale

- HALL AND ARENA BATHROOM RENOVATIONS
- PURCHASED A SIDE BY SIDE
- PURCHASED A SKIDSTEER
- LANDSCAPING/CLEANING OF GROUNDS
- ARENA DRESSING ROOM BENCHES REPLACED/PAINTED
- EXCEPTIONAL SPONSORSHIP YEAR
- SUCCESSFUL 43RD ANNUAL FAIR
- CONTINUED EVENT, SALES AND RENTAL OPPORTUNITIES
- INCREASED GYM MEMBERSHIP SALES
- GAZEBO DONATED AND BUILT AT DAYCARE
- RENOVATED OUTDOOR CONCESSION
- RENOVATED/PAINTED OUTDOOR BLEACHERS
- PAINTED PANELS AND PARKING BARRIERS
- ARENA PLANT RETROFIT
- NEW CHILLER PURCHASED
- PLANT PLC INSTALLED AND OPERATIONAL
- ARENA HEATERS LOWERED

2025 In Grovedale

- EXPANDED EQUESTRIAN ARENA
- BUILT WOODEN BORDER FOR PLAYGROUND
- STARTED MAJOR RENOVATIONS OF ARENA CONCESSION
- RENOVATED ARENA DRESSING ROOM 3 FOR THE GIRLS
- PURCHASED NEW ARENA SCOREBOARD
- REPLACED ALL ARENA PUCK BOARD SCREWS (5000+)
- ADDING TREES AROUND GROUNDS
- RENOVATED BALL DUGOUTS
- REBUILT OUR ROADWAY MESSAGE SIGN
- CONTINUE TO MAXIMIZE RENTALS OF ALL FACILITIES

A HUGE PORTION OF THESE PROJECTS WERE COMPLETED BY CNRL'S DAY OF GIVING, WHICH WE ARE INCREDIBLY THANKFUL FOR!



Leaving Grovedale...



Thinking outside the box prompts ag society to open daycare

By Alexis Kienlen

Published: March 10, 2023
Heartland, News

Reading Time: 3 minutes



The Grovedale Community & Agricultural Society's daycare was an instant hit — with kids and their parents — when it opened in June. Photo: Supplied

They put on fairs and rodeos, host family fun days and large-scale ag shows, build community through a host of events, and share their facilities with organizations of every shape and size.

GCAS HAS BEEN REGOGNIZED AT THE PROVINCIAL (AAAS) AND INTER-PROVINCIAL (OAAS) LEVEL FOR OUR PASSION AND DEDICATION TO COMMUNITY.

- RECEIVED THE 2021 ALBERTA INNOVATION AWARD
- HOST OF AAAS REGIONAL MEETINGS
- MULTIPLE PROVINCIAL MARKETING AWARDS
- INVITED AS DELEGATES TO OAAS CONVENTION IN TORONTO
- WE WORK CLOSELY WITH THE PROVINCIAL AAAS BOARD/STAFF AND TAKE PRIDE IN THIS WORKING RELATIONSHIP.



GROWING PAINS

GCAS HAS DRASTICALLY INCREASED REVENUE/EXPENSES SINCE THE ADDITION OF THE DAYCARE.

WE ARE CONTINUING TO LEARN HOW TO MANAGE THIS NEW CHAPTER, AND WE HAVE RECENTLY BALANCED REVENUE OVER EXPENSE.

THIS ALSO ADDS A SIGNIFICANT WORKLOAD INCREASE ON VOLUNTEERS.

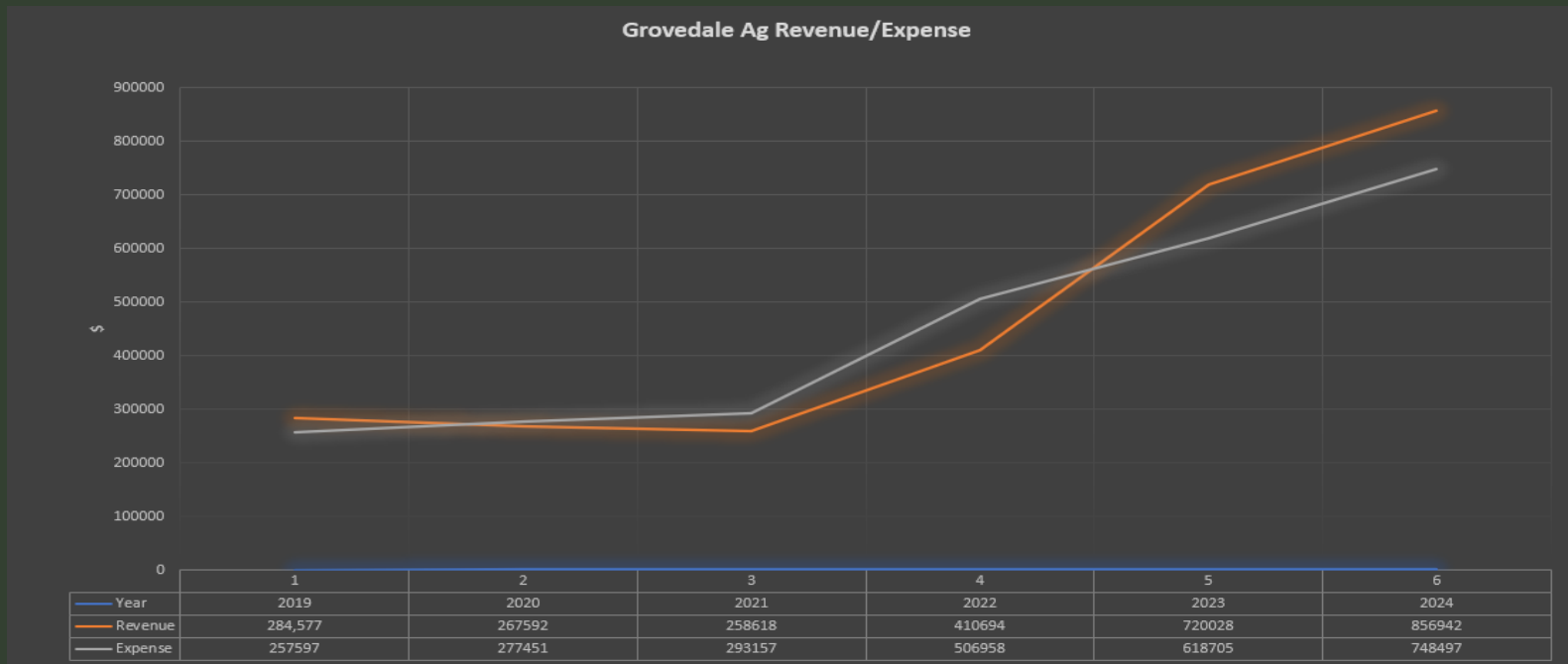
A CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATE OF 200 VOLUNTEER HOURS PER MONTH TO RUN OUR ORGANIZATION.



GROVEDALE

Community & Agricultural Society

Est. 1977



1-3 Year Plan

- CONTINUE MAXIMIZING ALL RENTALS AND FACILITY POTENTIAL.
- WORK WITH GREENVIEW TO KEEP OUR FACILITIES RUNNING PROPERLY.
- OUR ARENA SUB-FLOOR (BRINE LINES) ARE AT THE END OF THEIR LIFE-SPAN. WE WILL NEED TO ASSESS THIS, AND WE HAVE PROACTIVELY ACQUIRED QUOTES.
- UPGRADES TO OUR BARS, AN OUTDOOR GAZEBO, CONTINUE WOODEN FENCING, AND MORE OUTDOOR WEDDING VENUE EQUIPMENT HAVE BEEN TALKED ABOUT IN OUR STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSIONS.
- LOOK AT THE POSSIBILITY OF HIRING A PART TIME MANAGER TO BALANCE SOME VOLUNTEER HOURS.



THANK YOU



GROVEDALE COMMUNITY & AG SOCIETY

BOX 146

WWW.GROVEDALEAG.CA