



## Central Alberta: ASPENLAND

Central Alberta is a picturesque parkland region covering over 50,000 square kilometres. The region’s historic name, Aspenland, refers to the trembling aspen or poplar (populus tremuloides)—the dominant tree of the region.

For biologists, the aspen parkland is a transitional zone between the arid grasslands to the south, and the wetter, cooler boreal forest to the north. It marks the zone between foothills and prairie from west to east. It is a uniquely Canadian landscape, also found in parts of Saskatchewan and Manitoba, and is a natural region as well as an ecosystem that has supported human life for up to 11,000 years.

Central Alberta is part of the North American Great Plains and home to the Blackfoot and Cree peoples. Both the Blackfoot and the Cree were hunter/ gatherer nomadic peoples who followed the migration of the buffalo (bison), their main food source. Today, the museums of CARMN are located on Treaty 6 and Treaty 7 territory.

With respect to the settlement of the Province of Alberta, the aspen parkland shaped the kind of agricultural and other economic activity that took place in the region, and also gave a unique flavour to the settlement history.

Central Alberta is characterized by its rich nitrogen composite soils, with the topsoil averaging over 13 inches, and plentiful water. This made it a desirable location for settlement. This settlement, along with our rich mineral deposits, have shaped the economy of the region.

The Central Alberta region has strong rural roots and, as with other parts of the west, has experienced the movement of people from farms to towns. While Red Deer is the region’s primary city, Central Alberta is home to a great number of cities, towns and villages with their own strong identities. This is evident through the number of community museums in the region and their role in preserving historic buildings and artifacts.

Discover this unique region of Alberta through an exploration of the museums of Central Alberta!



Sunnybrook Farm Museum - Red Deer



Canadian Northern Society - Camrose



Rocky Mountain House Museum





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## MUSEUM MEMBERS

- 1. Stony Plain and Parkland Pioneer Museum**  
780-963-1234  
Year-round  
5120 41 Ave, Stony Plain
- 2. Alberta Museums Association**  
780-424-2626  
Year-round  
120 - 12420 104 Ave NW, Edmonton
- 3. Canadian Energy Museum: Home of Leduc #1**  
780-987-4323  
Year-round  
50339 Hwy 60, Leduc County
- 4. Alberta Legacy Development Society: Leduc Heritage Grain Elevator**  
780-980-2679  
Year-round  
5209 47 St, Leduc
- 5. Holden Historical Society Museum**  
780-688-3593 or 780-878-8072  
Seasonal  
4928 – 50 Avenue, Holden
- 6. Drayton Valley & District Museum**  
780-542-5482  
Seasonal  
6013 44 Ave, Drayton Valley
- 7. Breton & District Historical Museum**  
780-696-2551  
Seasonal  
4711 51 St, Breton
- 8. Millet & District Museum & Archives & Visitor Services**  
780-387-5558  
Year-round  
5120 50 St, Millet
- 9. Wetaskiwin & District Heritage Museum**  
780-352-0227  
Year-round  
5007 50 Ave, Wetaskiwin
- 10. Camrose Heritage Railway Station and Park**  
780-672-3099  
Seasonal  
4407 47 Ave, Camrose  
9704 – 96 Avenue, Westlock
- 11. Nordegg Discovery Centre & Brazeau Collieries Mine Site**  
403-721-2625  
Seasonal  
4002 Stuart Street, Nordegg
- 12. PasKaPoo Historical Village & Smithson International Truck Museum**  
403-843-2004  
Year-Round  
5620 51 St, Rimbey
- 13. Fort Ostell Museum**  
403-783-5224  
Seasonal  
5320 – 54 Street, Ponoka
- 14. Meeting Creek Railway & Linear Trails Historic Site**  
780-672-3099 (Camrose Station)  
Year-Round  
5002 50 St, Meeting Creek
- 15. Donalda & District Museum**  
403-883-2100  
Year-Round  
5001 Main St, Donalda
- 16. Rocky Mountain House Museum**  
403-845-2332  
Year-Round  
5406 – 48 Street, Rocky Mountain House
- 17. Bentley Museum**  
403-748-3943  
Seasonal  
4929 51 Ave, Bentley
- 18. The Lacombe Museums**  
403-782-3933  
  
**Blacksmith Shop**  
Seasonal  
5020 49 Street, Lacombe  
  
**Flatiron Building**  
Year-Round  
5005 50 Avenue, Lacombe  
  
**Michener House**  
Seasonal  
5036 51 Street, Lacombe
- 19. Mirror & District Museum**  
403-788-3828  
Seasonal  
4910 53 Street, Mirror
- 20. Alix Wagon Wheel Museum**  
403-358-9848  
Seasonal  
4912 – 50 Street, Alix
- 21. Alberta Sports Hall of Fame and Museum**  
403-341-8614  
Year-Round  
#102, 4200 Hwy #2 Red Deer
- 21. Fort Normandeau**  
403-347-7550  
Seasonal  
28054 B Township Road 283, Red Deer  
  
**Kerrywood Nature Centre**  
403-346-2010  
Year-Round  
6300 45 Ave, Red Deer  
  
**Red Deer Museum + Art Gallery**  
587-797-4040  
Year-Round  
4525 47A Ave, Red Deer  
  
**Sunnybrook Farm Museum**  
403-340-3511  
Year-Round  
2879 Botterill Crescent, Red Deer
- 22. Alberta Prairie Railway Excursions**  
403-742-2811 or 1-800-282-3994  
Year-Round, excursions & selected dates  
4611 – 47 Ave, Stettler  
  
**Stettler P & H Elevator Preservation Society**  
403-740-4799  
Year-Round  
4702 - 46 Street, Stettler  
  
**Stettler Town & Country Museum**  
403-742-4534  
Seasonal  
6502 44 Avenue, Stettler
- 23. Anthony Henday Museum**  
403-749-2711 or 403-749-2186  
Seasonal  
2503-20th Street (Main Street) Delburne
- 24. Danish Canadian National Museum**  
403-728-0019  
Seasonal  
35544 Range Rd 31, Dickson  
  
**Dickson Store Museum**  
403-728-3355  
Seasonal  
1928 2 Ave, Dickson
- 25. Stephansson House**  
403-728-3929 (summer)  
Seasonal  
2230 Township Road 371, Red Deer County  
  
**Markerville Creamery Museum**  
403-728-3006  
Seasonal  
114 Creamery Way, Markerville
- 26. Innisfail & District Historical Village**  
403-227-2906  
Seasonal  
5139 42 St, Innisfail
- 27. Elnora Museum**  
403-773-3990  
Seasonal  
119 Main St, Elnora
- 28. Big Valley Historical Society Museum**  
403-876-2242  
Seasonal  
57 Railway Ave S, Big Valley  
  
**Big Valley Historic Railway Station & Roundhouse Interpretive Park**  
780-672-3099 (Camrose Station)  
Seasonal  
56 Railway Ave N, Big Valley
- 29. Sundre & District Museum**  
403-638-3233  
Year-Round  
211 – 1st Avenue SW, Sundre
- 30. Mountain View Museum & Archives**  
403-556-8464  
Year-Round  
5038 50 St, Olds
- 31. Trochu & District Museum**  
403-442-2220  
Seasonal  
315 Arena Ave, Trochu
- 32. Didsbury & District Museum**  
403-335-9295  
Year-Round  
2110 - 21 Avenue, Didsbury
- 33. Kneehill Historical Museum & VIC**  
403-443-2092, 504-554-1221 (off season)  
Seasonal  
1301 2nd Street, Three Hills
- 34. Carstairs Heritage Centre**  
403-337-3710  
Year-Round  
1138 Nanton Street, Carstairs
- 35. Nose Creek Valley Museum**  
403-948-6685  
Year-Round  
1701 Main Street SW, Airdrie
- 36. Pioneer Acres of Alberta**  
403-935-4357  
Seasonal  
263178 Twp Rd 274, Irricana
- 37. Rosebud & District Centennial Museum**  
403-820-2870 (main) & 403-677-2601 (building)  
Seasonal  
117 Main St, Rosebud
- 38. Canadian Tractor Museum**  
780-349-3353  
Year-Round  
9704 – 96 Avenue, Westlock

## CENTRAL ALBERTA REGIONAL MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION

Founded in 1994, the Central Alberta Regional Museums Association (CARMN) is a cooperative of community-based museums that work together to share knowledge and resources, and to strengthen all member museums so that we can better serve our communities. CARMN invites you to take time to discover where we came from through the stories and treasures of Alberta's people. Explore the Museums of Central Alberta and uncover our rich and storied history and heritage. From open plains to the mountains, parkland through river valleys to the edge of the Palliser triangle, you'll find artifacts, stories, and experiences that reveal how and why people invested their time and energies here. Use CARMN's website for details on the many special events, programs, and live demonstrations happening throughout the year, at area museums and historical villages.

Front cover: National Indigenous People's Day June 21 at the Lacombe Michener House in 2023