

## Good News Stories - March, 2021

### Gasoline Alley Market a Popular Place to Support Local Business

The [Gasoline Alley Farmers' Market](#) had a successful start and has increased opening hours to accommodate the number of visitors. The indoor market is now open Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 9 am - 5 pm.



### Kneehill County, Trochu to Benefit from North America's First Straw-based MDF Plant

Construction is set to begin in the fall of 2021 on the [\\$850 million plant](#) that will provide hundreds of direct and indirect jobs to the region.

### Central Alberta-owned Business Opening in Red Deer



Family-owned and operated Sunterra Market out of the Village of Acme opens March 16, 2021.

### New Business Opened in Penhold!



The ribbon has been cut and Mayor Mike Yargeau officially welcomed Ma & Pa's Bakery Cafe to Penhold during their grand opening celebration on Saturday, January 23, 2021. Joas and Allie Swartzentruber take great care to ensure their baking is of amazing quality at affordable prices. Penhold's exciting new business offers good old fashioned baking like Grandma used to make while supporting other local businesses. They serve and sell locally roasted Wild Rose Coffee and Chai Whallah Chai Tea as well as other locally produced items available for purchase. If you are looking for a new business to try in Central Alberta, a stop at Ma & Pa's Bakery Cafe in Penhold will not disappoint.

### Development Fees Waived

In an effort to provide financial relief to residents and businesses, the [Town of Olds](#) Council passed a motion waiving development fees for the period of January 1, 2021, to June 30, 2021.

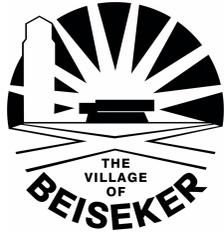


## 10 Sundre Successes of 2020

1. Construction of a **new travel stop** on the west side of town, featuring a now-open Esso and soon-to-open McDonald's Restaurant, was mostly complete by the end of the year.
2. Construction of a new office building on 5 Ave SW, across from the Candre Cannabis production facility, was mostly complete by the end of the year.
3. Candre Cannabis's production facility continued to ramp-up production and employment, partnering with **Dope Automation** to complete more value-added work at their Sundre facility.
4. The **Foothills Lodge** was sold to a long-term care facility operator and will be undergoing extensive renovations in preparation for its reopening, which will bring with it dozens of health-care-related jobs.
5. Red Deer College and Campus Alberta Central successfully registered enough students for its **Health Care Aide program**, in what will be the first post-secondary certificate program ever taught in Sundre.
6. Sundre became the fictional community of "Hardwell" as the new original TV series, **Pipe Nation**, came to town to film its pilot.
7. Tourism counts have continued to increase in Sundre. Supporting Sundre as a destination was a massive \$75,000 **tourism marketing** grant supplied by Travel Alberta. (Thanks T.A!)
8. Along with Tourism counts, Traffic counts continue to grow too. Sundre experienced an annual average of over **7.4 million vehicles** traversing the

community between Bergen Road and Highway 22 in 2019. That's over 20,000 vehicles per day!

9. **Beautification efforts continue** in the community, with the construction of a new pergola and sitting areas on the west side of Town. Place-making matters!
10. **Our fibre optic future** is getting closer. Relationships with at least two separate internet service providers came to a head, as they both submitted grant applications to receive federal funding for the deployment of fibre optics in this community.



### Beiseker Enacts Tax Incentive Bylaw

The Village of Beiseker passed a Tax Incentive Bylaw as an incentive program for the development of non-residential and residential development. This bylaw will encourage new residential, commercial, and industrial development within the Village. The incentive applies to the municipal portion of property taxes only and does not include any other requisition imposed by the Province of Alberta or any other level of government, including Alberta School Foundation Fund, Senior's Foundation, or police funding.

### COVID-19 Resources

**We want to hear from you! Do you want to share a positive story or accomplishment? Being a part of the CAEP community means learning from and supporting each other, so let us share in your success!**

CAEP Connections is distributed to over 800 readers. If you have a story you'd like to share with the entire CAEP community, send to: [megan@caepalberta.com](mailto:megan@caepalberta.com)

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