

S O U T H E A S T
S A S K A T C H E W A N



SOURISMOOSECREEK
REGION

*A place to belong...
where water flows and wheat grows tall*

A PLACE TO BELONG...

Welcome to southeast Saskatchewan's beautiful Souris Moose Creek Region! Whether you're a long-time resident, newcomer or just passing through, this brochure will help you find what you're looking for and maybe even teach you something new about the area.

The Region's boundaries can be traced around the town of Oxbow, Moose Creek Regional Park and town of Alameda. Between these three spots there is so much to do, see and discover. In the following pages, a business directory can be found, as well as historical and recreational points of interest. Towards the back you'll enjoy the Story of our Region, an account of the area through an historic lens.

To stay updated about events or to learn more, be sure to like our Facebook page or visit our towns' websites. We can't wait to see you!

WWW.OXBOW.CA

WWW.TOWNOFALAMEDA.CA

WWW.SASKREGIONALPARKS.CA

(Moose Creek Regional Park)





BUSINESS DIRECTORY

ACCOMMODATIONS

Alameda Campground	Alameda	(306) 489-2077
Bow Manor Motor Hotel	Oxbow	(306) 483-2991
Bow Valley Park	Oxbow	(306) 485-8517
Moose Creek Regional Park	Moose Creek Regional Park	(306) 483-2403
Alameda Housing Authority	Alameda	(306) 489-2234
Bow Valley Villa	Oxbow	306) 483-2744
Coldridge Estates	Oxbow	coldridgeestates@hotmail.com
Oxbow Housing Authority	Oxbow	(306) 483-5020

AUTOMOTIVE & GAS

TEMPO Mike's Service	Oxbow	(306) 483-2225
Oxbow Tire Ltd.	Oxbow	(306) 483-2660
RC Auto Repair	Oxbow	(306) 485-8085
RPM	Oxbow	(306) 483-2060
Hancock Petroleum Cardlock	Oxbow	(306) 483-2826
Southern Plains Co-Op Gas & C-Store	Oxbow	(306) 483-2993
A & P Repair	Alameda	(306) 489-2078
Alameda Co-Op Cardlock	Alameda	(306) 489-2000
Pistol Grip Car Wash	Alameda	(306) 489-0044
Esso Gas Bar	Corner Hwy 9/18	(306) 489-2223

BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES

Affinity Credit Union	Oxbow	(306) 483-4021
Flahr Financial	Oxbow	(306) 483-2666
Royal Bank Financial Group	Oxbow	(306) 483-2995
Oxbow Agencies	Oxbow	(306) 483-2246
Prairie Pride Credit Union	Alameda	(306) 489-2131

CHURCHES

All Saints Anglican Church	Oxbow	
New Hope Christian Church	Oxbow	
St. Joseph's Catholic Church	Oxbow	(306) 485-7499
St. Paul's United Church	Oxbow	(306) 483-2701
St. Peter Lutheran Church	Oxbow	(306) 483-2311
Alameda United Church	Alameda	(306) 489-2168

DAYCARE & FAMILY SERVICES

Oxbow Community Child Care	Oxbow	(306) 483-5284
Expressway Family Centre	Oxbow	(306) 483-2577
Envision Counselling & Support	Oxbow	(306) 453-2405

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Oxbow Fire Department	Oxbow	911
Alameda Fire Department	Alameda	911
RCMP	Carnduff	911/(306) 482-4400

GROCERY & CONVENIENCE

Canfil General Merchandise	Oxbow	(306) 482-5132
Mick's Stop N' Shop	Oxbow	(306) 483-5266

GROCERY & CONVENIENCE CONT.

Southern Plains CO-OP	Oxbow	(306) 483-2993
Celts Wine & Spirits	Oxbow	(306) 483-5145
Davis Meats & Abattoir	Alameda	(306) 489-2033
Moose Creek Park Restaurant & Convenience	MCRP	(306) 483-2406

HAIR SALONS

Salon Diosa	Oxbow	(306) 483-2600
EJ's Family Hair Care	Oxbow	(306) 483-5205
Divine Styles	Alameda	(306) 489-2006

HISTORIC SITES

Ralph Allen Memorial Museum	Oxbow	(306) 485-9687
Alameda & District Heritage Museum	Alameda	(306) 483-5099

HOSPITALS & MEDICAL SERVICES

Galloway Health Centre	Oxbow	(306) 483-2956
Oxbow Family Medicine Clinic	Oxbow	(306) 483-5244

FITNESS

Oxbow Fitness Centre Co-op	Oxbow	(306) 485-7031
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LAUNDRY

Hometown Laundry	Oxbow	305 Main Street
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LIBRARIES

Ada Staples Library	Oxbow	(306) 483-5175
Alameda Public Library	Alameda	(306) 489-2066

REAL ESTATE

Century 21 Realtor	Oxbow	(306) 485-7474
ReMax Blue Chip Realty	Oxbow	(306) 485-8415

RESTAURANTS

CK Cafe	Oxbow	(306) 483-2656
D'Barrios Restaurant	Oxbow	(306) 483-2801
Rainbow Cafe	Oxbow	(306) 483-2991
This is It Dining	Oxbow	(306) 483-2414
Country Cafe	Alameda	(306) 489-2144
Moose Creek Park Restaurant & Convenience	MCRP	(306) 483-2406
Moose Creek Golf Course Clubhouse	MCRP	(306) 483-2403
Silver Goddess Cafe	Oxbow	(306) 483-0742

RETAIL

Dirt N' Daisys Florist	Oxbow	(306) 483-5200
Silver Goddess Boutique	Oxbow	(306) 483-0742
Spencer's Pharmacy Ltd.	Oxbow	(306) 483-2262
Oxbow TimberMart	Oxbow	(306) 483-2707
Alameda Co-Op	Alameda	(306) 489-2000

SCHOOLS

Oxbow Prairie Horizons School	Oxbow	(306) 483-2383
Alameda School	Alameda	(306) 489-2230

EVENTS

JANUARY & FEBRUARY

- Curling Bonspiels
- Oxbow Huskies Hockey
- Minor Hockey
- OPHS Basketball Tournaments

MARCH & APRIL

- STARS Fundraiser
- Oxbow Beautification Trivia Night
- Figure Skating Ice Shows
- Playoff Hockey Action
- Carnduff Music Festival

MAY & JUNE

- Moose Creek Regional Park Opens
- Souris Moose Creek Wildlife Fundraiser
- OPHS Band Concert
- Oxbow Angels Ladies Fastpitch
- Alameda Ag Fair & Dance
- Oxbow Swimming Pool Lobster Fest
- Alameda Fishing Derby

JULY & AUGUST

- Oxbow Swimming Pool Opens
- Alameda Farmers' Market (Mondays)
- Oxbow Farmers' Market (Thursdays)
- Oxbow Chiefs Senior Men's Baseball
- Bow Valley Jamboree
- Men's and Ladies' Golf Night

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

- Golf Tournaments
- OPHS Volleyball Tournaments
- Bow Valley Villa Hospital and Aux. Fundraiser
- Ralph Allen Museum Haunted House

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER

- Oxbow Business Association "Christmas in Oxbow"
- Expressway Family Centre Tree Auction
- Southeast Sask Groomed Snowmobile Trails Open
- Minor Hockey

RALPH ALLEN MEMORIAL MUSEUM

802 Railway Ave, Oxbow, SK
(306) 485-9687



Housed in a former CPR Rail station, this museum features items related to local industry, education, medicine, and general life from the 1880's to more recent years. The museum is named for renowned Canadian WWII correspondent, author and journalist, Ralph Allen, who was the son of an Oxbow station agent and lived in this building as a boy.

For a free tour any time of year, phone (306) 485-9687. Donations welcome.

**OXBOW
CENTENNIAL PARK**

Marion Ave, Oxbow

The Centennial Park is where Oxbow's Memorial Monument stands; a memorial honoring the fallen soldiers of WWI and WWII. The park, located just south of the rink, is beautifully landscaped and treed.

OLD TOWN BELL

*516 Prospect Ave. Oxbow
(In front of the Ada Staples Library)*

In Oxbow's early days, time passed at the chiming of this bell. It tolled at different intervals throughout the day and in emergencies. It once stood at where the library is now situated, and is permanently on display there.

**ALAMEDA
WAR MEMORIAL**

5th St, Alameda

The Alameda War Memorial, proudly situated in the middle of 5th St. in front of the Alameda and District Heritage Museum, adorns the names of local soldiers who had given the ultimate sacrifice in WWI and WWII.

OLD ALAMEDA

Point of Interest, Hwy 18 East of Alameda

Heading east on Hwy 18, keep an eye out for Point of Interest signage about 1km past the Hwy 9 Alameda turnoff. This Point of Interest will indicate where Old Alameda once stood—the first pioneer settlement in the Souris Moose Creek Region.

ALAMEDA & DISTRICT HERITAGE MUSEUM

205 5th St, Alameda, SK
(306) 483-5099

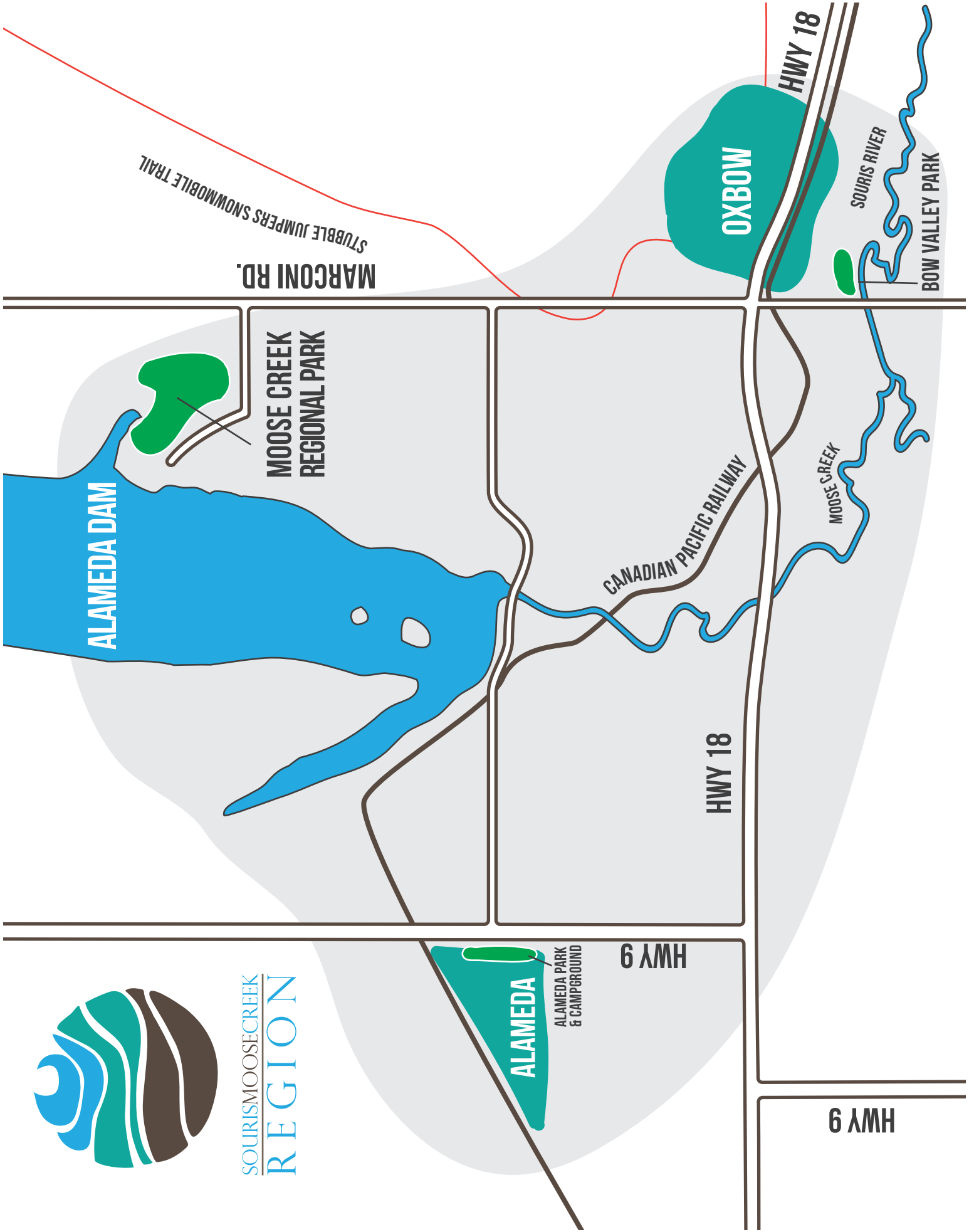
Opening the door to this museum will transport you back in time. Located in a heritage home, photographs of original homesteaders and historic scenes adorn the walls, and rooms are furnished with original antiques. A portion of the museum houses a model-scale replica of Alameda, as portrayed at the turn of the century.

*For a free tour any time of year, phone (306) 483-5099
Donations welcome.*





SOURIS-MOOSE CREEK
REGION



ALAMEDA DAM

MOOSE CREEK
REGIONAL PARK

HWY 18

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY

MOOSE CREEK

HWY 18

OXBOW

SOURIS RIVER

BOW VALLEY PARK

MARCONI RD.

STUBBLE JUMPERS SNOWMOBILE TRAIL

ALAMEDA

ALAMEDA PARK
& CAMPGROUND

HWY 9

HWY 9

RECREATION AND OUTDOORS



Moose Creek Regional Park, open from June till October, hugs the shores of the Alameda Dam. Visitors come from across the province and beyond to see our Region's treasure and enjoy its many amenities:

BOAT DOCKS

Park visitors are welcome to access two floating docks and a paved boat launch. The rolling hills cresting the reservoir offer some wind protection making this a perfect setting for water-skiers, tubing fanatics and boaters.

GOLF

A visit to the park wouldn't be complete without checking out the nine-hole golf course overlooking the Alameda Dam. The pristine, landscaped course also offers a driving range and practice facility. After playing a round, guests can enjoy the clubhouse with a panoramic view of the course's rolling hills overlooking sparkling waters. Men's and Ladies' Golf Nights are also popular weekly events.

FISHING

For those who like to fish, Moose Creek Regional Park is the place to be. Whether off the dock or in a boat, an experienced or amateur fisherman can expect to catch walleye, perch or northern pike in these waters. The Alameda Fishing Derby is a popular event for all ages occurring the last weekend in June each year.

CAMPING

With over 200 sites available, the campground is a community unto itself. Fully serviced sites include picnic tables and fire pits—everything you need to make a camping adventure complete. Showers, washrooms, playparks, a store and a restaurant are all within walking distance. For the glamping enthusiast or the traditional camper, there is something here for everyone.

BEACH

A sandy beach with its own parking area is available to campers and day-trippers alike. Buoys mark a safe area designated for swimming.

THINGS TO DO, PLACES TO STAY

BOW VALLEY PARK

River Road, south of Oxbow
(306) 485-8517

The Bow Valley Park has been the hub of recreation and leisure since Oxbow's beginnings. Overlooking the Souris River, the park features a cookhouse, ball diamonds, a play park and hiking trails. The campground offers sites that are fully serviced and beautifully treed.

OXBOW POOL

700 Marion Ave, Oxbow
(306) 483-2498

Open June - August.

This lifeguarded, outdoor pool is open for public swim daily and offers swimming lessons throughout the season. A shallow kiddie pool is also available for toddlers with adult supervision.

OXBOW COMMUNITY RINK

Gregson St. & Boscurvis Ave., Oxbow
(306) 483-2444

Open October - March

The arena features an artificial skating surface as well as a curling rink. A concession stand can also be found in the facility.

www.oxbowminorhockey.com

LIONS PLAYPARK

Marion Ave, Oxbow

The newly built playpark has a basketball court and a range of equipment suitable for toddlers to big kids. The park can be found across from the swimming pool.

ALAMEDA PARK & CAMPGROUND

Alameda, entrance off Hwy 9
(306) 489-2077

Campers can enjoy affordable and fully serviced sites at the Alameda Park & Campground. The park is adorned with flower beds and a replica of an old-time bandstand. Weekly farmers' markets take place at the park throughout the summer months.

ALAMEDA COMMUNITY RINK

200 6th St, Alameda
(306) 489-2233

Open October - March

The arena features an artificial skating surface as well as a curling rink. A concession stand can also be found in the facility.

ALAMEDA PLAY PARK

2nd Ave, Alameda

Kids and this playpark can enjoy a variety of equipment that is centrally located in Alameda.

THE HISTORY OF OUR REGION

With the promise of a railway and tales of fertile land, ambitious souls were called upon from lands abroad to lay claim to southern Saskatchewan soil. Sure enough, 1882 brought the first settlers from eastern Canada and abroad to stake out what we now know as the Souris Moose Creek Region; an area encompassing the towns of Oxbow, Alameda and the Moose Creek Regional Park. Before long, Oxbow and Alameda became prosperous towns where populations boomed and economies thrived.

The story of the region, however, has much earlier beginnings. It can be traced back to a trail—well-trodden paths carved into the sod by buffalo herds that roamed their way to the Souris River and Moose Creek. These trails were followed by Indigenous groups in pursuit of reliable food and water. One can imagine gatherings of tribes—a village of tipis hugging the bow of the river overlooking their bounty of buffalo. Arrowheads and other artifacts can still be found in dried-up creek beds or freshly plowed earth in this area.

“ 1882 BROUGHT THE FIRST SETTLERS FROM EASTERN CANADA AND ABROAD TO STAKE OUT WHAT WE NOW KNOW AS THE SOURIS MOOSE CREEK REGION ”

At a Point of Interest southeast of Alameda on Highway 18, there stands a marker indicating where the first settlement of the Region once stood. It was also called Alameda and overlooked a juncture in the valley where Moose Creek and the Souris River meet. In 1891, however, as Canadian Pacific Railway construction approached from the east, it seemed that the track would need to run much farther north than anticipated. With this, the site was abandoned. Settlers picked up and rebuilt where Alameda stands today. The old village, consisting of a blacksmith shop, the Walsh brothers' store, a post office and a few sparse houses, were abandoned. The deceased from an old cemetery overlooking the valley, however, were not left behind. Those who could be found were unearthed and relocated to the Alameda Cemetery where they still rest.

The arrival of the CPR is also where Oxbow can find its origins. The Moose Creek Valley was a daunting obstacle for labourers and building a bridge to traverse it was no easy task. It took nearly an entire year for a tremendous wooden trestle to be built close to where the current train bridge stands today. Until the time of its completion the train could pass no further than Oxbow, so those coming from the east settled there. The town, overlooking the winding Souris River, was named for the curves and bends in the river that have a likeness to bow pins of an ox bow.

The earliest settlers built everything they had from the ground up – literally. The most common form of architecture was the sod house or log home made with timber hauled from Moose Mountain. A few homes were also built with stones pulled from Moose Creek. Driving north along highway 9 outside of Alameda, you may see an original stone home or two.

It wasn't long, however, before the towns started to take shape. Burgeoning economies were supporting growing populations and the railway brought everything people couldn't produce themselves. Farming was the main industry, however there were also dress shops, tailors, barbers, bakeries, hardware stores, drug stores, and more. This entrepreneurial spirit can still be found today among residents.

“ THE EARLIEST SETTLERS BUILT EVERYTHING THEY HAD FROM THE GROUND UP – LITERALLY ”

The 1950's saw a major economic boom with the discovery of oil. Farming was no longer the main industry to bring prosperity and thus a whole new wave of people came to the Region to work. Oil and gas has remained a great asset to the area and is still responsible for growth and sustainability.

Looking at historical photos, it is clear to see that the landscapes of Oxbow and Alameda as they stand today are very different from those early times. Their main streets were first situated parallel to the railway in order to be accessible to the stock and supplies they brought in, but as shops relied less on rail and more on highway freight, stores relocated elsewhere and main streets shifted.

Geographical landscapes have changed dramatically as well. Much of the land Oxbow and Alameda are built on was once riddled with sloughs, which were later filled in to make room for expansion. Scores of trees were also planted in towns and homesteads, further transforming the naturally tree-less prairie landscape. Early accounts from settlers recall not being able to see a tree for miles; that the golden prairie was as vast as the ocean on which they and their ancestors arrived.

The origin of Alameda's namesake starts with Mr. Chris Troyer, a man among the first to settle old Alameda. Mr. Troyer travelled all around the continent before settling here. His meanderings brought him to California where he first heard the word, Alameda, a Spanish word meaning avenue of trees. He submitted a request to the federal government to have the name registered, which was chosen over Kamsack, a Native word meaning something vast and large.

Of course, Alameda's avenues were not particularly tree-lined in those early days. In the 1930's, Sam Burchill, a local farmer took it upon himself to live up to the town's meaning and planted innumerable saplings. During the dry years of the 1930's, the young trees were threatened by drought so kids and adults alike teamed together to dump buckets of water on them so they could grow to be the gorgeous living monuments that shade the town today.

“ TREES WERE UPROOTED, BINS TOSSED UP TO A MILE AWAY AND BUILDINGS WERE FLATTENED ”

Life in the Region was good, but it didn't come easily. Mother nature would ravage crops, destroy houses and occasionally take lives. Tornadoes have always been a threat on the prairies, and in 1995 a plow wind was responsible for major destruction. This forceful wind rolled like a barrel up from Northgate and raged its way towards Oxbow. Trees were uprooted, bins tossed up to a mile away and buildings were flattened. It wasn't surprising, however, that residents from Oxbow and neighbours from as far as Winnipeg came together to help with disaster relief. Coming together for a good cause is still a strong value and common practice.

Prairie fires are a predictable concern year after year. In the early days, farmers had to dig fire guards, which are rows of furrows dug around crops, houses, or feed supply, inhibiting fires from crossing. Oxbow and Alameda have both suffered significant fires from unknown causes at the turn of the 1900's where many shops and homes were lost. Fire engines with pumping technology would prevent fires from ever being the epidemic they had been.

While technology enables us to tame fires, the threat of flooding is less controllable. Dams can help manage the ebb and flow, but occasionally the force of water is simply too great for any physical boundary to hold back. Local history books are laden with repeated tales of loss and damage from flooding.

Construction of the Alameda Dam was completed in 1995, but, not without controversy and court cases. The purpose of the Dam is to manage and conserve water and subsequently offer a recreational site for fishing, swimming and boating at the newly established Moose Creek Regional Park. Flooded zones, however, were to be acquired by the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority, resulting in harsh feelings and protests towards the Dam. It wasn't just landowners who were furious, though. Environmentalists feared how the disruption of Moose Creek would impact wildlife. Others disliked the boundary the dam created, disrupting roads that once passed through the area. All things considered, it was decided that the benefits of constructing the dam outweighed any objections, so by 1990 it was settled that it should be built. It was erected in accordance with US water authorities to help prevent any major flooding from affecting not only Canadians, but neighbours to the south as well.

The resulting Moose Creek Regional Park has proven to be a cherished asset by locals and visitors alike. It has become a place where tourists are welcomed and families gather to enjoy the sandy beach, play parks, and of course, to camp. A pristine golf course overlooks the water dotted with fishing boats, pontoons and water skiers all summer long, and ice fishing huts in the winter.

In the valley south of Oxbow, Beaver Park—now known as the Bow Valley Park—is a place where people have gathered for many generations to enjoy themselves. After European settlers took up residence, annual picnics were held dating back as early as the Old Alameda years. A dance hall, once nestled amongst the trees on the southern bank of the Souris, provided a venue where bands would play and crowds would dance until the early morning hours. People walked for miles to spend time in the park—swimming, dancing or sitting leisurely on the banks of the river, perhaps watching the Lady Souris putt by underneath the old swinging bridge.

**“ THE BOW VALLEY PARK IS A PLACE
WHERE PEOPLE HAVE GATHERED FOR MANY
GENERATIONS TO ENJOY THEMSELVES. ”**

Saturday nights in Alameda were also an occasion time not to be missed. Folks would come from near and far to enjoy the sights and sounds of a bandstand that once stood at the base of Main Street. Local musicians formed bands that were main attractions on those nights. A team of local historians and carpenters came together in 2006 to replicate the old bandstand, which now stands in the Alameda Campground and Park.

Though technology and the passage of time has changed the face of the Souris Moose Creek Region, it has drawn people in from all over Canada and the world for more than a century. Hardship only seems to bring its people closer together. Pioneers described it as a place to belong—where water flows and wheat grows tall. This remains true to this day for their descendants and newcomers alike.



SOURISMOOSECREEK
REGION



FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

www.oxbow.ca

www.townofalameda.ca

www.saskregionalparks.ca

(Moose Creek Regional Park)



Sask **Culture**

FUNDING
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