

BY THE WAY...

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DEPARTMENT	TYPE	FACTS
Safety	Safety/Risk	The City of Melville is working with a prominent filmmaker to enhance the awareness and impact of the 2026 Party Program. This will be conducted as an operational exercise, and members of Council are invited to attend.
Parks & Recreation	Operations	Removing the ice at the end of the season is a multi-day process! Over four days, staff begin by completing several Zamboni scrapes, bringing the ice down to about 0.5 inches thick—just above the logos. The ice plant compressors are turned off and the brine pump is left on hand to warm the slab so the ice naturally “pops” away from the concrete. The thin layer of ice covering the logos is carefully removed using torches and hot water, allowing the logos to be dried, stored, and reused next season. Once the slab reaches the right temperature, equipment such as the skid steer and 570 is used to break up and remove the remaining ice. Staff then use squeegees to push leftover water and paint into the trench. The process finishes with a lot of mopping and scrubbing, leaving the concrete clean and ready for next season’s ice build.
Communications & Tourism	Fun Fact/Did You Know	Step inside a piece of Melville's history! Did you know the Melville Heritage Museum building dates back to 1913? Originally built as Luther Academy - an all-boys Lutheran school - it has lived many lives over the years, serving as an orphanage and St. Paul's Lutheran Home before becoming the museum we know today. After sitting empty in the 1970s, a passionate group of community members stepped in to preserve the building and our local stories. In 1983, the Melville Heritage Museum officially opened - thanks to countless donations and volunteer efforts. Today, the museum features 5 floors and over 13,000 artifacts, showcasing everything from railway history to cultural heritage and everyday life in our community. It's more than a museum - it's Melville's story, told by the people who lived it.
City Hall	Fun Fact/Did You Know	Council meetings are open to the public, except for the Committee of the Whole portion of the meetings. They are also streamed live and can be accessed through the link on the agenda on the City's website or through the link shared on the City's Facebook page.
Fire	Safety/Risk	A firefighter under extreme working conditions can use up one air tank in as little as 15 minutes. Melville Fire & Rescue has 65 air tanks available, and each firefighter must take a break after consuming two tanks, making it imperative to maintain a large number of trained firefighters and safe breathing apparatus equipment.
Public Works & Planning Services	Fun Fact/Did You Know	In 2025, the City released 378,973 cubic meters of treated effluent from our lagoon. This volume is equivalent to filling the Melville Water Tower approximately 501 times.

By the Way is a short feature included in Council workshop meetings that shares “did you know” style facts about the work happening across City departments. These brief insights highlight behind-the-scenes operations, the scale of services provided, or interesting details the public may not normally see, helping improve transparency and provide better context about the work being done by the City

