

Dear Mayor Ash,

Yesterday, I and 25 of my students/cadets were stranded in Chugwater due to the restrictions put out by the Department of Transportation related to the severe high winds. We were on a school field trip and traveling back from South Dakota to Colorado Springs. Words cannot express how appreciative I am for the incredible hospitality we received in Chugwater. The management and staff at Buffalo Lodge were extremely helpful and arranged for rooms for all of us for the night, and allowed us to stay beyond regular checkout time this morning to ensure we were able to actually leave and get back to Colorado today. We were able to get dinner at the Stampede Saloon and Eatery. The food and service was head and shoulders above any place we had eaten the rest of our trip. It turned out to be Karaoke night and we stayed an extra 2½ hours where my students/cadets had the most fun experience of our trip. The local patrons and the staff made them feel so welcome and all shook their hand and said goodbye when we left. Finally, this morning we enjoyed lunch at the Soda Fountain. Once again, the food and service was wonderful and the hospitality first class. Chugwater may be a little town but it truly does have a big heart, and I was not surprised just now when I looked at your website and those were the words at the top!

Thank you to you and your town from the bottom of my heart for taking what was a potentially very bad situation for me and my students being stranded in bad weather, and making it an amazing experience they will never forget. I think at least half of them were wearing Chugwater sweatshirts and t-shirts from the Stampede and Soda Fountain today! You can see their picture on the Soda Fountain facebook page.

Very Respectfully,

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