

County News

Friday, December 19, 2025 | Volume 12

County Manager Tim Timmons Receives R.W. Hay Award for Rural Administrative Excellence

Lacombe County proudly announces that County Manager Tim Timmons, CLGM, has been awarded the R.W. Hay Award for Rural Administrative Excellence by the Rural Municipalities of Alberta and the Society of Local Government Managers. This honour recognizes rural municipal administrators who demonstrate leadership, innovation, integrity, and a strong commitment to public service.

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF LEADERSHIP

Tim joined Lacombe County in 2000, bringing nearly a decade of municipal experience from his earlier roles with the Town of Sundre, the Municipal District of Wainwright, and the County of Stettler.

Known for his calm, thoughtful approach and ability to build genuine relationships, Tim quickly became a cornerstone of the organization. Appointed County Manager in 2018, his leadership has fostered a culture of trust, growth, and respect, making Lacombe County a workplace where many employees build long-term careers.



INVESTING IN PEOPLE AND INNOVATION

Tim has championed professional development, supporting staff in achieving designations, training, and leadership opportunities. His commitment to learning has strengthened the County's expertise in areas from municipal planning to mental health awareness. In 2021, Tim donated his \$3,000 Award of Excellence prize to expand staff training.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

What's Inside

- 2 *Environmental Stewardship Award recipient*
- 3 *Community Program Grants*
- 3 *Fireworks Permit | Holiday deadlines*
- 4 *Wilson's Beach municipal address updates*
- 5 *Burn safely all year round*
- 7 *Mirror Corner & Christmas events*
- 8 *Snow Removal in Lacombe County*
- 9 *Construction completion notices*
- 10 *Lacombe County receives environmental grant*
- 12-14 *Agriculture updates & workshops*
- 15 *Snow removal contractors*
- 16-17 *2025 YEAR IN REVIEW*
- 18-19 *Subdivision & Development Activity and Map*
- 19 *Hamlet of Mirror Area Structure Plan Updates coming in 2026*
- 20 *Business SPOTlight | We want to promote YOU in 2026!*
- 22-23 *Council Highlights*
- 24-25 *2026 Capital and Operating budget breakdown*
- 26-27 *LCHS Scholastic Awards*
- 28 *Resources for Seniors*
- 29-31 *Community Events & Info*

Lacombe County approves 2026 operating and capital budgets

Lacombe County Council has approved the County's 2026 operating and capital budgets, following a detailed review at the November 25, 2025, Budget Meeting. The 2026 budgets focus on maintaining strong service levels, planning for long-term growth, and keeping tax rates stable for residents and businesses.

"The 2026 budget keeps Lacombe County on a steady and responsible financial path," said Michael Minchin, Director of Corporate Services. "We are able to maintain our services, invest in important infrastructure, and support our communities while carefully managing inflation and rising costs."

Council emphasized that the budget reflects the County's commitment to financial responsibility and service excellence.

"We are proud of this balanced budget," said Reeve John Ireland. "Each year, Council collaborates with Administration to establish spending priorities that align with the County's 2022-2027 Strategic Plan and

its long-term financial framework. We are confident this budget supports the needs of our residents today while ensuring we continue to plan wisely for the future."

2026 OPERATING BUDGET

The \$80.3 million operating budget covers the day-to-day services residents rely on—such as road maintenance, fire services, enforcement, parks, water and wastewater services, and community recreation supports. It also includes \$16.8 million in provincial requisitions for education, seniors housing, and Designated Industrial Properties.

Key points from the operating budget:

- Continuation of 2025 service levels, adjusted for a 2% inflation factor (excluding labour), including operational support to urban and rural recreation facilities.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24



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FROM FRONT: County Manager Tim Timmons Receives R.W. Hay Award for Rural Administrative Excellence

Under his guidance, innovation thrives. Initiatives like the Empowered by Innovation program have led to creative projects, including a County tree farm in a reclaimed gravel pit—a long-term investment for beautification and construction.

REGIONAL COLLABORATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Tim's reputation for fairness has strengthened regional partnerships, completing 15 Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework agreements and supporting recreation projects across Central Alberta. Beyond municipal work, Tim has dedicated decades to volunteer service, including rebuilding St. Stephen Catholic Church, youth hockey involvement, and 40 years of blood donation.

A WELL-DESERVED HONOUR

The R.W. Hay Award celebrates administrators who make significant contributions while upholding the highest standards of professionalism. Tim exemplifies these qualities every day, shaping Lacombe County and fostering collaboration across the region.



Medicine River Watershed Society honoured with 2025 Environmental Stewardship Award



Lacombe County recognized the Medicine River Watershed Society as the recipient of the 2025 Environmental Stewardship Award during the December 11, 2025 Council Meeting. This annual award recognizes individuals or organizations within Lacombe County that demonstrate exceptional commitment to environmental sustainability and stewardship.

ABOUT THE AWARD

The Environmental Stewardship Award celebrates local efforts that protect and enhance our

environment. It aligns with Policy AD(33) Environmental Community Engagement, highlighting Lacombe County's commitment to helping residents understand environmental sustainability and encouraging decisions that respect natural systems, communities, and future generations.

The winner receives a one-time cash prize of \$1,500, funded through the Environmental Services operating budget.

2025 WINNER: MEDICINE RIVER WATERSHED SOCIETY

This year, only one nomination was received, and the committee unanimously selected the

Medicine River Watershed Society for its outstanding work in preserving and improving the health of the Medicine River watershed.

The Society's mission is to increase awareness of water quality, riparian health, and the natural beauty of the Medicine River. Their initiatives include:

- Monitoring and reporting on the health and supply of water sources in the watershed.
- Educational programs for schools, families, and community groups.
- Stewardship and enhancement activities to improve watershed health.
- Advocacy on behalf of residents and communities to governing bodies.

Through these efforts, the Medicine River Watershed Society plays a vital role in protecting one of Lacombe County's most important natural resources.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Lacombe County congratulates the Medicine River Watershed Society for their dedication and leadership in environmental stewardship. Their work ensures that future generations can enjoy the beauty and benefits of a healthy watershed.

For more information about the Environmental Stewardship Award or to learn how to get involved in sustainability initiatives, please visit Lacombe County's website at www.lacombecounty.com/EnvironmentalAward.

APPLY TODAY: Community Program Grants available

Lacombe County is committed to strengthening the quality of life for residents and fostering civic pride by providing financial support for community programs, events and activities.

Policy RC(9) - County Support of Community Programs, Events and Activities provides additional support for organizations in the County and its urban municipalities, as well as for the municipalities themselves. Support will be given for events and activities which are held for the benefit and enjoyment of the general public, demonstrate a financial need, and other criteria explained in the policy.

The application deadline is February 1, 2026; applicants will be advised by March 31, 2026 of the status of their application.

Policy Guidelines/Procedures:

Eligibility: Urban municipalities within the County, and community organizations in the urban municipalities within the County and within Lacombe County are eligible for funding, subject to the following guidelines:

To be eligible for consideration, programs:

- Must demonstrate a need for financial support from the County;
- Must be held for the enjoyment and benefit of the general public;
- Must be hosted on an annual basis and/or recognize significant milestone events;
- Must not charge an admission, entrance or registration fee for the program, event or activity;
- Must receive at least an equivalent amount of funding from the urban municipality in

which the program, event or activity is being held as that being requested from the County;

- Must receive at-least an equal amount of funding from the community organization if the program, event or activity is being held in the County; and
- Must take place in the County, or in the urban municipalities within the County in 2026

The following are not eligible for support under this policy:

- Capital facilities and equipment;
- Youth and adult sports teams and associated programs, events and activities;
- School reunions;
- Private functions;
- Community organizations, programs, events and activities that receive support from the County through other programs or policies.

Funding Allotment & Allocation:

Funding will be based on \$0.75 per capita based on the current year official population of Lacombe County and the urban municipalities within the County, with a \$1,000 minimum allotment per town or village, and a \$500 minimum allotment per summer village.

To view the Policy and a downloadable application form, see the County Website and look for the Grants and Funding page (<https://www.lacombecounty.com/our-government/budget-and-finance/grants-and-funding/>).



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LACOMBE
COUNTY

Do you want to set off fireworks over the holidays? Lacombe County recommends submitting a fireworks permit **BY NOON:**

- **December 19** (for Christmas displays)
- **December 22** (for New Year's displays)

Remember: you must have the permission of all adjacent property owners, be at least 18 years of age, and follow the rules laid out in the Consumer Fireworks Permit (found online at www.lacombecounty.com/fireworks)



LACOMBE
COUNTY

Lacombe County Holiday Hours

★ Christmas Eve 24th December	Closed
★ Christmas Day 25th December	Closed
★ Boxing Day 26th December	Closed
★ New Year's Eve 31st December	Closing at 3 p.m.
★ New Year's Day 1st January	Closed

We wish you all a safe and joyful holiday season!

ATTENTION WILSON'S BEACH RESIDENTS

New municipal addresses have recently been assigned to all properties in the Wilson's Beach subdivision and official notification letters containing each property owner's **new municipal address** were mailed in early December 2025.

Please watch for this important correspondence. Using the correct municipal address is essential for emergency services (911), deliveries, and various other purposes. We kindly ask residents to begin using their new address as soon as possible and to update it with banks, utilities, government agencies, and other contacts. Thank you for your cooperation.

WE'RE HIRING
WE'RE HIRING
WE'RE HIRING
WE'RE HIRING

MANAGER OF COMMUNITY
PEACE OFFICER SERVICES

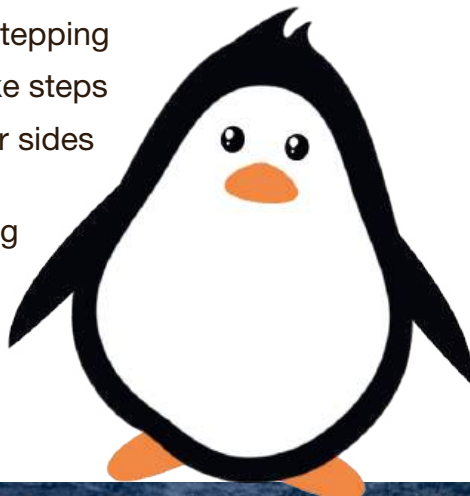
full details at
www.lacombecounty.com

LACOMBE
COUNTY

Do the Penguin Walk!

Stay healthy and active, avoid a fall
and possible injuries.

- Bend slightly and walk flat footed
- Point your feet out slightly like a penguin
- Keep your centre of gravity over your feet as much as possible
- Watch where you are stepping
- Take shorter, shuffle-like steps
- Keep your arms at your sides (not in your pockets!)
- Concentrate on keeping your balance
- Go S-L-O-W-L-Y



Alberta Health
Services

www.penguinwalk.ca

ASSESSMENT 101

What you need to know

PROPERTY ASSESSMENT INSPECTIONS

Property inspections for the 2026 tax year are being completed. Lacombe County is aware of new construction and significant renovations due to the development and safety codes permitting processes. We would also appreciate information about buildings where development and/or safety code permits were not requested. For the Assessor to make the change for 2026 taxation, properties where structures have been removed and/or the usage of the property has changed (e.g. a home business has ended) need to be inspected and changes confirmed before December 31, 2025.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

Over the past several months, Lacombe County has sent requests for a variety of information concerning property sales/transfers, re inspections, and vacancy/occupancy confirmation. Most recently, letters requesting information on potentially assessable machinery and equipment and/or costs associated with new construction were mailed. If your response to a request for cost information is received after December 19, it may impact any complaint you file against your assessment in 2026. You may email, fax, or drop your response off at the County Administration Office. If you have received any one of these letters and require clarification on how to complete the form, or what you are being asked to remit, please contact an Assessor – one of us will be happy help you.

WHAT INFORMATION DO ASSESSORS REQUIRE?

Assessors must collect information about properties to estimate market value or apply a regulated rate to prepare the assessment. You may assist us in preparing your assessment by providing information when speaking with an Assessor. This information may include:

- type of construction, size, age, other physical characteristics (i.e., heating type, plumbing fixtures, interior finishes, basement finish, etc.),
- details of additional buildings (e.g. shops or garages), other structures, land improvements (e.g. paving, gravelling, etc.)
- details about the usage of the property.

If an Assessor is unable to collect the necessary data when requested, an owners' ability to make a complaint to a review board about an assessment may be affected. You may make a complaint about your assessment. You may not make a complaint about a property tax levy to a review board.

NOTICE OF INSPECTIONS Lacombe County municipal Assessors are reviewing and visiting properties throughout the municipality this year as required to verify property information, ensuring accurate and equitable assessments – we appreciate your cooperation with data collection activities. Our Assessors carry identification and will present it upon request. If you have questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us at the Lacombe County Administration Office.

MEET THE TEAM

The Lacombe County Assessment team is made up of the following individuals:



Angel Svennes



Andrew Beecraft



Nolan Bepalko

SAFETY FIRST

Lacombe County reminds you to burn safely all year round

Lacombe County Fire Service reminds residents that although fire permits are not required between November 1 and February 28, there are still crucial safety expectations for any controlled burns conducted outside of the official fire season.

“Any burning must be done in a safe and controlled manner. We all must practice responsible burning throughout the year, even if fire permits aren’t required,” said Dave Bain, Manager of Fire and Emergency Services. “Lacombe County reserves the right to invoice residents for fire department responses to fires that are not compliant with these regulations.”

FIRE PROTECTION AND SAFETY GUIDELINES

Under Lacombe County's Fire Protection Bylaw, fire permits are required from March 1 to October 31 each year. Although permits aren't mandatory from November 1 to February 28, safety remains essential for the well-being of residents and the environment. To ensure a safe burn, follow these guidelines:

- **Check the Weather:** Always monitor the forecast. Avoid burning on windy days, as gusts can quickly escalate a small fire into a wildfire.
- **Clear a Safe Zone:** Create a 10-foot safe area around your burn site, free from flammable materials like dry grass or leaves.

- **Have Equipment Ready:** Keep a hose, water source, and fire-control tools on hand, and never leave a fire unattended.
- **No Household Garbage:** Only burn clean, dry wood or vegetation. Never burn household garbage, plastics, or chemicals.
- **Keep it Small:** Maintain a manageable fire size to stay in control.
- **Responsible Supervision:** An adult should oversee the fire at all times, and everyone present should know how to dial 911 in an emergency.
- **Respect Neighbours:** Be mindful of smoke and embers, which can disturb nearby properties.

IMPORTANT REGULATIONS:

Even when permits aren't required, certain regulations apply:

- Smoke should not cross major roadways or disturb neighbouring properties.
- Wind speeds must be under 15 km/hour.
- If a passerby calls 911, Fire Services must attend the scene to verify it is a non-emergency.

FOREST AND PRAIRIE PROTECTION ACT REQUIREMENTS

Additionally, Section 22 of the Forest and Prairie

Protection Act remains in effect year-round, stating that no person shall:

- Light an outdoor fire without first taking precautions to control it at all times.
- Light an outdoor fire when weather conditions could cause it to spread.
- Fail to take reasonable steps to prevent the fire from spreading beyond their property.
- Leave any burning materials in a place where they could ignite other matter.
- Conduct activities with fire in a forest protection area without exercising reasonable care.

In addition, the Forest and Prairie Protection Act states that:

- Burning must not create physical discomfort to neighbours and impair visibility on roadways.
- There shall be a minimum 15-meter guard cleared of flammable materials around the debris pile.
- Before windrows or piles of brush or debris can be burned:
 - Where the debris is a result of land clearing, debris windrows can be no longer than 60 meters in length with 8-meter breaks between each 60-meter windrow.
 - No windrow can be closer than 25 meters to uncleared land or standing hazardous fuels.
 - They must be separated from parallel windrows by **at least 15 meters**.

PERMITTED AND PROHIBITED MATERIALS

Only certain materials are permitted for open burning:

- **Permitted:** Brush, fallen trees, straw, grass, weeds, leaves, clean wood waste, cardboard, and paper products.
- **Not Permitted:** Preserved wood, automobile parts, tires, rubber, plastics, used oil, manure, pathological waste, asphalt shingles, and any materials prohibited by the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act.

“We want to emphasize that no garbage of any sort can be burned, regardless of the time of year,” emphasized Bain. “We have easily accessible landfills for anyone who needs to dispose of their garbage properly, ensuring that our air, water and land don’t become contaminated.”

Anyone caught burning garbage will be fined \$250 for the first offence, \$500 for the second offence, and \$1000 for the third offence.

For questions or to confirm that your burn complies with safety guidelines, please contact Lacombe County at 403-782-8959. Thank you for your cooperation.

We want YOU! Consider being a firefighter

Lacombe County is putting out a call for new paid-on-call firefighters to bolster its fire departments. The need is especially pressing in the communities of Alix, Eckville, Bentley, and Clive, where daytime coverage is essential.

Dave Bain, the Manager of Fire and Emergency Services for Lacombe County, emphasizes the importance of local involvement, noting that having a strong, community-based fire service is crucial to maintaining safety and rapid response times.

Interested in giving back to your community, being part of a well-trained team, and taking on an exciting challenge? Consider joining Lacombe County's fire services as a paid-on-call firefighter. This role offers a unique opportunity to make a real difference in your community while developing valuable skills and working alongside a dedicated team.

Lacombe County's fire services rely on individuals who can respond quickly to emergencies and to increase the number of trained members to meet the growing demands of the community. The County is particularly interested in recruiting people who are available during the day when many current members are unavailable due to work commitments outside their communities.

The County encourages individuals available during daytime/school hours to consider joining

the fire services. This includes:

- Individuals who work from home
- Stay-at-home parents
- Freelancers
- Remote employees
- Entrepreneurs running a home-based business

Their participation could provide a valuable boost to our local fire departments.

Requirements to become a paid-on-call firefighter include:

- Being 18 years of age or older
- Holding a valid class 5 driver's license
- Maintaining physical fitness
- Living or working within the response areas in/around Alix, Eckville, Bentley, or Clive

In addition to these requirements, **paid-on-call firefighters are expected to attend at least 50% of the scheduled training sessions and be available to respond to 25% of the emergency calls.**

For those interested in making a difference in their community, more details and the full list of requirements and responsibilities can be found on the Lacombe County website: <https://www.lacombecounty.com/firefighters>. You can also email lcs@lacombecounty.com to get more information or to express your interest in signing up.

WINTER DRIVING IS HERE: *What to consider when driving in winter conditions*

Winter driving in Alberta can be treacherous. Blowing snow can make for white-out conditions and adding slick roads in the mix can be dangerous.

Alberta RCMP recommend the following tips to keep yourself safe during winter driving conditions:

Winter tires

According to tire experts, once the temperature drops below seven (7) degrees Celsius, all-season tires lose their grip and braking distance. While winter tires are not mandatory in Alberta, the RCMP and other local authorities do advise that all vehicles be equipped with four (4) good winter tires when driving in severe weather conditions.

Slow down

RCMP urge drivers to slow down when the conditions are not ideal. The posted speed limit is intended for ideal road conditions and motor-

ists can be charged with a traffic offence if you drive too fast for the conditions.

Give yourself space on the road

Give yourself a greater distance between vehicles to allow your vehicle to stop safely if you have to suddenly hit the brakes.

Check the road report

For the latest road updates, motorists can call 511 or visit 511alberta.ca. Alberta 511 also has a Twitter account and a mobile app.

Before you set out, checking the website for road conditions and if there's any traffic delays or if there's any major collisions. Those are updated by the RCMP on 511.ca.

Emergency kit

Every vehicle should have a winter survival kit. Some items to consider are:

- Warm winter gloves, toque and boots



- Blanket or extra clothing
- Bag of sand or kitty litter
- Small shovel
- Ice scraper and/or snow brush
- Booster cables
- Non-perishable food items
- Water bottles
- Extra windshield washer fluid
- First Aid kit
- Road maps (not just a GPS unit)
- Flashlight and batteries
- Flares
- Waterproof matches
- Battery jumper cables
- A fully-charged cellphone
- Tools
- Fire extinguisher
- Duct tape

Proudly Maintaining Your Highways
 Counties: Lacombe | Ponoka | Red Deer | Westaskiwin
Report road conditions 24/7
1-877-875-3263

X For current road conditions on X, safely follow @DriveBC

AP 132: CLOSURE OF SCHOOLS DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER

<p>COLDER THAN -40°C With or Without the Wind Chill.</p>	<p>BUSES CANCELED, BUT SCHOOLS ARE OPEN</p>
<p>COLDER THAN -45°C With or Without the Wind Chill.</p>	<p>BUSES CANCELED, SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED</p>
<p>ROAD CONDITIONS Heavy Snowfall, Blowing Snow, Freezing Rain, or Heavy Fog.</p>	<p>BUSES CANCELED, SCHOOLS MAY BE CLOSED</p>

Please watch school and Division websites, Facebook, and your email, text and phone calls for notifications regarding inclement weather.

Wolf Creek Public Schools
 Creating Success For All Learners

Take control of your property taxes with the Tax Installment Payment Plan!

TIPP is a hassle-free way to pay your property taxes monthly, spreading payments over the year instead of making one lump sum in August.

Payments are automatically withdrawn from your bank account on the 15th of each month, helping you stay on budget and avoid costly late penalties:

- 6% penalty for unpaid taxes after August 31
- 10% penalty for unpaid taxes after December 31

How TIPP Works:

- Taxes are billed in May and cover the calendar year (January 1–December 31).

- Your monthly payment is calculated by dividing your most recent tax bill by 12.
- Payments start January 15 and ensure your account is fully paid by December 15.

What you need to know:

- Property taxes are due annually on August 31
- Sign up for the Tax Installment Payment Plan (TIPP) before December 31, 2025
- If you missed the December 31 deadline, no worries; you can sign up in 2026 anytime before July 31. We will require you to pay the missed monthly amounts up front and then withdraw monthly payments.

Tax Installment PAYMENT PLAN



Sign up TODAY
for the monthly plan.

Contact Lacombe County at (403) 782-6601 or visit www.lacombecounty.com for more details.



Automatic
Budget-friendly
Simple
Convenient

MIRROR CORNER



3RD ANNUAL FIRE AND ICE

Hosted by Mirror Association Ball Diamond, Campground and Skating Society

Hotdogs, Chili, Chips, Cookies, Beverage, Fire, Ice, Prizes and Fire works to follow!!
What more can you ask for :)

Everyone welcome so bring the whole fam jam down and enjoy this FREE event.

SATURDAY JANUARY 3 2026
2-4:30 PM
FIREWORKS LOCATION TBA

Made possible and with great appreciation to the Lacombe County RC9 Grant

MERRY CHRISTMAS

FROM THE MIRROR ASSOCIATION
BALL DIAMOND, CAMPGROUND
AND SKATING SOCIETY



CHECK OUT OUR FACE BOOK PAGE FOR
EVENTS AND INFO INCLUDING ICE
UPDATES

stay and Play

Free Preschool Program
At the Mirror Library
Every Tuesday from 10 to 12

Playful activities!
Lots of Fun!
For Children 0-5
& their caregivers!

For More Information:
facebook.com/lacombecfn

Mirror Dog Tags

A license is required for all dogs in Mirror Lacombe County has a flexible dog-tag licensing system for residents of Mirror. Any new licenses issued will be valid for the lifetime of the dog. Existing licenses will remain valid until renewal, at which point dog owners must obtain a lifetime tag under the new structure.

Lifetime license fees:

- \$25 – Dog that is both altered and microchipped
- \$75 – Dog that is either altered or microchipped
- \$150 – Dog that is unaltered and not microchipped
- \$15 – Replacement dog tag

If you receive a violation notice under the Dog Control Bylaw, you can pay it within 30 days to receive a 50% discount; after that period, the full penalty applies.

To order your new tag or view full bylaw details, visit lacombecounty.com/dogcontrol or call 403-782-8959.

Lacombe County will issue a tag for each dog, which must be attached to a collar worn by the dog at all times. Lacombe County Enforcement Officers will do checks to ensure compliance.

If you would like to report a contravention of the Dog Control Bylaw, please call 403-506-9380, or email info@klassickennels.com.
For animal welfare issues please contact the Alberta SPCA at <http://www.albertaspca.org/>*

Jolly Seniors

Pancake breakfast every second Sunday from 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Booking Mirror Community Hall

Call Lisa 403-788-3890 or call Mike Carr 403-788-3778 (Home) or 403-357-8239 (Cell) for hall information.

Mirror and District Museum

Contact mmuseum@cciwireless.ca if you would like to volunteer and for hours of operation

Friends of the Mirror Library Society/Mirror Library

The Mirror Library would like to remind patrons of the many items available for borrowing. We carry books for everyone, audio books, DVDs, games, and puzzles.

Hours: Wednesday 1-5 PM

2nd & 4th Saturday 11 AM
- 3 PM

Please like us at: facebook.com/booksinmirror for the most up to date information. The Library also has meeting spaces for rent and free Wi-Fi. Please contact us through the Facebook page or email booksinmirror@gmail.com.

Mirror Royal Canadian Legion Branch 189 - 5015 50th Avenue


Meat Draws Saturday at 4 p.m. General meetings second Sunday at 1 p.m. (unless otherwise posted).

CN Rail crossing delays

If you experience delays longer than 20 minutes at the Mirror rail yard crossing, call CN Rail at 1-800-465-9239. Follow the prompts and be ready to provide details shown on the crossing signal mast to CN personnel. Transport Canada may be reached at 1-888-463-0521.

MERRY BOOKMAS

FROM THE
FRIENDS OF THE MIRROR
LIBRARY



NORMAL HOURS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER UNLESS OTHERWISE POSTED ON FACEBOOK

Mirror residents reminded to shovel sidewalks

Residents in Mirror are reminded that all snow and ice must be removed from their sidewalks within 48 hours of a snowfall, pursuant to Bylaw 1098/09.

Should the County have to pay for an employee or contractor to clear the snow/ice from a property, the occupant or owner will be charged for the cost and may face additional fines.

OPERATIONS

Your Roads Explained: Snow Removal in Lacombe County

Every winter, Lacombe County is responsible for keeping more than 2,000 kms of paved and gravel roads safe and passable. Our crews work hard after each snowfall to clear snow and ice in a timely, efficient, and safe manner.

Because every storm is different, snow removal timelines depend on both the severity and duration of the snowfall—but our goal remains the same: to maintain roads to reasonable winter driving conditions as soon as possible.

PAVED ROADS

Order of Priority

1. County-designated Primary Main Roads
2. County-designated Secondary Main Roads
3. Main access roads leading to subdivisions
4. Hamlets and Subdivisions

Our goal is to clear snow and ice from paved roads as quickly as possible while minimizing backtracking and travel time. Under normal winter conditions, we strive to have all paved roads maintained within 12 hours after a snowfall ends.

Note: All numbered highways in Lacombe County (e.g., Highway 2A, 12, 20 or 597) are maintained by Alberta Transportation through their contractor Mainroad Alberta.

For concerns or to report an issue, call 1-877-875-3263.

GRAVEL ROADS

Order of Priority

1. Local Roads – Snow removal begins in alternating areas to ensure fairness. Crews work in a sequence that reduces unnecessary grader travel.
2. Public Access and Machinery Roads – Opened to established residences or for agricultural transport when possible and when conditions allow.
3. Winging Snow and Other Maintenance – Performed once primary snow removal is complete.

Snow removal typically begins when snow accumulation reaches about 5 cms. The goal is to have the entire gravel road system cleared within four



days after a snowfall, depending on the storm's severity and duration.

All gravel roads in Lacombe County are designated school bus routes, meaning they receive equal priority during snow clearing.

PRIVATE PROPERTY

Lacombe County **does not clear snow from private driveways or yards.**

Residents who need this service can visit www.lacombecounty.com and search "area contractors" for a list of local snow removal providers.

A QUICK SAFETY REMINDER

When clearing your own property, **please do not push snow across County roads.**

This practice creates dangerous ridges and icy patches that can cause collisions and damage equipment.



Who Clears What?

LACOMBE COUNTY

- County roads (paved and gravel)
- Hamlets and subdivisions
- Main access routes to subdivisions

AB TRANSPORTATION (Mainroad Alberta)

- All numbered highways (e.g., Hwy 2A, 12, 20, 597)
- Contact: 1-877-875-3263

PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNERS

- Responsible for driveways and private lanes
- County does not provide snow removal on private property
- Visit www.lacombecounty.com and search "area contractors" for local options

Did You Know?

Lacombe County maintains more than **2,000 kms of roads** each winter — that's roughly the same distance as driving from Lacombe to Thunder Bay, Ontario!

Each storm brings unique challenges for our crews. Depending on snowfall amounts, wind, and temperatures, it can take anywhere from **12 hours to four days** to return roads to reasonable winter driving conditions.

NOTICE

Road Construction Completion

Pursuant to Municipal Government Act M-26 534(2) Lacombe County hereby provides notice to any person having an interest in land that is adjacent to lands which Lacombe County has constructed a public road. Persons entitled to compensation from the municipality for loss of or the permanent lessening of use of that person's land caused by the public work are advised to make a claim within 60 days after this notice is published.

The following roads have been completed as of December 12, 2025:

Project Number	Description
C0101	Rge Rd 1-0 West 17 & 20-39-28 W4M From Twp Rd 39-2 to Twp Rd 39-4
C2443	Rge Rd 24-4 West 28 & 33-40-24 W4M From Hwy 12 to Twp Rd 41-0

For more information, please contact:
Brandon Maier, Manager of Operations
(403) 782-3567

NOTICE

Bridge Construction Completion

Pursuant to Municipal Government Act M-26 534(2), Lacombe County hereby provides notice to any person having an interest in land that is adjacent to lands which Lacombe County has constructed a public bridge. Persons entitled to compensation from the municipality for loss of or the permanent lessening of use of that person's land caused by the public work are advised to make a claim within 60 days after this notice is published.

The following 2025 bridge construction has been completed as of December 11, 2025:

Project Number	Description
BF364	Tributary to Whelp Brook Contract: CA0024999.6434 Range Road 271 (SW 1-41-27 W4)
BF1758	Tributary to Parlby Creek Contract: CA0024999.6434 Range Road 250 (SW 6-41-24 W4)
BF6989	Tributary to Whelp Brook Contract: CA0024999.6434 Township Road 415B (NW 33-41-27 W4)
BF1759	Tributary to Whelp Brook Contract: CA0025028.9175 Range Road 245 (SW 5-41-24 W4)

WINTER TIPS

Let's work together to keep roads clear and safe this winter!

- ✓ Shovel an extra space to the left of your driveway
- ✓ Shovel snow to the right side of your driveway (the same direction as plows).
- ⚠ NEVER push snow across the road or into ditches — it can cause safety hazards, flooding, and road damage.



When clearing your driveway after a snowfall, clear an extra area to the left of your driveway. This gives County graders a place to push snow, helping you avoid a pile at the end of your driveway when roads are cleared.

Don't push snow across the road or into ditches/right-of-way. Doing so can:

- Create unsafe conditions for

- motorists and graders
- Slow down snow removal
- Damage roads, equipment, or buried utilities
- Contribute to spring flooding

Best practice: Shovel snow to the right side of your driveway — the same direction County plows travel. It keeps things safer and saves you from extra work later!

IMPORTANT BRIDGE RESTRICTIONS

Highway 50 over Parlby Creek

Bridge Restrictions are in place on Highway 50 over Parlby Creek (BF 1423, near Tees) following a recent inspection by Alberta Transportation. The inspection found significant structural issues, including broken stirrups and concrete deterioration.

NEW RESTRICTIONS ARE IN PLACE:

- Speed limit reduced – from 100 km/h to 60 km/h across the bridge.
- Load limits were revised, and updated postings are in effect on-site (heavier vehicles will be restricted).

Please slow down, follow posted signs, and plan your route accordingly when travelling through this area.



ENVIRONMENT

Lacombe County's citizen science initiative receives support from TD Friends of the Environment Foundation



TD Friends of the Environment Foundation

Lacombe County was selected as a recipient of the TD Friends of the Environment Foundation (TD FEF) Grant, receiving \$6,300 to support Changes in the Natural World: A Citizen Science Project.

This funding will support Lacombe County's Chronolog Time-Lapse Photography Project, a citizen science initiative that invites residents and visitors to help document environmental changes across the County's diverse landscapes. Chronolog stations allow participants to take photos using their phones and upload them to create evolving time-lapse videos that illustrate how our natural world shifts throughout the seasons and years.

With support from TD FEF, Lacombe County will install photo stations at Buffalo Lake, Gull Lake, Blindman River, Medicine River, and Crooker Wetland, expanding the County's exist-

ing network of environmental monitoring sites.

"The TD Friends of the Environment Foundation has been a strong supporter of local environmental initiatives across Canada, and Lacombe County is thrilled to work with them," said Reeve John Ireland. "This grant allows us to grow a project that directly connects people with the environment, which will turn everyday observations into valuable, long-term environmental data."

"We're so proud to help Lacombe County bring this vital environmental initiative forward," said Mandip Kharod, Regional Manager, TD Friends of the Environment Foundation. "TD FEF is committed to supporting programs that help to grow and steward quality green spaces in urban and suburban areas for everyone to enjoy."

The grant will also fund the installation of interpretive signage at each location, helping to educate the public about the importance of environmental observation and local ecology. In addition, 150 trees and shrubs will be planted as part of the project, contributing to long-term

sustainability and habitat enhancement.

ABOUT THE CHRONOLOG TIME-LAPSE PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT

Through the use of Chronolog, a time-lapse photo monitoring system, participants can contribute to ongoing environmental stewardship by simply snapping a photo. Chronolog's mission is twofold: First, to engage people with nature in an interactive new way. Second, to keep a record of phenological change for scientific use. By making environmental conservation a collaborative activity, people become interested in participating and compelled by the findings.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To follow along and learn more about the Chronolog Time-Lapse Photography Project, visit www.lacombecounty.com/chronolog, or explore the work of the TD Friends of the Environment Foundation at www.td.com/fef.

Deck the Halls sustainably: Eco-friendly holiday tips

The holiday season is upon us, bringing joy, laughter, and the spirit of giving. This year, why not make your celebrations even more special by incorporating eco-friendly practices into your holiday traditions? From decking the halls to exchanging gifts and hosting festive gatherings, here are some tips to help you celebrate in an environmentally conscious way.

PLAN FOR SUCCESS:

- **Be prepared:** Planning helps to reduce panic buying and unnecessary packaging. Make lists to reduce impulse buys and bring a reusable bag with you to reduce paper and plastic. Resist the urge to shop while you wait in the long cashier lines, those shelves are filled with impulse buys that you probably don't need!

GIFT-GIVING:

- **Local Treasures:** Alberta is brimming with talented artisans and businesses. Choose gifts crafted by local hands, supporting your community, and reducing the carbon footprint associated with shipping.
- **Thoughtful and Sustainable Gifts:** Choose gifts with a focus on sustainability. Consider items made from recycled materials, giving experiences rather than physical items, subscriptions, online courses, or providing the gift of your time.
- **Eco-Friendly Wrapping:** Wrap your gifts in reusable materials like fabric, scarves, or even old

maps. Get creative with your wrapping to make it as special as the gift inside.

HOSTING ECO-FRIENDLY GATHERINGS:

- **Reusable Tableware:** Invest in reusable plates, cutlery, and glasses to reduce the amount of disposable items used during holiday gatherings. If you're expecting a large crowd, consider renting tableware, borrowing from a friend, or using biodegradable options.
- **Mindful Menu Planning:** Reduce food waste by planning your menu carefully and storing leftovers in reusable containers. Encourage guests to bring reusable containers for leftovers, reducing waste.
- **Zero-Waste Decorations:** If you enjoy creating a festive atmosphere, consider making your own decorations using items that can be reused year after year. This not only adds a personal touch but also reduces waste.
- **Encourage Sustainable Practices:** Share your eco-friendly initiatives with your guests and encourage them to join in. Provide recycling and compost bins to make it easy for everyone to dispose of waste responsibly.

RECYCLING:

- **A healthy home:** As the temperatures drop, we typically spend more time indoors, so get rid of the unnecessary toxins in your home. The old paint that's been sitting around can be recycled and the various cleaners that have outlived their usefulness can be safely disposed of. These items can be brought to various collection sites

around the province.

- **Recycle those old lights:** Recycle those old holiday string lights.
- **Old electronics are still useful:** Don't let them take up space, your old electronics can be recycled and turned into new products.
- **Bottles & cans:** Collect the empty beverage containers and take them to your local bottle depot for recycling. It keeps the items out of the landfill and puts some cash back in your pocket!

TRAVELLING:

- **Rubber meets the road:** Check your tires for wear and make sure that they are inflated to the right pressure for safety and better mileage. If you are travelling long distances, consider switching to winter tires for extra traction and improved stopping distances. Your old tires will also be recycled.
- **Maintaining your ride:** Alberta can have extreme weather variations so make sure your vehicle is ready for travel so that you and your loved ones can get there safely. Also, a well-maintained vehicle will have fewer emissions and save on gas. Check your fluid levels and do scheduled maintenance. The old oil and oil filters will also be recycled.

This holiday season let's celebrate in a way that not only brings joy to our loved ones but also contributes to a healthier environment. ARMA wishes you a joyous and sustainable season, filled with the warmth of shared moments.

Gilby Beef Club Member, Janine Smith, Appointed West Central 4-H Ambassador

Article & photo courtesy of the Western Star paper



During the 2025 Fall Senior Symposium Banquet on October 26, 4-H Alberta proudly announced Janine Smith from the Gilby 4-H Beef Club as an incoming Ambassador for the West Central 4-H Region.

4-H Alberta Ambassadors are enthusiastic Senior Members committed to growing 4-H across Alberta by sharing their experiences, developing leadership opportunities, and representing youth at local, regional, and provincial levels. Ambassadors are selected for two-year terms through an online application and virtual interview process. Two Ambassadors are selected from each of the seven 4-H Regions in the province each year.



CHECK IT OUT: Medicine River Watershed Society website

The Medicine River Watershed Society advocates for the health of both the Medicine River and the related Paskapoo aquifer. If you would like to learn more about the watershed society activities /advocacy and how you can help, please scan this QR code, which will take you to the Medicine River Watershed Society website or visit them at <https://medicineriverwatershed.ca/>.



Look who stopped by...



Look who stopped by! This river otter was captured on our trail camera at Kuhn Natural Area last winter. Known for their playful nature—sliding on snow or mud and body surfing in the water—otters are also skilled hunters, catching fish, frogs, and even the occasional mouse or young beaver. Keep your eyes open near rivers and ponds; you might spot one too!

If you notice a broken or missing sign on a County road, call us ASAP!!

BROKEN OR MISSING ROAD SIGNS?



Phone: 403-782-6601
Email: info@lacombecounty.com

Facebook (@LacombeCounty)
Instagram (lacombecounty)
Twitter (@LacombeCounty)

AGRICULTURE

ALUS Lacombe 2025 Highlights

**Submitted by Ken Lewis,
ALUS Lacombe Coordinator**

2025 has once again been a good year for ALUS in Lacombe County. Some numbers of note:

- 8 Lacombe County farmers / ranchers requested funding for on-farm projects that increase ecosystem services
- 3 Lacombe County farmers / ranchers completed their on-farm projects and enrolled a total of
- 213 additional acres into the ALUS Program in 2025
- \$5,937 was provided to the 3 ALUS Farmers in 2025, for cost-sharing on establishing their on-farm projects, and

- \$16,418 was also allocated for ALUS annual payments, which will be paid to the 3 ALUS Farmers over the next 5 years, for their ongoing management of their ALUS Projects that produces increased ecosystem services.
- 1,039 acres have been enrolled in ALUS by a total of 25 Lacombe County farmers / ranchers since ALUS began here in 2017.

New 2025 ALUS Projects included Adaptive

Winter is a great time for planning your ALUS Project for 2026, and we've already had some great visits with some Lacombe County producers to discuss their ideas.

If you are interested in doing an ALUS project in 2026, please give me a call.

I can be reached by phone or text any time at 403-505-9038, or learn more at www.alus.ca.



A 2025 ALUS Riparian Management Fencing Project

Water, Spray, Inversion & Drift

**Monday, January 12
9 AM - 3:30 PM**

Cost: \$55

Innisfail Legion
#1 - 5108 49 Ave,
Innisfail, AB

Register early for an opportunity to receive a **FREE water test!**

Smarter spraying starts here. Learn proven strategies from Dr. Tom Wolf to improve efficacy, reduce drift, and save time.

- Water & spray performance
- How drift can happen hours later & ways to prevent it
- Tank cleanout best practices
- Spray canopy penetration
- Sprayer productivity hacks
- Drones & nozzle selection made simple

Presenting speaker: Dr. Tom Wolf from Sprayers101.com

Earn 6 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) towards your Certified Crop Advisers certification by attending this workshop!

Register: RDCounty.ca/AgEvents | Questions? 403.342.7367 or agriculture@rdcounty.ca

Agricultural Workshop Series

Red Deer County

LACOMBE COUNTY

CAFLA
CENTRAL ALBERTA FORAGE AND LIVESTOCK ASSOCIATION

WE ARE HIRING

AGROLOGIST / REGISTERED TECHNOLOGIST IN AGROLOGY / CERTIFIED CROP ADVISOR

What you'll be doing:

- ✓ On-farm demo projects
- ✓ Soil & forage sampling
- ✓ Producer advisory + support
- ✓ Workshops, field days & extension
- ✓ Working with partners & researchers

JOIN OUR TEAM

To apply:
Email resume + brief cover letter to tatyana@cafla-ab.ca
Subject: Agrologist / CCA Application - [Your Name]

Visit our website to view the full Job posting <https://cafla-ab.ca/careers/>

REMINDER | Funding available for Lacombe County 4-H Clubs

Lacombe County is a supporter of the agriculture industry, which has a long and important history in our community. Agriculture is a big part of life here, and we want to make sure it stays that way for future generations.

One way we do this is by helping 4-H Alberta clubs in Lacombe County. 4-H Alberta is a well-known program that teaches youth about leadership, agriculture, and community involvement. It gives young people the chance to learn new skills and become strong leaders.

To recognize the value of 4-H and the opportunities it provides for rural youth, Lacombe County offers financial support to local 4-H clubs every year.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

- Clubs must be registered with 4-H Alberta and located in Lacombe County.
- Applications for funding are due January 31 each year.
- Clubs need to include last year's financial statements and this year's budget with their

application.

- Approved funding is shared equally among all eligible clubs that apply.

This support helps ensure that 4-H continues to thrive in our area and that youth have the chance to grow and succeed.

For full details, including eligibility and conditions, please review the [Financial Support for Local 4-H Clubs Policy \(AG14\)](#) on the Lacombe County website, or give us a call at 403-782-6601.

Changes to the Ag Container Recycling Program

Lacombe Regional Waste Services Commission no longer accepts the <23L agricultural containers (Eckville, Alix/Mirror, and Prentiss). Retailers in Lacombe County that will take your agricultural pesticide and fertilizer containers for recycling are:



- **Central AB Co-op – Lacombe** 3407-52 Ave Ph:403-782-2232 (Seed & Pesticide Bags, Tote Bags, Ag Containers <23L, Totes and Drums)
- **Richardson Pioneer** – East of Lacombe on Hwy 12 & Range Road 261 Ph:403-782-3033 (Seed & Pesticide Bags, Ag Containers <23L, Tote Bags, Totes and Drums)
- **Nutrien Ag Solutions – Bentley** 4801-52 Street Ph:403-748-3991 (Seed & Pesticide Bags, Tote Bags, Ag Containers <23L, Totes and Drums)
- **Central AB Co-op – Eckville** 4828-50 Ave Ph:403-746-2011 (Seed and Pesticide Bags, Tote Bags, Totes and Drums, Ag Containers <23L)
- **Parrish & Heimbecker – Joffre Hwy Junction** 815 & 597 Ph:403-588-7200 (Seed & Pesticide Bags, Tote Bags, Ag Containers <23L, Totes and Drums)

LRWSC does not accept Agricultural Seed & Pesticide Bags, Tote Bags, and Totes & Drums.

If your retailer will not accept your containers, please call one of the above listed retailers to inquire about accepting them for recycling.

Large volumes of empty <23L agricultural containers (>25 bags) can be arranged for on farm pickup by calling Clean Farms at 877-622-4460.

For further information, contact your agricultural chemical retailer or LRWSC @ (403)782-8970.

LACOMBE REGIONAL WASTE SERVICES COMMISSION CHRISTMAS OPERATING HOURS

The upcoming Holiday Schedule for the Lacombe Regional Waste Services Commission sites are as follows:

Friday December 12 – All Sites Closed at 3 p.m. for staff function.

Wednesday December 24 – All Sites Close at 3 p.m.

Thursday December 25 – All Sites are Closed

Friday December 26 – All Sites are Closed

Saturday December 27 – All Sites are Open Regular Hours

Monday December 29 – All Sites are Closed

Tuesday December 30 - All Sites are Open Regular Hours

Wednesday December 31 - All Sites Close at 3 p.m.

Thursday January 1 – All Sites are Closed

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!



Lacombe Regional Waste Services Commission



Find Lacombe County online



/LacombeCounty



@lacombecounty



Lacombe County



/LacombeCounty



lacombecounty.com

SCREEN TEST

Mobile Mammography Screening is coming to:

Ponoka

January 10 to 17, 2026
Community Health Centre



Photo courtesy of Katelyn Bellerose

Call toll free to book an appointment:

1-800-667-0604

To learn more visit: screeningforlife.ca/breast

If you're 45 to 74 years of age, have a mammogram every 2 years or as decided by you and your healthcare provider. No referral needed.



Post until: January 17, 2026

SAVE THE DATE AGRICULTURAL EXCELLENCE

SECURING YOUR FARM FUTURE

FEBRUARY 11, 2025

4:30 - 9:00 PM

@ Holiday Inn & Suites (Gasoline Alley)



ABOUT

Grain Bag and Twine Recycling in Lacombe County

Grain Bag Recycling



Details:

This service is offered free of charge to agriculture producers operating within Lacombe County. The grain bags will be rolled and collected on farm site for eventual delivery to a plastic recycling center in Alberta.

Requirements:

- Agriculture producers who request grain bag recycling services must provide one individual on site, capable of assisting the rolling and collection operation.
- Grain bags **MUST BE FREE** of grain, mud, dirt debris, and vermin.
- To ensure used grain bags are eligible for recycling, grain bag collection services should be scheduled within one week of grain extraction.
- Grain bag collection services are offered free of charge.

Twine Recycling



Details:

Producers can pick up Clean Farms Twine Recycling Bags at any Lacombe Regional Waste Services Commission Transfer Site during regular business hours. Twine will only be accepted if it is placed in the Clean Farms Twine Recycling Bag, and then brought to the collection site.

Requirements:

- 1. Shake** – Remove as much debris, snow or ice as possible. Excessively dirty twine may be rejected, or subject to a landfill tipping fee or additional charges at drop off.
- 2. Bag** – Place loose twine in a Clean Farms Twine Recycling Bag and tie bags to close. Please do not knot the twine. Clean Farms Twine Recycling bags are available free of charge at any Lacombe Regional Waste Services Commission Transfer Sites.
- 3. Return** – Return to a Lacombe Regional Waste Services Commission Transfer Site during regular business hours.

**LACOMBE
COUNTY**

To book grain bag collection or further questions regarding agriculture plastics or twine recycling, please call 403- 782-8959.

ATTENTION

Grain Bag and Twine Recyclers in Lacombe County

Are you recycling your agricultural plastics and twine helping to promote agriculture sustainability?

IT ONLY WORKS IF YOU RECYCLE RIGHT!!

Please ensure you are only recycling clean baler twine and/or grain bag plastic, to ensure all product is accepted for recycle. See the following instructions below.



NO feed bags ~ NO grain totes ~ NO silage plastic ~ NO bale wrap

Area contractors who may be interested in plowing laneways in the County

(Also see TELUS Yellow Pages “Excavating”)

ECKVILLE

Eagle Light Transport (Allan)	403.302.7527	Rocky Mountain Design and Landscaping	403.588.8401
Elite Earthworx.....	403.348.1804	Skocdopole Construction Ltd.	403.746.5744
Moore’s Backhoe Service (Ross)	403.588.7707	Worms Trucking (Scott Garries)	403.304.9460

BENTLEY

Eagle Light Transport (Allan)	403.302.7527	Moore’s Backhoe Service (Ross).....	403.588.7707
Elite Earthworx.....	403.348.1804	Rocky Mountain Design and Landscaping	403.588.8401
Conasph	403.341.6900	Worms Trucking (Scott Garries).....	403.304.9460

BLACKFALDS

Elite Earthworx.....	403.348.1804	Rocky Mountain Design and Landscaping	403.588.8401
Conasph	403.341.6900	Worms Trucking (Scott Garries).....	403.304.9460
Ground Werx Coatings (Jon)	403.318.3006		

LACOMBE

Black Wolf Excavating	403.588.1413	Jackson Construction & Excavating	403.350.0107
Conasph	403.341.6900	Moore’s Backhoe Service (Ross).....	403.588.7707
Elite Earthworx.....	403.348.1804	Rocky Mountain Design and Landscaping	403.588.8401
Gord Douglas.....	403.373.6900	Thompson Ditching	403.782.5911
Ground Werx Coatings (Jon)	403.318.3006	Worms Trucking (Scott Garries).....	403.304.9460

CLIVE

Bill Russell Sand & Gravel (South of Alix)	403.747.2857	Elite Earthworx	403.348.1804
Conasph	403.341.6900	Ground Werx Coatings (Jon).....	403.318.3006

ALIX

Bill Russell Sand & Gravel (South of Alix)	403.747.2857	Elite Earthworx	403.348.1804
Conasph	403.341.6900		

MIRROR

Elite Earthworx.....	403.348.1804
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If you wish to have your name added or removed from this list please contact:

Lacombe County Public Works/Operations Department
Phone: 403.782.8379 or email operations@lacombecounty.com

Lacombe County 2025 Year in Review

2025 was a year of progress and partnership for Lacombe County. From major infrastructure upgrades to innovative projects and community programs, we worked hard to make life better for residents and businesses.

This *Year in Review* highlights the milestones that shaped our County—showing how collaboration and forward-thinking policies are building a stronger future for everyone.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION 2025

Planning for the 2025 Municipal Election kicked off in January and was a big focus throughout 2025. Long-time Councillor (and Reeve from 2021-2025) Barb Shepherd, announced she would not be running for another term.

We had elections in five of our seven divisions, with a number of residents putting their names forward to run for municipal government. Elections were not required in Divisions 2 and 7 as Councillors Brenda Knight (Division 2) and Dana Kreil (Division 7) were acclaimed.

On October 21, voters throughout Alberta went to the polls to cast their votes in the municipal elections. In Lacombe County, a total of 1,529 voters out of 5,660 eligible voters in the respective divisions cast ballots in this election.

After all the votes were counted, we welcomed two new Councillors - Mark Visscher (Division 3) and Roger Van Haren (Division 5) and congratulated returning Councillors John Ireland (Division 1), Dwayne West (Division 4), and Allan Wilson (Division 6). At the Organizational Meeting, Council appointed John Ireland as Reeve and Dwayne West as Deputy Reeve.



PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Development stayed strong throughout 2025, with steady activity and some exciting milestones. Between January and November, 35 subdivision applications and 170 development permits were approved representing \$84,525,475 in construction value – a clear sign of confidence in Lacombe County.

Dairy Innovation West. One of the year's biggest highlights was the completion and commissioning of the Dairy Innovation West milk concentration facility in South Aspelund Industrial Park. This first-of-its-kind facility in Canada uses ultrafiltration and reverse osmosis technologies to process raw milk directly from regional dairy farms, reducing it to a concentrated form before

transporting it to producers of cheese, butter, yogurt, and other dairy products. It's a significant innovation for the dairy sector and a win for regional producers.



Growth throughout the County. We also experienced significant commercial and industrial growth in other parts of the County, with approvals for major new or expanded facilities for companies such as Eagle Builders, LPS Cranes, Pidherney's, Nova Chemicals, and others.

Residential development continued, with the second phase of two developments on Sylvan Lake (Eagles Quay and The Slopes) moving forward. This totals 14 additional lakeshore residential lots available for development in Lacombe County.

Collaborating with our urban neighbours. The Town of Bentley's annexation of 103 hectares southeast of Bentley took effect January 1, 2025, following provincial approval – a change that sets the stage for future growth. The County also applied for an Alberta Community Partnership grant to create the Lacombe Lake Management Plan in collaboration with the Town of Blackfalds and City of Lacombe.

Policies for a strong future. On the policy side, bylaws for livestock, backyard chickens, and bees in residential districts were refreshed after community-wide engagement - balancing responsible animal management with neighbourhood compatibility. Background work also began for updating the Hamlet of Mirror Area Structure Plan, and the South Sylvan Lake Area Off-Site Levy Bylaw to fund upgrades from gravel to paved asphalt and improve intersections south of Sylvan Lake was also approved.

Economic Development

Building our local economy. Economic development efforts focused on building relationships and sharing resources. We strengthened Lacombe County's investment readiness through partnerships with regional and provincial organizations, such as Invest Alberta.

A bi-monthly business newsletter was launched to keep our business community informed, and we participated in the Central Alberta Tourism Alliance (CATA) Tourism Economic Impact Study to better understand and grow tourism opportunities.

OPERATIONS

Keeping Lacombe County moving safely and efficiently is no small task and as such 2025 was

another busy year for our Operations team.

Road maintenance updates. With 2,192 km of roads under our care - 1,774 km of gravel and 418 km of paved - our crews worked hard to maintain and improve this vital network. Key highlights of the past year include:

- Overlaying 22.86 km of paved roads, including Eckville North & West, Sunbreaker Cove Road, Sandy Point Access, Range Road 1-0 & Brighton Beach, Prentiss Road, Birch Bay & Birch Meadows, and McLaurin Subdivisions and the Hamlet of Tees.
- Paving new sections on Range Road 24 (6.73 km) and Range Road 273 (0.87 km).
- Chip sealing 6.9 km of roads, including Last Hill Road, Nova North Access, and 34 Street.
- Reconstructing 14.88 km of gravel roads and completing gravelling on 551 km of roads.

These projects demonstrate our commitment to providing safe and reliable roads for residents, businesses, our farming community, and visitors.



Bridge Construction updates. We completed four bridge projects in 2025, strategically planned to align with future road upgrades:

- BF364 – Tributary to Whelp Brook (Range Road 271)
- BF1758 – Tributary to Parlby Creek (Range Road 250)
- BF6989 – Tributary to Whelp Brook (Township Road 415B)
- BF1759 – Tributary to Parlby Creek (Range Road 245)

These improvements ensure safer crossings and support long-term transportation planning.

Parks & Trails in Lacombe County. Our team also maintains 38 km of trails, ensuring they remain safe and enjoyable year-round. Regular upkeep includes playground audits, trail sweeping, brushing, mowing, painting, landscaping, and signage. Key projects in 2025 included:

- Installing updated interpretive panels along the Blackfalds - Lacombe Connector section of the Trans Canada Trail in collaboration with the Trans Canada Trail and Lacombe Research and Development Centre.
- Partnering with the Town of Bentley to construct a new outdoor soccer facility, providing in-kind support for earthworks.
- Improving the Sunbreaker Cove Boat Launch with a new dock and gangway system.

A year of momentum, collaboration, and community

Custom equipment projects. Behind the scenes, our shop team stayed busy customizing new equipment to meet operational needs. Rig-up projects included graders, tractors, loaders, mowers, and skid steers - demonstrating their commitment to maintaining a versatile and efficient equipment fleet.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Agriculture

Special visitor for Farm Safety Day. Farm Safety Day was a highlight, as we were honoured to welcome the Honourable RJ Sigurdson, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, to our annual event. More than 320 Grade 5 students from schools throughout Lacombe County (and nearly 400 participants overall) learned hands-on skills for staying safe on the farm. The energy, curiosity, and support from partners made the day unforgettable.



Learning opportunities. We continued the learning process for our residents through education extension events, including All About Trees, Agricultural Excellence, funding workshops, and predator management, as well as provided Classroom Agriculture Programming in eight elementary classrooms.

Invasive species control. Regarding invasive species, County crews completed Sea Buckthorn control on 30 acres of land in the Gull Lake watershed area.

Environment

Expanding our solar projects. The County received a \$35,000 grant for solar electricity expansion at the Tees and Rainy Creek public works shops. Total production is estimated at 93,000 kWh of electricity, resulting in \$5,300 annual savings per site.

Environmental initiatives for residents. Residents embraced the FoodCycler pilot project, with 100 units distributed over a 12-week monitoring period to quantify waste diversion. This was offered as part of our Resident Environmental Sustainability Program (RESP). If you missed out on the FoodCyclers last year, you're in luck! Watch for details in early 2026.

Public engagement for future recreation.

The Abma Gravel Pit transitioned from ideas to engagement: after stakeholder meetings, we hosted an open house and conducted an online survey to gather feedback, refining concept plans for Council review.

Citizen photo project. We also added Chrono-log photo points at Burns Nature Park, Sandy

Point, and the Trans Canada Trail boardwalk, building on earlier sites and new interpretive signage. In 2026, we will be adding three more locations to this program, thanks to TD's Friends of the Environment grant.



Fire & Emergency Management

Call volumes remained high in 2025 across all Lacombe County Fire Service departments, underscoring the importance of collaboration and coordinated responses.

New leadership in local fire departments. In July, Lacombe County and our respective partner municipalities officially appointed Steve Zaytsoff as District Fire Chief for the Clive Fire Department and Corrie Anderson as District Fire Chief for the Alix Fire Department. Both individuals bring decades of combined experience, deep ties to the fire service, and a shared commitment to public safety, leadership, and community service.

Regional emergency response planning. Our involvement with the Lacombe County Mutual Aid Organization (LCMAO) and the Lacombe Regional Emergency Management Partnership (LREMP) remained strong. Together, we advanced regional planning, refined emergency protocols, and conducted a joint exercise in November to ensure readiness for everything from severe weather to large-scale incidents.

Community Peace Officer Services

Farm Vehicle Safety checks. We leaned into education and prevention with our Farm Vehicle Safety Checks (22 inspections) and weekend patrols through the busy season. Officers balanced coaching and compliance to keep roads, trails, and recreation areas safe.



Supporting students and schools. The School Resource Officer (SRO) program remained active - from bike safety and vaping awareness to hands-on participation in community events. Following a presentation to Council by Candice Dickson, Lead for the School Social Work and Family School Liaison Program (Wolf Creek Public Schools), we began exploring ways to

better support student wellness through the SRO program.

Utilities

Mirror Servicing Study. In Mirror, we completed comprehensive infrastructure locating and GIS mapping utilizing hydrovacs, Closed Circuit Television, and field surveys, building a clear picture of the water and sanitary systems.

Lakeview Estates Fluoride. Lakeview Estates continued its fluoride analysis with Alberta Environment and Protected Areas; the County will be exploring point-of-use Reverse Osmosis solutions and semi-annual testing under an amended approval in 2026.

Tees Reservoir & Truck Fill. The Tees Reservoir and Truck Fill Project continues to advance. The project team is finalizing the design engineering. Construction is scheduled for completion in October 2026.

CORPORATE SERVICES

Municipal Elections. Election preparation involved introducing voter lists and expanding advance voting, with 12 election stations staffed and strong coordination behind the scenes. Post-election wrap-up and candidate reporting kept transparency at the forefront. We collected profiles from each candidate to help residents learn more about them.

Information Technology

Golf cart permitting system. In June, Lacombe County developed an in-house, web-based solution for golf cart permitting under Alberta's pilot program. Using Office 365 workflows, the system automates identity verification, insurance checks, and permit generation, registering 135 golf carts in its first summer. The program was deemed a success and will be refined over the pilot's five-year span.

Assessment & Finance

Transition to paperless Assessment processes. For the 2025 assessment cycle, staff transitioned to a paperless process, collecting property inspection data in the field via iPads and uploading it directly into the County's assessment software. This innovation eliminates unnecessary data preparation, improves efficiency, and enhances accuracy. The County is also adopting electronic communication with property owners through email and online forms for streamlined interactions.

Appointment of new financial auditors. Lacombe County appointed new financial auditors starting with the 2025 fiscal year. Metrix Group LLP takes over for BDO LLP, which had been the County's auditors for over a decade. Metrix was the successful proponent through a request for proposal issued in the spring of 2025.

SUBDIVISION & DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY

November 1, 2025 to November 30, 2025

Development Applications Received

No.	File No.	Applicant	Legal Description	Proposed Development	Decision (otherwise pending)
1	160/25	Duane Hecht	NW-03-40-24-W4M	Minor Business Expansion <i>Duane's Trucking Ltd.</i>	Deferred
2	161/25	James Sturgeon	Lots 24,25 Block 6 Plan 7159AI (Hamlet of Mirror)	Addition to Existing Dwelling	Approved
3	162/25	Sorento Custom Homes Ltd.	Lot 7A Block 1 Plan 242 2535 (Burbank Area)	Dwelling, Single Detached <i>w/veranda, covered deck & attached garage</i>	Approved
4	163/25	True-Line Contracting Ltd.	Lot 1 Block 1 Plan 212-2617 (NW 30-39-27-W4M)	Dwelling, First <i>Replacement dwelling w/attached garage, covered veranda & deck</i>	Approved
5	164/25	Arjan & Gerie Yzerman	SW 12-40-28-W4M	Dwelling, Second <i>Mobile home</i>	Approved
6	165/25	DC Crew Developments	Lot 1 Block 4 Plan 151Z (Hamlet of Rosedale Valley)	Dwelling, Single Detached <i>w/attached garage & covered deck</i>	Approved
7	166/25	Stuart & Lori Peters	Unit 151 Condo Plan 232 0356 (DeGraff's RV Resort, Gull Lake)	Park model & shed	Approved
8	167/25	Darrell & Tina Fitchett	Lot 16 Block 1 Plan 074 0315 (Lakeview Estates, Gull Lake)	1600ft² detached shop with lean to	Approved
9	168/25	Craig & Sheri Johnson	SE 25-39-28-W4M	Dwelling, Secondary Suite <i>Basement suite</i>	Approved
10	169/25	Ryan & Marrit Weenink	SE 10-41-26-W4M	Dwelling, Second <i>w/attached garage</i>	Approved
11	170/25	Brandon Sterling	Lot 2 Block 1 Plan 162 1394 (Burbank Industrial)	Heavy Equipment Service & Repair <i>Sterling Power Systems Inc.</i>	Approved
12	171/25	Joe & Linda Clarkin	Lot 1 Block 1 Plan 002 24983 (SW 31-39-03-W5M)	Dwelling, First <i>Replacement dwelling w/attached garage & setback relaxation</i>	Approved
13	173/25	Alexander & Irma Scheling	Lot 21 Block 1 Plan 074 0315 (Lakeview Estates, Gull Lake)	1140ft² detached garage	Approved

Subdivision Applications Received

No.	File No.	Applicant	Legal Description	Proposed Subdivision	Decision (otherwise pending)
14	S-031-25	Ron & Delores Unrau	Lot 8 Block 2 Plan 912 1598 (Pt. SW 24-39-27-W4M)	Residential	Approved
15	S-032-25	Nick Leshner	NW 03-41-24-W4M	1st Parcel Out	Approved
16	S-033-25	Wim & Linda van Wijk	NE 02-41-27-W4M	1st Parcel Out	Approved
17	S-034-25	Bemoco Land Surveying Ltd.	NW 10-40-26-W4M	1st Parcel Out	Approved

Do you have questions about subdivision or development activity?

Contact Us:

Lacombe County Planning Services
(403) 782-8389
planning@lacombecounty.com

Cajun Paradis
Acting Director of Planning Services

Nicklas Baran
Planner / Development Officer

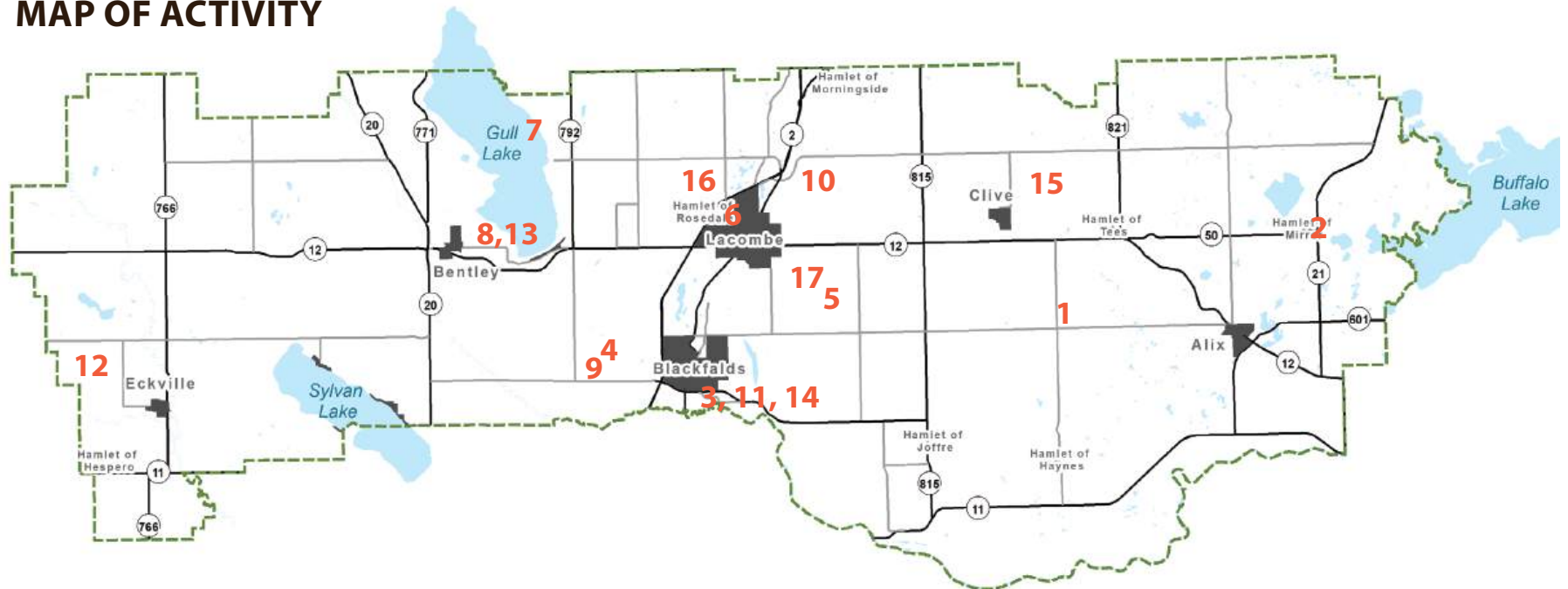
Will Cebuliak
Planning Intern

Kerrie Taylor
Economic Development Officer

Allison Noonan
Planning Services Administrative Assistant

Daniella Gonzalez
Planning Services Receptionist

MAP OF ACTIVITY



Planning Services

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

YOU HAVE QUESTIONS

Hamlet of Mirror Area Structure Plan Update

WE HAVE ANSWERS

In 2026, Lacombe County will begin updating the Hamlet of Mirror Area Structure Plan. The Hamlet of Mirror is the County's largest hamlet community, and this project will help guide its future growth and development.

Updating the plan will help support the Hamlet of Mirror's future needs and ensure the Hamlet continues to be a great place to live, work, and visit. Because this is a major project, we can't do it alone, your ideas and feedback will be a key part of creating the refreshed plan.

This article is full of information to help you understand what the project is all about and how you can get involved.

WHAT IS AN AREA STRUCTURE PLAN?

An Area Structure Plan (ASP) is a big picture plan that shows how a community can grow in an organized, safe, and thoughtful way. It explains:

- Where homes, businesses, parks, and roads could go in the future
- What kinds of development should happen in different areas
- The guidelines and expectations for how new development should look and function

In simple terms, an ASP captures the community's vision and turns it into a plan for how the area can grow over time.

WHY IS THE COUNTY UPDATING THE PLAN?

The Hamlet of Mirror Area Structure Plan was originally adopted by County Council in 2007, shortly after the former Village of Mirror dissolved and became a hamlet under the jurisdiction of Lacombe County. The Plan has been updated multiple times since it was first adopted, with 2018 being the last time changes were made.

There are several reasons why the County is updating the Plan now:

- **Policies.** When the Village of Mirror dissolved on January 1, 2004, the County added the sections of the former Village's Land Use Bylaw into the County's Land Use Bylaw. Through this Plan update, the County will take a finer look at how these regulations relate to development in the Hamlet and engage the community on any changes that could be made to better support the Hamlet.
- **Servicing Information.** In 2025, the County did a servicing study for the Hamlet of Mirror, which helped us identify where municipal water and wastewater infrastructure is located and which lots are serviced. This information will help us update the Plan to direct development to locations that are most ideal for development.
- **Existing Context.** In this update, the County will take a close look at new

development in the Hamlet of Mirror. We will collect as much data as possible to understand the existing development and examine how this context can provide a base to leverage the Hamlet of Mirror's future growth.

- **Community Input.** We need the community's input to better understand how the County's policies can be used to better support growth in the Hamlet of Mirror. As we embark on the project, we will be doing community engagement with residents, landowners, and businesses to gather as much insight as we can to revamp the Hamlet of Mirror's development regulations.

HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE AND PROVIDE INPUT?

Stay tuned! We will kickstart this project with a public meeting and survey in Spring 2026. All public engagement on the project will be advertised via mail-outs to property owners in the Hamlet of Mirror and will also be publicly advertised in the County News, local newspapers, the County's social media, and the County website.

QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions regarding the project, please send an email to Nick Baran (Planner/Development Officer) at nbaran@lacombecounty.com or Will Cebuliak (Planning Intern) at wcebuliak@lacombecounty.com. You may also give Planning Services a call at 403-782-8389.



LACOMBE COUNTY **SPOT** *light*

THIS COULD BE YOU!

Because every business has a story worth sharing!!

Celebrating local business through the Business Spotlight

Lacombe County's Business Spotlight series was created with one simple goal in mind: to celebrate and share the stories of the local businesses that help make our county strong.

Behind every business is a story; a family, a passion, a risk taken, and countless hours of hard work. The Business Spotlight series provides an opportunity to highlight those stories, showcase the diversity of industries operating in Lacombe County, and recognize the role local

businesses play in supporting jobs, services, and community life.

Throughout the year, Business Spotlights feature locally owned and operated businesses across a range of sectors, including agriculture, commercial services, retail, and professional industries. Each article is designed to give readers a behind-the-scenes look at how businesses got started, what makes them unique, and why Lacombe County is a great place to do business.

Beyond celebrating success, the Business Spotlight series also serves a broader purpose, helping residents learn more about the businesses around them and encouraging people to support local whenever possible. Strong local businesses contribute to a resilient economy and vibrant communities across the county.

As we look ahead to 2026, Lacombe County Economic Development is now welcoming interest from businesses that may wish to

be featured in an upcoming Business Spotlight. Participation is voluntary, and the focus is always on telling your story in a positive, authentic way.

If you own or operate a business in Lacombe County and would like to be considered for a future spotlight, we encourage you to connect with the Economic Development Officer. Please email economicdevelopment@lacombecounty.com. Every business has a story worth sharing.

February 2025
Valley City Sales



March 2025
PJs Plantation



April 2025
Wolf's Botanical



May 2025
Lacombe Fresh



July 2025
52 North Venue



September 2025
Tidy Elf Cleaning



January 2026
This could be you...



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

2025 Year in Review & what's ahead for 2026

2025 was a busy and productive year for economic development in Lacombe County. This year focused on strengthening our business community, building meaningful relationships, and laying the groundwork for long-term growth. As we look toward 2026, we are excited to continue this momentum and support the entrepreneurs, industries, and innovators who contribute so much to Lacombe County.

One of the key accomplishments this year was the launch of the **Business Recognition Program**. This initiative celebrates milestone anniversaries and the achievements of businesses across the County. If your business is celebrating 10, 25, 50 years or more in 2026, we want to hear from you. Please email economicdevelopment@lacombecounty.com with your anniversary date. We look forward to celebrating you in the new year.

We also completed the **Business Retention & Expansion (BR&E) project**, which provided valuable

insight into the **needs, challenges, and priorities of local businesses**. These conversations help ensure that our programs and actions reflect the realities experienced by the companies that call Lacombe County home. Alongside this work, we finalized the **Business Investment & Attraction (BI&A) project**, which identifies the County's strengths, priority sectors, and opportunities for future investment. Together, these studies form an important foundation for strengthening our long-term economic development strategy.

Throughout 2025, we continued to build and strengthen relationships with businesses across Lacombe County. **Our business directory has continued to grow, and more than 150 businesses received visits this year.** These business visits, farm outreach, and conversations in our industrial parks have helped us understand what supports are most needed. These relationships are essential to guiding future action,

supporting local competitiveness, and identifying new opportunities.

Collaboration also played a key role this year. Lacombe County continued to work closely with regional partners, including CAEP, CATA, neighbouring municipalities, Community Futures, and other organizations. These partnerships help expand resources available to local businesses and strengthen economic development across the region.

As we move into 2026, the future for Lacombe County is shaping up well. You can expect to see more marketing and promotional efforts that celebrate the people, industries, and landscapes that make our County unique. We will also begin updating the Lacombe County Economic Development Strategy, using insights from the BR&E and BI&A projects to guide our priorities and actions for the coming years. Diving into Labour Market and workforce information with some neighbouring partners, continuing outreach and business support will remain a prior-

ity, with more engagement sessions, sector conversations, and business visits planned in 2026 to ensure our efforts stay aligned with the evolving needs of our business community.

If your business has a milestone to share or you'd like to connect about opportunities in Lacombe County, please reach out anytime at economicdevelopment@lacombecounty.com.

If you would like to be added to the Lacombe County Economic Development Newsletter, sent once every two months, highlighting grants, resources, learning opportunities, and other supports for local businesses, please send a quick email to be added to the list.

Lacombe County Economic Development would like to extend a huge thank you to all our businesses for their contributions throughout 2025. We look forward to supporting your growth and celebrating your successes in the year ahead.



QUESTIONS?

Email Economic Development at:

economicdevelopment@lacombecounty.com

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

November 13, 2025

LACOMBE & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY / LACOMBE MUSEUM - FUNDING REQUEST

Council received a presentation from Brittany Keik, Curator, and Janette Doering, Board Member, of the Lacombe Historical and District Society, who provided an overview of the Lacombe Museum's 2025 activities, including updates on statistics, programming, and exhibitions. The Society requested operating funding in the amount of \$57,500 for 2026. Council directed the County Manager to prepare a report and recommendation for Council's consideration at a future meeting.

S-028-25 SUBDIVISION OF EAGLES QUAY PHASE 2 (SYLVAN LAKE)

By resolution, Council approved the subdivision application to create six residential lots on Lot 32 Block 1 Plan 074 0786, Pt. SE 29-39-02-W5M, in the Eagles Quay subdivision, on the west side of Sylvan Lake, subject to several conditions.

5-YEAR RECREATION CAPITAL PLAN

Council approved the 2026 – 2030 Five-Year Recreation Capital Plan as follows:

- 2026 – Gull Lake Trail

- 2027 – Kuhnen Park boardwalk construction
- 2028 – Trans Canada Trail Phase III construction
- 2029 – Anderson Park Disc Golf Expansion and Abma Pit Detailed Planning
- 2030 – Sandy Point Beach Day Use Upgrades

These projects are subject to Council budget approval.

COMPENSATION FOR ROAD CONSTRUCTION – POLICY REVIEW

Council approved amendments to Policy OP(8) Compensation for Road Construction, which regulates the rates of compensation for the acquisition of right-of-way, backsloping, borrow pits and fencing associated with the County's annual road construction program. The amendments include removing the compensation rate differential between agricultural land and non-agricultural land.

BTG POWER CORP. – REQUEST FOR PROPERTY TAX PAYMENT PLAN

A motion to approve BTG Power Corp.'s proposed tax payment plan, which included two payments totalling \$258,752.70 to be made before November 30, 2025, and the waiving of \$15,525.19 in late

penalties, did not receive Council approval.

2025 PROPERTY TAX PENALTY CANCELLATION REQUESTS

A motion that Lacombe County approve the tax penalty cancellation of \$124.35 on Tax Account No. 4002042002 did not receive Council approval.

A motion that Lacombe County approve the tax penalty cancellation of \$189.04 on Tax Account No. 4128102019 did not receive Council approval.

A motion that Lacombe County approve the tax penalty cancellation of \$257.18 on Tax Account No. 3825044002 and Tax Account No. 3825091001 did not receive Council approval.

A motion that Lacombe County approve the tax penalty cancellation of \$108.31 on Tax Account No. 4025161002 did not receive Council approval.

LACOMBE ATHLETIC PARK ASSOCIATION (LAPA) - FACILITY OPERATING SUPPORT AGREEMENT

Council approved the renewal of the Facility Operating Support Agreement between Lacombe Athletic Park Association and Lacombe County. Under the new five-year agreement, Lacombe County will provide annual operating support of \$45,000 from 2026-2030.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS - 2026 LACOMBE COUNTY COUNCIL

January 8, 2026 - County Council

January 14, 2026 - Lacombe County Agriculture Service Board

January 29, 2026 - County Council

February 3, 2026 - Committee of the Whole

February 12, 2026 - County Council

February 26, 2026 - County Council

March 12, 2026 - County Council

March 16 - 18, 2026 - RMA Spring Convention

March 26, 2026 - County Council

April 7, 2026 - Committee of the Whole

April 9, 2026 - County Council

April 15, 2026 - Lacombe County Agriculture Service Board

April 23, 2026 - County Council

May 14, 2026 - County Council

May 28, 2026 - County Council

June 2, 2026 - Committee of the Whole

June 11, 2026 - County Council

June 25, 2026 - County Council

July 9, 2026 - County Council

August 27, 2026 - County Council

August 28, 2026 - Pre-budget Meeting

September 10, 2026 - County Council

September 24, 2026 - County Council

October 6, 2026 - Committee of the Whole

October 8, 2026 - County Council

October 21, 2026 - Lacombe County Agriculture Service Board

October 22, 2026 - County Council

November 12, 2026 - County Council

November 26, 2026 - County Council

November 27, 2026 - Budget Meeting

December 1, 2026 - Committee of the Whole

December 10, 2026 - County Council



Lacombe County Holiday Hours

★ Christmas Eve	Closed
24th December	
★ Christmas Day	Closed
25th December	
★ Boxing Day	Closed
26th December	
★ New Year's Eve	Closing at 3 p.m.
31st December	
★ New Year's Day	Closed
1st January	

We wish you all a safe and joyful holiday season!

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

November 27, 2025

FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE INVOICE CONCERNS – RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS

Council endorsed the draft responses to questions posed by residents Mr. Dan Kyncl and Mr. Harvey Brink at the October 9, 2025 regular Council meeting regarding Lacombe County's fire invoicing practices and directed the County Manager to forward the response letter to both residents.

FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE FEES – INVOICE RELIEF

Council confirmed invoice numbers IVC00047372 and IVC00046955 and approved waiving applicable late payment charges, provided full payment is received by January 1, 2026.

STARS PRESENTATION

Council received a presentation outlining the current services, programs and operations of STARS.

AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD (ASB) MEETING NOTES

Council reviewed the minutes of the November 4, 2025 Lacombe County Agricultural Service Board (ASB) meeting and approved the recommendations as follows:

- That the Agricultural Services Overview presentation be received for information, and recommended to have further discussion regarding soil conservation and the potential of a fee guide to occur at a future Committee of the Whole meeting.
- That the presentation from Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation Orientation of ASB Members, and the review of the Lacombe County Field Visit, be received for information.
- That the 2025 Seasonal Agriculture Operations Update be received for information, and that the County Manager prepare a report and recommendation regarding the Field Visit recommendation for Council's consideration at a future meeting.
- That the 2025 ASB Field Visit Report be received for information.
- That the 2025 ASB Resolution Report Card be received for information.

- That the Proposed Provincial Resolutions Process document be received for information.
- That the FCC Replacement Heifer Loan Program report be received for information.
- That the following two priority items be submitted to the Central Region ASB Representative for consideration:
 1. Ensuring food security for consumers through the hiring of additional meat inspectors to ensure meat sold by small purveyors is properly inspected before sale to the public.
 2. Continued advocacy for the attraction and retention of large animal veterinarians to rural Alberta.
- That the Premier of Alberta's mandate letter to the Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation be received for information.
- That the discussion on the Wild Boar Bylaw be received for information.
- That the County Manager be directed to prepare a report and recommendation regarding the Clearwater County Educational Ag Tour for Council's consideration at a future meeting.
- That the County Manager be directed to prepare a report and recommendation regarding a water well static water level program and associated equipment for Council's consideration at a future meeting.

Council approved the November 4, 2025, Agricultural Service Board meeting minutes as presented.

REQUEST FOR ROAD CLOSURE – A PORTION OF ROAD PLAN 5895 KS

Council directed the County Manager to proceed with the process to close +/-0.373 acres of Road Plan 5895 KS within the NE 13-41-23 W4M.

ALLOCATION OF 2025 FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES (FCSS) SURPLUS FUNDING

Council approved allocating the unexpended 2025 FCSS surplus of \$11,000 as follows:

- \$4,000 to Alix Mirror Wellness Supports Society
- \$2,000 to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lacombe and District
- \$1,000 to BGC Wolf Creek Lacombe
- \$4,000 to Lacombe and District FCSS

POLICY RC(10) - OPERATING SUPPORT OF HISTORICAL, CULTURAL, TOURISM & VISITOR INFORMATION FACILITIES & SERVICES – 2026 APPLICATIONS

Council approved \$140,666 in funding under Policy RC(10) – Operating Support of Historical, Cultural, Tourism and Visitor Information Facilities & Services, allocated as follows:

- \$17,855 to the Mirror and District Museum Association
- \$4,080 to the Alix Wagon Wheel Museum
- \$10,000 to the Bentley Museum Society
- \$2,334 to the Eckville and District Historical Society
- \$43,361 to the Lacombe and District Historical Society
- \$63,036 to the Lacombe Regional Tourism and Marketing Association

GULL LAKE COMMUNITY LEAGUE 2025 RC(1) RECREATION CAPITAL FUNDING REQUEST

A motion for Lacombe County to contribute \$20,000 from the Recreation Capital Assistance Reserve to the Gull Lake Community League for a new playground structure in Centennial Park did not receive Council approval.

LAKEVIEW ESTATES – WATER SYSTEM FLUORIDE

Council directed the County Manager to submit an application to Alberta Environment and Protected Areas for approval to use the Point of Use in-home reverse osmosis units to address the fluoride exceedance in the Lakeview Estates water system.

HIGHWAY 12/21 REGIONAL WATER SERVICES COMMISSION - 2026 OPERATING BUDGET

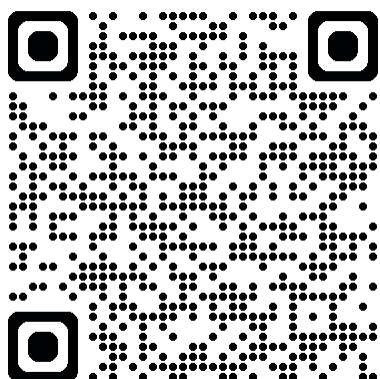
Council received a presentation on the 2026 Operating Budget for the Highway 12/21 Regional Water Services Commission.

MIRROR & DISTRICT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION – FURNACE REPLACEMENT REQUEST

Council authorized the purchase and installation of a new furnace at the former Village of Mirror municipal office and authorized funding for repair and installation costs up to \$11,000.

Council Highlights & Minutes can be found on our website at

calendar.lacombecounty.com/meetings



ATTENTION WILSON'S BEACH RESIDENTS

New municipal addresses have recently been assigned to all properties in the Wilson's Beach subdivision and official notification letters containing each property owner's **new municipal address** were mailed in early December.

Please watch for this important correspondence. Using the correct municipal address is essential for emergency services (911), deliveries, and various other purposes. We kindly ask residents to begin using their new address as soon as possible and to update it with banks, utilities, government agencies, and other contacts. Thank you for your cooperation.

(Continued from front): Lacombe County approves 2026 budgets

- A one-time \$1.08 million contribution to the Water/Wastewater Reserve for future projects.
- Change in air photos updates from a four-year cycle to a three-year cycle.
- Implementation of Records Management initiatives – supports Information Governance and SharePoint implementation.
- Wastewater servicing study on the south shore of Sylvan Lake.
- Collaborating with our urban partners in the development of a Lacombe Lake Management Plan, Gull Lake Water/Wastewater Feasibility Study, and Labour Market Partnership study.
- Annual provincial grants through the Local Government Fiscal Framework and Canada Community Building Fund.

2026 CAPITAL BUDGET

The \$29.0 million capital budget represents a 1.49% increase from 2025 and continues the County's emphasis on road improvements, bridge replacements, recreation projects, and utility upgrades.

Highlights from the 2026 capital plan include:

- \$16.8 million in road infrastructure, including new paving in two country residential subdivisions.
- Three bridge replacement projects totalling \$2.35 million.
- \$3 million for the Tees Truck Fill Station (continued from 2025).
- \$2.5 million in recreation capital projects.
- \$750,000 for the Aspelund Industrial Park storm pond.
- \$500,000 for new accounting software implementation.

Capital funding sources include:

- \$16.97 million from capital reserves
- \$7.92 million from tax-supported operations
- \$3.74 million in capital grants
- \$392,040 in equipment trade-ins

More than 58% of capital funding comes from reserves that the County has built over time, reflecting long-term planning and a commitment

to avoiding debt.

UNDERSTANDING THE BUDGET PROCESS

Lacombe County uses a two-stage approach to finalize its budget each year. This means the approval of the 2026 budget does not set tax rates. Property tax rates will be set in the spring.

Stage 1 – Budget Approval (November/December)

The Council approves the operating and capital budgets, allowing the County to begin work on January 1, 2026. These budgets are based on preliminary assessment information and estimated requisitions.

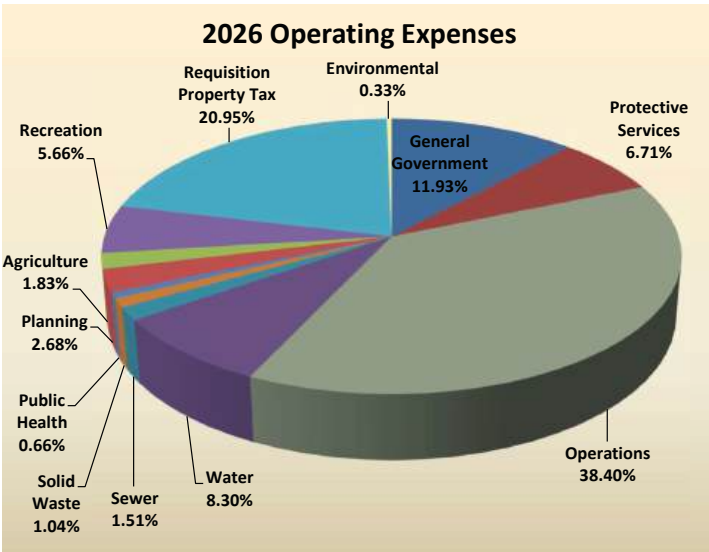
Stage 2 – Tax Rate Bylaw (April/May)

Council sets the year's municipal tax rates in the spring, once:

- Final assessment values are confirmed,
- Requisitions for Provincial Education levy and Seniors Housing are received, and,
- Any required budget adjustments are known.

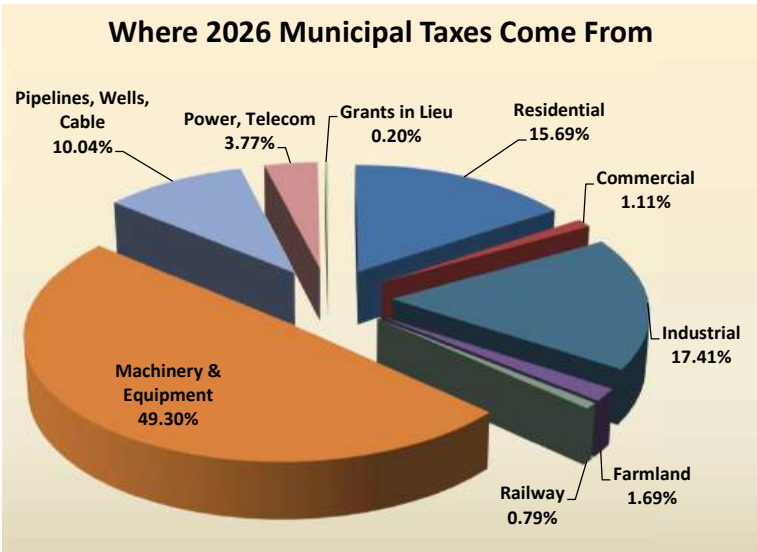
LACOMBE COUNTY 2026 Operating Budget - Expenses

	Amount	% of Budget
Agricultural Services	1,471,070	1.83%
Environmental Services	262,500	0.33%
General Government Services	9,582,200	11.93%
Planning and Development	2,151,580	2.68%
Protective Services	5,391,730	6.71%
Public Health & Welfare	529,270	0.66%
Recreation and Cultural Services	4,542,030	5.66%
Transportation Services	30,838,830	38.40%
Waste Management	832,370	1.04%
Wastewater Treatment & Disposal	1,214,970	1.51%
Water Supply & Distribution	6,666,970	8.30%
Requisition Transfers	16,823,830	20.95%
Sanitary Sewage Services	-	0.00%
Transportation Services	-	0.00%
Water Supply & Distribution	-	0.00%
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	80,307,350	100.00%



LACOMBE COUNTY 2026 Operating Budget - Revenue

	Amount	% of Budget
Property Taxes	41,897,080	52.17%
Requisition Property Taxes	16,823,830	20.95%
Grants In Place of Taxes	125,760	0.16%
Other Taxes	800,000	1.00%
Government Transfers	5,789,850	7.21%
Developer Agreements & Levies	1,607,250	2.00%
Franchise Fees	19,750	0.02%
Licenses and Permits	168,880	0.21%
Other Revenue	106,570	0.13%
Penalties and Costs	301,500	0.38%
Rentals and Sales	118,000	0.15%
Reserve Transfers	4,593,200	5.72%
Return on Investments	3,251,310	4.05%
Sale of Goods & Services	3,143,070	3.91%
Sales to Other Governments	1,561,060	1.94%
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	80,307,110	100.00%



OPERATING BUDGET 2026

CONSOLIDATED SUMMARY

	2025 Budget	2026 Budget	% Variance
AGRICULTURAL SERVICES	215,400	215,900	0.23%
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	85,000	94,300	10.94%
FISCAL SERVICES	14,507,340	16,823,830	15.97%
GENERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES	45,300,030	47,271,180	4.35%
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT	2,047,480	855,000	-58.24%
PROTECTIVE SERVICES	1,271,070	1,105,320	-13.04%
PUBLIC HEALTH & WELFARE	319,320	319,320	0.00%
RECREATION AND CULTURE	916,390	677,250	-26.10%
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES	12,233,640	7,053,870	-42.34%
WASTE MANAGEMENT	58,350	59,380	1.77%
WASTEWATER TREATMENT & DISPOSAL	1,465,580	1,126,790	-23.12%
WATER SUPPLY & DISTRIBUTION	3,382,640	4,704,970	39.09%
TOTAL REVENUE	81,802,240	80,307,110	-1.83%
LESS: EDUCATION, SENIORS & DI PROPERTY TAXATION	(14,507,340)	(16,823,830)	15.97%
TOTAL REVENUE EXCLUDING REQUISITIONS	67,294,900	63,483,280	-5.66%
AGRICULTURAL SERVICES	1,422,760	1,471,070	3.40%
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	250,720	262,500	4.70%
FISCAL SERVICES	14,507,340	16,823,830	15.97%
GENERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES	8,278,090	9,582,200	15.75%
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT	3,230,730	2,151,580	-33.40%
PROTECTIVE SERVICES	5,874,310	5,391,730	-8.22%
PUBLIC HEALTH & WELFARE	627,890	529,270	-15.71%
RECREATION AND CULTURE	5,186,500	4,542,030	-12.43%
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES	33,637,250	30,394,210	-9.64%
WASTE MANAGEMENT	930,230	832,370	-10.52%
WASTEWATER TREATMENT & DISPOSAL	1,547,820	1,214,970	-21.50%
WATER SUPPLY & DISTRIBUTION	5,347,210	6,666,730	24.68%
TOTAL EXPENSES	80,840,850	79,862,490	-1.21%
INVENTORY USAGE FOR OPERATING	(4,131,250)	(3,573,370)	-13.50%
INVENTORY PURCHASES	5,092,640	4,017,990	-21.10%
ADJUSTED EXPENSE TOTAL	81,802,240	80,307,110	-1.83%
LESS: EDUCATION, SENIORS & DI PROPERTY REQUISITIONS	(14,507,340)	(16,823,830)	15.97%
TOTAL EXPENSES EXCLUDING EDUCATION REQUISITION	67,294,900	63,483,280	-5.66%
NET CASH SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	-	-	-

CAPITAL BUDGET 2026

CONSOLIDATED SUMMARY

Description	Cost Price	Trade In Sales	Total Cost
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES			
Plotter	17,000	-	17,000
Rooftop HVAC Unit	25,000	-	25,000
Financial Software	500,000	-	500,000
Sub-Total	542,000	-	542,000
AGRICULTURE			
Tractor Cutter	57,000	20,560	36,440
Tractor Cutter	57,000	20,560	36,440
Tractor Cutter	57,000	20,560	36,440
Tractor Cutter	57,000	20,560	36,440
Sub-Total	228,000	82,240	145,760
FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES			
Water Tender	750,000	63,000	687,000
Light Duty Truck	85,000	-	85,000
Sub-Total	835,000	63,000	772,000
PEACE OFFICER SERVICES			
AFRRCS Radio	7,590	2,800	4,790
AFRRCS Radio	11,350	4,600	6,750
AFRRCS Radio	11,350	4,600	6,750
AFRRCS Radio	11,350	4,600	6,750
AFRRCS Radio	11,350	4,600	6,750
AFRRCS Radio	11,350	4,600	6,750
Sub-Total	64,340	25,800	38,540
RECREATION SERVICES			
Gull Lake Trail	2,500,000	-	2,500,000
Sunbreaker Cove Dock	13,000	-	13,000
Sub-Total	2,513,000	-	2,513,000
STORM SEWER & DRAINAGE			
Storm Pond-North Aspelund	750,000	-	750,000
Sub-Total	750,000	-	750,000



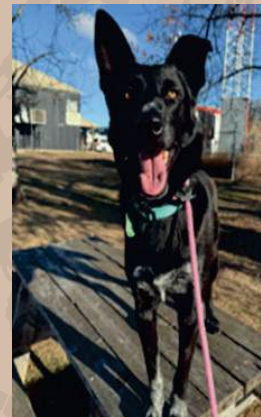
HOPE, SECOND CHANCES & SEASONAL GIVING

As winter settles over Lacombe County, Saving Grace Animal Society is once again reminded of the incredible resilience of the animals who come through our doors - and of the unwavering compassion of the community that helps us give them a second chance.

PET OF THE MONTH - Meet Jose and Sefi

This month, we are honoured to highlight two very special rescue animals, Jose and Sefi, whose stories reflect the heart of our mission. Both arrived from difficult circumstances, each needing safety, medical care, and patience. Their journeys may be different, but they share one powerful truth: their lives changed because people like you believe every animal deserves a tomorrow.

Jose and Sefi represent the hundreds of dogs, cats, and farm animals who find healing, warmth, and hope through our programs each year. Their stories remind us that rescue is more than saving lives - it's about restoring dignity, building trust, and rewriting futures.

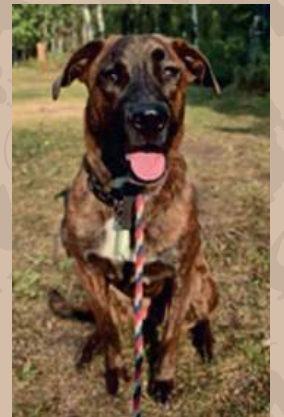


JOSE (1.5 YEAR OLD MALE, COLLIE CROSS)

Jose is full of energy and love, with a smart and sweet personality. This athletic pup thrives on structure, routine, and plenty of activity to keep him happy and healthy. He enjoys learning new things and would do best with someone who can provide guidance and consistency. While Jose may be able to coexist with other dogs, he's not suited for homes with small animals. With the right leadership and an active lifestyle, Jose will be an amazing adventure buddy and loyal companion!

SEFI (1.5 YEAR OLD FEMALE, LAB CROSS)

Sefi is a fun, outgoing, and loyal dog with a sweet, cuddly side. She loves spending time with her people and is dog-social, though she can be selective with her friends. While she might do okay with confident cats who know dogs, she's generally best in a home without cats and as the only dog. Sefi has some guarding tendencies with other dogs but never with humans. This energetic girl thrives in an active household where she can burn off energy and enjoy plenty of playtime. With love and structure, Sefi will be a devoted and joyful companion!



Give Hope Twice: Our Giving Tuesday Match Campaign Continues

We are thrilled to share that our Giving Tuesday Match Campaign is still underway and running until December 31st. Every dollar donated this month is matched up to \$40,000 thanks to the Coleman and Cox families, doubling your impact for animals who need urgent care and shelter during the coldest time of year.

To donate, visit: <https://www.canadahelp.org/en/charities/saving-grace-animal-society/p2p/Togetherwecanfixthis> or visit our social media for more information.

Ring in the New Year for a Cause: Paws & Pianos Gala

We're also excited to announce our New Year's Eve Duelling Piano Gala -Paws & Pianos - taking place in Stettler! Join us for an unforgettable evening of live music, celebration, dining, and community spirit. Proceeds from this festive event go directly toward supporting the rescue and helping even more animals in need as we enter a new year of hope.

To purchase tickets, visit: <https://www.savinggracecanada.cofam/store/paws-pianos> or visit our social media for more information.

From all of us at Saving Grace Animal Society, thank you for helping us bring hope home this holiday season.

École Secondaire Lacombe Composite High School

Alberta Moose Association (Ponoka Chapter)

ATA Award for Further Education
Bentley Seed Cleaning Plant Scholarship
Bower Dental Centre Highest Mark in Biology 30
Brady Can Der Heide Citizenship Awards

Calumet Synergy Assoc Scholarship (Ember Resources)
Cando Spirit High School Scholarship
Central Alberta Co-op Scholarship
Clive Lions Bursary
Colby Sackett Memorial Scholarship
Cole Warawa Memorial Scholarship

Female Recipient:

Male Recipient:

Health & Wellness:

D & M Concrete Scholarships

Construction Technologies:

Fabrication Studies:

Dalton and Kay Deedrick Performing Arts Scholarship
Delmar College - Hair Styling Program
Don Gustafson Merit Award
Doug Sproule Lacombe County Mutual Aid Scholarship

Ellis Nature Centre Environmental Award
Frank Freeman Educational Scholarship
Gish Law Scholarship in English 30-1
Governor General's Academic Medal
Helen Gordon Newman Memorial Scholarship
Henri Forgues Scholarship

High School Apprenticeship Scholarship

Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training Board

Sutton Banks
 Korbin Carley
 Blake Flewelling
 Carter Gillard
 Julia Green
 Cyann Hutchingame

Auryah LeBouthillier
 Mayson Nevers
 Kaleb Penner
 Kayson Pike
 Luke Seibel

Hugh McCullough Safe Driver Award

IODE Alberta Coronation Bursary
Jared White Memorial Scholarship
Kin Canada (Lacombe) Bursary
Knights of Columbus Triple A Scholarship
LCHS Most Improved Student Award

LCHS Scholarship for Salutatorian
LCHS Scholarship for Valedictorian

Lacombe & District Chamber of Commerce

Lacombe Fish and Game Assoc. Scholarship

Lacombe Kinsmen Scholarship

ART 30
 DESIGN STUDIES 30
 DRAMA 30
 FASHION 30
 FOOD STUDIES 30
 MEDIA STUDIES 30
 MUSIC 30
 MECHANICS 30

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 30

Linda Tee Memorial Scholarship

Lord Lascelles Chapter IODE

Social Studies 30-1 Scholarship

Lotus Hope Momentum

Thomas Hibbs
 Addison Turney
 Sienna Bennett
 Sienna Bennett
 Daisy Butterfield
 Isabelle Collins
 Emmanuelle Roy
 Erik Sharp
 Rowan Verma
 Erik Sharp
 Ella Graves
 Rowan Verma

Irelynd Tol
 Aaron Simard
 Gerrit Bruggencate

Slade Posegate
 Erik Sharp
 Baylee Fauque
 Olivia Thompson
 Isabelle Collins
 Isabelle Collins
 Julia Green
 Rowan Verma
 Tessa Overacker
 Ronlyn Nagel
 Ronlyn Nagel
 Isabelle Collins
 Thomas Hibbs
 Oliver Kelliher

Tessa Overacker
 Isabelle Collins
 Jackson Panelli
 Myranda Caddy
 Isabelle Collins
 Carter Purves
 Livia Schuetz
 Daisy Butterfield
 Ronlyn Nagel

Rash Banie
 Baylee Fauque
 Rose Feddema
 Dax Shaw
 Rowan Verma

Isabella Abma
 Thomas Hibbs
 Jackson Panelli
 Stephanie Robinson
 Hailey Lundihn
 Addison Turney
 Liam Taylor
 Kieran Bailey &
 Deon Toews
 Avery Quance
 Gwen Horvath

Brayden Roberts
 Isabelle Collins
 Hayden Cyr

Masonic Lodge Scholarship in English 30-2

MC Scholarship of Excellence in Cosmetology
Moore Shilleto Social Studies Essay

First Place:

Honorable Mention:

Honorable Mention:

Nova Chemicals Scholarship - Highest Mark in Chemistry 30

Top Female:

Top Male:

Premier's Citizenship Award

Red Deer Polytechnic Building on Excellence Academic Award

Remarkable Ram Scholarship

Myranda Caddy
 Katheryn Clark
 Isabelle Collins
 Thomas Hibbs

Rental Housing Providers Award

Rotary Scholarship

Royal Canadian Legion Bursary(Lacombe)

Royal Canadian Legion Ladies' Auxiliary (AB-NWT Command)

Sargent Community Scholarship

Schulich Leader Nominee

TD Canada Trust Scholarship in Agriculture

Tye Friesen Memorial Scholarship

Western Inspirational Scholarship

Wolf Creek Public Schools CTS Scholarship

Wolf Creek Public Schools Scholarships

Janessa Perreault
 Michael Wagner
 Mackenzie Fleming

Isabelle Collins
 Sophia Aguirre
 Xavian Karras

Ronlyn Nagel
 Jace Russell
 Isabella Konnik
 Brooklyn Belanger
 Julia Green
 Oliver Kelliher

Isabella Konnik
 Kacey Talsma
 Rowan Verma

Hayden Cyr
 Isabelle Collins
 Thomas Hibbs
 Emmanuelle Roy
 Kayla McLeod

Shaylee Reimer
 Brooke Stuart
 Thomas Hibbs
 Tanner Copland
 Myranda Caddy
 Alex Kroetsch
 Paighton Colenutt
 Hayden Cyr
 Baylee Fauque
 Dax Shaw
 Rowan Verma
 Sienna Bennett
 Addison Turney

Yearbook Awards



Doug Sproule Scholarship from Lacombe County Mutual Aid Organization: Isabelle Collins (left), and Julia Green (right).

2025 Scholastic Achievement Awards

Alexander Rutherford Scholarships: Graduates of 2025
(75 – 80+% Average in Grade 10, 11 &/or 12)

Charles Bacsa	Isabelle Collins	Nathan Madlung	Sarah Russell	Addison Turney
Rash Banie	Ella Graves	Tessa Overacker	Sydney Russell	Rowan Verma
Brooklyn Belanger	Thomas Hibbs	Alexandr Palmer	Marshall Samson	Michael Wagner
Ryder Bouvier	Gwen Horvath	Lola Pui	Jackson Sather	Ashley Watamaniuk
Daisy Butterfield	Xavian Karras	Layla Ritten	Erik Sharp	Sierra Wyatt
Myranda Caddy	Oliver Kelliher	Emmanuelle Roy	Gracie Steeves	
Katheryn Clark	Rhys MacNeil	Jace Russell	Nathan Stoodley	

Alexander Rutherford Scholarships: Graduates of Previous Years
(75 – 80+% Average in Grade 10, 11 &/or 12)

Kaitlynn Batt	Hunter De Clerck	Zoe Jensen	Logan Perreault	Reahanna Schultz
Dyre Bautista	Hadley Robinson	Carlene Lodge	Victoria Philpott	Lauren Simmons
Domanic Beauclair	John Dugan	Hannah Macumber	Lucian Pui	Nathan Stuckless
Trinity Biel	Ashley Edmundson	Kayla McLeod	Makayla Quast	Evangeline Waterfield
Darin Boehme	Spencer Green	Jayna Muise	Rylan Ramsay	Abigail Whitbread
Abigail Chafe	Ethan Hunt	Brayden Oxford Roberts	Makayla Ricalton	Kai Wood

Grade 12 Principal's List
(90%-100%)

Daisy Butterfield	Isabelle Collins	Thomas Hibbs
Oliver Kelliher	Lola Pui	Jace Russell
Myranda Caddy	Melia Gamble	Brady Keller
Ronlyn Nagel	Brayden Roberts	



Lacombe Composite High School would like to thank the community for their support of our students and the scholarship program.



NOVA Chemical's Site Operation Leader, Jim Dixon, Jr. giving out the awards for the highest marks in Chemistry 30 to Ronlyn Nagel and Jace Russell.



New WCPS Board Trustee (and former Lacombe County Reeve), Paula Law, presenting the WCPS Board High School Scholarship to one of four recipients, Rowan Verma.

RESOURCES FOR SENIORS





Did you know?
County residents within 20 km of Lacombe can book the bus for errands & medical appointments.



Please call 403-782-6637 for more information or to reserve your spot



Home Support Service

- Laundry
- Housekeeping Services
- Meal Prep assistance
- Vacuuming/Mopping
- Dusting, changing bedding
- Grocery pick up (in town only)

AVAILABLE IN LACOMBE, LACOMBE COUNTY, BLACKFALDS, CLIVE & BENTLEY



Healthy Aging Alberta




Lacombe 403-782-6637
Clive 403-784-2020






Over 55 Wellness Mornings
Mondays/Wednesdays
Seniors Drop In - Town Office
Call 403-748-2160

Mondays 9:45 to 11 am Seated Range of Motion Exercises
Wednesdays 10:30 to 11:45 am Chair Yoga - light movements

Move your body, make connections & socialize!

FREE!

These programs are free thanks to FCSS funding and great partnerships!

Mondays - zoomed in from Innisfail
Wednesdays - zoomed in from Edmonton
If instructors are away we used their recorded sessions



Over The Hill & Loving The View
located in the Town Office 4918-50 Avenue

The Seniors Drop In welcomes everyone 55+

• Tuesdays	1 pm	Socialize/cards/games
• Thursdays	10 am	Socialize - Toast & Coffee
• Potluck	noon	Last Tuesday each month

Special Outings - dinner theatres and more.
Have an idea? Let us know.

YEARLY MEMBERSHIP FEE \$10



STOP SIGNS AREN'T A SUGGESTION

KEEP OUR ROADS SAFE FOR EVERYONE



Find Lacombe County online







/LacombeCounty @lacombecounty Lacombe County /LacombeCounty lacombecounty.com

AROUND THE COUNTY



Blackfalds' Servus Credit Union Public Library



Free memberships for Blackfalds & Lacombe County residents!
When signing up provide your legal land description.

Programming

Baby & Toddler Time *Ages 0-3*
Tales & Tunes *Ages 3-6*
Crafty Corner & Games *Ages 6-9*
Anime & Otaku Club *Ages 8+*
After School Arts & Crafts *Ages 10+*
English as a Second Language Instruction *Ages 18+*
Family Board Games *All Ages*

**For more program info, check out our website & social medias*

Borrowing

From e-books, to audiobooks, to magazines, to our Library of Things, you'll be able to find what you need. Access our online collection from the comfort of your own home!

Hours

Sunday	1 pm - 5 pm
Monday	10 am - 8 pm
Tuesday	10 am - 6 pm
Wednesday	10 am - 8 pm
Thursday	10 am - 6 pm
Friday	10 am - 6 pm
Saturday	10 am - 5 pm

Contact
403-885-2343
www.blackfaldslibrary.ca
Eagle Builders Centre 5302 Broadway Avenue
Blackfalds, AB T0M 0J0

Visit us on our website & social medias



Make a SPLASH

at the Kinsmen Aquatic Centre
5429 53rd Street

The Gary Moe Sportsplex is home to the Kinsmen Aquatic Centre (KAC). Come take a dip at the Kinsmen Aquatic Centre. We offer a climbing wall, small slide, rope and many special events throughout the year.

What's happening at the pool:


- Our December membership sale is now on. Play Plinko to receive 5%, 10%, 15%, off an Aquatic Centre membership (excludes 10-pass).
- There is an altered schedule over the holidays from December 21st, 2025-January 3rd, 2026.
- The pool is closed January 1st, 2026 for New Year's Day
- Free public swim sponsored by McMan Family Resource Network on January 2nd, 2026 from 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.
- Winter lessons start up January 3rd, 2026.
- Spring Registration opens January 20th, 2026.

For more information on the KAC schedule, pool rentals and advanced courses call 403.782.1278 or visit www.lacombe.ca/pool.



Alix and Area Community Resource Centre

introducing



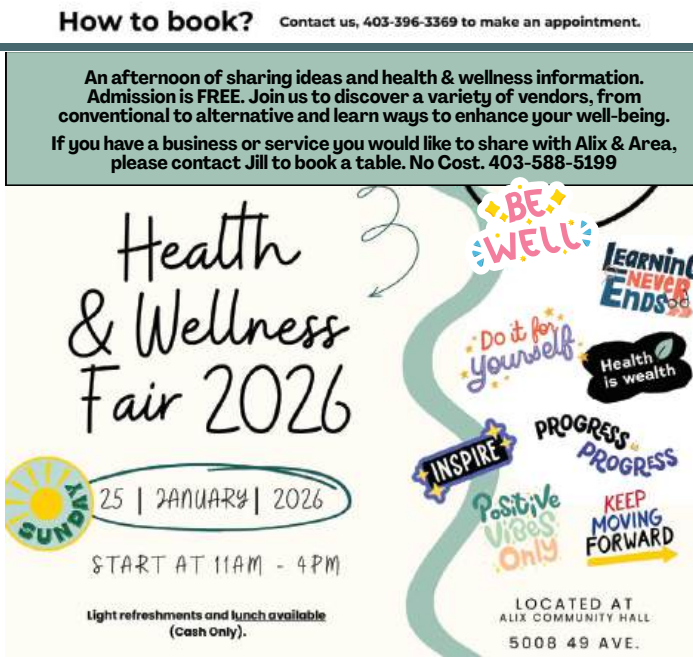
Behavioral Health Consultant:
Trish Rasmussen, MPCC-Provisional

No Charge Counselling for All Ages

- 50 min sessions available 2 days per week on Tuesday and Thursday
- Serving those who reside in Alix and area including, Bashaw, Buffalo Lake Estates, Donalds, Doreenlee, Edberg, Ferintosh, Meeting Creek, Mirror, Pelican Point and Tees

Mary C Moore Library Children's Programs Winter 2026

Registration Day: Wednesday, January 7th beginning at 10 am



How to book? Contact us, 403-396-3369 to make an appointment.

An afternoon of sharing ideas and health & wellness information. Admission is FREE. Join us to discover a variety of vendors, from conventional to alternative and learn ways to enhance your well-being. If you have a business or service you would like to share with Alix & Area, please contact Jill to book a table. No Cost. 403-588-5199


Health & Wellness Fair 2026

25 | JANUARY | 2026

START AT 11AM - 4PM

Light refreshments and lunch available (Cash Only).

LOCATED AT ALIX COMMUNITY HALL
5008 49 AVE.

Monday to Thursday  **10:00 AM - 4:00 PM**


Closed all statutory holidays
Bay 1, 5008 50 Ave, Alix, AB
403-396-3369

WHAT WE DO

Services Available

- Information & Referral
- Resource Navigation
- Volunteer Services
- Family Wellness
- Meals on Wheels
- Community Services
- Adult Learning
- Alix Food Bank
- Wise Owls

alixmirrorwellness@gmail.com
Follow us on Facebook
@AlixandAreaCommunityResourceCentre
www.alixcra.com



UPCOMING WORKSHOP



March 17
10am-4pm
at: LMC

COST \$60
includes
lunch



This one day session provides an overview of how to apply marketing principles and create a marketing plan.

Topics covered will include:

- Defining your brand
- Defining your marketing mix (the four P's)
- Identifying your target audience
- Creating effective messaging
- Collaborating with the media and community
- Discussing marketing best practices

Register by March 10th by contacting CLLLA at 403-782-7955 or office@cllla.com

LACOMBE
COUNTY

Billets Wanted for Local Veterinary Students

Lacombe County is inviting residents to host veterinary students during their rotations at local vet clinics. This is a wonderful opportunity to support the education of future veterinarians.



Lacombe County will maintain a list of available hosts and share this information with veterinary clinics, helping to connect students with local accommodations.



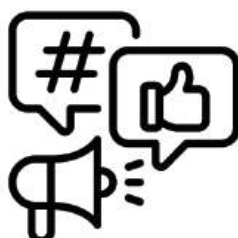
Residents can host students for rotations of 2, 4, or 6 weeks, providing flexible options to fit different schedules.

INTERESTED? | Please contact Lacombe County at 403-782-8959 or email mbates@lacombecounty.com



LACOMBE KINSMEN FREE SWIM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2 1-5 PM
NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED



Find Lacombe County online



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[@lacombecounty](#)



[Lacombe County](#)



[/LacombeCounty](#)



[lacombecounty.com](#)



**WONDER
STRUCK**

SUMMER CAMPS

REGISTRATION OPENS JAN 7TH!

CAMP	AGES	DATE	PRICE + GST
Scamper	5 - 7	June 19 - 21	\$180
Scamper's Adult	18+	June 19 - 21	\$180
LTD Week	14 - 18	June 27 - July 3	See web
Family Camp	All ages	July 5 - 10	See web
Jr. Teens 1	12 - 14	July 12 - 17	\$590**
Kids	9 - 11	July 19 - 24	\$590**
Teens *NEW*	13 - 15	July 26 - 31	\$590**
Juniors	7 - 10	Aug 4 - 7	\$480**
Jr. Teens 2	12 - 14	Aug 9 - 14	\$590**
Sr. Teens	15 - 18	Aug 16 - 22	\$620**

**EARLY BIRD \$50 OFF UNTIL FEB 28, 2026

camp@gulllakecentre.ca 403-782-2495 gulllakecentre.ca





**KEEPING IT
LOCAL**

**SHOP LOCAL
SUPPORT LOCAL
STAY STRONG**


You make a real difference by supporting local businesses. When you shop local, your money stays local, and helps to support local jobs, community programs, community events and charities. Every dollar spent locally makes our community stronger.

WWW.LACOMBECOUNTY.COM/BUSINESSDIRECTORY



Lacombe Community Christmas Dinner

Join us as we come together to celebrate the season with a warm, festive Christmas dinner.
Free and open to everyone in our community & surrounding area.





Alberta
Provincial Family
Resource Networks

ICE SKATING

FREE

Enjoy and have a good time!

 **27 DEC, 2025 2-3:30PM**
 **LACOMBE ARENA #1**

Location	Date & Time	All Welcome
Lacombe Memorial Centre, 5214 50 Ave.	Christmas Day Doors open at 11:30 AM Dinner at 12:30 PM	325 Seats Available Come for the food, stay for the fellowship. Whether you're bringing your family or coming solo, there's a seat at the table for you.



Generously made possible by local Lacombe businesses and caring community members who believe in the power of sharing and giving back.

We look forward to seeing you!

JANUARY 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve Office Closed at 3PM	JAN. 1 New Year's Day (Office Closed)	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 County Council 9AM	9 County News Submissions Due	10
11	12 WORKSHOP: Water, Spray, Inversion & Drift (Info on Pg. 12)	13	14	15	16 County News Published	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 County Council 9AM	30	31

Upcoming Events: February 3 (Committee of the Whole), February 11 (Securing Your Farm Future Workshop), February 12 (County Council), February 26 (County Council)

ATTENTION: Notification of Access for County Assessors

Under the authority of the Municipal Government Act, Part 9, Lacombe County's Assessors regularly visit properties throughout the municipality to collect and verify the information for the purpose of preparing property assessments. An inspection may occur at any time throughout the day between 8:30 am and 4:30 p.m.

Assessors operate vehicles marked as the Lacombe County and carry identification and will present it upon request. If you have questions or concerns, please contact us at the Lacombe County Administration Office at 403-782-6601.

LACOMBE
COUNTY

Lacombe County Holiday Hours

- ★ **Christmas Eve** 24th December Closed
- ★ **Christmas Day** 25th December Closed
- ★ **Boxing Day** 26th December Closed
- ★ **New Year's Eve** 31st December Closing at 3 p.m.
- ★ **New Year's Day** 1st January Closed

We wish you all a safe and joyful holiday season!

COUNTY NEWS

is published by Lacombe County and printed by GreatWest Publishing. If you have feedback or story ideas, please contact:

Nicole Plewis, Communications Coordinator
communications@lacombecounty.com
403.782.6601

Lacombe County Directory

RR3, Lacombe Alberta T4L 2N3 www.lacombecounty.com

Department Numbers:

Main Office - 403-782-6601

Planning Services - 403-782-8389

Community Services - 403-782-8959

Operations - 403-782-8379

Public Works Shop - 403-782-3567

General

After Hours Emergency Answering Service 403.357.1210

Administration Fax 403.782.3820

Public Works Fax 403.782.5356

For Service Requests, see our website - or phone the switchboard at 403-782-6601

Council	Home	Cell
John Ireland, Div. 1 (jireland@lacombecounty.com)		403.392.3981
Brenda Knight, Div. 2 (bknight@lacombecounty.com)	403.788.2168	403.550.2168
Mark Visscher, Div. 3 (mvisscher@lacombecounty.com)		403.350.4709
Dwayne West, Div. 4 (dwest@lacombecounty.com)		403.660.2328
Roger Van Haren, Div. 5 (rvanharen@lacombecounty.com)		403.896.9931
Allan Wilson, Div. 6 (awilson@lacombecounty.com)		403.506.3735
Dana Kreil, Div. 7 (dkreil@lacombecounty.com)	403.746.3607	403.358.9400

Senior Administration

Tim Timmons, County Manager
ttimmons@lacombecounty.com

Michael Minchin, Director of Corporate Services
mminchin@lacombecounty.com

Bill Cade, Director of Operations
bcade@lacombecounty.com

Cajun Paradis, Director of Planning Services
cparadis@lacombecounty.com

Dion Burlock, Director of Community Services
dburlock@lacombecounty.com

Call 403-782-6601 to speak with the County Manager or with a Lacombe County Director