

Trans Canada Trail grant helps keep Lacombe County trails in tip-top shape!

This summer, Lacombe County received a grant from the Trans Canada Trail (TCT) through the National Trail Youth Employment Program. This grant enhanced our local section of the trail, ensuring it remains a vibrant part of Canada's national trail network, by helping to offset the wages of two of our dedicated employees whose roles involve maintaining the County's trails, including County's TCT sections.

Our employees engaged in a range of tasks involving our section of the Trans Canada Trail, including general maintenance of green spaces along the trail and day use areas, tree trimming, painting, janitorial duties, and infrastructure upgrades, repairs and accessibility enhancements, ensuring that our trails remain safe and enjoyable for all users. We are grateful for the TCT's grant, which allows us to ensure our section of the Trans Canada Trail are well maintained and safe for all users.

ABOUT LACOMBE COUNTY'S TCT SECTIONS

Our contribution to the Trans Canada Trail is significant, comprising two key sections.

The first stretches 8 km between the City of Lacombe and the Town of Blackfalds, meandering through picturesque

farmland, around Lacombe Lake, and past Kuhnen Park.

The second section, a 2 km stretch, extends south from the Town of Blackfalds to the Blindman River. This segment features a pedestrian bridge that connects with Red Deer County, significantly enhancing both the accessibility and appeal of this beautiful trail network.

ABOUT TRANS CANADA TRAIL

The Trans Canada Trail is the world's longest network of multi-use recreational trails. As of August 2021, the Trail stretches more than 28,000 km – and continues to grow – across every province and territory. It's a showcase of Canada's diverse landscapes and cultures, and a sustainable national asset that fosters unity, collaboration and connectedness. Our national trail is managed by local trail groups and partners who work in conjunction with Trans Canada Trail, a registered charity.

This project was funded in part by a grant from Trans Canada Trail to enhance our local section of Canada's national trail.

For more information about the Trans Canada Trail and its ongoing efforts to connect communities across the country, visit www.tctrail.ca.

Lacombe County seeks paid-on-call firefighters

As the school year begins and with Fire Prevention Week approaching, 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.

SEE PAGE 11 for more information and requirements

What's Inside

- **2** Community Aggregate Levy helps fund local projects
- 3 Historical Brand | A look at livestock branding in Lacombe County
- 5 NOTICE OF APPLICATION | AB Utilities Commission franchise agreement
- 5 Mirror Corner
- 6 Environmental Stewardship Award
- 7 COMING SOON | Recycling roundup in Alix, Bentley and Eckville
- 8 Clubroot information & inspections
- 9 Battle against Sea Buckthorn on Gull Lake update
- 11 Does your insurance cover fire department responses?
- **12-13** Subdivision & Development Activity & Map
- 13 Notice of Subdivision Renaming
- 14 Ag SPOTlight: Track on 2: A Central Alberta Entertainment Hub
- 15 Rail Safety Week | Sept. 23-29, 2024
- 17 FAQ | National Day for Truth & Reconciliation
- 18 JOIN OUR TEAM | Environmental Coordinator
- 19 Council Highlights
- 21-23 Around the County: Events & Info

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DID YOU KNOW? Lacombe County's Community Aggregate Levy funds local projects

Did you know that Lacombe County uses funds from an aggregate (sand and gravel) levy to support important projects across the County? Since its introduction, the Community Aggregate Payment (CAP) Levy has helped fund a wide range of initiatives that benefit our residents and communities.

Here's how it works: Every time sand and gravel is extracted from pits within Lacombe County, a \$0.40 per tonne levy is applied, generating funding to support local projects. Since instituting this in January of 2006 Lacombe County has collected over \$13.6 million in CAP Levy funding with this funding being directly invested in enhancing our community.

How Does the Aggregate Levy Benefit You?

The funds collected through the CAP Levy have made a significant impact across Lacombe County, supporting a variety of projects:

- Improved Roads: Over \$2.5 million has been invested in upgrading roads heavily used by the aggregate industry, such as Spruceville Road and Range Road 27-4.
- Public Safety: More than \$600,000 has been directed toward Community Peace Officer services in gravel pit areas, ensuring safety and security for everyone in the region.
- Parks and Recreation: Since 2006, Lacombe
 County has allocated \$1,226,000 to various recreation projects, including land purchases and facility construction, ensuring access to recreational spaces for residents and visitors both now and in the future.
- Supporting Education: Lacombe County has invested in the future of education with donations

of \$400,000 to Olds College and \$1 million to Red Deer College, helping local students pursue their education and reach their goals.

- Enhanced Policing: \$260,000 from the CAP Levy has supported enhanced RCMP investigative services, contributing to safer rural communities.
- Accessible Public Transportation: Lacombe
 County has contributed \$27,000 from the CAP
 Levy to replace the Lacombe FCSS Connex
 Van, which provides essential transportation for
 seniors, community members facing barriers, and
 local organizations in need of event transportation
 across the county and the city.

Why Can Lacombe County Collect this Levy?

The ability for Lacombe County to collect the aggregate levy is authorized by Alberta's Municipal Government Act (MGA). This legislation allows municipalities to collect funds from sand and gravel businesses operating within their boundaries to help cover the costs of local infrastructure and other essential services.

The MGA sets out the purpose of municipalities, which includes providing good government, ensuring the well-being of the environment, and maintaining safe and viable communities. It also allows Councils to impose levies, like the CAP Levy, to fund the services and facilities that make a positive difference in their municipalities. By establishing a Community Aggregate Payment bylaw, Lacombe County's Council has the authority to collect this levy and reinvest it in important projects that benefit the community.

Planning for the Future

The funds generated through the aggregate levy are not just for today—they're an investment in our future.

Lacombe County holds over \$6.4 million in reserve to fund future projects that will continue to enhance our community by providing improved infrastructure, amenities, and services.

Building Strong Partnerships

Lacombe County works closely with the aggregate industry to ensure the successful collection and use of the CAP Levy. This partnership has allowed us to maintain a high level of transparency and trust, ensuring that the levy system continues to benefit the community.

A Commitment to Transparency and Trust

Lacombe County has built a strong, trust-based relationship with our aggregate industry partners. The self-reporting system for the CAP Levy has worked effectively, with minimal issues in reporting volumes. This relationship has been crucial in ensuring the continued success of the levy and its positive impact on our community.

Thanks to our sand and gravel industry partners, Lacombe County has been able to reinvest in projects that matter. From better roads and parks to enhanced public services, these funds are making a positive impact across the County.

We are committed to maintaining this transparent and cooperative approach as we continue to utilize the CAP Levy to fund projects that benefit Lacombe County residents and businesses. So, the next time you see a new road or park upgrade, there's a good chance that the Community Aggregate Payment Levy helped make it possible!







Historical Brand: A Legacy of Livestock and Community

Lacombe County's livestock brand, a reverse L with a half-diamond, is more than just a mark of ownership—it's a symbol of nearly a century of tradition, community responsibility, and personal legacy for long-time resident George Solte.

The original brand was registered on October 27, 1922, under the Municipal District (MD) of Lamerton. It was used for both cattle and horses, a vital tool in managing stray livestock in the early days of the County's agricultural history. After the MD of Lacombe amalgamated in 1944, the brand was briefly canceled, only to be re-registered in 1947 under the MD of Lacombe No. 398. This brand remained in use until 1968, leaving an indelible mark on the County's heritage.

Much like today's animal shelters, the pound in the 1940s and 50s helped manage roaming livestock, which were common in rural areas. Stray animals were picked up and held for a few days while workers used the community's party phone line to contact neighbors in search of the owners. If no one claimed the livestock, they were posted for auction and branded by the County before being sold.

For George Solte, the brand carries personal significance, deeply rooted in his family's history. In the 1940s, his uncle, also named George, started a pound in Lacombe County to manage stray animals. When his uncle moved to British Columbia, George's father took over running the pound, continuing the family's involvement in this essential service.

Earlier this year, George's sister gave him a book containing the pound's animal records, reviving his memories of the brand. The book's cover featured the reverse L and half-diamond brand, sparking his recollection of seeing it as a child. After some searching, he even found the original branding iron hanging on the wall of his workshop. The last animal he remembers being brought to his father's pound was a horse, which the owner reclaimed just before it was due to be auctioned off.

Today, a replica of the brand is displayed in the foyer of Lacombe County's office, a tangible reminder of this important piece of the County's past. George hopes that by sharing the brand and its story, more residents will gain an appreciation for this rich heritage. He stresses that the brand is not just a relic of history, but a symbol of the early days of Lacombe County—and the province as a whole. This history should be on display, not tucked away in archives, so that people can learn about and reflect on the County's agricultural roots.

For George, the brand is much more than a symbol—it's a connection to his family's past and the agricultural history of Lacombe County. He hopes that by displaying the branding iron and sharing its history, the legacy will continue to be remembered and appreciated by future generations.

Next time you visit the Lacombe County Administration Building, take a moment to view the replica branding iron near the doors to the Council Chambers, and reflect on this important piece of local history.



Pre-construction sweeps ensure safe habitats before road projects

Lacombe County conducts wildlife sweeps before road construction projects as a critical step in our pre-construction checklist. These sweeps are essential for protecting local wildlife and their habitats, ensuring that sensitive species are not disrupted during construction activities.

This year, the sweeps have been particularly important for monitoring species such as badgers, which are considered sensitive in Alberta. By carefully assessing areas where construction is planned, we can identify and protect key environmental features like

nests, dens, and other habitats. For instance, trail cameras are often placed on recently dug burrows to monitor any wildlife activity, helping us ensure that animals like foxes and their young are not disturbed.

During our wildlife sweeps this year, we observed a variety of species, including common birds and mammals. While no species at risk were found, the data collected plays a vital role in guiding our construction schedules and methods, allowing us to minimize the impact on the local ecosystem.



Wildlife sweeps not only help protect sensitive species but also contribute to the overall environmental stewardship of Lacombe County. By conducting these thorough assessments, we ensure that our road construction projects are carried out responsibly, with the well-being of wildlife in mind.





SAFETY FIRST

Stay in the LOOP with the new **RAVE communication platform** for RCMP advisories

WHAT IS RAVE?

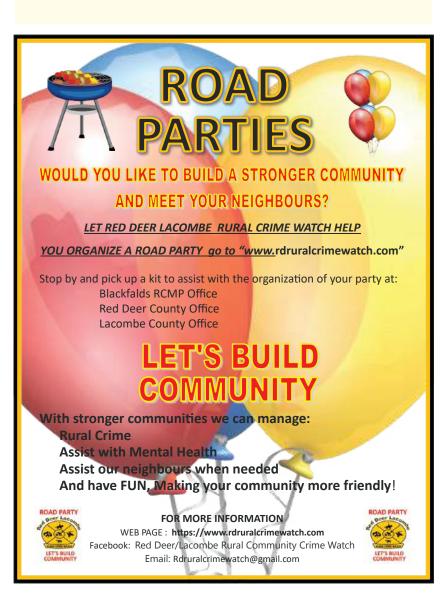
RAVE is a web based communication platform that RCMP officers are mandated to fan out real time alerts to community members in Alberta. Alerts are operational and educational in nature. They might look like BOLOs (Be On the Look Out), Crime Prevention, Victim Services, and District reports. Alerts are sent via email, text message or phone call - preference is on the account user.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

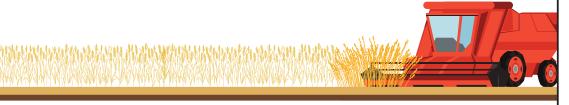
This communication can strengthen partnerships between volunteers associations and police. Community members can assist police and be a useful resource to their local detachment and their respective community. RAVE will also be a useful educational tool for Crime Prevention and Victim Services information. Information is trusted and received in real time.

LEARN MORE

Learn more about RAVE, how to opt in, and other frequently asked questions at https://www.ruralcrimewatch.ab.ca/l/rave.



IT'S HARVEST SEASON



STAY ALERT | STAY PATIENT **STAY SAFE**





RAVE is a web based communication platform that RCMP officers are mandated to fan out real time crime alerts to community members in Alberta. Opt-in today!

SCAN the OR Code to opt in to the RAVE platform













MIRROR CORNER





310-4AUC 1-833-511-4AUC www.auc.ab.ca 1400, 600 Third Avenue S.W. Calgary, Alberta

Notice of application to be filed for approval of the natural gas distribution franchise agreement between the Lacombe County and ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd.

Application summary

The Alberta Utilities Commission expects to receive an application from ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. to approve the existing current and valid natural gas distribution franchise agreement with the **Lacombe County for the Hamlet of Mirror.** This application for approval is required due to changes made by the *Utilities Affordability Statutes Amendment Act, 2024*, to various statutes governing franchise agreements.

The current franchise agreement, which took effect in January of 2017, grants ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. the exclusive right to deliver natural gas to the residents of **Mirror** for approximately ten years.

No changes to the franchise agreement or to the franchise fee rate rider percentage are being made as part of this application. The franchise fee rate rider percentage will remain at its current rate, which is 12.6%. The resulting average monthly franchise fee for an average residential customer will remain the same at approximately \$6.37. The franchise fee is calculated based on distribution charges. An average residential customer uses about 105 gigajoules per year.

You may send your concerns about, objections to, or support for the application in writing to the Lacombe County or to ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. on or before October 4, 2024 at:

Lacombe County, Attn: Michael Minchin, Director of Corporate Services, RR 3, Lacombe, AB T4L 2N3, phone 403-782-6601; email: info@lacombecounty.com

ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd., Attn: Franchise Agreement Coordinator, 5302 Forand Street S.W. Calgary, Alberta, T3E 8B4, phone: 310-5678 or 1-888-511-7550; email: franchisecoordinatorgas@atco.com

Any submissions received, unless you request otherwise, will be part of the application submitted and will become part of the public record.

For more information on franchises or to receive a copy of the franchise agreement please contact either the Lacombe County or ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. at the addresses listed above.

For more information:

For more information about the AUC or its approval process associated with franchise applications, please contact the AUC directly at 310-4AUC or at info@auc.ab.ca.

The Alberta Utilities Commission is an independent, quasi-judicial regulatory body responsible for making decisions about utility-related applications.

Issued on September 20, 2024.

Alberta Utilities Commission

2024 Mirror Dog Tags

A license is required for all dogs in Mirror. The fee is \$15.00 for an altered dog and \$25.00 for an unaltered dog. After February 28, 2024, the cost increases to \$30 for an altered dog and \$50 for an unaltered dog. For more information, please call (403) 782-6601 or visit www.lacombecounty.com/en/living-here/animal-control.aspx.

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.

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: Wednesdays 1-5 PM

2nd & 4th Saturdays 10 AM - 2 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).

Mirror and District Museum

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

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.







ENVIRONMENT

Lacombe County Environmental Stewardship Award now open

Over the past three years, Lacombe County has shone a light on remarkable individuals and groups with the Environmental Stewardship Award, celebrating their dedication to ecological conservation on their properties within the county.

NEW FOR 2024: This award, previously limited to individuals, is now open to community non-government organizations as well.

Nomination Process:

- Open Period: July 15, 2024, to September 30, 2024.
- How to Nominate: Submit nominations in person or via email to <u>mbates@lacombecounty.com</u>. Include full contact information of the nominee and a detailed description of their environmental efforts.
- Eligibility:
 - · Must be a resident/organization in Lacombe County.
 - Recipient can only win once.
 - Nominations must be submitted by September 30, 2024.
 - Forms available at www.lacombecounty.com/EnvironmentalA-ward.
- **Award**: A one-time cash prize of \$1,500 will be awarded, recognizing significant contributions to environmental stewardship.

About the Environmental Stewardship Award:

The Environmental Stewardship Award is part of Lacombe County's commitment to environmental sustainability. In 2021, the Environmental Community Engagement Program was launched, encompassing educational and sustainability initiatives. This program was extended by the Council in 2023 due to its success.

Past Winners:

- 2023: Ward Nelson Notable for planting over 2000 trees and implementing solar-powered livestock watering systems.
- **2022: Joan Olafson** Continued stewardship of 80 acres encompassing wetlands, forest, and streams.
- **2021: Sharon and Rick Wiebe** Developed a community garden, off-site watering systems, and other sustainable projects.



REMINDER: Winter Storage permits required on re-serve lands

The storage of select, seasonal items, may be authorized on County reserve lands from September long weekend (Sept.1/24) to May long weekend (May 18/25). Winter storage may proceed in locations where the integrity of the environment is not compromised.

Items approved for storage must have a unique identifier affixed or the item(s) may be removed. The storage of ice fishing huts and storage sheds will not be permitted. Stored items without County registration may be removed and disposed of at the County's sole discretion.

Applications must be submitted on an annual basis for the storage of items through the following application: https://www.lacombecounty.com/en/living-here/special-use-of-reserves.aspx.

Calls or questions may be directed to mbates@lacombecounty.com or 403-782-8959.



NOTICE:

RESERVE LAND INSPECTIONS September & October

Lacombe County staff will be conducting inspections of reserve lands throughout the County in the months of September and October, **and will be conducted using drone technology.**

Inspections are completed to ensure the use and management of County reserves remains consistent with <u>Policy RC(8)</u>: <u>Use and Management of County Reserve</u> Lands.

STAY IN THE KNOW!

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Safety Alerts
Construction
Notifications
OR...Subscribe to

Individual pages of interest



6

OPERATIONS

Notice of Road Construction Completion

Pursuant to Municipal Government Act M-26.1 534(1) 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 road has been completed as of September 11, 2024:

Project **Number Description**

Rge Rd 3-0 C0301

West 18 & 19-39-2 W5M

From Twp Rd 39-2 to Rge Rd 39-4

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

Notification of Public Work

Lacombe County is notifying residents of an upcoming road construction project starting on October 7, 2024

Range Road 26-4 (west 28 & 33-39-26 W4 from Twp Rd 40-0 to Twp Rd 39-4 for 2 miles)

Construction will start Monday, October 7, 2024 and is expected to take +/- 5 weeks to complete (weather permitting).

Please drive with caution around construction crews, and obey all signs.





LRWSC Join the Recycling Roundup!

Get ready to bring your recyclables for free:

ELECTONICS * PAINT * TIRES * USED OIL MATERIALS * HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Alix/Mirror Transfer Station

September 21, 2024 1:00 PM - 4:45 PM 40319 Range Road 231

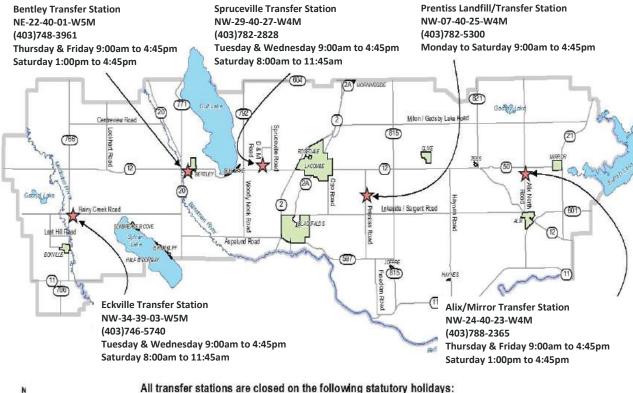
Bentley Transfér Station

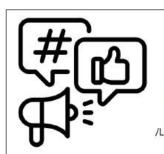
October 5, 2024 1:00 PM - 4:45 PM

Eckville Transfer Station

October 19, 2024 8:00 AM - 11:45 AM 3219 Township Rd 400

Lacombe Regional Waste Services Commission (LRWSC) Transfer Stations Hours of Operation **Spruceville Transfer Station** Prentiss Landfill/Transfer Station





Find Lacombe County online



Christmas & Boxing Day.









@lacombecounty Lacombe County /LacombeCounty

New Years Day, Thanksgiving, Good Friday, Remembrance Day,

/LacombeCounty

lacombecounty.com

AGRICULTURE

Clubroot of Canola

What is it?

Clubroot is a serious soil-borne disease of canola, mustard, and other crops of the cabbage family.

Why is it of concern?

This disease is capable of significantly reducing yield, quality, and may destroy a crop if infestation is high enough.

How can it be spread?

Infested soil can be carried field to field by farm machinery especially tillage equipment, as well as wind and water erosion.

How long can it persist in the soil?

Resting spores are extremely long lived and may survive in soil for up to 20 years.

Best Management Practices

- Use Clubroot resistant varieties when growing canola in areas only where the disease is established.
- Use long rotation breaks (Three years or more) between canola crops.
- Practice good sanitation of equipment and machinery to restrict the movement of potentially contaminated soil.
- Use direct seeding and other soil conservation practices to reduce soil erosion.
- Minimize vehicle and equipment traffic to and from fields.
- Scout canola fields regularly and carefully. Identify causes of wilting, stunting, yellowing, and premature ripening.





INSPECTION NOTICE

Lacombe County Clubroot of Canola Inspections

Lacombe County Agricultural Service Board will be conducting random Clubroot of Canola Inspections as per County Policy AG(11) Clubroot of Canola.

With the increased spread of Clubroot of Canola within Central Alberta, canola growers must remain vigilant to limit the spread and minimize the economic impacts of Clubroot of Canola.

Symptoms include patches of premature ripening plants, shrivelled unfilled seed pods, and galls present on the plant's root system.

Swathing operations provide an excellent opportunity to scout for the presence of Clubroot of Canola, as well as sclerotinia, and blackleg. If you spot patches of prematurely ripened Canola in your field, take a minute to pull some standing plants or stubble and inspect the root system.

If you have any questions or concerns contact:

Mike Bates, Manager of Agriculture & Environmental Services, mbates@lacombecounty.com / 403.782.8959

Spray in Fall, Save in Spring

With another growing season wrapping up quickly this fall, many fields have been harvested ahead of schedule compared to a typical harvest season. Reduced rainfall at the critical points in the crops' development has resulted in overall reduced yields and a shorter growing season. Some sporadic rainfall has occurred in the last few weeks however, which has led to some second growth on standing crops, and a new flush of weeds in fields. With many fields already empty, this leaves plenty of room for new weeds to grow and establish themselves before winter hits.

Especially on a year like this, when it is still relatively early in the fall, managing your weed populations will make a big difference for your fields next spring. One of the biggest issues we face for pre-seed options in the spring is the weather. There is no way of knowing how soon you'll be able to get in the field next spring ahead of planting, if even at all, so on problematic fields applying a weed control option in the fall can help to hedge your bets. From granular to liquid options, there are a variety of herbicides available to suit your field's specific needs. Avadex has been around for decades but still has its place in the market. Growing resistance of wild oats to in crop herbicides has forced growers to take another

look at older chemistry to help battle issues in their fields.

While these are just one piece of the solution, having a well-rounded chemical rotation is essential for managing resistance issues. New products have been coming on the market in recent years, while there may not be new active groups, new formulations are being added to the market. Some of these include Focus, Valtera, Intruvix, and Prospect to name a few. This increased variety of products on the market offers more options from different companies and at different price points.

Perennial weeds in particular are much better controlled in the fall versus the spring. When temperatures start to drop, and even when a light frost occurs, this signals perennial plants to start storing their energy in their roots as opposed to their leaves. When sprayed with a herbicide at this time, the plant brings the chemicals into their root structures, resulting in better control of the weeds. When these same weeds are sprayed in the spring or in crop, often just top-growth control is achieved, not dealing with the entire problem.

Spraying your herbicides in the fall helps reduce the overall weed population in your field, resulting in less

competition in the spring, and reduced weed problems in crop. Managing your weed populations is not a quick fix, but rather a long-term program. You never know what next year's spring will bring, so why not take advantage of this year's early fall and get ahead with fall weed control? Spending the money now will benefit you in the long run, saving you money and time next year!

~ Submitted by Lacombe Agro Central Alberta Co-op Ltd.



A unified effort to preserve Gull Lake: Lacombe County's battle against Sea Buckthorn

Gull Lake, a cherished gem in Lacombe County, has long been a hub of recreation and natural beauty. Over the years, Gull Lake has evolved into a popular destination, attracting tourists and outdoor enthusiasts to its shores and the nearby Aspen Beach Provincial Park, established in 1932.

However, this tranquil setting has recently come under threat from an invasive species: Sea Buckthorn. Originating from Eurasia, Sea Buckthorn is not native to North America, and its aggres-



sive nature poses a significant danger to the local environment, particularly in sensitive riparian areas. The plant displaces native vegetation and wildlife by releasing growth inhibitors into the soil, creating a monoculture that disrupts the natural balance of the ecosystem.

Recognizing the urgent need to protect Gull Lake's delicate shoreline, Lacombe County spearheaded a collaborative initiative to combat the spread of Sea Buckthorn. The County reached out to key stakeholders, including the Summer Village of Gull Lake and the Sunset Legion Campground, where the invasive plant had begun to rapidly encroach upon the riparian zones. With vital support from the Government of Alberta, this partnership launched a comprehensive mitigation program to curb the invasion.

THE FINANCIAL COST OF CONSERVATION

Over the past two years, significant resources have been allocated to control approximately seven hectares of Sea Buckthorn:

- Mulching: \$32,000
- Herbicide Application and Staffing: \$22.976
- Alberta Public Lands Contribution: \$25,000



These efforts have targeted the most concentrated areas of infestation, but the battle is far from over, and 2024 will be crucial in determining the effectiveness of the herbicide treatments, with ongoing monitoring to assess the impact and identify areas needing further intervention.

A TIMELINE OF ACTION

2017: Key stakeholders convened to address the growing concern of Sea Buckthorn spreading within the Gull Lake riparian areas.

2018: Lacombe County conducted surveys and mapped the infestation levels around Gull Lake.

2019-2020: A unified Sea Buckthorn control plan was developed, elevating the plant to the status of a local Noxious Weed under the Alberta Weed Control Act. Control operations began on both County-owned (2019) and Crown (2020) lands.

2023: Mulching operations were carried out at the Sunset Legion Campground, with the mulch left to naturally return nutrients to the soil, allowing native species to regenerate.

FUTURE COMMITMENT

The journey to control and eradicate Sea Buckthorn from the Gull Lake watershed is a long-term commitment. The goals of this project extend beyond merely controlling an invasive species; they aim to maintain recreational opportunities, protect wildlife habitats, and preserve the ecological diversity that makes Gull Lake a unique and valuable natural resource.

Lacombe County's approach to tackling Sea Buckthorn is a testament to the power of collaboration. By bringing together local governments, provincial agencies, and community stakeholders, the County has demonstrated that complex environmental challenges can be met with unified action and shared resolve. As we look to the future, the continued success of this initiative will depend on sustained efforts and ongoing community involvement. Lacombe County remains dedicated to preserving the natural beauty of Gull Lake for generations to come.

For more information, please contact Lacombe County's Community Services Department at (403) 782-8959.







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



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

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



ATTENTIC

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 ~

Calling Grain Producers in the Canadian **Prairies**I

Are you a grain producer in the Canadian Prairies? If so, you are invited to participate in a research survey that will be collecting data on the adoption of winter wheat and ultra-early seeding of spring wheat in the Canadian Prairies. This survey will take approximately 15 to 30 minutes.

To participate in this study you must be

- 18 years old or older
- A grain producer in the Canadian Prairies

If you meet the above criteria and are interested in completing the survey, please go the link below or use your phone camera on the QR code.

https://forms.gle/LkNoQwSBMjehAWez8 Survey Link:



The Adoption of Winter Wheat and Ultra-Early Seeding of Spring Wheat in Canadian Prairies

Pro00130833

Principal Investigator: Jacey Toerper

ALBERTA

If you have any questions please only contact Dr. Linda Gorim at gorim@ualberta.ca or Jacey Toerper at toerper@ualberta.ca to protect your confidentiality.

MUNICIPAL PROPERTY **ASSESSMENT**

2024 PROPERTY ASSESSMENT INSPECTIONS

Property inspections will be ongoing for the remainder of 2024. Lacombe County is aware of new construction and significant renovations due to development and safety codes permitting. We appreciate your assistance in reporting demolitions or removals of homes, garages, sheds, or any other buildings and/or changes to use of land and existing buildings. Our goal is to ensure we can accurately update and prepare your 2025 property assessment. An assessor must verify a building has been removed or a change in the use of the property has occurred prior to December 31 or it will be assessed and reflected on your 2025 Assessment and Tax Notice. If any of these changes have occurred on your property and you are unsure if the County is aware of it, please contact the Lacombe County Assessment Department.

WHY INSPECTIONS ARE ESSENTIAL?

The information we collect about a property must be current so assessors can prepare an accurate and equitable assessment of your property and other similar properties in the municipality each year. This is especially important if the property has recently changed ownership or if renovations or modernizations have been completed.

When we arrive at a property, we will attempt to make contact at the residence or primary building and are happy to explain why we are there and what we are doing. Each Lacombe County Assessor carries an ID.

We will do our best to answer your questions during the inspection; however, some inquiries require further research and information. If this is the case, we may request contact information, so follow-up can be done to answer your questions.

DID YOU KNOW?

In Lacombe County manufactured homes are assessed to the registered owner of the land on which they are located. In situations where the registered owner of land is NOT the same as the owner of the manufactured home. Assessors appreciate the assistance of both owners to collect the necessary information to prepare the assessment. The assessment and tax notice is mailed to the registered owner of the land the following year.

ATTENTION:

Notification of Access for County Assessors

Lacombe County municipal Assessors will be visiting properties throughout the municipality this year to verify property information to ensure accurate and equitable assessments – we appreciate your cooperation in doing so.

Our assessors carry identification and will present it upon request. If you have questions or concerns, don't hesitate to get in touch with us at the Lacombe County Administration Office.

Fire Prevention Week:

Smoke Alarms - Make Them Work for You

As Fire Prevention Week approaches, it's time to focus on a critical component of home safety: your smoke alarms. This year's theme, "Smoke Alarms: Make Them Work for You," serves as an important reminder for residents to ensure their smoke alarms are functioning properly to keep your home and family safe.

Here are a few essential tips to make sure your smoke alarms are ready:

Test your alarms monthly – Smoke alarms should be tested every month to ensure they are working properly. Press the test button to make sure the alarm sounds.

Change batteries yearly – If your smoke alarm uses batteries, make a habit of changing them once a year. A good rule of thumb is to do this when you change your clocks for daylight saving time.

Replace alarms every 10 years – Smoke alarms don't last forever. If your smoke alarm is more than 10 years old, it's time to replace it with a new one. Check the date on the back of the device.

Install alarms in the right places

 Ensure you have smoke alarms installed on every level of your home, inside each bedroom, and outside sleeping areas. Alarms should be mounted on ceilings or high on walls.

Interconnect alarms for better protection – If possible, connect your smoke alarms so that when one sounds, they all do. This gives everyone in the house more time to escape.

Consider alarms for people with hearing impairments – If anyone in your home is hearing impaired, use alarms with flashing lights or vibrating devices to alert them to danger.

Don't wait for an emergency to realize your smoke alarms aren't working. Take these simple steps today to keep your household safe.

For more fire safety tips and information about Fire Prevention Week, visit www. nfpa.org

SMOKE WORK WORK For You! FIRE PREVENTION WEEK" Make Them WORK For You! Fire Prevention WEEK" Fire Prevention WEEK The Prevention WEEK The Prevention Associations of NYTH A 10 and not of

Cont. from front: We want YOU: County seeks paid-on-call firefighters

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 lcfs@lacombecounty.com to get more information or to express your interest in signing up.

Check your insurance to avoid invoices for fire department responses

Fall time means the start of a busier season is approaching, with increased traffic on roads, and heightened activity on local farms as the harvesting season starts. Lacombe County reminds you to review your insurance coverage and ensure your policies cover potential emergencies, which is crucial.

Under our updated Fire Protection and Emergency Response Bylaw, any person or business utilizing Lacombe County fire department services will receive an invoice for these services. This bylaw adjustment, which was implemented in January 2021, aligns with best practices and effectively supports our fire departments and community.

Specifically, the bylaw means that users of our fire department services, whether due to a struc-

ture fire, grass fire, etc., or a motor vehicle accident or other emergency, will be charged for such services. Typically, these charges are covered through your insurance policy, provided you have the right coverage.

This approach aims to directly involve property and vehicle owners in the funding of our volunteer firefighters and fire department operations, eliminating the need to rely solely on taxpayer dollars. Many municipalities have adopted similar practices, recognizing the benefits of such a model.

Lacombe County encourages you to contact your insurance broker or company to ensure sufficient coverage for fire department response services.





Recycle Used Baler Twine

Preparing twine for recycling

Pick up, free, twine collection bags from pilot collection sites and select County/MD offices.

- 1. Shake to remove debris, snow or ice.
- 2. Place loose twine in a collection bag.
 Plastic twine only. Bags of twine mixed with netting,
 sisal twine, or other materials will be rejected.
- 3. Return to an **Alberta Ag Plastic**. **Recycle It!** pilot collection site. Call ahead for unloading assistance.

Find recycling details and a collection site near you:

- For more about **Alberta Ag Plastic.** Recycle It! go to **AlbertaAgPlastics.ca** or scan the QR code.
- To see what other ag materials Cleanfarms recycles, go to **Cleanfarms.ca**











The pilot project is led by the multi-stakeholder Agricultural Plastics Recycling Group funds were granted by the Government of Alberta and are administered by Albert Beef Producers.



SUBDIVISION & DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY

Do you have questions about subdivision or development activity?

Contact Us:

Lacombe County Planning Services

(403) 782-8389

planning@ lacombecounty.com

Dale Freitag
Director of
Planning Services

Cajun Paradis Senior Planner

Natasha Wright
Planner / Development
Officer

Nicklas Baran
Planner / Development
Officer

Kerrie Taylor Economic Development Officer

Allison Noonan
Planning Services
Administrative Assistant

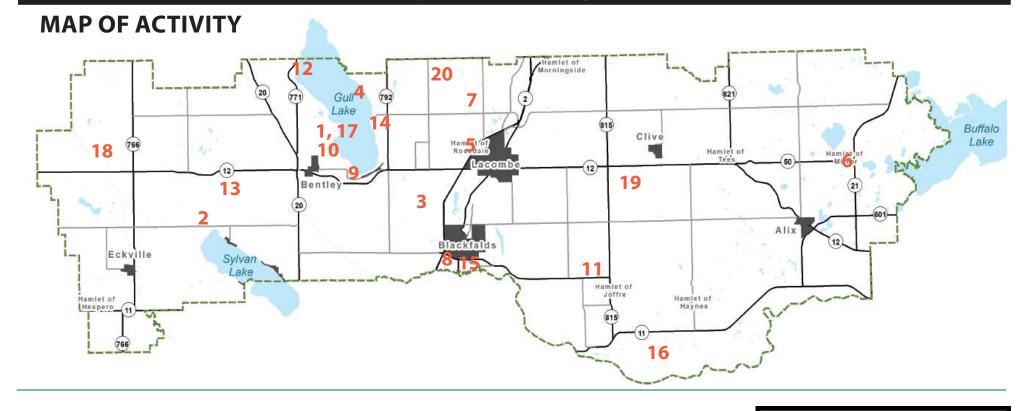
Daniella Gonzalez
Planning Services
Receptionist

August 1, 2024 to August 31, 2024

Development Applications Received

No.	File No.	Applicant	Legal Description	Proposed Development	Decision
1	102/24	Dynamic Modular Homes	Unit 224 Condo Plan 142 2139 (Sandy Point RV Resort, Gull Lake)	Park Model w/Covered Deck	Approved
2	103/24	Jaygo Construction Ltd	Lot 2 Block 1 Plan 122 2371 (Pt. SW 4-40-02-5M)	Dwelling w/Attached Garage and Covered Deck	Approved
3	104/24	Dennis & Dakota Borren	NW 8-40-27-W4M	Dwelling w/Attached Garage and Covered Deck	Approved
4	105/24	Carl Weinrauch & Bev Skripal	Unit 117 Condo Plan 202 1689 (DeGraffs RV Resort, Gull Lake)	Park Model Trailer w/Covered Deck and Gazebo	Approved
5	106/24	Rayden & Deanna Williams	Parcel J Plan 1751HW (Pt. SE 36-40-27-W4M)	Kennel Renewal, Lakeview Family Kennels	Approved
6	107/24	Rhonda Clausen	Lots 15, 21-24 Blk 49 Plan 7159Al (Hamlet of Mirror)	Setback Relaxation & Addition to Dwelling	Approved
7	108/24	Abbey Platinum Master Built	SW 13-41-27-W4M	Dwelling w/Attached Garage and Covered Deck	Approved
8	109/24	Redhead Artificial Lift Ltd.	Bay 4&5 Block 1 Plan 982 4780 (South East Blackfalds)	Oilfield business Redhead Artificial Lift Ltd.	Approved
9	110/24	Gary & Corrine Gordon	Lot 6 Block G Plan 3737KS (Ebeling Subdivision, Gull Lake)	Shed	Approved
10	111/24	Fred & Joanne Simpson	Lot 1 Block 1 Plan 992 0851 (NW 36-40-01-W5M)	Addition to Existing Dwelling	Approved
11	112/24	Justin and Melissa Gouw	Lot 1 Block 1 Plan 242 0575 (SE 17-39-25-W4M)	Cannabis Production Facility Stackstone Farms	Pending
12	113/24	Steven & Janelle Rice	Lot 9 Block 2 Plan 892 0156 (Birch Meadows, Gull Lake)	Setback Relaxation	Approved
13	114/24	Joshua Johnson	SE 24-40-02-W5M	Dwelling, First	Approved
14	115/24	Laura Tisdale	Lot 8 Block 1 Plan 172 0385 (Wilson's Beach Estates)	Dwelling w/Attached Garage	Approved
15	116/24	Paul White	Lot 9 Block 1 Plan 192 1146 (Burbank Heights Subdivision)	Dwelling w/Attached Garage and Detached Garage	Approved
16	117/24	Howard Hopkins	SW 23-38-25-W4M	Dwelling Replacement, modular home	Approved

September 20, 2024 - County News



Addition

18	119/24	Dustin Klassen Angela Schickerowski (POA)	Lot 1 Block 1 Plan 842 0790 (Pt. SW 32-40-03-W5M)	Dwelling w/Covered Deck Replacement Residence	Approved

Unit 138 Condo Plan 142 2139

(Sandy Point RV Resort, Gull Lake)

Subdivision Applications Received

Greg & Tilde Ehman

17

118/24

No.	File No.	Applicant	Legal Description	Proposed Subdivision	Decision
19	S-025-24	Darcy Friesen R. Rainforth & Sons Ltd.	Lot 1 Block 1 Plan 222 2554 NE 10-40-25-W4M	Boundary Adjustment	Pending
20	S-026-24	Kenneth Poffenroth	SW 33-41-27-W4M	1st Parcel Out	Pending

NOTICE OF SUBDIVISION RENAMING



Approved

The County received an application to rename the subject subdivision on Sylvan Lake from 'Yuill' to 'Pelican Bay'. The County ran a survey with landowners within a one-mile radius to gather feedback on the proposed name change. After considering the feedback, Lacombe County Council approved the renaming request during the September 12, 2024 Council meeting. The County will proceed with the official renaming of the subdivision in applicable signs and maps.





Are you located in the Hamlet of Mirror, on lands zoned Hamlet Commercial 'C-H' District or Hamlet Industrial 'I-H' District?

Are you starting a business on an unimproved parcel of land or in a vacant building?



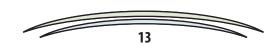
Do you have Development Permit approval for the proposed business?



Schedule a meeting with one of our Planners to determine if you are eligible!



Planning Services 403-782-8389



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LACOMBE COUNTY

SPOT light

TRACK ON 2

A Central Alberta Entertainment Hub

Nestled in Lacombe County, The Track on 2 has quickly become a go-to destination for entertainment in Central Alberta. This unique venue is owned and operated by Kurt and Kyla Belich and their business partner Ross Morrison. With horse racing, a casino, and a full-service restaurant, there is a little something for everyone. Recently, the county has chatted with owner Kurt Belich to learn more about their operation, how they've grown, and what's on the horizon for this locally owned business.

Since opening, The Track on 2 has expanded its offerings far beyond horse racing. With 20 full-time employees, the business now features a casino with 88 machines, the Funky Monkey Kitchen + Bar, and an event centre that hosts both private and public events year-round.

"We felt there was a real need in Central Alberta for family-friendly entertainment," says Belich. "With our agricultural backgrounds, horse racing seemed like a great fit for this area. It's a unique offering and something that brings people together."

The Track on 2 stands out as one of only five horse racing tracks in Alberta and the only one in Central Alberta. In addition, their casino is one of just five located outside of a major city, making it a special destination for the region.

Now in its seventh season of horse racing and celebrating six years of operation, The Track on 2 has become a community staple. "We started with horse racing and later expanded to include the restaurant and event centre," says Belich. "In 2022, we opened our casino, and we're looking forward to developing three commercial lots on the north end of our property."

Horse races at The Track on 2 run from June to September, featuring standardbred horses. Simulcast facilities allow guests to watch races from across North America and place bets on live and streamed races.

The journey hasn't been without its challenges. "With such a diverse business, there are a lot of moving parts," Belich notes. "The past few years have shown us the importance of agility and adaptability."

Despite the complexities, Belich says working in the agricultural industry is rewarding. "It's all about the people. Offering them an unforgettable experience is what drives us."

The Track on 2's involvement with industry groups such as the Alberta Standardbred Horse Association (ASHA) and Horse Racing Alberta (HRA) plays a crucial role in their success. These connections help keep them up to date with the latest trends in the ag industry, which, according to Belich,

has been marked by a growing trend toward consolidation.

Looking forward, The Track on 2 has big plans for continued growth. "We're excited about the future. We've already expanded beyond racing, and there's more to come with our upcoming commercial development."

As a 100% locally owned and operated business, The Track on 2 takes pride in its deep Central Alberta roots. "We're owned by two families who have been farming in the area for over 100 years," says Belich. "We're committed to supporting the local community, and we hope more people realize the importance of supporting small, local businesses like ours."

For those looking to visit, The Track on 2 is open seven days a week, offering a full lineup of events, races, and dining at Funky Monkey Kitchen + Bar.

To learn more,

Visit our website at https://thetrackon2.com/

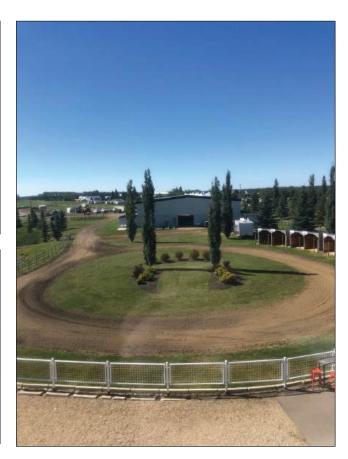
Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/thetrackon2

Instagram at https://www.instagram.com/thetrackon2/









Rail Safety Week | There is no 'Undo' button

Join Operation Lifesaver and our partners across Canada in marking the 21st annual Rail Safety Week. This annual event raises critical awareness about rail safety. It reminds Canadians that taking risks near tracks can change your life forever or cost you life and limb.

Stay off tracks. Stay alive. Stay safe.

Still Not at Zero: The continued need for Rail Safety Week

- Over the last five years, more than 100 Canadians have been seriously hurt or killed each year in railway crossing and trespasser incidents (on average).
- In 2023 alone, 73 Canadians were hurt or killed because they were on tracks or rail property illegally. Another 32 were hurt or killed at crossings.
- So far in 2024 (January-June), an average of 10
 Canadians per month have been seriously hurt or
 killed at crossings, or by trespassing onto feder-

ally regulated railways. That's a 33% increase over the five-year historical average.

 In the first half of 2024, total railway accidents were down 15 percent, but crossing accidents were up 11% and trespassing was up 57%.

Tips to "BE RAIL SMART"

- · Stop a safe distance from tracks and crossings.
- Look both ways to ensure trains are not approaching.
- · Listen for approaching trains.

How can you help?

 Say something! Save the CN Police phone number and call if you witness any unsafe situation near the railroad: 1-800-465-9239.

- Act as a role model around trains and tracks.
- Share rail safety tips with your family, friends, colleagues and community.
- If you live in a CN-served community email CN Safety to organize a safety presentation in your local school.

You Can Prevent Railway Crossing and Trespassing Accidents

Rail safety is a shared responsibility and we ask everyone to be especially careful when on or near railroad property and at crossings. Look, listen and live! That's what it means to be rail smart.









Know the Signs and Signals

0

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FLASHING RED LIGHTS ·····:

STOP when flashing. DO NOT proceed until the lights stop flashing. If the lights begin flashing after you start crossing the tracks, keep going.

CROSSBUCK

YIELD if a train is approaching. Trains always have the right-of-way.

LOWERING GATES AND FLASHING RED LIGHTS ···

A train is approaching (even if you don't see it yet). DO NOT proceed until the lights turn off and the gates go up. It's illegal and dangerous to go around lowered gates.

MULTIPLE TRACKS

Multiple tracks are present. Multiple tracks may mean multiple trains. Wait until you can see clearly down the tracks in both directions before proceeding.



PAVEMENT MARKINGS · ·

A large "X" and a wide white line on the road mean you're approaching a railway crossing. Stay behind the white stop line while waiting for a train to pass. No stop line? Stop at least 5 metres from the nearest rail.

LOW GROUND CLEARANCE CROSSING

Raised crossing ahead. If you drive anything low to the ground — like a bus, truck, sports car or trailer — you're at risk of getting hung up on the tracks. DO NOT proceed until you know your vehicle will clear the tracks.

.....EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SIGN (ENS)

This is the first phone number to call if a vehicle is stuck or stalls on the tracks (this number may also be found on the signal house). You can also dial it to report people, vehicles or debris on the tracks, as well as damaged signs or signals, or obstructed views. The mile post and subdivision listed on the sign will help the railway to identify your location.



Slow down, look, listen, and BE PREPARED TO STOP. Typically, this is the first sign you see when approaching a railway crossing.





OperationLifesaver.ca LookListenLive.ca



Industry Spotlight

Dow's Prentiss manufacturing site



Safety and emergency preparedness

Safety is our highest priority at the Prentiss site. Ensuring safety and preventing incidents are the goals of Dow's safety program, which include training, facility operations, testing, reporting and emergency preparedness

The Prentiss site is equipped with on-site safety systems that automatically activate unders pecific conditions to alert site personnel.

The site is staffed with highly trained emergency responders 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. Dow is an active member of the <u>Lacombe County Mutual Aid Organization</u>, where we share resources and take part in regular training exercises.

Each summer, Dow mails information about our site operations and safety program to neighbours within three kilometres of the Prentiss site. We collect and maintain neighbour contact information (opt-in basis) to ensure that we can notify the community in the event of an emergency.

Responsible Care® - Our commitment to sustainability

Dow is a founding member of Responsible Care – a United Nations-recognized sustainability initiative practiced in 73 countries and by 96 of the 100 largest chemical producers in the world.

In Canada, Dow continues to lead the journey towards safe, responsible and sustainable chemical manufacturing at all our locations, including at our Prentiss site in Lacombe County.

We uphold the <u>Responsible Care Ethic, Principles and Codes</u> in all we do. This covers the design, construction and operations of our facilities, stewardship of our products across the supply chain and engaging with our communities and stakeholders on issues that mater to them

How we uphold Responsible Care® expectations

As a Responsible Care company, Dow adheres to benchmarks, performance metrics and cooperative



programs and tools set by the Chemistry Industry Association of Canada. This is integrated into Dow's Operations Discipline Management System, which addresses the expectations of the *Responsible Care Ethic and Principles for Sustainability*. We report our progress and participate in a verification every three years by industry and public members.

Learn more at canadianchemistry.ca

Stay engaged with Dow

www.dowcanada.com or on social media: Facebook: <u>Facebook.com/DowCanada</u> X: <u>@Dow_Canada</u>

24-hour information

Prentiss Community Line: 403-885-7249 24-hr security line: 403-885-7129



Sign recognizes site of historic Sunset Hills school

The Sunset Hills School was built in the early 1900's on the NE 21-40-2-5 at the foot of Sunset Hill.

The first secretary-treasurer was Fred Peachey, a teacher living 1 1/2 miles north of the school. When Fred left, Sidney Brooke took over the position until the children started getting bused into Bentley for school. Some of the local school board members were, Jack Anderson, Ted Wiffin, John Solberg and William Baillie.

The first teacher was Norah Steel, who had a son attending, J.L. Robinson who boarded at the John Holmen home. Another young teacher came from Nova Scotia and boarded at the Gene Parmentiers. She was a lonely girl and the children didn't make it easy for her. The next teacher was W.H.K. Donaldson who straightened the naughty children out. He was there for 3 years then Evelyn Gilbert from Clive came who was the last teacher to teach there. The last two years the school was open was under supervisors as teachers were not available. The two supervisors were Mrs. Kerr and Mrs Sidney Brooke.

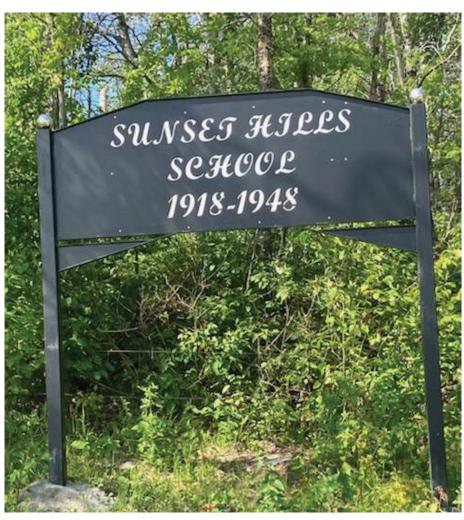
Some of the pupils were Alfred and Earl Anderson,Letitia Petry, Henry and Edward Vig, Edward and Mabel Solberg, Ethel Pederson, Pearl Pederson, Robert Stephenson, Violet Stephenson, Alice Stephenson and Leonard Skjonsberg. Many other pupils attended who lived in the above mentioned school division.

The pupils used slate pens and slate boards and could make them squeak to irritate the teachers. After awhile, fountain pens and ink wells that fit into top of desk became available.

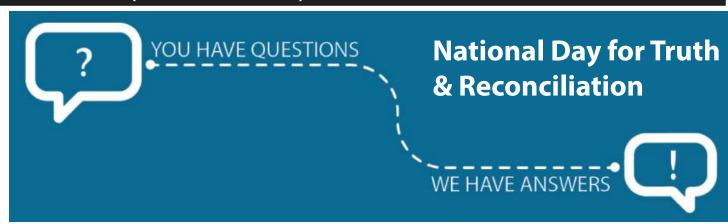
Later a barn was built to house the pupils ponies. John Solberg hauled the lumber from a saw mill out west. Janitor work was done by the teachers and then the pupils got the job. Blackboards were washed once a week, desks dusted as well as floors swept all for 10 cents.

The school was closed in 1948 when centralization and busing took over. The school still stands at the same place and the Norman Pearson family uses it for a honey extraction building.

Thank you to Lacombe County for the grant, which helped erect the sign recognizing the Sunset Hills School.



Planning Services



Frequently Asked Questions

Each year, September 30 marks the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation in Canada. The purpose of this Q&A article is to provide information to our community on this day and its importance.

WHAT IS THE NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION?

The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation is a day for all Canadians to reflect on the importance of reconciliation with Canada's Indigenous communities. It is based on the idea that reconciliation can be achieved by sharing the truth about Indigenous communities' historical and present-day experiences. These stories are not commonly known in the mainstream, and having an opportunity to share these stories allows for dialogue and understanding between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities, which is necessary for reconciliation to

Specifically, this day honours the young children who were victims of the Indian Residential School system – including those who did not return home and the survivors who left with trauma. Observing this day increases public awareness of the negative impacts and intergenerational trauma that was caused by historic policies, realizing that these historical events continue to affect Indigenous communities today, and finding ways by which meaningful reconciliation can be achieved with Indigenous communities.

WHO ARE THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF CANADA?

The term "Indigenous" in Canada is used as an overarching term to describe three groups of communities (1) the First Nations, (2) the Métis, and (3) the Inuit. While these three groups are culturally unique and distinct, they are descendants of peoples who have resided in North America for thousands of years.

WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TO LACOMBE COUNTY?

Lacombe County is situated on Treaty 6 Territory, which is the traditional and ancestral homeland of many First Nations communities such as the Cree, Dene, Blackfoot, Saulteaux and Nakota Sioux, and is also the traditional homeland of the Métis in Métis Nation Region 3. The prairies, forests, rivers, lakes, hills, and valleys of present-day Lacombe County have been used by these communities for gathering, travel, hunting, fishing, and ceremony for millennia.

With the signing of Treaty 6 in 1876, First Nations communities were located to defined reserve areas, none of which are located within present-day Lacombe County. However, the communities continue to have special reverence and respect for these lands and waters as their ancestral homeland.

WHAT IS LACOMBE COUNTY DOING TO COMMEMORATE THE NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION?

Since 2022, Lacombe County Council and staff have hosted an Indigenous speaker each year to learn about Indigenous history and the lived experiences of the communities. Staff have also been taking courses, reading books, and attending seminars led by Indigenous peoples to better understand how reconciliation can be applied to our daily work.

WHAT CAN I DO TO COMMEMORATE THE NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION?

There are various things you can do to mark this day.

- Wear orange to show support and solidarity for the victims of the Indian Residential School system
- Attend one of the many events, webinars, and educational sessions on Truth and Reconciliation being hosted by various organizations this month
- Read a book on Indigenous history and experiences in Canada
- Watch/listen to podcasts, documentaries, and videos from recognized sources on Indigenous history and experiences in Canada.

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation





Gouvernement



Ellis Nature Centre | Thank you for a great season!

What an incredible season we've had at Ellis Nature Centre! We've welcomed thousands of people to our site this season to immerse themselves in the wonder of nature while learning about Charlie & Winnie Ellis's legacy. Events like our Bug Jamboree, Bluebird Festival, and Bat N' Beers Night were once again a huge success, with droves of people turning out to learn about the bugs, birds, and bats that call Central Alberta home & the important roles they play in the local ecosystem. Our educational programs were also a hit, with kids aged 3-12 learning about wetlands, sustainable agriculture, and birding throughout the summer. Most recently, we celebrated our Harvest Dinner, with all 100 tickets selling out! Folks gathered to celebrate the local community, all while supporting ourselves & Lacombe Museum.

We wanted to send a sincere thank you to everyone who has visited our site this season, attended an event, donated, or otherwise supported our ongoing education & conservation efforts. A reminder that if you haven't visited us yet this season, your last day to do so is Tuesday, October 15! We'll even be open the entire Thanksgiving weekend for you to get a final visit in.











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

Regularly Scheduled Meetings for Lacombe County Council

<u>Committee of the Whole</u> - First Tuesday of every second month at 9 a.m.

<u>Council & MPC</u> - Second and fourth Thursday of every month, starting at 9 a.m..

The public and media are welcome to attend all Council & MPC meetings. An agenda will be posted to the website prior to the meeting.

Council Highlights & Minutes can be found on our website at www.lacombecounty.



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

August 22, 2024

2025 OPERATIONS HEAVY EQUIPMENT CAPITAL PURCHASES

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR MEDICINE LODGE SKI CLUB

Lacombe County will provide the Medicine Lodge Ski Club with a letter of support regarding its application for grant funding through the Alberta Active Communities Initiative to upgrade the ski lifts at Medicine Lodge Ski Hill.

ANNUAL APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS FOR 2024

Council approved the appointment of BDO Canada LLP as Lacombe County's auditors for the 2024 fiscal year, at an estimated cost of \$78,126.50.

PROPERTY TAX CANCELLATION REQUEST

A motion that Lacombe County cancels \$42,000 of the 2024 property tax levied on tax account #3927232040, and further, that Council cancel the entire 2025 tax levy for the same tax account, estimated at \$101,000, did not receive Council approval.

RC(1) RECREATION CAPITAL FUNDING REQUEST – MIRROR LIBRARY

By resolution of Council, Lacombe County will contribute up to \$3,250 to the Friends of Mirror Library Society's water line replacement project. The contribution will be funded from the County's Recreation Capital Assistance Reserve.

UTILITIES EMERGENCY SANITARY SEWER REPAIRS – HAMLET OF MIRROR

The County Manager was authorized to complete upgrades to the Mirror 46th Street sanitary sewer system at a cost of \$47,197.48. The repairs will be funded from the Hamlet of Mirror Utility Reserve.

AUC CONSULTATION ON RULE 007

The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) is reviewing Rule 007: Applications for Power Plants, Substations, Transmission Lines, Industrial System Designations, Hydro Developments, and Gas Utility Pipelines and initiated a series of consultations on specific topics. Interested parties have been invited to provide input through email to the AUC.

Council endorsed a draft response to the AUC Consultation on Rule 007. The response will be submitted to the AUC, via email, on behalf of Lacombe County.

OPPORTUNITY FOR MEETING WITH MINISTER OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

The County Manager was directed to submit a request for Council to meet with the Honourable Ric McIver, Minister of Municipal Affairs during the 2024 RMA Fall Convention. Discussion topics for the meeting will include:

- 1. Energy Industry and Municipalities
 - a. Ministerial Order 43/2023;
 - b. Mature Asset Strategy;
 - c. Assessment Model Review;

- d Premier's review of the AER: and
- e. Subsidization of the energy industry from municipal revenues.
- 2. AUC decisions re: solar facilities
- 3. Impact on municipalities from the deteriorated condition of provincial roads.

RMA MEMBER ADVOCACY REQUEST: POSSIBLE RAIL WORK STOPPAGE

Due to a breakdown in negotiations between CPKC and CN and the union representing rail workers, a nationwide rail work stoppage has recently occurred. In response to a request from Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA), Lacombe County will send a letter to the Honourable Steven MacKinnon, Federal Minister of Labour, calling on him to implement binding arbitration to resolve the dispute and emphasizing the local risks and impacts that the rail work stoppage will have on the rural economy and communities.

GULL LAKE REGIONAL MASTER DRAINAGE FEASIBILITY STUDY

Bruce Rout provided Council with a presentation regarding the proposed subject study and a request to participate in an Alberta Community Partnership grant application with Ponoka County. The presentation was received for information and the County Manager was directed to provide a report and recommendation regarding the request for consideration at a future Council meeting.

WINTER IS COMING! | Winterizing Your Septic Systems

Did you know that a holding tank or "pumpout" septic system left unused for more than 72 hours may not have the anaerobic bioactivity to generate enough heat preventing winter freezing? If you plan on using this style of septic system during the winter months, here are some long-term steps needed to protect your system from freezing:

All components <2.7 meter (9 feet) deep must be insulated with spray or rigid foam to prevent freezing.
 <p>This foam adds a thermal barrier between frozen ground and nonfrozen ground (frost line). A rough "rule of thumb" is 1 inch of insulation equals 1 foot of ground cover. You always want a minimum of

- 2.7 m (9 feet) of frost coverage in Alberta!
- 2. Don't forget to insulate the plastic lid of your holding tank. An uninsulated lid can allow heat from bioactivity to escape even if the sides and top of the holding tank is insulated. For concrete lids and tops, spray foam applied by a professional can be very effective in preventing heat loss.
- 3. Make sure to use electric heat trace around the any piping, check valve or shutoff valve <2.7 meter (9 foot) depth if your system is connected to a communal wastewater system. As these systems DO NOT have a drain hole to empty the pipe

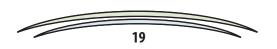
between pumping cycles like rural system have. Many are <1 meter (3+ feet) from the top of the holding tank lid which is in the frost zone.

WINTERIZING FOR EXTENDED HOLIDAYS OR WINTER MONTH ABSENCES

- Clean your holding tank with a garden hose and spray nozzle. Pump down your tank by holding the float in the upright position with a long hook on pole. When you see the bottom of the pump, lay the float back down. This process can be done by a professional when they're performing your annual inspection of the pump, valve and check valve.
- Add clean water back into holding tank and ensure pump is submerged in water.
- Add potable RV antifreeze only to the water in the tank, follow manufacturers recommendations for volume and strength.
- 4. Manually run the pump by holding the float in the upright position for a few seconds to circulate RV antifreeze into discharge piping, check valve and service line.

- 5. Leave your holding tank pump active when your away DO NOT unplug! High efficiency furnaces, dehumidifiers, RO/water softener backwashes, tap/toilet leaks, or even a family member visiting forgetting to let you know can quickly fill or overflow a holding tank with an unplugged pump when you're not there.
- 6. Always leave your alarm system active 24/7 to notify if there's a problem! Some alarm systems have a call out and text feature so you can be immediately notified if there's a problem! Contact your local installer or phone provider to take advantage of this timely benefit.
- 7. Have your daily residence monitor always check for system alarms and water movement in systems not blown out for the winter.
- If you've closed <u>any</u> valves in or after the holding tank, <u>never</u> run a pump with valves closed on the intake or discharge side of your system, <u>this may damage the</u> <u>pump and piping!</u>





AROUND THE COUNTY









WHAT WE DO

Alix and Area Community Resource Centre

Highlights

Have you heard of the Post Retirement Benefit (PRB)?

If you work while receiving your Canada Pension Plan (CPP) you may increase your retirement income with a lifetime benefit. To find out more on how this works and if you are eligible, visit Service Canada online or meet with our Resource Navigator for assistance.

https://www.canada.ca/en/services/benefits/publicpensions/cpp/cpp-post-retirement/eligibility.html

Wellness Services Additions...

In recent months the service offerings at our facility have expanded! We are excited to announce: Moon Child Wellness & Energy Healing and Stettler Medi-Aesthetics. Visit their websites directly to learn more & book in Alix!

SERVICES FOR OLDER ADULTS

If you are needing extra support at home or with your daily routines, we may be able to help. Programming for older adults now includes Meals on Wheels, transportation to medical appointments and Wise Owls- basic home support and extended outreach services. Please contact us to learn more about fees, eliaibility, how we can assist you and to arrange services.

Next Connecting Clans

<u>Community Block Party + Registration Night</u> Monday, Sept 9, 6:30PM-8PM at the Centre.

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 @AlixandAreaCommunity

www.alixcrc.com



Monday to Thursday OPEN



10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

*Closed all statutory holidays Bay 1, 5008 50 Ave. Alix. AR



FREE ELECT GOOD NEIGHBOR DAY THE FREE ELECT

SEPTEMBER 25 FROM 3:30 TO 7:30 PM

COME & GO AT THE BENTLEY AG CENTRE LAST YEARS' EVENT HAD OVER 400 PEOPLE! CAN WE BEAT THAT THIS YEAR?

HAMBURGERS/HOT DOGS & MORE MUSIC KIDZ ZONE TOUCH A TRUCK COMMUNITY GROUPS INFORMATION **VISIT WITH NEIGHBORS - MEET NEW ONES** LEARN ABOUT THE COMMUNITY

If you are non-profit and would like to have an information table and/or contribute in any way to this annual event, contact 403-748-2160 or community@townofbentley.ca

Businesses are welcome to contribute as well, LET'S CHAT!

The School will also be holding their open house, so families can pop by both opportunities!



ALECIA AICHELLE

Performing 2 sets - starting at 5:30 www.facebook.com/AleciaAichelleMusic

TOGETHER WE ARE BETTER!











Berilley fcss



2024 SENIORS



Seniors Expo! Guest speakers, breakout sessions, and more!

Tuesday, October 8 8:30 am - 2:15 pm \$25.00/Person

Breakfast & Lunch included Lacombe Memorial Centre, Lacombe AB





www.lacombefcss.net 403-782-6637

OR come into the office! #201 5214-50th Ave

QR Code Registration:

 On your phone, open your camera. Point camera at QR square, click the link that appears!







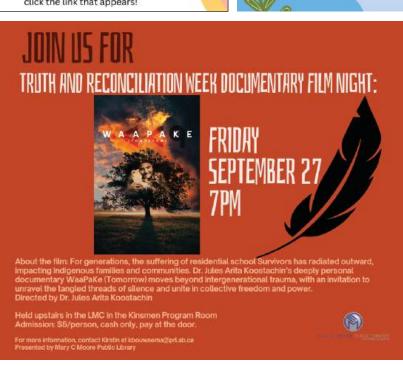


Investigative reporter turned peace officer and consumer protection expert. She was a senior investigator and peace officer with Service Alberta for ten years conducting regulatory and criminal code investigations related to consumer protection. She spent 20 years as a TV news reporter, including 10 years as Global Edmonton's Trouble Shooter where she specialized in investigative journalism and educating the public on fraud-related to unscrupulous businesses. Come and listen to her share her expertise.

When: October 8, 2024 Where: Lacombe LMC Time: 6:30-8:00 pm



FREE





CONNECT

TUESDAYS 6:30-8 BLACKFALDS COMMUNITY CENTRE



Connect

. A 9-WEEK PROGRAM TO HELP PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS OF PRE-TEENS AND TEENS WHO STRUGGLE WITH ISSUES THAT MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR THEM TO DO WELL AT HOME, AT SCHOOL AND IN THEIR COMMUNITY, EACH SESSION PROVIDES PARENTS WITH A NEW PERSPECTIVE ON PARENT-TEEN RELATIONSHIPS AND ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT.

CONTACT: **CAROLYN 403.896.8915**

frnlacombe@mcmancentral.ca



McMan

Obertan

Provincial Famil

Resource Networks

E-CONNECT

SEPT 26 - NOV 21 THURSDAYS 6-8 PM ON ZOOM



. A 9-WEEK PROGRAM TO HELP PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS OF PRE-TEENS AND TEENS WHO STRUGGLE WITH ISSUES THAT MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR THEM TO DO WELL AT HOME, AT SCHOOL AND IN THEIR COMMUNITY, EACH SESSION PROVIDES PARENTS WITH A NEW PERSPECTIVE ON PARENT-TEEN RELATIONSHIPS AND ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT.

CONTACT: CAROLYN

403-896-3915



frnlacombe@mcmancentral.ca



LIFELONG LEARNING ASSOCIATION

On going programs starting at the County of Lacombe Lifelong Learning Association this fall:

Chair Yoga SPANISH CLASSES COFFEE & COMPUTERS

SIGN LANGUAGE WORD OR EXCEL

SAGE ACCOUNTING

BASIC BOOKKEEPING LEARN ENGLISH

EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOPS

AND SO MUCH MORE CHECK-OUT OUR WEBSITE

Most class start dates are ongoing and flexible. Contact us for more info: (403) 782-7955 office@cllla.com or use the QR code to check out our website.





DONATIONS & APPLICATIONS 403-784-2020

YOU CAN FIND US AT: 5107 50TH STREET, CLIVE AB MONDAYS & THURSDAYS: 8:30-4:00
EMAIL: CLIVEFCSS@LACOMBEFCSS.NET WWW.LACOMBEFCSS.NET

Stronger Together



HOME SUPPORT SERVICES FOR SENIORS

Home Support is available to eligible seniors needing assistance with light housekeeping in Lacombe, Clive and Lacombe County

- Trained & screened Home Support Providers
- Weekly
- Monthly

Did you know you may qualify for reimbursement up to \$1300 a year for housekeeping. Ask

Contact Lacombe & District FCSS: (403) 782-6537

Or Clive FCSS (Tuesdays, Thursdays) (403) 784-2020

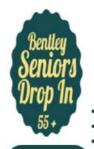
Services Offered

- Kitchen Bathrooms
- Living Rooms
- Dusting
- Mopping
- Vacuuming
- Meal prep assistance









Over The Hill & Loving The View

located in the Town Office 4918-50 Avenue

The Seniors Drop In welcomes everyone 55+ to join us for our regular Tuesday/Thursday afternoons.

Tuesdays 1 pm Thursdays

Socialize/cards/games Socialize/cards/games

Potluck

Last Tuesday each month

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

Special programming (no charge) on Mondays/Wednesdays

- Mondays Wednesdays 10:30 to 11:45
- 9:45 to 11 am
- Seated Movers & Groovers Chair Yoga - light movements

Registration required for these programs

Move your body, make connections & socialize! Call 403,748,2160



These programs are open to 55+ You do not need to be a member of the Drop In to attend thanks to ...

BENTLEY SENIORS DROP IN, FCSS/TOWN OF BENTLEY, EDMONTON SENIORS CENTRE



Apply Today!

Are you interested in making fair decisions on property assessments?

The Central Alberta Regional Assessment Review Board is an impartial, independent board responsible for issuing evidence based decisions on complaints relative to property assessments

APPLY IF YOU HAVE

- experience serving on administrative boards or quasi-judicial boards
- → professional or legal writing abilities and computer skills
- → a flexible schedule, with availability during the day to attend training and hearings (about three days a month)
- the ability to organize and absorb large amounts of information then analyze and weigh evidence

Apply before September 25, 2024

Apply online at www.reddeer.ca/RARB

QUESTIONS? 403-356-8907 reddeer.ca/RARB

MORNINGSIDE THANKSGIVING DINNER

Morningside Hall is having a Thanksgiving dinner on October 5th doors open at 5PM, meal at 5:30PM.

- Turkey, Ham, Mashed potatoes and gravy will be provided.
- Please bring your favorite side dish to compliment the feast.
- Coffee, Tea, water and soft drinks will be available.

Estate of Elizabeth Cheryl Dunn, who died June 24, 2024

If you have a claim against this estate, you must file your claim by the 20th day of October 2024, with Rouillard Law Office at 101, 37 Beju Industrial Drive, Sylvan Lake, Alberta T4S 0K9, and provide the details of your claim. If you do not file by the date above, the estate property can lawfully be distributed without regard to any claim your may have."

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Thank you and regards, Kelly Fiedler, Paralegal to Lani L. Rouillard

File Number: 2024-E101 ROUILLARD LAW OFFICE #101, 37 Beju Industrial Drive Sylvan Lake, AB T4S 0K9 Phone: 403.887.0656 Fax: 403.887.0981



SILENT AUCTION - WINE & BEER AVAILABLE

1* Annual Haynes Chrístmas Market

Saturday November 16, 2024

Haynes Hall 10am - 4 pm

Local vendors, Concession courtesy of the

Haynes Hall Board



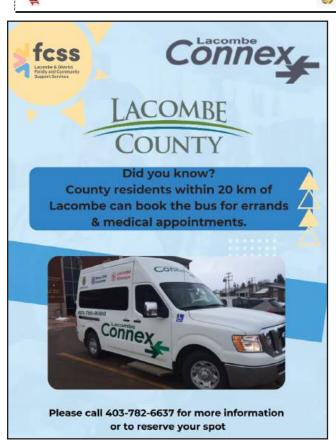
Come out for a fun Saturday of shopping, refreshments and reconnecting with your neighbors and friends!!

Contact Debbie: 403-598-0180 or 403-784-3834

We would love to see you!













	OCTOBER 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
29	30	OCT. 1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	Council Meeting 9AM	County News Submissions Due	12	
13	THANKSGIVING (Office Closed)	15	16	17	County News Published	19	
20	21	22	23	24 Council Meeting 9AM	25	26	
27	28	29	30	HALLOWEEN	NOV 1	2	

Upcoming Events: October 1 (Committee of the Whole meeting), October 12 (County Council & MPC meeting), October 14 (Thanksgiving - Office Closed), October 26 (County Council & MPC meeting)

Help us promote YOU!



Do you know a business, person, place or volunteer you want to see profiled in County News?

Do you have a photograph you want to share?

If so, email communications@ lacombecounty.com with your ideas, photographs or stories.

We'd love to hear from you!



Follow us online, and stay up-to-date on Lacombe County news, events and other information!











LacombeCounty



LacombeCounty



LacombeCounty lacombecounty

Fax | 403.782.3820

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

> Nicole Plewis, Communications Coordinator communications@lacombecounty.com 403.782.6601

Lacolline Coulity Directory					
RR3, Lacombe Alberta T4L 2N3 www.lacombecounty.com					
Department Numbe	Main C	Office - 403-782-6601			
		Planning Ser	vices - 403-782-8389		
		Community Ser	Community Services - 403-782-8959		
		Opera	tions - 403-782-8379		
		Public Works	Shop - 403-782-3567		
General					
After Hours Emergency Answerin	ng Service		403.357.1210		
Administration Fax		403.782.3820			
Public Works Fax			403.782.5356		
For Service Requests, s	ee our website - or ph	one the switchboard at	403-782-6601		
Council		Home	Cell		
John Ireland, Div. 1 (jirelan	d@lacombecounty.com)	403.392.3981		
Brenda Knight, Div. 2 (bknigh	nt@lacombecounty.com	403.788.2168	403.550.2168		
Barb Shepherd, Div. 3 (bshepher	d@lacombecounty.com))	403.340.9724		
Dwayne West, Div. 4 (dwe	st@lacombecounty.com)	403.660.2328		
Ken Weenink, Div. 5 (kweenin	k@lacombecounty.com		403.350.8014		
Allan Wilson, Div. 6 (awilso	n@lacombecounty.com		403.506.3735		
Dana Kreil, Div. 7 (dkre	eil@lacombecounty.com	403.746.3607	403.358.9400		

acombe County Directory

Baria Mcii, Biv. 1	(diviendiadornisedodinty.com)	400.740.0007	400.000.0400
Senior Administration			
Tim Timmons, County Mattimmons@lacombecount	· ·		
Michael Minchin, Director mminchin@lacombecoun	•		Call 403-782-6601
Bill Cade, Director of Ope bcade@lacombecounty.c	to speak with the County Manager or with a Lacombe		
Dale Freitag, Director of Fdfreitag@lacombecounty.	O .		County Director
Dion Burlock, Director of dburlock@lacombecounty			