

Lacombe County Council re-elects Reeve Shepherd, Deputy Reeve Ireland

During the Lacombe County Organizational Meeting on October 24, 2023, Councillors unanimously reappointed Division 3 Councillor Barb Shepherd as Lacombe County Reeve for a third one-year term. In a demonstration of confidence and unity, Councillor Shepherd assumed the Reeve's role, affirming her dedication to the County. The Oath of Office was administered by County Manager Tim Timmons, underscoring the solemnity of the occasion.

"Reeve Shepherd has demonstrated unwavering dedication to her role as Reeve of Lacombe County," said County Manager Tim Timmons. "We look forward to her continued, steadfast leadership during the upcoming year."

Reeve Shepherd, who has previously served as Reeve since 2021, spoke of the honour of this position.

"I always heard former Reeve Paula Law speak about the privilege of being elected as Reeve, and I understand now what she meant," shared Reeve Shepherd. "I thank my fellow councillors for their support, trust, and confidence in me and appreciate the opportunity to serve Lacombe County in this capacity once again."

Division 1 Councillor John Ireland was also re-elected as Deputy Reeve, securing a second two-year term in that role, a testament to his exceptional service to the community.

"Reeve Shepherd's leadership has been truly inspiring, and I am honoured to continue serving as Deputy Reeve," stated Deputy Reeve John Ireland. "Together with our fellow Councillors, we remain committed to advancing the well-being of Lacombe County and its residents."

ABOUT REEVE BARB SHEPHERD

Barb Shepherd's journey in Lacombe County is characterized by a commitment to public service. Raised on a ranch in southwestern Saskatchewan, she moved to Central

Alberta in 1984 to pursue a banking career. In 2013, she was first elected to Council after a nearly 40-year tenure in banking. Reeve Shepherd's extensive involvement includes support for various organizations such as Ellis Bird Farm, the United Way of Central Alberta Board of Directors, and the Burman University School of Business Advisory Board.

Over the years, while representing Lacombe County, Barb has played an active role on various boards, including Lacombe Regional Waste Services Commission; Blackfalds and District Recreation, Parks and Culture Board; Lacombe Foundation; Red Deer/Lacombe Rural Crime Watch; and the Ellis Bird Farm. Her passion extends to addressing rural Alberta's challenges, advocating for environmental issues, combating rural crime, and ensuring responsible spending of tax dollars.

ABOUT DEPUTY REEVE JOHN IRELAND

John Ireland's deep-seated connection to Central Alberta began as he grew up on a mixed farm east of Red Deer. In 1986, he relocated to the Joffre area, where he continues to farm alongside his wife, Allison. Community involvement has always been a hallmark of John's life, enabling him to connect with new residents of Lacombe County. He was first elected to Lacombe County Council in 2017 and has held the position of Deputy Reeve since 2021.

Throughout the past six years, John has actively represented the County on various boards, including: Highway 12/21 Water Services Commission; Red Deer River Municipal Users Group; Lacombe Regional Waste Services Commission; North Red Deer River Water Services Commission; North Red Deer Wastewater Services Commission; and the Lacombe County Agricultural Service Board. His commitment to the region as a sustainable community is a testament to his dedication to Lacombe County's future.



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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, 2024; applicants will be advised by March 31st 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 2024.

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/en/our-government/grants-and-funding.aspx).

What you need to know: Dwellings in the Agricultural Area

If you are a regular County News reader, you may have noticed that the County is conducting community engagement on dwellings in the agricultural area. On November 29, 2023 at 7:00 PM you can attend a **PUBLIC MEETING** at the Lacombe County Office to learn more, and afterwards share your thoughts in our **SURVEY!**

This article will provide you with information on the topic.

WHAT IS A DWELLING?

Home! In the simplest terms, a dwelling is where people live. It is defined as a building that contains sleeping, cooking, and washroom facilities.

WHERE DOES THIS ENGAGEMENT TOPIC APPLY?

This engagement is addressing the County's housing policies in the Agricultural 'A' District (representing 98.6% of land in the County).

The County is not considering policy changes in other districts (hamlet/residential). The County is also not considering subdivision policy changes in the Agricultural 'A' District.

WHAT ARE THE COUNTY'S EXISTING RULES ABOUT DWELLINGS ON A PARCEL OF LAND IN THE AGRICULTURAL 'A' DISTRICT?

In the Agricultural 'A' District:

- Parcels 40 acres or larger can have a maximum of two dwellings
- Parcels smaller than 40 acres can have a maximum of one dwelling

In other words, 40 acres is the "minimum parcel size" to be able to have a second dwelling.

Please note this policy addresses permanent dwellings only. The County has separate policies that allow extra temporary dwellings for agricultural employees or family care.

WHY IS THE COUNTY DOING THIS PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT?

The County wants to hear thoughts and perspectives from the community on ways our housing policies can better support our rural community. The County needs your survey feedback to ensure our policies strike a balance between meeting the needs of our rural residents while protecting agricultural lands for future generations.

WHAT WILL MY FEEDBACK BE USED FOR?

Your survey feedback will help County Council decide whether the County's existing housing policy in the Agricultural 'A' District is adequate, or whether changes are required to better support our rural community.

How has the County's policies for dwellings in the Agricultural 'A' District changed over the past few years?

Prior to 2017, the minimum parcel size to have a second dwelling in the Agricultural 'A' District was 80 acres

In 2016-2017, the County conducted several rounds of community engagement to update the *Municipal Development Plan* and *Land Use Bylaw*. In these engagements, the County heard concerns from rural residents about the declining rural population, and wanted the County to consider ways it can help retain more rural residents in the County. A major concern emerged that the minimum parcel size for two dwellings was too large at 80 acres.

In 2017, County Council considered the feedback and took a gradual approach, deciding to reduce the minimum parcel size for a second dwelling from 80 acres to 40 acres. Council chose this approach to gradually increase the number of dwellings allowed in the agricultural area and monitor results.

This year, the County is revisiting its housing policies and is coming back to the public to capture community insights into the housing needs of the County's rural areas.

WHO IS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT?

All County residents and landowners are encouraged to participate! While this engagement is specific to the County's agricultural areas, the survey has been designed to get useful feedback from all participants.

HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

You can participate by attending the Public Meeting on November 29 to learn more, and complete the survey afterwards to provide us with your feedback. The survey will be available following the public meeting, and will be open for responses until December 13 at midnight.

For more information, please refer to the ad on Page 10 or visit <u>www.lacombecounty.com/dwellings.</u>





Outstanding 2023 taxes?

November 30 deadline fast approaching; 10% penalty will be applied to all unpaid taxes

An additional 10% penalty will be added on December 1 for all taxes unpaid after November 30, 2023.

The November 30 deadline and penalty are not applicable to property owners currently enrolled in the Tax Installment Payment Plan (TIPP).

How can I pay my taxes?

Tax payments are payable to Lacombe County and can be made using one of the following options:

- In person at the County Office during regular office hours (8:30am to 4:30pm). At the County Office, payments are accepted via cash, cheque or Interac debit card.
- Deposited in the envelope mail box located at the road entrance to the County Office.
- By bill payment through internet banking (available through most financial institutions. Contact our office at 403-782-6601 if yours is not currently available).
 - · When choosing this option,

each property you are paying taxes for must be paid separately and you must use the 10 Digit Tax Roll Number as the Account Number.

- Electronically: Through electronic payment methods, including internet banking and for businesses, electronic funds transfer (EFT).
- By Credit Card: visit www. lacombecounty.com and pay through OptionPay, a secure thirdparty site, to make payment by credit card. Please note that there is a fee for this service. Lacombe County does not receive any of the credit card fees.

You can pay your bills through the teller service, bank machine, internet or telephone.

Please Note:

To ensure your payments are credited to your account, please remember to include the top "tear-away" portion of your assessment and tax notice, or provide your 10 Digit Tax Roll Number with your payment.

If you are paying by cheque, please make it payable to Lacombe County.

COUNTY

WONDERFUL WORLD OF WETLANDS

DECEMBER 8, 2023 | 11AM - 3PM LACOMBE MEMORIAL CENTRE

Children of ALL ages are invited to a drop-in event all about WETLANDS! Education stations set up with science experiments, crafts, and hands-on-learning



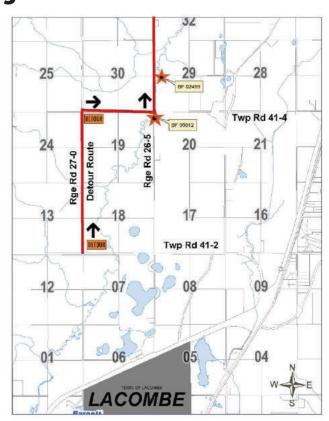
PD DAY EVENT | Join us for the "Wonderful World of Wetlands" event. This is a drop-in event for children of all ages on Friday, December 8th from 11-3 in the County Room at the LMC. It's a PD day, so it's a great activity for kids on their day off. The event features science experiments, crafts, and handson learning, with refreshments and snacks provided. There will be three wetland discovery field packs up for grabs through a drawing.

Notice of Bridge Closure, Weight Restriction and Detour on BF06612 and BF02499

Lacombe County advises drivers of the following changes in traffic patterns due to safety concerns on two County bridges.

- Bridge 06612 (NW 20-41-26 W4) located 2 miles north of Milton West Branch Road, will be closed to vehicular traffic starting on Tuesday, November 7, 2023. The bridge closure is required for safety reasons due to the degradation of the bridge structure. The bridge will be closed until further notice.
- Bridge 02499 (NW 29-41-26 W4) located east of Rge Rd 26-5 on Twp Rd 41-4A, will be restricted to 5-tonne weight loads starting on Tuesday, November 7, 2023. Road users must meet restrictions or use an alternate route. The restriction will remain in place until appropriate improvements or remedial work can be completed.

Please refer to the diagram for the detour route. Motorists can take Range Road 27-0 north to Township Road 41-4. Directional signage will be in place. Please watch for and obey the posted signage.







SAFETY FIRST

Lacombe County receives 95% on 2023 Certificate of Recognition audit for safety program

Lacombe County is a proud participant in the voluntary Partnerships in Injury Reduction (PIR) program that awards a Certification of Recognition (COR) for the health and safety management system. The PIR program is a collaborative effort between the Alberta Ministry of Jobs, Economy, and Trade, the Workers' Compensation Board (WCB), and employers through certifying partners such as the Alberta Municipal Health and Safety Association (AMHSA).

The 2023 recertification audit resulted in a commendable overall score of 95% for Lacombe County. This score represented a 2% increase from the County's previous 2020 recertification audit. The improvement in the overall score is a clear indicator of Lacombe County's commitment to enhancing its health and safety management system continu-

To participate in the program, Lacombe County is expected to evaluate its health and safety program annually and complete a recertifying audit from an approved outside party every third year. In 2023, Lacombe County underwent a recertification audit conducted by a contracted auditor.

The 2023 COR audit assessed the 10 elements of the County's health and safety management system to an approved government standard used by all industry sectors. The data was collected through documentation review, onsite observations, and employee interviews.

The audit is a snapshot from the last 12 months and provides Lacombe County with acknowledgments of strengths and suggestions for improvements. The recommendations for improvement are used to develop an action plan for the coming year. The 2023 health and safety management system audit identified high strengths in nine of the ten system elements, with more opportunity for improvement identified in one of the elements. The 2023 overall score was 95%, which was a 2% increase from the previous 2020 recertification audit.

The Benefits of COR Certification

Maintaining the COR certification holds several advantages for Lacombe County. Beyond the financial benefits, it also carries significant ethical implications. By being COR-certified, the County is recognized as a leader in exceeding regulatory requirements. This recognition extends not only to its employees but also to peers, the public, and other employers.

Notably, the COR certification serves as a visible demonstration of Lacombe County's unwavering commitment to the health, safety, and welfare of everyone within the workplace. It signifies that the County places the highest value on the well-being of its employees and is dedicated to creating a safe and secure work environment for all.

Lacombe County's 2023 Certificate of Recognition Recertification Audit underscores the County's dedication to the health and safety of its workforce. The high overall score and the identified strengths showcase the effectiveness of its health and safety management system, highlighting our continued prioritization for the health and safety of its employees and stakeholders.

Fire Permits not required in **Lacombe County: November 1** - February 28

Under Lacombe County's Fire Protection bylaw, fire permits are reguired between March 1 and October 31.

However, even when permits aren't mandatory (November 1 - February 28), it's crucial to prioritize safety for your sake and the environment.

Here's how to ensure a safe burn:

- 1. Check the Weather: Always keep an eye on the weather forecast. Windy conditions can quickly escalate a small fire into a
- Clear a Safe Zone: Create a safe area around your burn site, free from flammable materials like dry grass or leaves. Maintain a 10-foot clearance.
- Equipment Ready: Have a hose, water source, and tools on hand to control the fire. Never leave the fire unattended.
- NO Household Garbage: Only burn clean, dry wood or vegetation. NEVER burn household garbage, plastics, or chemicals. See our Fire Permits Section of the website for more information.
- Keep it Small: Stick to a manageable fire size. Large, uncontrolled fires are dangerous.
- Responsible Supervision: An adult should supervise the fire at all times, and everyone involved should know how to dial 911 in case of an emergency.
- Respect Neighbours: Be mindful of your neighbours. Smoke and embers can disrupt their peace.

Although Fire Permits are not required between November 1 and February 28 (or February 29, if it's a leap year), the public is reminded that:

- Smoke cannot cross any major roadways or disturb any neighbouring properties
- Wind speeds must be less than 15 kms/hour
- If a passerby calls 911, Fire Services are required to attend the scene to ensure a non-emergency.

Let's show our commitment to a safe and responsible community. Remember, even when permits aren't required, safety should always be a top priority. Spread the word and share the knowledge!



2023 Mirror Dog Tags

A license is required for all dogs in Mirror. After February 28, 2023, 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 issue please contact the Alberta SPCA at http://www.albertaspca.org/***

Jolly Seniors

Pancake breakfast every second Sunday from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Booking Mirror Community Hall

Call Lisa 403-788-3890 or cell 403-505-

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, audiobooks, DVDs, games, and puzzles.

Hours: Wednesdays 2-5 p.m. Thursdays 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. 2nd & 4th Saturdays 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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.

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-



MIRROR CORNER

MIRROR & DISTRICT MUSEUM presents the Festival of Trees **Bringing Our Communities Together**

In the past three years the Mirror and District Museum Association has encouraged the businesses and families local to Mirror to support the Mirror Food Bank with donations and food hampers to give to needy families at

This year the Mirror Food Bank is no longer in service. However, we would like to continue with the Festival of Trees and use the proceeds to donate to the Alix and Bashaw Food Banks.

2020 and 2021 we were able to light up many Christmas trees, with signs set amongst them to recognize our many supporters and their generous donations. Unfortunately, in 2022 due to illness and electing new board members for the museum we were only able to have a fun day for the community. This year we are once again able to offer this exciting event!

A \$50.00 donation will enable us to put a sign at your tree showing your support!

For more information, please contact the Mirror and

District Museum page on Facebook, or email us at mmuseum@cciwireless.ca.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR PAST SPONSORS:

Rvan and Nadine Lamb of Hooker Mechanical Messinger Meats | Mirror Christian School Mae's Kitchen | Mirror General Store Community Futures | Fieber/Hepburn Family Kerry's Mechanical | Mirror Legion Whistle Stop Cafe | IDA Pharmacy Gracie D's Antiques | The Chautauqua

Railway Liquor Store | The Village Shop Mercede's Mutts | Mirror Market Rick & Heather Pigeon | Alix Home Hardware Wylie Family | Knight Family | Decaire Family Ye Olde Nook

A huge THANK YOU to all the volunteers involved over the past three years. The lights will be turned on December 1st, make sure to drive by and see the trees lit up, all supported by our wonderful community members!



Dec. 17th

Partner with the Mirror Community Christmas Hamper campaign to see that all families are able to celebrate abundant peace, joy & good will at Christmas. Through the generous cooperation of individuals, families & businesses, hampers will be filled & distributed to families in need Dec. 22-23.



For more information or questions: Text / call 403-505-3763 Email: mirror.christmas.hampers@gmail.com

DONATE money

- Cash give to Dan or Anne Geddert in a sealed envelope
- Cheque to "Mirror Alliance Church" with "2023 Hampers" in the note and mail to Box 131 Mirror, AB or give to Dan or Anne
- eTransfer Log into your online banking account and go to the Interac eTransfer section. Use the email: give2mac@gmail.com to send the amount you would like to give with a note: "2023 Hampers"

For a receipt for tax purposes for your monetary donation, provide your full name and mailing address.

DONATE Food Items like...

- Canned fruit or veggiesCanned soup or stew
- Canned tuna/meat
- Box of Cereal or oatmealJar of peanut butter or jam
- Bag of potatoes
- Oranges
- Pancake Mix, Syrup
- Crackers, Cheese SpreadBox of granola bars

Food Drop-Off Locations

- Mae's Cafe (daily 7am-7pm)
- Mirror Library (Wed 2-5pm; Thurs 10am-1pm)
- Mirror Alliance Church (Sun. 9:30-noon or call 403-505-3763)



Introducing the 2023 – 2024 Mirror Association for Ball Diamonds, Campground and Skating Society Board members and Directors. Left to right: Ryan Walgenbach, Barry Walgenbach, MJ Walgenbach, Tara Maser, Dianne Fankhanel, Joe Bratton, Tom Chapin, and Ron Smithman. Missing are Dan Geddert and Aidan Cameron. Check us out on Facebook (Mirror Association for Ball

Diamonds, Campground and Skating Society) for upcoming events at any of our facilities. Please reach out via messenger or email (mabccss2023@gmail.com) with questions or ideas. We look forward to a fantastic future by providing facilities to host events for our community and surrounding areas.

MIRROR REC SOCIETY

Upcoming Events & Thank You!

CHRISTMAS PARTY | The Mirror Hall and volunteers would like to remind the parents and children we will be holding a Christmas Party for the kids this Dec, 16. There will be food and treats, a visit from Santa Claus, and draws for gift cards. This all is possible with the help of Lacombe County and their grant program. See you

FALL DINNER THANK YOU | The volunteers would like to say a big "Thankyou" to all that came out to the halls Fall Dinner. There were folks from both within the community and from all around the surrounding area. Hopefully everyone got enough to eat and was able to enjoy the pumpkin pie or homemade apple pie. Thank you to the volunteers and few folks that chipped in to cook and help clean up by the end of the evening.

HALLOWEEN PARTY THANK YOU | We would like to acknowledge the parents and children that made it out to the halls annual Halloween Kids Party. It was a nice turn out with kids and their costume ideas. Heart of A Child did a beautiful job and the kids really enjoyed having their faces painted. Again we would like to thank the Lacombe county for their help financially through their grants program. See you all again next year.





Mirror May Day Planning Meeting (Rescheduled due to inclement weather)

> Tuesday, November 28, 2023 7:00 pm

> > At the Mirror Library

A committee will be formed to plan another great Mirror May Day event All are welcome!



ENVIRONMENT

Enhancing Lacombe County's Parks and Reserves Management: What You Need to Know

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

The Parks and Reserves Management Bylaw will receive third reading during the December 14, 2023 Lacombe County Council meeting.

Provide comments on the Parks and Reserves Management Bylaw by December 6 by emailing jberry@lacombecounty.com, or calling 403-782-8959

We highly encourage you to share your input, as it is valuable in shaping the future of our County reserve lands.

Attention Lacombe County residents! We have some news to share about our County Reserve Lands. The Policy RC(8): Use and Management of County Reserve Land has been updated to improve the management and use of our County reserve lands. These changes will ensure that our reserve lands remain a valuable resource for the public.

What types of County Reserve Lands are there?

Lacombe County currently has land designated as:

- Environmental Reserves (ER): intended to protect significant natural assets, prevent development in hazard-prone locations, and provide public access in and around lakes and rivers..
- Municipal Reserves (MR)): intended to provide a suitable land base for publicly accessible recreation facilities for the use and enjoyment of the general public. Municipal Reserve Lands can also provide undeveloped green space, access to lakes and rivers, and buffers between different land uses.
- Reserves (R): Reserve lands in older subdivisions may be known as community reserve, park or simply reserve. These designations refer to



language that was used in previous legislation, prior to 1980.

Environmental Reserves Easements (ERE): are a tool that the County can use for the protection of the environment in new subdivisions. These reserves do not have public access and remain under private ownership.

What changes to *Policy RC(8):* Use and Management of County Reserve Land should residents be aware of?

There are five key changes to Policy RC(8) that you need to know about:

1. Special Use of Reserve Permitting:

To ensure that our reserve lands are preserved while still accommodating various community needs, Lacombe County will now require special use of reserve land permits to authorize activities in these areas. These activities include beach clean-ups, winter storage of docks and boat lifts, and maintenance of licensed encroachments. This addition allows better monitoring of activities on County lands and provides clear guidance to users regarding permissible activities on reserve lands.

2. Encroachments and Unauthorized Structures on Reserve Lands:

To ensure responsible land use, a provision for the construction of new encroachments and the licensing of existing encroachments on County reserve lands in areas without public access facilities has been included. Encroachment agreement requests will be reviewed by the County Manager, considering environmental impact, existing public access facilities, access constraints, and the design of the encroachment. This addition helps maintain the integrity of reserve lands while allowing for responsible development.

3. Use of Encroachment Agreement Fees:

Encroachment Agreement Fees will now be collected and placed in a reserve fund, earmarked for the future



enhancement of County reserve lands or the development of public access facilities on lands without such facilities. Previously, these funds were collected as general revenue. This new approach ensures that the money generated from encroachments directly benefits the preservation and enhancement of the County's natural areas.

4. Reclamation Requirements:

To address the need for accountability, reclamation requirements have been added to clarify the process when reserve lands are damaged. This change ensures that damaged areas are restored appropriately, safeguarding the beauty and ecological health of our reserve lands.

5. Removal of Unauthorized Items:

Unauthorized items on County reserve lands will now be managed with greater transparency. Items will have a notification physically posted, indicating the County's intent to remove them. This notice will include contact information and associated removal time lines. Items unclaimed will be removed by the County and disposed of at its discretion. This change helps maintain the cleanliness and safety of our reserve lands while allowing items to be retrieved.

Updates to the Parks and Reserves Management Bylaw

In addition to the changes made in the policy, the bylaw will receive third reading during the December 14 Council meeting. Once in place, it will provide clear guidelines on what is permitted and what is not permitted on reserve lands. This will enable Lacombe County to better support Policy RC(8) through enforcement measures, if needed, ensuring that our County lands are respected and protected.

If you have any comments regarding the updates to the Parks and Reserves Management Bylaw, send them to jberry@lacombecounty.com or call 403-782-8959 BY DECEMBER 6, 2023.





OPERATIONS

Lacombe County Winter Road Maintenance

Lacombe County has more than 2,000 km of paved and gravel roads to maintain through the winter. Time frames will vary depending on the severity and duration of a snowstorm.

PAVED ROADS - ORDER OF PRIORITY FOR **SNOW REMOVAL**

- County-designated Primary Main Roads
- County-designated Secondary Main Roads
- Hamlets and Subdivisions
- Main access roads to Subdivisions

The goal of winter maintenance for paved roads is to remove snow and ice from the road surface as quickly as possible. Lacombe County will undertake snow removal in a manner that minimizes backtracking or excessive travel. The basic service level that we strive for is to have all the paved roads maintained to reasonable winter conditions within 12 hours after a snowstorm; however, this will vary depending on the severity and the storm's dura-

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL NUMBERED HIGHWAYS IN THE COUNTY ARE MAINTAINED BY ALBERTA TRANSPORTATION - CONTRACTED BY MAIN-ROAD ALBERTA (1-877-875-3263)

GRAVEL ROADS - ORDER OF PRIORITY FOR SNOW REMOVAL

- Local Roads Snow removal will commence in alternating locations. Lacombe County will undertake snow removal in a manner that minimizes motor grader backtracking or excessive travel.
- Public access roads and machinery roads Snow removal will only be undertaken to an established residence or to transport agricultural products, provided the road may be opened with a motor grader. This service will be subject to the availability of the equipment.
- Winging snow from the shoulders and other maintenance will have second priority.

The goal for winter maintenance for gravel roads

is to remove snow from the road surface after accumulations reach approximately 5 cm or more. The basic service level that we strive for is to have the gravel road system maintained to reasonable winter conditions within four days after a snow storm; however, this will vary dependent on the severity and duration of the storm.

All gravel roads in Lacombe County are designated school bus routes; therefore, they are given equal priority.

Snow removal on private property will not be done. Please visit www.lacombecounty.com (or go to Pg. 21) and search area contractors to view the list of contractors that can be hired for private snow removal.

WHEN CLEARING SNOW FROM YOUR PROP-ERTY, DO NOT PUSH THE SNOW ACROSS THE ROAD. THIS PRACTICE RESULTS IN SERIOUS SAFETY CONCERNS FOR BOTH PASSENGER VE-HICLES AS WELL AS LACOMBE COUNTY EQUIP-MENT.







ONLINE AUCTION

Lacombe County has posted pickup trucks and other items for sale via online auction.

For more information and to view the postings, click the link below.

https://www.GovDeals.com/lacombecountyab

Everyone is invited to participate in this online auction, if not a registered bidder, go to GovDeals.ca and click on register and complete the required information.

Please note, when registering, you must enter a physical address, no post boxes.

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 is complete as of October 25, 2023:

Number Description Project

C0151 Rge Rd 1-5

> West 29 & 32-40-1 W5, West 5 & 8-41-1 W5 From Centreview Road south 2 miles to Hwy 12

C0122 Rge Rd 1-2

West 14 & 23-39-1 W5

From Aspelund Road south 2 miles to Twp Rd 39-2





AGRICULTURE

2023 Farm Family of the Year: The Grose family recognized for their legacy of innovation and community involvement

During the 2023 Lacombe and District Chamber of Commerce Awards, Lacombe County presented the Grose family with the 2023 Farm Family of the Year Award

"This was the first year that Lacombe County was involved in the nomination and selection process for the Farm Family of the Year," said Reeve Barb Shepherd. "It was not an easy decision, but we selected a family that embodies the many qualities we were looking for – innovation, involvement in the community and rural citizenship, and family farm business management."

A LEGACY OF INNOVATION

Their farm's land has been in their family since 1895, and the Grose family moved to the area in the mid-1980s when they decided to relocate from Southern Alberta. From the outset, they displayed an unwavering commitment to their agricultural pursuits and continue to farm 1,500 acres and manage a small cattle farm near Clive.

However, their most significant contribution to the region's economy and farming industry lies in establishing Rodono Industries, a progressive manufacturing business near Clive. The company is named after the Rodono Farm, registered in Alberta in 1921. The farm

received its name from the Rodono House which was built in 1866 on the shores of St. Mary's Loch in Scotland. Now, the Rodono Farm is owned by Darren Grose and his family.

The Grose family's dedication to enhancing farm safety and addressing the evolving needs of the industry is exemplified through their innovative products manufactured at Rodono Industries. Notable inventions include the Xtend Retracting Swing Auger, a straw chopper system developed in response to no-till farming, and the feeder house reverser.

These pioneering products have found widespread usage in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, parts of the United States, and even Australia, underscoring their global impact.

OVERCOMING ADVERSITY

In 2005, the Grose family faced a significant setback when a devastating fire consumed their shop, threatening their dreams and livelihood. However, their resilience, coupled with the unwavering support of their sons Darren and Cory, allowed them to rebuild and expand their services. Today, Rodono Industries is a testament to their dedication, remaining family-owned and operated, embodying the Grose family's indomitable spirit.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Jim Grose, the family patriarch, has a legacy that extends beyond the family business. He devoted an impressive 50 years of his life to volunteering with rural gas cooperatives in Southern and Central Alberta, and he also served on the Board of Gas Alberta for many years. The Grose family's commitment to improving their community does not stop here. With Darren and Cory actively involved in the family business, a new generation of ideas and innovations promises to build upon the legacy established by their parents. They have also continued the tradition of community involvement through their leadership in local 4-H clubs, Scouts, local sporting groups, and their active participation with the Clive Ag Society.

The Grose family's story is a testament to the values and qualities the Farm Family of the Year Award represents – innovation, community involvement, and strong family farm business management. The Grose family's incredible achievements and lasting legacy are a source of inspiration for their community and the agricultural industry as a whole. They embody the spirit that continues to thrive in Lacombe County, and we congratulate them for their well-deserved recognition as the 2023 Farm Family of the Year.



2023 Lacombe & District Chamber of Commerce Business Award Winners

Eckville Business of the Year: Bay 4 Promotional Printing & The Boxcar Grill

Clive Business of the Year: Pharmasave Clive

Bentley Business of the Year: The Wooden Shoe Gull Lake

Lifetime Business Achievement Award: Dawn Parent with City of Lacombe

Small Business of the Year: Wag's Holistic Pet Nutrition

Large Business of the Year: Blindman Brewing

Home-Based Business of the Year: SASART

New Business Award: Todd & Angie of Amazing Wonders Emporium

Young Entrepreneur Award: Jonathan Luscombe, The Lacombe Pride Society

Non Profit of the Year: The Broom Tree Foundation and Café

Customer Service Award: Tami Schneider of Nowco Home Hardware

ATTENTI

Grain Bag and Twine Recylers in Lacombe County

Are you recycling your agricultural plastics and twine to help the environment?

IT ONLY WORKS IF YOU RECYCLE RIGHT!!

We have found many recycling issues, which have led to twine bags thrown in the garbage (rather than appropriately recycled). Please ensure you are following the proper steps (below).









NO feed bags ~ NO grain totes

~ NO silage plastic ~

NO bale wrap

Grain Bag and Twine Recycling in Lacombe County

Grain Bag Recycling



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



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.



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



Rotation, Rotation, **Rotation**

Tips, trends & news from Central AB Co-op Agro Lacombe

You've heard it time and time again, rotations are an integral part of a successful farming operation and can help you to make the most of your farm's potential. While most people associate this with just rotating your crops, there are other areas on the farm where this approach can be applied as well.

Rotating your crops has long been an effective way to increase yields and aid in pest control. Growing the same crop year after year results in reduced yields, increases disease and insect levels, as well as the risk of resistant weeds developing or populations getting out of control. Each crop has unique nutrient requirements, which become depleted as the plant grows. By growing a differ-

ent type of crop, it is able to consume nutrients the previous one was not, resulting in better overall utilization of nutrients in the soil.

Crop rotations also play an important role in improving soil structure, water movement and reducing erosion. Different crops have symbiotic relationships with different strains of mycorrhizae, fungi that are fundamental to



plants being able to uptake enough nutrients and water. As you rotate crops around, it increases the diversity of the mycorrhizae available in the soil and provides better overall structure to the soil as well. Mycorrhizal hyphae create pathways through the soil as they grow and search for nutrients, that eventually let water move through the soil structure easier and allow for better water retention too. They also reduce the risk of erosion, as they create connections within the soil to stabilize it.

In addition to crop rotations, rotating your chemicals and crop varieties can also play a larger role than most realize. With the rise of resistant weeds and diseases, such as clubroot in canola, these problems seem to mainly become important only once they start to affect your

day-to-day operations. Rotations can not only help to remediate these issues but could also be used to prevent them from ever becoming such a big problem in the first place. By breaking these pest cycles with non-host crops, you are able to reduce the severity of these weed, insect, and disease populations for future crops. Even a change as simple as a different variety of the crop you've been growing can help to reduce the effects of certain diseases, as their genetics can play a significant role in their susceptibil-

Active ingredients in pesticides are broken down numerically into groups that distinguish their modes of action in the plant. Overuse of a certain active ingredient or mode of action can result in resistance over time. The best way to prevent this, and the issues that stem from it, is to make sure you are rotating





the chemicals you spray on a piece of land. As the crop rotates, the weed seed bank remains relatively the same for a field, so it is important to be aware of what chemicals you've already used to try and control them in the past. When a weed or disease is listed as

"controlled" by a chemical, this does not mean 100% control is guaranteed, usually it is only around 80-90%. This opening provides room for resistance to occur, but using different modes of action can close this gap significantly.

Winter can be a great time to plan your rotations a few years in advance or make adjustments to your existing rotation as your needs change. Keeping your rotation open to flexibility can be super important, especially for years where crop prices and inputs are volatile. Not only does your rotation need to make agronomic sense, but it needs to be feasible economically as well.



YEAR IN REVIEW | ALUS Lacombe 2023 Highlights

It has been a very good year for ALUS in Lacombe County in 2023. I'm excited to see where ALUS goes in this County in the future.

2023 saw a lot of interest in ALUS from Lacombe County producers. We ended up with 10 farmers and ranchers requesting ALUS funding this year, for a total of 14 projects. I've only been working on ALUS Lacombe for a year, but I think that's a record for this community.

These projects included Adaptive Multi-Paddock Grazing, Shelterbelts, Wetland Enhancements, Alternative Livestock Watering, and Forest or Riparian Management Fencing.

Unfortunately, with a big increase in demand this year, we didn't have enough funding for all the projects. It was a challenge for our ALUS Partnership Advisory Committee (or PAC for short) to determine how best to utilize the limited funding we had this year.

That said, other funders, such as the federal / provincial Resilient Agricultural Landscapes Program ("RALP") were there for some of the projects that ended up not getting ALUS funding. So, a lot of great work was done with ALUS support and other programs' support too.

The ALUS Lacombe PAC (made up of farmers from Lacombe County) held a tour of some established ALUS Projects in the west of Lacombe County, along the Medicine River. The PAC invited the board members from the Medicine River Watershed Society, so the two groups could meet and share their common goals. We had some great conversations on the banks of the Medicine, and an amazing lunch afterwards at the Gilby Hall.

The folks at Ellis Bird Farm (who have also done ALUS projects on the Farm), also hosted a special event this summer, for ALUS funders to see how their financial investments into ALUS is looking "on the ground". The funders also got to meet and hear the stories of several ALUS farmers from around Alberta at that event.

We have already met with some farmers and ranchers in Lacombe County who are thinking about ALUS projects for 2024. The winter is a great time for planning projects. If you are interested in doing projects like those listed above, please give me a call any time. We can talk about ALUS, RALP and other opportunities available to you.

AND: our ALUS Partnership Advisory Committee is looking for new members. Currently, we have 4

great members, it would be fantastic to have 2 or 3 more. So, if you are a farmer, rancher or landowner in Lacombe County that is interested in helping ALUS support farmers and ranchers to produce ecosystem services, please get in touch. The time commitment isn't huge, with 5 or 6 meetings a year (mainly outside of the growing season), and you are compensated for your time and mileage.

I can be reached by phone or text any time at 403-505-9038.



Lacombe County is holding a PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, November 22, 2023



7:00 PM



Lacombe County Office **Council Chambers**

Located 21/2 miles west of Highway 2 at the

tersection of Spruceville Road and Highway 12

CONTEXT MAP



For more information, please contact Planning Services

or visit the County's website

Cajun Paradis, Senior Planner Nicklas Baran, Planner / Development Officer Email: planning@lacombecounty.com Phone: 403-782-8389

QEII WEST AREA STRUCTURE PLAN

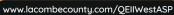
Lacombe County is updating the QEII West Area

This Plan covers the lands west of the QEII Highway, between Lacombe and Blackfalds, in Lacombe County. The Plan was initially adopted by County Council in 2012 to address growing demand for commercial and industrial development along the QEII Edmonton-Calgary Transportation Corridor. The Plan identifies certain strategic development nodes for potential commercial and industrial development opportunities, while preserving all other lands for agriculture. Further, it outlines standards and requirements that would apply to new development.

This Plan Area represents the most attractive and desired lands for commercial and industrial development in Lacombe County. As such, the County is updating the Plan to ensure it is up-to-date and consistent with the County's current planning policies and the community's vision for the future.

When adopting area structure plans, the County commits itself to open, transparent, and collaborative decision-making. As such, the community's feedback is critical to this Plan update. We encourage all residents, landowners, and businesses in and around the Plan Area to attend this public meeting for information on the Plan. An online and paper survey will be open for a two-week period following the public meeting.

learn more at









We want to hear from you!

Lacombe County is gathering the community's thoughts on dwellings in the agricultural area.

Your responses will help to describe the community's vision for housing in the agricultural area, the current housing supply, and begin to identify what future housing may be needed. The intent of this community consultation is to better understand the housing needs of agricultural residents and farm families. Your input is essential in ensuring we strike a balance between the community's housing needs and the sustainable use of our agricultural land.

There are two opportunities to learn more and share your

Public Meeting: Wednesday, November 29

Online Survey: the survey will open after the public meeting on November 29 and close on December 13 at midnight

For more information, please contact Planning Services or visit the County's website

Cajun Paradis, Senior Planner Email: planning@lacombecounty.com Phone: 403-782-8389

The Public Meeting is Wednesday, November 29, 2023





Located 21/2 miles west of Highway 2 at the intersection of Spruceville Road and Highway 12

earn more at

www.lacombecounty.com/dwellings





TAX SALE

November 24, 2023

Notice is hereby given that under the provisions of the Municipal Government Act. Lacombe County will offer for sale, by public auction, in the County Office at 40403 Range Road 274 Lacombe County, Alberta on Friday, November 24, 2023 at 1:00 p.m., the following lands:

Lot(s)	Block	Plan	Certificate of Title
14-17	4	7159AI	COT 862230771
16-20	13	7159AI	COT 992124509
35-38	26	7159AI	COT 062288787

Each parcel will be offered for sale subject to a reserve bid, and to the reservations and conditions contained in the existing certificate of

The lands being offered for sale are on an "as is, where is" basis and Lacombe County makes no representation and gives no warranty whatsoever as to the adequacy of services, soil conditions, land use districting, building and development conditions, absence or presence of environmental contaminations, or the developability of the subject land for any intended use by the purchaser. No bid will be accepted where the bidder attempts to attach conditions precedent to the sale of any parcel. No terms and conditions of sale will be considered other than those specified by Lacombe County.

The lands may be occupied and are offered for sale subject to the existing tenancy.

Goods and Services Tax (GST) will apply to all applicable parcels sold at the Public Auction. The purchaser will be responsible for the transfer registration fee.

TERMS: Cash, or bank draft. The Purchase price is payable by a non-refundable deposit equal to 10% of the purchase price due on the auction date with the balance of the purchase price due on closing. Closing date for all sales will be 60 days after the auction date unless otherwise agreed to by Lacombe County.

Redemption may be affected by payment of all arrears of taxes and costs at any time prior to

DATED at Lacombe, Alberta, September 29, 2023

TIM TIMMONS County Manager Lacombe County

DID YOU KNOW? Assessment

WHY PROPERTY INSPECTIONS ARE ESSENTIAL FOR ASSESSMENT?

The information we collect about a property must be current so that 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.

RECREATIONAL USE - DID YOU KNOW?

Some of our rural property owners use their land for more than agriculture, some also have private camping facilities they've added to their parcels. Some landowners enquire about the tax implications resulting from these uses. Assessors are required to update the records to reflect the "use as found", whether a development permit has been issued or not, when one of these sites is brought to our attention or we find it via our regular re inspection cycles. A regulated area of land at market value as well as any improvements will be added to the roll when these sites are identified. Many of these sites are gated with restricted access, where possible we will leave a call back card and/or update any changes found using any information available to us including an inspection, aerial photography, planning and development or safety codes information. Assessors appreciate the assistance of property owners to collect the necessary information to prepare the assessment. The assessment and tax notice will be mailed to the registered owner of the land the following year.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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.





Abby-Ann Redman, Ruminant Nutritionist at Blue Rock Animal Nutrition Ltd. will lead the presentation explaining the details of the Alberta Pasture Grass Sampling project and how it could impact your herd performance.

Register for the webinar to learn more about this unique project and what you should consider for your gazing nutritional and mineral program.





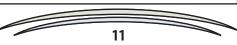
November 21 Webinar

7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

To register, visit www.greywoodedforageassociation.com or contact 403-844-2645







SUBDIVISION & DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY

October 1, 2023 to October 31, 2023

Development Applications Received

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

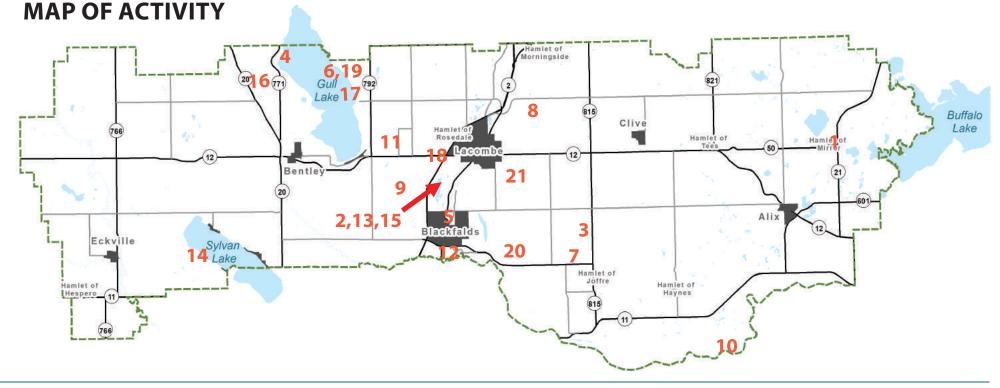
Natasha Wright
Planner / Development
Officer

Nicklas Baran
Planner / Development
Officer

Allison Noonan
Planning Services
Administrative Assistant

Daniella Gonzalez
Planning Services
Receptionist

No.	File No.	Applicant	Legal Description	Proposed Development	Decision (otherwise pending)
1	152/23	Christopher & Tanya Blades	Lot 16 Block 49 Plan 7159Al (Hamlet of Mirror)	Accessory Building Lofted 12' x 24' Shed	Approved
2	153/23	Jon & Kendra Cosman	Lot 4 Block 4 Plan 002 0581 (Lacombe Lake Estates)	Storage Shed Addition (existing structure)	Approved
3	154/23	Cameron Collins	NW 28-39-25-W4M	Dwelling w/attached garage	Approved
4	155/23	Shannon Potter	Lot 16 Block 3 Plan 856MC (Birch Bay, Gull Lake)	Setback Relaxation (Existing cabin, deck and outhouse)	Approved
5	156/23	Jarrett McKean	Lot 15 Block 2 Plan 042 4146 (Greystone Ranch)	Additional Animals (Renewal)	
6	157/23	Andrew & Stephanie Bryson	Unit 114 Condo Plan 202 1689 (DeGraff's RV Resort)	Modular Home	Approved
7	158/23	William Whatcott	SE 17-39-25-W4M	Addition to residence	Approved
8	159/23	Vicki Raines	Lot 1 Block 1 Plan 192 1810 (SE-11-41-26-W4M)	Dwelling w/attached garage, covered deck and veranda (Replacement residence)	Approved
9	160/23	Vleeming Construction Ltd.	SW-17-40-27-W4M	Dwelling w/attached garage (3rd Residence)	Approved
10	161/23	Gunhild Palulis	NE-12-38-24-W4M	Dwelling (Replacement residence)	Approved
11	162/23	Central City Asphalt Ltd.	NE 30-40-27-W4M	Sand & Gravel Pit (Renewal, No Changes)	Approved
12	163/23	Indigo Wholesale Inc.	Lot 6 Block 1 Plan 9824780 (SW 23-39-27-W4M)	Retail, Major (known as Uncle Wiener's)	
13	164/23	Navigation Surveys Ltd.	Lot 4 Block 4 Plan 002 0581 (Lacombe Lake Estates)	Setback Relaxation (Garage Pad)	Approved
14	165/23	Ryan & Dianna Metzger	Lot 7 Block 1 Plan 567 TR (Kuusamo Krest, Sylvan Lake)	Covered Patio (Existing structure)	Approved
15	166/23	Daryl & Lynda Hand	Lot E Block 1 Plan 762 0348 (SW 14-40-27-W4M)	Recreation Facilities, Outdoor (Appointment Only – Off Leash Dog Park)	
16	167/23	Allan & Candace Wilson	NE 19-40-1-W5M	Dwelling w/attached garage	



17	168/23	Lorne & Alida Prins	Lot 5 Block 1 Plan 192 0510 (NW 11-41-28-W4M)	Dwelling w/attached garage and covered deck	Approved
18	169/23	Powershift Generation Inc.	Unit 4 and Unit 5 Plan 162 2594 (Wild Rose Commercial Park)	Custom Manufacturing	
19	170/23	Scott & Alexis Stefanek	Unit 141 Condo Plan 232 0356 (DeGraff's RV Resort, Gull Lake)	Modular Home & Shed	Approved
20	171/23	James & Jamie Gray	SE- 21-39-26-W4M	Shop/Office	

Subdivision Applications Received

No.	File No.	Applicant	Legal Description	Proposed Subdivision	Decision (otherwise pending)
21	S-026-23	Samuel Jardine	Lot 1 Block 1 Plan 182 1521 (SW 22-40-26-W4M)	1st Parcel Out Residential	Approved

Importance of Feed Analysis

By Abby-Ann Redman for Grey Wooded Forage Association

When it comes to feeding your animals, nutrition is a crucial factor in ensuring the health and productivity of livestock. To develop an effective livestock nutritional program, it is essential to understand the importance of a feed analysis and how to perform it.

WHY A FEED ANALYSIS IS IMPORTANT.

Quality Assurance: Analyzing feed is a fundamental step in ensuring the quality of diet that your livestock receives. High-quality feed will contain the necessary nutrients to support animal growth, reproduction, and overall health. By analyzing your feed, you can identify if it meets these criteria, or if any deficiencies need to be addressed through supplementation.

Cost Efficiency: Low quality feed can result in reduced animal performance, and increase the risk of health issues, while overfeeding is an unnecessary cost and can result in problems such as difficult calving. Both nutrient deficiencies and excessive nutrient availability often translate to higher costs and reduced profits for producers. A feed analysis allows you to make informed decisions about whether the nutritional requirements will be met with the existing feed, or if additional supplementation is required. By being proactive, producers can avoid last-minute, or panic buying, and keep their livestock in proper body condition with desirable performance for the least cost.

Customized Nutrition: Livestock have unique nutritional requirements throughout the production cycle. For instance, the dietary needs of cattle differ from mid gestation (6 months pregnant) to late

gestation (9 months pregnant). A feed analysis gives producers the ability to plan how they will use their feed inventory to match the nutrient availability from the feed, with the nutrient requirements of the animal in order to ensure performance is not limited by nutrient deficiencies at any stage.

Detecting Toxins or Antagonists: In addition to nutritional content, a feed analysis can help identify potential toxins or mineral antagonists in the feed. These could include mycotoxins, ergot, nitrates, molybdenum, or sulphur that might be harmful to your livestock. Detecting and mitigating such issues in the feed can prevent health problems and ensure the safety of your animals.

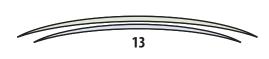
HOW TO PERFORM A FEED ANALY-SIS

Sample Collection: Collecting representative samples of your

feed is the first step in the analysis process. To ensure accuracy, take multiple samples from different bales or areas of your feed inventory. When sampling bales, use a probe to gather core samples from the center of each bale. Mix these samples thoroughly to create a composite sample that accurately represents your entire feed stock. If you don't have a probe, contact Grey Wooded Forage Association office to borrow one for temporary use.

Choose a Testing Method: There are two primary methods for analyzing feed: wet chemistry or NIR (Near-Infrared) spectroscopy.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17



Unlocking Solar Power Potential: A New Partnership Shines Bright

In the pursuit of a greener, more sustainable future, collaboration and innovation are our greatest allies. The Energy Innovation Centre (EIC) at Red Deer Polytechnic (RDP) is leading the way and now a partnership with Lacombe County is poised to spark new possibilities in the world of solar energy.

"We're bridging the gap between theory and practice, between research and real-world impact," Dr. Tonya Wolfe, Associate Vice President of Applied Research, explains. "The Energy Innovation Centre has always been focussed on helping industry to explore emerging net zero technologies, and this partnership is no exception."

THE DATA SHARING ALLIANCE: A CATALYST FOR PROGRESS

At the core of this partnership lies the Data Sharing Alliance (DSA). This collaborative initiative, hosted within RDP's Energy Innovation Centre, leverages weather and power data gathered from partner sites around the province and uses it to develop best practices for modeling and installing solar photovoltaic systems optimized for Alberta's unique conditions.

The DSA has already made significant strides in gathering and aggregating photovoltaic operational data across multiple sites, including two on the RDP campus, one in rural Innisfail, and one at the Fortis facility in High River. The recent installation of an eGauge at Lacombe County's site will provide a direct line to their solar array's performance data, allowing it to be shared with the DSA and its members.

"Lacombe County is committed to a more sustainable future, and this partnership is a testament to that commitment," says Jennifer Berry, Environmental Coordinator for Lacombe County. "It's not just about generating solar power; it's about understanding how we can maximize it efficiently."

ABOUT LACOMBE COUNTY'S SOLAR PANELS

In spring 2021, Lacombe County installed a 115.2 kWh solar PV system on their public works building roof. The system is comprised of 288 solar modules, 144 DC optimizers, and two inverters, and is conservatively estimated to produce 122,100 kWh/year of electricity in the first year.

The power generated has offset the electricity usage between the administration and shop buildings by approximately 17% annually. It also allows Lacombe County to produce renewable energy, lower its carbon footprint, and lead by example in the community. The system was designed and installed by SkyFire Energy, and was made possible through a rebate

through the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre, which covered 30% of the project costs.

A SOLAR-POWERED NETWORK

By fostering partnerships like this one with Lacombe County, the Data Sharing Alliance seeks to expand its scope and gather a broader spectrum of data from various locations in Alberta. The benefits of participating are many. Partners receive up-to-date data analysis on the performance of their solar installations, can compare their system's performance to other locations across Alberta and even gain predictive analysis of future output, all made possible by the experts at Red Deer Polytechnic.

"By expanding our network, we're creating a repository of knowledge," says Wolfe. "This data isn't just for Red Deer Polytechnic; it's for everyone who's interested and invested in a cleaner, more sustainable future."

HOW IT WORKS: A GATEWAY TO SOLAR IN- SIGHT

The process is seamless and secure. An energy meter, the eGauge in this case, is installed in a logical sequence after the inverters of the PV system. It requires an internet connection via ethernet to transmit the data. Collected data remains accessible to RDP researchers and DSA partners through a secure website login account. Here, partners can monitor their own system's performance and delve into trends from other DSA locations.

Wolfe sums up the partnership and the DSA's mission: "It's all about fostering knowledge, building connections, and working together to make solar energy a viable solution for Alberta."

Moving forward, Wolfe expects the DSA to continue to evolve and eventually include other alternative energy technologies such as heat pumps, geothermal, and wind. "The synergy of these partnerships is creating a ripple effect," she says. "We're connecting RDP's investments in renewable and alternative energy systems on campus to applied research and, in turn, industry adoption of these technologies."

RDP's commitment to this avenue of applied research is evidenced by the nearly 4,200 solar panels installed on campus. The panels, along with a combined heat and power unit, generate 60% of the Polytechnic's power. The campus also hosts a battery storage system, and there are plans to install two heat pumps soon.

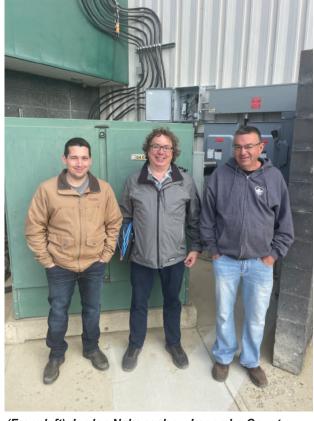
"The solutions we can offer our partners like Lacombe



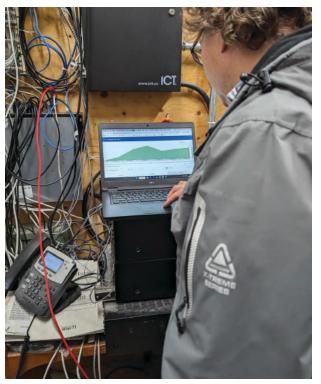
County are not just theoretical – they are derived from real-world situations and data gathered from our own power systems," Wolfe emphasizes.

With the installation of the eGauge and the collaboration with Lacombe County, the Data Sharing Alliance is set to redefine what's possible in the world of solar energy. It's not just a partnership; it's a beacon of innovation that promises to illuminate the path to a brighter, more sustainable tomorrow.

If you're interested in joining the Data Sharing Alliance, email innovation@rdpolytech.ca to get in touch with the Energy Innovation Centre.



(From left) Jordan Nakonechny, Lacombe County Environmental Coordinator, Dean Bye, Alternative Energy Lab Technician with Red Deer Polytechnic (RDP), and Lee Hodgson, Professional Electrical Contractor with Hodgson Enterprises, Ltd., installed the monitoring system in late October, as part of a partnership with RDP's Energy Innovation Centre.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LACOMBE COUNTY

SPOT light

SHACKLETON FARM FRESH TREES

It is almost the most wonderful time of the year - Christmas! Wes and Joy Shackleton always have been passionate about Christmas! To showcase their passion for Christmas, they have created an entire business around providing gorgeous Christmas trees for all in the community to enjoy. From the beginning, their business vision was to take their LOVE for Christmas and their Christmas tree cutting tradition, with their grandchildren, and provide others within their community the opportunity to have this passion and tradition too.

Shackleton Farm Fresh Trees initiated in 2008, when Wes and Joy planted their first seedling trees, their dream was planted. Fast-forward to 2017, allowing time for the trees to grow and the business to develop, the dream came to life and the first tree was sold. By keeping in check that family traditions are important, the Shackleton's grew their business, undoubtably, and they doubled their sales in the first two weeks of the following year.

This small, 100% family owned and operated busi-

ness strives to make every customer happy. Allowing each customer to choose, cut and carry out their very own Christmas tree, creating a unique experience that families look forward to repeating year after year. "It is great to see, talk and learn about each visitor's Christmas traditions. We always enjoy seeing our returning community customers but are always overjoyed to see the smiling faces of other customers that travel from places like Drumheller, Two Hills, Millet, and even Calgary to experience Shackelton Farm Fresh Trees." said Wes Shackleton.

These long-time residents of Lacombe County, located near Clive, continue to grow their business by creating an environment that people want to be in, like adding hidden photo props in the trees. A hidden bench onsite provides a great photo opportunity, a rest option while choosing your perfect tree, or a wonderful spot to enjoy the outdoors. Or better yet, the Shackleton's just recently added a Red 1940 Chevrolet 4300 Truck, the box is loaded with a beautiful tree just waiting for the perfect picture!

We invite you to come check out this gorgeous tree farm in Lacombe County! Shackleton Farm Fresh Trees is located on Township Road 41-2 and Range Road 24-3, northeast of Clive. The business will be open November 23 until December 23. Start a new family tradition by joining the Shackleton family this holiday season! Every tree is the same price, regardless of height. If you are not looking for a tree, they also have beautiful hand-made fresh bow wreaths and table centers too!:

Check out SHACKLETON FARM FRESH TREES on social media!

Facebook: /shackletonfarmfreshtrees Instagram: @shackletonfarmfreshtrees Website: www.shackletonfarmfreshtrees.ca









COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

October 26, 2023

POLICY RC(1) FUNDING APPLICATION – LACOMBE AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY – MICHENER HOUSE REIMAGINATION PROJECT

By resolution of Council, Lacombe County will provide financial support in the amount of \$41,851 to the Lacombe and District Historical Society for upgrades to the exhibit spaces and interpretive areas of Michener House.

POLICY RC(1) FUNDING APPLICATION - MORNINGSIDE COMMUNITY SOCIETY OUTDOOR RINK BOARD REPLACEMENT

By resolution of Council, funding in the amount of \$16,000 will be provided to the Morningside Community Society for the replacement of boards on their outdoor skating rink.

POLICY AD(45) BUDGET POLICY

Policy AD(45) Lacombe County Budget received Council approval.

ALLOCATION OF 2023-2024 FCSS FUNDING

Council approved FCSS funding, on an annual, ongoing basis, to fourteen community programs and one-time funding to ten community organizations. Most the funding applications relate to youth and children's programs, however, several communities

also submitted program funding requests that would reach seniors and other adult groups.

CPO SERVICES CAPITAL REPLACEMENT

Council approved the 2024 CPO Services capital equipment purchases and authorized the County Manager to tender and award the purchase of two enforcement vehicles and video camera equipment.

COR AUDIT RESULTS

Council received a presentation regarding Lacombe County's 2023 Certificate of Recognition Recertification Audit results.

FIVE-YEAR RECREATION CAPITAL PLAN

By resolution of Council, the 2024 – 2028 Recreation Capital Plan was approved. Highlights of the plan are as follows:

2024

- Sunbreaker Cove Boat Launch Upgrades
- Sandy Point Beach Accessibility Matting for Individuals with Mobility Challenges

2025

• Sandy Point Beach Playground Expansion

2026

 Trans Canada Trail – Phase III Construction from the City of Lacombe to Ponoka County

2027

Kuhnen Park Boardwalk Construction

2028

No proposed projects

POLICY RC(8) USE AND MANAGEMENT OF COUNTY RESERVE LANDS

Policy RC(8) Use and Management of County Reserve Lands received Council approval.

PARKS AND RESERVES MANAGEMENT BYLAW

Bylaw 1398/23 Parks and Reserve Management received first and second reading. By resolution of Council, the County Manager was directed to provide notification to the public regarding the approval of Policy RC(8) and, further, that third and final reading of Bylaw 1398/23 is scheduled for the December 14, 2023 Council Meeting.

2023 ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AWARD PRESENTATION

Reeve Shepherd presented Ward Nelson, a resident of the Eckville Area, with the 2023 Environmental Stewardship Award for his work and contributions to conservation in the Medicine River Watershed area.

Lacombe County presents Environmental Stewardship Award to Ward Nelson

Lacombe County is proud to announce the recipient of its 2023 Environmental Stewardship Program award, Ward Nelson. Council presented the award to Ward during the October 26, 2023 Council Meeting. The award serves to recognize and celebrate individuals who have demonstrated exceptional dedication to the advancement of environmental stewardship within the County.

Ward Nelson, a County resident for the past 10 years, has been actively involved in environmental initiatives in his community. Situated alongside the picturesque Medicine River, his property spans approximately 1.4 kilometres of the riverbank. Ward has dedicated himself to safeguarding this vital ecosystem by diligently mitigating livestock-related damage to the river and its adjacent banks. Ward's land management practices have seen the integration of a rotational grazing system, ensuring that no area is overgrazed and facilitating the flourishing of native flora.

To keep his cattle and horses from using the river as a water source, Ward installed a solar-powered livestock watering system and constructed a dugout. Additionally, he has embarked

on an ambitious reforestation project, planting over 2000 tree seedlings along the riverbanks to restore the natural vegetation and enhance the stability of the riverbanks.

In a remarkable display of collaborative stewardship, Ward actively partnered with Lacombe County to employ thistle weevils as a biological control measure for Canada thistle, thereby significantly reducing the use of herbicides and contributing to the preservation of the local environment.

He is an active Medicine River Watershed Society member, actively engaging in various initiatives to protect and enhance the river's health. He regularly participates in meetings with oil companies operating in the area, passionately advocating for the importance of the Medicine River and its continued protection.

Lacombe County received three nominees deserving of the award, but the decision to select Ward was unanimous because of his significant contributions to the landscape and the community. Lacombe County is proud to recognize individuals like

Ward for their outstanding commitment to advancing environmental stewardship in the County.

About the Environmental Stewardship Program

Lacombe County is committed to a healthy environment for current and future generations. As part of that commitment, the County established the Lacombe County Environmental Stewardship Award for a three-year term (2021-2023). In broad terms, environmental stewardship is the responsible use and protection of the natural environment through conservation and sustainable practices. This award was created to recognize a Lacombe County resident who applies environmental stewardship daily. A committee reviewed and selected the successful recipient from the received submissions.





2023 PARTICIPATING BUSINESSES

- · @Home Escape Rooms
- 5024 General Store
- A & W Lacombe
- Ace Automotive Repair
- · Amazing Wonders Emporium
- And Everything Nice Antiques
- Aurora Dental Group Lacombe
- Blindman Brewing
- Booster Juice
- Boston Pizza
- Bouiee Boho Market
- . Breathe Massage & Wellness
- · Building Blocks Thrift Store
- Bumper to Bumper
- · Central Alberta Coop Food Store . Central Alberta Coop Gas Bar
- · Central Alberta Coop Liquor Store
- . Central Alberta Coop South Gas Bar
- . Cilantro & Chive Lacombe
- · Circle K
- · Classic Shears Hair Studio
- Collective Mayhem
- · Copper Lane Hair Studio
- · Domino's Pizza · Downton & Co.

- · Dutchess Flower Company
- . Elite Bridal & Fashion Boutique
- Fraserway RV
- . Funky Monkey Kitchen + Bar

- Gary Moe Chrysler
- · Good Company Eco Store
- . Hannas Seeds & Garden Centre
- . Head Hunters Salon & Spa.
- · Healing Hands Integrative Medicine
- Hometown Market
- Innervate Massage
- · Jack and Jane Youth Consignment

- Korsh Spinal Health & Wellness
- · LA Carpet & Tile
- · Lacombe Florist & Gifts

echo Strand360

- · Fisher's Pharmasave
- Flatiron Museum Gift Shop
- FYidoctors Lacombe
- . Gary Moe Auto Group Sportsplex (Arena & Pool)
- General Appliances

- Healthfitters

- Judit Ficzere CPA
- · Just Breathe Yoga

- LA Liquor
- Lacombe Farmers Market

- Lacombe IDA Pharmacy
- Lacombe Vision Centre
- Lakeview Family Kennels
- LAND Auto Center
- . Leto's Steakhouse & Bar
- · Lionel's No Frills
- M & M Food Market
- . Milly Oak Café & Catering
- Moe's Pizza Co.
- . Mullets Barber Shop
- Nowco Home Hardware
- OK Tire & Auto
- · Ona Café & Bakery
- Parry Liquor Discounter
- Pawsitive Pooches
- Peavey Mart
- · Pet Valu Lacombe
- Pro Liquor
- Pro Water Conditioning
- Quick Lane Tire & Auto . Ranch by Design, Western Wear & Tack
- · Rangeland Meat Shop
- · Red Apple Lacombe
- · Reds Source for Sports

- · Second Glance Books
- · Shoppers Drug Mart
- Snippets Hair Company
- · Soapy's Car Wash

Central Alberta HOMEFIELD

- · Sobey's Lacombe
- Sunrise RV Parts & Service
- The Broom Tree Foundation & Café
- . The Grooming Shop
- . The Range
- . The Studio by Elysium & Luxe
- The Wooden Shoe Store & Coffee Shop
- Tollers Bistro . Totally Gluten Free Bakery
- Ugly's Bar & Grill
- Wags Holistic Pet Nutrition
- · Wick N Wire Vape Shop
- · Clive Pharmasave Clive
- · Queen Bea Clothing Bentley
- Central Alberta Coop Food Store Eckville . Central Alberta Coop Farm Centre Eckville
- The BoxCar Grill Eckville
- Rainy Creek Powersports Eckville

FROM PAGE 13 - The Importance of **Feed Analysis**

- 1. Wet Chemistry: This method is done in a lab where technicians measure each individual nutrient, wet chemistry provides the most accurate and comprehensive results. It typically includes measuring moisture content, crude protein, fiber content (ADF and NDF), energy content (TDN), and mineral composition. You can send your samples to a certified forage testing laboratory. Results will usually take a week to receive.
- 2. NIR (Near-Infrared) spectroscopy: This method can be done in the lab or on-farm using a machine that estimates the nutrient content by measuring how much light is absorbed, reflected, or scattered off a sample, and comparing the results to a known database. These devices provide rapid results, often within minutes. While they may not be as precise as laboratory analysis, they offer a quick and cost-effective way to assess feed quality.

Interpret the Results: Once you have your hay analysis results, it's time to interpret them. Pay attention to key nutritional components:

Moisture Content: Moisture is an important parameter in feed preservation, the target moisture content varies based on what feed is being made. Dry hay, for example, should be less than 15% moisture, high moisture can lead to mold and spoilage, while low moisture will make the leaves fragile and easily lost before they can be eaten by the animal, reducing the nutritional value of the hay. Compare this to silage which needs sufficient moisture to be properly packed and ensiled. Knowing the target moisture content should be considered when putting up any type of feed.

Crude Protein (CP): Protein provides amino acids which are the building blocks for growing muscle. In beef cattle, the rule of thumb for crude protein is 7: 9: 11, where in mid gestation (1-6 months of pregnancy), 7% CP is required. In late gestation (6-9 months of gestation), 9% CP is required. After calving, 11% CP is required.

Energy Content: Total Digestible Nutrients (TDN) is not a measurement, but rather a calculation. TDN is the sum of the digestible fiber, protein, lipid, and carbohydrate components of the feed and overall represents the energy content. In beef cattle the rule of thumb for mid gestation is 55% TDN, in late gestation 60% is required, and after calving 65% is required.

Fiber Content: Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF) and Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF) determine digestibility and "bulkiness" of the feed. High ADF and NDF result in decreased digestibility.

Mineral Composition: Macro and micro composition varies dramatically based on what the feed is. By knowing the mineral composition, nutritional "holes" can be filled in using supplementation.

AND FINALLY, TAKE ACTION!



ciation.

Based on your analysis results, you can now make informed decisions about your livestock's nutrition program. If the feed quality is subpar, consider a supplementation strategy through grain or higher quality feed and adjust your feeding program accordingly. With the high cost of feed, an analysis will pay for itself in a short amount of time, and with the current favourable calf prices, maximizing reproductive and growth potential will benefit the producers bottom line.

If you have questions regarding your animal nutritional program or feed analysis, contact Blue Rock Animal Nutrition.

Abby-Ann Redman is a Ruminant Nutritionist with Blue Rock Animal Nutrition, Innisfail Alberta and Chair of Grey Wooded Forage Asso-

Regularly Scheduled Meetings for Lacombe County Council

Committee of the Whole - First Tuesday of every second month at 9 a.m.

Council & MPC - 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. com/en/our-government/ agendas-and-minutes.aspx



Lacombe County and the Village of Alix are holding a PUBLIC MEETING

and you're invited...

January 9, 2024



6:00 PM

(presentation starts at 6:30 PM)



Alix Community Hall (5008 49 Ave)



For more information, please contact Planning Services or visit the

Email: planning@lacombecounty.com Phone: 403-782-8389



Village of Alix / **Lacombe County** Intermunicipal **Development Plan**

The Intermunicipal Development Plan is a shared Plan between the Village and the County, that is designed to ensure that development surrounding the Village is undertaken in a responsible and sustainable manner that is compatible with both municipalities.

The Village of Alix has recently prepared a number of proposed changes to the Plan. The changes are intended to ensure the Village's Municipal Development Plan is consistent with this Intermunicipal Development Plan.

The draft Plan can be viewed on the County's website. We encourage all to review the Plan and to submit any comments during the public meeting, with written submissions, and the survey which will be made available after the public meeting.

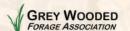


Grant Opportunities for grain and livestock producers

Farming **Forward**







November 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Learn about

WE'LL BE COVERING ELIGIBILITY AND FUNDING DETAILS FOR

federal provincial partnership programs to support grain

and livestock producers



Telford Community Hall

48142 Range Road 262, Leduc County

- Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program supporting:
 - pasture managemer
 - cropland conversion tree establishment

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES IN:

- Efficient Grain Handling
- . On-Farm Value Added Program
- · Farm Technology



Central Alberta Foodgrains Bank - 2023 Harvest Update

On a warm Thanksgiving Saturday, the Central Alberta Foodgrains Project harvested its 85 acre canola field by Bentley, and raised \$81,000 for the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. As well, \$8,000 in cash donations were received on site.

Local farmers and businesses volunteered their time to harvest the canola and truck it to Richardson Pioneer, east of Lacombe. Nine combines completed the harvest in less than two hours. Vision Truck Lines along with one farmer provided the trucking of the canola to the elevator. Prior to harvest day, the crop was swathed by volunteers as well.

One hundred people arrived to witness the combining and enjoy pizza supplied by GEM Silage Products of Red Deer. Another individual brought coffee and donuts to share.

"It is a true team event and each year I am humbled by the support we receive," says Committee member. Doug Maas. "Farmers, agri-businesses, other businesses, urban and rural people all come together to make this charity project work," adds Maas.

All money raised is sent to the registered charity, the Canadian Foodgrains Bank based in Winnipeg, to be utilized to fight hunger internationally. There are over 30 of these growing projects in Alberta and over 200 in Canada. The local group based in Lacombe County is one of the oldest in Canada, as it was

formed in 1996.

Any expenses incurred by the project, such as crop insurance, inputs not donated, were covered by cash donations or farmer donations in the spring. Cash donations receive a charitable tax receipt.

"Besides harvest, we want to make sure we acknowledge landowners that provide land each year for our growing project, and the farmers and agri-businesses that do all the spring work such as soil testing and preparation, seeding, fertilizing and spraying," says Maas.

The group also receives donations from farmers, that deliver their grain/canola at elevators and instruct the agents there to take a portion of the loads and designate it to the growing project.

The Central Alberta Foodgrains Project is actively looking for land in Lacombe County for 2024, its 29th year. Land can be donated for use, or on a cash rent basis. If you are able to assist, contact Doug Maas at 403-318-5733.

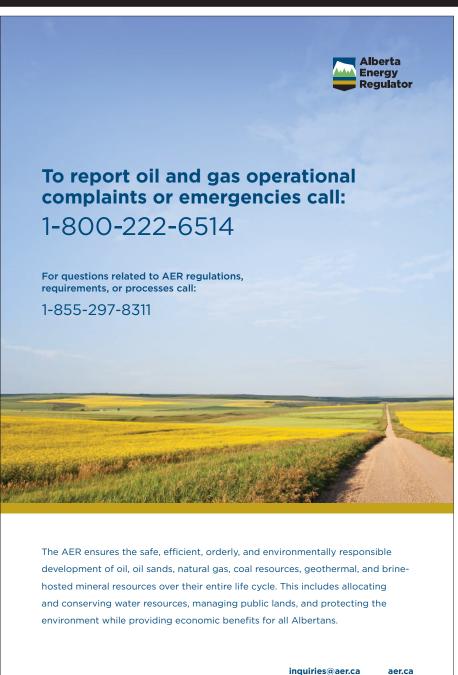












Thwart-off Cyber Crime this Holiday Season

The holiday season is just around the corner, which means more and more people will be shopping for presents. Online shopping has become an increasingly popular and convenient way to find deals and cross things off our lists. With both Black Friday and Cyber Monday taking place this month, many Albertans will be handing out their credit card details in exchange for deals this month.

In the Alberta RCMP's jurisdiction in 2022 there were a total of:

- 34 reports of unauthorized use of credit card data (4 in November and 2 in December);
- 726 reports of Theft, Forgery, Misuse of Credit Card (53 in November and 47 in December);
- 1,796 reports of Fraud (money/property/security) greater than \$5,000 (183 in November and 150 in December); and
- 5,653 reports of Fraud (money/property/security) less than or equal to \$5,000 (445 in November and 401 in December).

The Alberta RCMP reminds all online shoppers to protect their personal and financial information making online purchases.

Here are some tips to protect yourself while shopping online:

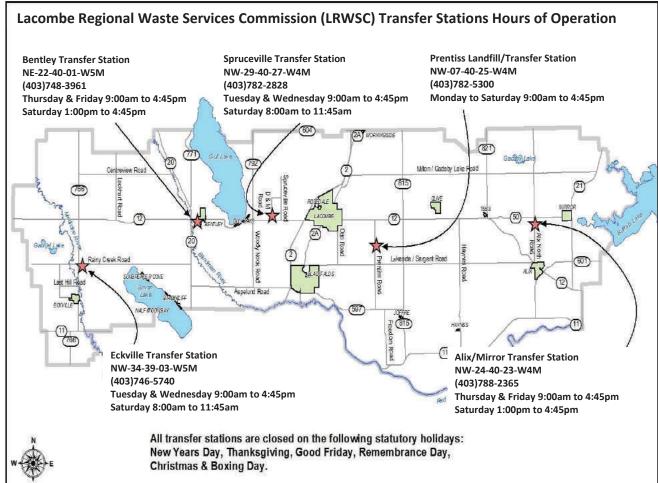
- Don't reuse passwords; change them often, and be sure to use a combination of letters, numbers, and special characters to create a strong one!
- Many websites, especially social media platforms, offer the option of

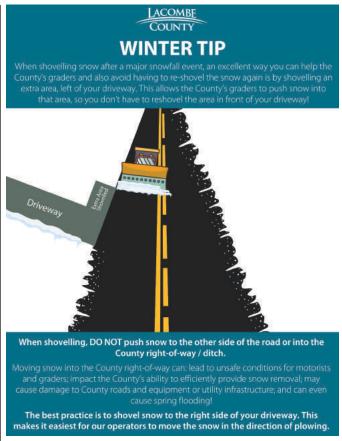
multi-factor authentication. Multi-factor authentication makes it more difficult for criminals to access your accounts by needing more than one piece of identifying information.

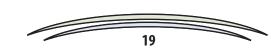
- Review privacy settings regularly in order to control who can see what personal information is posted to your profile.
- Don't purchase anything using public Wi-Fi; shop using your own data connection or a trusted network.
- Buy from reputable sources and don't let unbeatable prices cloud your judgement. Research retailers before purchasing.
- Install updates on your devices as soon as you're prompted. Updates fix security issues.
- Phishing is a commonly used tactic for cyber crime. Phishing messages ask you to validate information by clicking links and may threaten you with legal action. Verify legitimacy by calling the company directly.

Follow our social media accounts on Twitter @RCMPAlberta and Facebook @RC-MPinAlberta, and check out #CyberSafety online for more tips.

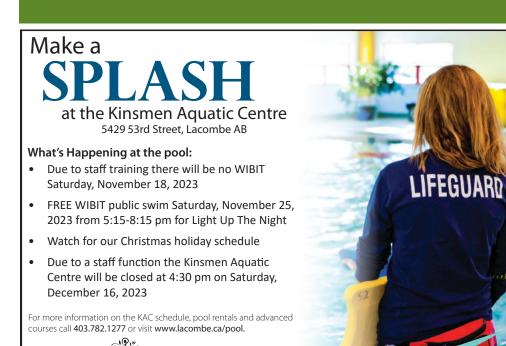
RCMP encourage the public to report any criminal or suspicious activity to police. Reports tell us where to look, who to look for, and where to patrol in the future. If you see a crime in progress, dial 911. If you wish to remain anonymous, contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS), online at www.P3Tips.com or by using the "P3 Tips" app available through the Apple App or Google Play Store.







AROUND THE COUNTY



ACOMBE

WHAT WE DO

Highlights

2023 Fall Giving Campaign: October - December
We are currently preparing for our first Winter Escapes, online auction, Nov 1-8, in conjunction with the Fall 2023 Giving Campaign. Please let us know if you are interested in donating an auction item or a monetary donation towards a package by October 25. Funds raised will help with the continuing success of programs like: Information & Referral, Resource Navigation, Family Wellness, Alix After-School, Child Safety Week, Youth Mental Health, Senior Fun, Wise Owls, Income Tax Assistance, Grief Support, Internet Cafe, Adult/Senior Outings, Alix Food Bank, Extended Learning Program, summer programming and holiday events. Please contact Jill, 403-588-5199.

<u>Baby Clinic: November 22</u> Hosted monthly, please check our schedule to confirm which day appointments can be made. For routine child immunizations ONLY. Please call: Stettler Health Unit, 403-742-3326.

Ongoing and for Everyone!

Fresh veggies are delivered weekly to the Centre, typically available for pick-up on Tuesday mornings. Thank you Pic N Pac for the generous donation! Free for everyone and while quantities last. Please limit to one bag per person to help items go further.

We're Hiring: Family Wellness Worker Position

Assignment: Part-Time position (15 hrs/wk approx) in Alix, AB. Specific details regarding this position can be obtained from: Alix & Area Community Resource Centre, Interested candidates are invited to submit applications to: Jill Hillman, Executive Director Alix Mirror Wellness Supports Society Box 715

Alix, AB TOC 0B0 Fax: (403) 747-2082

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 ResourceCentre

www.alixcrc.com



STAY IN THE KNOW!



https://subscribe.lacombecounty.com/Subscribe to

receive emails on:

News/Announcements Events **Council Meetings** Safety Alerts **Construction Notifications**

OR...Subscribe to individual pages of interest



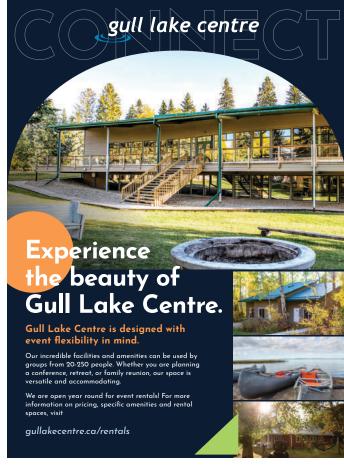
Monday to Thursday OPEN

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Closed all statutory holidays Bay 1, 5008 50 Ave, Alix, AB

403-396-3369







November 17, 2023 - County News



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 SERVICES FOR SENIORS

Home Support is available to eligible senior 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 us how.

Contact Lacombe & District FCSS: (403) 782-6637

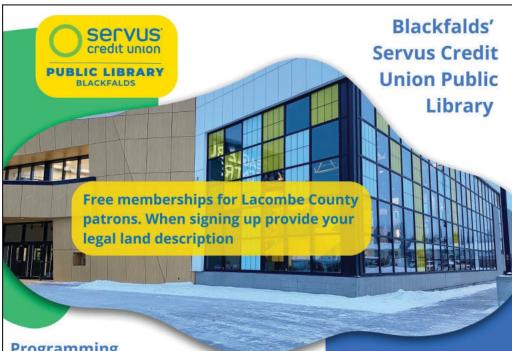
Or Clive FCSS (Tuesdays, Thursdays) (403) 784-2020

Services Offered Laundry

- Kitchen
- Livina Rooms
- Dusting
- Mopping
- Vacuumina
- Meal prep assistance

Clive





Programming

Book Squirms Ages 0-1

Music & Movement Ages 1-4

Anime Club Ages 8+

Gaming Club Ages 10+

Something Cool for After School Ages 10+

Canasta Club Ages 18+

Dungeons and Dragons tabletop roleplaying games

Multiple Youth & Adults sessions

*For more program information check out our website and social media

Borrowing

Our library card gives you access to a variety of services, eResources such as eAudio, eBooks, eMagazines & more!

Visit us on our website & social medias (0)

Hours

Sunday 1pm - 5pm

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





PUBLIC LIBRARY
BLACKFALDS

Sat. 10am - 5pm Sun. 1pm - 5pm Memberships are free at The Blackfalds Public Library for Blackfalds and Lacombe County

Mon. & Wed. 10am - 8pm

Tues., Thurs. & Fri. 10am - 6pm

residents! We have a lot of exciting free programs for all from

babies to adults. Check out our socials for our

@BLACKFALDSLIBRARY





Located in the Eagle Builders Centre 5302 Broadway Avenue 403-885-2343



The Opportunity?

To set up the Senior Drop In zoom sessions for



Monday - Range of Motion 10am to 11am Wednesday - Chair Yoga 10:30am to noon Fridays - (TBA) Range of Motion

The Perks?

- Be a valued volunteer contributing to the health and wellness of those
- Hang out with a great group of people and partake in the sessions!

The Commitment?

- · Choose the days you can commit, although weekly would be awesome!
- If you are not aware of how to set up the computer & zoom, don't let that keep you away. We are happy to teach you! (U)



These programs are offered free for 55+







Library Book Sale

& Silent Auction

Thurs Nov 23 5pm until

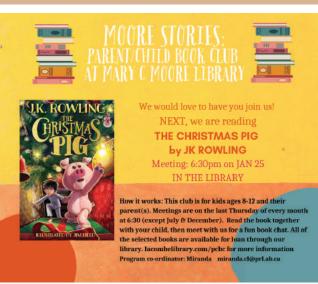
Sat Nov 25 at 5pm

in the

Mary C Moore Public Library

Hosted by The Friends of the Library











December 6, 2023 7:00 PM Clive Community Hall

Questions?
Call the Clive Seed
Cleaning Plant at
403-784-3777



BURMAN

HERR LECTURES FREE ADMISSION

REGISTER AT

WWW.BURMANU.CA/HERRLECTURES

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
PHONE: 403-307-3491
WWW.BURMANU.CAHERRLECTURES

CLARA HUGHES

Open Heart, Open Mind

November 27, 2023 | 7:00 pm Lacombe Memorial Centre

Hughes is the only athlete in Olympic history to win multiple medals in both summer and winter Games, representing Canada in both speed skating and cycling. In addition, she served as Team Canada's flag-bearer at the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Games.

As the founding spokesperson for Bell Let's Talk, a campaign designed to end the stigma attached to mental illness, Hughes helped jumpstart the conversation on mental wellness. In 2014, she completed a 110-day national bicycle tour through every province and territory in Canada called "Clara's Big Ride". She covered more than 11,000 kilometres, visited 105 communities, and hosted over 235 events to raise awareness for mental health. She is also the author of the bestselling memoir, Open Heart, Open Mind.

LINCOLN HALL | UPCOMING EVENTS

<u>December 8</u>, 7:30 Annual Christmas Concert, all are welcome, treat bags for kids with a special guest visit

<u>December 31</u>, 8pm Family New Year's Eve Celebration, pot luck appetizers, games, cash bar

January 27, Dinner and Casino Night with cash bar

February 27, Dinner and AGM

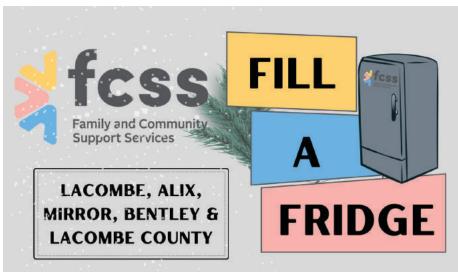


New Coats for Kids

program enables qualifying families to choose new winter coats for their children. Applications available October 16, 2023 to January 31, 2024.

thanksyou

To all the donors that make this program possible.



LOCAL GROCERY CERTIFICATES ARE PROVIDED FOR QUALIFYING FAMILIES TO PURCHASE GROCERIES FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

DONATE TODAY!



WWW.LACOMBEFCSS.NET 403-782-6637 #201 5102 49 STREET LACOMBE

APPLICATIONS OPEN NOVEMBER 15



BEVERAGES

- Sparkling Juice
- Apple Cider
- Egg Nog Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate

FIRST COURSE

- Salad
 - Cheese / Crackers



MAIN COURSE

- Turkey / Ham
- Stuffing, Potatoes, Gravy
- **Vegetables**



DESSERT

Assorted squares / tarts

Save the Date! Saturday, December 2nd

Santa, Wagon Ride, Hot Chocolate, Warming Fire



LETTER TO SANTA DROP OFF Santa's Anonymous Drop Off

6 - 9pm **Town Office Parking Lot**

Community Partners:

Kruzin West, Lacombe Family Resource Centre, Eco Tree, **Bentley Museum, Bentley** Farmer's Market, Santa's **Corner - Pike Family, Bentley** Library, Volunteer Elves, **Bentley Ag Society, Bentley** Fire Dept, Parenting **Proactively 101, BGC Bentley**





Over The Hill & Loving The View

Seniors Drop In

located in the Town Office 4918-50 Avenue

The Seniors Drop In welcomes everyone 55+ to join us for our regular Tuesday/Thursday afternoons, and/or to take advantage special programming (no charge) on Mondays/Wednesdays

 Mondays Tuesdays 10 to 11 am 1 pm

Wednesdays 10:45 to 11:45

Thursdays

Potluck

Seated Range of Motion Exercises (starts Sept 11) Socialize/cards/games

Chair Yoga - light movements Socialize/cards/games

Last Tuesday of each month at Noon

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



Drop In membership \$10/year

PARTNERS:

BENTLEY SENIORS DROP IN, FCSS/TOWN OF BENTLEY, EDMONTON SENIORS CENTRE, BRENDA STRAFFORD FOUNDATION/REC@HOME



	DECEMBER 2023					
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29 Public Meeting: Dwellings in Ag Area (Page 2)	30	DEC 1	2
3	4	5 Committee of the Whole 9AM	6	7	8 County News Submission Deadline	9
10	11	12	13	14 County Council 9AM	15 County News Published	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	OFFICE CL	OSED FOR CI	HRISTMAS			

Upcoming Events: Office Closed - New Year's Day (January 1, 2024), January 11 - County Council, January 25 - County Council

Help us promote

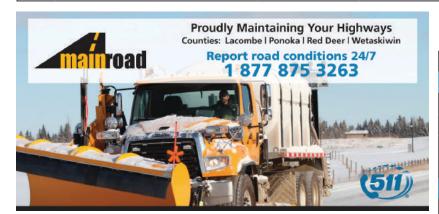


Do you know a business, person, place or volunteer you want to see profiled in County News?

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!



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

Lacombe Co	unty Direct	ory			
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	Planning Serv	rices - 403-782-8389			
	Community Serv	rices - 403-782-8959			
	Operat	ions - 403-782-8379			
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Public Works Fax		403.782.5356			
For Service Requests, see our website - or phone the switchboard at 403-782-6601					
Senior Administration					

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Senior Administration				
Tim Timmons, County Manager ttimmons@lacombecounty.com				
Michael Minchin, Director of Corporate Services mminchin@lacombecounty.com	Call 403-782-6601			
Bill Cade, Director of Operations bcade@lacombecounty.com	to speak with the County Manager or with a Lacombe			
Dale Freitag, Director of Planning Services dfreitag@lacombecounty.com	County Director			
Dion Burlock, Director of Community Services dburlock@lacombecounty.com				

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
Barb Shepherd, Div. 3 (bshepherd@lacombecounty.com)			403.340.9724
Dwayne West, Div. 4	(dwest@lacombecounty.com)		403.660.2328
Ken Weenink, Div. 5	(kweenink@lacombecounty.com)		403.350.8014
Allan Wilson, Div. 6	(awilson@lacombecounty.com)		403.506.3735
Dana Kreil, Div. 7	(dkreil@lacombecounty.com)	403.746.3607	403.358.9400