

Celebrating five years of building positive relationships through the SRO program

This year marks the fifth anniversary of the School Resource Officer (SRO) partnership between Lacombe County and Wolf Creek Public Schools (WCPS), which has proved to be a collaborative journey to support students and create safer school environments across Lacombe County. Since launching in 2019, the SRO program has proven to be a vital presence in the communities of Alix, Bentley, Clive, and Eckville, fostering positive relationships and helping students thrive.

"Lacombe County Council is incredibly proud of the partnership we've built with Wolf Creek Public Schools through our School Resource Officer program," said Reeve Barb Shepherd. "Over the past five years, this program has shown how collaboration can truly enhance the lives of our students, providing both safety and support. It's been inspiring to see the connections our SROs have developed with students, families, and staff, and I look forward to watching these relationships continue to grow, strengthening the sense of community in our rural schools."

A POSITIVE IMPACT IN SCHOOLS

SRO Dave Lahucik, who has served since the program's inception it began, describes his experience as exceptionally rewarding: "Working as the School Resource Officer in Lacombe County with WCPS has been one of the most rewarding positions I have ever

held in my law enforcement career. My interactions with students, staff, and parents have been very positive, and I really appreciate having this opportunity. We've successfully engaged our school communities to build positive relationships and offer our full support and resources."

In the 2022-2023 school year, Lahucik led 69 educational presentations on important topics like online safety, drug awareness, and bullying prevention, participated in 20 special events, and assisted with 15 investigations into school-related incidents. These initiatives have built and strengthened relationships within schools, with Officer Dave (as he's known to students) frequently seen in hallways, classrooms, and at events, embodying a trusted resource and mentor for students and staff alike.

Reflecting on the program's impact, Barb Reaney, WCPS Director of Education Services, emphasized the unique role of SROs: "The SRO program is integral to fostering both security and compassion in our schools. Each officer brings a unique understanding and approach that resonates with students, bridging gaps and building trust. It's heartening to see their work recognized for the positive impact it has on our school communities."

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www.lacombecounty.com

Lacombe County Reeve Shepherd re-elected

During the Lacombe County Organizational Meeting on October 24, 2024, Councillors unanimously re-elected Division 3 Councillor Barb Shepherd as Lacombe County Reeve for fourth one-year term. This reappointment highlights the Council's continued confidence in Reeve Shepherd's leadership and dedication to Lacombe County. The Oath of Office was administered by County Manager Tim Timmons, marking the beginning of Reeve Shepherd's new term.

"Reeve Shepherd's steadfast commitment and leadership continue to inspire confidence in the County's future," said County Manager Tim Timmons. "Her ability to navigate complex issues with a clear vision and an open mind – putting the community's needs first – has earned the continued trust of Council and staff alike. We are confident that under her leadership, Lacombe County will continue to thrive, and we look forward to



another year of collaboration and progress with her at the helm."

STORY CONTINUES ON PAGE 18



SUCCESS GROWS HERE!

Publication Mail Agreement No 43726064

Return undeliverable items to: Lacombe County RR3, Lacombe, AB T4L 2N3

Lacombe County boosts funding for community support programs by \$30,000

In response to growing community needs, Lacombe County is pleased to announce an increase in funding for Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) by \$30,000 for the 2025 fiscal year. This decision reflects Lacombe County's commitment to fostering sustainable, supportive communities for all residents, from youth programs to essential services for seniors.

"As our communities grow, so do the challenges our residents face. This funding increase will allow us to respond proactively to community needs, especially for seniors who may not be aware of the support available to them," said Lacombe County Reeve Barb Shepherd. "We're committed to making these resources accessible and ensuring that all residents benefit from FCSS programs."

In addition to approving this funding increase for 2025, Lacombe County reviewed its 2024 yearend funding and determined that the FCSS program was underspent by approximately \$22,750.

Given this surplus, the County has proposed that the unspent funds be reallocated to meet the needs of local organizations whose funding requests for 2024 could not be fully met. This reallocation ensures that they can continue their important work across Lacombe County, supporting a variety of demographics, including youth and seniors.

Michael Minchin, Director of Corporate Services echoed the Reeve's sentiments, adding, "Supporting our communities has always been a priority for Lacombe County. We recognize the importance of these programs in promoting wellbeing and are dedicated to strengthening the support systems that so many of our residents rely on."

Council approved funding for the following community programs in 2025 and ongoing annual funding, pending the yearly review of each program to ensure that the program is operational and continues to be a valuable resource to the community, and that there is sufficient funding available.

- Alix Family & Community Support Society \$1,500
- Alix Mirror Wellness Supports Society \$18,355
- Bentley Community Services \$13,690
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lacombe and District

\$6,000

 Blackfalds Abbey Centre Camp Curious \$4,000

- Blackfalds FCSS Seniors Programs \$4,000
- BGC Wolf Creek Lacombe \$2.500
- Eckville & Community Youth Society \$2,000
- Eckville Recreation Board Summer Camp \$2,000
- Eckville & Area Children's Playgroup \$2,500
- Friends of Mirror Library Society \$5,400
- Lacombe and District FCSS \$26,125
- Lacombe FCSS (Clive, Mirror, Tees Playgroup)

\$4,000

 Youth Unlimited Central Alberta \$6,000

Total: \$98,070

Council approved 2024 surplus FCSS funds, on a one-time basis, to the following community organizations.

- Alix Mirror Wellness Supports Society \$10,000
- Bentley Community Services \$2,950

- Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) \$1,000
- Blackfalds Abbey Centre Camp Curious \$400
- Blackfalds FCSS Seniors Programs \$1,000
- BGC Wolf Creek Lacombe \$1,000
- Clive FCSS \$2,000
- Eckville & Area Children's Playgroup \$1,000
- Eckville Recreation Board Summer Camp \$1,000
- Friends of Mirror Library Society \$400
- Lacombe and District FCSS \$2,000

Total: \$22,750

For more information on how to access FCSS programs, please contact Lacombe County or visit our website www.lacombecounty.com/en/living-here/family-and-community-support-services.



TAKE THE SURVEY

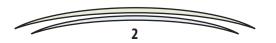
Lacombe County is considering updating regulations on the keeping of animals in residential districts.

Take the survey to tell us your thoughts!

survey closes December 1, 2024 at midnight

www.lacombecounty.com/animals





Outstanding 2024 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, 2024.

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 "tearaway" 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.



BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS

Lacombe County is launching a new initiative, and we want you to be part of it! Join our **Business Engagement Sessions** on November 26 and share your insights on building a more resilient local economy.

This is your chance to:

- ✓ Discuss challenges & opportunities unique to your business
- Share what support you need to grow
- ✓ Connect with other local business owners

CHOOSE A SESSION



November 26, 2024



1:30-3:30 PM



Mirror Hall 5102 50 Avenue Mirror AB



November 26, 2024



6:00-8:00 PM



Lacombe County Admin Office 40403 RR 274 Lacombe AB

Your voice matters – let's work together to strengthen Lacombe County's business community!

For More Information

Kerrie Taylor, Economic Development Officer 403-782-8389

economicdevelopment@lacombecounty.com



Tax Installment

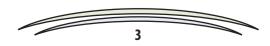
PAYMENT PLAN



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



Automatic
Budget-friendly
Simple
Convenient



2024 Farm Family of the Year | Rocky Top Gelbvieh



During the 2024 Lacombe and District Chamber of Commerce Awards, Lacombe County presented the Cody Congdon of Rocky Top Gelbvieh and the Congdon family with the 2024 Farm Family of the Year Award.

"We had a number of great submissions come in, but the committee chose Cody as the recipient of this award because of his passion for the land, commitment to the Gelbvieh cattle breed, and his close-knit partnership with his family," said Reeve Barb Shepherd.

"At the heart of agriculture is family – which is the foundation that upholds our farms, nurtures our communities, and sustains life in rural Alberta. From their deep roots in farming, passed down through generations, to the hard work and dedication that has made Rocky Top Gelbvieh a respected name – both in Alberta and across the border – Cody and the Congdon family have truly embodied the qualities that we were looking for in our Farm Family recipients"

ABOUT THE CONGDON FAMILY

The Congdon family's roots run deep in Alberta's farming community, and their hard work and dedication to the land have earned them recognition as Lacombe County's 2024 Farm Family of the Year. Cody Congdon, the soft-spoken yet driven farmer behind Rocky Top Gelbvieh, stands at the helm of a thriving operation that has earned a name across North America for its excellence in breeding Gelbvieh cattle.

"Farming has always been a part of who I am. From working alongside my dad to starting Rocky Top Gelbvieh, I've always felt a deep connection to the land and the cattle we raise," said Cody. "I'm proud to carry on our family's tradition and to keep pushing forward, improving the herd and doing what I love every day. It's not just a job—it's a way of life, and I'm grateful to be able to share it with my family."

Cody's connection to farming began long before he was old enough to run his own operation. His parents, Dale and Cindy Congdon, passed down a rich agricultural heritage. Cindy's father farmed near Camrose, while Dale's family farmed outside Heisler before deciding to move their dairy operation to Lacombe County. In 1990, the Congdons moved to Lacombe County while continuing to operate the farm near Camrose. Dale initially ran Canalta Holsteins, but in 1997, he switched from dairy to beef cattle.

"Farming has always been in Cody's blood. It all

4

began at an early age when he started in the Alberta 4-H Program as a member of the Nebraska 4-H Multi-club in Lacombe County. From there, Cody purchased his first 15 purebred Gelbvieh females," recalls Dale. "From the time he bought those first 15 heifers, I knew this was his path. Watching him take over and grow Rocky Top Gelbvieh has been one of the proudest experiences of my life. He's taken our family's legacy and put his stamp on it.'

THE ROOTS OF ROCKY TOP GELBVIEH

The Congdon family's journey with Gelbvieh cattle began

serendipitously in 2009 when Dale wintered a herd of purebred Gelbvieh open heifers for his son-in-law, Rodney. The next spring, Cody had the chance to purchase some of the wintered heifers, to which he seized the opportunity to expand his herd. Purchasing 15 heifers, he set the foundation for what would become Rocky Top Gelbvieh.

After earning a welding ticket at Red Deer College (now known as Red Deer Polytechnic), Cody returned to his passion for agriculture full-time, working alongside his father to grow their cattle operation. Today, Rocky Top Gelbvieh boasts a herd of around 75 purebred Gelbvieh cattle, which has remained steady over the years as Cody has focused on improving the herd's genetics.

"Quality over quantity" is Cody's mantra. He emphasizes genetics, working tirelessly to improve the breed's traits while maintaining a keen eye on the market's needs. His dedication to sourcing new genetics throughout the United States— such as Kansas, South Dakota, and North Dakota, to name a few—has been instrumental in the farm's success. Now, Rocky Top Gelbvieh has grown to the point where they purchase genetics from the States and sell back to American producers. This commitment to continual improvement has even attracted international attention, with visitors from as far as Australia touring the Congdon family's farm in 2023.

"When we switched from dairy to beef cattle, it was a big decision, but seeing Cody's passion for breeding Gelbviehs made it all worth it. It's not just about the cattle—it's about raising them the right way, with an eye for genetics and a heart for the land. Cody's got that balance, and it shows in everything he does," said Dale.

Cody's family shares his pride and commitment to the farm. His wife, Melissa, grew up on a commercial cattle and grain operation, where cattle came and went regularly. Life at Rocky Top Gelbvieh is vastly different—it is focused on consistency, quality, and a connection to the animals they raise.

"Being part of Rocky Top Gelbvieh is so different from how I grew up on a commercial feedlot, but I wouldn't have it any other way," said Melissa. "Watching Cody's dedication to the land, the cattle, and our family's future has been incredible. It's not just about raising cattle; it's about building something we're all proud of—something our kids will grow up around and hopefully carry on."

FOCUS ON THE FUTURE

The farm itself is a testament to the family's commitment to sustainability. Cody and Dale focus on a four-year crop rotation to maintain soil health and maximize the land's productivity. They also manage their pastures through a rotational grazing system to maximize grass regrowth throughout summer. Pastures are cordoned off, with cattle moved every 7-10 days from one paddock to another, ensuring no one area is overgrazed.

While Cody's primary focus is raising purebred Gelbviehs, the Congdons also run a commercial cattle herd that crosses Gelbvieh with Angus, producing beef known for its excellent marbling and lean quality.

Cody's involvement in the wider Gelbvieh community is another point of pride. He regularly attends Gelbvieh conferences and conventions in the United States, staying on top of the latest trends and genetic developments. He's also an active member of the Canadian Gelbvieh Association, advocating for the breed's continued growth and success. He also takes the time to attend events such as the Farm Fair in Edmonton, Agribition in Regina, and other Bull Congresses throughout Alberta to exhibit offspring from the Rocky Top program.

Closer to home, Cody and his brother-in-law collaborate every February for the annual Draft Picks Bull Sale,providing an opportunity to showcase their bulls and continue supporting the breed they are passionate about.

Cody is proud to be a fourth-generation farmer, farming with his father and carrying a legacy that began with his grandfathers. His family is immensely proud of his work, and while Cody remains humble about his accomplishments, there is no doubt that he's left an indelible mark on the agricultural landscape, both in Lacombe County and beyond.



SAFETY FIRST

Lacombe County reminds you to burn safely all year round

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

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

FIRE PROTECTION AND SAFETY GUIDELINES

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

- Check the Weather: Always monitor the forecast. Avoid burning on windy days, as gusts can quickly escalate a small fire into a wildfire.
- Clear a Safe Zone: Create a 10-foot safe area around your burn site, free from flammable materials like dry grass or leaves.
- Have Equipment Ready: Keep a hose, water source, and fire-control tools on hand, and never leave a fire unattended.
- No Household Garbage: Only burn clean, dry wood or vegetation. Never burn household garbage, plastics, or chemicals.
- Keep it Small: Maintain a manageable fire size to stay in control.
- Responsible Supervision: An adult should oversee the fire at all

times, and everyone present should know how to dial 911 in an emer-

Respect Neighbours: Be mindful of smoke and embers, which can disturb nearby properties.

IMPORTANT REGULATIONS:

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

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

FOREST AND PRAIRIE PROTECTION ACT REQUIREMENTS

Additionally, Section 22 of the Forest and Prairie Protection Act remains in effect year-round, stating that no person shall:

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

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

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

PERMITTED AND PROHIBITED MATERIALS

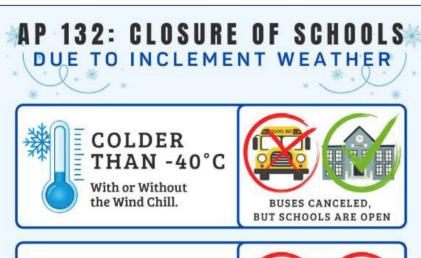
Only certain materials are permitted for open burning:

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

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

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

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





ROAD

or Heavy Fog.

Snow, Freezing Rain,



BUSES CANCELED,

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



MIRROR CORNER



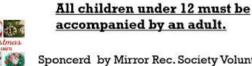
MAGIC UNDER THE MOONLIGHT **FAMILY NIGHT!**



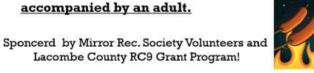


Save the date: December 7th from 5:00 - 8:00, Mirror Hall!

Kids activities, hotdogs, hot chocolate, goodies, door prizes, treat bags, music and lighting of the tree(6:30). Wieners boiled and roasted pending on weather. Everyone from all Communities are welcome.



Lacombe County RC9 Grant Program!







2024 Mirror Dog Tags

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

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

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

Jolly Seniors

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

Booking Mirror Community Hall

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

Friends of the Mirror Library Society/ **Mirror Library**

The Mirror Library would like to remind

patrons of the many items available for borrowing. We carry books for everyone, audio books, DVDs, games, and puzzles.

Hours: Wednesday 1-5 PM 2nd & 4th Saturday 10 AM - 2 PM

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

Mirror Royal Canadian Legion Branch 189 - 5015 50th Avenue

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

Mirror and District Museum

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

CN Rail crossing delays

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



Find Lacombe County online















ENVIRONMENT

You Grow Ecosystem Services on Your Farm — Why Not Get Paid for That?



By Ken Lewis, ALUS Coordinator

ALUS is building a market place for a valuable product that our farmers and ranchers produce: ecosystem services.

"Ecosystem services" are products from nature, that benefit people. Obvious examples of ecosystem services are food and oxygen production.

Other common examples of ecosystem services are things like:

- · water storage
- flood reduction
- · drought mitigation
- · carbon sequestration
- · and many more.

In our part of the world, a large portion of these ecosystem services above, that we all depend on (and that all have economic value to us), are produced by local farmers and ranchers on their agricultural land.

Farmers and ranchers are paid for the "classic" ecosystem service (food).

Until now, our farmers and ranchers have not been paid for these other ecosystem services, even though they have so much economic value to society at large. ALUS is changing that. ALUS is paying farmers and ranchers to produce ecosystem services like those listed above. That payment currently comes in two ways:

- Sharing with farmers and ranchers, on the costs of the infrastructure they need, to produce even more ecosystem services from their land. This "infrastructure" is things like fences, livestock watering systems, seed for buffer zones between cropland and water bodies, trees and shrubs for shelterbelts, and so on
- 2. Annual payments to farmers and ranchers, for their ongoing management of their land,

that is producing ecosystem services.

Across Canada right now, around 2,000 farmers and ranchers have become part of ALUS and the ALUS ecosystem services market opportunity.

In other words, 2,000 farmers and ranchers are being paid for the full suite of ecosystem services they produce (not "just" food)... and you can be

To find out more, visit www.alus.ca or connect with me at 403-505-9038 or klewis@rdcounty.ca



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 @RCMPinAlberta, 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.



OPERATIONS

Weight restrictions in effect on Highway 50 bridge near Tees

A new weight restriction has been implemented on the bridge east of Lacombe, near Tees, on Highway 50 due to recent structural assessments.

Please adhere to these restrictions for safety and to help preserve the bridge. Replacement of this bridge is tentatively planned between 2027 and 2030. Watch for new signage as you approach the area.



Winter is more than just snow it's also rain, slush, ice, and fog

Even when there isn't snow on the ground, winter tires should be installed and have at least 4 mm of tread depth. If they're getting worn down, don't wait until the last minute to update them. Don't get caught off guard.

Mainroad Contracting crews are out keeping the roads safe for you 24/7, but safety starts with you. Give yourself the best chance of a safe drive by installing winter tires, keeping an emergency kit in your car, and always driving to conditions. Drivers should maintain a following distance of at least four seconds between themselves and the car ahead of them.

When you see Mainroad crews out on the road, give them extra space as you drive by. Highway maintenance is already an incredibly dangerous job, and the added risk of winter conditions means workers are vulnerable. Keep both our crews and yourself safe.

"Mainroad crews work through any and all weather events. Don't speed past them when you see them on the road. Slow down, move over, and have patience as they keep the roads safe for you. Just like you, they have a family they want to get home to," said Candice Bryant, Contracts Manager for Mainroad Alberta Contracting

In response to a high frequency of questions from the public during winter operations, Mainroad maintains an online FAQ which offers helpful resources. Our Call Centre operation is available 24/7 to report changing road conditions and debris. Please call toll free at 1-877-875-3263, and an operator will record and forward the information to crews on shift, dispatch additional personnel, and update 511 Alberta.

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 duration.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL NUMBERED HIGH-WAYS IN THE COUNTY ARE MAINTAINED BY ALBERTA TRANSPORTATION – CONTRACTED BY MAINROAD ALBERTA (1-877-875-3263)

GRAVEL ROADS – ORDER OF PRIORITY FOR SNOW REMOVAL

- <u>Local Roads</u> 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

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

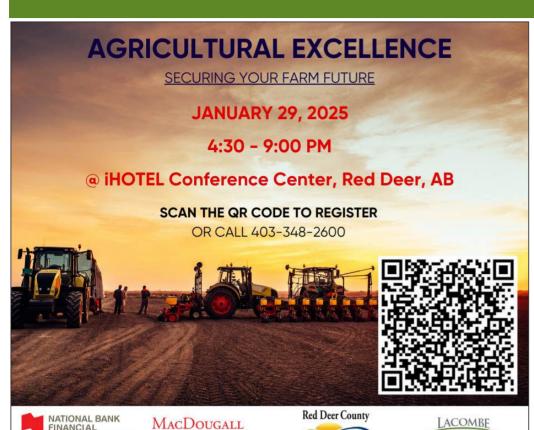
Snow removal on private property will not be done. Please visit www.lacombecounty.com and search area contractors to view the list of contractors that can be hired for private snow removal.

WHEN CLEARING SNOW FROM YOUR PROP-ERTY, <u>DO NOT PUSH THE SNOW ACROSS</u> <u>THE ROAD</u>. THIS PRACTICE RESULTS IN SE-RIOUS SAFETY CONCERNS FOR BOTH PAS-SENGER VEHICLES AS WELL AS LACOMBE COUNTY EQUIPMENT.





AGRICULTURE





Annual Shareholders' Meeting Notice

Clive Seed Cleaning Co-operative Association Limited

DATE: Wednesday, December 11, 2024

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Clive Community Hall

Coffee and donuts to be served

About AFSC's Next Generation Loan

The Next Generation Loan provides new, young and returning agricultural producers with a consistent source of fixed-rate term loans to establish their own farming operation.

Applicants must meet one of the following eligibility requirements:

- Under 40 at the time of application.
- Applicants who are over 40 years of age at the time of application, must meet the following eligibility requirements:
- Less than three years farming history.
- Farm income of less than \$10,000 for three of the last five years.
- In the case of joint applications, 20 per cent of members must be Next Generation borrowers.
- In the case of corporation applications, 20 per cent of ownership must be Next Generation borrowers.

Foatures

- Next Generation Loan offers various terms up to 20 years with a maximum amortization of 35 years
- No annual fees
- Payment schedule to fit your cash flow with an option of up to five years of interest-only payments
- Prepay options available based on the interest term you select

Next Generation Incentive

At the time of application, applicants who qualified for the Next Generation Loan may be eligible for a one per cent interest rate reduction for a maximum of five years on the first term of the loan. The lifetime maximum borrowing for the Next Generation Incentive is \$1.5 million per individual

The Next Generation Incentive cannot be applied to housing, purchasing assets from a spouse or paying out an existing AFSC loan.

What it finances:



Please RSVP by Wednesday, December 4th to Jim at 403.784.3777



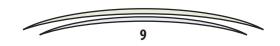
When shovelling snow after a major snowfall event, an excellent way you can help the County's graders and also avoid having to re-shovel the snow again is by shovelling an extra area, left of your driveway. This allows the County's graders to push snow into



When shovelling, DO NOT push snow to the other side of the road or into the County right-of-way / ditch.

Moving snow into the County right-of-way can: lead to unsafe conditions for motorist and graders; impact the County's ability to efficiently provide snow removal; may cause damage to County roads and equipment or utility infrastructure; and can even cause spring flooding!

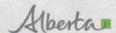
The best practice is to shovel snow to the right side of your driveway. This makes it easiest for our operators to move the snow in the direction of plowing.











Aberta The pilot project is led by the multi-stakeholder A Recycling Group; funds were granted by the Gow and are administered by Alberta Beef Producers.

Round-Up Your Used Plastic Twine for a Chance to Win Big Prizes!

\$12,000 in Total Cash Prizes!

From November 01, 2024, to May 31, 2025, bring all the used plastic baler twine you can round-up to a participating Alberta collection site for a chance to win a cash prize.

The more twine you recycle, the better your chances of winning!

Every year, Alberta farms play a huge role in feeding the world, but they also use thousands of rolls of plastic baler twine to make it happen. Recycling that twine keeps plastic out of landfills and stops it from being burned, which is better for our health and the environment.

Not to mention, recycling uses far less energy than making new plastic, so it's a win for the planet too. When you recycle your used plastic, you're protecting our soil, water, and air-and creating a cleaner future for everyone, especially Alberta farms!

That's why Cleanfarms, through the 'Alberta Ag-Plastic. Recycle It!' program, is rewarding those who step up to make a difference. By getting your farming community to recycle plastic baler twine, you're showing the world what awesome Albertan farmers do-and you could walk away with some cash prizes while doing your part!

How it works



Pick up your free twine collection bags

Round-up and bag used plastic bale twine



Label your bag(s) with your 4-H club/district name, or farm name (independent entry) and



Take a photo of your bag(s) at the collection site



Submit entry with photo at GreatTwineRoundUp.com

The Great Twine Round-Up is coming to Alberta with \$12,000 in cash prizes for 4-H clubs and ag charities!

Cleanfarms, through the 'Alberta Ag-Plastic. Recycle-It! pilot program is hosting 'The Great Twine Round-Up'; a new province-wide twine collection contest with four cash prizes of \$3,000 each, for the winners' 4-H club or an Albertabased agricultural charity of choice.

Here's how to participate:

- Collect used plastic baler twine in the collection bags provided for free at participating collection sites and select County offices
- Mark each bag with your 4-H club/district name and the date, if you're participating on behalf of a 4-H club or full name/farm name and the date, if you're participating individually.
- Drop off the bags at a participating collection site between November 1, 2024, and May 31, 2025, and snap a photo of your bags at the site!
- Submit your photo through the contest webpage to enter: greattwineroundup.ca

The more bags you drop off, the more entries you'll have. You'll also be helping to keep used baler twine out of landfills and burn

There will be four chances to win;

- One early-bird prize draw for a winning 4-H club/district in January.
- Two prize draws at the end of the contest for winning 4-H clubs/districts.
- One prize draw at the end of the contest for an independent entrant's Alberta-based agricultural charity of choice.

For more information and full contest rules, visit the contest webpage: https://cleanfarms.ca/ great-twine-round-up.

'The Great Twine Round-Up' is part of the 'Alberta Ag Plastic. Recycle it!' pilot program, through which Alberta farmers return used plastic baler twine and grain bags for recycling. Last year, Cleanfarms recycled 673,000 kg of grain bags and 95,400 kg of twine through this pilot. Learn more about this program: https:// cleanfarms.ca/alberta-ag-plasticrecycle-it-program-details/.



Used plastic baler twine ready for recycling at a collection site.

Grain Bag and Twine Recycling in Lacombe County

Grain Bag Recycling



Details:

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

Requirements:

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

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.

Grain Bag and Twine Recyclers in Lacombe County

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

IT ONLY WORKS IF YOU RECYCLE RIGHT!!

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





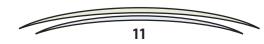




NO feed bags ~ NO grain totes

~ NO silage plastic ~

NO bale wrap



SUBDIVISION & DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY

Do you have questions about subdivision or development activity?

Contact Us:

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

Dale Freitag Director of Planning Services

Cajun Paradis Senior Planner

Natasha Wright Planner / Development Officer

Nicklas Baran Planner / Development Officer

Kerrie Taylor Economic Development Officer

Allison Noonan Planning Services Administrative Assistant

Daniella Gonzalez Planning Services Receptionist

October 1, 2024 to October 31, 2024

Development Applications Received

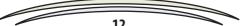
No.	File No.	Applicant	Legal Description	Proposed Development	Decision
1	133/24	Jason & Sarah Berg	Lot 6 Block 1 Plan 202 1405 (Silverwood Estates)	Home Based Business, Minor Jaybe Mechanical Services Ltd.	Approved
2	134/24	Randy Safron	Pt. SE 16-39-01-W5M	Recreation Facilities, Outdoor Sylvan Adventure Park	Approved
3	135/24	Eric O'Sullivan	Lot 2 Block1 Plan 092 4467 (Pt. NE 15-39-02-W5M)	Addition to Existing Residence	Approved
4	136/24	Beacon Homes Ltd.	Lot 13 Block 1 Plan 192 1146 (Burbank Heights)	Dwelling, Single Detached w/attached garage and covered deck	Approved
5	137/24	Tyson Rivet	Pt. NE 10-41-26-W4M	Setback Relaxation	Approved
6	138/24	Kesler Lawton	Pt. NW 35-40-04-W5M	Dwelling, First Replacement residence w/covered deck	
7	139/24	Pam Watts	SE - 25-40-26-W4M	Dwelling, Second	
8	140/24	Forefront Homes	SW 15-41-27-W4M	Dwelling, First Replacement residence w/covered deck	Approved

Subdivision Applications Received

No.	File No.	Applicant	Legal Description	Proposed Subdivision	Decision
9	S-028-24	Ward Nelson & Andrea Nelson	NW 31-40-03-W5M	1st Parcel Out	Approved
10	S-029-24	Sean & Kirsten Klassen	SE 12-41-27-W4M	1st Parcel Out	Approved
11	S-030-24	Shaun Schwab Sharon Wilkins	Lot 1 Plan 932 2996 SW 11-40-1-W5M	Boundary Adjustment	
12	S-031-24	Rod & Brenda Snopek	SW 18-41-23-W4M	1st Parcel Out	
13	S-032-24	Trent & Erin Wagner	SE 19-40-24-W4M	1st Parcel Out	







MAP OF ACTIVITY | Second | Se

Planning Services

? YOU HAVE QUESTIONS Compliance Reports WE HAVE ANSWERS WE HAVE ANSWERS

Frequently Asked Questions

Before you buy or sell land in Lacombe County, you should be requesting a Compliance Report from the County. A Compliance Report will help in determining if there are any problems with buildings on the property before completing a purchase.

This article aims to share information on Compliance Reports and their importance when purchasing a property.

What is a Compliance Report?

A Compliance Report is a document issued by the County that provides comments on the buildings on a property and if they meet the County's Land Use Bylaw regulations. If the buildings are not in compliance with the Land Use Bylaw, the report will indicate what the problem is and the regulations for the building. Items that staff will check include the buildings setbacks, if a development permit was issued (where it is a requirement), and any other relevant Land Use Bylaw regulations.

A compliance report is not a substitute for legal advice. If there are any issues or questions regarding compliance, you should review these matters with a lawyer with relevant expertise.

How do I get a Compliance Report?

Complete a Compliance Report Request Application Form, which can be found on the County's website or in our office and submit the \$100 fee. The County also requires two (2) copies of a current Alberta Land Surveyors Real Property Report. A Real Property Report shows the location

of all buildings and structures on a property, their size, as well as distances from property lines and other buildings or structures. For more information, contact Planning Services at planning@lacombecounty.com or 403-782-8389

What should I do if there are problems identified in the Compliance Report?

Once you receive your Compliance Report, if you choose to correct the issues identified in the report, Planning Services can assist you in finding remedies for the noncompliant buildings. This can include completing the development permit process for previously unapproved buildings, seeking setback relaxations, or requesting a variance. Please note that setback relaxations are approved at the discretion of the County and will not be entertained for temporary structures. If a solution for approval cannot be found, some structure may need to be removed to guarantee compliance.

If there are no problems identified in the Compliance Report, does it mean my property is 100% compliant with the Land Use Bylaw?

Not necessarily. Since the compliance report is a legal document, the County can only comment on what is shown on the Real Property Report survey in addition to the land title and County records. The County relies solely on the information provided in the Real Property Report and does not conduct its own investigation.

Unfortunately, Real Property Reports do not contain enough information to comment on all of the applicable regulations of the Land Use Bylaw.

For instance, most Real Property Reports do not state the height of buildings or additional dwelling units; hence, the County cannot verify if a building meets the height restrictions or if there are unauthorized dwelling units on the property. Other Land Use Bylaw regulations, such as the number of animals that can be kept on a parcel in a residential district, are not building-related, and therefore would not be shown on a Real Property Report.

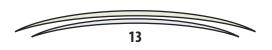
Will the County's Compliance Report also comment on compliance with provincial safety code regulations?

No. The County's compliance report only analyzes a property for planning and development regulation compliance, as regulated by the County's Land Use Bylaw and guided by any applicable statutory planning document (intermunicipal development plans, the Municipal Development Plan, and area structure plans).

Building, gas, electrical, and plumbing inspections are conducted by external agencies that review compliance with relevant provincial regulations. For a list of agencies certified to do building, gas, electrical, or plumbing inspections, visit the County's website: www.lacombecounty.com.

Questions?

If you have any questions about Compliance Reports, do not hesitate to contact Planning Services at 403-782-8389 or planning@lacombecounty.com.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LACOMBE COUNTY KERRY'S MECHANICAL I TO / INTEGRA TIRE

SPOT light

A Local Legacy of Hard Work and Community Commitment in Mirror, Alberta



Kerry and Sandy Andrew, owners of Kerry's Mechanical Ltd/Integra Tire Mirror, have built a trusted, full-service automotive and heavy-duty repair business in the heart of Mirror, Alberta.

Kerry's Mechanical Ltd/Integra Tire Mirror is a licensed commercial inspection facility and provides comprehensive heavy-duty, automotive, and tire services. "We are an all-in-one shop," says Kerry. "From farmers to personal vehicles to the oilfield, we do it all."

Proudly serving the Lacombe County area for over 25 years, Kerry and Sandy's business is a family-oriented operation dedicated to delivering reliable service across diverse sectors. The business provides essential services for agricultural producers, oil and gas businesses, and personal vehicles. Their shop has grown from humble beginnings, starting as a single-bay operation with a small office, which has now grown to a multi-bay facility equipped with a large selection of automotive and heavy-duty parts. The team now includes 13 skilled staff members, as well as three service trucks for on-the-road support, making them an essential resource for the community.

Kerry, a former Lacombe County employee with 18 years of service, completed his Heavy Duty Technician apprenticeship while working for the County. His passion for the community and desire to offer specialized, quality service inspired him to embark on his own business adventure. Kerry's Mechanical Ltd/Integra Tire Mirror has been a cornerstone business for the community ever since, with Kerry and Sandy both actively involved in local volunteer work. Their son, Trevor, who has worked with them for nearly 20 years, and their daughter-in-law, Jen, who joined in 2021, contribute to the family-oriented atmosphere, which extends to the entire staff team, widely known for their loyalty, knowledge, and

dedication.

Reflecting on the company's growth, Kerry and Sandy see their staff's hard work and integrity as core to their success. "We started with just one employee and now have 13. We're very thankful for our wonderful team," they say. This journey has not been without challenges, particularly with the pressures of economic shifts and inflation. However, they continue to navigate these obstacles by staying true to their values of honesty, hard work, and integrity.

Lacombe County has always been a supportive environment for Kerry and Sandy, who feel fortunate to operate in the place they grew up and still love. Their business has thrived with the help of their loyal community and, as they look to the future, they remain open to new opportunities to expand and adapt to meet the community's evolving needs.

For Kerry and Sandy, their biggest success lies not only in the growth of their business but also in the legacy they are creating for future generations. Kerry's Mechanical Ltd/Integra Tire Mirror stands as a testament to their commitment to quality service, family values, and the resilient community spirit of Mirror, Alberta.

Be sure to check them out at 4832 54 Street, Mirror. Alberta!



- Website: https://integratire.com/centre/mirror/
- Facebook:Integra Tire Mirror; https://www.facebook.com/profile. php?id=100057047786569



DID YOU KNOW? Assessment

NOTICE OF INSPECTIONS

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

PROPERTY ASSESSMENT VALUATION BASES IN ALBERTA

The Municipal Government Act (MGA) gives direction to municipalities to prepare assessments each year. The MGA sets out two types of valuation standards – market value base and regulated procedures. The market value base is considered the most fair and equitable means of assessing property because similar properties are assessed in the same manner. It is considered equitable because owners of similar properties in a municipality will pay a similar amount of property tax. Regulated procedure use rates and procedures prescribed by Municipal Affairs to calculate assessed values for certain types of property. These types of property include farmland, linear property, machinery and equipment.

MARKET VALUE VS REPLACEMENT COST

The market value and the replacement cost of a property are not the same thing. Market value is the price a property might reasonably be expected to sell for if sold by a willing seller to a willing buyer after appropriate time and exposure in an open market. Replacement cost is the cost to construct or replace buildings and structures of similar utility using current prices for labour, materials, overhead, profit, fees, etc. As a result, market value may or may not follow cost trends for a number of reasons.

FACTORS THAT IMPACT MARKET VALUE VS REPLACEMENT COST

Although the concepts of market value and replacement cost are different, both are affected by economic conditions. The supply and demand for property impacts market value, just as supply and demand for labour and materials affect replacement cost. It is also important to note the market value and the replacement cost for a building, or property, may not be the same because they are based on different presumptions. Market value is in the eye of buyers and sellers, while replacement cost is the sum of all elements brought together to produce the physical characteristics of the property. Therefore, the cost to construct property may not be reflective of what the market value is when property is exchanged in the open market.



Billets Wanted

for Local Veterinary Students

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



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



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

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

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, 2025; 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.

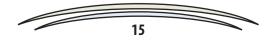
The following are not eligible for support under this policy:

- · 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).





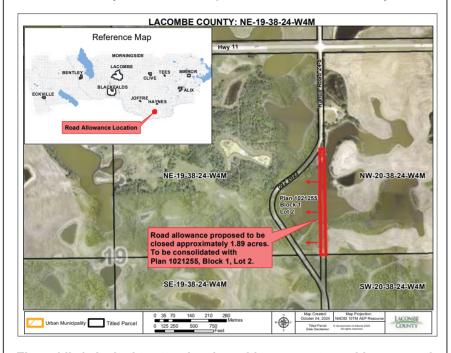
PUBLIC HEARING

Road Closure | Undeveloped Road
Allowance

Lacombe County Council has given first reading to Bylaw No. 1421/24, which proposes the closure and disposal of a portion of a public highway, in alignment with Section 22 of the Municipal Government Act.

This proposal responds to a request to close an undeveloped road allowance, approximately 1.89 acres in size, for consolidation with Lot 2, Block 1, Plan 1021255 (Pt. NE-19-38-24-W4M).

A copy of Bylaw No. 1421/24, including a description of the proposed closure, is available from the County's Administration Department or at www.lacombecounty.com.



The public is invited to attend and provide comments on this proposed bylaw.

PUBLIC HEARING DETAILS

Date: November 28, 2024

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: Lacombe County Council Chambers (2½ miles west of Hwy 2 at Spruceville Road and Hwy 12 intersection) If you are unable to attend, written submissions are welcomed and must be received by Lacombe County prior to the hearing date. Submissions may be sent:

 $\textbf{Email:} \ ttimmons@lacombecounty.com$

Fax: 403-782-3820

Mail: RR 3, Lacombe AB T4L 2N3

Please note, all written submissions will be considered public information.

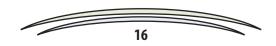
Bridge construction complete, roads reopen

The roads that were closed due to two bridge construction projects, have now reopened:

- A section of Range Road 26-5, south of Twp Rd 41-4 (two miles north of Milton West Branch Road (Twp Rd 41-2).
- A section of Twp Rd 41-4A, east of Rge Rd 26-5.

We thank everyone for their patience during these road closures.

Please note: there are no weight restrictions in place for either bridge.





LACOMBE REGIONAL WASTE SERVICES COMMISSION CHRISTMAS OPERATING HOURS

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

Friday December 20 - All Sites Closed at 2 p.m. for staff function.

Saturday December 21 - Open Regular Hours

Monday December 23 - Open Regular Hours

Tuesday December 24 - All Sites Closed at 3 p.m.

Wednesday December 25 - All Sites are Closed

Thursday December 26 - All Sites are Closed

Friday December 27 – All Sites are Closed

Saturday December 28 - Open Regular Hours

Monday December 30 - Open Regular Hours

Tuesday December 31 - All Sites Closed at 3 p.m.

Wednesday January 1 - All Sites Closed

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!







Lacombe County is holding a PUBLIC HEARING

Lease of Municipal Reserve Land

Lacombe County is holding a PUBLIC HEARING to hear your feedback on a proposed lease of a portion of a County owned municipal reserve described as Lot 9MR, Block 8, Plan 1320431 by the Birch Bay Boat Club for the purpose of operating a marina.

The requirement for a public hearing is outlined in Section 674 of the Municipal Government Act and the public hearing will be carried out in accordance with Section 216.4 of the Municipal Government Act.

PUBLIC HEARING PURPOSE:

A Public Hearing gives members of the public an opportunity to speak to Council to provide input before Council considers approval of the lease.

Your input is valued and encouraged. Anyone wishing to comment on the proposed lease will have an opportunity to do so at the Public Hearing.

The Public Hearing will take place:

December 12, 2024 | 9:00 AM | Lacombe County Council Chambers



HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

Participate in the public hearing to voice your opinion. There are 3 ways you can provide input!

1) Attend and speak in person: Lacombe County Office, Council Chambers.

Located 2.5 miles west of Highway 2 at the intersection of Spruceville Road (Range Road 27-4) and Highway 12.

2) Attend and speak virtually:

Instructions for accessing the meeting by phone or online can be found on our website (www.lacombecounty.com)

3) Provide written comments:

If you are unable to attend the Public Hearing, but want to provide input, send your comments to Michael Minchin, Director of Corporate Services, prior to December 12, 2024. Your comments can be sent by:

EMAIL: mmincin@lacombecounty.com FAX: 403-782-3820, or MAIL: RR 3, Lacombe AB, T4L 2N3

All submissions will be public information

For more information, please contact Michael Minchin, Director of Corporate Services at 403-782-6601 or email mminchin@lacombecounty.com.

Continued from cover: School Resource Officer Program celebrates 5 year milestone

COMMITMENT TO SAFETY AND GROWTH

The program's steady growth, supported by Lacombe County, highlights a commitment to ensuring safe learning environments and a positive school experience. Tim Timmons, County Manager, noted, "Our partnership with Wolf Creek Public Schools through the SRO program underscores Lacombe County's dedication to investing in our communities and youth. The relationships built through this program have brought meaningful value, supporting not just safety but also connection and well-being for rural youth in our schools."

Tim De Ruyck, WCPS Superintendent, added, "The partnership between Lacombe County and WCPS in providing SROs highlights a shared commitment to student well-being and safe learning environments. This collaboration enables our SROs to connect with students in a way that reinforces trust and provides support, bringing tremendous value to our schools and fostering a sense of community across the division."

HISTORY OF THE SRO PROGRAM

In 2019, Lacombe County Council learned that the RCMP SRO program, which was partly funded by Lacombe County, was unable to deliver programming to local schools. In response, Council voted in favour of the County assuming these responsibilities and offering the SRO program through CPO Services. Program costs will continue to be funded and shared under the School Resource Officer Funding and Operational Agreement and was split between Lacombe County and WCPS.

Since then, the program has been seen as a welcome addition to local schools. In 2023, the contributions of Wolf Creek Public Schools' School Resource Officer (SRO) Program were recognized with the Alberta School Boards' Association Zone 4 Friends of Education Award.

"Our SROs are deeply involved in the well-being of our students, that includes as active members of our school family. From mentorship to preventive education, they are committed to helping students make healthy, informed choices in all areas of their lives," said Reaney.

Lacombe County and WCPS recently reviewed the School Resource Officer Funding and Operational Agreement. As the program enters its sixth year, the focus remains on building upon these successes. With goals to provide more educational presentations and seek new ways to engage students and staff, the future of the SRO program is bright, promising continued support and stronger community connections.

For more information about the School Resource Officer program, please contact Lacombe County at 403-782-6601 or Wolf Creek Public Schools at 403-782-3473.



School Resource Officer Dave Lahucik presenting to a group of students in Alix. Officer Dave has been an integral part of the School Resource Officer program since 2019, providing mentorship and preventative education to rural schools in Lacombe County

Lacombe County presented with Friends of Education Award for helping fund social worker program at WCPS

On November 17, during the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Fall General Meeting, Lacombe County was presented with the 2024 Friends of Education Award for Zone 4. This award celebrates individuals and organizations that have made notable contributions to education and demonstrated a commitment to

supporting students and schools in Alberta.

Nominated by Zone 4, Lacombe County was recognized for its positive and collaborative relationship with the education community. Our annual contribution of \$150,000 to fund social workers within Wolf Creek School Division ensures stu-

dents have access to vital mental health and emotional support. This funding helps students thrive by building resilience and fostering positive relationships. We are also proud to support the School Resource Officer (SRO) program in rural schools across Lacombe County, which plays a critical role in maintaining safe and supportive environments for learning.

Lacombe County believes in investing in the success and well-being of our youth. It's an honour to see this commitment recognized at the provincial level by ASBA.



(Above) Lacombe County Reeve Barb Shepherd (left) accepted the 2024 Friends of Education Award for Zone 4 from the Alberta School Boards Association, with County Manager Tim Timmons (right). This award recognizes Lacombe County's long-standing commitment to supporting students' mental health and well-being.

(Right) Reeve Shepherd received the Friends of Education Award during the official ASBA ceremony on November 17.





COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

October 10, 2024

PLANNING DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Council received an update regarding the current activities and initiatives of the Planning Department

LACOMBE COUNTY BUSINESS RECOGNITION PROGRAM

The Lacombe County Business Recognition Program will be implemented as a pilot program for a two-year period beginning January 1, 2025. The program will celebrate new business startups and honour businesses that have reached significant years-in-business milestones. The program's outcomes and effectiveness will be reviewed at the end of the pilot period.

LACOMBE COUNTY PARTICIPATION IN CENTRAL ALBERTA TOURISM ALLIANCE

The matter of Lacombe County's participation as a member of the Central Alberta Tourism Alliance was deferred to a future Council meeting.

POLICY AD(33) ENVIRONMENTAL COM-MUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Updated Policy AD(33) Environmental Community Engagement was approved as presented.

PARKLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY – PRO-POSED 2025 BUDGET

The Parkland Regional Library Proposed 2025 Budget was approved as presented.

REQUEST FOR CLOSURE OF STATU-TORY ROAD ALLOWANCE

Subsequent to a request by a Lacombe County property owner to close a portion of an undeveloped road allowance, (+/- 1.89 acres) for consolidation with Lot 2 Block 1 Plan 1021255 (Pt. NE-19-38-24-W4M), Council gave first reading to Bylaw No. 1421/24. A Public Hearing for Bylaw No. 1421/24 will be held on November 28, 2024 commencing at 9:00 a.m.

OPERATIONS POLICY REVIEW

Rescindment of Policy OP(10) Pipeline Road Crossings, and updates to policies OP(14) Sale of Road Allowances, OP(33) Clean Up Program and OP(35) Individual Roadside Mailboxes, received Council approval.

LACOMBE COUNTY AND TOWN OF BLACKFALDS FIRE SERVICES AGREE-MENT

Council approved the Town of Blackfalds/Lacombe County Fire Services Agreement as

presented. Under the proposed agreement, the County agrees to purchase 50% of the Town of Blackfalds Fire Hall at a cost of \$1,370,620. As per the agreement, the Town is responsible for providing all fire-fighting apparatus and equipment. As such, the Town will be purchasing the County's fire-fighting apparatus and equipment at a cost of \$195,115.

BYLAW NO. 1420/24 LAND USE BYLAW AMENDMENT REQUEST

Bylaw No. 1420/24, a bylaw of Lacombe County to amend the County's Land Use Bylaw Agricultural 'A' District by adding the discretionary use "Recovery Centre" on N ½ 22-41-23-W4M. A public hearing for Bylaw No. 1420/24 will be held on November 18, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

PARKLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY PRE-SENTATION

Representatives of Parkland Regional Library provided the Council with a presentation regarding the current activities and initiatives of Parkland Regional Library.

STARS PRESENTATION

Council was provided with a presentation highlighting the current services and operations of STARS.

USE RESPECT - ASK FIRST SIGNS



Use Respect – Ask First

These signs are available free for landowners across Alberta.

The signs include a space for landowner's contact information and/or conditions of the land.

These Signs are available at the Lacombe County office free of charge.

Use Respect - Ask First is about good communication between landowners and people wanting to access private land for recreation (like hunting, fishing, hiking, wildlife photography, etc.). Landowners can put Use Respect – Ask First signs on their property, to encourage people who would like to access the land to contact them for permission. The signs include a space for the landowner's contact information.

Do the right thing. Ask landowners for permission BEFORE going on their property. It's trespassing if you don't.

Continued from cover: Lacombe County Reeve Shepherd re-elected for another term

Reeve Shepherd, who has served as Reeve since 2021, expressed her gratitude for the ongoing trust placed in her by her fellow councillors.

"It remains a true honour to serve as Reeve of Lacombe County," said Reeve Shepherd. "I am grateful for the support, mutual respect and confidence of my colleagues and for the opportunity to continue working for the people of Lacombe County."

Looking back over the past year, Reeve Shepherd reflects on some of the accomplishments at Lacombe County, especially with regards to attracting new businesses and interest to the area. In the spring, 30 international ambassadors visited Lacombe County, allowing Lacombe County to showcase our vibrant community and the many innovative businesses that are leading the way for the future of sustainability here, such as Doef's Greenhouse, Enhance Energy and NOVA Chemicals.

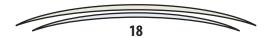
"The tour included the new Dairy Innovation West (DIW) facility, a \$75 million milk concentration facility, the first of its kind in Canada," said Reeve Shepherd. "Seeing it open its doors next spring will definitely be another highlight for me as Reeve for Lacombe County."

Division 1 Councillor John Ireland will also continue in his role as Deputy Reeve, entering the second year of his two-year term. His re-election last year was a testament to his exceptional service to the community.

ABOUT REEVE BARB SHEPHERD:

Barb Shepherd's journey in Lacombe County is marked by a lifelong commitment to public service. Originally from a ranch in southwestern Saskatchewan, she moved to Central Alberta in 1984 to pursue a banking career. She was first elected to Lacombe County Council in 2013, following nearly four decades in the banking industry. Her leadership extends beyond the Council chambers. She is actively involved with a number of local organizations and boards, reflecting her dedication to the community.

As Reeve, she remains a passionate advocate for rural Alberta, environmental stewardship, crime prevention, and fiscal responsibility.



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

October 24, 2024

TABLED MOTION RE: LAWYER TO RE-VIEW AGRICULTURE OPERATIONS PRACTICES ACT AND LACOMBE COUN-TY BYLAWS

The tabled motion from the February 8, 2024 Council meeting regarding the hiring of a lawyer to review the Agricultural Operations Practices Act (AOPA) and Lacombe County bylaws, specifically to see if there is anything concerning or missing to protect agriculture in Lacombe County, was lifted from the table and defeated by Council.

The County Manager was authorized to arrange for a presentation by AOPA, the Natural Resources Conservation Board, and the Farmer's Advocate Office of Alberta to inform Lacombe County residents about these resources.

OCTOBER 1, 2024 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING NOTES

The following recommendations from the October 1, 2024 Committee of the Whole meeting received Council approval:

- That the discussion with representatives of the Natural Resources Conservation Board and the Farmer's Advocate Office be received for information.
- That the discussion with representatives of Law Enforcement and oversight, Government of Alberta, be received for information.
- That the CPO Service Levels presentation be received for information.

- That the presentation and discussion regarding the Tees Bulk Fill and Reservoir be received for information; and, further, that the County Manager be directed to provide a report and recommendation regarding the Tees Bulk Fill and Reservoir for consideration at a future Council meeting.
- That the discussion regarding water servicing for the Hamlet of Tees and the Hamlet of Morningside be received for information; and further, that the County Manager be directed to prepare a report and recommendation regarding water servicing in the Hamlet of Tees and the Hamlet of Morningside for consideration at a future Council meeting.
- That the discussion regarding Lakeview
 Estates Water System Fluoride be received
 for information; and further, that the County
 Manager be directed to prepare a report and
 recommendation regarding Water System
 Fluoride at Lakeview Estates for consider ation at a future Council meeting.

HAMLET OF TEES BULK FILL AND RES-ERVOIR

The County Manager was authorized to:

- Tender and award the engineering of Option
 A of Tees Bulk Fill Station and Reservoir in
 2024 and
- 2) tender and award the construction of Option1A of the Tees Bulk Fill Station and Reservoir in2025

The cost of this project, estimated at \$3,460,800,

will be funded from the Water/Wastewater Reserve.

OPERATIONS POLICY REVIEW

Updates to Policy OP(24) Urban Municipal Road Maintenance, and Policy OP(38) Setback for Lease Roads, received Council approval. Policy OP(23) Damage Claim Procedure was received for information with no changes proposed.

ASBA ZONE 4 FRIENDS OF EDUCATION NOMINEE

Lacombe County has been nominated by Wolf Creek Public Schools (WCPS) for the ASBA Zone 4 Friends of Education Award for the County's continued support of the WCPS School Social Worker program.

REQUEST FOR LETTER OF SUPPORT – BURMAN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Lacombe County will provide Burman University School of Business with a letter of support regarding its application for funding through the federal government Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Partnership Development Grant program for its proposed Small and Midsized Enterprises resiliency research project.

TRAVEL-ING ON TOURISM COOPERA-TIVE PRESENTATION

A representative of the Travel-ING on Tourism Cooperative provided Council with a presentation regarding current activities and initiatives of the Travel-ING on Tourism Cooperative.

Ellis Nature Centre | Thank you for a great season!



We wanted to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported us this season, as we

were recently awarded the Lacombe Chamber of Commerce award for nonprofit of the year! This is a huge win for us and recognition of the hard work our staff & volunteers have put in to continuing Charlie and Winnie Ellis's legacy. We truly wouldn't have been able to achieve this accomplishment without the support of our wonderful community.

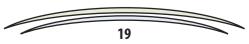
We're also excited to announce that we recently received funding from Peavy Mart to begin stage two of our Modular Agricultural Classroom project. This funding will help us create permanent educational spaces around our chicken coop and honey bee seacans, allowing for further learning about these areas on our site. Watch as we begin this next phase of the project in 2025!

Each year, Giving Tuesday is a day of generosity for Canadian nonprofits. For organizations

like ours, it helps us raise funds for specific projects and needs. This year Giving Tuesday takes place on December 3, and we will be fundraising to help cover the cost of operating our owl camera, which gives folks an inside, personal look into the Great Horned Owl nest on our site. Our owl camera has viewers worldwide, so we want to ensure that we have the means to keep funding it. We're looking to raise \$2,000 on Giving Tuesday which will be used to pay for the internet on the camera. Keep an eye on our social media, website, and CanadaHelps page for how you can contribute on December 3.







RESOURCES FOR SENIORS

Home Support Services

Reliable Housekeeping for Seniors

Trained & Screened Providers

Services Offered:

- Laundry
- · Kitchen, Living room, Bathroom cleaning
- Dusting
- Mopping
- Vacuuming
- Meal prep assistance
- · Weekly, bi-weekly, monthly
- Lacombe, Blackfalds, Bentley, Clive and Lacombe County



SUPPORTED BY:









Bentley FCSS: 403-748-2160

Clive FCSS: 403-784-2020



Frozen Meals on Wheels



What is Frozen Meals on Wheels?

A "not for profit" community service dedicated to promoting the health, well-being and independence of eligible persons by providing meal support programs throught community volunteers. Picked up once a week from our meal supplier and delivered directly to the homes of clients.

Who is eligible for Meals on Wheels?

"Seniors (55+), a person with a disability "convalescent or ill "unable to prepare meals. The meals on Wheels program helps maintain independence with nutritious meals delivered within the Village of Clive, & City of Lacombe



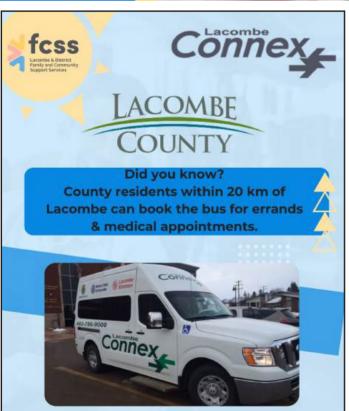
Home Cooked Meals

Healthy and delicious meals prepared and frozen at certified kitchen. Alleviate the worry of preparing meals. Reduce the responsibility of going out to shop for groceries. Know you are eating well.

Contact us:

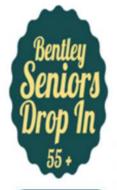
Lacombe FCSS: (403) 782-6637 Clive FCSS: (403) 784-2020 Tuesdays & Thursdays Email: clivefcss@lacombefcss.net





Please call 403-782-6637 for more information

or to reserve your spot



IEMBERSHIF

\$10

Over The Hill & Loving The View

located in the Town Office 4918-50 Avenue

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

 Tuesdays 1 pm Thursdays 1pm

Socialize/cards/games

Potluck

Socialize/cards/games Last Tuesday each month

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

Special programming (no charge) on Mondays/Wednesdays

Mondays

9:45 to 11 am Wednesdays 10:30 to 11:45

Seated Movers & Groovers Chair Yoga - light movements

Registration required for these programs

Move your body, make connections & socialize!

Call 403.748.2160



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

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



AROUND THE COUNTY











🖒 • FAMILY FUN • AND MORE• 💥

Event details at www.lightuplacombe.ca







Make a

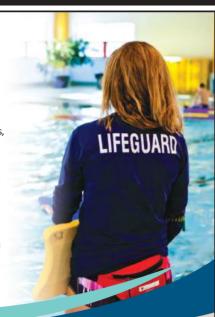
at the Kinsmen Aquatic Centre 5429 53rd Street, Lacombe AB

What's Happening at the pool:

- Winter program registration is open (Swim Lessons, Advanced Courses, JLC)
- FREE Public Swim sponsored by Echo Energy, Saturday, November 30th, 2024 from 5:15-8:15 pm.
- The Kinsmen Aquatic Centre will be closed on Saturday, December 14th, 2024, at 3:15 p.m. for a staff function.

ation on the KAC schedule, pool rentals and advanced courses call 403,782,1277 or visit www.lacombe.ca/pool.



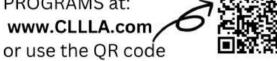


the County of Lacombe Lifelong Learning Association:

(403) 782-7955 office@cllla.com

Adult Learning Opportunities in Literacy, Computers, Crafts, Languages, Cooking, Employment Workshops and so much more!

> **CHECK OUT OUR** PROGRAMS at:



What did you learn today?



BENEFITS OF SPORT FOR KIDS & YOUTH

- Nurtures physical fitness
- Develops social skills
- Lowers anxiety & depression
- Improves confidence & selfesteem
- Helps in academic success
- Fosters teamwork & leadership skills
- Improves body image & overall quality of life



WHAT WE DO

How to

Participate?

The Joy of Giving is an anonymous gifting program for any adult/senior who may need some extra joy during the holidays, from Alix, Mirror, Tees or the surrounding area.

Sign-Up or Nominate: Deadline is on December 12

To sign-up, call us or stop by to fill out an application

To nominate, please provide the Nominee's name

We will contact all Nominees for consent.

Give a Gift: Drop Off by December 17

If you wish to support this program, please stop by

1. Select a numbered ornament & receive the corresponding gift ideas

2. Make gift purchases based on ideas provided

2. Make gift partitions about in least provided 3. Return wrapped gifts on or before December OR Donate Cash towards the purchase of a gift.

GIFT PICK-UP: DECEMBER 18 OR 19

10AM-4PM

Services **Available**

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

alixmirrorwellness@amail.com

Follow us on Facebook @AlixandAreaCommunity ResourceCentre

www.alixcrc.com



For complete details on all upcoming events and programs visit online or contact us. 403-396-3369 alixmirrorwellness@gmail.com



Caregiver & Tot Playdate Ages 0-4

1,2,3 Count with Me *Ages 2-3*

Reading Buddies *Ages 6-13*

Anime & Otaku Club Ages 8+

Something Cool After School Ages 10+

Knitting & Crochet Ages 18+

Pajama Story Time All Ages

Family Films All Ages

*For more program information check out our website & social

Borrowing

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

Hours

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

Visit us on our website

& social medias

Contact

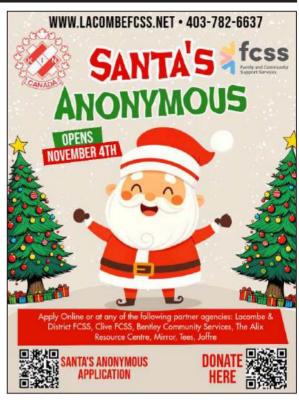
403-885-2343 www.blackfaldslibrary.ca

Eagle Builders Centre 5302 Broadway Avenue, Blackfalds, AB TOM 0J0













Christmas Potluck

December 8, 2024 Morningside Community Hall Doors open 5 PM



Bring your favorite dish and join in on the fun Live Entertainment provided

Wreath Making Night





December 13, 2024 7 PM Morningside Hall \$63 per person (GST Inc) Maximum 25 people Contact Cindy Siebenga 403-304-6242

For registration and more information

Rontley Santa Celebration December 7, 2024 6 - Spin - Mathofreet Park Viott with Santa Wagon Aides Hot Chocolnie & Cookies



DECEMBER 2024							
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
		Committee of the Whole (9AM)					
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
				County Council 9AM			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
			Office C				
29	30	31	JAN. 1	2	3	4	
			New Year's Day Office Closed				

Upcoming Events: January 1 (New Year's Day - Office Closed), January 9 (County Council), January 16 (Lacombe County Ag Service Board meting), January 30 (Council Council)

Help us promote OU!



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?

Main Office - 403-782-6601

Operations - 403-782-8379

403.357.1210

403.782.3820

403.782.5356

Planning Services - 403-782-8389 Community Services - 403-782-8959

Public Works Shop - 403-782-3567

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

We'd love to hear from you!



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





lacombecounty







LacombeCounty



www.lacombe county.com

COUNTY NEWS

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

Nicole Plewis, Communications Coordinator communications@lacombecountv.com 403.782.6601

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

Lacombe County

Department Numbers:

Administration Fax Public Works Fax

