

County News

Friday, April 18, 2025 | Volume 4

Lacombe County adopts updated animal regulations for Residential Districts

Lacombe County Council has officially approved updates to the Land Use Bylaw regarding animals in residential districts. The new regulations, adopted during the Council meeting on April 10, 2025, aim to promote responsible animal management while balancing the needs of animal owners with those of their neighbours.

These changes will help create a more harmonious coexistence between residents in residential districts and the animals in their care, from livestock to poultry and even bees. The changes are designed to ensure safe, humane, and environmentally responsible practices when owning and managing animals.

"Lacombe County has a long history of being an agricultural community. We encourage residential landowners interested in keeping animals to embrace their role as responsible stewards of livestock, poultry, and bees," says Lacombe County Reeve, Barb Shepherd.

"By prioritizing the well-being of their animals, being mindful of their neighbours, and adhering to the highest standards of care, they contribute to personal food production while fostering a stronger, safer, and

healthier community for all."

The new regulations follow a comprehensive community consultation process, including a public meeting in November 2024 with 60 attendees, and a survey that garnered 167 responses. On March 13, 2025, Council held a Public Hearing, where 12 residents shared their thoughts before the bylaw was adopted.

WHICH AREAS ARE AFFECTED?

These updates apply to residential districts within Lacombe County only. They do not affect agricultural, commercial, industrial, or recreational districts.

WHAT ABOUT DOMESTIC PETS?

The updated regulations do not apply to pets like dogs or cats that are typically kept indoors. The focus is on livestock, poultry, and bees.

WHAT ARE THE KEY UPDATES?

For those looking to raise livestock, poultry, or keep bees on their residential property, it's important to understand the updated regulations that set clear limits and guidelines for keeping animals.

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Lacombe County approves the 2025 Tax Rates

Lacombe County Council has officially approved the 2025 Tax Rate Bylaw, maintaining the municipal tax rate for residential, farmland, and non-residential properties at 2024 levels. This decision aligns with Council's commitment to responsible fiscal management, providing stability and affordability to residents and businesses within the County.

"The 2025 budget projected a 0% increase in the municipal tax rate for residential properties, demonstrating our continued dedication to supporting our residents, especially at a time when economic stability is crucial," said Lacombe County Reeve Barb Shepherd. "However, residents may still notice an increase on their tax bills due to factors beyond the County's control."

Residents and businesses are reminded that their tax contributions are crucial to maintaining and improving services that make Lacombe County a thriving, attractive place to live and work. With strategic resource allocation and stable taxation, Lacombe County is well-positioned to support community well-being and future growth.

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS AND TAX LEVY CHANGES

The overall 2025 municipal tax levy totals \$39,827,619 reflecting the County's investment in community services, infrastructure, and enhanced public safety. Notable budget amendments approved by Council since November include:

- Increased Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) premiums: \$116,560
- Additional contribution to the Recreation Capital Assistance Reserve: \$165,600

UNDERSTANDING THE 2025 TAX RATES

Although Lacombe County has maintained the municipal tax rates at 2024 levels, property owners may still notice an increase in the taxes on their 2025 Tax Notice. This increase is due primarily to two factors beyond the County's control:

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SUCCESS GROWS HERE!

Publication Mail Agreement No 43726064

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

County News is available to read on our website every month. If you wish to stop receiving County News by mail, email communications@lacombecounty.com with your mailing address and we will take you off our mailing list.

National Volunteer Appreciation Week | April 27-May 3, 2025

Lacombe County proudly celebrates the remarkable volunteers from all walks of life who generously contribute their time and expertise. These dedicated individuals play a crucial role in making our communities strong, inclusive, and welcoming places to live, work, and play.

We are fortunate to have a diverse group of skilled volunteers throughout the County. This includes coaches who inspire our local sports teams, the caretakers of our community halls, and the individuals who maintain our indoor and outdoor recreation and cultural facilities. Our community event coordinators, volunteer firefighters, 4-H leaders, companions for seniors, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, and advocates for Victim Services are just a few of the many who contribute tirelessly to the welfare of Lacombe County.

These volunteers consistently rise to the occasion, providing invaluable service through both good times and challenging ones.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers for their unwavering dedication and for helping to make Lacombe County a vibrant and nurturing community.

Thank you for helping to make Lacombe County a vibrant and caring community!



THANK YOU Lacombe County Volunteers!



Celebrating our volunteers for their helping hands and community spirit!

LACOMBE
COUNTY

This spring, check your burn piles!

As we welcome the warmth of spring, it's crucial to remember the hidden dangers that the past winter's activities may have left behind. Pile burning, a common method used to manage debris and clear land during colder months, can pose significant risks if not properly managed and extinguished. While the flames may have subsided, the threat of a deep ground fire could persist, smouldering undetected for months.

Why It Matters

Ground fires from incomplete pile burns have the potential to reignite under the right conditions, transforming into dangerous wildfires that can threaten ecosystems, properties, and lives. The transition from winter to spring, with the melting snow and thawing ground provides these conditions, making early spring a critical time for fire checks.

Guidelines for Effective Pile Burning

- **Optimal Conditions:** Whenever possible, conduct pile burns under snow-covered and frozen ground conditions to minimize the risk of

the fire spreading.

- **Vigilance is Key:** Never leave a burn site unattended. Monitor the site actively to ensure the fire is completely extinguished.
- **Persistence Pays Off:** If the pile does not burn completely, re-pile and reburn as necessary. It's essential to ensure no materials are left smouldering.
- **Check and Double-Check:** After the surface burn appears out, diligently check piles for hot spots. Using a metal rod, probe the piles; warmth indicates the fire still burns beneath.
- **Spring Surveillance:** Conduct thorough checks of burn sites in early spring to confirm complete extinguishment. This step is crucial to prevent any chance of a wildfire.

As part of our commitment to safety and environmental stewardship, we urge everyone who conducted pile burns in the winter to take these guidelines to heart. A few minutes spent checking your burn sites can make a significant difference in preventing wildfires. Together, let's ensure our spring is not only vibrant and green but also safe for our communities and natural habitats.

Remember, vigilance today can prevent a wildfire tomorrow. Stay safe, and ensure your winter burns are completely out before welcoming the full bloom of spring.

Check your burn piles!

🌱 Spring Is Here, But Is Your Fire Really Out? 🌱

Your vigilance can prevent wildfires. Let's keep our spring safe and green!



All About Assessment: April 2025

In Alberta, completing assessments is primarily a local government responsibility, except for Designated Industrial Property (Linear, Major Plants, & non-Linear) which is completed by Alberta Municipal Affairs. All assessments are prepared under established provincial policies with direction set out in the *Alberta Municipal Government Act*, relevant Regulations and Minister's Guidelines.

These documents define property types and property classes and provide criteria and standards the Assessor must comply with.

What does an assessor need to know about my property to prepare the assessment?

To estimate the value the Assessor needs to know about your property. The *Municipal Government Act* authorizes the Assessor the ability to enter and inspect the property, so long as the owner/occupier has been given notice and informed the purpose of the inspection is to prepare an assessment of the property.

Notification of inspection is published in the monthly newsletter and on the website and may be provided in a request for information (RFI) letter.

Information typically gathered on a property includes:

- the type,
- size,
- age, and
- characteristics (e.g. heating type, plumbing fixtures, interior finish) of improvements
- property class, based on the use of the improvement/property (e.g. property classes include residential, farm, commercial, industrial/manufacturing.
 - o A property may be dual or multi-purpose, residential & industrial), etc.

More information can be found here: <https://www.lacombecounty.com/en/living-here/how-assessment-works.aspx>

How is this information collected?

To collect this information, the municipal Assessor may:

- physically visit or inspect a property.
- complete a phone interview.
- ask in a mail-in questionnaire or survey.
- use electronic data available through photos, land titles, etc.

The County recently sent out its annual reinspection questionnaires for a number of properties in the west area of the County near Sylvan Lake. These questionnaires aid in updating the physical characteristics of a property. Assessors will be following up with owners who have received these questionnaires as part of the annual reinspection process.

The Municipal Government Act also requires an owner "to provide information" to the Assessor when requested. Failing to provide the requested information may impact the property owner's assessment appeal against the prepared assessment for that particular year.

Your assessment is only as accurate as the information collected by the Assessor.

What other information may be requested?

If you have recently purchased the property, the Assessor may also ask for information about the sale to determine if it can be used as an indication of typical market conditions.

This may include asking the following questions:

- What the use of the property was at the time of sale?
- Was it serviced?
- Was it purchased from a family member, a close business associate, or an inheritance?
- Was there any personal property (e.g.,

appliances, tools, equipment) included?

- Have there been any changes to the property since the sale?

What happens to the property data that is collected?

After collecting property data, Lacombe County Assessors prepare the assessment. Properties are generally valued at the market value standard. The *Municipal Government Act* states some properties are to be valued using regulated rates (e.g. machinery & equipment and farmland).

Properties assessed on regulated rates must meet defined criteria and are calculated based on procedures are set by the Province – they do not reflect current market values. For market value properties, assessors use at least one (often more) of the three approaches to value: sales comparison, cost, income approach. Some properties are subject to both the market value standard as well as regulated rates. The Province again sets these valuation procedures.

What if I do not agree with the assessment assigned to my property?

If you think your assessment is not fair in relation to similar properties, or you suspect an error, contact the Assessment Department to discuss the issue with your Assessor. Property owners who do not agree with the assessment for the property can also file a complaint with the County's Assessment Review Board.

If you wish to discuss the details of your property assessment, please contact an Assessor at the County Administration Office.

More information is also available on the website: <https://www.lacombecounty.com/en/living-here/assessment.aspx>.

Update your Mailing Address!



If your address has changed, make sure to notify us.

Call 403-782-6601 or email

info@lacombecounty.com.

We also recommend **updating the title of your property with Alberta Land Titles**. You can obtain a form from us, by calling 780-427-2742, or online <https://www.alberta.ca/land-titles-overview.aspx> (under Change of address and name).

Nominations are OPEN

Nominations can be filed from January 1, 2025 until Noon on September 22, 2025

Visit [LacombeCounty.com/Election](https://www.lacombecounty.com/Election) for more details




2025

Municipal Election



LACOMBE
COUNTY



CANDIDATE ORIENTATION

Thinking About Running for Municipal Office?

Lacombe County, in partnership with the City of Lacombe, the Towns of Blackfalds, Bentley, and Eckville, and the Villages of Alix and Clive, is hosting a **Candidate Orientation** for anyone considering running in the upcoming municipal election.

Whether you're thinking about serving on Lacombe County Council or on one of the councils in our partnering municipalities, this workshop will provide valuable insights into the responsibilities of elected officials.

June 25 & June 26

6:30PM - 8:30PM







Lacombe County Council Chambers


This two-day interactive session will cover:

- ✓ How council decision-making works.
- ✓ The roles of governance, management, and service delivery.
- ✓ Where municipal funding comes from and how it's allocated.
- ✓ Time commitments and work-life balance as an elected official.
- ✓ The responsibilities of councillors in serving their communities.

All potential candidates from municipalities within Lacombe County are welcome!

For more information or to register for this workshop:
Contact Meghan Richer-Poth at 403-782-8962 / mricher-poth@lacombecounty.com



Lacombe County is holding a PUBLIC HEARING

to update the Advertising/Public Notification Bylaw

BYLAW NO. 1433/25

Lacombe County is holding a PUBLIC HEARING to hear your input on a proposed bylaw that would modernize how Lacombe County communicates statutory notices to our residents.

WHEN IS THE PUBLIC HEARING?

April 24, 2025

9:00 AM

HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

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


- Attend and speak in person**
Lacombe County Office, Council Chambers
Located 2½ miles west of Highway 2 at the intersection of Spruceville Road and Highway 12
- Attend and speak virtually**
Join by Zoom or by Phone
Instructions for accessing the meeting by phone or computer/laptop can be found on the County's website at www.lacombecounty.com/Virtual.
- Provide written comments**
If you are unable to attend the Public Hearing but want to provide input, please send your comments to Planning Services prior to April 24, 2025. Your comments can be sent by:

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

All submissions will be public information.

For more information contact Lacombe County
Nicole Plewis, Communications Coordinator
403-782-6601 or communications@lacombecounty.com

or learn more at
www.lacombecounty.com/AdvertisingBylaw



PROSTATE CANCER OFTEN HAS NO WARNING SIGNS

EARLY DETECTION SAVES LIVES

GET CHECKED

THE VISIT IS FAST, FREE & NO APPOINTMENT IS NECESSARY

PSA BLOOD TESTING FOR MEN AGES 40-70*

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 12PM - 3PM

LACOMBE COUNTY
40403 RR 274, Lacombe Bldg

*Conditions apply. Visit getchecked.ca for more information.



MUNICIPAL ELECTION | Get informed about running for Council

Considering running for Lacombe County Council? Are you ready to make a difference in your community?

If you're considering running for local council in a rural Alberta municipality, this is the perfect opportunity for you! Alberta Municipalities (ABmunis) and Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) are hosting a webinar to help you prepare for this year's election.

Join this informative session to learn about:

- The roles and responsibilities of County councillors
- Insights from experienced councillors and guest speakers
- Key information to help you decide if local office is right for you

First Date: April 25, 2025
Location: Online (registration required)

Can't attend this session? Additional opportunities and resources are available.

Visit the Alberta Municipalities website to register or learn more: www.abmunis.ca/events/municipal-election-webinar-rural-municipal-district-counties.

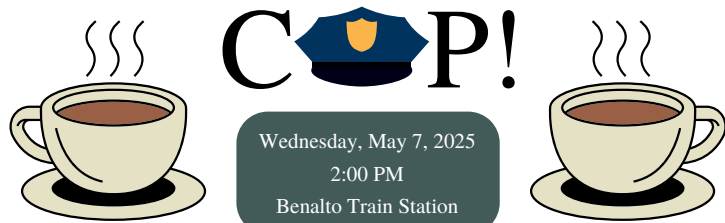


Council Highlights & Minutes can be found on our website at www.lacombecounty.com/en/our-government/agendas-and-minutes.aspx

SAFETY FIRST

COFFEE

with a



Event Details

Come join Sylvan Lake RCMP officers for conversation over coffee.

Snacks and refreshments provided.

Contact Us

For more information, please reach out via email. We'd love to hear from you!

medicineriverews@gmail.com



Sponsored by the Medicine River Crimewatch Society

FIRE PERMIT SEASON

is March 1 - October 31

Do you have a Fire Permit?

SUBMIT IT ONLINE BEFORE BURNING!



mobile requests
through the website



online
Fire Permit Request



call into the office at
403-782-6601

Fire permits can also be requested in person at our office.

SHARE THE ROAD!

A spring seeding safety message from Lacombe County

As the frost thaws and the days grow longer, farmers across Lacombe County are gearing up for the crucial task of spring seeding. Tractors and heavy machinery are making their way back to the fields, marking the start of a busy planting season.

This surge of agricultural activity, however, brings an increased presence of slow moving vehicles (SMVs) on the roads—a change that requires heightened awareness and safety measures from all road users. Here are essential tips and best practices for both farmers operating SMVs and travellers driving near these vehicles, ensuring a safe spring seeding season for everyone.

Tips for Operating Slow Moving Vehicles (SMVs):

- **Display the SMV Emblem:** Make sure your vehicle has a visible slow-moving vehicle emblem mounted at the rear. This triangular, reflective sign alerts other road users that your vehicle travels at speeds of 40 km/h (25 mph) or less.
- **Ensure Proper Lighting:** Before dawn, after dusk, or in poor visibility conditions, make sure your vehicle is equipped with adequate lighting. Front headlights and rear tail lights increase visibility, making it easier for others to see you.
- **Plan Your Route:** If possible, plan your route to minimize travel on busy roads and during peak traffic times. Consider using alternative routes that are less travelled to reach your fields.

Safe Driving Practices Near SMVs:

- **Patience is Key:** SMVs are not just tractors; they include farm implements, construction equipment, and other oversized loads that are vital for local agriculture and infrastructure projects. When encountering these vehicles, exercise patience and understand they are essential for the work being done.
- **Pass With Care:** Only pass an SMV when it's safe. Ensure you have clear visibility of oncoming traffic and that the vehicle is not signalling to make a left turn. Remember, the operator may

have limited visibility, so signal your intentions well in advance.

- **Keep a Safe Distance:** Maintain a safe following distance. SMVs may make unexpected stops or turns, especially when entering or exiting fields. A safe distance allows you more time to react to these maneuvers.

For Operators of Oversized Loads or Slow-Moving Trucks:

When navigating the highways and byways of Lacombe County with an oversized load or at speeds below the limit, the following guidelines will ensure safety for all road users:

- **Right Lane Usage:** Move to the right lane whenever it's safe. This allows faster-moving vehicles to pass safely on the left.
- **Stay Close to the Curb:** Drive as near to the right curb or edge of the roadway as practical. This minimizes the obstruction to the normal flow of traffic.
- **Avoid Passing:** Avoid overtaking or passing another vehicle unless absolutely necessary. The size and speed of your load make this maneuver risky.
- **Left Turn Caution:** Exercise extreme caution when turning left at an intersection or into a driveway. Ensure oncoming traffic is a safe distance away before executing your turn.
- **Follow Traffic Directives:** If traffic control devices or signs direct slow-moving traffic to use a specific lane, adhere strictly to these instructions. They are placed for your safety and the safety of others.

As we embrace the spring seeding season, let's commit to heightened vigilance and safety on the roads. By following these guidelines, we can ensure a safe and productive season for the farmers and residents of Lacombe County alike. Together, we can keep our community safe and support the agricultural activities that are the backbone of our local economy.

2025 Farm Vehicle Safety Checks Wrap-Up

Lacombe County recently concluded its two-day Farm Vehicle Safety Check initiative, held on April 2 and 3 at the Rainy Creek and Tees Public Works shops. This annual event reflects the County's commitment to road safety and our belief in Vision Zero—that even one life lost on Alberta roads is too many.

Throughout the event, 22 farm vehicles underwent voluntary inspections by Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) certified inspectors, with support from Peace Officers representing multiple agencies. Rather than focusing on enforcement, the goal of this initiative was to promote education, collaboration, and proactive maintenance heading into the busy spring season.

Producers received personalized inspection reports, guidance on best practices, and answers to their questions about regulations and vehicle safety. The event provided an opportunity to build relationships, share knowledge, and work together to improve road safety in our region.

We extend our sincere thanks to the agricultural producers who took the time to participate. Their commitment to safety plays a key role in protecting all road users. We also recognize and appreciate the efforts of our enforcement partners for their ongoing support. We look forward to continuing this important initiative in 2026.

MIRROR CORNER



2025 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, 2025, 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.albertaspc.ca.org/>***

Jolly Seniors

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

Booking Mirror Community Hall

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

Mirror and District Museum

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

Friends of the Mirror Library Society/ Mirror Library

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

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

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

Mirror Royal Canadian Legion Branch 189 - 5015 50th Avenue

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

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.

Mirror and District Museum Association

Glass Rock Mosaic Class

Create a glass mosaic on a rock with artist Jodi from ManzMakers Mosaics and Art!

Saturday May 3rd
1pm-4pm
4910 53 St Mirror
\$45 per person

RSVP via our Facebook Page: "Mirror and District Museum Association"

Stay and Play

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

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

For More Information:
facebook.com/lacombefrm

JOIN THE FUN AT THE MIRROR MAYDAYS CELEBRATION PARADE

Celebrate May Long Weekend in style at the Mirror Maydays Celebration Parade—an event full of excitement, creativity, and community spirit! Calling all individuals, families, organizations, and businesses: This is YOUR chance to shine and showcase your creativity! Simply show up on Saturday for judging with a beautifully decorated float!

PARADE INFORMATION: SATURDAY MAY 17TH

FLOAT LINE-UP:
STARTING AT 10 AM
ON 50TH STREET,
NEAR THE ALLIANCE
CHURCH.
(ARRIVE EARLY FOR
JUDGING)
PARADE BEGINS AT
11AM!

COMPETE FOR 1ST, 2ND, AND 3RD PLACE IN THESE CATEGORIES:

- BEST INVOLVEMENT OF ANIMALS
- BEST INVOLVEMENT OF CHILDREN
- BEST IN SHOW CAR
- BEST NON-PROFIT FLOAT
- BEST IN AGRICULTURE

SPECTATORS: FIND YOUR PERFECT SPOT ON EITHER THE NORTH OR SOUTH SIDEWALK OF MAIN STREET (50 AVE). DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIRS AND MAKE YOURSELF COMFORTABLE!

Ways to access services and resources available to the community of Mirror:

- Stop in for a referral at the Mirror Community Library
- Contact by phone/ in-person either Alix and Area Community Resource Centre (403-396-3369) or Bashaw & Area Community Resource Centre (780-372-4074).

WHAT WE DO

SPRING HIGHLIGHTS

~Weekly Veggie Delivery~ Available to Everyone! ONE bag per HOUSEHOLD. Veggies will be available for pick-up beginning on Tuesdays, as of 1PM. Thank you Pic N Pac!

~Don't forget RAINBOWS begins on April 24~

confident squad
Celebrate uniqueness, friendship and empowerment!

Every other Tuesday!
Begins on April 1,
3:30PM-5:30PM

for preteen/teen girls
(target group is Grades 6, 7, 8)

BEING YOU IS YOUR power

SAVE THE DATE for a chance to attend major events and help a great cause...
This summer volunteer at Ponoka Stampede: June 25 - July 1 and Big Valley Jamboree: July 31 - Aug 3.
More details coming soon!

FREE

Friday, May 9
6PM-9PM

Mother's Day Pamper Evening

Mini Family Photo Sessions

LIGHT SNACKS & REFRESHMENTS

MAKE & TAKE SCENTED ROOM SPRAY & BATH SALTS

Drop-in & FREE ... (2-3 photos per family). Sessions will be first come first serve with Life's Little Moments Photography. Everyone is welcome.

LIFE'S LITTLE MOMENTS PHOTOGRAPHY

(Backdrop sample)

Services Available

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

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



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

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

403-396-3369

OPERATIONS



Paid Parking Program

REMINDER: the Paid Parking Program is in effect from May - October at the following locations



Sandy Point Beach

\$3/hour
OR
\$15/day for parking at Sandy Point Beach.



Boat Launches

\$10/day to launch only
\$20/day launch and park
Applies to:
Sandy Point Boat Launch
Sunbreaker Cove Boat Launch



Annual Pass

- \$120/year Sandy Point Beach Parking
- \$160/year Boat Launch & Parking
- \$80/year Boat Launch ONLY*
(*doesn't include parking)

Questions? Prepay? Visit www.lacombecounty.com/paidparking

MIRROR

Infrastructure Mapping Project

Start Date: April 4, 2025 End Date: May 30, 2025



About this project

Lacombe County will be checking sewer pipes and locating water lines in the Hamlet of Mirror. A consulting company will help with this work. They will inspect the pipes and water system to see what condition they're in and gather better records.

Before cleaning or locating any pipes, workers will open manholes to check and measure them. They will also mark locations of things like fire hydrants, water valves, and manholes on a map.



Work Hours

Inspections will happen from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, excluding holidays. If daytime inspections can't be done safely because of traffic or other problems, the work might be moved to nighttime, and residents will be notified in advance.

We need YOUR help!

If possible, please avoid doing laundry during the day and wait until evening. Your cooperation is important to help keep our community's water and sewer systems safe and working well.

QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS? PLEASE CONTACT:

Darren Dempsey – Lacombe County

Manager of Utility Services | (587) 876-0024 | ddempsey@lacombecounty.com

Visit our website for full details: www.lacombecounty.com/MirrorProject

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

BROKEN OR MISSING ROAD SIGNS?

LACOMBE COUNTY

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

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

ENVIRONMENT

Enjoying the Ride: Responsible OHV Use in Lacombe County

Off-Highway Vehicles (OHVs) offer an exciting way to explore Alberta's diverse landscapes. However, it's essential to operate these vehicles responsibly to ensure personal safety, protect the environment, and prevent wildfires. As the weather warms up, Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) enthusiasts across Lacombe County are gearing up to explore Alberta's beautiful landscapes. Whether you ride for work or recreation, it's important to do so responsibly to protect our lands, keep everyone safe, and reduce the risk of wildfires.

Know Before You Go

Before hitting the trails, make sure you're riding in areas where OHV use is permitted. Not all public lands allow motorized recreation, and trespassing on private property or closed trails can result in fines, damage to sensitive ecosystems, and conflict with landowners. Be aware of seasonal or temporary closures, especially during dry conditions or wildlife-sensitive times.

Ride Safe

OHVs are powerful machines that require skill and attention. Always wear proper safety gear, including a helmet, goggles, gloves, and sturdy footwear. Ride sober and stay within your skill level. If you're exploring remote areas, let someone know where you're going and when you expect to return.

Respect the Land

Stay on designated trails and avoid creating new paths, which can lead to erosion, habitat destruction, and the spread of invasive species. Riding through wetlands, watercourses, or alpine areas can have long-term impacts on wildlife and water quality. If you pack it in, pack it out—trash left behind has no place in our natural areas.

Be Fire Aware

OHVs can pose a fire risk, especially during hot, dry conditions. Dry grasses can ignite if they

come into contact with a hot exhaust or sparks from a vehicle. To reduce the risk:

- Ensure your OHV has a working spark arrester.
- Carry a small fire extinguisher and shovel.
- Check for restrictions or fire bans before you head out.
- Avoid idling or parking on dry vegetation.

Lead by Example

As a rider, your actions set the tone for others. Be courteous to fellow trail users, yield to hikers and equestrians, and keep noise to a minimum in shared spaces. Responsible OHV use ensures these areas remain open and enjoyable for everyone now and into the future.

For more information on motorized recreation rules and guidelines in Alberta, visit: alberta.ca/motorized-recreation-on-public-land.

WILD About Bees

We know native pollinators are on the decline, but what's the most effective way we can help?

Create more HABITAT!

This April, Lacombe County invites you to support local pollinators by purchasing our specially curated pollinator seed mix and the informative Wild About Bees handbook.

Wild About Bees Handbook & Seed Mix - \$22.92

Your package includes:

- Step-by-step instructions on creating a high-quality pollinator garden specifically designed for native pollinators
- Guide for every species included in your seed package
- A list of Lacombe County's top 20 favourite pollinators
- Information on additional resources to support your gardening efforts

The seed mix contains 100% native wildflowers, carefully selected and thoroughly researched to thrive within the Aspen Parkland Ecoregion.

How to Purchase:

Once ready, you can pick up your Wild About Bees handbook and seed package at the Lacombe County Office (Monday - Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm).

Stay tuned to our website and social media channels for updates and details about the program launch!

Pick up your Wild About Bees handbook and seed package at the Lacombe County Office (Monday-Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm)

Watch our website and/or social media channels for details regarding the launch of this program

LACOMBE COUNTY RESERVE LAND SOME SIMPLE RULES



We want everyone to enjoy our County reserve lands while keeping them beautiful and safe. By adhering to these rules, we can help preserve the natural beauty of our County lands and ensure that everyone can enjoy them responsibly. Here are some easy rules to remember:

1. PROTECT THE PLANTS

Do not cut, mow or remove plants, trees, or any other vegetation.



2. NO BUILDING ALLOWED

You're not allowed to construct or place any structures.



3. STICK TO THE DESIGNATED PATHS

Keep OHVs on designated trails.



4. LEAVE NATURE ALONE

Don't dig or take away natural features from the land.



5. NO SIGNS OR ADS

Do not attach signs, advertisements, or anything else to trees, fences, or buildings.



6. SHOW RESPECT FOR SIGNS & STRUCTURES

Don't tamper with or damage County signs, buildings, or other improvements.



7. KEEP THE AREA CLEAN

Do not dispose of landscaping materials, yard clippings, waste, building materials, topsoil, sand, or rocks on these lands.



8. RESPONSIBLE CHEMICAL USE

Do not discard hazardous materials or use pesticides, herbicides, or fertilizers on the land.



9. RESPONSIBLE WASTE DISPOSAL

Pack out any waste you pack in or utilize designated waste bins.



10. NO CAMPING ALLOWED

Camping is only allowed in areas where signage permits it. Always follow the posted rules and conditions for those areas.



11. THESE ARE PUBLIC LANDS

Remember, these are public lands. Do not restrict access to others.



AGRICULTURE

Help keep Alberta Rat-Free: Report any rat sightings

Alberta holds the unique distinction of being the largest rat-free jurisdiction in the world — a status that has been carefully protected for over 70 years. Through the work of Alberta's Rat Control Program and the cooperation of municipalities and residents, the province has successfully prevented the establishment of wild rat populations.

Lacombe County is proud to support Alberta's Rat on Rats! initiative — a public awareness campaign encouraging residents to report any signs of rat activity. While rat infestations are rare, early detection is key to protecting our properties, infrastructure, and food supply from these destructive pests.

WHY DOES IT MATTER?

Rats can cause significant damage by chewing on wiring, contaminating food, destroying insulation, and undermining foundations. A single pair of rats can reproduce quickly, making even a small incursion a serious risk.

KNOW THE SIGNS OF RATS:

- Droppings or tracks in dusty areas
- Gnawed materials (wires, wood, plastic)
- Burrows around foundations
- Noises in walls or attics
- Greasy rub marks along walls or baseboards

Prompt reporting ensures the situation is addressed quickly and prevents potential spread. If



you suspect rat activity, take action immediately:

- Call 310-FARM (3276)
- Report online or through the EDDMapS app
- Email rats@gov.ab.ca
- Contact Lacombe County directly

Alberta's rat-free status is a point of pride — and it's up to all of us to help maintain it. Thank you for doing your part to keep Lacombe County, and Alberta, rat-free.

For more information, visit www.abinvasives.ca/rat-on-rats.

Weed season is around the corner: *Early detection is KEY!*

Most weeds start appearing in mid-May (usually) and are easiest to control when they first "pop up". If you see a troublesome weed, you should take action early, as leaving them can have significant negative impacts. The longer you leave weeds, then more difficult they are to control or eradicate from your property.

The *Weed Control Act of Alberta* directs that all landowners are responsible for keeping weeds under control. This also includes Lacombe County. The County is responsible for controlling weeds on properties under County control, and directing private landowners/tenants to do so on their properties as well.

Weed Inspections

The Agriculture team believes that early detection and rapid response is the most effective method of managing invasive plants.

The employment of seasonal weed inspectors and the use of new technology assist Agriculture staff in maintaining an effective, long term weed control program.

How We Can Help

Agriculture staff are available to work with residents to prevent and resolve weed control issues. They can assist by identifying plant species and presenting solutions based on resident and County experience, along with research results using various weed control methods.

Call Lacombe County at 403.782-8959 if:

- You have concerns about weeds on a property.
- You would like a consultation on weeds on your property.
- You want to drop off a weed sample for identification. (Please call prior to coming in, if you require immediate identification.)
- You want a list of local herbicide or pest control applicators in your area.

More information

We have a list of noxious and prohibited weeds on our website at: <https://www.lacombe-county.com/index.php/weed-identification-and-control>.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Lacombe County at 403-782-8959.

REQUEST BY MAY 15: Roadside Haying Program

Lacombe County recognizes the value of legumes and grass growing in municipal road allowances during times of drought. As such, Lacombe County will work cooperatively with agricultural producers who wish to hay Lacombe County road allowances.

Important Dates:

- **MAY 15:** Residents must submit written requests to Lacombe County in order to hay the road allowance adjacent to their lands.
- **JULY 15:** Once the request is approved, the resident has until July 15 to cut and bale the road allowance.
- **JULY 16 – end of season:** After July 15, uncut areas of the road allowance will be mowed by Lacombe County.

PLEASE NOTE: Roadside Haying Agreements must be renewed annually.

Please contact Lacombe County Community Services at 403-782-8959 for more information.





WE'RE HIRING!

Mower Operator

4-month seasonal (mid-June to mid-October)
Monday-Friday (8:00 AM - 4:30PM)

Full Details

www.lacombecounty.com/careers

Apply before 8AM on May 12, 2025 to
hr@lacombecounty.com



Remove stored items from Reserve Land by May Long Weekend

Lacombe County is reminding residents that all seasonal items stored on County reserve lands must be removed by the May long weekend (May 19).

Through the Special Use of Reserve Permit (SURP) program, Lacombe County may authorize certain temporary uses on reserve land, such as:

- Winter storage of boat lifts and docks
- Beach clean-ups
- Repairs to licensed encroachments
- Removal of unauthorized items

Winter Storage Guidelines: Seasonal items—such as boat lifts and docks—may be stored on reserve lands from the September long weekend to the May long weekend, provided they don't impact the environment or obstruct public access.

For more information, visit our website at www.lacombecounty.com, or contact the Community Services Department at 403-782-8959.

Home on the range: How ALUS can help you improve pasture health

By Ken Lewis, ALUS Lacombe Coordinator

Open grass pastures, both tame and native, are a vital part of our livestock industry. Those same open grass pastures also provide many other important ecosystem services, besides the food they help provide. Other ecosystem services from open grass pastures include:

- Habitat for wildlife, waterfowl, native pollinators, insect eating birds and invertebrates, and much more
- Water storage in the vegetation, litter, and soil
- Improved water infiltration into shallow groundwater (and ultimately, recharge for both surface water bodies and deep aquifers)
- Carbon storage
- Excess nutrient filtration
- Run-off reduction and associated flood risk reduction

That's just a start. In short, pastures produce food and so much more benefits for humans.

That's why ALUS wants to support farmers / ranchers in doing on-the-ground projects that improve tame and native grass pasture health.

Specifically, we'd like to cost-share with you on one or more of these projects:

1. Installing new cross-fencing, to enable grazing management strategies that restore, enhance or

conserve ecological functions in the new pasture cells / paddocks. ALUS Lacombe could cost-share with you on the fencing, and could pay you \$20 per acre per year for pasture that is being managed to increase ecosystem services.

2. Installing new livestock water infrastructure that enables livestock to drink water, without having to access previously grazed pasture cells / paddocks. ALUS Lacombe could cost-share with you on the watering infrastructure to do this, and could pay you \$20 per acre per year for pasture that is being impacted by the new watering infrastructure.
3. Seeding legumes into predominantly grass pastures to increase pasture plant and soil biodiversity. In projects like this, ALUS Lacombe could cost-share with you on getting the legumes seeded into the grass pasture, and pay you \$15 per acre per year for the area being planted with legumes.

If you'd like to learn more, please contact us any time: Ken Lewis (ALUS Coordinator) at 403-505-9038 / kewis@rdcounty.ca or Jenna Dell (ALUS Field Assistant) at 403-392-4616 / jdell@rdcounty.ca.



An Open Grass Pasture ALUS Project in August 2024

About the On-Farm Climate Action Fund (OFCAF)

The On-Farm Climate Action Fund (OFCAF) is a federal initiative designed to support Canadian farmers in adopting Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs) that reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and enhance the sustainability of agricultural operations. In Alberta, the program is administered by Results Driven Agriculture Research (RDAR) and is currently accepting applications for the 2025 program year, which opened on April 9, 2025

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

OFCAF provides financial assis-

tance to Alberta producers implementing new BMPs in three key areas

Nitrogen Management: This includes developing nutrient management plans, conducting soil sampling and analysis, and utilizing specialized equipment for precise fertilizer application.

Cover Cropping: Support is available for the adoption of cover crops, including costs related to seed purchase and custom seeding services.

Rotational Grazing: Funding can be used for creating grazing management plans, installing cross-fencing and water systems, and planting legumes and

forages to improve pasture health

These practices not only aim to reduce GHG emissions but also offer additional environmental benefits such as improved soil health and biodiversity.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To qualify for OFCAF funding in Alberta, applicants must:

- Be active producers (proprietorships, corporations, or registered partnerships) with a minimum of \$25,000 in gross farm income within the province
- Collaborate with a Professional Agrologist (PAg) or Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) to develop a BMP Action Plan tailored to

their operation

- Ensure that the proposed BMPs are new to their farm or specific fields; existing practices are not eligible for funding
- Be headquartered in Alberta and apply the funds exclusively to lands within the province.
- Have a minimum eligible project cost of \$2,500 and be prepared to cover 100% of the costs upfront, as reimbursements are provided post-implementation.

For more information or to apply for the OFCAF program in Alberta, please visit RDAR's OFCAF page at <https://rdar.ca/funding-opportunities/ofcaf>.

UPCOMING EVENTS & WORKSHOPS



Lacombe County Presents

All About Trees

Tree Care & Maintenance with Toso Bozic, Certified Arborist & Owner of Yard Whisperers

April 22, 2025
Lacombe County Office
6:00PM - 9:00PM
FREE | Light refreshments

Join us for an informative and engaging FREE workshop with Toso Bozic, who brings 28 years of experience in trees, forestry, and agroforestry. Enjoy learning practical tips to keep your trees healthy and thriving!

Topics Covered:

- ✓ Successful tree care and maintenance
- ✓ Proper tree planting and site preparation
- ✓ Insect and disease management
- ✓ Environmental challenges: drought, hail, salt, herbicides, wildlife, and livestock

To sign up, visit Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/all-about-trees-tickets-1207904317329>
or scan the QR code.

scan ME!



RETHINKING WEEDS

WHAT'S INVADING YOUR FIELDS & HOW TO STOP IT



What you'll learn from the experts!

Cunning Kochia & Wily Wild Oats:

Update on herbicide-resistant weeds

New Grass Invaders:

Strategies to control new annual brome invaders in rangeland

Hands-on Weed ID:

Get hands-on weed ID training with 45+ different species



Kochia



Wild Oats



Corn Brome



Downy Brome

June 17, 2025

10:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Lacombe Research & Development Centre

Bus Transportation Required:

- Lacombe County Office (10:00 AM departure)
- CrossRoads Church, 38105 Range Road 27-5, Red Deer County (10:00 AM departure)

\$30/person

To learn more or to register your spot, visit

<https://RethinkWeeds.eventbrite.ca> or scan the QR code



In partnership with:



Sponsored by:



CHICKENS 101

LACOMBE COUNTY

Join Cassandra Kirkpatrick of Jungle Out There Pet Services for an informative and hands-on workshop all about keeping chickens! Whether you're a beginner or looking to expand your flock, you'll gain practical knowledge on coop design, winter care, bird health, biosecurity, predator protection, and end-of-life planning. The session will also include important information on Lacombe County's applicable bylaws for chicken ownership.



DATE
MAY 12, 2025



TIME
6:00 - 8:00 PM



LOCATION
LACOMBE MEMORIAL CENTRE
(LACOMBE COUNTY ROOM NORTH)

SCAN ME



TO REGISTER:

FREE WORKSHOP. Light refreshments and snacks will be provided

You must register. Call Jordan at 403-782-8959, scan the QR code (left) or visit the Eventbrite page at: <https://Chickens101.eventbrite.ca>



REPENSER LES MAUVAISES HERBES

CE QUI ENVAHIT VOS CHAMPS ET COMMENT L'ARRÊTER



Ce que vous apprendrez des experts!

Les mauvais tours de la kochia à balais et de la folle avoine:

Le point sur les mauvaises herbes résistantes aux herbicides.

Nouvelles graminées envahissantes:

Stratégies pour lutter contre les nouveaux brome annuels qui envahissent les pâturages

Identification des mauvaises herbes

Formation pratique pour identifier plus de 45 espèces différentes.



Kochia à balais



Folle avoine



Brome raboteux



Brome des toits

Le 17 juin 2025

De 10 h à 15 h 30

Centre de recherche et de développement de Lacombe

Transport en autobus requis:

- Bureau du comté de Lacombe (départ à 10 h)
- CrossRoads Church, 38105 Range Road 27-5, Red Deer County (départ à 10 h)

30 \$ par personne

Pour en savoir plus ou vous inscrire, visitez le <https://RethinkWeeds.eventbrite.ca> ou scannez le code QR



En partenariat avec:



Commandité par:



Find Lacombe County online



/LacombeCounty



@lacombecounty



Lacombe County



/LacombeCounty



lacombecounty.com

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
Manager of
Planning Services

Nicklas Baran
Planner /
Development
Officer

Kerrie Taylor
Economic
Development
Officer

Allison Noonan
Planning Services
Administrative
Assistant

Daniella Gonzalez
Planning Services
Receptionist

March 1, 2025 to March 31, 2025

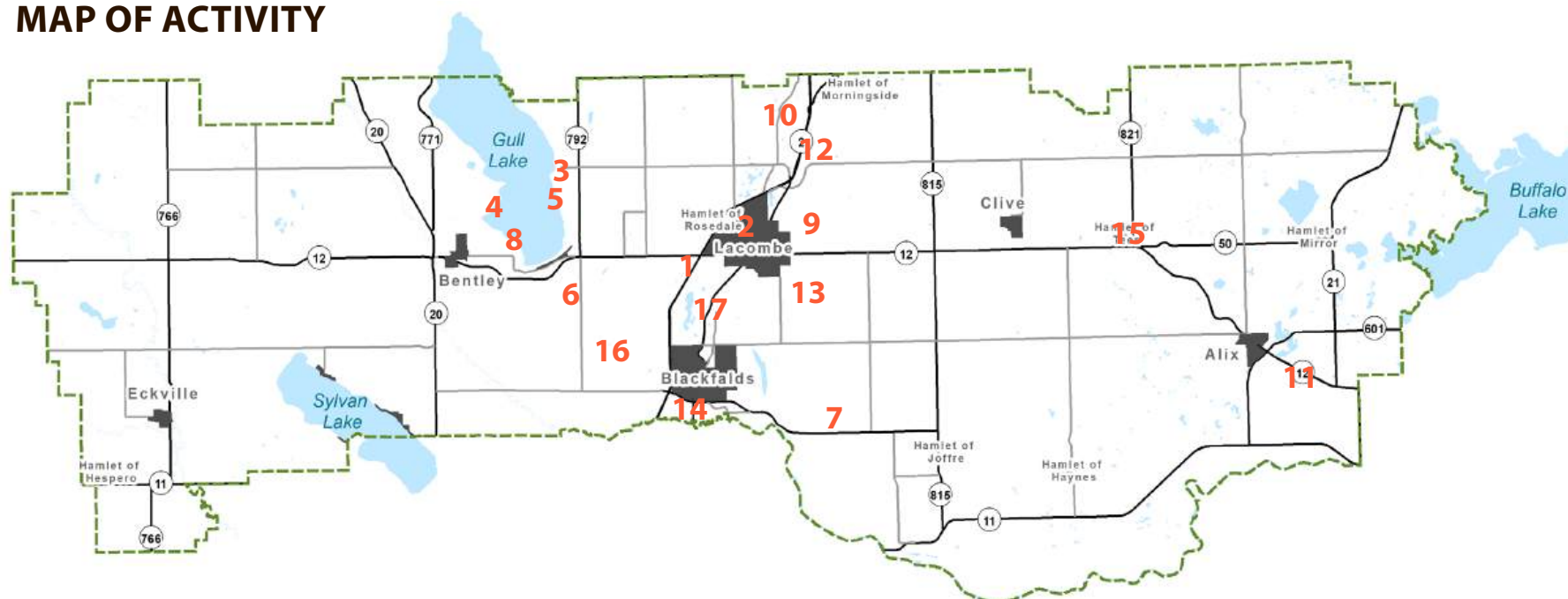
Development Applications Received

No.	File No.	Applicant	Legal Description	Proposed Development	Decision (otherwise pending)
1	19/25	Tricon Developments	Lot 12 Block 1 Plan 102 3182 (Wild Rose Commercial Park)	Office Space <i>Aztec Engineering Inc.</i>	Approved
2	20/25	Donald & Taryn Switzer	Lot 9 Block 4 Plan 151Z (Rosedale Valley)	Dwelling w/attached garage and covered deck	Approved
3	21/25	Jason Bell	Lot 1 Block 1 Plan 172 0385 (Wilson's Beach Estates)	Addition to attached garage	Approved
4	22/25	Delta Land Co. Inc.	Lot 1 Block 2 Plan 142 2128 (Sandy Point, Gull Lake)	Retail, Minor <i>Temporary Sales Office and Four Show Homes</i>	Approved
5	23/25	Paul & Brenda Hankins	Lot 14 Block 5 Plan 932 2650 (New Saratoga, Gull Lake)	Addition to attached garage and setback relaxation for existing deck	Approved
6	24/25	Jack & Tidge Stott	Pt. NE 14-40-28-W4M	Dwelling, Second <i>Existing</i>	Approved
7	25/25	Peter & Lisa Ellens	Pt. SE 14-39-26-W4M	Dwelling w/attached garage	Approved
8	26/25	Kristopher & Kalina Hauser	Lot 13 Block 2 Plan 074 0315 (Lakeview Estates, Gull Lake)	1800ft² shop with 450ft² lean to addition to detached garage	Approved
9	27/25	C9 Inc.	Lot 4 Block 1 Plan 172 1203 (Pt. SW 34-40-26-W4M)	Agricultural Operation <i>Renewal, No Changes</i>	
10	28/25	Matthew & Willeke Kraay	Lot 2 Block 1 Plan 242 1877 (Pt. NE 28-41-26-W4M)	Addition to dwelling	Approved
11	29/25	Cameron & Amy Tarringa	SW 29-39-22-W4M	Addition to dwelling	
12	30/25	Benjamin & Samantha Haegle	Lot 4B Block 3 Plan 072 8577 (Milton Area)	Detached shop	
13	31/25	Jon & Karyn McNeill	Pt. SW 15-40-26-W4M	Home Based Business, Major <i>Renewal, Ground Werx Coatings</i>	Approved
14	32/25	Sandra Congdon	Lot 7 Block 1 Plan 982 4780 (Burbank Industrial Park)	Accessory building	
15	33/25	Otmar & Gabriele Furlan	Lot 4 Block 8 Plan 862 12125 (Hamlet of Tees)	Setback relaxation	Approved

Subdivision Applications Received

No.	File No.	Applicant	Legal Description	Proposed Subdivision	Decision (otherwise pending)
16	S-007-25	Melvin Ingwersen Ridgedale Farms Ltd.	NW 32-39-27-W4M	1st Parcel Out	
17	S-008-25	Dean DePauw Rocky & Julie Downton	Pt. SW 12-40-27-W4M Pt. SE 11-40-27-W4M	Boundary Adjustment	

MAP OF ACTIVITY



Business Retention and Expansion in Lacombe County: Success Grows Here!

What is the Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) project?

Over the past year, Lacombe County has been actively working on a Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) project – a community-based economic development strategy focused on supporting the long-term growth and sustainability of our local businesses.

At its core, BRE is about listening to businesses, understanding their challenges, and collaborating on solutions. The focus isn't just on expanding land or physical space – though that's sometimes part of it – but on helping businesses grow in other ways too: increasing productivity, expanding markets, improving workforce capacity, or scaling operations.

We recognize that growth and sustainability can look different for each business. For some, it's about optimizing existing space or diversifying product offerings. For others, it's about better workforce retention or increasing sales outside the region. While some businesses have expressed frustration around land expansion, it's important to remember that economic growth isn't only defined by the size of your land – it's also about how you operate and the reach of your trade.

The BRE project started with a county-wide survey open to all businesses. Thank you to everyone who participated. Your responses gave us a clearer picture of local business conditions and opportunities. We also gathered data from other sources and hosted in-person engagement sessions in November to follow up on what we learned.

Key Findings from the BRE Survey

When asked, "What is your overall opinion of Lacombe County as a place to do business?" the responses are as follows:

- 5% Above Excellent
- 20% Excellent
- 43% Above Average
- 23% Average
- 10% Below Average

These insights help guide where we focus our efforts

going forward.

Another survey question asked about interest in workforce development opportunities. Many businesses expressed interest in:

- Mentoring programs for high school or post-secondary students
- Registered Apprenticeship Programs (RAP)

As one business owner put it, "Manpower is our biggest obstacle." This reflects a broader challenge across many industries and highlights the need to support workforce attraction and retention efforts.

What's Next for BRE in Lacombe County?

We are committed to strengthening relationships with local businesses. Economic Development is always interested in meeting and learning about the businesses that make Lacombe County thrive.

Here's what we're working on next:

- Business visits: If you'd like to invite us for a tour or to share your business story, please reach out.
- Business Walk Program: We're planning casual, drop-in visits to learn more about what's happening on the ground.
- Quarterly networking events: These gatherings will offer a space for businesses to connect, discuss common challenges, and share ideas. If that's something that interests you, let us know.

We also want to identify areas where businesses need support – whether that's marketing, workforce, permitting, or beyond. These networking events and visits are a great opportunity to start those conversations.

Lacombe County's economic success depends on the strength of our existing businesses. Thank you for continuing to be a part of this process and helping shape a stronger, more resilient business community.

If you would like more details about the BRE project or want to connect with our Economic Development Officer, please email economicdevelopment@lacombecounty.com or call 403-782-8389. We'd love to hear from you!

Register to vote
to make your mark

→ voterlink.ab.ca



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

RECORDS MANAGEMENT &
FOIP COORDINATOR

DEADLINE TO APPLY: April 28, 2025

Full details at www.lacombecounty.com

LACOMBE
COUNTY

Root for your Community...

LACOMBE



5 Reasons to
VOLUNTEER

1. Develop skills and confidence, gain experience to enhance resume
2. Meet new people, network, and help others
3. Influence your community, find purpose and fulfillment
4. Connect your family with the community
5. Enrich your mental, social, and physical wellbeing

For more information visit:
www.lacombe/volunteer

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LACOMBE COUNTY **SPOT** *light*

WOLF'S BOTANICAL *Celebrating 40 years of green excellence*

Nestled just east of Highway 2 in Lacombe County, Wolf's Botanical is a flourishing example of what passion, hard work, and dedication to agriculture can grow. What started in 1985 as Wolf's U-Pick Vegetable, a humble 20x20 foot greenhouse growing green onions and radishes, has transformed into a thriving, full-service greenhouse, nursery, and landscape business with a reputation that stretches far beyond Lacombe County.

Owned and operated by Ingrid and Wolfgang Hainzmann, Wolf's Botanical is celebrating 40 years in business this year. Their journey began with just five acres of cabbage and a greenhouse built from second-hand materials. Through persistence, long hours, and a deep-rooted commitment to quality, the Hainzmanns expanded their operation into a stunning 11,000 square foot greenhouse filled with a wide variety of annuals, perennials, shrubs, and mature trees.

Today, Wolf's Botanical employs 18 staff and provides greenhouse services each spring, including custom growing for the City of Lacombe, the Towns of Bentley and Blackfalds, and various businesses across central Alberta. Their reach includes clients as far as Red Deer Polytechnic, Red Deer businesses, Ponoka, and even pri-

vate orders from Edmonton and Calgary, where customers seek out Wolf's unique and specialty flowers.

What makes Wolf's Botanical truly special is its unique selection of plants, many of which you won't find elsewhere in the region. It's this distinction that draws customers from major cities and keeps locals coming back year after year. From bedding plants and trees to full-service landscaping—including patios, retaining walls, firepits, and water features—the team is known for bringing creativity and care to every project.

A highlight of the property is their Wedding Island, established in 2012. Set amongst mature trees, flower beds, and water features, it provides a magical setting for outdoor celebrations and showcases the beauty of their nursery at its best.

Ingrid shared that Lacombe County has always been home: "This is the only place we've ever been." Over the years, the couple's business has grown alongside the community, with support from local customers and businesses alike. Their dedication to quality and personalized service has earned them a loyal following.

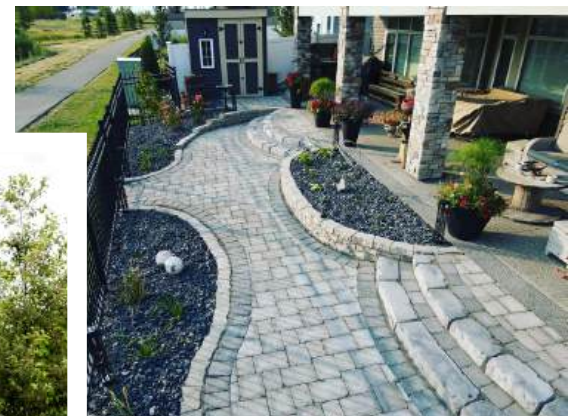
Working in the agricultural sector has offered

countless opportunities, from building relationships with industry partners to watching their plants bloom in the yards and gardens of customers across Alberta. Still, Ingrid emphasizes that success in this industry requires patience, long hours, and a genuine love for what you do.

To mark this 40-year milestone, Wolf's Botanical is hosting a Grand Anniversary Celebration on June 7, 2025, at their garden center. Visitors can enjoy guided tours, special plant discounts, and a chance to win exciting raffle prizes—including a landscape service prize package. Every purchase made in May qualifies for a raffle entry. Enjoy BBQ, cake, and a day celebrating one of Lacombe County's most cherished ag-based businesses.

Visit Wolf's Botanical

- **Location:** 40303 RR#260 (8 km east of Lacombe on Highway 12, 1.5 km south of Prentiss Road)
- **Call:** 403-782-5729
- **Email:** wolfsbotanical@gmail.com



Supporting Local Businesses: Resources, Incentives & Programs

In last month's County News, we explored the question, "What is Economic Development?" One of the key takeaways was that economic development is about supporting local businesses by connecting them with grants, programs, and resources to help them grow, innovate, and thrive.

This month, we're exploring some of the local, provincial, and federal tools available to businesses in Lacombe County.

Hamlet of Mirror Development Incentive Grant

Lacombe County is proud to offer the Hamlet of Mirror Development Incentive Grant, which encourages new commercial and industrial development within the Hamlet of Mirror. This initiative supports business owners and developers who are helping revitalize and grow the community. For more information on eligibility and how to apply, visit <https://www.lacombecounty.com/en/business-and-development/development-incentive-grant.aspx>

Lacombe County Business Directory – Launching Soon

Another exciting initiative is our soon-to-be-launched Lacombe County Business Directory. This online tool will promote local businesses to residents and visitors through our website, making it easier for people to shop and support locally.

Having a current and well-maintained business

directory is vital to economic development. It builds visibility, enhances credibility, and strengthens community connections. Studies show that over 60% of consumers are more likely to trust and support businesses listed in official municipal directories.

If you haven't submitted your business information yet, now's the time! Email economicdevelopment@lacombecounty.com to ensure you're included at launch. Of course, businesses can also be added at any time. This directory will continue to grow and evolve with our community.

Provincial & Federal Business Support Programs

In addition to local supports, several funding opportunities and business resources are available through the provincial and federal governments. These programs are especially important for businesses navigating challenges like tariffs, cash flow issues, or expansion barriers.

Tariff Support Measures – Government of Canada:

- **Trade Impact Program** (*via Export Development Canada*) – \$5 billion over two years to support exporters exploring new markets and managing risk.
- **BDC Loans** (*BDC.ca*) – \$500 million in financing plus advisory services for impacted sectors and supply chain partners.

- **Farm Credit Canada Financing** (*fcc-fac.ca*) – \$1 billion in loans to support the agriculture and food industry through operating challenges.

Additional Programs:

- **Canada Small Business Financing Program** – Makes it easier for small businesses to access loans.
- **Trade Commissioner Services** – Helps businesses expand and diversify into international markets.
- **Tariff Remission Process** – Offers relief on certain tariff-impacted goods.
- **CanExport SMEs Program** – Applications now open for 2025–2026 to support export growth.

Industry-Specific Resources:

- AFPA – Tariff Updates
- MNP – Tariff Support Programs
- Restaurants Canada – Tariffs Webinar
- Canada Tariff Finder

If you have questions about any of these programs or want to talk about what support may be available for your business, don't hesitate to contact economicdevelopment@lacombecounty.com. Whether it's a local grant, a federal resource, or getting listed in our new directory, Lacombe County is here to support your business every step of the way.

Show your Alberta side. Buy Local.

When the going gets tough, Albertans stick together. That's why Alberta's government is launching a new campaign to benefit hard-working Albertans.

Global uncertainty is threatening the livelihoods of hard-working Alberta farmers, ranchers, processors and their families. The 'Buy Local' campaign, recently launched by Alberta's government, encourages consumers to eat, drink and buy local to show our unified support for the province's agriculture and food industry.

Alberta's government supports consumer choice. We are providing tools to help folks easily identify Alberta- and Canadian-made foods and products. Choosing local products keeps Albertans' hard-earned dollars in our province. Whether it is farm-fresh vegetables, potatoes, honey, craft beer, frozen food or our world-renowned beef, Alberta has an abundance of fresh foods produced right on our doorstep.

Check out these resources:

- Buy Local Alberta (<https://www.alberta.ca/buy-local-alberta>)
- Made in Alberta Product Catalogue (<https://madeinalberta.co/catalogue/>)
- Alberta Agri-Food Products and Services Export Catalogue (<https://www.alberta.ca/agri-food-export-catalogue>)



KEEPING IT LOCAL

SHOP LOCAL
SUPPORT LOCAL
STAY STRONG

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

WWW.LACOMBECOUNTY.COM/BUSINESSDIRECTORY

SPRING SEEDING DRIVE SAFELY

Whether you work in acres or hours, patience pays off!



Don't get left in the dust!

Lacombe County is currently taking requests for our **2025 Dust Control Program**. If you are interested in having Calcium Chloride in front of your residence or place of business, please contact Cassandra at the County shop at 403.782.3567.



Ratepayer's cost-shared rate for 2025 is \$3.58 per lineal metre for two applications and \$1.79 per lineal metre for one application, to a maximum of 200 metres. **If you require more than 200 metres, the additional will NOT be cost shared.**

Please contact us today to get on the list for dust control. Payments are due before the annual deadline of May 15, 2025.

Note: The application of dust abatement may cause some possible effects, such as loss of vegetation. Lacombe County is not responsible for any claims or damages resulting from the application process.

If you are interested in finding out more about the County's Dust Control Program, please call Cassandra at 403.782.3567, Ivy at 403.782.8379 or email operations@lacombecounty.com

Lacombe County's Clean Up Program: Encouraging Community Pride

Lacombe County is committed to keeping our roadsides and communities clean with the help of local volunteers. Through the Clean Up Program, residents, community groups, and businesses are encouraged to participate in organized clean-up efforts across the County.

There are three streams of the program:

- 1. Community Clean-up Program** – For organized groups in hamlets and subdivisions to clean up litter in their neighborhoods.
- 2. Caring for Lacombe County Roads Program** – Participants adopt a section of County road. Lacombe County installs a sign recognizing the individual, group, or business involved.
- 3. Roadside Clean-up Program** – A one-time fundraising opportunity for organized

groups. The County donates to the group in the form of a grant. Rates are outlined in the County's Rates and Fees Bylaw.

Lacombe County coordinates all applications and ensures dates and locations are arranged for garbage pick-up. Participants must be at least 10 years old, and clean-up efforts are to take place during daylight hours.

Lacombe County provides accidental death and dismemberment insurance to participants and recommends that organizations carry general liability insurance. Priority is given to groups within the County or its urban municipalities.

For more details or to apply, contact Lacombe County Operations at operations@lacombecounty.com or call 403-782-8379.

REMINDER: Responsible use of public spaces

With the return of warmer weather, Lacombe County's parks, trails, beaches, and green spaces become well-used by residents and visitors alike. These public areas are shared spaces, and everyone has a role to play in keeping them clean, safe, and welcoming.

The standards for responsible public space use are supported by several County bylaws, including the Community Standards Bylaw, Dog Control Bylaw, Off-Highway Vehicle Bylaw, and Parks and Reserves Management Bylaw. These bylaws work together to ensure that County spaces remain enjoyable for all while also protecting the environment and the well-being of our communities.

Here are a few simple ways to help ensure everyone can enjoy these spaces:

- Pets must be leashed and cleaned up after:** Dogs must be on a leash when in public areas such as parks, trails, or campgrounds. Pet owners are responsible for cleaning up any waste left by their animals.
- No cannabis in public places:** Smoking or vaping cannabis is not allowed in public spaces, including parks, trails, and beaches.
- Off-highway vehicles (OHVs) are restricted:** OHVs, including ATVs and dirt bikes, may only be operated in designated areas where clearly permitted. Please follow posted signage and respect all access restrictions.
- Equestrian use is prohibited:** Horses are not permitted in County parks or reserve lands, in order to prevent trail damage and preserve sensitive environments.
- Discharge of firearms is not allowed:** For the safety of all users, firearms and projectile weapons may not be discharged in parks, reserves, or other public spaces.
- Respect others when gathering:** If you're hosting a group activity in a park, beach, or public space, please be courteous. Keep music and noise to a respectful level, avoid blocking access to others, and leave the area clean.
- Observe quiet hours:** Noise that disturbs others - such as loud music, shouting, or engine revving - is not permitted between 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. in public or residential areas.
- Leave no trace:** Dispose of all garbage properly. If bins are unavailable or full, take your waste home with you to help protect wildlife and keep our parks clean for the next visitor.

By following these expectations, we can all contribute to a positive and respectful outdoor experience across Lacombe County. To learn more, or to view the full bylaws, visit www.lacombecounty.com.

Continued from front: County approves 2025 tax rates

1. **Increased Residential Property Assessments:** Year-over-year residential property assessments have risen because of higher market values. This increase in market value is being seen throughout the central Alberta area. This means some homeowners will pay more taxes even though municipal tax rates have not changed.
2. **Provincial Education Requisition:** The Government of Alberta's education requisition has increased by 6.25% for residential and farmland properties, and by 6.38% for non-residential properties. Although the local education tax rates appear lower on the 2025 tax notice, residents may see an increase in their share of the amount they pay due to an increase in market value of their property.

Lacombe County continues its commitment to fiscal responsibility by ensuring municipal tax rates remain steady, even as market factors and provincial requisitions affect individual tax notices. These rates are consistent with the projections made in the 2025 budget approved last November, showcasing the County's efforts in keeping tax adjustments predictable and minimal.

The 2025 tax rates and tax rate changes for Lacombe County, the Provincial RCMP Policing Levy, Alberta Education, and the Lacombe Foundation are as follows:

Organization	Year	Tax Rates			
		Residential	Farmland	Non-Residential	M&E
Lacombe County	2025	2.595	5.560	5.669	5.669
	% Change	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Provincial RCMP Levy		0.1436	0.1436	0.1436	0.1436
	% Change	-14.73%	-14.73%	-14.73%	-14.73%
Alberta School Fund		2.484	2.484	3.554	0.00
	% Change	-0.28%	-0.28%	-9.59%	0.00%
Lacombe Foundation		0.0700	0.0700	0.0700	0.0700
	% Change	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Combined Total		5.2926	8.2577	9.4367	5.8827
	% Change	-0.6%	-0.38%	-4.08%	0.42%

- ALLOCATION OF TAXES
- Taxes collected from Lacombe County residents and businesses support a wide range of services and infrastructure. These include:
- Policing and Public Safety:** Through the Provincial RCMP Levy, as well as our Community Peace Officers and County Fire Services, we ensure the community remains safe and secure through effective policing and emergency and fire services.
 - Education:** Contributing to the Alberta School Fund Requisition, supporting local education and school boards.
 - Infrastructure and Public Works:** Funding projects like road maintenance, bridge replacements, and the development of community facilities. We also provide operational support for recreational facilities throughout the County, both in urban and rural settings.
 - Community Services:** Supporting senior services through the Lacombe Foundation Requisition, ensuring that the County's elderly residents receive the care and support they need.

A FORWARD-LOOKING APPROACH

Lacombe County's approach to the 2025 tax rates reflects a careful balance of community growth, evolving market values, and the continued need for essential services. By maintaining steady tax rates, the County ensures fiscal responsibility while promoting sustainable economic development and enhancing the quality of life for residents and businesses alike.

"Lacombe County continues to strategically balance fiscal prudence with community growth and service excellence," explained County Manager Tim Timmons. "Our stable municipal tax rates underscore our efforts to manage taxpayer dollars responsibly while funding essential services and infrastructure to support sustainable community growth."

Residents and businesses are reminded that their tax contributions are crucial to maintaining and improving services that make Lacombe County a thriving, attractive place to live and work. With strategic resource allocation and stable taxation, Lacombe County is well-positioned to support community well-being and future growth.

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

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

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

- penalties:
- 6% penalty for unpaid taxes after August 31
 - 10% penalty for unpaid taxes after December 31
- How TIPP Works:
- Taxes are billed in May and cover the calendar year (January 1– December 31).
 - Your monthly payment is calculated by dividing your most recent tax bill by 12.
 - Payments start January 15 and ensure your account is fully paid by December 15.
- Sign up for the Tax Installment Payment Plan (TIPP) before December 31, 2024
- If you missed the December 31st deadline, no worries; you can sign up in 2025 (before July 31). We will require you to pay the missed monthly amounts up front and then withdraw monthly payments.
- Enjoy peace of mind knowing you're on track and penalty-free. Sign up for TIPP today!

What you need to know:

- Property taxes are due annually on August 31

Tax Installment
PAYMENT PLAN



Sign up TODAY
for the monthly plan.



Automatic
Budget-friendly
Simple
Convenient

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

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COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

March 13, 2025

PUBLIC HEARING BYLAW NOS. 1429/25 AND 1430/25

A public hearing was held for Bylaw Nos. 1429/25 and 1430/25. Bylaw No. 1429/25 is a bylaw of Lacombe County for the purpose of amending the Municipal Development Plan. Bylaw No. 1430/25 is a bylaw of Lacombe County for the purpose of amending the Land Use Bylaw.

Amendments were made to the Municipal Development Plan and Land Use Bylaws to ensure consistency between the documents. Additionally, the Land Use Bylaw was amended to increase the maximum allowable size for accessory buildings from 150 square feet to 240 square feet.

Following the public hearing, Bylaw Nos. 1429/25 and 1430/25 were given second and third reading and so passed.

WILD BOAR BYLAW

The County Manager was directed to prepare a draft bylaw prohibiting the raising of wild boar

in Lacombe County for presentation at a future Council meeting.

PRESENTATION ON THE NORTH RED DEER RIVER WASTE SERVICES COMMISSION AND NORTH RED DEER REGIONAL WASTEWATER SERVICES COMMISSION

Jordan Thompson, Chief Administrative Officer of the North Red Deer Water Services Commission and the North Red Deer Regional Wastewater Services Commission, provided a presentation of both the North Red Deer "Water" and "Wastewater" Commissions.

reconcept Canada – LACOMBE SOLAR PROJECT PRESENTATION

Mark Grant and Evan Boyce, representatives of reconcept Canada, delivered a presentation on the Lacombe Solar Project.

PELICAN BAY (YUILL) SUBDIVISION PAVING

The County Manager was directed to send out letters to the residents that access the Pelican

Bay internal subdivision road advising them of the consideration to base-pave the road. Provided that there are no objections from the residents of Pelican Bay, the County Manager was directed to award the work to base-pave the Pelican Bay internal subdivision road in the amount of \$50,950.00 and fund it from the New Pavement Reserve.

COUNCIL CANDIDATE PROFILES ON THE COUNTY WEBSITE

The County Manager was directed to host a Council candidate profile section on the County website for the 2025 municipal election.

RURAL MUNICIPALITIES OF ALBERTA SPRING 2025 CONVENTION

Council reviewed and received the Spring 2025 Rural Municipalities of Alberta Convention resolution package for information.

2025 RATES AND FEES BYLAW UPDATE

Council approved first, second, and third readings to Bylaw No. 1432/25, the Lacombe County 2025 Rates and Fees Bylaw.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

March 27, 2025

ADVERTISING/PUBLIC NOTIFICATION BYLAW

Council approved first reading of Bylaw No. 1433/25, the Advertising/Public Notification Bylaw. The proposed amendments aim to expand alternative advertising methods to enhance public awareness.

A public hearing is scheduled for April 24, 2025 commencing at 9:00 a.m. in the Lacombe County Council Chambers.

WILD BOAR CONTROL BYLAW

Council tabled the proposed Wild Boar Control

Bylaw until the Provincial Government completes its review of potential changes to the wild boar industry.

ALIX WAGON WHEEL MUSEUM PRESENTATION

Council received a presentation from Charles Andrews, Board President of the Alix Wagon Wheel Museum, highlighting the museum's initiatives, events, and contributions to the community and the museum's request for County funding for upgrades to the museum building.

FEDERATION OF CANADIAN

MUNICIPALITIES CONFERENCE

Council discussed attendance at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Annual Conference and Trade Show, scheduled for May 29 to June 1, 2025, in Ottawa. It was decided that no members of Council would attend this year.

LOCAL GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY GRANT

Council was advised that the Town of Blackfalds has been approved a grant of \$2,314,486 under the 2024/2025 Local Growth and Sustainability Grant - Growth program in support of the Broadway Avenue Reservoir Expansion project.



2025 Year to Date: The Numbers, The News, The Impact

As we reflect on the first quarter of 2025, it's clear that the heart of our organization remains devoted to saving lives. Over three weekends, our dedicated team has successfully rescued nearly 200 animals from urgent situations. These rescues are a poignant reminder of why we were founded – to provide hope and life-saving care for those in need.

While our animal rescue efforts continue to be at the core of our mission, our impact goes far beyond just saving lives. Over the past months, we've expanded our role in the community to become a key pillar of education, advocacy, and health initiatives. Our organization's mission has grown in scope as we focus not only on rescuing animals but also on fostering a more compassionate and informed society.

Expanding Our Mission Through Education and Spay/Neuter Initiatives

As part of our commitment to fostering a healthier animal population, we've intensified our educational programs to promote responsible pet ownership. By teaching the public about the importance of spaying and neutering, we are empowering pet owners to make choices that contribute to the long-term well-being of animals and reduce the number of unwanted pets. Our spay and neuter initiatives play a crucial role in this effort, offering affordable and accessible services to the community. These initiatives not only help break the cycle of overpopulation but also have a ripple effect, reducing the number of animals that need rescue and rehabilitation while creating a more sustainable and compassionate environment for all.

A COMMUNITY EFFORT

None of this would be possible without the support of our community. By working hand-in-hand with local organizations, businesses, and individuals, we are building stronger, more resilient networks of care for animals in need. Together, we are making lasting change. The combination of rescue efforts, education, vaccination, and community partnerships is already creating tangible, positive impacts – and we are just getting started.

As we move forward, our organization is excited to continue expanding our mission. The progress we've made so far is just the beginning, and we are committed to ensuring that every animal has a chance at a better, healthier life. Whether it's rescuing an animal from an urgent situation, educating a community member, or administering a life-saving vaccination, we are here to make a difference. With your continued support, the impact we can have will only grow stronger.



Together, we can build a brighter future for animals and the communities that care for them. If you'd like to help us continue making a difference, please donate at : <https://www.savinggracecanada.com/donate> or purchase tickets to our raffles at <https://trellis.org/side-by-side-to-save-lives>.

Your generosity helps us save lives and create a brighter future for animals in need.

CONTINUED FROM FRONT: Lacombe County adopts updated animal regulations for residential districts

These rules are designed to ensure that animals are kept in a way that's sustainable for the land and considerate of neighbors. Here's a quick breakdown:

LIVESTOCK REGULATIONS:

In the Country Residential 'R-CR' District, the number of allowable livestock now depends on both animal type and lot size.

- In the Country Residential 'R-CR' District, properties over 3 acres can have slightly more animals, while smaller properties (less than 3 acres) can now have livestock, provided the correct animal-to-acre ratio is followed.
- In the Country Residential 'R-CR' District, the animal-to-acre ratio is maximum is 10 Livestock Units (LUs) per each full increment of 0.5 acres.
- Different types of livestock count as different numbers of livestock units (LUs). The Livestock Unit (LU) value is relative to the animal size and foraging requirements. Here's a guide to help you understand how each animal adds up:
 - Cows, Horses, Mules, Donkeys, Pigs: 20 LUs per animal
 - Alpacas, Llamas, Calves (weaned, up to 1 year old), Miniature Horses, Sheep, Goats: 10 LUs per animal
 - It's also important to note that young animals like calves, foals, lambs, gilts, and kids that are still with their mothers and not yet weaned do not count as livestock units.

Regulations have been added on premise identification, livestock structures, manure management, and deadstock disposal.

In some cases in the Country Residential 'R-CR' District, you might be allowed to keep more livestock than the standard limit. The Development Authority can approve this if they believe the land is suitable and that having extra animals won't cause a nuisance to nearby properties. However, there are steps you need to take:

- Submit a Development Permit Application: If

you want to exceed the livestock limits, you'll need to apply for a development permit.

- Provide a Pasture Management Plan and Manure Management Plan: Your application must include both a pasture management plan and a manure management plan to show that you can properly care for the land and animals.
- Approval Process: The application is a discretionary use, meaning the Municipal Planning Commission will review it, and nearby landowners will be given a 21-day period to appeal.

CHICKENS AND OTHER POULTRY REGULATIONS:

Residential properties in the Country Residential 'R-CR' District will now be allowed to keep up to 12 poultry, in addition to livestock.

- In some cases in the Country Residential 'R-CR' District, you might be allowed to keep more poultry than the standard limit. The Development Authority can approve this if they believe the site is suitable and that having extra poultry won't cause a nuisance to nearby properties. However, you'll need to apply for a development permit, which is a discretionary use, meaning the Municipal Planning Commission will review it, and nearby landowners will be given a 21-day period to appeal.

All other residential districts will allow up to 6 poultry, similar to urban hen programs.

Regulations have been added on premise identification, biosecurity, coop requirements, waste management, and deadstock disposal. The intent of these regulations is to provide best management practices to protect the health of poultry flocks by preventing the transmission of disease.

Roosters will be restricted in all residential districts to minimize noise issues.

BEEKEEPING REGULATIONS:

The Country Residential 'R-CR' District will allow a maximum of 2 beehives per property.

- In some cases in the Country Residential 'R-CR' District, you might be allowed to keep

more beehives than the standard limit. The Development Authority can approve this if they believe the site is suitable and that the extra beehives won't cause a nuisance to nearby properties. However, you'll need to apply for a development permit, which is a discretionary use, meaning the Municipal Planning Commission will review it, and nearby landowners will be given a 21-day period to appeal.

All other residential districts will allow a maximum of 1 beehive per property.

Regulations have been added on beehive placement, premise identification, and management to ensure safety and biosecurity. In the regulations, the required registration of beekeepers with the Province is highlighted.

WHY DO THESE CHANGES MATTER?

These updates aim to balance the needs of animal owners with the broader residential community. By setting clear and responsible guidelines for animal care, the County hopes to reduce potential nuisances and encourage better practices that protect animal welfare and public safety.

The County is also working on hosting workshops tailored to responsible animal ownership in residential areas. The first tentatively scheduled workshop coming up in May will be 'Chickens 101' where attendees will learn about keeping chickens including building a coop, taking care of the birds in winter, biosecurity, how to keep the birds healthy, predator control, end of life plans, and much more. Stay tuned for advertising and information on how to register!

HOW TO GET MORE INFORMATION

For more information on the updated regulations and to access helpful resources for responsible animal ownership, visit the project webpage at: www.lacombecounty.com/animals.

If you are considering keeping livestock, poultry or bees on your residential property, we encourage you to read the full regulations and reach out if you require clarification.

If you have any questions, please contact Planning Services at 403-782-8389 or planning@lacombecounty.com.



GOLD for Bentley Bighorns Soccer

The Bentley Bighorns U13 Girls captured gold at the Alberta Indoor Soccer Provincials, held March 14–16, 2025, at Red Deer's Collicutt Centre. The team went undefeated, capping off the tournament with a 5–2 win over Fort Saskatchewan in the final. Coached by Bentley soccer alumni Michelle Lundy and Heather Dion, the Bighorns also earned the Fair Play Award.

Their success comes as the Town of Bentley, with support from Lacombe County, prepares to begin construction this spring on new soccer fields and a track area in northwest Bentley. The upgraded facilities are expected to be ready for the 2026 outdoor season and will help meet the growing demand for youth soccer in the region.

~ Photo submitted

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:   

Lacombe & District FCSS:
403-782-6637

Bentley FCSS:
403-748-2160

Clive FCSS:
403-784-2020


CALL NOW !



LACOMBE COUNTY

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



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

Seniors' Luncheon

JUNE 1ST @ NOON
BENTLEY COMMUNITY HALL

 Please RSVP for lunch @ 403.748.2160 by May 29 @ noon - leave a message!

Homemade Soup, Buns, Dessert and Great People!



The "MuirCats"

Everyone is welcome to join us for some 50's & 60's music and some country!
12:30 - 2 pm

Community Partners:

 Bentley Seventh Day Adventist Church
Bentley Senior's Drop In (New Horizons Grant)
Town of Bentley FCSS/Community Services 

Happy Senior's Week!

Seniors 55+ Wellness Mornings

Special programming (no charge) on Mondays/Wednesdays

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



Registration required for
Seated Range of Motion
Chair Yoga

Move your body, make connections & socialize!

Call 403.748.2160
Bentley Seniors Drop In



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



YEARLY MEMBERSHIP FEE \$10

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

The Seniors Drop In welcomes everyone 55+

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

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

AROUND THE COUNTY



Blackfalds' Servus Credit Union Public Library



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

Programming

Baby & Toddler Time *Ages 0-3*

Music & Movement *Ages 1-4*

Lego Club *Ages 5+*

Reading Buddies *Ages 6-13*

Anime & Otaku Club *Ages 8+*

Card Club *Ages 18+*

Knitting & Crochet *Ages 18+*

Evening Pajama Story Time *All Ages*

**For more program information check out our website & social medias*

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
Wednesday	10 am - 8 pm
Thursday	10 am - 6 pm
Friday	10 am - 6 pm
Saturday	10 am - 5 pm

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

Visit us on our website & social medias



Make a SPLASH

at the Kinsmen Aquatic Centre
5429 53rd Street

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

What's Happening at the pool:

- \$3 swim is switching from Tuesday to Thursday nights
- WIBIT swim on Saturdays will run 6:00-8:30 pm

Special Easter hours:

- Friday, April 18th, 1:00-5:00 pm Public Swim only
- Saturday, April 19th and Sunday, April 20th, Regular hours
- Monday, April 21st, 1:00-5:00 pm Public Swim only

Activities:

- Easter coloring contest Friday, April 18th-Sunday, April 20th
- Easter Egg hunt at the pool Monday, April 21st, 1:00-5:00 pm
- Summer registration day is Tuesday, May 6th, at 8:30 am

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





June
16th - 20th
2025

Louis Riel Relay

Date: Saturday April 26, 2025

Race Start: 10 AM at Gimlet Community Center

Finish: On the river by Gilby Community Center





The Louis Riel Relay is a relay Race in Sequence:

- 1 person runs 2 miles
- 1 person rides a mile horseback
- 1 person rides a pedal bike 3 miles
- 2 people canoe an estimated 6 miles with a portage exchange point half way to exchange with 2 others

Entry Fee is \$150 per team

Max 7 people per team. Min 5 people per team.

Must be 16 yrs. old to ride the horseback leg

Kids under 12 must ride with an adult on the canoe leg






Enter up at:

<https://www.cognitofirms.com/GimletRodeo2025/LOUISRIELRELAY2025>

For Information
Contact Tanner @
403 392 1787





ADVANCED GRANT WRITING COURSE™

Learn a proven process for winning government grants. The course is created and taught by David Kincade, a professional grant writer with 25+ years of experience.

- Includes your grant calendar (e.g., customized list of grants)
- Create a master grant application you can use year after year
- Ideal for people seeking more than \$50,000 in grants

The City of Lacombe is excited to host David Kincade's Advanced Grant Writing Course™ from June 16 to June 20, 2025 at the Lacombe Memorial Centre. 10 spots are available.

Schedule:


Monday: 1:00pm – 4:15pm
Tuesday: 8:45am – 12:00pm. Lunch. 12:30pm – 3:45pm
Wednesday: 1:00pm – 4:15pm
Thursday: 8:45am – 12:00pm. Lunch. 12:30pm – 3:45pm
Friday: 8:45am – 12:00pm

Deliverables:

- 21 hours of in-person training to help organizations build a master grant application
- Online grant writing portal for 12 months following the course (over 14 hours of instructional video and over 140 lessons)

Question and Answer:

- Organizations will receive complimentary assistance in applying for a training grant with the course instructor, so please contact us as soon as possible. The training grant (Canada-Alberta Job Grant) may cover 66% of the trainee cost.
- Course Cost Per Trainee: \$5,000. Training Grant covers \$3,333 per trainee. Plus GST.
- The training grant is first come, first serve. **Submit the first week of April.**
- A reminder that the grant is reimbursed. The organization is required to pay the tuition before the course starts, and it submits for reimbursement the day after the course.
- If the organization is ineligible for the CAJG, they are required to fund the course cost.
- Learn more: <https://albertabusinessgrants.ca/grant-writing>



Contact: davidk@albertabusinessgrants.ca or 780-297-6177 to register.

LINCOLN HALL NEWS

Future Events

We will send out more information in the near future - but watch email and social media for more information on upcoming events:

- First Annual Father's Day Pub Night @ Lincoln Hall - Friday, June 13th

2nd Annual Mother's Day Market 

Saturday May 10, 2025
Haynes Hall 10am - 4 pm

*Lots of local vendors with amazing items.
 Drop down for lunch or a piece of pie and coffee!
 Concession courtesy of the Haynes Hall Board*

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sisbig • Martina's Kitchen • Naturally You • BS Leather • Craft Corral • Fifth Avenue • Waskasoo Metal Works • Creations by Tam • Arbonne • Deep Roots • Tiny Terrariums 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head & Heart Soap Company • Handmade Nest • Fish & Fox Ceramics • Norwex • Thrifty Little Britches • The Crazy's Emporium • Adorned Links • Brooklynn's Beauty Bar • Farmasi • Shell's Shimmering Expressions
--	--

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

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

We would love to see you!!

We Are Hiring!

We are looking for a qualified person to fill a casual position in with our Home Support Team

Job Position highlights :

- Light Housekeeping for Seniors
- Champion for Your Community
- Fun & Supportive Team
- Flexible Schedule

[Apply Now](#)

SEND YOUR RESUME TO :

admin@lacombecfcss.net



May 5 10am-4pm at: LMC

Event Planning WORKSHOP

COST \$60 includes lunch

Events are critical to many non-profit organizations. Whether it's a fundraiser, volunteer appreciation, bottle drive, or information session...it's an event! This workshop provides an overview of event planning, which will help you plan and execute successful events.

Topics covered will include:

- Research types of events
- Design the event plan
- Manage the planning process
- Coordinate all elements
- Evaluation report

Register by May 1st by contacting CLLA at 403-782-7955 or office@clla.com

gull lake centre
gulllakecentre.ca

RISE UP

2025 Summer Camps

CAMP	AGE	DATE	PRICE +gst
Scamper	5-7	June 20-22	\$ 180
Family Camp	All Ages	July 6-11	See Web
Jr. Teens 1	12-14	July 13-18	\$ 590
Kids	9-11	July 20-25	\$ 590
Youth	10-13	July 27-Aug 1	\$ 590
Juniors	7-10	Aug 5-8	\$ 480
Jr. Teens 2	12-14	Aug 10-15	\$ 590
Sr. Teens	14-18	Aug 17-23	\$ 620

Sign up at gulllakecentre.ca/camps

Bentley Municipal Library

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

JUNE 11, 2025

7:00 PM

at BENTLEY MUNICIPAL LIBRARY

CONTACT THE LIBRARY FOR MORE INFO

403-748-4626
BENTLEYLIBRARY@P96.AB.CA

Bentley Library Society

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MAY 6, 2025 @7:30pm

AT BENTLEY MUNICIPAL LIBRARY

JOIN US!

CONTACT THE LIBRARY FOR MORE INFO

403-748-4626
BENTLEYLIBRARY@P96.AB.CA



Find Lacombe County online

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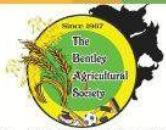
Sponsorship Opportunity

INDIVIDUALS COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS BUSINESSES

**FIREWORKS FRIDAY, AUGUST 8/25
BEFORE THE DRIVE IN MOVIE!**

In 2024 over \$11,000 was raised and we heard it was the BEST SHOW YET!

Contact Town Office to discuss your donation
403-748-4044 info@townofbentley.ca

**2025 BENTLEY TOWN AND COUNTRY FAIR (NO RODEO THIS YEAR) WILL BE HELD
AUGUST 5-9, 2025.**

**PARADE THEME FOR THIS YEAR IS
"SALUTE TO TEACHERS, EDUCATORS AND SUPPORT STAFF"**

**PARADE, PANCAKE BREAKFASTS, FARMERS MARKET, HIGH SCHOOL REUNION, CAR SHOW, DRIVE
IN MOVIE, FIREWORKS, GREAT SHOPPING, & MORE BENTLEY WILL BE THE PLACE TO BE!**

2025 Bentley Fair & Salute to the Educators, Teachers and Support Staff

Due to the arena upgrade, the Rodeo will not be happening in 2025. Rodeo will be back in 2026.
Here are some of the events that are still happening for this years Bentley Fair.

- Pancake breakfasts—Friday and Saturday
- Parade—Friday
- Drive In Movie—Friday
- Bench Show
- Bentley Museum
- School Reunion
- Library Petting Zoo—Saturday
- Kruzin West Show N Shine—Saturday
- Farmer's Market—Saturday
- Fireworks—Saturday

Stay tuned for events and times as they are confirmed.



Ellis
The Friends of the Library

Guest Speaker Series:
Carolyn Ross
Biologist and Site Manager at Ellis Nature Centre

April 23 7:00pm
Kinross Library Program Rm

Interested in hearing more about the inspiring research and initiatives at the Ellis Nature Centre? Ever wondered about the cattle and our farm projects?
Join us for an engaging evening with Carolyn Ross, Biologist and Site Manager at Ellis Nature Centre and find out about the upcoming 2025 events and recent happenings at "the bird farm".
The Ellis Nature Centre values the importance of outdoor education and wildlife conservation & stewardship practices. ENC educates and inspires people to forge a deeper connection with nature, continuing the stewardship legacy of Charlie and Winnie Ellis.

Everyone welcome to attend.
Admission is donation to the Friends of the Library.
Refreshments will be served.

Sponsored by Mary C. Moore Public Library & The Friends of the Library

Reading Retreat @ the Library

Hey Book-Lovers!
Are you craving a peaceful evening of
reading and relaxing?

We are hosting another
Reading Retreat on the evening of
Friday MAY 2nd, 6-9 pm
in the Mary C Moore Public Library.

You can bring your own book,
or pick from our shelves.

There will be cozy spaces set up for quiet
reading, as well as a space to meet and
chat with fellow book lovers and share
recommendations.
Tea and cookies will be served

Read & Relax

Free to attend. Adults only please.
RSVP to Miranda
miranda.cl@prl.ab.ca

Mary C Moore Public Library

FREE Mondays 3:15 to 5:15
Grades 3 to 5 Kids Klub

Where young minds meet big ideas!

With a focus on community engagement our program nurtures good citizenship, emotional regulation and creativity. We will explore science and art while learning valuable life skills in a fun and supportive environment.

FREE Fridays 9:30 to 11:30
Stay & Play
Ages 0-6 with an adult

Location: Basement of Town Office
Contact: Community Services 403-748-2160
Programs Facilitated by: Parenting Proactively 101



POTLUCK & PLAY

SOUP & SUBS

Wednesday
April 23/25
5:30-7:30 pm
Bentley, AB

Contact:
frnlacombe@mcmancentral.ca
(403)896-3915





**Lacombe Knights of
Columbus**

**ANNUAL
GARAGE SALE & BARBECUE**



Friday May 2nd at 2:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.
Saturday May 3rd at 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

5128—53rd Street Lacombe, AB
St Stephen Parish Hall

Hot Dogs—Hamburgers—French Fries—Coffee—Pop
Available for sale on Saturday



Donations greatly appreciated with pickup in the City for larger items the week before
Phone Bob@ 587-876-1300, Ray@ 403-350-7272, or Ron@ 587-378-5576

ROAD PARTIES

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BUILD A STRONGER COMMUNITY
AND MEET YOUR NEIGHBOURS?

We would like to Proudly THANK our Sponsors







FOR MORE INFORMATION
WEB PAGE : <https://www.rdruralcrimewatch.com>
Facebook: Red Deer/Lacombe Rural Community Crime Watch
Email: Rdruralcrimewatch@gmail.com



**BENTLEY
BOUTIQUE**

Use west entrance beside bay door.
Bentley Long Term Care Facility
4834 - 52 Avenue, Bentley

Open Tues/Thurs 10-12 & 1-3



Items for all
ages &
sizes.

Next to new
clothing
donations
welcome!

Volunteer
Coordinator
Sandy
403.318.0270

Bentley Community
Services
403.748.2160



MAY 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	MAY 1	2	3
4	5	6	7 ManVan Cancer Checks (12-3pm)	8 County Council 9AM	9 County News Submissions Due	10
11	12 Chickens 101 Workshop (6-8pm)	13	14	15	16 County News Published	17
18	19 Victoria Day (Office Closed)	20	21	22 County Council 9AM	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Upcoming Events: Committee of the Whole (June 3), County Council Meeting (June 12), Rethinking Weeds Tour (June 17), Candidate Orientation for potenial candidates (June 25/26), County Council Meeting (June 26)						

ATTENTION:

Notification of Access for County Assessors

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

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



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



For current road conditions on Twitter, safely follow @511Alberta or download the 511AB App

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



facebook.com/LacombeCounty



instagram.com/lacombecounty



twitter.com/LacombeCounty



youtube.com/LacombeCounty



www.lacombe-county.com

Phone | 403.782.6601 Email | info@lacombecounty.com Fax | 403.782.3820

COUNTY NEWS

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

Nicole Plewis, Communications Coordinator
communications@lacombecounty.com
403.782.6601

Lacombe County Directory

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

Department Numbers:	Main Office - 403-782-6601
	Planning Services - 403-782-8389
	Community Services - 403-782-8959
	Operations - 403-782-8379
	Public Works Shop - 403-782-3567

General

After Hours Emergency Answering Service	403.357.1210
Administration Fax	403.782.3820
Public Works Fax	403.782.5356

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

Council	Home	Cell
John Ireland, Div. 1 (jireland@lacombecounty.com)		403.392.3981
Brenda Knight, Div. 2 (bknight@lacombecounty.com)	403.788.2168	403.550.2168
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

Senior Administration

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