

Lacombe County Council approves 2025 operating and capital budgets

During the November 29, 2024 budget meeting, Lacombe County Council adopted the County's 2025 operating and capital budgets. Each year, Lacombe County Council and Administration meet to establish priorities that align with the County's Strategic Plan and multi-year operating and capital plans. For 2025, Council's focus was on continuing to deliver high levels of services to our ratepayers while maintaining fiscal responsibility.

"The 2025 budget reflects Council's commitment to maintaining service levels and addressing the needs of our community," said Michael Minchin, Director of Corporate Services. "Council voted to approve the capital and operating budgets for 2025, recognizing the challenges posed by inflation and ensuring that the County's operations are managed efficiently."

Each year, Council works through the complex task of managing resources to balance present needs and future growth.

"During our budget meetings, we have carefully considered the economic challenges and the needs of our community. This budget is a balanced approach to maintaining high service levels while planning for future growth," said Reeve Barb Shepherd. "Our 2025 budget reflects our commitment to fiscal responsibility and our dedication to providing consistent, high-quality services to our residents. We are focused on ensuring that Lacombe County remains a vibrant and thriving community, meeting the expectations of our ratepayers."

2025 OPERATING BUDGET

The \$81.8 million operating budget ensures the continuation of existing service levels with key adjustments for inflation and strategic initiatives. Highlights include:

- An estimated net cost of \$54,000 for the 2025 municipal election, held every four years.
- An additional \$30,000 in funding allocated to community FCSS programs to support local needs.
- Implementation of a new funding agreement with the Town of Blackfalds for fire services in the Blackfalds Fire District.
- A \$154,240 increase to the recreation capital assistance reserve, ensuring future recreation projects with urban partners are supported.
- A 3% inflationary increase to maintain recreation

and cemetery facilities county wide, except where agreements apply.

- Continued investment in asset management, including an infrastructure locating project in the Hamlet of Mirror to assess underground utility conditions.
- Initiation of a water servicing study for the Hamlets of Morningside and Tees.

2025 CAPITAL BUDGET

The \$28.6 million capital budget focuses on essential infrastructure improvements and asset management, representing a 23.91% increase from 2024. Of the \$28.6 million in capital spending in 2025, \$14.51 million (50.75%) is sourced through funds set aside in prior years through the capital replacement plans. Key investments include:

- Significant road paving projects, including upgrades to Range Road 2-4 on the southwest side of Sylvan Lake.
- Utility infrastructure projects totaling \$3.6 million, featuring the \$3.46 million Tees Reservoir and Truck Fill Station to enhance water services.
- Continued funding for bridge replacements and maintenance, recreation facilities, and equipment upgrades to meet community needs.

ABOUT THE BUDGET PROCESS

It is important to note that Council is not formally approving the 2025 tax rates in adopting the budgets. There are two stages in setting the budgets:

- **Stage 1:** Developing and approving the operating and capital budgets each year in late November or early December. Approval of the 2025 budgets authorizes the County to incur expenditures and conduct its operations commencing January 1, 2025. The budgets are based on preliminary property assessment information and estimated requisition levies.
- **Stage 2:** Approving the 2025 tax rate bylaw in April or May, which will establish the current year's property tax rates by property type and give the County authority to prepare and issue property tax notices. This occurs in the spring, after the Province sets the property tax levy for education purposes and when property assessment values have been confirmed.

Consolidated summaries for Operating and Capital budgets on Page. 4

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www.lacombecounty.com



SUCCESS GROWS HERE!

Publication Mail Agreement No 43726064

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

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

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

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

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

How TIPP Works:

- Taxes are billed in May and cover the calendar year (January 1–December 31).
- Your monthly payment is calculated by dividing your most recent tax bill by 12.
- Payments start January 15 and ensure your account is fully paid by December 15.

What you need to know:

- Property taxes are due annually on August 31
- Sign up for the Tax Installment Payment Plan (TIPP) before December 31, 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!

LACOMBE
COUNTY

Lacombe County
Holiday Hours

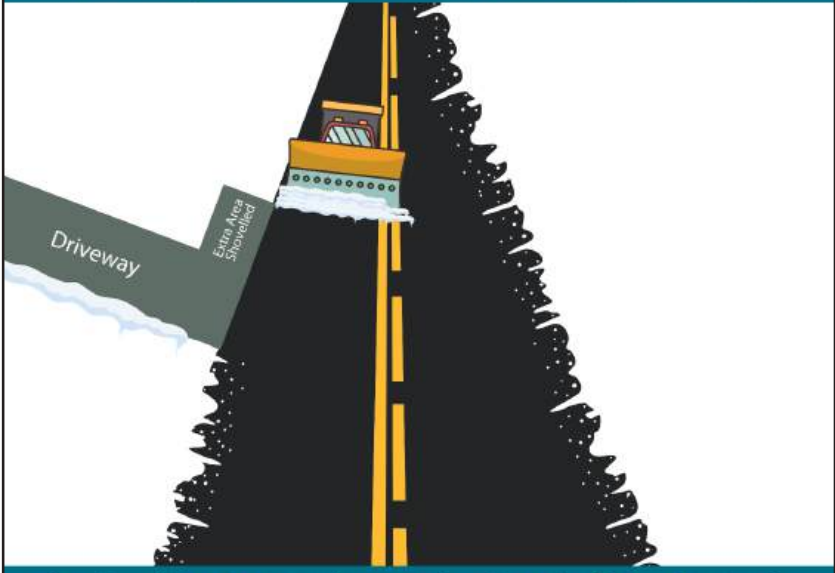
★ Christmas Eve 24th December	8:30am - 12:00pm
★ Christmas Day 25th December	Closed
★ Boxing Day 26th December	Closed
★ Christmas Floater 27th December	Closed
★ New Year's Eve 31st December	8:30am - 3:00pm
★ New Year's Day 1st January	Closed

We wish you all a safe and joyful holiday season!

LACOMBE
COUNTY

WINTER TIP

When shovelling snow after a major snowfall event, an excellent way you can help the County's graders and also avoid having to re-shovel the snow again is by shovelling an extra area, left of your driveway. This allows the County's graders to push snow into that area, so you don't have to reshovel the area in front of your driveway!



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

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

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

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.

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

- **December 20** (for Christmas displays)
- **December 23** (for New Year's displays)

Remember: you must have the permission of all adjacent property owner, be at least 18 years of age, and follow the rules laid out in the Consumer Fireworks Permit (found online at <https://www.lacombecounty.com/en/living-here/fireworks-permits.aspx>).



From steam to scale: Lacombe County resident Ernie Beskowiney's model train legacy

For Ernie Beskowiney, a Lacombe County resident, the chuff of a steam engine represents more than nostalgia; it's a testament to a lifetime of curiosity and craftsmanship. After completing the painstaking restoration of a 100-point car in 2002—a rare accolade marking the pinnacle of automotive restoration—Ernie felt he needed a new challenge. That's when he turned to model train engineering.

"I was ready to start another project," he recalls. "Model engineering seemed like a natural fit."

In September, Ernie's over two-mile backyard track near Benalto came alive with the whistle and puffs of miniature steam engines, marking the culmination of nearly two decades of hard work and tens of thousands of hours. The event was more than a display—it was a celebration of Ernie's vision and a trial run to create a future fundraising venue for Alberta's children's hospitals in Calgary and Edmonton.

The inspiration for this project came from a deeply personal place. Sixteen years ago, during a challenging pregnancy, doctors expressed grave concerns about Ernie's grandson's development, fearing he might have severe physical and cognitive impairments, and recommended termination. However, his parents chose to continue with the pregnancy, and the baby was born with one kidney significantly smaller than the other. Thanks to the exceptional care provided by the Ottawa Children's Hospital, Ernie's grandson thrived and now dreams of pursuing a career in medicine.

During that difficult time, Ernie had a vivid dream about building a train track on the farm and using it



to host fundraising events for the hospital. It took him several days to share the dream with his wife, Dorinda, but when he finally did, she wholeheartedly supported the idea, saying, "That's a very doable dream." With her encouragement, the track designing and building project began.

Last fall's private event was a trial run for the larger fundraisers Ernie plans to host in support of Alberta's children's hospitals – the Stollery Children's Hospital in Edmonton and the Calgary Children's Hospital.

"It's a lot of work," he notes. "You need volunteers, fundraising, corporate sponsorship—it's a team effort." Despite the challenges, the event was a resounding success, with guests marveling at the sight of miniature steam engines in action.

Ernie is generously donating the use of his property and train equipment entirely free of charge. All donations and corporate sponsorships go directly to the hospitals. Alberta



hospital staff are onsite to collect donations from the public and corporations, ensuring that all funds and corporate cheques are directed to the chosen children's hospital of their choosing.

Beyond trains, Ernie's career has been a tapestry of mechanical expertise. He's a journeyman mechanic, a former automotive instructor in Regina, and a top-ranking Snap-On Tools distributor. These experiences shaped his approach to engineering, which combines precision, creativity, and a commitment to excellence.

"Building these to scale usually takes decades," he explains. "But I was focused and diligent."

His dedication culminated in the completion of his first locomotive in 2006. But Ernie wasn't content with off-the-shelf kits. "I wasn't happy with the results," he admits. "So, I started designing my own using original blueprints scaled down to the right size." Today, his meticulously crafted collection includes eight locomotives, two diesel-electric models inspired by Canadian Pacific Railway, and three grain cars, each bearing decals so precise they match the colors and logos of their full-sized counterparts. His Alberta grain car even features the Lacombe County logo.

His beautiful steam locomotive the famous CNR6060 4-8-2 Mountain class is a scale model of the 6060 that resides at Stettler. There is a YouTube video of him pulling over a hundred feet of train that has gone viral with over 38M views. Just use his name

to search on YouTube.

"I've always been drawn to steam-powered machines," he says. "There's something magical about them." That fascination led him to study intensely, devouring books, studying the original Railway Education Bureau correspondence course issued in 1944, and even achieving a knowledge level comparable to a railroad engineer. "I would spend two hours every morning studying steam," Ernie adds.

Ernie began work on his backyard track layout in the fall of 2015. Over the years, the project has grown to include more than three kilometers of track, a 60-meter-long tunnel with two tracks, a station house designed to double as a fundraising collection booth, a worktable for steam engines, and a hoist capable of lifting the 700-kilogram locomotives into storage racks.

Lacombe County has been supportive of his endeavors, approving a permit for his private railroad. While his train park isn't open to the public, Ernie finds ways to share his creations through events.

Ernie's journey—from a curious farm kid, that never got any store-bought toys and had to build his own, to a master model engineer—is as inspiring as the steam engines he builds. Through his trains, he not only celebrates the legacy of steam-powered machinery but also creates joy and purpose for his community.



SCREEN TEST

Mobile Mammography Screening is coming to:

Ponoka**January 9 to 16, 2025**
Community Health Centre**Appointments are required. Call to book:****1-800-667-0604 (toll free)**To learn more visit: screeningforlife.ca*If you're 45 to 74 years of age, have a mammogram every 2 years or as decided by you and your healthcare provider. No referral needed.*

Post until: Jan. 16, 2025

AHS Screen Test Mobile Mammography Clinic

The AHS Screen Test Mobile Mammography Clinic will be returning to Ponoka January 9 to 16, 2025, bringing breast cancer screening to clients across Alberta with its state-of-the-art mobile mammography unit.

How to book: Call 1-800-667-0604 (toll-free)

Cost: None

Who should be screened?

- Women 45 to 74:** This group is most commonly diagnosed with breast cancer, and should plan to have a mammogram every

2 years until they turn 75. This group can self-refer.

- Women 40 to 44:** Screening is optional and they should discuss the risks and benefits of screening with their health care provider. A referral is needed for their first mammogram in Alberta, which [is available online here](https://screeningforlife.ca).

- Women 75 and over:** Can continue screening and should discuss the risks and benefits with their health care provider.

Screening mammograms are not recommended for those under age 40.

Learn more at screeningforlife.ca.

**CAPITAL BUDGET 2025****CONSOLIDATED SUMMARY**

Description	Cost Price	Trade In Sales	Total Cost
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES			
VM Server	60,000	-	60,000
Questica Budget	20,000	-	20,000
Financial Software	13,980	-	13,980
Sub-Total	93,980	-	93,980
FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES			
AFFRCS Radio Transition	125,400	-	125,400
Sub-Total	125,400	-	125,400
RECREATION SERVICES			
Sandy Point Playground	190,910	-	190,910
Westside Country Estates Trail	125,000	-	125,000
Sub-Total	315,910	-	315,910
UTILITY SERVICES			
Mirror Water System Equipment	29,000	-	29,000
Light Duty Truck	60,000	3,900	56,100
Light Duty Truck	60,000	3,900	56,100
SCADA System Server	7,000	-	7,000
Tees Truck Fill Station	3,460,800	-	3,460,800
Sub-Total	3,616,800	7,800	3,609,000
OPERATIONS			
870G Grader	730,000	125,000	605,000
870P Grader	730,000	155,000	575,000
870P Grader	730,000	155,000	575,000
870P Grader	730,000	155,000	575,000
870P Grader	730,000	155,000	575,000
New Holland Tractor/Loader	295,000	70,000	225,000
New Holland Tractor	270,000	50,000	220,000
Loader	200,000	40,000	160,000
Loader	200,000	40,000	160,000
1550 Mower	35,000	7,500	27,500
1550 Mower	35,000	7,500	27,500
T66 Skid Steer	115,000	40,000	75,000
T76 Skid Steer	105,000	35,000	70,000
Medium Duty Truck	110,000	5,000	105,000
A/C Service Machine	18,000	-	18,000
Skid Steer Rototiller	12,000	-	12,000
Skid Steer Blade	2,800	-	2,800
Solar Expansion East Shop	60,000	-	60,000
Solar Expansion West Shop	60,000	-	60,000
Engineered Structures - Roads	15,694,060	-	15,694,060
Engineered Structures - Bridges	3,581,630	-	3,581,630
Sub-Total	24,443,490	1,040,000	23,403,490
TOTAL CAPITAL	28,595,580	1,047,800	27,547,780

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Bridge Reserve	3,581,630
Canada Community Building Fund	1,014,240
Fleet and Equipment Reserve	4,153,700
Local Government Fiscal Framework Gran	4,763,250
Mirror Utility Reserve	29,000
Municipal Facilities Reserve	120,000
New Pavement Reserve	3,664,720
Operational Reserve	92,880
Other Grants/Contributions	137,150
Road Development Reserve	297,970
Trails and Parks Reserve	125,000
Water/Wastewater Reserve	2,446,560
Tax Supported Funding - Operating	7,121,680
Trade-In/Sale of Equipment/Vehicles	1,047,800
Total Funding	28,595,580

OPERATING BUDGET 2025**CONSOLIDATED SUMMARY**

	2024 Budget	2025 Budget	% Variance
AGRICULTURAL SERVICES	213,900	215,400	0.70%
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	185,750	85,000	-54.24%
FISCAL SERVICES	14,114,660	14,507,340	2.78%
GENERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES	42,617,540	45,300,030	6.29%
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT	364,500	2,047,480	461.72%
PROTECTIVE SERVICES	836,090	1,271,070	52.03%
PUBLIC HEALTH & WELFARE	319,320	319,320	0.00%
RECREATION AND CULTURE	834,950	916,390	9.75%
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES	2,067,290	12,233,640	491.77%
WASTE MANAGEMENT	57,630	58,350	1.25%
WASTEWATER TREATMENT & DISPOSAL	2,055,160	1,465,580	-28.69%
WATER SUPPLY & DISTRIBUTION	1,020,800	3,382,640	231.37%
TOTAL REVENUE	64,687,590	81,802,240	26.46%
LESS: EDUCATION, SENIORS & DI PROPERTY TAXATION	(14,114,660)	(14,507,340)	2.78%
TOTAL REVENUE EXCLUDING REQUISITIONS	50,572,930	67,294,900	33.07%
AGRICULTURAL SERVICES	1,330,030	1,422,760	6.97%
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	288,910	250,720	-13.22%
FISCAL SERVICES	14,114,660	14,507,340	2.78%
GENERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES	7,526,850	8,278,090	9.98%
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT	1,500,820	3,230,730	115.26%
PROTECTIVE SERVICES	5,835,060	5,874,310	0.67%
PUBLIC HEALTH & WELFARE	483,330	627,890	29.91%
RECREATION AND CULTURE	3,787,690	5,186,500	36.93%
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES	24,635,180	33,637,250	36.54%
WASTE MANAGEMENT	881,010	930,230	5.59%
WASTEWATER TREATMENT & DISPOSAL	2,136,800	1,547,820	-27.56%
WATER SUPPLY & DISTRIBUTION	1,246,390	5,347,210	329.02%
TOTAL EXPENSES	63,766,730	80,840,850	26.78%
INVENTORY USAGE FOR OPERATING	(3,822,330)	(4,131,250)	8.08%
INVENTORY PURCHASES	4,743,190	5,092,640	7.37%
ADJUSTED EXPENSE TOTAL	64,687,590	81,802,240	26.46%
LESS: EDUCATION, SENIORS & DI PROPERTY REQUISITIONS	(14,114,660)	(14,507,340)	2.78%
TOTAL EXPENSES EXCLUDING EDUCATION REQUISITION	50,572,930	67,294,900	33.07%
NET CASH SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	-	-	-

SAFETY FIRST

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

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

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

Here's how to ensure a safe burn:

- 1. Check the Weather:** Always keep an eye on the weather forecast. Windy conditions can quickly escalate a small fire into a wildfire.
- 2. Clear a Safe Zone:** Create a safe area around your burn site, free from flammable materials like dry grass or leaves. Maintain a 10-foot clearance.

- 3. Equipment Ready:** Have a hose, water source, and tools on hand to control the fire. Never leave the fire unattended.
- 4. NO Household Garbage:** Only burn clean, dry wood or vegetation. NEVER burn household garbage, plastics, or chemicals. See our Fire Permits Section of the website for more information.
- 5. Keep it Small:** Stick to a manageable fire size. Large, uncontrolled fires are dangerous.
- 6. Responsible Supervision:** An adult should supervise the fire at all times, and everyone involved should know how to dial 911 in case of an emergency.
- 7. Respect Neighbours:** Be mindful of your

neighbours. Smoke and embers can disrupt their peace.

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

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

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

Winter driving is here: What to consider when driving in winter conditions

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

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

Winter tires

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

Slow down

RCMP urge drivers to slow down when the conditions are not ideal. The posted speed limit is intended for ideal road conditions and motorists can be charged with a traffic offence if you drive too fast for the conditions.

Give yourself space on the road

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

Check the road report

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







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

Emergency kit

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

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

AP 132: CLOSURE OF SCHOOLS DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER

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

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

 **Wolf Creek Public Schools**
Creating Success For All Learners



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.albertasPCA.org>/**

Jolly Seniors

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

Booking Mirror Community Hall

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

Mirror and District Museum

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

Friends of the Mirror Library Society/ Mirror Library

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

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

Please like us at: [facebook.com/booksinmirror](https://www.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 ASSOCIATION FOR BALL DIAMONDS CAMPGROUND AND SKATING SOCIETY PRESENT:

2ND ANNUAL FIRE & ICE Family Skating Event!

JOIN US FOR SOME FAMILY FUN!
DECEMBER 29TH 3PM-6PM
FREE HOTDOGS, CHILI, COFFEE, HOT CHOCOLATE, COOKIES & JUICE

SHOW OFF YOUR SKILLS!
PRIZES TO BE WON
FASTEST SKATER
FASTEST SLAPSHOT

MIRROR OUTDOOR RINK
5015 51 ST
FIREWORKS SHOW TO START @ 6PM
CHECK OUT OUR NEW FACEBOOK PAGE:
MORE- MIRROR OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT

MIRROR AND DISTRICT MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

CN CABOOSE & BOXCAR CHRISTMAS LIGHTS DISPLAY

COME CHECK IT OUT!
LIGHTS ON FROM DUSK TILL DAWN EVERY NIGHT

4910 53 ST MIRROR

HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL THAT DONATED!
WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THE LIGHTS!

LACOMBE COUNTY

HAMLET OF MIRROR DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE GRANT

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

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

Are you expanding an existing business?

Do you have Development Permit approval for the proposed business?

YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR A DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE GRANT!

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

Planning Services
403-782-8389

Mirror residents reminded to shovel sidewalks

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

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



ENVIRONMENT

Deck the Halls Sustainably: Eco-Friendly Holiday Tips

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

PLAN FOR SUCCESS:

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

GIFT-GIVING:

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

HOSTING ECO-FRIENDLY GATHERINGS:

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

RECYCLING:

- **A healthy home:** As the temperatures drop, we typically spend more time indoors, so get rid of the unnecessary toxins in your home. The old paint that's been sitting around can be recycled and the various cleaners that have outlived their usefulness can be safely disposed of. These items can be brought to various collection sites around the province.
- **Recycle those old lights:** Recycle those old holiday string lights.
- **Old electronics are still useful:** Don't let them take up space, your old electronics can be recycled and turned into new products.
- **Bottles & cans:** Collect the empty beverage containers and take them to your local bottle depot for recycling. It keeps the items out of the landfill and puts some cash back in your pocket!

TRAVELLING:

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

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

Lacombe County and Ponoka County

together with

Alberta Onsite Wastewater Management Association

Presents



Septic Sense: Solutions for Rural Living

January 16, 2025, 6 pm – 9 pm

At the Ponoka County Office (4205 Highway #2A Ponoka AB)

Understanding and taking care of your septic system

Did you know the average person puts 340 liters of sewage through a private sewage system (septic system) every day? For a family of four living in a two-bedroom house, that amounts to 1,360 liters per day and just under half a million liters per year!

Rural property owners are responsible for ensuring their systems operate properly and safely. If you have a septic system on your rural property, you will benefit from attending this workshop. Presenters will teach you how to understand, assess and properly manage your septic system, enabling you to protect your investment in your property and the valuable natural assets associated with your land.

Learn what you can do to properly manage and maintain your septic system. Attend the Septic Sense workshop hosted and presented by Lacombe and Ponoka County with technical expertise provided by the Alberta Onsite Wastewater Management Association (AOWMA) and materials developed by Land Stewardship Centre (LSC).

During the workshop we will cover:

- What a septic system is and how it works
- Regulations
- Design and installation
- Appropriate use of your septic system
- Maintaining your septic system
- Troubleshooting

To attend the workshop, please pre-register by calling Jalene at the Lacombe County Office at:

403-782-8959 or jmakus@lacombecounty.com

Brought to you by:



Alberta Onsite Wastewater
MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION



OPERATIONS

Notice of Road Construction Completion

Pursuant to Municipal Government Act M-26.1 534(1) Lacombe County hereby provides notice to any person having an interest in land that is adjacent to lands which Lacombe County has constructed a public road. Persons entitled to compensation from the municipality for loss of or the permanent lessening of use of that person's land caused by the public work are advised to make a claim within 60 days after this notice is published.

The following road is complete as of November 19, 2024

Project Number	Description
C2241	Rge Rd 22-4 Thru 5 & SSW 8 & West 9 & 16 & Thru SW 21-40-22 W4M From Mirror to Hwy 601C4104
C2642	Rge Rd 26-4 West 28 & 33-39-26 W4M From Twp Rd 40-0 to Twp Rd 39-4

For more information, please contact:

Brandon Maier
Manager of Operations
403-782-3567

Lacombe County Winter Road Maintenance

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

PAVED ROADS - ORDER OF PRIORITY FOR SNOW REMOVAL

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

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

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

GRAVEL ROADS – ORDER OF PRIORITY FOR SNOW REMOVAL

- Local Roads – Snow removal will commence in alternating locations. Lacombe County will undertake snow removal in a manner that minimizes motor grader backtracking or excessive travel.
- Public access roads and machinery roads – Snow removal will only be undertaken to an established residence or to transport

agricultural products, provided the road may be opened with a motor grader. This service will be subject to the availability of the equipment.

- Winging snow from the shoulders and other maintenance will have second priority.

The goal for winter maintenance for gravel roads is to remove snow from the road surface after accumulations reach approximately 5 cm or more.

The basic service level that we strive for is to have the gravel road system maintained to reasonable winter conditions within four days after a snow storm; however, this will vary dependent on the severity and duration of the storm.

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

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

WHEN CLEARING SNOW FROM YOUR PROPERTY, DO NOT PUSH THE SNOW ACROSS THE ROAD. THIS PRACTICE RESULTS IN SERIOUS SAFETY CONCERNS FOR BOTH PASSENGER VEHICLES AS WELL AS LACOMBE COUNTY EQUIPMENT.



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

BROKEN OR MISSING ROAD SIGNS?

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

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

LACOMBE COUNTY

AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURAL EXCELLENCE

SECURING YOUR FARM FUTURE

JANUARY 29, 2025

4:30 - 9:00 PM

@ iHOTEL Conference Center, Red Deer, AB

SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER

OR CALL 403-348-2600



ALUS Lacombe 2024 Highlights

By Ken Lewis, ALUS Lacombe Coordinator

2024 has once again been a good year for ALUS in Lacombe County. Some numbers of note:

- 12 Lacombe County farmers / ranchers requested funding for on-farm projects that increase ecosystem services
- 9 Lacombe County farmers / ranchers completed their on-farm projects and enrolled a total of
- 121 additional acres into the ALUS Program in 2024
- \$50,862 was provided to the 9 ALUS Farmers in 2024, for cost-sharing on establishing their on-farm projects, and
- \$23,123 was also allocated for ALUS annual payments, which will be paid to the 9 ALUS Farmers over the next 5 years, for their ongoing management of their ALUS Projects that produces increased ecosystem services.
- 826 acres have been enrolled in ALUS by a total of 23 Lacombe County farmers / ranchers since ALUS began here in 2017.

New 2024 ALUS Projects included Adaptive Multi-Paddock Grazing, Shelterbelts / Tree Planting, Alternative Livestock Watering, and Forest or Riparian Management Fencing.

ALUS works so well because it's "community-led and farmer-delivered". Part of that philosophy is that the decision-making in ALUS, is done by an ALUS Partnership Advisory Committee or "PAC". In Lacombe County, that committee is made up of Lacombe County farmers and ranchers. We were very pleased to have our PAC grow from 4 voting members to 6 in 2024. That said, we are always looking for additional members, please contact us if you're interested in 2025.

Another highlight from 2024 was working with Lacombe County on the Lacombe County Agriculture Tour. One of the stops was the Adaptive Multi-Paddock Grazing project at the Ellis Nature Centre.



A 2024 ALUS Project: Adaptive Multi-Paddock Grazing at Ellis Nature Centre

Winter is a great time for planning your ALUS Project for 2025, and we've already had some great visits with some Lacombe County producers to discuss their ideas.

If you are interested in doing an ALUS project in 2025, please give me a call.

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

About AFSC's Next Generation Loan

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

Applicants must meet one of the following eligibility requirements:

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

Features

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

Next Generation Incentive

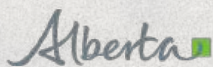
At the time of application, applicants who qualified for the Next Generation Loan may be eligible for a one per cent interest rate reduction for a maximum of five years on the first term of the loan. The lifetime maximum borrowing for the Next Generation Incentive is \$1.5 million per individual.

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

What it finances:

 Land & equipment purchases	 Production quota	 Home and farm renovation & construction	 Succession planning
 Breeding livestock inventory	 Working capital	 Share purchase	 Debt restructuring

The Great Twine Round-Up



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

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

\$12,000 in Total Cash Prizes!

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

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

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

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

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

How it works

1.



Pick up your free twine collection bags

2.



Round-up and bag used plastic baler twine

3.



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

4.



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

5.



Submit entry with photo at GreatTwineRoundUp.com

USE RESPECT – ASK FIRST SIGNS



Use Respect – Ask First

These signs are available free for landowners across Alberta.

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

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

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

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



Billets Wanted for Local Veterinary Students

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



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



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

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



Find Lacombe County online

[/LacombeCounty](#) [@lacombecounty](#) [Lacombe County](#) [/LacombeCounty](#) [lacombecounty.com](#)

ABOUT

Grain Bag and Twine Recycling in Lacombe County

Grain Bag Recycling



Details:

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

Requirements:

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

Twine Recycling



Details:

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

Requirements:

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



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

ATTENTION

Grain Bag and Twine Recyclers in Lacombe County

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

IT ONLY WORKS IF YOU RECYCLE RIGHT!!

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



NO feed bags ~



NO grain totes ~



NO silage plastic ~



NO bale wrap

SUBDIVISION & DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY

November 1, 2024 to November 30, 2024

Development Applications Received

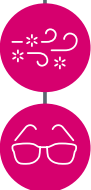
No.	File No.	Applicant	Legal Description	Proposed Development	Decision
1	141/24	Victor & Grainne Zuidhof	SE 03-40-26-W4M	Single Family Residence w/attached garage (Replacement Dwelling)	Approved
2	142/24	Lee & Cameron Wiebe	SE 15-39-28-W4M	Single Family Residence w/attached garage & covered veranda (Second Dwelling)	Approved
3	143/24	Dynamic Modular Homes	Unit 175 Condo Plan 142 2139 (Sandy Point RV Resort, Gull Lake)	Park Model	Approved
4	144/24	Dynamic Modular Homes	Unit 76 Condo Plan 142 2139 (Sandy Point RV Resort, Gull Lake)	Park Model w/covered deck	Approved
5	145/24	Abbey Platinum Master Build Inc.	Lot 20 Block 1 Plan 567TR (Kuusamo Krest, Sylvan Lake)	Gazebo	Approved
6	146/24	Sunrooms & Awnings Ltd.	Unit 144 Condo Plan 142 2139 (Sandy Point RV Resort, Gull Lake)	Sunroom	Approved
7	147/24	Dynamic Modular Homes	Unit 200 Condo Plan 142 2139 (Sandy Point RV Resort, Gull Lake)	Park Model w/covered deck	Approved

Subdivision Applications Received

The County did not receive any applications for subdivision this month.

Winter Hazards

Severe winter weather can be dangerous without a plan.



Effects include blowing snow and difficulty seeing your surroundings



Prepare by staying inside



Effects include falling branches and slippery roads and sidewalks



Prepare by avoiding travel



Effects include sore red skin that can freeze within minutes and a quick drop in body temperature



Prepare by dressing warmly and wearing layers of clothing

Being prepared can help.
Protect yourself and others by knowing the risks of winter hazards and make a plan.
Visit alberta.ca to learn how you can become better prepared.



Do you have questions about subdivision or development activity?

Contact Us:

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

Dale Freitag
Director of
Planning Services

Cajun Paradis
Senior Planner

Natasha Wright
Planner /
Development
Officer

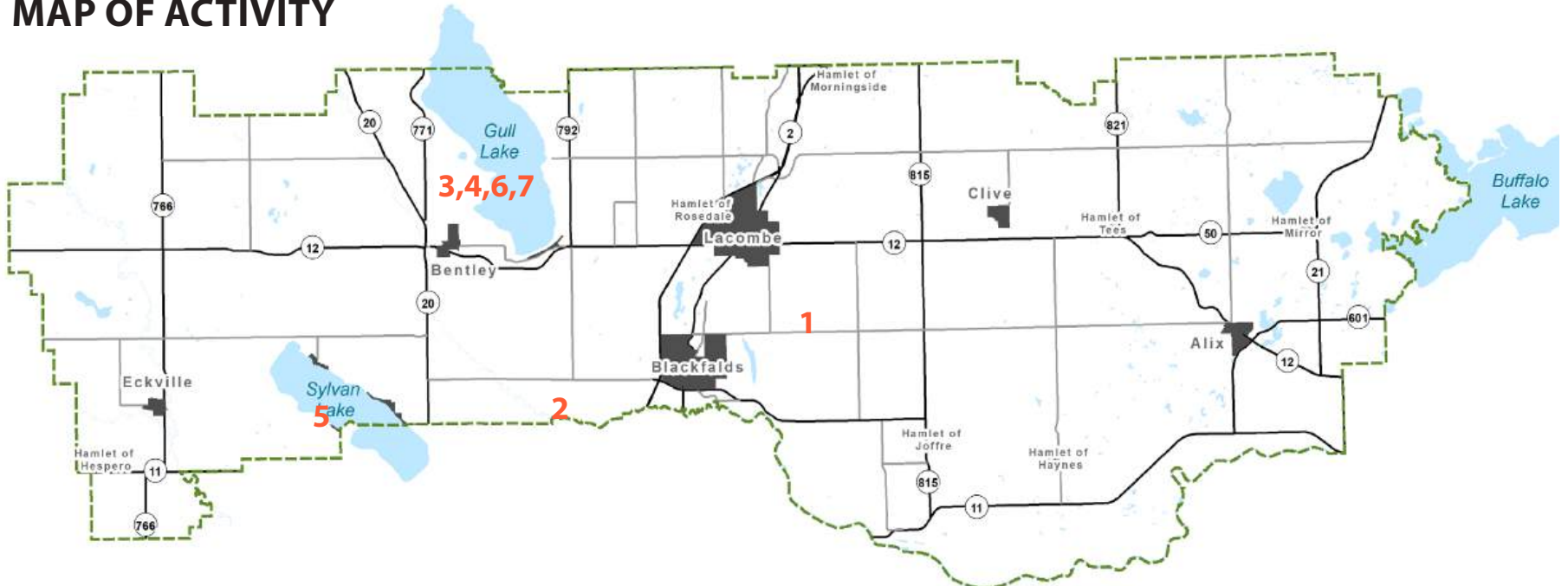
Nicklas Baran
Planner /
Development
Officer

Kerrie Taylor
Economic
Development
Officer

Allison Noonan
Planning Services
Administrative
Assistant

Daniella Gonzalez
Planning Services
Receptionist

MAP OF ACTIVITY



December Donor Match Campaign: *A Lifeline for Animals in Need*

This December, we're excited to launch our most impactful fundraising campaign yet: the December Donor Match Campaign, with up to \$20,000 in matching donations! This incredible match is being made possible in honor of "Buddy" (Budweiser), a beloved dog who touched many hearts, and with heartfelt thanks to Gordon, whose generosity is a beacon of hope for our mission.

In previous years, our mail campaigns have helped fund a large portion of our vet fees for the month of December. Sadly, due to the ongoing mail strike, we're unable to carry out this important tradition this year. However, we're turning to you, our loyal supporters, to help us meet this challenge through this online campaign.

At a time when our veterinary bills are soaring and the number of rescues continues to rise due to colder temperatures, this campaign couldn't come at a better moment. We faced a tough challenge on GivingTuesday, reaching only 1/5 of our goal. But we remain undeterred, knowing that with your support and the generosity of our match donors, we can make a real difference.

Each dollar you donate will be matched, doubling the impact of your gift and providing the critical resources needed to cover our increasing vet bills. As the temperatures drop, our rescues and their medical needs multiply, making this campaign an essential lifeline for the animals in our care. With your help, we can continue to provide them with the care they deserve and even begin putting funds toward a dream we've held for so long—the completion of our very own, much-needed vet clinic.

Your support is more crucial than ever. This December, let's come together to honor Buddy's memory, support the animals who need us most and make a lasting impact on our future. Together, we can not only meet this challenge but exceed it!! Get your donations in before the year is over to take advantage of this incredible opportunity to make your gift go twice as far, while also receiving a tax receipt for your contributions over \$25.

<https://www.savinggracecanada.com/donate>

403-785-7427

www.savinggracecanada.com

Alix, Alberta



LACOMBE REGIONAL WASTE SERVICES COMMISSION CHRISTMAS OPERATING HOURS

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

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

Saturday December 21 – Open Regular Hours

Monday December 23 – Open Regular Hours

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

Wednesday December 25 – All Sites are Closed

Thursday December 26 – All Sites are Closed

Friday December 27 – All Sites are Closed

Saturday December 28 - Open Regular Hours

Monday December 30 – Open Regular Hours

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

Wednesday January 1 – All Sites Closed

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!



STAY IN THE KNOW!



<https://subscribe.lacombecounty.com/Subscribe> to
receive emails on:

News/Announcements Events
Council Meetings
Safety Alerts
Construction Notifications

OR...Subscribe to individual pages of
interest



Planning Services

Frequently Asked Questions



YOU HAVE QUESTIONS

Business Engagement

WE HAVE ANSWERS



Building a Thriving Future: Insights from Lacombe County's Business Engagement Sessions

On November 26, 2024, Lacombe County hosted two Business Engagement Sessions as part of our ongoing efforts to advance the Business Retention & Expansion (BR&E) and Business Investment & Attraction (BI&A) projects. These sessions, held at the Mirror Hall and the Lacombe County Administration Building, brought together local businesses and stakeholders to share insights and ideas that will shape the future of economic development in our region.

Lacombe County, especially Economic Development, extend our heartfelt thanks to all the businesses and individuals who participated in these sessions. Your input is invaluable, and the information gathered will play a critical role in developing a comprehensive strategy to enhance Lacombe County's capacity for regional economic development.

WHAT WAS DISCUSSED IN THE SESSIONS?

During the sessions, attendees discussed key topics such as:

- **Workforce development:** Addressing current challenges and identifying opportunities to attract and retain skilled labor.
- **Maintaining desirability:** Ensuring Lacombe County remains a preferred location for residents by fostering a high quality of life.
- **Streamlining the Request for Proposal (RFP) process:** Simplifying procedures to prioritize value and efficiency.
- **Supporting small businesses and tourism:** Promoting local enterprises and leveraging tourism assets to strengthen the economy.
- **Reducing red tape:** Identifying and addressing regulatory barriers to enable smoother operations for businesses.

The BR&E and BI&A projects are fundamental components of Lacombe County's commitment to sustainable economic growth. Initiated in the

spring of 2024, the BR&E project began with a comprehensive survey in May, aimed at understanding the needs and challenges of local businesses. This data laid the foundation for the engagement sessions and will continue to inform our planning and initiatives.

WHAT IS A BR&E AND BI&A?

For those unfamiliar, a Business Retention & Expansion (BR&E) project focuses on supporting existing businesses by identifying their needs, addressing challenges, and uncovering growth opportunities. Meanwhile, a Business Investment & Attraction (BI&A) project is geared toward creating a favorable environment to attract new businesses and investments to the area. Together, these initiatives aim to create a thriving economic ecosystem that benefits all residents and businesses within Lacombe County.

WHAT IS THE COUNTY GOING TO DO WITH THE FEEDBACK?

As we move forward, the feedback gathered from the engagement sessions will guide the development of actionable strategies to support workforce development, enhance community livability, simplify processes, and bolster local businesses. These efforts will ensure Lacombe County remains a dynamic and prosperous place to live, work, and invest.

Once again, thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of these sessions. Your collaboration is vital as we work towards a stronger, more resilient future for Lacombe County. Stay tuned for updates as we continue to advance these important projects.

If you have any questions about the project, our Economic Development Officer is more than happy to chat! You can contact us at 403-782-8389 or email economicdevelopment@lacombecounty.com.



DID YOU KNOW? Assessment

THE 2024 PROPERTY ASSESSMENT INSPECTIONS

Property inspections for the 2025 tax year are being completed. Lacombe County is aware of new construction and significant renovations due to the development and safety codes permitting processes. We would also appreciate information provided about buildings where development and/or safety code permits were not requested. If you have demolished or removed homes, garages, sheds, or any other buildings and/or changed the usage of land and existing buildings please let us know so we can make the appropriate changes. We can not make a change to the assessment next year unless it is verified with a property inspection not later than early January.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

Over the past several months, Lacombe County has sent requests for a variety of information validation of property sales/transfers, re inspections, and vacancy/occupancy confirmation. Most recently, letters requesting information regarding potentially assessable machinery and equipment and/or costs associated with new construction were mailed. If your response to a request for cost information is received after December 16, you may not be able to make a complaint against your assessment in 2025. You may email, fax, or drop your response off at the County Administration Office. If you have received any one of these letters and require clarification on how to be compliant or what you are being asked to remit, please contact an Assessor – one of us will be happy help you.

WHAT INFORMATION DO ASSESSORS REQUIRE?

Assessors must collect the necessary information to estimate market value or apply a regulated rate to prepare the assessment. Your cooperation in providing the necessary information is appreciated. This information may include: type of construction, size, age, other physical characteristics (i.e. heating type, plumbing fixtures, interior finish, basement finish, etc.), additional buildings/improvements, and the usage of the property. If an Assessor is unable to collect the necessary data when requested, an owners' ability to appeal an assessment may be affected. You have the right to appeal your assessment, however you cannot appeal a property tax levy.

POSTAL STRIKE

To avoid any potential penalties please ensure the County has both an up-to-date mailing and email address so we may contact you (your blue sign address may NOT be your mailing address). Looking forward, your contact details should be updated directly on your Certificate of Title with the Registry Office. The form to do this can be obtained from the County Administration Office. We appreciate your cooperation.

NOTICE OF INSPECTIONS

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

APPLY TODAY: Community Program Grants available

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

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

The application deadline is February 1, 2025; applicants will be advised by March 31st of the status of their application.

Policy Guidelines/Procedures:

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

To be eligible for consideration, programs:

- Must demonstrate a need for financial support from the County;
- Must be held for the enjoyment and benefit of the general public;
- Must be hosted on an annual basis and/or recognize significant milestone events;
- Must not charge an admission, entrance or registration fee for the program, event or activity;
- Must receive at least an equivalent amount of funding from the urban municipality in which the program, event or activity is being held as that being requested from the County;
- Must receive at-least an equal amount of funding from the community organization if the program, event or activity is being held in the County; and
- Must take place in the County, or in the urban municipalities within the County in 2024.

The following are not eligible for support under this policy:

- capital facilities and equipment;
- youth and adult sports teams and associated programs, events and activities;
- school reunions;
- private functions;
- community organizations, programs, events and activities that receive support from the County through other programs or policies.

Funding Allotment & Allocation:

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

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

Check your insurance to avoid invoices for fire department responses

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

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

Specifically, the bylaw means that users of our fire department services,

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

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

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

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

(Also see TELUS Yellow Pages “Excavating”)

ECKVILLE

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

BENTLEY

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

BLACKFALDS

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

LACOMBE

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

CLIVE

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

ALIX

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

MIRROR

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

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



Taking action against domestic violence

Important: Your computer use can be monitored by others! Consider using a public computer or a friend's computer. If you search for escape on Google, make sure to clear your browsing history and cache.

In 2023, Alberta shelters received 59,000 calls for help from women looking to escape a difficult situation. **This is a 10-year high.** While more victims are seeking help and a way out, domestic violence is an increasing problem in Alberta. Often, victims don't know how to get out of that abusive situation, or they don't want to compromise their safety and the safety of their children. It is not just up to the victims to develop a plan to escape; if you can recognize the signs of abuse, you can help get a friend or family member out of a harmful domestic situation.

Domestic abuse can have significant impacts on victims' mental health and wellbeing, which they may have to face for years, such as scars, physical pain, anxiety and depression. We want to provide clear, actionable steps for anyone in Alberta experiencing domestic violence so they don't have to endure pain in the short and long term.

RECOGNIZING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The first step in leaving an abusive domestic relationship is recognizing the signs. What may seem normal or difficult to interpret in your relationship may actually be abuse. Whether it is emotional, psychological, physical or sexual abuse, you do not have to stay and suffer. If you think you might be a victim of domestic abuse, consider the following questions.

- Do you feel like you are unable to make decisions?
- Do they use intimidation or threats to make you do things?
- Do they grab, push, pinch, shove or hit you?
- Do they pressure you sexually?
- Are you prevented from doing things you want?
- Are they extremely possessive or get jealous easily?

Your answers to these questions might give you an indication that you are in an abusive relationship.

ESCAPING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Escaping domestic violence is a hard decision, and can be overwhelming. When you're preparing to leave, here are steps to take to leave safely.

- **Reach Out**
Identify a safe friend, family member or organization that can offer a safe place to go.
- **Create A Plan**
Have a safety plan to leave and put together a to-go bag with documents, money, and basic items.
- **Gather Evidence**

Try to bring any evidence of abuse or violence, such as threatening notes or photos of damage.

- **Seek Legal Help**

Contact the court for information to prevent the abuser from contacting you.

- **Be Careful**

While you prepare to leave this situation, it is important to be discrete to avoid an escalation. Have a separate, pre-paid cell phone, create copies of important documents and keys, save information and communicate on an unmonitored device.

CREATING A SAFETY PLAN

Leaving an abusive relationship can be dangerous, so it's important to have a safety plan in place.

A safety plan helps you prepare for the possibility of leaving quickly and under difficult circumstances. This plan should include the following:

Identify Safe Places: Know where you can go if you need to leave in a hurry. This could be a trusted friend's or family member's home or a local shelter.

Gather Important Documents: Keep essential documents like your ID, birth certificates, health records, and bank statements hidden in a secure place so you can grab them quickly when needed.

Memorize Emergency Contacts: Have key phone numbers memorized, including those for support services and shelters. Abusers may take your phone or prevent you from accessing it.

Prepare a To-Go Bag: Pack an emergency bag with clothes, medications, money, and essential items. You can store it at a friend's house or another safe location.

Open a Bank Account: If possible, open a bank account in your name and start setting aside money. Ensure your abuser is unaware by not having financial statements sent to your home.

Plan Your Escape Route: Know how to leave quickly and safely from your home or other locations. Rehearse these steps to ensure you're prepared in case of an emergency.

Bring Them With You: When you decide to leave, take your children if possible. If you try to get them later, the police cannot help you remove them from the other parent without a court order. This is the same with pets.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS & RESOURCES

Leaving a domestic violence situation is possible with the right plan and support. It's important for your safety to take the first step, no matter how daunting it may seem. You are not alone, and there are resources available to help you through this difficult time. If you or someone you know

is experiencing domestic violence, reach out to Alberta's Family Violence Info Line (310-1818) or contact local shelters for immediate assistance. Help is available.

There are many resources in Alberta designed to support people in abusive situations. Don't hesitate to reach out—help is available 24/7.

- Alberta's Family Violence Info Line: 310-1818 (confidential and available 24/7)
- If you're in immediate danger, call 911 for police intervention.

Other Resources

Government of Alberta Family Violence Supports:

- <https://www.alberta.ca/family-violence-find-supports.aspx>

Alberta Council of Women's Shelters:

- <https://acws.ca/get-help/>

Department of Justice Canada Family Violence Supports

- <https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/cj-jp/fv-vf/help-aide.html>

WillowNet - Abuse and the Law in Alberta

- <https://www.willownet.ca/>

Provincial Family Violence Treatment Program

- <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/find-health/service.aspx?id=1069559>

You can find more details and links at the *Alberta Rural Crime Watch Association website* by scanning the QR code or going to <https://www.ruralcrimewatch.ab.ca/news/articles/escaping-domestic-violence>.

SCAN HERE



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

November 14, 2024

ALLOCATION of 2024/2025 FCSS FUNDING

Council approved funding for the following community programs in 2025 and ongoing annual funding, pending 1) the yearly review of each program to ensure that the program is operational and continues to be a valuable resource to the community and 2) there is sufficient funding available.

- Alix Family and Community Support Society \$1,500
- Alix Mirror Wellness Supports Society \$18,355
- Bentley Community Services \$13,690
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lacombe and District \$6,000
- Blackfalds Abbey Centre Camp Curious \$4,000
- Blackfalds FCSS – Seniors Programs \$4,000
- BGC Wolf Creek Lacombe \$2,500
- Eckville and Community Youth Society \$2,000
- Eckville Recreation Board – Summer Camp \$2,000
- Eckville & Area Children's Playgroup \$2,500
- Friends of Mirror Library Society \$5,400
- Lacombe and District FCSS \$26,125
- Lacombe FCSS (Clive, Mirror, Tees) \$4,000
- Youth Unlimited Central Alberta \$6,000

Council approved funding, on a one-time basis, to the following community organizations:

- Alix Mirror Wellness Supports Society \$10,000
- Bentley Community Services \$2,950
- BBBS \$1,000
- Blackfalds Abbey Centre Camp Curious \$400
- Blackfalds FCSS – Seniors Programs \$1,000
- BGC Wolf Creek Lacombe \$1,000
- Clive FCSS \$2,000
- Eckville & Area Children's Playgroup \$1,000
- Eckville Recreation Board – Summer Camp \$1,000
- Friends of Mirror Library Society \$400
- Lacombe and District FCSS \$2,000

BIRCH BAY BOAT CLUB LEASE OF COUNTY MUNICIPAL RESERVE

The staff report regarding the Birch Bay Boat Club Lease Agreement of County Municipal Reserve was received for information. A public hearing regarding the Birch Bay Boat Club's proposed lease of a portion of Lacombe County Municipal Reserve described as Plan 1320431, Block 8, Lot 9MR (Birch Bay Marina) for a 24-year term was set for 9:00 am on December 12, 2024.

TEES RESERVOIR PROJECT – ALBERTA MUNICIPAL WATER/WASTEWATER GRANT APPLICATION

The County Manager was authorized to submit an application for funding under the Alberta Municipal Water/Wastewater Partnership Grant for the Tees Bulk Fill Station and Reservoir Project.

AMENDING AGREEMENT FOR WASTEWATER TRUNK LINE FUNDING AGREEMENT

The County Manager was authorized to enter into an amending agreement with the Town of Blackfalds for the Wastewater Trunk Line Funding Agreement. The County's share of this project, \$1,321,685.28, will be funded from the Aspelund Wastewater Offsite Levy Reserve.

LAKEVIEW ESTATES WATER FLUORIDE SYSTEM

The County Manager was directed to hire Hydrogeological Consultants to complete the drilling of a test well and subsequent studies at Lakeview Estates at an estimated cost of \$95,000, to be funded from the Water/Wastewater Reserve.

LOCAL GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY GRANT – BLACKFALDS BROADWAY AVENUE RESERVOIR EXPANSION

Lacombe County will provide support to the Town of Blackfalds in its application for Local Growth and Sustainability Grant funding for the Town of Blackfalds/Lacombe County Intermunicipal collaborative and cost-shared Broadway Avenue Water Reservoir Expansion project.

FEDERATION OF CANADIAN MUNICIPALITIES (FCM) CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

The County will send letters to the FCM with copies to Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA), Wheatland County, and MP Blaine Calkins, to express concern with how well the FCM's focus aligns with the unique needs and challenges of rural municipalities, specifically citing concerns related to the shipment of horses for live slaughter, clean oil, carbon capture, Bill 293, and the beef industry.

AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD TOWN HALL

Council attended the Agriculture Service Board Town Hall virtually to receive updates related to initiatives of the Provincial Agriculture Service Board and the Assistant Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation.

FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE INVOICE RELIEF REQUEST

Brandon Williams, a Lacombe County resident, provided a presentation regarding an invoice he received in the amount of \$2995

for a fire department response to a structure fire at his property on July 22, 2024. Mr. Williams expressed concern with the amount of the invoice and advised that more equipment and personnel attended the fire than were necessary. As such, Mr. Williams requested that the invoice be reviewed and adjusted.

Council received the presentation for information and directed the County Manager to provide a report and recommendation regarding this matter at a future Council meeting.

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



Travel & Heritage App Coming for Summer 2025



- Map-Based
- Near Me Feature
- 600+ Community Menus
- Search for:
 - Attractions
 - History
 - Products
 - Services
- Create Themed Tours
- 3 Steps to Local Links

Get Notified!



Get your INGON in Alberta



INGON.ca
 INGONalberta@gmail.com

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

November 28, 2024

PUBLIC HEARING FOR BYLAW 1421/24 REQUEST FOR CLOSURE AND SALE OF STATUTORY ROAD ALLOWANCE

A public hearing was held for Bylaw No. 1421/24 pertaining to a request by Carter and Brooklynn Ebenal to close a portion of an undeveloped road allowance (+/- 1.89 acres) for consolidation with Lot 2 Block 1 Plan 1021255 (Pt. NE-19-38-24-W4M).

Bylaw No. 1421/24 received second reading, was read a third time, and so passed by Council.

The bylaw will be forwarded to Alberta Transportation for final approval.

HIGHWAY 12/21 REGIONAL WATER SERVICES COMMISSION 2025 OPERATING BUDGET

Council received the Highway 12/21 Regional Water Services Commission 2025 Operating budget for information. A letter will be forwarded to the Commission stating that Lacombe County has no comments or questions regarding the proposed budget.

SYLVAN LAKE REGIONAL WATER/ WASTEWATER COMMISSION 2025 OPERATING & CAPITAL BUDGETS AND 3-YEAR OPERATING PLAN

Council received the Sylvan Lake Regional Water/Wastewater Commission 2025 operating and capital budgets and the three-year operating plan for information. A letter will be forwarded to the Commission stating that Lacombe County has no comments or questions regarding the proposed budgets.

BASHAW WELLNESS TEAM REQUEST FOR LETTER OF SUPPORT

Council endorsed a letter of support for the Bashaw Wellness Team in their expression of interest for the Municipality Supported Clinics Grant Program and the Rural Team Recruitment Grant Program.

2024 PROPERTY TAX PENALTY CANCELLATION REQUEST

A motion that Lacombe County cancel \$152.82 of the 2024 tax penalty levied on tax account no. 3826134002, did not receive Council approval.

FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE INVOICE RELIEF REQUEST

A motion to approve the request from Brandon Williams for a reduction of fees for the Lacombe and Bentley Fire Department's responses to the July 22, 2024 fire on his property at NE-5-41-26 W4M, as set out in Lacombe County invoice number IVC00045459, did not receive Council approval.

TOWN OF SYLVAN LAKE REQUEST FOR LETTER OF SUPPORT

Council endorsed a letter of support for the Town of Sylvan Lake in their application for funding through the Local Growth and Sustainability Grant (LGSG) program for the Sustainable Water Resource Project.

POLICY RC(10) TOURISM AND HISTORICAL FACILITIES FUNDING APPLICATIONS

Council approved 2025 funding applications for

Policy RC(10) Operating Support of Historical, Cultural, Tourism, and Visitor Information Facilities and Services, as follows:

- \$17,504.85 for Mirror and District Museum Association
- \$4000 for Alix Wagon Wheel Museum
- \$10,000 for Bentley Museum Society
- \$0.00 for Blackfalds & Area Historical Society
- \$2,333.98 for Eckville and District Historical Society
- \$42,510.47 for Lacombe and District Historical Society
- \$61,800 for Lacombe Regional Tourism & Marketing Association

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER PROGRAM

Council was provided with a presentation on the recent activities and initiatives of the School Resource Officer program and an overview of the School Resource Officer 2023-2024 Annual Report.

TOWN OF BENTLEY POLICY RC(1) FUNDING REQUEST

Council received a presentation by the Town of Bentley regarding a request for Policy RC(1) funding for arena slab upgrades. The County Manager was directed to prepare and report and recommendation regarding this funding request for consideration at a future Council meeting.

LACOMBE REGIONAL TOURISM

Council was provided with a presentation highlighting the services and operations of Lacombe Regional Tourism.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS | 2025 LACOMBE COUNTY COUNCIL/COUNCIL COMMITTEES

January 9, 2025 - County Council

January 16, 2025 - Lacombe County
Agriculture Service Board (ASB)January 20-22, 2025 - Provincial ASB
Conference – Edmonton

January 30, 2025 - County Council

February 4, 2025 - Committee of the Whole

February 13, 2025 - County Council

February 27, 2025 - County Council

TBD - Central RMA Spring Zone Meeting

March 13, 2025 - County Council

March 17-19, 2025 - RMA Spring
Convention

March 27, 2025 - County Council

April 1, 2025 - Committee of the Whole

April 10, 2025 - County Council

April 16, 2025 - Lacombe County ASB

April 24, 2025 - County Council

May 8, 2025 - County Council

May 22, 2025 - County Council

May 29 - June 1, 2025 - FCM Conference
- Ottawa

June 3, 2025 - Committee of the Whole

June 12, 2025 - County Council

June 26, 2025 - County Council

July 10, 2025 - County Council

August 28, 2025 - County Council

August 29, 2025 - Pre-budget Meeting

September 11, 2025 - County Council

September 25, 2025 - County Council

October 7, 2025 - Committee of the Whole

TBD - Central RMA Fall Zone Meeting

October 9, 2025 - County Council

October 28, 2025 - Regional Council
OrientationOctober 29, 2025 - Organizational Meeting
for 2025

October 30, 2025 - County Council

TBA - ASB Regional Conference

November 4, 2025 - Lacombe County ASB

November 13, 2025 - County Council

November 13, 2025 - Salary & Wage
Meeting (To follow regular meeting)November 17-20, 2025 - RMA Fall
Convention

November 25, 2025 - Budget Meeting

November 27, 2025 - County Council

December 2, 2025 - Committee of the
Whole

December 11, 2025 - County Council

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 !



SESSIONS RESUME
JANUARY 6TH

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, FCSS/TOWN OF
BENTLEY, EDMONTON SENIORS CENTRE

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**



Over The Hill & Loving The View

located in the Town Office 4918-50 Avenue

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

- Tuesdays 1 pm Socialize/cards/games
- Thursdays 1pm Socialize/cards/games
- Potluck Last Tuesday each month

**YEARLY
MEMBERSHIP
FEE \$10**

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

Special programming (no charge) on Mondays/Wednesdays

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

Registration required for
these programs
**Move your body, make
connections & socialize!**
Call 403.748.2160



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

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

AROUND THE COUNTY



Blackfalds' Servus Credit Union Public Library



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

Programming

Caregiver & Tot Playdate *Ages 0-4*

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

Reading Buddies *Ages 6-13*

Anime & Otaku Club *Ages 8+*

Something Cool After School *Ages 10+*

Knitting & Crochet *Ages 18+*

Pajama Story Time *All Ages*

Family Board Games *All Ages*

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

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

Borrowing

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

Contact

403-885-2343

www.blackfaldslibrary.ca

Eagle Builders Centre 5302 Broadway Avenue, Blackfalds, AB T0M 0J0

Visit us on our website & social medias




SELF CARE Matters

Available at Alix and Area Community Resource Centre



Lacey Dee's Holistic Health - In Alix Monthly (Thursday)
Contact Lacey Malowski - Holistic Registered Nurse
Alternative & holistic health services to help you uncover the root cause of your illness. Detox foot baths, microcurrent therapy, holistic nutrition, vitamin infusions/injections, food intolerance testing. 587-317-4748
Book online: <https://lacey-dees-holistic-health.square.site/>

Alternative Acupuncture - In Alix Monthly (Tuesday)
Contact Lisa Cardinal - Doctor of Acupuncture
Revitalize your health, naturally & holistically & boost your wellbeing with acupuncture services.
Direct billing to health insurance.
587-930-7999 Book online: alternativeacupuncture.ca



Prairie Land Psychology - In Alix Alternating Wednesdays
Contact Jessica Harvey - Registered Provisional Psychologist
Primary modalities used are Acceptance and Commitment Therapy, Existential Therapy, Solution-Focused, and Emotion-Focused.
For adults, kids, teens, couples, families. Services billable to health insurance.
780-691-7962
Book online: prairielandpsychology.janeapp.com

The Wellness House - In Alix Alternating Mondays (Begins May 13)
Contact Cally Erickson - Registered Provisional Psychologist
For children, youth, families, adults and couples. Focus on trauma and EMDR.
Services billable to health insurance. Call/ Text: 403-741-7155
or Email: thewellnesshouse.cs@gmail.com



Henna Rose Massage and Aesthetics - In Alix Every Thursday
Contact Melissa Perez - Registered Massage Therapist
Services include massage, reiki, cupping and foot reflexology.
Direct billing to health insurance. 403-789-0111
Book online: <https://hennarose.com/>

Foot Care by Kaitlin - In Alix Monthly (Tuesday)
Contact Kaitlin Nielsen/ Cheryl Saunders - Foot Care Nursing
Advance nursing foot care, basic maintenance and hand/foot reflexology.
Diabetic and high-risk care, personalized foot assessment and care plan.
Book in home and clinic. 587-377-6099
<https://footcarebykaitlin.ca/>



Community Resource Centre
Alix and Area
Centres of support and well-being

Contact us for assistance or service provider directly to book and for more information on fees.
403-396-3369 Bay 1, 5008 50 Ave, Alix AB

the County of Lacombe Lifelong Learning Association:

(403) 782-7955 office@clla.com

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

CHECK OUT OUR PROGRAMS at:

www.CLLLA.com

or use the QR code

What did you learn today?



Make a **SPLASH**

at the Kinsmen Aquatic Centre

5429 53rd Street, Lacombe AB

What's Happening at the pool:

- Membership sale is continuing until Dec 31, 2024. Now's your chance to get 5%, 10%, or 15% off the cost of your membership.
- Check Lacombe.ca/pool for our holiday schedule.
- The pool will be CLOSED Dec 25, 2024 and Jan 1, 2025.
- Come and make a splash on Saturday, January 4th for a free public swim sponsored by the McMan Family Resource Network from 1:15-3:15 pm.
- Starting January 8th, all Wednesdays are Water Walkway Wednesdays during public swim time.
- Spring program registration opens Jan 14th, 2025 at 8:30 am.

For more information on the KAC schedule, pool rentals and advanced courses call 403.782.1277 or visit www.lacombe.ca/pool.





EVERY PLAY COUNTS

GIVE the GIFT of SPORT



DONATE TODAY!

ABC's of SOCIAL WELLNESS



SOCIAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT and PRIORITIES

A BIG Thank you to our community for your previous interest, participation, and contribution to social wellness in Lacombe.

The Social Needs Assessment and Priorities Report strategies will help direct available community capacity toward improved service levels and greater collaboration.

The links to the Phase 1 and Phase 2 Council Presentations and Final Approved reports are on the City's website at:
www.lacombe.ca/SocialNeeds.

- Your assistance to improve social wellness in Lacombe can be as simple as the ABC's:
- **A** Smile or Active Community Involvement
- **B**ackyard BBQ or Host a Block Party
- **C**offee with Colleagues or Community Members
- **D**o Something Kind for Someone or Donate to a Local Cause
- **E**xplore Nature with your Neighbour
- **F**or more Fun and Friendly Ideas see:
www.lacombe.ca/SocialNeeds

Lacombe- Strong roots. Fresh perspective.



Find Lacombe County online

[/LacombeCounty](https://www.facebook.com/LacombeCounty) [@lacombecounty](https://www.instagram.com/lacombecounty) [Lacombe County](https://www.linkedin.com/company/LacombeCounty) [/LacombeCounty](https://twitter.com/LacombeCounty) lacombecounty.com

CLIVE FCSS IS FOR EVERYONE

YOUTH & FAMILIES

TOOLS & SHOES FOR SCHOOL
COATS FOR KIDS
RAINBOWS
HOME ALONE & BABYSITTERS
COURSE
FAMILY SPECIAL EVENTS
SUMMER DAY CAMPS FOR YOUTH

SENIORS

MEALS ON WHEELS
PHILIPS LIFELINE
SENIOR SUPPORT SERVICES
HOME SUPPORT
SENIORS EVENTS
SENIORS VISITING PROGRAM

ADULTS

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX
FILL A FRIDGE
NAVIGATION REFERRAL SERVICES
WELLNESS WINDOWS

403-784-2020

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

Stronger Together

Find us on:
facebook

CLIVE FCSS SUPPORTS ALL STAGES OF LIFE

gull lake centre
gulllakecentre.ca

RISE
UP

2025 Summer Camps - Registration Opens Jan 9

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*

*Early Bird \$50 off until Feb 28

Sign up at gulllakecentre.ca/camps

EVERY KID CAN PLAY

BENEFITS OF SPORT FOR KIDS & YOUTH

- ✓ Nurtures physical fitness
- ✓ Develops social skills
- ✓ Lowers anxiety & depression
- ✓ Improves confidence & self-esteem

- ✓ Helps in academic success
- ✓ Fosters teamwork & leadership skills
- ✓ Improves body image & overall quality of life

BENTLEY BOUTIQUE

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

Open Tues/Thurs 10-12 & 1-3

Stretch Your Budget

ALL FOR JUST A SMILE!

Recycle Clothing

Swap Kids Clothes As They Grow

Join

The Morningside Community Society Board

AGM Jan, 6 2025

7 pm

Make the change you want to happen

Now is the chance to make a Difference

JANUARY 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	Dec. 31 New Year's Eve Close at 3pm	JAN. 1 New Year's Day Office Closed	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 County Council 9AM	10 County News Submissions Due	11
12	13	14	15	16 Septic Sense 6-9pm (Page 7)	17 County News Published	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 Ag Excellence 4:30-9PM (Page 9)	30 County Council 9AM	31	FEB 1

Upcoming Events: February 4: Committee of the Whole, February 13: County Council, February 27: County Council

Help us promote
YOU!



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

Do you have a
photograph you
want to share?

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

We'd love to hear from
you!

LACOMBE
COUNTY

Lacombe County
Holiday Hours

- Christmas Eve 8:30am - 12:00pm
24th December
- Christmas Day Closed
25th December
- Boxing Day Closed
26th December
- Christmas Floater Closed
27th December
- New Year's Eve 8:30am - 3:00pm
31st December
- New Year's Day Closed
1st January

We wish you all a safe and joyful holiday season!

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	

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Nicole Plewis, Communications Coordinator
communications@lacombecounty.com
403.782.6601