



County News

Friday, December 15, 2023 | Volume 12

Lacombe County Council adopts 2024 Operating and Capital Budgets

During the November 24, 2023 Budget Meeting, Lacombe County Council adopted the County's 2024 operating and capital budgets. Each year, Lacombe County Council and Administration meet to establish the annual budgets that address the priorities set out in the County's Strategic Plan and multi-year operating and capital plans. For 2024, Council's focus was on continuing to deliver high levels of services to our ratepayers without the need to withdraw funding from the Tax Rate Stabilization Reserve.

"The 2024 budget, with its focus on fiscal responsibility, aligns with Council's direction to minimize reliance on the Tax Rate Stabilization Reserve and underscores our commitment to transparency and efficiency," said Michael Minchin, Director of Corporate Services. "Council voted to approve the capital and operating budgets for 2024 that recognizes the issues concerning our residents and businesses – inflation – while ensuring the expenses of maintaining and running Lacombe County are addressed."

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 2024 budgets authorizes the County to incur expenditures and conduct its operations commencing January 1, 2024. The budgets are based on preliminary property assessment information, and estimated Alberta Education and Lacombe Foundation requisition levies.
- **Stage 2:** Approving the 2024 tax rate bylaw in April or May, which will establish the current year's property tax rates by property type and gives 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.

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

"During our budget meetings, we recognize our shared concerns with our residents, including escalating costs and the unpredictability of interest rate fluctuations. This budget is a thoughtful response to the challenges presented by our current economic environment and was carefully created

to avoid imposing undue burdens on our ratepayers," said Reeve Barb Shepherd. "Our commitment to maintaining service levels, coupled with a forward-looking perspective on the County's growth trajectory, is reflected in the 2024 budgets. We understand the importance of delivering consistent services through both our capital and operating programs and meeting the expectations of our valued ratepayers."

HIGHLIGHTS

2024 Operating Budget

The \$64,687,590, including requisitions of \$14,114,660, operating budget is balanced and maintains existing service levels. Highlights of the operating budget include:

- Providing 2023 levels of service indexed for 2024 using an inflation factor of three percent (3%), excluding the labour component.
- Provincial policing costs in 2024 are at the full municipal allocation. Future years will see inflationary increases only.
- Capital Budget to be funded from reserves and other income as there remains uncertainty about funding under the new Provincial capital grant program.
- 2024 is supposed to be the last year for Provincial imposed property tax reprieve for new oil and gas wells and pipelines.

2024 Capital Budget

The 2024 capital budget is \$23,076,780, an increase of \$2.75 million (13.53%) compared to 2023. Of the \$23.08 million in capital spending in 2024, \$14.66 million (63.51%) is sourced through funds set aside in prior years through the capital replacement plans, and \$7.26 million (31.45%) is collected through current year's tax dollars.

Highlights of the capital budget include:

- Fire Services - transitioning to the Alberta First Responders Radio Communications System.
- Recreation projects include upgrades to the Sun-breaker Cove boat launch, pavement overlay on the Westside County Estates trail and accessibility matting at Sandy Point Beach.
- Scheduled replacement of equipment and vehicles.
- 21.9 km of construction rehabilitation on gravel roads and 25.89 km of pavement overlay work.

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www.lacombecounty.com



Publication Mail Agreement No 43726064

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

APPLY TODAY: Community Program Grants available

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

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

The application deadline is February 1, 2024; applicants will be advised by March 31st of the status of their application.

Policy Guidelines/Procedures:

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

To be eligible for consideration, programs:

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

The following are not eligible for support under this policy:

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

Funding Allotment & Allocation:

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

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

Lacombe County is holding a PUBLIC HEARING and you're invited...



January 11, 2024 @ 9:00 am



In Person: Lacombe County Office, Council Chambers

Located 2½ miles west of Highway 2 at the intersection of Spruceville Road and Highway 12.



Virtual Meeting: Zoom or By Phone

Instructions for accessing the meeting by phone or computer can be found on the County's website here: <https://www.lacombecounty.com/en/our-government/virtual-council-meeting-information.aspx>



SCAN ME TO VISIT WEBSITE FOR VIRTUAL MEETING INSTRUCTIONS

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

Natasha Wright, Planner/Development Officer
Email: planning@lacombecounty.com
Phone: 403-782-8389
www.lacombecounty.com

CONTEXT MAP



BYLAW NO. 1399/23

REZONING REQUEST ON PT. SW 31-39-25-W4M OF DOW CHEMICAL'S PRENTISS SITE

DOW Chemical is seeking permission to rezone approximately 9.03 acres (3.65 hectares) of their 122.2 acre (49.45 hectare) parcel (Pt. SW 31-39-25-W4M) on Prentiss Road north west of the Hamlet of Joffre, from Agricultural 'A' District to Heavy Industrial 'I-HI' District. This rezoning is being requested to facilitate an expansion of their existing rail yard.

Lacombe County is holding a public hearing to present the proposed land use designation change. The public hearing will allow members of the public to provide further input before the amendment is adopted.



HOW DO I COMMENT?



Anyone wishing to comment on the proposed bylaw will have an opportunity to do so at a public hearing. If you are unable to attend the hearing, written submissions can be made to the County. You will, however, need to ensure that your comments are received by the County prior to the date of the hearing. Your comments can be sent by:

**EMAIL
FAX
MAIL**

planning@lacombecounty.com
403-782-3820, or
RR 3, Lacombe AB, T4L 2N3

All submissions will be public information.

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

- **December 21** (for Christmas displays)
- **December 28** (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>).



Lacombe County Assessment News

1. How does property assessment work in Alberta?

A couple key points are as follows:


- Property assessments are prepared annually.
- Assessments are prepared based on:
 - The market value standard includes residential, commercial, and industrial properties (i.e. residences, warehouses, gas stations, restaurants, etc.). Market value is defined as: the most likely value a knowledgeable buyer and seller will agree upon given no undo pressure and reasonable market exposure.
 - The regulated rate standard using rates and procedures described by Alberta Municipal Affairs for certain property types (i.e. farm land and machinery and equipment used in manufacturing and processing).
- 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. 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 the property tax levy.
- Some properties in Alberta are exempt from taxation, others are exempt from assessment and taxation. These properties are primarily used for the benefit of the general public.

2. What does an Assessor need to know about my property to prepare the assessment?

- Using the market value standard, an Assessor will gather information that will influence the value on what someone will pay for a property, such as: type of construction, size, age, and other physical characteristics (i.e. heating type, plumbing fixtures, interior finish, basement finish, etc.). The 'property class' is based on the use of the improvement (e.g. residential, farm land, commercial, industrial/manufacturing – a property may be dual or multi-purpose, residential & industrial).
- The regulated standard requires an Assessor to collect information prescribed by the provincial procedures.


3. How is information collected?

- Data collection may be in the form of an in-person physical inspection, phone interview, by mail-in questionnaire or survey, or using any electronic data available through imagery, land titles, private data bases, social media, and any other resource the Assessor has available to them.



Christmas & New Years County Office Hours

DEC. 25	CLOSED
DEC. 26	CLOSED
DEC. 27	CLOSED
DEC. 28	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
DEC. 29	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
JAN. 1/24	CLOSED
JAN. 2	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM



From our family to yours,
we wish you a safe and
joyful holiday season

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

and you're invited...

January 9, 2024

6:00 PM
(presentation starts at 6:30 PM)

Alix Community Hall
(5008 49 Ave)



For more information, please contact Planning Services or visit the County's website
Email: planning@lacombecounty.com
Phone: 403-782-8389




Village of Alix / Lacombe County Intermunicipal Development Plan

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

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

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

learn more at

www.lacombecounty.com/AlixDP





Lacombe Regional Waste Services Commission

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!



The upcoming Holiday Schedule for all the Commissions sites are as follows:

Friday December 22 – Alix/Mirror & Bentley Closed at 2 p.m. Prentiss at 3 p.m. (For Staff Function)

Saturday December 23 – All Sites Open Regular Hours

Monday December 25 – All Sites are Closed

Tuesday December 26 – All Sites are Closed

Wednesday December 27 – All Sites are Closed

Thursday December 28 – All Sites are Open Regular Hours

Friday December 29 – All Sites are Open Regular Hours

Saturday December 30 - All Sites are Open Regular Hours

Monday January 1 – All Sites are Closed

SAFETY FIRST

Thwart-off Cyber Crime this Holiday Season

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

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

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

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

Here are some tips to protect yourself while shopping online:

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

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

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

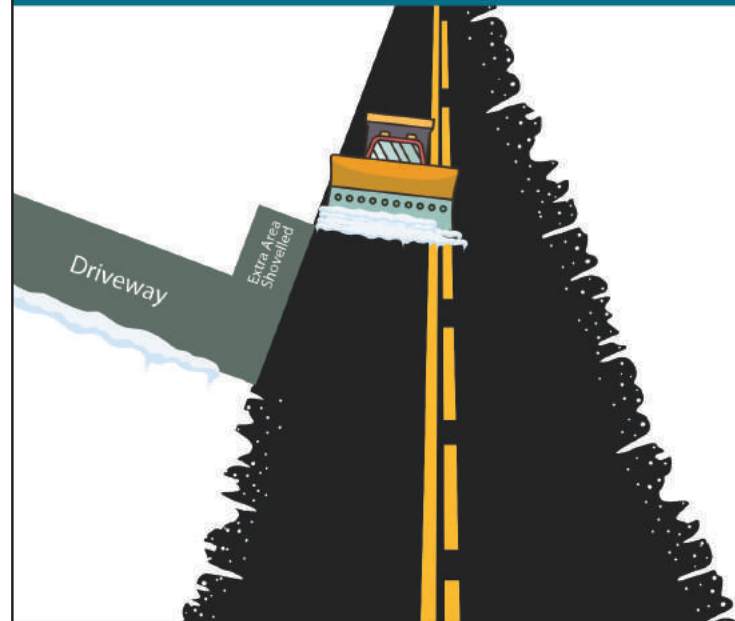
Follow our social media accounts on Twitter @RCMPAlberta and Facebook @RCMPinAlberta, and check out #CyberSafety online for more tips.

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

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.

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

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 esca-

late 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 web-

site 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!

MIRROR CORNER

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.



FIRST ANNUAL FIRE AND ICE FAMILY EVENT

Date: December 30, 2023 Saturday
Time: 1 to 5pm
Location: Mirror Outdoor Skating Rink

- Family Fun Skate
- Youth Events
- Fastest Skate / Shot
- Large Bonfire
- Hot dogs, hot chocolate & ice cold soda
- Treat bags for children

It is Free! **COME JOIN IN THE FUN!** **See you there!**

Presented by Mirror Association for Ball Diamonds, Campground, and Skating Rink
 And thank you to Lacombe County for supporting this event!

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

PLEASE NOTE:
 This is a NEW Time and Date for the free Preschool Program in Mirror.

STAY AND PLAY
 (Preschool Time for Children & Their Caregivers)

Every Tuesday 10:30 to 12:30 At Mirror Library

STARTS JANUARY 16th!

Come Join Us for Fun, Crafts, Activities, & Stories!
 Everyone is welcome!

By FRN (Lacombe and Area Family Resource Network)
 See facebook.com/booksinmirror & facebook.com/lacombefrn

MIRROR DAYS PLANNING

There will be a planning meeting for Mirror Days on Thursday, January 4, 7:00 p.m. at the Mirror Library.

All are invited to come with their ideas!



2023 Mirror Dog Tags

A license is required for all dogs in Mirror. For more information, please call (403) 782-6601 or visit www.lacombecounty.com/en/living-here/animal-control.aspx.

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

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

Jolly Seniors

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

Booking Mirror Community Hall

Call Lisa 403-788-3890 or cell 403-505-3894.

Friends of the Mirror Library Society/ Mirror Library

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

audiobooks, DVDs, games, and puzzles.

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

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

Mirror Royal Canadian Legion Branch 189 - 5015 50th Avenue

Meat Draws Saturday at 4 p.m.
 General meetings second Sunday

at 1 p.m. (unless otherwise posted).

Mirror and District Museum

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

CN Rail crossing delays

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

ENVIRONMENT

Red Deer River flood study engagement

Provide your input on draft reports and flood maps from our Red Deer River flood study by February 12, 2024.

OVERVIEW

The Ministry of Environment and Protected Areas is seeking feedback from Albertans on draft reports and flood maps from the Red Deer River flood study.

This is the second phase of public engagement for the draft Red Deer River flood study. It focuses on draft flood hazard maps, which define floodway and flood fringe areas to help with long term planning. Engagement on draft flood inundation maps, which show areas at risk for different sized floods to help with emergency response, and related reports was completed in January 2021.

Public engagement is part of our standard flood study finalization process, and occurs after local authorities, such as towns, cities, counties, municipal districts, and Indigenous communities, have had an opportunity to review the draft reports and flood maps.

GET INFORMED

You do not need to be a technical expert to provide your feedback.

- [View draft flood hazard maps](#)
- [General Information about Flood Studies](#)
- See the Draft Study Reports at: <https://www.alberta.ca/red-deer-river-flood-study-engagement>

If you want to learn more before providing feedback, additional resources are available to help you get informed.

GET INVOLVED

The deadline to complete the survey and provide feedback is Monday, February 12, 2024, at 4:30 p.m..

TAKE THE SURVEY

The draft reports and flood maps have gone through several stages of review already, but we welcome your feedback regarding factual errors or omissions.

We are particularly interested in your feedback on the draft flood hazard maps which were not included in the first phase of engagement and are being shared with the public for the first time, but all feedback is welcome.

NEXT STEPS

We will carefully consider all submitted feedback. Due to the potential volume of submissions we likely will not be able to respond to your feedback directly.

Future study update notices will be provided through the Flood Hazard Identification Program. This will include more information about the study status and where we are in the finalization process.



Blue Feather Award Nominations

Do you know a Bluebird Nestbox Trail operator? Nominate them for our Blue Feather Award!

Each year, Ellis Bird Farm presents a Blue Feather Award to an Alberta bluebird trail operator who has made a significant contribution to bluebird conservation in Alberta.

Nominations forms can be found on our website and will be accepted until May 15, 2024!



Ellis Bird Farm

Bluebird and Purple Martin Partnership

Do you have a bluebird trail or purple martin colony? We'd love to connect with you!

Ellis Bird Farm is looking to partner with Central Albertans who have bluebirds or purple martins and are interested in sharing information and experiences.

If you have these birds on your property and would be interested in signing up for seasonal updates on bird arrivals, populations and general conservation efforts, please email or call us for more details!

www.ellisbirdfarm.ca | info@ellisbirdfarm.ca | 403-885-4477

RECAP: Wonderful World of Wetlands

On December 8, Lacombe County hosted the Wonderful World of Wetlands event at the LMC. The event featured science experiments, crafts, and hands-on learning, with refreshments and snacks provided.

Kids got to enjoy hands on activities, like testing wetland water, looking at minibeasts, learning about beavers, frogs, birds, and building wetlands and beaver dams.



OPERATIONS

Lacombe County Winter Road Maintenance

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

PAVED ROADS - ORDER OF PRIORITY FOR SNOW REMOVAL

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

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



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

GRAVEL ROADS – ORDER OF PRIORITY FOR SNOW REMOVAL

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

The goal for winter maintenance for gravel roads

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

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

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

WHEN CLEARING SNOW FROM YOUR 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.



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 20, 2023

Project Number	Description
C4132	Twp Rd 41-3.5 East of Alix North Road (Rge Rd 23-1) thru 24-41-23 W4
C4104	Twp Rd 41-0 South 3 & 2-41-26 W4 From Rge Rd 26-3 east 2 miles to Rge Rd 26-1

Notice of Weight Restriction on BF07876



Lacombe County advises drivers of the change in traffic patterns due to safety concerns on the bridge's structure.

Bridge 07876 (SW 28-38-3 W5), located east of HWY 766 on Twp Rd 38-4, will be restricted to 5-tonne weight loads starting Tuesday, December 5, 2023. Road users must meet restrictions or use an alternate route. The County is doing its best to fix the bridge promptly; therefore, the restriction will remain in place until appropriate improvements or remedial work can be completed.

Please refer to the diagram for the bridge location. Please watch for and obey the posted signage.

AGRICULTURE

What is the ALUS "PAC" – and why do YOU want to be part of it?

By Ken Lewis, ALUS Coordinator

The first two Guiding Principles of ALUS, are i) that ALUS is "Community-developed", and ii) that ALUS is "Farmer-delivered". The ALUS PAC is at the heart of these principles, and is one of the most important keys to ALUS success.

The ALUS PAC stands for "Partnership Advisory Committee". These folks are the people who provide overall guidance to the local ALUS program, and they make the decisions about ALUS funding.

The voting membership of the ALUS PAC is made up of a majority of farmers and ranchers from the local area.

What this all means, is that local farmers and ranchers are truly in the ALUS driver's seat for their community.

It's the ALUS PAC who sets the local priorities. They determine what the local needs are that ALUS should focus on. The PAC figures out the ALUS cost-share rates for farmers' and ranchers' projects, and they set the ALUS Annual Payments that are being made to participating farmers and ranchers.

The local ALUS PAC provides strategic direction to their local staff, and they provide input and advice to ALUS at a national level as well.

The ALUS Lacombe PAC is currently recruiting for new members. Here's some details:

- All voting members of the ALUS Lacombe PAC are farmers or ranchers.
- The PAC meets 5 or 6 times per year.
- PAC members also attend the local ALUS Tour, and/or the Alberta ALUS Tour (so they get a chance to see ALUS Projects in their community or elsewhere in the province).
- PAC members are compensated for their time, and their mileage to and from, PAC meetings and ALUS events

So, if you want to have a role in local leadership of ALUS, one of the "hot-test" names in the agricultural and environmental stewardship world, please consider joining the ALUS Partnership Advisory Committee. To find out more, please call me any time at 403-505-9038 or visit www.alus.ca.



RSVP HERE
OR CALL 403-348-2600




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AGRICULTURAL EXCELLENCE
SECURING YOUR FARM FUTURE

JANUARY 31, 2024
5:00-7:30 PM
AT THE RADISSON HOTEL, RED DEER, AB

TOPICS TO INCLUDE:

- Redefining Retirement
- Family Fairness and Harmony
- Transition to the Next Generation
- Investing off the Farm
- Wills, Power of Attorney & Personal Directives
- Market Update
- Other!



Happy Holidays

As the holiday season arrives, we wanted to take a moment to express our heartfelt thanks for your continued support and trust in us. Your loyalty means the world to us, and we are truly grateful for the opportunity to serve you.

May this festive season be filled with joy, laughter, and cherished moments with your loved ones. We extend best wishes throughout the holiday season and may 2024 be filled with prosperity, good health, and happiness.

Thank you for being a part of our journey. We look forward to continuing to exceed your expectations and serving you in the upcoming year.

Jon

Jeff

Nella

Brown

Colleen

Le

Carol

Central Alberta Co-op Ltd.
Lacombe Agro



ATTENTION

Grain Bag and Twine Recyclers in Lacombe County

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

IT ONLY WORKS IF YOU RECYCLE RIGHT!!

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



NO feed bags ~ NO grain totes ~ NO silage plastic ~ NO bale wrap

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.

Strengthening rural Alberta

New grants for non-profits, Indigenous and small communities will build capacity in agriculture, small business and economic development.

Indigenous and small communities are vital to Alberta and to the province's long-term economic prosperity. Recognizing this importance, Alberta's government released its Economic Development in Rural Alberta Plan in December 2022.

To further implement this plan, Alberta's government is investing \$6 million in the new Small Community Opportunity Program, which will back Indigenous and small communities, helping rural Alberta grow its economic footprint.

"The new Small Community Opportunity Program provides financial backing for Indigenous and small communities to tackle challenges and tap into opportunities to grow their local economic footprint. By building capacity in small businesses and the agriculture industry, these rural communities will have a strong foundation to thrive," said RJ Sigurdson, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation.

For a project to be eligible, it must align with the Economic Development in Rural Alberta Plan and build capacity within the local community in entrepreneurship and mentorship, skills development, small business supports and/or partnerships, interconnectivity and collaboration.

"Alberta's rural communities play a crucial role in our province's economic landscape. The Small Community Opportunity Program is an important part of our commitment to supporting their growth and development. By empowering Indigenous and small communities to address their unique challenges and seize opportunities, we are fostering economic resilience and a brighter future for rural Alberta," said Matt Jones, Minister of Jobs, Economy and Trade

Non-profit organizations may collaborate with Indigenous and small communities, or communities may work together or independently on projects that drive innovation and achieve sustainable growth and diversification. Projects must be completed within two years and have a measurable impact supporting, improving or enhancing rural and Indigenous communities, local economic development and/or the agriculture industry.

The Small Community Opportunity Program will open for applications on Nov. 10. Albertans can learn more and apply online. Indigenous and small communities, and the non-profit organizations that support them, can apply for grants between \$20,000 and \$100,000 for local, community-led projects.

QUICK FACTS

- The Economic Development in Rural Alberta Plan has strategic directions with corresponding initiatives and actions to ensure rural Albertans and Indigenous communities have economic opportunities where they live.
- Small Community Opportunity Program projects must align with one or more of these strategic directions in the plan:
 - rural business supports and entrepreneurship
 - support for labour force and skills development
 - marketing and promoting rural tourism
 - rural economic development capacity building
- Applicants must be an incorporated non-profit organization or a rural or Indigenous community based on the characteristics described in the plan:
 - have a population of fewer than 20,000
 - not be near communities larger than 25,000 people that could provide employment and services
 - be a remote community or a community that has within it, or is surrounded by, a significant amount of nature, natural resources, agricultural land and wilderness areas
 - have a workforce largely focused on primary economic activity, including oil and gas, agriculture and forestry
- The Small Community Opportunity Program is made possible through Budget 2023 and will provide up to \$3 million per year in 2023-24 and 2024-25.
- Albertans can learn more about the Small Community Opportunity Program in webinars hosted by:
 - Rural Municipalities of Alberta, from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Nov. 15
 - Economic Developers Alberta, from noon to 1 p.m. on Nov. 17
- Rural and Indigenous communities must consider other government funding programs like the Northern and Regional Economic Development Program if their project focuses on regional economic development or supports non-capital investments to assess the feasibility of, or to maintain, economic development enabling infrastructure.



OPERATING BUDGET 2024

CONSOLIDATED SUMMARY

	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	% Variance
AGRICULTURAL SERVICES	171,060	213,900	25.04%
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	62,250	185,750	198.39%
FISCAL SERVICES	12,470,190	14,114,660	13.19%
GENERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES	40,948,590	42,617,540	4.08%
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT	324,940	364,500	12.17%
PROTECTIVE SERVICES	801,570	836,090	4.31%
PUBLIC HEALTH & WELFARE	351,200	319,320	-9.08%
RECREATION AND CULTURE	600,590	834,950	39.02%
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES	7,728,910	2,067,290	-73.25%
WASTE MANAGEMENT	53,820	57,630	7.08%
WASTEWATER TREATMENT & DISPOSAL	718,650	2,055,160	185.98%
WATER SUPPLY & DISTRIBUTION	918,000	1,020,800	11.20%
TOTAL REVENUE	65,149,770	64,687,590	-0.71%
LESS: EDUCATION, SENIORS & DI PROPERTY TAXATION	(12,470,190)	(14,114,660)	13.19%
TOTAL REVENUE EXCLUDING REQUISITIONS	52,679,580	50,572,930	-4.00%
AGRICULTURAL SERVICES	1,319,760	1,330,030	0.78%
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	152,560	288,910	89.37%
FISCAL SERVICES	12,470,190	14,114,660	13.19%
GENERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES	7,409,650	7,526,850	1.58%
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT	1,357,610	1,500,820	10.55%
PROTECTIVE SERVICES	5,956,840	5,835,060	-2.04%
PUBLIC HEALTH & WELFARE	538,470	483,330	-10.24%
RECREATION AND CULTURE	4,263,540	3,787,690	-11.16%
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES	27,693,420	24,635,180	-11.04%
WASTE MANAGEMENT	856,390	881,010	2.87%
WASTEWATER TREATMENT & DISPOSAL	801,420	2,136,800	166.63%
WATER SUPPLY & DISTRIBUTION	1,884,590	1,246,390	-33.86%
TOTAL EXPENSES	64,704,440	63,766,730	-1.45%
INVENTORY USAGE FOR OPERATING	(4,119,710)	(3,822,330)	-7.22%
INVENTORY PURCHASES	4,565,040	4,743,190	3.90%
ADJUSTED EXPENSE TOTAL	65,149,770	64,687,590	-0.71%
LESS: EDUCATION, SENIORS & DI PROPERTY REQUISITIONS	(12,470,190)	(14,114,660)	13.19%
TOTAL EXPENSES EXCLUDING EDUCATION REQUISITION	52,679,580	50,572,930	-4.00%
NET CASH SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	-	-	-



CAPITAL BUDGET 2024

CONSOLIDATED SUMMARY

Description	Cost Price	Trade In Sales	Total Cost
SOURCE OF FUNDING:			
Alberta Community Partnership Grant	-		-
Aspelund Industrial Utility Reserve	56,000		56,000
Bridge Reserve	2,789,050		2,789,050
Canada Community Building Fund	-		-
Community Resource Reserve	-		-
Fleet and Equipment Reserve	3,905,370		3,905,370
Grants & Contributions	-		-
Lake Access Reserve	275,000		275,000
Lakeview Estates Water	22,170		22,170
Main Road Reserve	-		-
Mirror Utility Reserve	479,550		479,550
Municipal Facilities Reserve	-		-
Municipal Sustainability Initiative Grant	-		-
Municipal Stimulus Grant	-		-
New Pavement Reserve	-		-
Operational Reserve	149,320		149,320
Other Grants/Contributions	3,680		3,680
Pavement Road Reserve	6,659,290		6,659,290
Recreation Capital Reserve	125,150		125,150
Road Development Reserve	-		-
Shared Fire Funds Reserve	-		-
STIP Grant	-		-
Subdivision Pavement Reserve	-		-
Trails and Parks Reserve	-		-
Water/Wastewater Reserve	-		-
Wildrose Utility Reserve	195,000		195,000
Tax Supported Funding - Operating	7,257,470		7,257,470
Trade-In/Sale of Equipment/Vehicles	1,159,730		1,159,730
Total Funding			23,076,780



CAPITAL BUDGET 2024

CONSOLIDATED SUMMARY

Description	Cost Price	Trade In Sales	Total Cost
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES			
Postage Meter	7,000	-	7,000
Multifunction Printer	15,800	-	15,800
Questica Budget	20,000	-	20,000
Records Management Program	95,340	-	95,340
Financial Software	33,980	-	33,980
Sub-Total	172,120	-	172,120
AGRICULTURE			
Degelman Sidearm	39,400	7,000	32,400
Degelman Sidearm	39,400	7,000	32,400
Degelman Sidearm	39,400	7,000	32,400
Degelman Sidearm	39,400	7,000	32,400
Sub-Total	157,600	28,000	129,600
FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES			
AFFRCS Radio Transition	350,000	-	350,000
Sub-Total	350,000	-	350,000
PEACE OFFICER SERVICES			
Panasonic Video Camera	11,000	-	11,000
Panasonic Video Camera	11,000	-	11,000
LidarCam	11,570	-	11,570
Light Duty Truck	86,000	12,500	73,500
Light Duty Truck	86,000	13,230	72,770
Sub-Total	205,570	25,730	179,840
RECREATION SERVICES			
Sunbreaker Cove Boat Launch	250,000	-	250,000
Westside Country Estates Trail	125,150	-	125,150
Sandy Point Beach Accessibility	25,000	-	25,000
Sub-Total	400,150	-	400,150
UTILITY SERVICES			
Aspelund SCADA Upgrades	56,000	-	56,000
Lakeview Flouride Engineering	22,170	-	22,170
Mirror 44 St Water/Sewer Upgrades	275,000	-	275,000
Mirror Water System Equipment	50,550	-	50,550
Mirror Forced Main Servicing	154,000	-	154,000
Wildrose Generator	120,000	-	120,000
Wildrose SCADA Upgrades	75,000	-	75,000
Sub-Total	752,720	-	752,720
OPERATIONS			
627K Scraper	1,475,000	400,000	1,075,000
627K Scraper	1,475,000	400,000	1,075,000
Tractor	115,000	35,000	80,000
Bobcat	115,000	30,000	85,000
Rock Picker	50,000	10,000	40,000
Bobcat T-740	138,000	35,000	103,000
Excavator	455,000	140,000	315,000
Rock Rake	50,000	10,000	40,000
Snap-on Scanner	15,000	-	15,000
Electronic Message Board	30,000	-	30,000
Light Duty Truck	60,000	3,000	57,000
Light Duty Truck	60,000	3,000	57,000
Light Duty Truck	60,000	3,000	57,000
Medium Duty Truck	100,000	5,000	95,000
Gravel/Plow Truck	285,000	30,000	255,000
Picker Truck	75,000	2,000	73,000
Land Acquisition - Roads	25,000	-	25,000
Engineered Structures - Roads	13,666,570	-	13,666,570
Engineered Structures - Bridges	2,789,050	-	2,789,050
Sub-Total	21,038,620	1,106,000	19,932,620
TOTAL CAPITAL	23,076,780	1,159,730	21,917,050

Lacombe Museum receives funding for Michener House Museum Reimagination Project

The Lacombe & District Historical Society (LDHS) is pleased to announce the successful applications for matching funding from the City of Lacombe and Lacombe County totaling \$83,702.00 (\$41,851.00 respectively) for the Michener House Museum Reimagination Project.

These investment streams, coupled with funding received earlier in 2023 from Alberta Government Ministry of Culture's Community Facility Enhancement Program (\$25,000.00), Community Initiatives Program (\$3,653.00), and the Department of Canadian Heritage at the Government of Canada's Canadian Cultural Spaces Fund (\$42,000.00), will allow LDHS to continue the work restoring the historic site, while reimagining the gallery spaces within it.

"We're grateful to the City, County, Province, Federal Government, and our community sponsors/partners for supporting this project. Our dedicated team is working to make the Lacombe Museums, particularly

the Michener House Museum, more relevant by creating immersive and inclusive exhibitions, enhancing infrastructure, and ensuring accessibility, all while preserving this vital historic site." – Melissa Blunden, Executive Director of LDHS.

During summer season of 2023 the interior of the Michener House Museum was closed to the public to allow for work to commence on restoring the 1918 addition to its original state, including opening previously drywalled doorways to improve accessibility and visitor flow; repairs to HVAC and installing electricity throughout both the 1918 and 1894 spaces. This stage of the project is nearing completion and the exhibition design and implementation stage is gearing up for this winter. Plans are in the work for a spring 2024 grand re-opening of the site.

For more information on the Michener House Museum Reimagination Project, please follow

the Lacombe Museum on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, TikTok, or LinkedIn or visit the website at www.lacombemuseum.com/reimagined.



Grants, funding and supports for non-profits

Funding, information and supports to help charitable and non-profit organizations start, manage and build capacity.

The non-profit and voluntary sector touches almost all aspects of community life in Alberta. The sector consists of over 26,000 charities and non-profit organizations.

Almost 300,000 Albertans are employed in the sector, and 1.9 million Albertans volunteer across cultural sectors. The non-profit and voluntary sector contributes almost \$5.5 billion in gross domestic product to the Alberta economy.

The Government of Alberta has a one-stop for charitable and non-profit organizations to access information, funding, resources, services and supports to help organizations throughout their entire life cycle. You will find everything from starting a non-profit, managing your non-profit, accessing supports and services to strengthen your non-profit, finding funding, to closing a non-profit.

Topics you can find include:

- **Starting, managing, funding and/or ending a non-profit.**
- **Supports and services for non-profits.**
- **New programs and projects to help strengthen Alberta's non-profit, voluntary sector.**
- **Find grants and funding.**
- **AND MORE!**

You can find all the information at <https://www.alberta.ca/grants-funding-and-supports-for-non-profits>.

Grants, funding and supports for non-profits

Funding, information and supports to help charitable and non-profit organizations start, manage and build capacity.

[Alberta's non-profit and voluntary sector](#)
[Funding for non-profits](#)
[Start a non-profit](#)

[Manage a non-profit](#)
[Ending a non-profit](#)
[Supports and services](#)

[Invest in the sector](#)
[Contact](#)

Overview

This is your one stop for charitable and non-profit organizations to access information, funding, resources, services and supports to help organizations throughout their entire lifecycle. You will find everything from starting a non-profit, managing your non-profit, accessing supports and services to strengthen your non-profit, finding funding, to closing a non-profit.

I want to:

- [Start a non-profit](#)
- [Make a donation or investment](#)
- [Find grants and funding](#)
- [Visit the non-profit learning centre](#)

In focus

New projects and programs

Recent Government of Alberta initiatives to help strengthen Alberta's non-profit, voluntary sector.

Supports and services for non-profits

Resources, supports and services to help your organization learn and grow to achieve your vision.

SUBDIVISION & DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY

Do you have questions about subdivision or development activity?

Contact Us:

Lacombe County Planning Services

(403) 782-8389

planning@lacombecounty.com

Dale Freitag

Director of Planning Services

Cajun Paradis

Senior Planner

Natasha Wright

Planner / Development Officer

Nicklas Baran

Planner / Development Officer

Kerrie Taylor

Economic Development Officer

Allison Noonan

Planning Services Administrative Assistant

Daniella Gonzalez

Planning Services Receptionist

November 1, 2023 to November 30, 2023

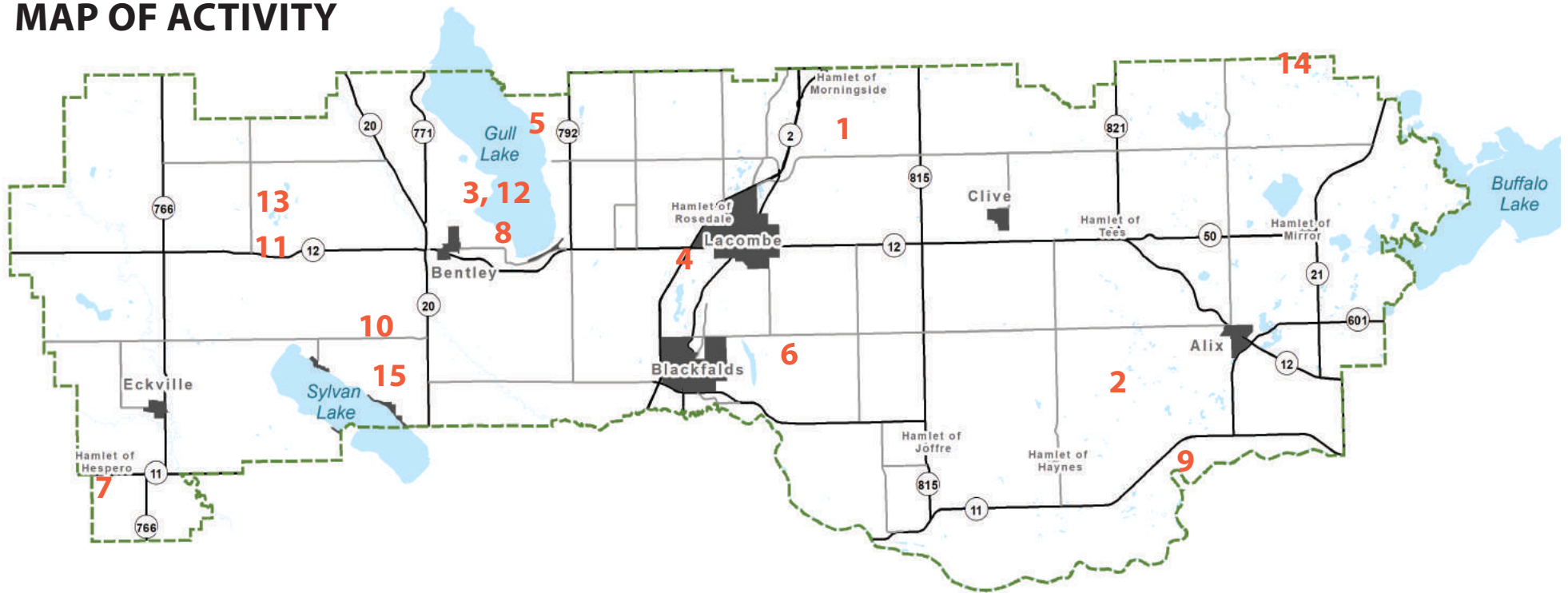
Development Applications Received

No.	File No.	Applicant	Legal Description	Proposed Development	Decision (otherwise pending)
1	172/23	Josie Crawford	SW 24-41-26-W4M	Attached Garage	Approved
2	173/23	Martin & Jeanna Brayford	Lot 1 Block 1 Plan 912 3513 (NW 24-39-24-W4M)	Addition to Existing Dwelling	Approved
3	174/23	Delta Land Co	Lot 1 Block 2 Plan 142 2128 (Sandy Point Resort, Gull Lake)	Two Sea Cans	Approved
4	175/23	Premium Built Structures	Lot 6 Block 1 Plan 102 3182 (Wild Rose Commercial Park)	Cold Storage Building	Approved
5	176/23	Dynamic Modular Homes	Condo Plan 202 1689 Unit 105 (Degraff's RV Resort, Gull Lake)	Modular Home	Approved
6	177/23	Bellco Ltd.	SE-33-39-26-W4M	Dwelling, First (Replacement Dwelling)	Approved
7	178/23	Richard & Denniece Crout	Lot 1 Plan 892 0171 (NE 36-38-4-W5M)	Minor Business and Trade (Renewal, Range Road Enterprises Ltd.)	
8	179/23	Sandy Hauser	Lot 3 Block 2 Plan 074 0315 (Lakeview Estates, Gull Lake)	Garden Shed	Approved
9	180/23	Bill Russell Sand & Gravel Ltd.	Block B & C Plan 7640AC (N 1/2 32-38-23-W4M)	Sand & Gravel Pit (Renewal, No Changes)	
10	181/23	William & Sandra McLeod	Lot 2 Block 1 Plan 172 0981 (SE 05-40-01-W5M)	Dwelling, Second (Replacement)	Approved
11	182/23	Darren & Nathalie Gyor	Lot 1 Block 1 Plan 102 3162 (SW 30-40-2-W5M)	Home Based Business, Major (Renewal, Tay River Oilfield Services Ltd.)	
12	183/23	Gary & Deborah Eaton	Condo Plan 142 2139 Unit 63 (Sandy Point Resort, Gull Lake)	Covered Deck	Approved
13	184/23	Kyler Veenra	Lot 2 Block 2 Plan 962 3982 (SE 6-41-2-W5M)	Dwelling, Second	Approved

Subdivision Applications Received

No.	File No.	Applicant	Legal Description	Proposed Subdivision	Decision (otherwise pending)
14	S-027-23	Dexter Hucal	NW 33-41-22-W4M	1st Parcel Out	
15	S-028-23	Bruce & Brenda Scott	SW 28-39-01-W5M	Agricultural (Scott Land Organic Garlic)	

MAP OF ACTIVITY



NOTICE OF MEETINGS | 2024

LACOMBE COUNTY COUNCIL/COUNCIL COMMITTEES

January 11, 2024 - County Council

January 17, 2024 - Lacombe County Agriculture Service Board

January 22-24, 2024 - Provincial ASB Conference – Location TBD

January 25, 2024 - County Council

February 2, 2024 - CRMA Spring Central Zone Meeting – County of Paintearth

February 6, 2024 - Committee of the Whole

February 8, 2024 - County Council

February 22, 2024 - County Council

March 14, 2024 - County Council

March 18-20, 2024 - RMA Spring Convention

March 28, 2024 - County Council

April 2, 2024 - Committee of the Whole

April 11, 2024 - County Council

April 25, 2024 - County Council

May 9, 2024 - County Council

May 23, 2024 - County Council

June 4, 2024 - Committee of the Whole

June 6-9, 2024 - FCM Conference - Calgary

June 13, 2024 - County Council

June 5 & 19 - Annual Road Tour (East and West)

June 27, 2024 - County Council

July 11, 2024 - County Council

August 22, 2024 - County Council

August 23, 2024 - Pre-budget Meeting

September 12, 2024 - County Council

September 26, 2024 - County Council

October 1, 2024 - Committee of the Whole

October 4, 2024 - Central RMA Fall Zone Meeting – Rocky View County

October 10, 2024 - County Council

October 22, 2024 - Organizational Meeting for 2024

October 24, 2023 - County Council

TBA ASB Regional Conference

November 4-7, 2024 - RMA Fall Convention

November 14, 2024 - County Council

November 14, 2024 - Afternoon Salary & Wage Meeting (To follow regular meeting)

November 28, 2024 - County Council

November 29, 2024 - Budget Meeting

December 3, 2024 - Committee of the Whole

December 12, 2024 - County Council

Lacombe County Council adopts Southeast Bentley Area Structure Plan

On November 23, 2023, Lacombe County Council adopted Bylaw 1397/23 - *Southeast Bentley Area Structure Plan*.

Since July 2021, the Town of Bentley and Lacombe County have been working together to plan for future commercial and industrial development on the lands southeast of Bentley, within Lacombe County. The aim of this project is to stimulate economic development in the Bentley area and support Bentley's growth.

The Town and the County conducted two public meetings and a public hearing to hear the perspectives of the community. This led to several rounds of edits to fine-tune the Plan to best meet the community's expectations for future development.

This Plan has been prepared in anticipation of the Town applying to annex the Plan Area.

Planning Services

Frequently Asked Questions



Every year, the County updates its Long Range Planning Program to give the public a snapshot of when County plans will be updated.

Plans in Lacombe County include:

- Intermunicipal development plans – plans developed with neighbouring municipalities to coordinate collaborative land use planning and foster cooperation with our neighbours for joint success
- The Municipal Development Plan – the guiding long-range planning document for Lacombe County that determines how the County reviews rezoning, subdivision, and development proposals
- Area structure plans – specific, honed-in land use planning documents for specific areas in the County

In 2017, the County updated its Municipal Development Plan and Land Use Bylaw to better align its planning objectives with the current land use demands of the County and to respect the needs and desires of the community. As such, many of our older plans require some edits to ensure that the County's planning policies are consistent and in line with the community's vision for their local area.

2024-2026 LONG RANGE PLANNING PROGRAM

The 2024-2026 Long Range Planning Program has been adopted by Council, and includes the following:

2024 GOALS

In 2024, the County will continue to develop the updated QEII West Area Structure Plan, based on feedback provided from the public. This Plan is one of the most important local plans in Lacombe County as it covers the most attractive lands for commercial and industrial development in the County.

In 2024, County staff will analyze the results of the County-wide engagement on dwellings in the agricultural area. Council will study the feedback provided by the community and will decide if and how the County's policy can be improved to better support the rural community.

At the request of the Village of Alix, the Village of Alix / Lacombe County Intermunicipal Development Plan is being updated. Further public engagement will occur in 2024 prior to the proposed changes being adopted.

In 2024, the County intends to initiate County-wide community consultation on animals in residential districts to determine if and how the Land Use Bylaw regulations can be revamped. This is in response to many animal-related complaints and applications for additional animals in residential subdivisions and hamlets.

2025 GOALS

In 2025, the County intends to update the Hamlet of

Mirror Area Structure Plan. This Plan is instrumental in defining the community's vision for the future growth of Mirror.

The County will also work with the Town of Eckville to update the Town of Eckville / Lacombe County Intermunicipal Development Plan to ensure the Plan reflects recent infrastructure upgrades in the area.

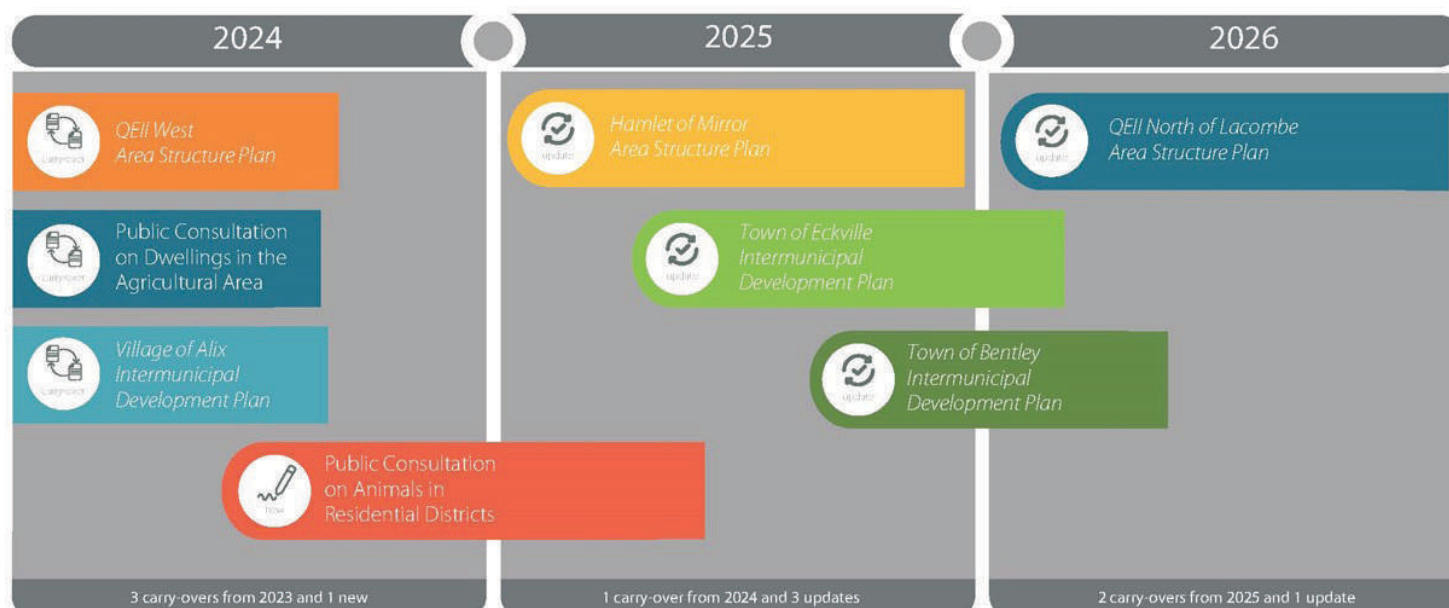
The County will also work with the Town of Bentley to update the Town of Bentley / Lacombe County Intermunicipal Development Plan. The recent adoption of the Southeast Bentley Area Structure Plan and potential annexation of lands by the Town of Bentley will require an update to this Plan.

2026 GOALS

In 2026, the County will embark on the update of the QEII North Area Structure Plan. This Plan provides a framework for future residential, recreational, and commercial development, north of the City of Lacombe.

As these projects unfold, updated information on each of the projects will be posted in the County News, County website, and County social media. If you have any questions about the County's Long Range Planning Program, please contact Planning Services at planning@lacombecounty.com or 403-782-8389.

Lacombe County Planning Services 2024 – 2026 Long Range Planning Program



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LACOMBE COUNTY

SPOT *light*

SHACKLETON FARM FRESH TREES

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

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

This small, 100% family owned and operated busi-

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

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

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

Check out SHACKLETON FARM FRESH TREES on social media!

Facebook: /shackletonfarmfreshtrees

Instagram: @shackletonfarmfreshtrees

Website: www.shackletonfarmfreshtrees.ca



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

November 14, 2023

BYLAW NO. 1397/23 PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing was held for Bylaw No. 1397/23. Bylaw No. 1397/23 is a bylaw of Lacombe County to adopt the Southeast Bentley Area Structure Plan. Following the public hearing, Bylaw No. 1397/23 was given second reading. Council will give consideration to third reading of Bylaw No. 1397/23 at their November 23, 2023 regular meeting.

PLANNING SERVICES LONG-RANGE PLANNING PROGRAM

Council approved the Planning Services 2024-2026 Long Range Planning Program.

AUC INQUIRY ON ELECTRICITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Council will provide input into an inquiry by the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) regarding the approval process for electricity generation requirements.

POLICY RC(10) FUNDING APPLICATIONS

Council approved 2024 funding applications for Policy RC(10) Operating Support of Historical, Cultural, Tourism, and Visitor Information Facilities and Services, as follows:

- \$16,995.00 for Mirror and District Museum Association
- \$4,000.00 for Alix Wagon Wheel Museum Association
- \$10,000.00 for Bentley Museum Society
- \$10,000.00 for Blackfalds and Area Historical Society
- \$2,266.00 for Eckville and District Historical Society
- \$41,272.30 for Lacombe and District Historical Society
- \$60,000.00 for Lacombe Regional Tourism and Marketing Association.

BRIDGE FILE 1091 REPAIRS

Bridge File 1091, northeast of Tees, received significant damage on September 23, 2023 as a result of being struck by a vehicle.

The County Manager was authorized to engage a qualified contractor to complete repairs to Bridge File

1091 in the amount of \$109,120.00, to be funded from the Bridge Reserve. Any funds from insurance proceeds related to the damage to Bridge File 1091 will be directed to the Bridge Reserve.

VILLAGE OF ALIX/LACOMBE COUNTY INTERMUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (IDP) PROPOSED UPDATES

Proposed changes to the Village of Alix/Lacombe County IDP received Council endorsement. A meeting to seek public input regarding the proposed changes to the Village of Alix/Lacombe County IDP will be held on January 9, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Alix Community Hall.

ANDERSON PARK BOAT LAUNCH REVIEW

In follow-up to a resolution of Council in November 2018 whereby the discussion regarding a boat launch at Anderson Park was deferred for a five-year period, Council reviewed potential layout options and cost estimates for a boat launch at Anderson Park.

It was determined, by resolution of Council, that any work on the development of a boat launch at Anderson Park be further deferred until such time as Council deems that additional access to Gull Lake is required.

AGRICULTURAL SERVICES BOARD MEETING RECOMMENDATIONS

Council approved the following recommendations from the October 18, 2023 Lacombe County Agriculture Service Board meeting:

- That the Clive Seed Cleaning Cooperative report be received for information.
- That the Lacombe County 2024 Budget include funding for the purchase of Spring and Fall Road Safety Signage.
- That the input from the Agricultural Service Board regarding the 2024 agricultural extension activities be received for information.
- That the 2023 Seasonal Agriculture Operations update be received for information.
- That the 2023 ASB Resolution Report Card be received for information.
- That Lacombe County continues with the Farm Family Award.

- That the Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors Vegetation Management Plan Report be received for information.
- That the Agricultural Services Board Position Statement Information Item be received for information.
- That the East Central Review Wild Boar article be received for information.
- That the information regarding the 2023 Central Region Agricultural Service Board Conference.

REQUEST FOR ROAD CLOSURE AND SALE – ROAD PLAN 1756 CO

Road Plan 1756 CO is a road diversion within the Pt. NW 33-41-22 W4M. Daniel Hucal is requesting the closure and sale of Road Plan 1756 CO so it can be consolidated with his property. The proposal was circulated to interested parties for comment; there was no response from adjacent landowners, or Chain Lakes Gas Co-op Ltd. Battle River Power Coop responded that they have no concerns with the road closure.

By resolution of Council, the closure of Road Plan 1756 CO was approved. To complete the road closure process, the request will be forwarded to Alberta Transportation for approval and then registered with Land Titles.

PROPERTY TAX LATE PAYMENT PENALTY CANCELLATION REQUEST

A motion that Lacombe County cancel the \$74.63 late payment penalty on tax account #4022503509 did not receive Council approval.

CLIVE ATHLETIC AND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

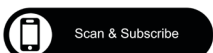
Council received a presentation by representatives of Clive School and the Clive Athletic and Agricultural Society regarding a request for funding for the construction of a new playground at Clive School as well as a general update on the fundraising efforts of the Clive Athletic and Agricultural Society.

LACOMBE REGIONAL TOURISM

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

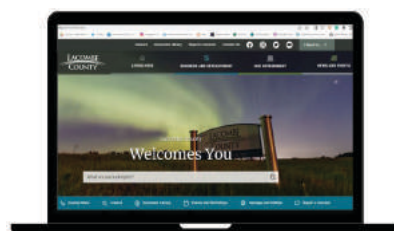
STAY IN THE KNOW!

<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



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



Regularly Scheduled Meetings for Lacombe County Council

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

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

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

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

November 23, 2023

LONG-TERM ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

Council approved the 2024-2028 Long-Term Road Construction Program.

WHISTLE CESSATION STUDY – LAKESIDE SARGENT ROAD AND HIGHWAY 2A

By resolution of Council, the County Manager was authorized to enter into an agreement with the Town of Blackfalds to share equally the costs associated with the review of whistle cessation at the railway crossing east of Highway 2A on Lakeside Sargent Road at an estimated cost to the County of \$2500.00.

CPO SERVICES 2023 – 2026 TRAFFIC SAFETY PLAN

Council approved the CPO Services 2023-2026 Traffic Safety Plan.

POLICY RC(1) FUNDING APPLICATION – BLINDMAN VALLEY LIONS CLUB – LOCKHART COMMUNITY HALL BARN QUIT PROJECT

Lacombe County will provide financial support in the amount of \$1910.44 to the Blindman Valley Lions Club for the Lockhart Community Hall Barn Quilt Project.

HIGHWAY 12/21 REGIONAL WATER SERVICES COMMISSION 2024-2026 OPERATING BUDGET

Council received the Highway 12/21 Regional Water Services Commission 2024-2026 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 2024 OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGETS AND THREE-YEAR OPERATING PLAN

Council received the Sylvan Lake Regional Water/ Wastewater Commission 2024 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.

TOUR OF LACOMBE LODGE

Lacombe County Council and staff accepted an invitation from the Lacombe Foundation to attend a tour of the Lacombe Lodge on November 27, 2023.

BYLAW NO. 1397/23 PUBLIC HEARING

Bylaw 1397/23 is a bylaw of Lacombe County to adopt the Southeast Bentley Area Structure Plan. Following a Public Hearing for Bylaw No. 1397/23, Council gave first and second reading to the bylaw on November 14, 2023. Bylaw 1397/23 was given third reading and so passed.

ALIX NATURE TRAIL

Council was provided with a presentation regarding the Alix Nature Trail. The County Manager was directed to prepare a report and recommendation regarding County support of the Alix Nature Trail for consideration at a future Council meeting.

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



To report oil and gas operational complaints or emergencies call:
1-800-222-6514

For questions related to AER regulations, requirements, or processes call:

1-855-297-8311

The AER ensures the safe, efficient, orderly, and environmentally responsible development of oil, oil sands, natural gas, coal resources, geothermal, and brine-hosted mineral resources over their entire life cycle. This includes allocating and conserving water resources, managing public lands, and protecting the environment while providing economic benefits for all Albertans.

inquiries@aer.ca

aer.ca

Lacombe Composite High School Graduate Awards

École Secondaire Lacombe Composite High School has celebrated the academic achievements of the Class of 2023 at a ceremony at LCHS on November 17. I am sharing a list of scholarships attained by our students in case you wish to publish these success stories. This program represents over \$215,000 in scholarships to LCHS students. It's worth noting that the awards represented here are only the ones we know about - many students will have additional scholarships that we have not been notified about. Scholarship research pays!

New scholarships for 2023:

Cole Warawa Memorial Scholarships: Three scholarships of \$1,000 in memory of a past teacher of LCHS, whose parents chose to honour his memory by giving LCHS students a helping hand.

Both the Lacombe Kinsmen and the Lacombe Legion have significantly increased the amount of their scholarships this year.

- The Kinsmen have given out 10 scholarships of \$500 each.
- The Legion has presented 2 scholarships of \$2,000 and 2 of \$2,500 to LCHS students.

Alberta Apprenticeship & Industry Training Board	Brett Stuart	Food Studies 30	Samantha Jones
Alberta Apprenticeship & Industry Training Board	Chance Westman	Food Prep 30	Sophie Yee
Alberta Athletic Award	Mia Cunningham	General Music 30	Jelissa Lewis
Alberta Citizenship Award	Jelissa Lewis		Matthew Derowin
Alex Tutscheck Indigenous Student Award CPA Award	Quaid McKinney	Mechanics 30	Ty Peakman
ATA Award for Further Education	Abbygale Weston-Poole	Physical Education 30	Hayden Overacker
Belcourt Brousseau Scholarship	Quaid McKinney	LCHS Schulich Leader Nominee 2023	Harish Guggilapu
Bentley Seed Cleaning Plant Scholarship	Morgan Turney	LCHS Most Improved Student Award	Laura Wilson
Bower Dental Centre Biology 30 Scholarship	Mahalia Rempel	LCHS Principal's List Certificates for an overall average of 90%+	Mahalia Rempel
Brady Van Der Heide Citizenship Award	Mia Cunningham	Darin Boehme	Chase Rogers
Cando Spirit High School Scholarship	Hayden Overacker	Matthew Derowin	Ryder Wyatt
Calumet Synergy Association Scholarship	Autumn Jeglum	Scarlett Kratz	Darin Boehme
Central Alberta Co-op Bursary	Autumn Jeglum	LCHS Scholarship for Salutatorian	Mia Cunningham
	Julia Trueman	Lesle G. Wade Memorial Scholarship	
Central Alberta Vintage Auto Club Bob & Jean Spencer Scholarship	Jackson Mackenzie	Lord Lascelles Chapter IODE Social Studies Scholarships	Linden Karras
	Autumn Jeglum		Ryder Wyatt
Clive Lions Club Bursary		Masonic Lodge Scholarships In English 30-2	Brooklyn Dwyer
Cole Warawa Memorial Scholarship	Emma O'Brien	Muise Business Scholarship	Mia Cunningham
Health & Wellness		Nova Chemicals Scholarship for highest mark in Chemistry 30	Top Female: Mahalia Rempel
Recognizing Diligence, Heart & Improvement			Top Male: Darin Boehme
Female Recipient:	Morgan Bajema		Eve Andrews
Male Recipient:	Hayden Overacker	Open Circle Association Scholarship	
D & M Concrete Scholarship in Construction Technologies	Francis Peralta	Red Deer Polytechnic Building on Excellence Academic Award	Linden Karras
	Ty Peakman		Sullivan Roy
D & M Concrete Scholarship in Fabrication Studies	Darin Boehme	Red Deer Polytechnic Regional High School Access Scholarship	Mia Cunningham
Don Gustafson Merit Award	Abbygale Weston-Poole		Mia Cunningham
Frank Freeman Educational Scholarship	Sophie Yee	Remarkable RAM Scholarship	Braeden Deering
Girl Guides of Canada Alberta Council Scholarship	Ryder Wyatt	Royal Canadian Legion Bursary Lacombe Legion	Leah-Mae Hennig
Gish Law Scholarship in English 30-1	Quaid McKinney	Royal Canadian Legion Bursary Lacombe Legion	Chase Deering
Golden Bears Football Athletic Scholarship	Mahalia Rempel	Royal Canadian Legion Lacombe Legion Award	Emmerson Winslow
Governor General's Academic Medal	Quaid McKinney	Royal Canadian Legion Lacombe Legion Award	Quaid McKinney
Helen Gordon Newman Memorial Scholarship	Taylor Jensen	Ruth Shead Memorial Award	Morgan Turney
Hugh McCullough Safe Driver Award	Austin Demas	TD Canada Trust Scholarship In Agriculture	Hayden Overacker
Jared White Memorial Scholarship	Abbygale Weston-Poole	University of Alberta Entrance Scholarship	Quaid McKinney
Knights of Columbus Scholarship	Macy Ahlquist	University of Alberta Indigenous Entrance Award	Quaid McKinney
Knights of Columbus Triple A Scholarship	Rhianne Styles	University of Alberta Turtle Spirit Award	Spencer Nygaard
Lacombe Art Guild Scholarship	Mia Cunningham	Wolf Creek Public Schools CTS Scholarship	
Lacombe County Leadership Award	Mahalia Rempel	Wolf Creek Public Schools Scholarships	Taylor Jensen
LCHS Scholarship for Valedictorian	Quaid McKinney		Jackson Mackenzie
Lacombe County Mutual Aid Doug Sproule Scholarship	Macy Ahlquist		Ethan Reglin
		Yee Fung Toy Society Scholarship	Brooke Sinclair
Lacombe & District Chamber of Commerce Award			Brett Stuart
Lacombe Kinsmen Scholarships			Morgan Turney
Art 30	Scarlett Kratz		Sophie Yee
Design Studies 30	Evelyn Oddsson		
Drama 30	Nate Boyde		
Fashion 30	Alexis Aylward		

Lacombe Composite High School would like to thank the community for their support of our students and the scholarship program.



Lacombe Composite High School Honour Roll

Grade 10 Principal's List (90%-100%)	Sian Bautista Brooklyn Belanger Tanner Boehme Daisy Butterfield Myranda Caddy Isabelle Collins	Andrea Gabriel Thomas Hibbs Xavian Karras Brady Keller Oliver Kelliher Isabella Konnik	Ronlyn Nagel Alexandr Palmer Jackson Panelli Lola Pui Avery Quance Brayden Roberts	Jace Russell Jackson Sather Jay Secretario
Grade 11 Principal's List (90%-100%)	Dyre Bautista Trinity Biel Caspian Dahl Hadley Dobinson	Katelyn Froehler Madison Guinto Owen Jeffries Violet Neumann	Timothy Sears Johan Secretario Jordyn Waldo Jacky Yu	
Grade 12 Principal's List (90%-100%)	Darin Boehme Matthew Derowin Scarlett Kratz	Mahalia Rempel Chase Rogers Ryder Wyatt		

Alexander Rutherford Scholarships: Graduates of 2023
(75 – 80+% Average in Grade 10, 11 &/or 12)

Brady Bruns Myles Butcher Braeden Deering Chase Deering Benjamin Derowin Matthew Derowin	Janna Elchico Tymen Green Alysa Jackson Autumn Jeglum Taylor Jensen Dylan Kristensen	Quaid Mckinney Marika Meadus Emma O'Brien Hayden Overacker Chloe Ramsay Brooke Sinclair	Rylan Snopek Morgan Turney Owen Unger Alyssa Vaandrager Grace Wagner Kayla Walter	Abbygale Weston Laura Wilson Emmerson Winslow Sophie Yee
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Alexander Rutherford Scholarships: Graduates of Previous Years
(75 – 80+% Average in Grade 10, 11 &/or 12)

Dakota Allaire Amber Anderson Zachary Armitage Brian Bargholz Tyson Blain Caleb Clark Raven Davies Katelynn Goss	Landon Gould Eric Halbert Aiden Hand Theo Harding Ruan Harmse Alayna Hoy Howard Hunt Karson Ince	Vanessa Ince Alethia Mah Corbin Manz Peighton Melton Colby Notland Santera Ogles Elizabeth Parent Eric Ramsay	Abbey Rapske Annika Ricalton Michael Sharp Brailee Shoemaker Zack Sletten Nicholas Tiemstra Myles Unger Lann Viloria	Constadina Vlahos Maya Weidner Jessica Wiebe Cadence Zukowski
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M & J Curtis captured this sunrise the other morning. In their six years of acreage living this is by far the most beautiful they've seen over that time.

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)

**Christmas & New Years
County Office Hours**

DEC. 25	CLOSED
DEC. 26	CLOSED
DEC. 27	CLOSED
DEC. 28	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
DEC. 29	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
JAN. 1/24	CLOSED
JAN. 2	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

LACOMBE COUNTY

From our family to yours,
we wish you a safe and
joyful holiday season

County crews provide in-kind work at Ellis Bird Farm

Lacombe County crews completed trail work at the Ellis Bird Farm earlier this fall. The trail was 100 meters long and tied into an existing trail. It took 36 tonne of asphalt which was placed with a skid steer and hand raked to level and finish it.



When to call 911? Complaints vs. emergencies

We often get asked, "When should we call 911?" 911 is for police, fire, or medical emergencies when immediate action is required: someone's health, safety or property is in imminent jeopardy, or a crime is in progress. 911 should be called for: Any life-threatening emergency, any crime in progress and for impaired drivers.

Local police stations have complaint lines that can be called if you require police assistance. This number should be used for crimes that have occurred in the past, noise complaints and minor incidents.

For general inquiries and complaints during the day, please call:

- Bashaw RCMP - (780) 372-3593
- Blackfalds RCMP - (403) 885-

3333

- Sylvan Lake RCMP - (403) 887-3333
- Rimbey RCMP - (403) 843-2223
- Ponoka RCMP - (403) 783-4471
- Lacombe Police - (403) 782-3279

If you accidentally call 911:

Please stay on the line and advise the operator it was an accident. If a 911 hang-up is received the RCMP will follow-up by finding out who the num-

ber is registered to, and calling and sending police officers to your location to ensure you are okay. This process takes up a lot of time, so if you accidentally call 911, stay on the line, or answer the phone when they call back. You will not get in trouble.

Don't program 911 into your speed dial. It only takes a second to dial it and when it's pre-programmed, it's easy to dial accidentally.

AROUND THE COUNTY

HOME SUPPORT SERVICES FOR SENIORS



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

- ✓ Trained & screened Home Support Providers
- ✓ Weekly
- ✓ Bi-weekly
- ✓ Monthly

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

Contact Lacombe & District FCSS: (403) 782-6637
Or Clive FCSS (Tuesdays, Thursdays) (403) 784-2020

Services Offered

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

Supported by:

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

CONNECT

Experience the beauty of Gull Lake Centre.

Gull Lake Centre is designed with event flexibility in mind.

Our incredible facilities and amenities can be used by groups from 20-250 people. Whether you are planning a conference, retreat, or family reunion, our space is versatile and accommodating.

We are open year round for event rentals! For more information on pricing, specific amenities and rental spaces, visit gulllakecentre.ca/rentals

Blackfalds' Servus Credit Union Public Library

Free memberships for Lacombe County patrons. When signing up provide your legal land description

Programming

Book Squirms *Ages 0-1*
Music & Movement *Ages 1-4*
Anime Club *Ages 8+*
Gaming Club *Ages 10+*
Something Cool for After School *Ages 10+*
Canasta Club *Ages 18+*
Dungeons and Dragons tabletop roleplaying games
Multiple Youth & Adults sessions

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

Hours

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

Borrowing

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

Visit us on our website & social medias

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

WHAT WE DO

Alix and Area Community Resource Centre

Highlights

Children & Youth
 Holiday Drop-in: Tues/Wed/Thurs, Jan 2, 3, 4, 1PM-4PM at the Community Connections Activity Centre (Bay 2) for school-aged children. Join us while school is out for free play and some fun activities!

Family Skate: Friday, December 29, 7PM-9PM
 Meet us at the Alix Arena for skating, hot chocolate, coffee, cookies and door prizes. FREE for all to join.

Community BINGO: Friday, January 5, 7PM
 Who doesn't love BINGO? Get together with friends and family for some fun, treats and prizes at the Centre.

3rd Annual Health & Wellness Fair: Sunday, January 28, 1PM-4PM
 Presented by Alix Mirror Wellness Supports Society. Nurturing yourself is not selfish- it is essential... Join us to discover a variety of vendors, from conventional to alternative and learn ways to enhance your well-being. An afternoon of sharing ideas and health & wellness information. Admission is FREE. Light refreshments available. Hosted at Alix Community Hall. If you have a business or service you would like to share with Alix & Area, please contact Jill to book a table. No Cost. 403-588-5199

Baby Clinic: Monthly routine child immunizations can be booked, during 10AM-1PM. Upcoming dates: January 17, February 21, March 20, April 24. Please call: Stettler Health Unit, 403-742-3326. Note... This only applies to children 6 months or older, to book routine immunizations.

Our office is Closed on Dec 25, 26, 2023 and Jan 1, 2024, please plan ahead!

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.alixcrc.com

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

Closed all statutory holidays
 Bay 1, 5008 50 Ave, Alix, AB
403-396-3369

Ring in the New Year At the Lincoln Hall

A family-friendly party to welcome 2024
Free admission, cash bar

December 31, 2023
8:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.
Please bring a snack to share

2024

Mary C Moore Public Library

Cardboard Construction Makerspace

Bring your best architectural, engineering and artistic minds as we work with cardboard and tools to build creatively!
for all ages and abilities

School's Out Makerspace
Friday 5th January
2:00PM-3:30PM
Free program!
Register with the QR code before January 3rd; drop-ins welcome.
parents are required to stay with young children




Happy Holidays

THANK YOU TO ALL THE DONORS, SPONSORS, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS WE SERVED IN 2023. HAVE A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY SEASON.

fcss
Lacombe & District
Family and Community
Support Services

Over The Hill & Loving The View

Seniors Drop In

located in the Town Office 4918-50 Avenue

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

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mondays 10 to 11 am • Tuesdays 1 pm • Wednesdays 10:45 to 11:45 • Thursdays 1pm • Potluck 	<p>Seated Range of Motion Exercises (starts Sept 11)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socialize/cards/games • Chair Yoga - light movements • Socialize/cards/games • Last Tuesday of each month at Noon
---	--

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

Drop In membership \$10/year

Registration required for
Seated Range of Motion Chair Yoga
Move your body, make connections & socialize!
Call 403.748.2160

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

WE HAVE FUN!

Registration required for
Seated Range of Motion Chair Yoga
Move your body, make connections & socialize!
Call 403.748.2160

Seniors Wellness Mornings 55+ Hosted At The Seniors Drop In

located in the Town Office 4918-50 Avenue

Seated Range of Motion -ROM

Join us for this seated exercise program. Research has shown that range of motion exercise has many benefits, including:

- Increased mobility, maintenance, and function of joints. Improved movement efficiency.
- Increased Independence. Decreased pain.

Chair Yoga

Never worry about falling or about your mobility level again. This class is designed to accommodate for those in wheelchairs, or who are concerned about their balance. The class is stretch-worthy while still being relaxing. It's the perfect balance for those looking for a yoga class that meets their mobility needs.

MONDAY
10:15 to 11 am
Starting Jan 8th

WEDNESDAY
10:45 to 11:45 am
Starting Jan 3rd

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

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, 2023. Now's your chance to get 5%, 10%, or 15% off the cost of your membership.
- Friday, Dec 22 WIBIT swim is canceled due to a KAC staff Christmas function
- Check Lacombe.ca/pool for our holiday schedule
- The pool will be CLOSED Dec 25, 2023 and Jan 1, 2024
- Underwater Hockey camp Jan 3-5 from 4:00-5:30 pm
- Spring program registration opens Jan 9, 2024 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.

CITY OF LACOMBE



Mary C Moore Public Library Overdue Book Club
Last Tuesday of the Month at 7pm in the Read & Relax Area of the Library

THE ISLAND OF MISSING TREES Julie Sharpe Jan 30	No Two Perfect Things Stephan Lee Feb 27	POSTCARD Anne Sexton March 26	REMARKABLY BRIGHT WEATHER SHEILA KAY April 30	TWO NIGHTS IN OSBORN CHRIS PAVONE May 28
THE MEASURE WILLIAMS June 25	Lord of the Flies William Golding July 30	THE BORROWERS John Burningham Aug 27	BLACK CAKE CHARMAINE WILKERSON Sept 24	THE PERSON BOOK CLUB Oct 29
2024 Wrap-Up Party Nov 26	*Dates listed are the 2024 discussion dates for the selected book. New members are welcome! Contact Miranda for more information on this club: miranda.cl@pmlab.ca lacombe.library.com/book-club			

fcss
Lacombe & District Family and Community Support Services

2023 2024

COATS FOR KIDS

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

thank you
To all the donors that make this program possible.

BRING IT BACK FULL CIRCLE

KidSpot Sport Jeunesse

GIVE the GIFT of SPORT

2023

1 in 3 kids
in Canada are sidelined from sports due to financial barriers.

SCAN. DONATE. DONE!

DONATE TODAY!

BOOK TALK: NON FICTION BOOK CLUB 2024

JANUARY 18 Just Mercy Bryan Stevenson	FEBRUARY 15 CLANLANDS Michael Ondaatje	MARCH 21 Caste Isabel Wilkerson
APRIL 18 101 ESSAYS about and CHANGE YOU THINK	MAY 16 NICHOLAS SPARKS THREE WEEKS WITH MY BROTHER	JUNE 20 Lost Girls MAYBE YOU SHOULD TALK TO SOMEONE
AUGUST 15 Richard Wagamese EMBERS	SEPTEMBER 19 DAVID GRANN THE WAGER	NOVEMBER 21 FIRE WEATHER JOHN VAILLANT
DECEMBER 19 We Were Dreamers		

7:00PM ON THE THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH
MEETINGS HELD IN THE READ & RELAX AREA
NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME!
FOR MORE INFORMATION, EMAIL KIRSTIN AT KBOWSEMA@PRLAB.CA

NEW PROGRAM

Games
Afternoon
Scrabble
Euchre
and more!

every other
Thursday 2pm
Jan 11, 25
Feb 8, 22

Free For Adults

Hosted by
Mary C Moore Public Library in
the Kinamen Room
2nd floor of the LMC

SUPPORT THE LACOMBE ARTS ENDOWMENT FUND

Please donate and support the

- awareness
- appreciation
- development

of the arts, which enhances the quality of life for all.

It's that time of year when we're all preparing for tax time. Your tax-deductible donations to the Lacombe Arts Endowment Fund will assist artists within Lacombe and Lacombe County so they may continue their education in literary, music, visual and performing arts.

Visit www.lacombe.ca/artsendowment



Danielle Folkerts, Award Winner

LINCOLN HALL | UPCOMING EVENTS

December 31, 8 p.m. Family New Year's Eve Celebration, pot luck appetizers, games, cash bar

January 27, Dinner and Casino Night with cash bar

February 27, Dinner and AGM

STAY IN THE KNOW!

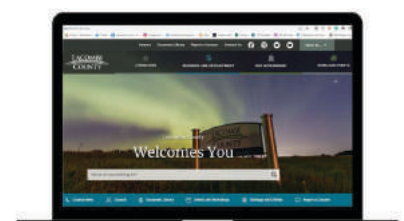


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JANUARY 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	JAN 1 OFFICE CLOSED (New Year's Day)	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 County Council 9AM	12 County News Submission Due	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 County News Published	20
21	22	23	24	25 County Council 9 AM	26	27
28	29	30	31 Ag Excellence Workshop (Pg. 8)	FEB 1	2	3

Upcoming Events: Office Closed - Christmas (Dec. 25-27, 2023), New Year's Day (Jan. 1, 2024), Feb. 6 - Committee of the Whole, Feb. 8 - County Council, Feb. 22 - 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!




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www.lacombe
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COUNTY NEWS

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If you have feedback or story ideas, please contact:
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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			
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			
Council		Home	Cell
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