



## Phase 1 - Lac La Biche Main Street Revitalization Project Underway

The first phase of one of Lac La Biche County's largest projects is underway.

On July 12, work began on the Main Street Lac La Biche Revitalization Project between 103 Street and 105 Street. This was the first step of a multi-year project that will see Main Street transformed, with outdated underground utilities replaced, public spaces improved, and the visual identity of the area rejuvenated.

Specifically, the scope of work for phase 1 will include the design, tender, and construction of Richard Devonian Park, utility replacement (water & sanitary) from the 103 Street intersection to 105 Street (including a connection to the 104 Street water main), replacement of the concrete curbs and sidewalks and an asphalt overlay from 103 Street to 105 Street. Installation of the new utility lines will be completed using a combination of trenching and directional drilling.

As a result of the work, there will be some impact to residents and local traffic:

- Two lanes of traffic will be maintained for the majority of the project, with intermittent use of flaggers to direct alternating traffic.
- Noise and presence of construction equipment/traffic.
- Curbside waste collection will not be affected. Place containers in their normal locations.
- Temporary water services will be provided to affected residents and businesses. Residents are asked not to tamper with temporary water lines, valves, or fittings.
- Several short-term water service interruptions will be required. Residents and business owners will be kept updated as to when these will occur.

We thank residents for their patience while this necessary work is completed.

To learn more about the project, including a map of the affected area, please visit the County website.

# Lac La Biche County recognizes four Environmental Stewardship Award Winners

Over the past several months, we've asked residents to send in their nominations for the Environmental Stewardship Awards. The nominees demonstrated a strong willingness to preserve our natural environment, and the chosen winners go above and beyond.

There were four categories of winner: Individual, Agriculture, Organization, and Business.

We'd like to extend our congratulations to the winners:

## Brian Deheer - Individual Category

- Brian Deheer has been active in environmental initiatives since he first came to Lac La Biche in 1992.
- Brian is linked to a variety of watershed protection groups including Athabasca Watershed Council, Keepers of the Athabasca Watershed Society (now Keepers of the Water Society), Alberta Environment Network, LICA Environmental Stewards, and many others.
- Brian was critical in the formation of Healthy Waters Lac La Biche – our local watershed stewardship group, which was formed in 2019.
- Brian does presentations for our local schools on wetland/watershed importance. One year, a grade 8 class was inspired to organize the Yellow Fish Program. “The Yellow Fish Road program is Canada’s premier water education program aiming to reduce water pollution. Participants mark local storm drains with yellow fish symbols and distribute educational door hangers to homes in the area, helping to raise awareness of storm water pollution.

## Rich Lake Recreation and Agricultural Society - Agricultural Category

- This society has enrolled in the Environmental Services CORE (Community Organics Recycling Enhancement) program. They have also installed a Green Cone (solar food digester) and implemented recycling receptacles in order to educate and reduce waste in their new facility.
- They are hoping that others will see their actions and want to make sustainable choices of their own including composting and other methods of reducing waste such as recycling.

## North Country Co-op - Business Category

- In 2019, North Country Co-op started their Reusable Bag Program. For each reusable bag and each single use plastic bag used in store, they donated 5 cents to a local school’s snack program. Since the creation of this program, they have reduced the number of single use bags by 70,000.

- North Country Co-op partnered with Loop Resources in March 2021 to divert food products from landfills and instead deliver it to registered agricultural producers as animal feed. They are distributing items from their meat, produce, grocery and bakery departments. Not only are they keeping items not suitable for human consumption out of the landfill, they are helping area farmers add real food to their livestock’s diets. This project diverting is 26,000 lbs annually from local landfills.
- By increasing recycling and reuse efforts, North Country Co-op has minimized waste creation.

## Healthy Waters Lac La Biche - Organization Category

- This society has been involved with the update of the 2021 Lac La Biche Watershed Management Plan, with four of their members on the steering committee. They will also be playing a significant role in the implementation of the Watershed Management Plan.
- They have received grant funding to perform a series of open houses throughout the County to educate residents on the factors affecting watershed health and to encourage good stewardship. *For more information about the open houses, visit the County website.*
- The society has distributed educational materials to several locations within Lac La Biche County, such as the Visitor Information Centre, Bold Center, various real estate offices, and Portage College. These materials include brochures and several other resources relating to lake and watershed health with the aim of further educating the public and inspiring preservation and protection of our natural environments.

All of the winners received an award certificate, and a \$500 prize.

# MAD ABOUT SCIENCE

## FRIDAYS AT THE SUMMER SHACKS!



For more information, email [green@lacialabichcounty.com](mailto:green@lacialabichcounty.com), or call (780) 623-6739.

**A free educational summer day camp for kids ages 6 to 12.**

Participants learn about the environment through fun games, experiments, and other activities.

July 9, 1-3 pm - Dumasfield

July 16, 1-3 pm - Young's Beach

July 23, 1-3 pm - Dumasfield

July 30, 1-3 pm - Young's Beach

August 6, 1-3 pm - Dumasfield

August 13, 1-3 pm - Young's Beach

August 20, 1-3 pm - Dumasfield

# Fair Access Program improves accessibility to County programs

If you need help accessing County programs, services, or facilities, one application can qualify you for all Lac La Biche County subsidy programs.

The Fair Access Fee Assistance Program is a single-application process for low-income residents to access County programs, services, and facilities at reduced rates.

Under the program, applicants can get all-access passes to County recreation facilities, participate in recreation and culture programs, Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) Programs, and ride the Community Access Bus - all at reduced rates.

To qualify, you must be a Lac La Biche County resident and provide proof of income in one of the following ways:

- AISH (Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped) card or statement.
- Income Support or other Alberta Health Benefits Program (current card, letter or statement).
- Notice of Assessment for most recent year for each family member over 18 years living in residence.
- Referral Agency Endorsement (professional who will confirm financial need).

To apply for the Fair Access Fee Assistance Program, visit [www.boldcenter.ca](http://www.boldcenter.ca), [www.laclabichcounty.com](http://www.laclabichcounty.com), or pick up a hard copy at any County facility.

# Community Advertising Program open to local organizations

Community organizations hoping to promote themselves, or their programs, events and services, have more advertising options under the Community Advertising Program.

The digital screens at the Bold Center (both in the building and the road sign) can be used by local non-profit organizations as an advertising avenue. Private and local businesses can also advertise, if criteria are met.

Rates, specs and details can be found at [www.boldcenter.ca](http://www.boldcenter.ca), or call (780) 623-6357 for more information.

# Sand Bag Disposal

Last year, Lac La Biche County experienced a major spring flooding event, which prompted a local state of emergency, and required many residents to use sand bags to protect their homes and property. The County understands the hardship and stress the flooding incident caused residents.

Many of the sand bags that were used to mitigate flooding are still in place, and the County would like to remind residents that used sand bags need to be properly disposed of. They cannot be left in the lake, on the shoreline, or on beaches, as the sand in the bags is not native to the waterbodies and can have a negative effect on them.

According to the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, the sand should not be used in a manner that would have it come into direct contact with people, like sandboxes, as floodwater can contain contaminants like fecal coliform or other bacteria. However, in many cases the sand can be used as fill, aggregate in construction projects, or blending material in gardening. Damp sand should be left in sunlight to dry before use to reduce contaminants.

Intact sandbags can be returned to the County for future use. Destroyed sandbags can be disposed of at the County landfills. Do not dispose of the sand bags in lakes or along shorelines.

For more information, call (780) 623-6789.

## FEATURED FCSS PROGRAMS

### Teen Social Club - Ages 13-17

July-August  
email [braeden.watson@laclabichcounty.com](mailto:braeden.watson@laclabichcounty.com) or call/text (780) 520-7183.

### Next Gen Volunteer Group

Join us for a planning meeting on Wednesday, July 14 at 5pm at the Bold Center to discuss upcoming volunteer opportunities. New members always welcome! Pizza and beverages provided!  
Email: [christine.martin@laclabichcounty.com](mailto:christine.martin@laclabichcounty.com) or call/text 780-520-7183.

### Tween Scene - Ages 10-12

Every second Wednesday, July 14-August 25  
5:00 - 6:30 pm  
Locations TBD  
email: [cornelia.fechner@laclabichcounty.com](mailto:cornelia.fechner@laclabichcounty.com)

### Super Kids - Ages 7-9

Every second Wednesday, July 7-August 18  
5:00 - 6:30 pm  
Locations TBD  
email: [cornelia.fechner@laclabichcounty.com](mailto:cornelia.fechner@laclabichcounty.com)

### Young Family Connections Summer Programs

#### Art in the Park - Ages 0-6

Tuesdays or Wednesdays, July-August  
10:30 am - 12:00 pm  
McArthur Park Gazebo.

#### Art in the Park Plamondon - Ages 0-6

July 5 & 19, and August 9 & 23,  
10:30 am - 12:00 pm,  
Festival Centre Park.

#### Daddy, Come Play with Me!

July 12 & 26, and August 4 & 16,  
6:30-8:30 pm  
Location TBD

#### Kelso's Choice - Meet Kelso the Frog!

##### Ages 3-6

Every Thursday, July & August  
1:00 - 2:30 pm  
McArthur Park Gazebo.

**For more programs, follow FCSS and FCSS Young Family Connections on Facebook!**

### TALK BOX TIP

*When you play together and talk about what you are doing, you are helping your child learn new words and ideas*

Kids love to learn through play. Visit some of your local parks and talk about what you are doing using lots of action

words like jump, roll, slide, walk, splash or run!





# Dates to Remember

**July 13 - 5:30-7:30 pm**

DIY Garden-Size Yahtzee  
Part of the Jr. Family Summer Fun program  
*Location TBA*

email: [cornelia.fechner@laclabichcounty.com](mailto:cornelia.fechner@laclabichcounty.com)

**July 27 - 5:30-7:30 pm**

Paddle the Lake  
Part of the Jr. Family Summer Fun program  
*Location TBA*

email: [cornelia.fechner@laclabichcounty.com](mailto:cornelia.fechner@laclabichcounty.com)

**July 14, 21, 28 - 2:00 pm**

Summer Reading Club  
*Stuart MacPherson Public Library*

**July 23 - 9:30 am**

Aging Magnificently Workshop  
*Bold Center*

**July 31-Aug 1**

2021 Archery Alberta Outdoor Target and Field Provincials  
*Herb Erikson Outdoor Archery Range*

Check the Community Events Calendar at [laclabichcounty.com](http://laclabichcounty.com) for more local events.

Your County in Touch is produced by Lac La Biche County and is available to every resident.

An electronic version of this newsletter is available. All you need to do is call (780) 623-1747 or provide your e-mail address to [intouch@laclabichcounty.com](mailto:intouch@laclabichcounty.com).

Use the same contact information for any address changes, additional copies or to unsubscribe.



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# SUMMER SHACK



RECREATION PROGRAM **cenovus** ENERGY

Join the fun!

A drop-in program with fun, active, and creative activities for kids.



## Dumasfield Park & Jubilee Park at Young's Beach

12:30 - 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday  
July 5 - August 27  
Ages 6-12

**FREE!**