

Lac La Biche County welcoming by nature.

YOUR COUNTY IN TOUCH

Issue No. 144 October 2023



Bylaw Officer training program coming soon

We are excited to announce a newly developed three-week training program specifically for Bylaw Enforcement Officers.

Running Jan. 15 to Feb. 1 at our Law Enforcement Training Centre, this program will give participants all of the skills and hands-on practice needed to start work. Everything from legal know-how to animal handling will be covered. As part of our commitment to preparing officers for the real world, students will participate in scenario-based training, working through simulations inspired by what officers will actually encounter on the job. This is a vital aspect of our training programs, letting students experience first-hand what they're getting into, what to expect in the field and how to handle it appropriately.

To learn more about our Law Enforcement Training Centre, visit **laclabichecounty.com**.



Main Street (103 Street to 102 Street) construction delays

After three weeks of delays because of rain, the first phase of rebuilding Main Street in the hamlet of Lac La Biche is going to take slightly longer than expected.

We now expect Main Street between 102 Street and 103 Street to reopen to regular traffic by Nov. 15, as long as there are no further delays.

We provide this information in good faith, but all details are subject to change. This is the nature of large construction projects with many different components. For more information about the project, please contact:

Ali Memon Manager, Engineering Services 780-404-6869 ali.memon@laclabichecounty.com

The new plan:

Early Nov. 2023

First layer of paving and line painting for the affected block.

Dec. 2023 - Jan. 2024

New traffic signals installed at the intersection with 103 Street. New signals are currently not available so temporary signals will be used.

TBD 2024

Mature trees planted and new streetlights installed. Streetlights are on backorder, so the old light standards will be reinstalled for the time being.

Spring and Summer 2024

Phase 2 of the project, with construction happening between 101 Street and 102 Street.



Oct. 16-22, 2023

Waste that goes into a landfill is going to be there for a very, very long time, which is why it's so important to reduce, reuse and recycle often.

We take pride in our "green initiatives" and we enjoy helping our community members learn with them. Sustainability is something we truly believe in, and the natural environment is one of the best things about Lac La Biche County, so let's work together to protect it for future generations.



VERMICOMPOSTING WORKSHOP Tuesday, Oct. 17 • 5:30-7 pm McArthur Place

This free workshop will teach you the basics of year-round composting — with worms! Build your own vermicomposting bin to take home (one per household) at no cost. Space is limited, so please register in advance by calling (780) 623-6739 or emailing green@laclabichecounty.com. Snacks and water will be provided!

Composting is a great way to turn organic waste like food leftovers into nutrient-rich fertilizer. Adding worms to the

equation gives you even better

Hosted in partnership with:

results.





CANNING WORKSHOP Thursday, Oct. 19 • 5:30-7:30 pm Festival Centre, Plamondon

Can you become a master of canning? Yes, you can (pun intended) with this free workshop. Participants are encouraged to bring their own vegetables and jars. Space is limited, so please pre-register by calling (780) 623-6739 or emailing green@laclabichecounty.com. Snacks and water will be provided!

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE ROUND-UP & SHREDDING EVENT

Saturday, Oct. 21 • 10 am to 2 pm County Centre

Residents can bring in unused household cleaners and other items that might harm the environment if they're not disposed of properly. A secure shredder will also be available for safe recycling of confidential documents.

GET INVOLVED. MAKE A DIFFERENCE. BECOME A COUNTY COMMITTEE MEMBER

We don't think elections are the only times when our citizens should be involved in local decision-making. We have a variety of boards and committees that make recommendations to County Council and help guide our programs and services from a bird's-eye view.

For example, our Economic Development Advisory Committee has two open seats for industry and public sector representatives. You could join a group of regional business-minded thinkers advising County Council on how to keep our local economy humming along.

For information about current committee vacancies and how to apply for them, visit **laclabichecounty.com/p/committee-vacancies**.

BOAT LAUNCH STUDY CASTS OFF

We've recently assessed all 15 County-owned boat launches and created a classification system to help residents and



visitors find local launches that meet their needs in future boating seasons. Not all launches are created equal, after all, and pontoon boats don't fit just anywhere.

Class A launches, like Old Trail, are typically deep enough for all types of watercraft and have amenities like permanent washrooms or picnic shelters. Class B and C launches tend to be shallower, and may only be suitable for handlaunching watercraft. Our next step will be to install signage with this information at each of our launches.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SIMPLIFIED



NEXT STEPS FOR OUR LAND USE BYLAW

We are one step closer to having an updated and improved Land Use Bylaw. Once Council endorses a draft of the new version, it will be yours to peruse and tell us what you think.

The Land Use Bylaw (LUB) is one of the most important pieces of legislation that we have. It assigns every property in the County to a district (e.g. agricultural, highway commercial, etc.) and describes the allowable uses of lands in each district.

A LUB is not a new thing. Every municipality in Alberta already has one. It's simply time for us to take a hard look at ours and see where there's room for improvement.



So what's happening now? We are reviewing a draft of the rewritten LUB. If it meets the needs of our community, it will be proposed to Council, and then shared with the general public if Council wants to proceed with it.

The revised LUB will not be adopted (i.e. it will not become official) until community members have had an opportunity to read it for themselves and provide feedback. After Council endorses a draft, we will hold open houses in the hamlets of Lac La Biche and Plamondon so residents can ask questions and share their thoughts.



Why is the LUB being revised? It's normal for us to update the LUB every five to seven years, because times change and community members' needs change with them. The last time our LUB was fully rewritten was in 2017, but there have been dozens

of small amendments like rezonings since then. A rewrite consolidates all of the changes, reduces red tape and makes the bylaw easier for everyone to understand and follow.

Have questions about the rewrite? Call (780) 623-1747 or email planning.development@laclabichecounty.com.

For updated information at any time, you can also visit us online at **laclabichecounty.com/p/land-use-bylaw**. When we have a draft of the revised LUB ready to share, it will be posted on that webpage.





Exploring the future

The future can be exciting, but also intimidating. It's 10 years away — but it's also tomorrow. It's next week, and it's decades away at retirement age.

It's tough for teenagers to think about their futures. At the same time, parents and teachers and just about everyone else is asking them to make important decisions about it.

Join EmployAbilities North to help figure it out! Learn about your values, interests, personal skills and more *before* you decide what path to take.

Monday, Oct. 23 • 1-3:30 pm View Point Room, Bold Centre Ages 13-18 • FREE

Lunch will be provided. To register, call the Bold Centre's front desk at 780-623-3829 or sign up online at **boldcenter.ca/activellbc**. For more information about this session, call Christine Martin at 780-520-7183.

Teen Skill Zone is a free program designed to give youth a leg-up as they prepare for higher education, joining the workforce, living away from home for the first time and more. Sessions teach everything from basic cooking and vehicle maintenance to mental health and personal finance.



Dates to Remember

Monday, Oct. 9 Thanksgiving Day. County offices will be closed for the holiday.

Oct. 16-22

Waste Reduction Week. See page 2 for more information about specific activities and events.

Tuesday, Oct. 31 Halloween.

Saturday, Nov. 11 Remembrance Day.

Week of Nov. 16 (Louis Riel Day) Métis Week.





MAD SCIENCE Sunday, Oct. 29 1:30-4 pm Bold Centre

Enjoy an afternoon of spooky activities, games and a haunted house for the whole family — all absolutely free!

Check out the Bold Centre on Facebook for updates.



For more County and community events, visit the Events Calendar on laclabichecounty.com. You can also submit your own 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 <u>intouch@</u> <u>laclabichecounty.com</u>.

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