

## Tips for a Safe and Healthy Holiday

From Fire Chief John Kokotilo:

1. Have your furnace and other heating appliances (electric space heaters) checked – do not overload electrical circuits.
2. Always cover your fireplace with a screen and have your chimneys and vents checked.
3. Do not remove fireplace embers unless cold to the touch.
4. Test your smoke alarm and be aware of your escape plan.
5. Do not leave lit candles unattended.
6. When cooking, do not leave the kitchen unattended. If you need to leave the kitchen, turn off cooking appliances.
7. Remember when enjoying the outdoors, no ice is safe ice. Always be aware of the ice conditions.

From Manager of Enforcement Services  
Chris Clark:

1. Don't drink and drive. Winter brings an increase in impaired driving incidents, so make sure to plan accordingly if you're going to be drinking. Arrange a ride home, and don't let friends and family drive under the influence.
2. Drive to road conditions. As road conditions deteriorate in the winter, reduce your speed. We want everyone to arrive at their destinations safely.
3. Secure your property if you're leaving on holidays. Make sure your doors are locked, and set your lights to timers if possible. Have a friend or relative check on your property and clear snow, use a security system, and make sure your blinds or curtains are drawn.



## Season's Greetings from Lac La Biche County Council

### Message from Mayor Omer Moghrabi

On behalf of Lac La Biche County Council, I'd like to wish you and your family a very merry Christmas and happy holidays.

It's been an unusually challenging year. We kicked off 2020 with the COVID-19 pandemic. We had to come up with new ways to get work done, keep in touch with family and friends, and safeguard our community. Early June brought an unprecedented flooding event to Lac La Biche County, damaging homes and key infrastructure. And, as we move into the holiday season, the second wave of COVID-19 seems to be gathering steam and moving us under stronger restrictions.

But our response to all of these issues has given Council a lot of hope. By following Alberta Health Services' lead, the County adapted, delivering the services that our residents depend upon in safer ways. Our emergency staff responded to the flooding incident and prevented the worst of the damage. And we are securing funding from the Province's Disaster Recovery Program to help local taxpayers and homeowners with flooding costs. Finally, we continued to meet our goals, wrapping up another successful construction season.

Lac La Biche County is adaptable and resilient. Council and I are moving into 2021 with a sincere belief that our community has a bright future, and the ability to turn any challenge into an opportunity for positive change and growth. This year may have been a tough one, but I'm confident that 2021 and beyond will mean great things for our County.

Stay safe, be kind to one another, and have a wonderful holiday season.

-Mayor Omer Moghrabi

# Christmas Tree Recycling Program Returns for Another Year



If your New Year's resolution is to recycle more, you can start by recycling your Christmas tree. From January 4-15, residents with curbside pickup service can call (780) 623-6739 to have their trees taken away and recycled. If you live in a rural area, or if you miss the deadline, you can bring your tree to any landfill or transfer station at no charge.

Only natural trees will be accepted for recycling, and trees must not have any decorations left on them.

For every tree that we recycle, a new one will be planted in a local park.

# MuniSight Launches to the Public Online

A new way to view Lac La Biche County is now available online. MuniSight is the County's web-based mapping system, which allows you to view property boundaries, County roads, utility lines, and other details that everyday residents, developers, real estate agents, and more will find useful.

If you'd like to see for yourself, visit [laclabichcounty.com](http://laclabichcounty.com), and go the MuniSight Page. From there, you will need to login. Once you login (as a guest) you'll be able to see all of the publicly available information.

MuniSight has many ways to show you Lac La Biche County, and the information can be filtered in many different ways. If you're interested in fire boundaries, railways, municipal zoning, electoral boundaries, water lines, or gas lines, there are filters you can apply

to the map to view them individually or together. There are many more filter features on MuniSight, and they're waiting for you to try them out.

There are several different ways to search for information as well. The legend shows you the map with all the filters you've selected or de-selected. The

search function allows you to find what you're looking for by entering a location. Routing allows users to select multiple points and calculate the distance between them.

We're excited to be able to offer MuniSight to the public, but if it doesn't interest you, we still have quick-reference maps available on

our website. We have maps for Lac La Biche County boundaries, County facilities locations, fire permits, landfill locations, and ward locations.

If you have any questions about MuniSight, please contact the Planning and Economic Division at [gis@laclabichcounty.com](mailto:gis@laclabichcounty.com).





# Reminder: Snow Clearing



Please be reminded that residents are responsible for shovelling the sidewalk in front of their properties within 72 hours of a snowfall.

Keep the sidewalks clear and safe for pedestrians this winter.

## UPCOMING FCSS PROGRAMS

*Due to COVID-19, participants must preregister for all programs. Please call 780-623-6745 to sign-up. All events are subject to COVID-19 regulations. Please follow our social media for updates.*

### Jr. Family Night

Dec. 2 • Dec. 16  
5:30-7:30 pm • Bold Center  
Registration deadline: day before  
Ages 7-12 & their family

### Wreath Making Workshop

Dec. 3 • Dec. 10  
6-8 pm • Bold Center

### Class 7 Learner's Licence Prep Course

Friday, Dec. 4  
9 am - 4 pm  
Bold Center

### Take Back Your Year Wellness Workshops

Dec. 8, 5-8 pm, McArthur Place  
Dec. 11, 11 am-2 pm, Bold Center

### Seniors Christmas Teas Cancelled

Instead, the event has been transformed to a gift. People that registered will receive a call with more information soon.

For more programs, follow FCSS on Facebook!

POSITIVE PARENTING IN UNCERTAIN TIMES



*COVID-19 represents a challenge for families. Triple P has developed some tips and tricks.*

### Reassure your children that your family is your top priority.

Saying something like "As your parent it is my responsibility to keep you safe and I am doing everything in my power to achieve that right now."

Children feel most safe and secure when you are calm constant and confident in your approach.

**BOLD CENTER**

# NEW! FIT START GYM SMART

Does working out in the gym seem intimidating? It's easier than it looks. This 45 minute workshop will cover basic set up and use of the equipment so that you can feel more confident in the gym. Preregistration is required.

**Time:** Tuesday(s), 10:00 - 10:45 am or Thursday(s), 5:30 - 6:15 pm  
**Location:** Bold Center - Cenovus Fitness & Wellness Centre  
**Ages:** 16+  
**Cost:** Free

**Fall dates: September 8, September 10, December 15**  
**Winter dates: January 5, January 7**

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welcoming by nature.





# Dates to Remember

## December 1

Deadline to apply for the Savvy Seniors program.

## December 1

Triple P Discussion Group: Hassle-Free Shopping with Children from 9:30-11:30 am at the Bold Center.

## December 2

Triple P Discussion Group: Hassle-Free Shopping with Children from 9:30-11:30 am at the Bold Center or 7:30-9:30 pm on Zoom.

## December 10

To Infinity & Beyond Resistance Band Class from 7-8 pm at the Bold Center.

## December 14

Steampunkery: A Steam Program at Stuart MacPherson Library from 4:30-6:30 pm.

## December 15

Fit Start Gym Smart from 10-10:45 am at the Bold Center.

## December 24-28

Lac La Biche County offices, landfill and transfer station closures. Bold Center, Child Mind, Plamondon Arena, and Portage Pool will operate on a special winter break schedule, available at [www.boldcenter.ca](http://www.boldcenter.ca).

## December 31

Glow Swim from 1-3 pm at Portage Pool

Check the Community Events Calendar at [laclabichcounty.com](http://laclabichcounty.com) for more local events. Due to COVID-19, local events may be changed or cancelled at short notice.

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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Canadian Publication Agreement  
#41492052



10th Anniversary Celebration  
& Mortgage Burning!

# Bold Free Day

SATURDAY, JAN. 2

Join the Bold Center in celebrating  
10 years of serving the community.

Free general admission all day.

3-6 pm: Fun Van "Winter Fest" outdoor activities

6:30 pm: Celebration kick-off\*

7:00 pm: Fireworks

\*Will be broadcast on FM,  
for people wanting to participate from their vehicle.

*Due to COVID-19 attendance numbers will be restricted to support Alberta Government health measures.  
The event may be changed or cancelled at short notice.*



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