

YOUR COUNTY IN TOUCH

Issue No. 116 June 2021



Lac La Biche County offers several ways to pay taxes

Deadline for property tax payment is Wednesday, June 30

By now, property owners in Lac La Biche County have received their property assessments and tax notices for 2021.

With several payment options on offer, it's easy for ratepayers to choose the best way for them to pay their taxes.

McArthur Place, located at 10307 - 100 Street (main floor) is your one-stop shop for all your payment needs. Get your questions answered and your payments processed Monday-Friday during regular business hours. Please note that in-person tax payments will no longer be accepted at County Centre.

If in-person payments aren't available due to COVID-19 restrictions, there are other options, such as:

- Deposit box (located at McArthur Place)
- Financial institution or credit union
- Credit card

Lac La Biche County also offers an autopay program. You can pre-set a monthly tax payment to be withdrawn on the first day of every month. It's a great way to distribute the tax levy over several months to help make it more affordable, and you avoid the July 1 and November 16 penalties while on the autopay program.

In addition, residents in arrears or with tax notifications on their property or manufactured home can sign a monthly payment agreement up to 36 months.

To learn more about your payment options, call (780) 623-1747.

- Online
- By mail

Reduce your use of single-use plastics for your chance to win a care package of re-usable items

The Government of Canada has announced a series of initiatives and measures to eliminate certain sources of plastic pollution by the end of 2021. This includes an upcoming ban on single use plastics including checkout bags, stir sticks, six-pack rings, cutlery, straws, and foodware made from hard and recycled plastics.

As individuals and residents who care about our community, we all need to do our part to offset this explosion of plastic on the large, global scale. What can you do to help? We recommend watching our social media as we explore this issue, share statistics, and offer suggestions to decrease the use of plastic.

Every year, a significant amount of plastic waste finds its way into our environment. Here are some quick facts about single-use plastics:

- Up to 15 billion plastic bags are used in Canada every year.
- Close to 15 million straws are used in Canada every day.
- in Canada, single-use plastics (like plastic bags, straws, and packaging) make up the majority of the plastic litter found in freshwater environments.

Though we aren't sure exactly when these initiatives will come in to effect, it's worth taking steps away from single-use plastics now to protect our environment and make the transition easier when the changes come. Here are a few easy steps you can take to reduce your use of single-use plastics:

- Use re-usable bags to do your shopping
- Use re-usable cups and mugs for water, coffee, or tea.
- Ask for no straw when ordering food.
- When making your lunch in the morning, use re-usable packaging like beeswax wraps instead of saran wrap.

Be sure to wash all of your re-usable items between uses.

To encourage residents to cut single-use plastics, the County will be holding a draw to win a care package that includes a re-usable bag, beeswax wraps, re-usable straws, and a bento box for lunches. Keep an eye on our social media for details.



June is Recreation and Parks Month

Get active around Lac La Biche County

The month of June is Recreation and Parks Month and a great time to celebrate all the health, wellness, social, economic and environmental benefits recreation activities and our wonderful facilities and parks contribute to our community. Get out and get active this month and explore everything Lac La Biche County has to offer! To help you do this, Recreation and Community Services is creating a June is Recreation and Parks Month Calendar with activities for you to try. Download the activity calendar at **www.boldcenter.ca**.

Lac La Biche County boasts magnificent parks and recreation opportunities:

- 40 kms of paved multi-use trails
- 15 playgrounds (rural areas and within the hamlets)
- Richard Memorial Spray Park with Rotary Adult Fitness park
- 16 soccer/sports fields plus the new artificial turf at Bold Center
- 6 ball diamonds (including Plamondon)
- 2 tennis courts
- Outdoor basketball courts
- Outdoor track
- 15 boat launches and floating dock
- Golf course
- Skate park
- Sir Winston Churchill Provincial Park and Lakeland Provincial Park
- Alexander Hamilton Park (fish pond, picnic area, dog park and community garden disc golf coming soon!)
- Lakes, lakes and more lakes and many other opportunities to keep you active

Benefits of Recreation and Parks

- Enhance mental physical, and social wellbeing
- Help build strong family and communities
- Help people connect with nature
- Provide economic benefits to a community *Reference: Framework for Recreation in Canada 2015*

FEATURED FCSS PROGRAMS

Due to COVID-19, participants must preregister for all programs. Please call 780-623-6365 or message our Facebook page to sign-up.

Crafternoon

Mondays, 10:30 or 11 am

Baby Talk Wednesdays, 1 pm

Cozy Corner

Thursdays, 9:30 or 10:30 am

Triple P Seminars

June 3, 8-9:30 pm - The Power of Positive Parenting. June 10, 8-9:30 pm - Raising Confident/ Competent Children June 17, 8-9:30 pm - Raising Resilient Children All Triple P events held via Zoom. Call (780) 623-6365 or message us on Facebook to register.

Seniors' Week

June 7-13 Seniors can come to the ATB Room at the Bold Center on June 8 and 9 between 11 am - 2 pm to receive a free gift!

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

TALK BOX TIP

Talk Box is a parent's guide to creating language-rich environments.



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!

Lac La Biche County



June 7-13 Seniors' Week

June 12-13 1st Annual La Biche Walleye Cup Following all current AHS COVID-19 guidelines.

June 30 Property tax payment deadline

Due to COVID-19, events may be subject to postponement or cancellation.

Check the Community Events Calendar at **laclabichecounty.com** for more local events.

Due to COVID-19 regulations, changes have been made to Lac La Biche County facilities, programming and services. Visit **laclabichecounty.com** to learn more.

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>.

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



Canadian Publication Agreement #41492052



Lac La Biche County has seen the Alberta Open for Summer Plans made by the Province on May 26, 2021. The threephase plan is based on percentages of Albertans vaccinated and number of hospitalizations. This means recreation facilities, programs and services may become available soon.

Staff will be monitoring updates and guidance documents closely to prepare re-open plans in the coming weeks. Visit www.laclabichecounty.com or www.boldcenter.ca for updates on recreation programming, facilities and services as they become available.