



YOUR COUNTY IN TOUCH

Issue No. 113 March 2021

2020 YEAR IN REVIEW Coming soon!

What were some of the County's major projects last year? What caused the spring flooding and how did County staff fight it? How much roadside grass was mowed? Find that out, plus much more, later this month.

Most residents can expect to receive the 2020 Year In Review directly in their mailbox in the coming weeks, but if you miss it, you'll also be able to find a copy online.



Green Rebate Program open for submissions

If you're ready to reduce your water and energy consumption, making use of the Green Rebate Program could help you achieve your goals.

Put money back in your pocket each time you buy an eligible Energy Star or WaterSense certified appliance or fixture.

For your appliances to be eligible for rebate, you'll need to meet the following criteria:

- You must be a resident of Lac La Biche County.
- Your purchase must have been made between January 1, 2021, and December 31, 2021.

Visit our website to complete an application form and review the eligible appliances. Lac La Biche County wants to reward you with a \$50-\$400 rebate, plus another 10 per cent bonus for purchasing locally.

To find out more, visit www.laclabichedcounty.com/greenrebate, or call (780) 623-6730.



Information about Permits and Projects

Did you know that every parcel of land in Lac La Biche County belongs to a zoning category? In the Land Use Bylaw, each zoning category has specific regulations.

When you apply for a development permit, we make sure that what you are proposing follows the regulations that apply for your parcel's zone.

If you are planning a project, big or small, please contact the Planning and Development Department to confirm what permits or approvals that may be required. A development permit must be issued prior to the work starting, or the application is subject to a double fee penalty.

Lac La Biche County has created simplified development brochures to share information and answer frequently asked questions. These can be found on our website at: www.laclabichedev.com/our-services/planning-development.

When a Development Permit is not required:

- Accessory buildings smaller than 110 ft² in size and under 8.0 ft in height
- New deck construction that is under 2.0 ft above grade
- Temporary fabric structures (such as: carports and portable tent shelters)
- Fence construction, or other means of yard enclosure that is 2.0 m (6.6 ft) or less in the side and rear yard and 1.0 m (3.3 ft) in the front yard.

- Maintenance or repairs, provided that such work does not include structural alterations or a change in use
- Mobile food service unit (example: food truck)
- Above ground pools and play equipment

**To view the full list, please refer to Section D1.3 of our Land Use Bylaw or contact a Development Officer.*

NOTE: If the proposed accessory building is on skids, a development permit is still required unless it meets the requirements noted above.

A change in use may trigger the requirement of both a development and building permit. For example: if you are converting your residence into a salon or changing an existing commercial building to residential use, then a development permit and building permit are required.

In addition to the development permit, your project may also require Safety Code Permits. These include, but are not limited to: Building, Electrical, Plumbing, Gas and Private Sewage permits. The Inspections Group is the County's contracted services provider who approves and inspects all projects to ensure compliance with the applicable Provincial legislation.

As of February 1, 2020, The Inspections Group Inc. processes all Safety Code applications and permit fees. Applications can be found on their website at: www.inspectiongroup.com, or by calling their office toll free at: 1-866-554-5048.

**FREE
TAX CLINIC**
FOR LOW-INCOME SENIORS

Lac La Biche County's FCSS is offering free tax preparation help for **low-income seniors**.

This tax clinic is by appointment only. To make an appointment, call Trish at 780-623-6726.



Information about Municipal Addressing

Lac La Biche County is currently reviewing and updating Municipal Address Bylaw 06-023.

The purpose of this Bylaw is to improve the safety, health and welfare of people and the protection of property by providing a consistent addressing system that emergency service providers can use.

In 2008, the County received a grant to install municipal address signs on all parcels that had existing development. Moving forward, every person who obtains a development permit for development in which an address has not been previously assigned and installed is responsible for purchasing and installing an address sign.

Did you know that there are fines associated with failing to post or display a municipal address sign, and for removing an existing one? Signage that is not displayed accordingly can incur a fine in the amount of \$100 as per Bylaw 06-023.

The first stage of this project required staff to compare homeowners' signs with the County's database in the hamlets and along our rural roads. It took about 2 months for staff to verify approximately 5,500 properties.

Now that the information has been compiled, landowners can expect to receive a letter which confirms their municipal address. As part of this project, landowners will also be receiving a magnet which they can note their address and display in their home as a quick reference.

For more information, please call (780) 623-6356.

Backflow Preventer subsidy program available to hamlet residents

Do you have a home in the hamlet of Lac La Biche or Plamondon and don't have a septic tank? Ready to install a backflow preventer and protect your home from the threat of sewer line backup?

Lac La Biche County wants to help you by providing up to \$1,000 to install a backflow preventer.

For more information or to arrange a pre-approval inspection, contact us at (780) 623-6730. You can also learn more by visiting www.laclabichedcounty.com/backflow.

FEATURED FCSS PROGRAMS

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

Thursday, March 9

Virtual Grocery Store Tour

Monday, March 16, 8-10 pm

Triple P - Dealing with Disobedience

Thursday, March 19

Cozy Corner - DIY Energy Balls

Wednesday, March 24

Baby Talk with Registered Dietician

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.



Children learn through everyday moments.

Remember to follow your child's lead and repeat new words over and over.





Dates to Remember

March 12, 19, and 26
UP Skills for Work
10 am - 12 noon

March 15
Steampunkery: A STEAM Program
4:30 pm

March 26
Ladies Night at Stuart Macpherson Library
6-8 pm

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

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

Due to COVID-19 regulations, changes have been made to Lac La Biche County facilities, programming and services. Visit laclabichcounty.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 intouch@laclabichcounty.com.

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



Lac La Biche County
welcoming by nature.



Canadian Publication Agreement
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ACTIVE LLBC

AN ONLINE PORTAL LINKING YOU TO YOUR FAVOURITE PROGRAMS

The Spring/Summer 2021 Community Activity Guide will be available in early April - stay tuned for a full listing of programs, activities, and events coming soon!



Lac La Biche County now has online (in addition to in-person and phone) customer service options for program registration, membership, and gift card purchases.

Online services feature:

- A mobile-friendly interface;
- The option to search for programs by day, age group or activity;
- Calendar reminders so you can add programs, classes or activities to your electronic calendar; and
- Online purchasing for gift cards, memberships, and more!

Visit www.boldcenter.ca/activellbc for more information, to create an account, register for a program or purchase a membership.

Call 780-623-3829 for assistance.



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