

# TOWN NEWS

Coalhurst, Alberta

July 2021



#### JULY

- Canada Day (office closed) 1
- 13 Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- Committee of the Whole 7:00 p.m. 20 27
- Committee of the Whole 7:00 p.m.

#### AUGUST

- 2 Heritage Day (office closed)
- Committee of the Whole 7:00 p.m. 3
- 10 Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.

\*\* Subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act of Alberta, Section 22(2)(a) and Section 38(z), information submitted to Town Council, including personal information, such as name, address and phone number of the writer may be disclosed to the public and the media at the public Council or Committee meeting.

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The Town News is published monthly by the Town of Coalhurst E-mail: main@coalhurst.ca Check Web site www.coalhurst.ca for details on locations for hard copy pick up and for submitting ads



#### NOMINATION PACKAGES

The next municipal election will be October 18, 2021. In accordance with new

legislation, Nomination Papers can be submitted to the Town Office during regular office hours anytime from January 1, 2021 to September 20, 2021. Nomination papers will not be accepted 12:00 after on September p.m. 20.

A candidate may withdraw his or her nomination at any time during the nomination period and up to 24 hours after the close of nominations (until 12:00 p.m. September 21, 2021).

If you are interested in running for office but would like more information please view the Nomination Package: nomination package 2021 election, also found on the Town of Coalhurst web site - www.coalhurst.ca.

Hard copies of the nomination package are also available for pick up at the Town Office during office hours.

Nomination papers can be found on the Government of Alberta website.

You can also:

Read the Alberta Municipal Affairs document • on Running for Municipal Office in Alberta.

Consult Municipal elections | Alberta.ca

#### **REGISTER NOW FOR THE 2021 BUDS AND BLOSSOMS ANNUAL** GARDEN CONTEST. (SEE PAGE 2)



# Coalhurst Buds and Blossoms Annual Garden Contest

"Beautifying our community together"

Spring into action! The Buds and Blossoms annual garden contest is a great way to get out, be more active and use your green thumb to put a little extra "green" in your pocket! So, if you are ready to bring fresh, new beauty and life to your neighbourhood, then we say... **GROW FOR IT!** 

The contest will have two categories and judging will take place for both

flower and vegetable gardens.

If you wish to enter the contest or nominate a resident and their garden, please contact the Town Office at 403-381-3033 to register and provide your information. Judging will take place on July 14<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:00pm.

Last date to enter is July 14 by noon.

Prizes will be awarded for  $1^{st}$ ,  $2^{nd}$  &  $3^{rd}$  in each category.

APlace to Call Mine

www.Coalhurst.ca

2

Looking to become a volunteer Big or Little (child in our programs)?

Big Brothers

HBRIDGE AND DISTRICT

**Big Sisters** 

#### **Traditional Mentoring:**

Bigs and Littles can do activities out in the community together with a commitment of 2-3 hours once a week for a minimum year.

#### Go Girls/Game On:

Ages 10-14. Runs for seven weeks, once a week, for 40 minutes. Bigs meet with a group of Littles, play games together, and talk about mental health and COVID-19 related challenges.

#### **Teen Mentoring:**

This program matches a High School student with a child in Grades 1 –
6. The matches participate virtually in planned activities such as crafts, challenges, trivia games, experiments, and much more!

For More Information: Please call 403.328.9355 or email at info.leth@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca



# **Family Services** Newsletter



# July 2021

# What's Happening at FCSS?

#### Parents & Caregivers Online

#FiveStarFriday Caregiver Café Fridays - 1:00pm FCSS Facebook Pages

Please keep checking the FCSS Website for more summer programming.

#### Summer Fun Bag Schedule

Nobleford	И	/ed.
Picture Butte	N	/ed.
Coalhurst	N	/ed
Barnwell	M	on.
Coaldale	Т	ues.
Vauxhall	Т	hurs
Enchant	Т	hurs
Grassy Lake	Т	hurs
Hays	Т	hurs

July 7- Aug 25 - 8:30-9:30 July 7- Aug 25 - 10:00-11:00 July 7- Aug 25 -11:30-12:30 July 5 - Aug 23 - 10:00-11:00 July 6- Aug 24 - 11:00-12:00 July 8, 29 / Aug 4, 25 -9:30-10:30 July 15 & Aug 12 - 9:30-10:30 s July 22 & Aug 19 - 9:30-10;30 s July 29 & Aug 26 - 9:30-10:30

#### Youth

#### Youth DO Crew Grades 10-12 Kaleidoscope

Special Events July 1 - Canada Day Scavenger Hunt (Taber) - 9:00am - 6:00pm July 10 - Coaldale Chalk and Walk at Main Street - 10:00am - 3:00pm July 24 - Coaldale Chalk and Walk at the HUB - 10:00am - 3:00pm

#### Coaldale

July 12 - 4:00 to 6:00 July 26 - 4:00 to 6:00 Taber July 22 - 4:00 to 6:00 Raymond July 21 - 4:00 to 6:00 Coalhurst July 15 - 1:00 to 3:00 July 29 - 1:00 to 3:00

Ages 13-18 Kaleidoscope Young Writers Club (KYWC): Writing Challenge Kickoff Party - Fri July 2 - 6:00 - 8:00 PM Artist Talk: Intro to Cosplay Wed., July 7 - 5:30 - 7:00 PM Dungeons & Dragons (D & D) Kickoff Fri July 9 - 2:00 - 4:00 PM KYWC: Writing Night Fri July 16 - 6:00 - 8:00 PM Art Jam & Games Night Thurs July 22 - 6:00 - 7:30 PM D & D - Fri. July 23 - 2:00 - 4:00 PM KYWC: Author Talk from A.C. Clarke Wed July 28 - 2:00 - 3:30 PM

KYWC: Writing Night Fri July 30 - 6:00 - 8:00 PM KYWC: Wrap Up Party & Awards Sat July 31 - 2:00 - 4:00 PM

Register: Shannon.rawluk@fcss.ca

Register: Jamie.lewis@fcss.ca

### Check out our website: fcss.ca

#### Practical Tips for Summer

- Schedule fun- Create a family activity list and put it on the calendar for everyone to see.
- Avoid over schedulingchildren (and parents) need to be able to unwind and have some downtime.
- It's all about connection-take time each day to connect with each child. It doesn't have to be big or expensive.
- Try something new encourage your child to try something new over the summer but be careful not to overschedule.
- Limit technology- Find alternative things for kids to do other than technology. Reading books, going on outings, playing games, baking, etc.
- Maintain structure and boundaries-Freedom from strict school routines can be wonderful but try to maintain order in the family by sticking to regular bedtimes and maintaining chores.



#### Lead Management in Water Distribution Systems

Health Canada published a new lead limit for the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality in 2019. The new guideline for lead introduced two fundamental changes from how lead has been managed in drinking water since 1992. The first change is the **maximum acceptable concentration (MAC)** for lead was lowered to 5ug/L (micro grams per liter) from the previous MAC of 10ug/L. More importantly, the second change is the point of compliance for lead. The point of compliance is now at the customers tap and no longer in the water distribution system.

In January 2020, Alberta Environment and Parks adopted the new lead MAC of 5ug/L and the new point of compliance. These regulatory changes have led to the addition of testing and reporting requirements for water system owners to Alberta Environment and Parks.

By changing the point of compliance for lead testing, we are now taking into account the impact that household plumbing and fixtures have on the amount of possible lead exposure in drinking water.

In accordance with the new regulatory requirements, the Town of Coalhurst will be testing the water in individual houses at the point of consumption for lead. Testing will be done following the Alberta Environment and Parks Regulations and Guidelines for Managing Lead in Municipal Drinking Water Systems.

Houses will be selected at random using a water system assessment and stratum grouping. If you have any questions about the testing of lead in drinking water, please contact the Town of Coalhurst at 403-381-3033 during regular business hours.

Addresses of houses as well as test result for lead collected from samples will be collected under the authority of the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act, Potable Water regulation 16(1)* for the sole purpose of conducting the waterworks system lead survey of tap water. Test results and address <u>only</u> will be disclosed to Alberta Environment and Parks. Your personal information will not be shared any further unless you provide additional consent to do so.

#### **Ownership of Service Lines**

It is important to note ownership of water service lines. The municipality owns the portion of the service line to the property line or the water shut off valve in the front of the property. The portion of the service line from the shut off valve to the home is owned by the homeowner.

The Town of Coalhurst water distribution system was installed in the early 1980's, lead service lines were no longer being utilized at this time. The Town of Coalhurst does not own any lead pipes. You can check to see what pipe material your home has for the portion of service line from the property line to the basement. This portion is owned by the homeowner and would have been installed by the home builder.

1. Check the color of the pipe coming out of the ground and into the water meter, you may have to lightly sand the surface to expose the fresh metal of the pipe. If the pipe is:

> Copper (the color of a penny): It is likely copper pipe. Bluish green or black: It is likely plastic. Dark grey: It is likely galvanized iron or lead.

2. If it is Dark grey, check the hardness of the pipe.

If you think it could be lead, try etching gently into the pipe. Lead is a relatively soft metal and scratches easily. To avoid damage, don't attempt gentle etching if you think the line could be plastic.

There is an instructional video on **EPCOR.com/Lead** that provides more detailed instructions on how to check for lead.

If you think the service line may be made of lead you can also contact the Town of Coalhurst at 403-381-3033 during business hours, and one of our water distribution operators may assist you in identifying your water service line material.

#### Lead Exposure

Although the lead MAC is 5  $\mu$ g/L, there is no known level of lead exposure that is considered safe and efforts to reduce lead levels as low as achievable are strongly encouraged by Health Canada. Pregnant women and children under six years-of-age are the populations most vulnerable to lead. Women who have been or are exposed to lead can in turn expose their fetus or infant during pregnancy and breastfeeding. Children are more affected by exposure to lead than adults are because they absorb more ingested lead than adults do. In children and fetuses, lead can cause adverse effects on neurological development and behaviour in children, including reduction of intelligence quotient (IQ). In adults, lead exposure can cause increased blood pressure or kidney problems. Exposure to lead in drinking water is a concern only if the contaminants are ingested.

Inhalation and dermal absorption during bathing and showering are not significant routes of exposure.

#### How to reduce exposure to lead from drinking water

#### Flush out your pipes before consuming the water

- Has water been sitting in your pipes for several hours? Run the tap until it's cold (about one minute) before drinking or cooking with the water from that tap.
- Only use cold tap water for drinking or cooking, since hot water increases the leaching of lead and other metals from your plumbing.
- Clean your taps monthly: Every month, inspect the aerators or screens at the tap. If you find debris, clean it out this will remove any particles that may contain lead, and inspect more frequently If you do not find debris, continue to inspect monthly.
- Brass faucets and valves can contain some lead These can be replaced with fittings that are certified to the standard on low lead content.
- A household water filter at the tap can effectively remove lead from your water, this is recommended as a temporary solution.
- The filter must be installed and maintained properly, or it could become ineffective.
- Test your water for lead before installation and during use to confirm the filter is working.
- Make sure that any device you purchase is certified to the NSF International standard for removal of lead.

#### Other Resources and Links:

https://myhealth.alberta.ca/Alberta/Pages/Common-questions-about-lead-and-drinking-water.aspx

https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/environmental-workplace-health/reports-publications/water-quality/what-about-lead.html

#### https://open.alberta.ca/publications/lead-and-drinking-water-from-lead-service-lines

The Town of Coalhurst will be randomly testing houses for lead in drinking water. This will be done following the Alberta Environment and Parks Regulations and Guidelines for Managing Lead in Municipal Drinking Water Systems.

If you would like to complete your own test for lead at your residence, a list of Alberta labs that are ISO/IEC 17025 accredited for lead in water can be provided. In addition, other labs may be used if they meet the proper requirements.



TOWN of COALHURST

# ATTENTION

#### Please note, the **DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**

# will be **AWAY** from

AUGUST 30, 2021 - SEPTEMBER 10, 2021

Permit Applications and Compliance Letters

## WILL NOT BE PROCESSED

during this time

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RA

Thanks for your understanding and cooperation

PER

BOX 456, COALHURST, ALBERTA TOL OVO TELEPHONE: (403) 381-3033 FAX: (403) 381-2924 e-mail: <u>main@coalhurst.ca</u> <u>www.coalhurst.ca</u>

#### NOTICE OF THE 2021 PROPERTY TAX PENALTY CHANGES

The Town of Coalhurst Council has approved changes to the 2021 property tax penalty dates, similar to measures last year, to help residents impacted by the ongoing financial effects of COVID-19.

On May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Council passed Bylaw #423-21, the COVID-19 Tax Penalty Amendment Bylaw. This bylaw will push the 12% penalty date for any unpaid 2021 Property Taxes to October 1, 2021. It also removes the 6% penalty for 2021, normally applied on November 1<sup>st</sup> each year. Previous tax arrears will still be penalized as normal at 1.5% on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month.

This does not change the Property Tax due date of July 31, 2021 and property owners are encouraged to pay all or part of their balance before that date if they are able to do so.

#### Kyle Bullock, CPA, CMA





#### NOTICE FOR ELECTION WORKERS

The Town of Coalhurst is presently accepting applications from individuals interested in acting as election officials for the 2021 Municipal Election. Election Day, if required, will be on Monday, October 18, 2021 and an Advance Vote will be held on a date to be determined, again if required. Applicants must be at least 18 years old and be available from 9:00 a.m. until completion of the ballot count on Election Day and for the Advance Vote. Training will be provided and a remuneration will be paid.

Please submit your resume by August 5, 2021 to:

R.K. (Kim) Hauta Returning Officer Town of Coalhurst Box 456 Coalhurst, AB TOL 0V0

Fax: (403) 381-2924 e-mail: <u>rkhauta@coalhurst.ca</u>

#### TOWN OF COALHURST APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES/BOARDS

The Council of the Town of Coalhurst invites applications from residents, and surrounding district individuals, interested in sitting on the following Committees/Boards:

- 1) Director of Emergency Management
- 2) Disaster Social Services/Transportation Services Coordinator for the Municipal Emergency Management Agency

Please submit your application, in writing, to Town of Coalhurst, as soon as possible, via one of the below listed methods: Mail to: Box 456 Coalhurst, Alberta TOL 0V0

Fax: 403-381-2924 e-mail: <u>main@coalhurst.ca</u> or, drop it off at the Town Office: 100 – 51 Avenue

For more information, contact: Kyle Bullock, Director of Corporate Services <u>kbullock@coalhurst.ca</u>



Sign Up for Emergency Contact System in Coalhurst

The Town of Coalhurst registered for an Emergency Contact system that will alert residents during local emergency situations by phone, email, and/or text. This **"CodeRED"** system was seen as an efficient means to contact as many residents as quickly as possible in case of local flooding, fires, train derailments, or other disasters.

If you haven't done so already, the Town is urging residents to input their information into the system so they can be notified in case of Emergency by email, text, or a phone call. A link to CodeRED is up at <u>www.coalhurst.ca</u> where residents can click to input their contact information and select their preferred methods of contact. An app is also available to receive notifications on their phone.

If residents do not have computer access, they can fill out a form at the Town Office to register as well.

It's hoped that most, if not all, of the residents will be able to sign up for this important service. It will hopefully not need to be used very often, but when it is used, the more people registered, the more effective it will be.



# DOG GROOMING

AND

# TRAINING

All Breed Dog Grooming – Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays

Special care given to your family member:

- dogs are not crated, hand dried, short grooming time, provided with play opportunities

Training: Class and Private Training in Puppy, Obedience, Agility,

Located just across the highway from Coalhurst beside Noble Diesel

403-393-1269 OR 403-381-6890

Perfectpooches.com

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Bring this coupon and get \$10 off of your first grooming appointment.





