

TOWN NEWS

FEBRUARY 2024



Town of
Coalhurst

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Mayor's Message

Hello residents of Coalhurst!

We kicked off the year with some new Council committees to work towards the goals laid out in the strategic plan. We still have some availability for public members who would like to be involved! If you're interested in joining our dedicated team, volunteer applications can be found on our Town's website (www.coalhurst.ca). We greatly appreciate your participation and would love for you to get involved in shaping the future of our community.

On another note, I'd like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all the residents of Coalhurst who took the time and effort to diligently clear their sidewalks after the heavy snowstorms we experienced throughout January. Your dedication not only ensures the safety of yourselves and others but also contributes to the overall cleanliness and accessibility of our beloved town.

To those amazing individuals who went above and beyond by lending a helping hand to clear their neighbours' sidewalks and driveways, you are extraordinary. Whether through our Snow Angel program or in any other way, your acts of kindness genuinely embody community spirit, and I commend you for your generosity.

As always, I want to remind you that your voice matters. If you have any concerns, suggestions, or ideas that you think we should address, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or any member of the Town Council. Your feedback is not only welcome but essential in helping us serve you better and make informed decisions that benefit our entire community. We are here to listen and work alongside you.

Thank you for being such an engaged and caring community. It's an honour and privilege to serve as your Mayor, and I'm excited about the bright future we are building together.

Warm regards,

Mayor Lyndsay Montana



TOWN NOTICES

FEBRUARY 2024



COUNCIL MEETINGS

February Meetings for Council and Committees:

- February 6: Regular Meeting of Council
- February 13: Committee of the Whole
- February 20: Regular Meeting of Council

For meeting information including scheduled dates, minutes, and agendas, visit: <https://coalhurst.ca/government/council-committee-meetings/>

NEWS FROM THE TOWN

We're excited to announce the Wetlands trail is officially open to the public and we encourage you to check it out! If you do visit the area, please remember to stay on the path (that includes your pets). The area around the path has been seeded and needs time to become established and grow. Walking on it too soon (even in winter) can cause damage and require re-seeding. Also, even if we get more (very) cold weather this winter, the ice is not safe for skating nor for people/pets to be walking on it, so please stay off the water.

A lot of great work has happened at the Wetlands but we're not done yet! We're now working on plans to add public amenities and possibly some landscaping to make this a great recreational space for residents. What that entails... we're not sure yet. That's because a newly formed **Wetlands Enhancement Advisory Committee** will be coming up with recommendations for Council's consideration. There's still room for one more public member to join this committee, so if you're interested in helping to shape this part of our community, visit www.coalhurst.ca to learn more.



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COMMUNITY CENTRE BOOKING REQUESTS

Are you looking to book an event at the Coalhurst & District Community Centre? Then we've got great news.

We've made it much easier to submit a booking request by adding a new form to the Town's website (www.coalhurst.ca).

You'll find the new form under the 'Popular Links' listed on the homepage, or by hovering over 'Services', then 'Facilities and Parks' and then clicking 'Community Centre Booking Request Form.' It'll take about five minutes to complete and submit the form online.

Once Town staff have received your request, we'll get in touch with you to confirm some information and discuss further details of your event. We look forward to helping you plan great events in 2024.



SNOW ❄️ MUCH FUN AT MINER'S PARK

After a warm and dry December, we weren't sure if winter was truly going to come this year, but boy, did it ever arrive in January! A HUGE thank you goes out to the **Coalhurst Volunteer Fire Department** for their work to flood the outdoor rink in (very, very, very) cold temperatures. Also, a great big thanks to our **Town Public Works crew** for clearing loads of snow so folks could enjoy the ice!

SIDEWALKS, DRIVEWAYS AND GUTTERS... OH MY!

Over here at the Town Office, we're not meteorologists and we won't even try to be. So let's just say that February *could* bring more snow, or it might not. It might be lots of the white stuff, or just a little.

What we do know is that if Old Man Winter *does* decide to bring another big dump to the area, our crew is ready to tackle roads and pathways again to keep our community moving. And with that, we want to offer some friendly reminders about what residents and business owners also need to do when it snows.

KEEPING THINGS CLEAR

After a new snowfall, residents and business owners need to make sure the sidewalk adjacent to their property is cleared of snow and ice within 48 hours. We understand it can be a lot of work and some of that snow can be tough to move, but it's vital for keeping our community safe and accessible.

If you are a senior or someone with a mobility issue that makes it too difficult to shovel your driveway and/or sidewalk, we also want to make sure you're aware help is available through the **FCSS Snow Angels program** (check out the full page ad later in this newsletter).



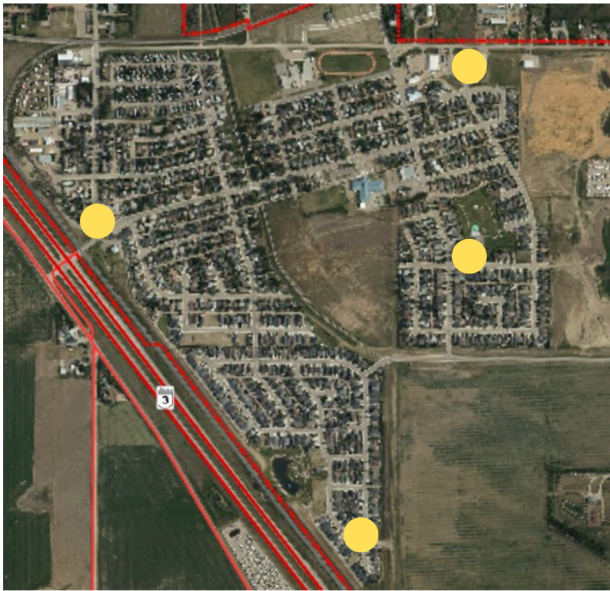
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KEEPING THINGS SAFE

Once we get back to warmer temperatures and the snow starts to melt and re-freeze, you might find the sidewalk outside your place becomes icy. If so, the Town provides winter sand (free of charge) that can be used for traction on sidewalks. There are four (4) locations with sand boxes around town that can be accessed any time. These boxes are located at the following places (see yellow dots on the map below):

- Coalhurst Esso
- Coalhurst recycling depot (702 55 Ave)
- Imperial Meadows Park
- The south end of Sundance



KEEPING THINGS DRY

Finally, if we have a big melt happen we can sometimes find pooling along streets if grates and catch basins get covered. Town staff work diligently to keep these areas clear of snow but sometimes a fast melt can mean they get covered before we can get back to an area.

If you see slush and water pooling around these areas in your neighbourhood or if your road gutters are full, please consider clearing the slush and snow out of the way to help with drainage into the storm system.

SUMMER PROGRAMMING IN COALHURST

This is quite the off-ramp for our last discussion in this newsletter, but let's pivot to *summer* for a moment. The sun, the warm breeze, the ice cream cones, the kids out of school and looking for something to do...

Some of the feedback Town Council and staff received during the most recent budget survey was that residents would like to see more activities available for youth in Coalhurst.

Throughout the year, we have the **DO Crew** and **Youth Drop-in Centre** available (offered by FCSS), but Council would like to offer other fun options throughout the summer months. We're working on some ideas but before we finalize plans, we're looking for feedback from Coalhurst kids, teens and adults.

We have a quick, four-question online survey to help identify the needs in our community and we hope you'll take part. To take the survey, visit www.coalhurst.ca or scan the QR code below. **The survey is open until Wednesday, February 14 at 11:45 pm.**



EVENT CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Youth Drop-in (FCSS) 3:30 - 5:00 pm	2 Stay & Play (FCSS) 9:30 - 11:30 am Bookmobile @ CES 12:00 - 5:00 pm	3
4 Drop-in volleyball @ CES (age 15+) 6:00 - 8:00 pm	5 Infant Massage (FCSS, RSVP) 10:30 - 11:30 am DO Crew (FCSS) 3:30 - 5:30 pm	6 Council Meeting 6:00 - 9:00 PM	7 Move it! Move it! (FCSS) Drop-in 9:30 - 11:00 am	8 Family Night (FCSS) 6:00 - 7:30 pm	9 Stay & Play (FCSS) 9:30 - 11:30 am	10
11 Drop-in volleyball @ CES (age 15+) 6:00 - 8:00 pm	12 Infant Massage (FCSS, RSVP) 10:30 - 11:30 am DO Crew (FCSS) 3:30 - 5:30 pm	13 Committee of the Whole 6:00 - 9:00 PM	14 Move it! Move it! (FCSS) Drop-in 9:30 - 11:00 am	15 Youth Drop-in (FCSS) 3:30 - 5:00 pm Family Night (FCSS) 6:00 - 7:30 pm	16 Stay & Play (FCSS) 9:30 - 11:30 am Bookmobile @ CES 12:00 - 5:00 pm	17
18 Drop-in volleyball @ CES (age 15+) 6:00 - 8:00 pm	19 FAMILY DAY DO Crew (FCSS) 3:30 - 5:30 pm	20 Council Meeting 6:00 - 9:00 PM	21 Family Open Play (FCSS) Drop-in @ Community Centre For kids age 0 - 12 9:30 - 11:00 am	22	23	24
25 Drop-in volleyball @ CES (age 15+) 6:00 - 8:00 pm	26 Infant Massage (FCSS, RSVP) 10:30 - 11:30 am DO Crew (FCSS) 3:30 - 5:30 pm	27	28 Open Gym (FCSS) Drop-in 9:30 - 11:00 am	29 Family Night (FCSS) 6:00 - 7:30 pm		

THIS MONTH, CHOOSE KINDNESS

Did you know that the month of February includes two nationally recognized days that aim to celebrate and promote kindness? February 17th is Random Acts of Kindness Day and February 28th is Pink Shirt Day, which is an annual event against bullying.

Wearing pink on Pink Shirt Day is a great way to promote kindness, but what are some other kind acts that you can do throughout the month of February and even throughout the year?

Here are a few ideas:

- Help a neighbor by shoveling their sidewalk or help them bring in their groceries. These efforts can make a difference to them, especially if they are experiencing mobility issues.
- Leave an encouraging note for someone to find (i.e., co-workers' desk or the staff kitchen).
- Tell a teacher, first responder and/or service provider that you appreciate them.
- Hold the door open for a stranger.
- Pick up litter off the ground.
- Help your sibling do a chore or with their homework.
- Include someone into the conversation if you notice they are alone at an event or school.

Resources for those that are experiencing bullying:

- FCSS Counselling Intake at 587-370-3728 (call or text)
- Kids help phone (a toll-free phone available for any youth) 1-800-668-6868
- Alberta bullying helpline 310-1818 (call or text)
- Mental Health hotline 1-877-303-2642
- Child abuse hotline 1-800-387-5437

Trinity Walker is the Youth Development Coordinator at FCSS.

To learn about FCSS programs visit our website: www.fcss.ca

Submitted by:
Trinity Walker
Youth Development Coordinator



SERVING:

Barnwell | Barons | Coaldale | Coalhurst | Lethbridge County | County of Warner | Coutts | Milk River
M.D. of Taber | Nobleford | Picture Butte | Raymond | Stirling | Taber | Vauxhall | Warner

Snow Angels –The neighbourly thing to do

What is the Snow Angels Program?

The Snow Angels Program aims to encourage neighbors to help one another by volunteering to shovel snow for community members who are unable to clear their own sidewalks.

Who are Snow Angels?

Snow Angels are individuals, youth, seniors, families, community groups, and corporate volunteers who voluntarily shovel snow for community members needing assistance.

Why become a volunteer Snow Angel?

- Get to know your neighbors
- Help someone who will truly appreciate your efforts
- Keep sidewalks and driveways safe for all
- Get some fresh air
- Exercise
- Much more!

When does the program run?

Snow Angel signs will be clearly displayed outside of the home from November until mid-April.

Who provides the tools?

Residents are encouraged to allow volunteers to use their shovel, ice chippers, ice melt, etc. Please have the tools easily accessible for volunteers.

How it works:

1. Residents in need of help can contact FCSS Volunteer Services at 403-915-7063 indicating they need a hand with snow removal this winter. They will be asked to complete an application form.

To be eligible, the applicant must meet the following criteria:

- Must reside at the property.
- Have a condition or disability preventing them from participating in snow removal activities.
- Not have any other able-bodied person residing in their home to assist.

2. Once the application has been received and approved, you will receive a sign to display. We will deliver the sign and set it up. Please note that if a volunteer does not come to shovel, cleaning the sidewalk is still the responsibility of the property owner. Your walkways must be cleared 48 hours after snowfall. Placement of a Snow Angel sign is not a guarantee that snow will be removed.

3. After a snowfall, volunteers can look for Snow Angel signs around their community and simply shovel the walks.

- Volunteers will shovel all accessible parts of the sidewalk and driveway, up to the front door of the residence.
- Volunteers will NOT shovel areas of grass, backyards, or alleyways.

4. At the end of each month, Snow Angel volunteers are asked to submit their volunteer hours online or by phone. All volunteers who participate in the program will be entered into a draw to win a Block Party with the NeighbourGood Trailer as well as monthly prize draws. Bonus entries are available for Snow Angel volunteers who take a selfie or group photo of a job well done and post it on social media. Make sure you tag FCSS!



ADVERTISEMENTS

2023 was a very successful year. Thanks to the *Town of Coalhurst Community Grant* and *The Royal Canadian Legion Coalhurst Branch 273* for all the support. Thanks also to our members for their participation, organizing and supporting the activities that were planned. Our Club could not exist without your contribution.

We look forward to another year of socializing and fun. If you would like to meet your neighbours and be involved locally, please join us.

For more information call **Les (403) 308-8046** or you can find us on Facebook: **Coalhurst 55 Plus Society**.



YOU'RE INVITED

**to join the
55 Plus Club!**

Mondays

2 pm

Gentle stretching and mobility exercises.



**Wednesdays
& Fridays**

**10 am
- to -
Noon**

Join us weekly to play Crib.



Wednesdays

**7 pm
- to -
10 pm**

Shuffleboard, ping pong, crafts, jigsaw puzzles, followed by 1000 rummy.



Saturdays

**7 pm
- to -
10 pm**

Join us weekly to play 1000 rummy.



Coffee and snacks available.

Drop-ins welcome. Fee of \$1 per week and crib players pay an additional 50-cents each day we play.

Photo on the left: On January 19, 2024, 55+ Club member Shilo Salzman was dealt the perfect Cribbage 29 hand. ♠♥♣♦ (Odds of this hand are 1 in 649,740 hands.)

Lower level of Coalhurst Legion building (5205 6th St)
Enter off the back alley.
Accessible parking available near door.

Not 55 yet? Don't worry! We welcome anyone over the age of 45. Join us for social activities and conversation.

ADVERTISEMENTS

The Royal Canadian Legion Coalhurst Branch 273

5205 - 6 Street Coalhurst, Alberta T0L 0V0 Phone (403) 381-3080

OPENING HOURS WED 5 pm • THUR 5 pm • FRI 4:30 • SAT 3 pm
Closed SUN, MON, TUE

♥ February 2024 Newsletter ♥

Wednesday Dart League

Thursday Dart Sharks and Pool League

Friday Meat Draws 6, 6:30 & 7 pm
Chase The King 7 pm
Jitney Darts 7 pm Start
All welcome!!

Saturday Free Pool
Smack the Jack 6 pm
New DRAW time!!

\$6 Burgers

February 18 & 29, 5-6:30
Kids get a free pop with meal!

Roast Beef Dinner

February 24
Sign up by February 21!
(We will need at least 10 persons
signed-up to proceed with the dinner)

Superbowl Potluck February 11

Sign-up Sheet at the Branch

A Sweetheart Raffle

Tickets	Draw
3 for \$5	Feb 9



Win two tickets to The Voices of Legends!
Best Seats in the House for the event!
A bottle of Champagne
to be taken home and enjoyed!

Horse Races !

February 24

Hearts thumping ...
Hooves stomping ...

Come place your bets!



♪ **BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!** ♪

Voices of Legends February 10

Purchase \$25 tickets at the Branch during regular
hours OR at the door the night of the event.

Doors Open 3 pm Show starts at 7 pm



We now have only one bingo per month. You *do not*
need to be a member to work bingo. Money received
helps both our Club and the Community.



Next Bingo: February 25th

Please call Wendy to Volunteer (403) 634-5262



Veterans who need assistance can send an email to the attention of the Service Officer at legionbm273@gmail.com

Through your donation to the Legion Poppy Fund, the Legion provides financial assistance and support to Veterans, including the Canadian Armed Forces and their families, who are in need. Donations are gratefully accepted at any time.

**We have complimentary rooms for Non-Profit organizations,
and rental space available for private functions or events.**

ADVERTISEMENTS



The Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 273 Coalhurst

5205 6 St Coalhurst, AB T0L 0V0

403-381-3080



We are starting to look for anyone in the community who is interested in purchasing a Memorial Banner for their loved ones.

The banners are meant to honour the Veterans and show community support.

If you are interested, please contact **Krystal at the Coalhurst Legion Branch (403-381-3080).**

The banners will be hung from light standards along 51st Ave with help from the Town during the month of November. Thank you to any and all who may be interested.



County of Lethbridge Community Learning Council

Office phone: 403-345-6009

Phone/text/WhatsApp : 403-915-3145

Email: clclcoffice@gmail.com

Website: communityclasses.ca

Visit: 2014 - 18 Street, Coaldale
(located in the Coaldale Library)



Adult English Language Classes



Coaldale

Shaughnessy

Picture Butte

Do you need help with your

Resume?

The County of Lethbridge
Community Learning Council
for adults in Lethbridge County.



Resumes ready within 4 days

Daytime classes in Coaldale and Shaughnessy offer free childcare for children 18 months to 6 years old while you attend class.

