



YOUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM BIG LAKES COUNTY
OCTOBER 2021 / ISSUE #38

BIG LAKES CONNECTIONS

Career Opportunities

Big Lakes County is hiring a full time Home Support Worker. Apply on our website.

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Water Line Flushing

The Utility Department will be flushing water lines from October 18-22, 2021.

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Elections

The Municipal Elections will be held alongside Senate & Referendum votes on Oct 18.

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Members at Large

Are you interested in serving your community? Submit an application to be on a municipal board.

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BIG LAKES DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Fall is in full swing and Big Lakes County's admin staff are busy preparing the upcoming Municipal Election—don't forget to get out and vote on October 18. Got any last minute development applications? Better get them in fast! La Niña weather conditions could develop in the coming months, meaning a colder and snowier winter season across the Prairies.

Career Opportunities

Big Lakes County is seeking a qualified, highly motivated, and organized individual to fill the full-time position of Home Support Worker within the Family & Community Services Department. Primarily working out of the Jousard office this position is responsible for assisting senior and disabled residents of Big Lakes County and the Town of High Prairie. For more information and to apply visit our website.

Water Line Flushing

The Big Lakes County Utility Department will be flushing water lines in all of the Hamlets and the Rural Water Co-ops between October 18-22, 2021. Customers may experience low water pressure and/or discolored water. If discoloring occurs, let water run until its natural clarity before consuming. Questions or concerns may be directed to the Utility Department at the Big Lakes County Administration office at 780 523 5955.

Fire Prevention Week

This year, Fire Prevention Week is October 3 - 9, 2021 and the topic is "Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety".

"It's important to learn the different sounds of smoke and carbon monoxide alarms," shares Deputy Fire Chief Luci Martinson, *"When an alarm makes noise—a beeping sound or a chirping sound—you must take action! Make sure everyone in the home understands the sounds of the alarms and knows how to respond."*

Stay tuned to find out what activities your local fire district will be doing for Fire Prevention week on the Big Lakes County Facebook page and website.

Safety Codes Service Provider

As of August 16th the new Safety Codes service provider for Big Lakes County is The Inspections Group (inspectionsgroup.com). Superior Safety Codes Inc. will close out all open permits obtained through their agency prior to August 16, 2021.

DATES TO MARK IN YOUR CALENDARS



Advanced Polls Open (Municipal, Senate & Referendum)
Regular Council Meeting
Organizational Meeting
Municipal Planning Commission Meeting
Regular Council Meeting

October 7th
October 13th
October 26th
October 27th
October 27th

Elections

Municipal Election

Big Lakes County's electoral structure consists of nine (9) divisions in which residents, in their respective divisions, vote for the local Councillor. Each Council member serves a four-year term. To view the list of official candidates for your ward visit our website.

Senate & Referendum

In addition to the Municipal Election, Big Lakes County will be hosting a Senate Election and Referendum Vote for the province.

In the Senate Election, electors vote for the senate candidates that they wish to put forward to fill future vacancies related to Alberta in the Senate of Canada. These names are put forward by the Government of Alberta for consideration by the federal government. The Referendum Vote will contain two questions: one on equalization and another on daylight saving time. Both referendum questions allow for a 'yes' vote or a 'no' vote and are binding on the provincial government, based on the majority of votes cast.

For more information on the Senate Election and Referendum Vote go to the Elections Alberta website.

Important Dates

Big Lakes County will be offering one advanced voting day: Thursday, October 7th from 10 am to 4 pm. Polling stations will be set up at the Big Lakes County Administration office (Wards 1 to 9), and Faust Community Gathering Place (Ward 4, 5, and 6).

Election Day

Election Day is Monday, October 18th. Polls will be open from 10 am to 8 pm. For a full list of polling stations visit our website.

Where do I vote?

A full list of polling locations to vote in each election/vote is on our website. Remember to:

- › Bring along accepted ID, to make the voting process easier when you go to vote.
- › Wear a mask. Electors must wear a mask as required by the province. If you forget to bring

your own mask, we will provide you with one.

- › Bring your own pen or pencil to mark your ballot, though single-use pencils will also be available.

Members at Large Appointments

Big Lakes County is seeking member at large appointments for various municipal boards and committees in our community. The deadline to submit your application is October 15. Applications can be found on our website. Appointments will be made during the organizational meeting of Council scheduled for Tuesday, October 26 @ 10:00 a.m.

Community Grant Applications

Big Lakes County's Operating Grant program is available for eligible community organizations to assist with offsetting annual operating expenses. The deadline to submit your application is October 31. Each year we fund approximately 30 community organizations throughout our County. For more information on how to apply visit our website.

Snowplow Agreements

Big Lakes County is currently accepting applications for Private Driveway Snowplowing for County residents for the 2021/2022 winter season. The cost for snowplowing will be charged at the current County rate with a minimum charge of \$74.00, after the first ½ hour the rate will be \$148.00 per hour. Agreements can be found on our website and submitted to a County office.

Big Lakes Christmas Angels

Do you need a little help this Christmas? Each year the Big Lakes Christmas Angels program provides Christmas hampers to residents who meet income requirements. Applications are available at all Big Lakes FCSS offices beginning October 1.

The Big Lakes Christmas Angels Program is 100% funded by donations, so please consider giving to the program and helping residents in our community if you are able.

WINTER HOURS

Transfer Station winter hours - October 1 - March 30

Big Lakes County Transfer Stations are open Wednesday & Sunday from 11 am to 6 pm.

The Regional Landfill is open Monday, Thursday & Saturday from 10am to 5pm.

Help keep our County clean by properly securing your load and bringing your waste to a Transfer Station or Regional Landfill.

If caught illegally dumping waste, residents can face fines. If you witness someone dumping illegally, write down as much information as you can and report it to Big Lakes County.

Please note: the Transfer Stations are closed Christmas Day. The Regional Landfill is closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Years Day, and Easter Sunday.