



YOUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM BIG LAKES COUNTY
MAY 2021 / ISSUE #33
#GOBIGLAKES

BIG LAKES CONNECTIONS

DO YOU LIKE FREE MONEY?

Do you own a business in Big Lakes County? Then you may be eligible for grant funding from the Provincial or Federal Governments. If you would like to be made aware of upcoming grants, please email Brett Hawken, Director of Community and Protective Services, at bhawken@biglakescounty.ca or call 780-523-5955.

RETURN OF SERVICE BURSARY

Attention post-secondary students! Did you know you could receive up to \$3,000 from Big Lakes County? If you're planning on working within the County boundaries after graduating, then you should apply for the Return of Service Bursary. The deadline to apply is **May 15**.

HAZARD REDUCTION BURNING

Please be advised that Big Lakes County Fire Services will be doing hazard reduction burning in all the Hamlets until the end of May. This type of burning mitigates the potential of interface fires burning through our communities; therefore, protecting homes and infrastructure. If you have any questions or concerns, please call Jason Cottingham, Big Lakes County Fire Chief at 78-523-8778.

2021 TAXES

Property Assessment and Tax Notices will mailed out in month of **May 2021**. Property Taxes are due and payable on or before Wednesday, June 30, 2021. If you don't receive your property tax notice by the end of May 2021 or if your address has changes, please contact our office at 780-523-5955.

Tax Installment Payment Plan (TIPP)

TIPP allows you to pay your property taxes on a monthly basis instead of one payment in June. Payments will be withdrawn from your bank account automatically through a pre-authorized withdrawal. Call our office you if have any questions.



Big Lakes County Rural Public Transportation System

Big Lakes Bus

EVERY TUESDAY	To High Prairie High Prairie & County pick-ups	\$10.00 High Prairie residents \$20.00 County residents
EVERY WEDNESDAY	Within High Prairie High Prairie pick-ups only	\$10.00 High Prairie residents
EVERY THURSDAY	To Slave Lake High Prairie & County pick-ups	\$20.00 High Prairie & County residents

Effective May 2021, the Big Lakes Bus will no longer make monthly trips to Grande Prairie.



PLEASE NOTE:
As a public transportation service we operate on a fixed schedule.
All seats must be booked in advance.



Book your seat today!

1-877-925-2537

For more information call Tori at 780-776-3811
COVID-19 protocols remain in place

WALL OF FAME

Do you know someone in Big Lakes County who has been involved in activities long-term that provide a benefit to your community, bring credit or distinction to your community or enhance life in your community and whom you believe needs to be recognized for their long-term contributions? Nominate them for the Big Lakes County Wall of Fame Award before **May 19th**.

IMPORTANT DATES



Regular Council Meeting
Agricultural Service Board
Victoria Day (Admin & FCSS offices closed)
Municipal Planning Commission Meeting
Regular Council Meeting
Regular Council Meeting

May 12th
May 14th
May 24th
May 26th
May 26th
June 9th

AG RENTAL EQUIPMENT

The County has various pieces of equipment available for rent to assist residents in their farming operations. The goal of this program is to provide reasonably priced options for hard to source or cost prohibitive equipment.

Due to COVID-19, the County has updated the rental equipment procedure to ensure the proper health and safety measures are in place. At this time, only residents of Big Lakes are allowed to rent equipment. To view the rental equipment or updated rental equipment procedure, visit our website.

SHELTERBELT PROGRAM

Big Lakes County has a variety of trees for sale. Place your order by contacting Kendra Kozdrocki, Assistant Agricultural Fieldperson at KKozdrocki@biglakescounty.ca. Download an order form by visiting biglakescounty.ca.

FARM SAFETY

It's that time of year again! Farmers will begin seeding in the next few weeks and you may be sharing the road with some large farm equipment. According to the Canadian Agricultural Injury Surveillance program, 13 per cent of farm-related fatalities across Canada are traffic related, and most of these involve tractors.

Farmers, please ensure all warning flashers and lights are clean, visible, and working properly. Motorists, please be patient and keep at least 50 feet away from the equipment so that the operator can see you.

NOTICE TO GRAVEL TRUCK OWNERS

All interested gravel truck owners are invited to submit their rates based on a percentage of the County rate, for the 2021 gravel season. Forms are available at the County office in High Prairie or Kinuso or at biglakescounty.ca/resources/forms. Deadline is **May 14th @ 2pm**.

BIG LAKES COUNTY

BIKE HELMET SAFETY REWARDS PROGRAM

We want to reward you for being safe! If our County staff spot you wearing a helmet, you'll get a coupon for a FREE ice cream or slushy to redeem at any of the following stores:

- Korner Kitchen, Kinuso
- Bay Shore resort, Faust
- Faust General store
- Superette, Joussard
- Jerry's store, Joussard
- Bigway Foods, Grouard
- Ferguson's Market, Grouard
- O's Treats, High Prairie



VISIT BIGLAKESCOUNTY.CA OR CALL
THE BYLAW OFFICER AT
780.523.5955 FOR MORE DETAILS.



MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Residents interested in shaping their local government are invited to visit biglakescounty.ca for details on how to submit their nominations. Nominations are accepted until noon on **September 20**. A list of candidates that have been nominated will be posted on the first Monday of each month at the local jurisdiction office and on the County Facebook page and website.

SUMMER HOURS

Transfer Station summer hours: April 1 - Sept. 30

Transfer Stations are open Wednesday & Sunday from 10am - 7pm

Regional Landfill is open Monday, Thursday & Saturday from 10am - 5pm

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