



Your Monthly Newsletter for November 2022

Big Lakes Connections

ISSUE #51

Organizational Meeting

Council held its organizational meeting on Oct. 25.

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BLC Financial Position

Big Lakes County's financial position has proven to be a very stable one throughout 2022.

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Join Our Team!

We're hiring a full-time Housekeeper within the FCSS Department.

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Firefighter of the Month

Meet Arthur "Bubby" Smith who has been a volunteer firefighter in the Enilda Fire District for 14 years.

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Big Lakes County Department Highlights

With winter right around the corner, Big Lakes County would like to remind residents that we are accepting applications for private driveway snowplowing. As the days get shorter; don't forget to turn the clocks back on November 6th.

Voyent Alert!

Please be advised that as of October 18, 2022, Big Lakes County will no longer be providing the Voyent Alert Notification System. All contact information will be deleted from the system. In case of an emergency, Big Lakes will notify residents through Alberta Emergency Alert, our social media platforms, radio, and our website. We thank you for your participation.

Organizational Meeting

Big Lakes County Council reappointed Ward 5 Councillor Robert Nygaard as Reeve, and Ward 3 Councillor Jim Zabolotniuk as Deputy Reeve at the annual organizational meeting on Tuesday, October 25, 2022.

BLC Financial Position

Big Lakes County's financial position has proven to be a very stable one throughout 2022.

BLC's Financial Statement (in millions \$) As of Sept. 30, 2022

	2022 Projections	2022 Budget	2022 Variance
Revenues	\$ 34.283	\$ 32.572	\$ 1.711
Expenses	29.598	30.206	0.608
Transfers to Reserves/Debt	2.366	2.366	0.00
Surplus (Deficit)	2.319	0.000	2.319

While the County's current financial picture is predicting a surplus of approximately \$2.319M, this is directly attributed to several factors, including:

- 1) Higher than anticipated revenue from land sales,
- 2) Projects that were either cancelled, or not completed in 2022, and
- 3) Unanticipated grant payments from other levels of government.

Financial Statements

Please be advised that the 2021 Big Lakes County Financial Statements are available on our [website at biglakescounty.ca/services/financial-accountability](https://www.biglakescounty.ca/services/financial-accountability). Copies can also be obtained at the High Prairie and Kinuso Administration Offices. If you have any questions, please call Dave Reynolds, Director of Corporate Services, at 780-523-5955.

Mark Your Calendars

NOV 9 Regular Council Meeting - Cancelled

NOV 11 Remembrance Day - Office Closed

NOV 23 Municipal Planning Commission Meeting

NOV 23 Regular Council Meeting

NOV 24 Big Lakes Library Board Meeting

NOV 29 Ag Drone School Course

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 10 am to 5 pm.

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

Reminders

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.

What is Big Lakes FCSS?

We're who you call when you don't know who to call! Big Lakes FCSS provides free confidential assistance to the residents of Big Lakes County and the Town of High Prairie. Find us at www.biglakescounty.ca/services/fcss or follow us on Facebook @BigLakes-FCSS.

Big Lakes FCSS runs many programs and holds multiple events throughout the year. This includes seniors programs, youth programs, Home Support, a community newsletter, the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program, and Family Day, Volunteer Appreciation, and Seniors Week events. We also offer community outreach services which includes assistance with paperwork such as with government forms and program applications, assistance with writing resumes and job searches, and information and referrals to other agencies.

Our Offices

Enilda: 780-523-5925
Open Wednesdays

Faust: 780-355-3896
Open Monday, Wednesday,
Friday

Grouard: 780-751-3806
Open Monday, Wednesday,
Friday

High Prairie: 780-536-0062
Open Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday, Friday

Joussard: 780-776-3811
Open Tuesday, Thursday

Kinuso: 780-775-3666
Open Tuesday, Thursday

Christmas Hamper

Provides Christmas hampers to some of our low-income residents. Hampers include fixings for a turkey dinner, cereal for breakfast, and a wrapped toy for children under 16. If you would like to apply for a hamper, please make an appointment with an FCSS worker in your community. **The application deadline is Friday, December 9.** Monetary

donations will receive a tax receipt. We are not able to accept food or toy donations.

We're Hiring

Big Lakes County is seeking a qualified, highly motivated, and organized individual to fill the full-time position of Housekeeper within the FCSS Department. **Learn more and apply today at biglakescounty.ca.**



Firefighter of the Month: Arthur "Bubby" Smith

Bubby has been a firefighter in the Enilda Fire District for 14 years and serves as the Safety Officer for this district. His dedication and commitment to fire services and the community show in his attendance and participation. Bubby is always the first to lend a helping hand (and make a joke about what is going on, of course) and is committed to the safety and well-being of his team at all times. Being a dedicated volunteer firefighter of 14 years is rare, and we thank Bubby for all his hard work and time put into the Big Lakes County Fire Services so far and look forward to many years to come.