



Your Monthly Newsletter for December 2023

Big Lakes Connections

ISSUE #64

A Message from the Reeve

Dear Fellow Community Members,

As we enter into the holiday season, on behalf of Big Lakes County Council, I want to extend my warmest wishes to you and your loved ones. May your holiday season bring you joy, happiness, and be full of memories with those that matter most to you.

This past year has presented us with our fair share of challenges but together we have shown that as neighbors, we can come together in a display of true community spirit. It doesn't matter where you go in our municipality, we are full of the most caring, compassionate, and resilient people I have ever seen. This makes me proud to be a member of our community, and you should be as well.

With the new year right around the corner I know we will embrace anything to come, with the same tenacity we have displayed to build a stronger community. With our focus on growth and success for all, I'm confident we will make a positive impact together.

May the coming year bring you prosperity, health, and happiness.

Reeve, Tyler Airth
Big Lakes County

Big Lakes County Department Highlights

The Big Lakes County Administration and FCSS offices will be closed from December 25 - January 1, reopening on January 2. If you need to contact us after hours, please call 780-523-5955.

Christmas Hamper

Big Lakes County 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 8. Monetary donations will receive a tax receipt. Unfortunately, we are not able to accept food or toy donations. Find us at www.biglakescounty.ca/services/fcss or follow us on Facebook @BigLakesFCSS.

County Assessors

Compass Assessment Consultants Inc. is scheduled to perform property inspections throughout the entire county to review permits and documented changes within the area. This process will take place from Monday, December 11, 2023, through to Friday, December 15, 2023, and involves physical inspection of properties.

Upon arriving at the property, their initial step is to attempt to contact the owner or occupant to announce their presence by knocking on the door. In event the resident is not available, they proceed with an exterior inspection, permissible under s.294 of the Municipal Government Act. If assessors have any questions, they leave a door hanger containing contact information (1-800-251-9711). It is important to note that county assessors will consistently display photo identification badges.

If you have any questions, please contact our Taxation and Assessment Department at 780-523-5955.



ASSESSMENT PROPERTY INSPECTIONS

DECEMBER 11 - 15, 2023

Cancelled Meetings

The December 27th Municipal Planning Commission Meeting has been cancelled and rescheduled for December 13th. The December 27th Regular Council Meeting has been cancelled.

Mark Your Calendars

DEC 4 - 5 Budget Meetings

DEC 13 Municipal Planning Commission Meeting

DEC 13 Regular Council Meeting

DEC 25 - Jan 1 Offices Closed - Reopening Jan 2

DEC 27 Regular Council Meeting - Cancelled

DEC 27 Municipal Planning Commission Meeting - Cancelled

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.

We Want To Hear From You!

We want to hear your feedback on what should be included in the 2024 BLC budget! Stop by the County Council Chambers on December 4th or 5th between 9 am – 10 am to ask questions and share your feedback on Council's values and priorities for the upcoming budget year. The 2022 Big Lakes County Financial Statements are available on our website. Copies can also be obtained at the High Prairie and Kinuso Administration Office.

Firefighter of the Month - Claude Smith

Claude Smith has been a dedicated member of the Enilda Fire Department for 17 years. Claude shows passion and drive for the fire service and the importance of training is always at the forefront of his conversations. There is rarely a training night, community event or a call out where Claude is not present, and his positive attitude contributes to the success of the department as a whole. Any conversation that one has with Claude you can see his enthusiasm for the fire service and how much he appreciates a good training night. He understands our fire service and how we function better as a whole, and interactions always prove to be refreshing and motivating conversations. Thank you, Claude, for your continued dedication and commitment to the Big Lakes County Fire Services and keep up the encouraging work!



Agricultural Services

Our Shelterbelt trees are available for order! Are you interested in a multi functional shelterbelt? Check out our order list and plan your 2024 shelterbet.

Our ordering deadline date has changed to December 31, 2023 for the 2024 season. Scan the QR code below for more info and to view our order form. If you have any questions or need further assistance, contact our Ag department at 780-507-9840.

**SHELTERBELT
TREES
AVAILABLE**

ORDER TODAY

It's Shelterbelt Planning season!! Big Lakes County Shelterbelt 2024 order form is out and ready! This year we have changed to a fall ordering season, ending December and have included a spot for you to let us know if you would like any specific species not on the order list. Check out the link below or scan the QR code to access the 2024 order form.

[2024 Big Lakes County Shelterbelt Program \(paperform.co\)](https://paperform.co)