

September 2014

Final flood Community Debrief Sept. 9

Pleased with the turnout at the August Community Debriefs on the June flooding in Coaldale, Chief Administrative Officer Larry Davidson is looking forward to the final session, Sept. 9.

He appreciated that those in attendance at the afternoon and evening sessions on Aug. 26 were very respectful and responsive in their communication with the Town.

"They spoke, to me, not only about the financial impact to their home but also about the emotional impact to their family."

The emotional toll, he said, is just as important to address as the financial impact of the flooding. Davidson said it was disheartening to see elderly residents in the community having to cope with water in their basement over multiple years.

"It's important for residents to share their experiences."

He felt residents in attendance at the debrief sessions were pleased to see the Town's has plans in place for improvements to address flood mitigation in the future.

He understands the disappointment expressed by residents over the fact funding has not yet been announced by Municipal Affairs but he was pleased to see representatives from the province in attendance at the debriefs to speak with residents.

He was also pleased the Alberta Emergency Management Agency was also represented and provided helpful information to residents about the need to be prepared to be self-sufficient for 72 hours when an emergency situation impacts a municipality.

The next debrief will again be held at the Hub at 7 p.m. on Sept. 9. Childcare will be available on site.

"It was also beneficial to have council there."

Having town council members in attendance was a great way for the elected officials to get a feel for the room and the concerns and issues expressed by residents, Davidson noted.

A wall of maps spotlighted the whole community, area by area and gave residents an opportunity to pinpoint exactly how and where they were impacted during the flooding. Davidson said once they placed their stickers on a map they were able to take a step back and see the larger perspective, how the flooding impacted Coaldale as a whole.

"It helped them to put it into some kind of scope."

The maps will also provide the Town with an overall picture of the flooding impact which will be used, going forward, to plan for flood mitigation and infrastructure upgrades.

One issue of concern, Davidson heard from residents living in the older areas of the community, was the need to address older infrastructure upgrades.

He said while residents understand the need for new residential development they also noted the Town needs to look at the older areas.

He acknowledged the need to review the Town's infrastructure and develop a comprehensive plan for replacement.

He said residents understand the Town is not a "bottomless pit" when it comes to available funding for projects. Any improvements have to be done in a prudent manner. Finding the balance between needed improvements and available funding is the task of administration and council.

"We do have to address these issues."

With the final Community Debrief in September Davidson is hoping to have more information for residents on the possibility of recovery funding from the province. "We're expecting to hear a response from the minister by Sept. 3."

For more on this story please visit the Town of Coaldale website at www.coaldale.ca

Community Peace Officer Corner

From the traffic section

Welcome back kids! September is back to school and with that school zones are in effect.

A reminder to all motorists the speed limit in school zones is 30km/h from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

In Coaldale there are three school zones that reduce the speed to 30km/h on school days, they are St. Joseph on 23 Ave., Pass+ on 19 St. and Coaldale Christian on 8 St. R.I Baker, Jennie Emery and Kate Andrews are designated Playground Zones, which are in effect all year long between 8:30 a.m. and one hour after sunset.

Motorists are encouraged to use extra care around these areas as there is an increased amount of pedestrian traffic.

Also a reminder the portion of 22 Ave. in front of Jennie Emery School is a drop-off area only. No parking allowed between 8 and 9 a.m.

From the bylaw section

If you are enjoying the fall weather with barbecues and camp fires, just a quick reminder on enjoying those fires while keeping it safe.

If you are having a camp fire in the Town, you need to ensure you are having it in a stone/concrete or metal fire pit. Make sure you have a grate over the pit so flames and embers don't fly out and start a fire somewhere else.

Make sure you are burning only clean lumber and avoid burning wood with chemicals in it.

Connect with us



@CoaldaleAB

www.coaldale.ca

403-345-1300

1920 17 Street

Coaldale AB T1M 1M1



fb.com/CoaldaleAB

Community Calendar

September 3: Coaldale Farmers' Market runs through the month of September on Wednesdays 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Community Centre.

September 5: Lethbridge Hurricanes vs Calgary Hitmen in WHL Exhibition action at Coaldale Sportsplex. \$10 ticket available at Town Office and Coaldale Food Market.

September 8: Parent and Tot skate begins for the season at 11 a.m. Mondays and Thursdays at the Sportsplex.

September 9: Flood 2014 Community Debrief, 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the HUB. Come learn more about mitigation plans.

September 10: Open House for Sunny South Speakers, Coaldale Toastmasters from 7 to 8 p.m. in the McCain Gallery at the Coaldale Public Library.

September 11: Town of Coaldale Mass Registration and Family Picnic 5 to 8 p.m. at the Kin Picnic Shelter. Join us for fun, games and registration for community sports groups, clubs and organizations.

September 12: Public Skating begins for the new season at 1 p.m. and also runs Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. Please check our online community calendar for the most up to date info.

September 19 & 20: Garden Grove Playground build. Call Tricia at 403-360-3415 for additional information or to volunteer to help with the build. At least 35 volunteers needed each day, must be over the age of 15.

September 20: Home opener for Coaldale Copperheads as they host Strathmore in Junior hockey action.

September 23: On Tour all the way from Lethbridge. Pangaea Café - A wonderful way to meet new people of different cultures, backgrounds and ways of life. Tuesday, Sept. 23 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Gem of the West Museum.

September 30: Clothing drop off begins Sept. 30 and runs weekdays until Oct. 14 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Coaldale Mennonite Church, 2316-17 Street in preparation for the Fall Coaldale Clothing Fest, Oct. 18, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.



NEW kick fit for kids (ages 5-6) Wednesday nights from 5:30-6:15.

Children class (ages 7-12) Monday and Wednesday nights from 6:15-7:15. **Adult class** (ages 12 and up) Monday and Wednesday nights from 7:15-8:15

• Register at the Coaldale Fall Mass Registration on Sept. 11 from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Kin Picnic Shelter.

Free trial Classes Sept. 8 & 10 at the Hub

For more info contact Anthony Gibson at 403-360-9238 or anthony.gibson@uleth.ca

FROM THE TAX DEPARTMENT:

- Taxes notices were mailed out in May and were due on JUNE 30. Payments can be made on-line, by mail or at the office.
- TIPP (Tax Installment Payment Program) applications are being accepted for the 2015 taxation year. Call Kathy at (403) 345-1317 for details.

County of Lethbridge Community Learning Council

Free Drop-In Computer and Technology Assistance

Mondays and Wednesdays evenings from 5-8 p.m. at the Community Learning Council in the Coaldale Public Library Starting from Sept. 8 – Nov. 26, 2014. Help with everything from how to turn on your computer, to how to download apps onto your new phone, to how to design a website.

Library Tutor Program

Starting in late September post-secondary students will be volunteering to tutor students from grades 1 to 12 at a nominal fee at the Coaldale Public Library. For more information go to www.communityclasses.ca or call 403-345-6009. This learning opportunity is a partnership between the County of Lethbridge Community Learning Council and the Coaldale Public Library.

At the Library . . .

TOY Library Grand Reopening - Thanks to a generous contribution of over \$5000 from the Rotary Club of Coaldale and the Community Foundation of Lethbridge and Southwestern Alberta, we are expanding our toy collection significantly. To celebrate all of these exciting changes, we will be hosting a Toy Library Grand Re-Launch Party on Friday, Sept. 19. Please join us from 1-4 p.m. for toy demonstrations, games, prize draws and refreshments!

Small Wonders- Rhymes, tickles and fun for infants, toddlers, preschoolers and a caregiver. Wednesdays, Sept. 10 to Nov. 19. From 11 to 11:30 a.m. This program is free but please call 403-345-1340 to register.

Art Exploration Classes for Kids- 8 Multimedia Art Classes Sept. 27 to Nov. 22, Saturdays, 1-2:30 p.m. for ages 6 to 8 and 3-4:30 p.m. for ages 9 to 12. \$70 cost includes materials. Registration opens Sept. 1. Budding artists explore a variety of mediums including drawing, painting, crafting, collage, smashbooks, and sculpting clay. In a setting that emphasizes artistic freedom and fun, children will work at their own pace to develop various skills and create works of art.

Tween Club- Students who are in grades 4-7 are invited to join us for crafts, games, snacks and FUN! Please register, by calling 403-345-1340 or stop in at the library, to hold your spot as space is limited! Tween Club is normally held on the last Friday of the month. The next Tween club will take place on Sept. 26 from 2:30 to 4 p.m.