

Coaldale Summer Fest to Take Place August 9-11

This year's Summer Fest is dedicated to celebrating sport and recreation.



On Friday, August 9, the Town of Coaldale will kick off its 3rd annual Summer Fest.

Coaldale Summer Fest is a celebration of and for the community, and this year's Fest is dedicated to celebrating sport and recreation. "This summer has been defined by celebrating sport and recreation in Coaldale", said Town of Coaldale Mayor, Jack Van Rijn. "Earlier this month we hosted the 2024 Southern Alberta Summer Games which saw over 1700 participants from around southern Alberta descend upon Coaldale to compete in 20 different competitions. We also celebrated the grand opening of the SHIFT Community Recreation Centre – our brand-new state-of-the-art rec facility that offers programming for all ages. Finally, this summer the Coaldale Pool opened with brand new water-slides, introduced a new "Intro to Swim Club" program, and hosted the Pool's first sanctioned swim meet as part of the 2024 Southern Alberta Summer Games. For these reasons, it only seemed natural to build on the momentum and make sport and recreation the focal point of Coaldale's 3rd annual Summer Fest, as well."

Summer Fest will kick off on the afternoon of Friday, August 9, with a Pool Party Lū au, complete with mocktails

and a DJ, from 3:00-5:00pm. Festivities will then continue into the evening with a movie in Millennium Park behind the Coaldale Sportsplex. Local favourites Down to Earth will begin the evening with an acoustic performance starting at 7:00 p.m., while several food vendors will be on site serving tasty treats, popcorn, and hot dogs. Coaldale Country Thrift will also be on site handing out glow sticks for the evening.

On Saturday, August 10, Summer Fest will continue beginning with a Knights of Columbus pancake breakfast fundraiser from 8:00-10:00am and Coaldale's famous Candy Parade at 11:00am. Following the parade, attendees will be able to take in live music at both the Civic Square Stage (located directly behind Civic Square) and the John Davidson Stage (located in front of John Davidson School). They'll also be able to walk through the Coaldale Custom Cruisers Show & Shine on Main Street, visit the Domesticated Divas Open Air Market, and enjoy many other family-friendly and activities and events, including:

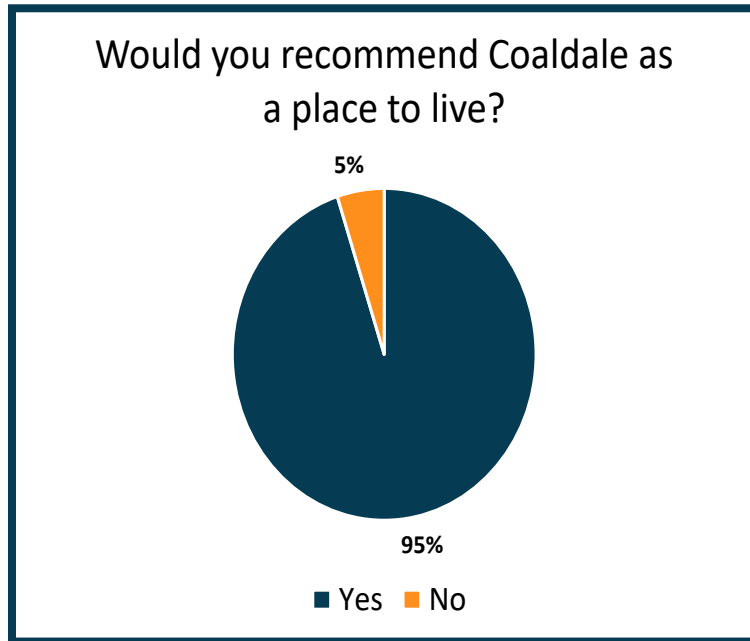
- the Kinsmen Beer Garden (10:00am-11:00 pm);
- the Coaldale Food Bank BBQ (11:30am – 2:00pm);
- food trucks (12:00 – evening);
- petting zoos (12:00 – 5:00pm);
- face painting & airbrush tattoos (12:00 – 5:00pm);
- balloon benders (12:00 – 5:00pm);
- fireworks (approx. 10:20pm); and
- more!

Finally, at 3:00pm on Sunday, August 11, a non-denominational church service called "Cowboy Church" that features inspiring music and stories will be held in the atrium of Civic Square. All are welcome.

For more information about Summer Fest 2024 "Celebrating Sport & Recreation", including a full list of activities and their locations, please visit: <https://www.coaldalesummerfest.ca/>.

Coaldale Town Council Reviews 2024 Community Survey Results

While 80% of respondents said they have a high or moderately high quality of life, 95% of respondents said they would recommend living in Coaldale.



During its June 27 Special Council Meeting, Coaldale Town Council reviewed the results of the Town's 2024 Community Survey.

Conducted from March 14th to April 3rd, the survey asked residents a range of questions from how the Town should allocate municipal property taxes, to what Town amenities and services residents most enjoy, to how residents feel about their overall quality of life.

In total, there were 497 respondents and of those respondents, 26% said the Town should spend more property tax dollars on public works, including roads, sidewalks, snow removal, and lighting. Meanwhile, 18% said more tax dollars should go towards policing while another 18% said more should go towards fire and emergency management. 14% of respondents said more tax dollars should go towards recreation and facilities, while 11% said more dollars should be spent on parks, playgrounds, and greenspaces.

When it came to capital projects, 27% of respondents ranked repairs to roads and sidewalk infrastructure as most important, followed by repairs to core utility infrastructure

(24%), expanding the pool (20%), and expanding the ice arena (16%).

As for amenities and services, 41% of respondents identified either walking trails or parks and playgrounds as their favorites, while 74% of respondents said they were most satisfied with fire protection, and 49% said they were least satisfied with road and sidewalk repairs. 21% said they were disappointed with policing while 20% said they were disappointed with recreation facilities.

Finally, when it comes to quality of life, 80% of respondents said they have a high or moderately high quality of life, while 95% of respondents said they would recommend living in Coaldale. Only 5% of respondents said they are definitely moving to another municipality within the next five years.

"From the very beginning of our term, our Council has put a lot of effort into public engagement and into creating a meaningful two-way relationship with the public" said Town of Coaldale Mayor Jack Van Rijn. "That's why early on, we directed our Administration to conduct annual community surveys that provide residents with an opportunity to let us know what they think about how the Town is being run, and where improvements can be made. Overall, I think the results from this year's survey were quite positive and I'm particularly encouraged to see that the vast majority of respondents would recommend living here. What these results tell our Council is that while there's always room for improvement, Coaldale is undoubtedly doing something right when it comes to providing residents with a high quality of life. The goal for our Council now is not only to keep it that way, but to continue the work of making Coaldale the best place to live in southern Alberta."

To see the results of the Town's 2024 Community Survey, please visit:

<https://www.coaldale.ca/sites/default/files/docs/2024%20Community%20Survey%20Results.pdf>