

COALDALE CONNECTION

Your source of all things Coaldale!

Connecting you to what matters most in our community.

Town of Coaldale to Update All School and Playground Zones to Standardized Year-Round Playground Zones

New signs will be installed during reading week from February 21-25

During the week of February 21, 2022, all playground and school zones in the Town of Coaldale will be re-signed. All school zones will be replaced with playground zones which will be in effect year-round from 7:30am to 9:00pm.

“Our signage is not consistent within the town from location to location, nor is it in how we designate certain areas, creating some confusion amongst drivers and increasing the risk to playground users,” said Mark Anderson, the Town of Coaldale’s Manager of Policing. “Standardizing these signs will make it safer for children using all playgrounds, including school playgrounds, and bring Coaldale in line with other major centres in Alberta for consistency when traveling between communities.”

In addition to sign replacements, the playground zone signs previously removed from 23rd Ave by Kate Andrews High

School will be reinstalled, as well as on 20th Street at John Davidson School. As an added measure, parking will be prohibited on 20th Street from 20th

Avenue to 21st Avenue.

“Visibility on 20th Street along the John Davidson school and playground is severely limited when vehicles park on the street, making it more dangerous for children and pedestrians, particularly when crossing the street,” said Anderson. “Eliminating parking along this street will increase the safety of our children in playgrounds and increase driver awareness of hazards they may encounter while driving through these areas.”

Replacing all signs in the town is estimated to cost under \$10,000. Council unanimously approved request to proceed with upgrading signage at the November 8, 2022 Regular Council Meeting.



“As Coaldale continues to grow, it is important for us to take this important step to increase safety in our community,” said Mayor Jack Van Rijn. “By undergoing these changes, we will provide clear, consistent direction for motorists and increase safety for our most vulnerable population.”

Municipal tax increase of 1.72% anticipated for 2022

The Town of Coaldale budget for 2022 will see a modest increase in residential and non-residential property taxes. It was determined during the budget deliberations that \$151,279 in additional municipal taxes are required to balance the budget as presented to Council. This would result in an effective municipal tax increase of 1.72% for 2022, which is about half of what economists from Canada’s major banks are projecting as the rate of inflation for the year.

“A 1.72% change in tax rates is well below the average increase around comparable municipalities,” said Coaldale Mayor Jack Van Rijn. “Council carefully considered all angles in our discussions to maintain our level of services with the funds required to balance the budget.”

The tax increase will affect property owners differently depending on their property’s assessed value. A 1.72% increase is approximately a \$13.78 yearly increase for every \$100,000 of assessed residential property value, and \$17.25 for every \$100,000 of non-residential property value.

Other factors that may affect your property tax bill include fluctuations in property assessment, changes to the provincial Green Acres Foundation budget, and changes to the Government of Alberta school budget.

CONNECT WITH US!

What's Happening in the Community?

Coaldale Community Grant Program 2022

The Town of Coaldale is pleased to offer the Community Grant Program for 2022. Applications are being accepted from February 1 through May 4, 2022 at 4:30pm.

Applications will only be considered for:

- Not-for-Profit or volunteer-based organizations that operate within the Town of Coaldale or the portion of Lethbridge County included within the response areas identified within the Joint Town/County Fire Services Agreement;
- Programs, projects or events that contribute to the social well-being of the community, address a community need and enhance or improve the quality of life for residents;
- Applications submitted with all required documentation.

Visit coaldale.ca to access the application form or call 403-345-1324 for more information and to answer any questions.

6th Annual Valentine's Day High Tea - CANCELLED

We regret to inform you that the 6th Annual Town of Coaldale Valentine's Day High Tea has been cancelled. However, Valentine's wishes can still be spread throughout the community. For \$5/order, we will prepare a gift of one carnation, 2 specialty tea bags, Lindor chocolates and a personalized note. We will even deliver your gift to that special person at no additional cost (delivery service available in Coaldale only). Add additional carnations to your gift for only \$2 more/flower. To place your order before February 9, call 403-345-1323 or order online at coaldale.ca/Valentinesgift-o-gram. There is a limited quantity so place your order early!

17th Annual Coaldale Community Fest

Join us on February 21 for the 17th Annual Community Fest from 11:00am-3:00pm at the Coaldale Arena and the Kin Picnic Shelter. Ahead of the festivities, paint the arena ice with well wishes from your family to the community at the "Family Art on Ice" from 9:00am-11:00am at the arena. All supplies will be provided. Family skate from 11:00am-3:00pm will be generously sponsored by MNP LLP. There will be outdoor activities and games from 11:00am-3:00pm at the Kin Picnic Shelter. Watch the Town of Coaldale social media and website for more information or call 403-345-1324.

Coaldale Pickleball Club - Pickleball Lessons for Beginners

Sign up for a 4-part beginner pickleball lesson with the Coaldale Pickleball Club. Lessons will start February 1st and will be on every Tuesday until March 1 from 9:00am to 10:30am at the Coaldale Mennonite Church (2316 - 17 Street, Coaldale). Following the lessons there will be optional practice until noon.

For more information coaldalepickleballclub@gmail.com.

Public Hearing - VLTs

Coaldale Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on February 14, 2022 at 5:05pm at the Council Chambers, temporarily located at 2107 13 Street (The HUB), to review a proposal for the installation, operation and use of video lottery terminals (VLTs) within Coaldale. Attendance at the public hearing requires pre-registration due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and there will be limited spots available for in person attendance. Anyone wishing to speak at the public hearing should contact (403) 345-1306 by no later than 12 pm, Thursday, February 10, 2022.

Written comments can be sent by email to admin@coaldale.ca, dropped off, or mailed to the Town Office at 1920, 17 Street, Coaldale, AB T1M 1M1. Members of the public can also submit comments, ask questions, and learn more about the issue at letsconnectcoaldale.ca. Written comments and submissions must be received no later than 12 pm, Thursday, February 10, 2022.

Emergency First Aid CPR A & AED

The County of Lethbridge Community Learning Council is hosting an Emergency First Aid CPR & AED course on Saturday, March 19 from 9am-5:30 pm at the Coaldale Public Library. The course costs \$125 and will be instructed by St. John's Ambulance.

In this one day course, students will learn to recognize and provide interventions for life threatening emergencies until medical aid arrives. Topics include: CPR and choking for adults, shock and unconsciousness, severe bleeding, head and spinal injuries, major medical conditions, and AED training and certification. CLCLC is participating in the Restrictions Exemption program and masks remain mandatory. Please contact CLCLC to register: 403-345-6009 or communityclasses.ca.

Safe Food Handling Course

The County of Lethbridge Community Learning Council is hosting a Safe Food Handling course on Tuesday, April 26 from 9:00am-5:30 pm at the Coaldale Public Library. The course costs \$100 and will be instructed by Alberta Health Services.

This fast paced, one day course prepares participants for the exam and certification required by Section 31 of Albertas Food Regulation. Participants will learn about food safety topics including microbes, foodborne illness, food preparation and storage, and cleaning and sanitizing. Participants complete a 50 question multiple choice exam at the end of the course, and if successful, will receive a certificate and be added to the provincial registry. This course provides the same certificate as the 2 Day Food Safety Alberta Certification course. A good understanding of written and spoken English is recommended.

CLCLC is participating in the Restrictions Exemption program and masks remain mandatory. Please contact CLCLC to register: 403-345-6009 or communityclasses.ca.