

Town of Coaldale Poised to Participate in Coaldale's 13th Annual 5K Family Fun Run

This year, event proceeds will go towards hosting the 2024 Southern Alberta Summer Games.



During its January 29, 2024, Regular Council Meeting, Coaldale Town Council passed a motion to enter a Town of Coaldale team in Coaldale's 13th Annual 5K Family Fun Run.

For over a decade, the Coaldale Christian School has organized the Run not only to encourage healthy outdoor activity, enhance family time, and bring cohesiveness to the Town of Coaldale, but also, to support local charity and local community enhancement projects. Last year, event proceeds went towards improving the grounds adjacent to Pinnacle Park by constructing a new street hockey arena, sitting area, and walking path. In addition, \$2 from every entry was donated to the Coaldale Food Bank to help relieve poverty and help those in need. This year, \$2 from every entry will be donated to Rehoboth Christian Ministries to support people with disabilities, while event proceeds will go to towards hosting the 2024 Southern Alberta Summer Games (SASG).

"As a Council, we strongly believe in supporting this Run", said Town of Coaldale Mayor Jack Van Rijn. "In our 2021-2025 Strategic Plan, we identify supporting major recreational events driven by the community to attract visitors, enhance community pride, and provide fuel to our econo-

my. Coaldale's Family Fun Run is a great example of what we're talking about, and while 2024 marks the third year in a row that our Council has signed off on entering a Town of Coaldale team, it also marks 8 years since the Town became a 'Platinum Sponsor' of the event. I should also add that having this year's proceeds go towards hosting another major recreational event in the community is icing on the cake", explained Van Rijn. "We can't wait to host the Southern Alberta Summer Games and welcome so many coaches and athletes to our community."

In September, 2023, the Southern Alberta Recreation Association formally announced that Coaldale will host the SASG after a four-year long hiatus during the COVID-19 pandemic. Scheduled to take place from July 3-6, the 2024 SASG will be the first since 2019 to offer full programming and will feature both individual and team sporting events in and around Coaldale. It is expected that nearly 2000 athletes and coaches will participate.

"We were thrilled to learn that the proceeds of this year's Family Fun Run will go towards hosting the Southern Alberta Summer Games," said Clayton Varjassy, Community Services Coordinator for the Town of Coaldale. "The Games began over 50 years ago and with the proceeds from the Run, we'll be that much more prepared to bring them back to life."

For more information about Coaldale's 13th Annual 5K Family Fun Run, including how to register, please visit <https://www.racepro.ca/coaldale/>. The Run will take place on Saturday, April 20, at 10:00 am and begin at the Coaldale Christian School.

For more information about the Southern Alberta Summer Games, including about how to volunteer, please contact the Town's Community Services department by email at clayton.varjassy@coaldale.ca.

Coaldale Town Council Hosts Its First Quarterly Coffee of the Year

Quarterly Coffees are meant to facilitate face-to-face conversations and build stronger relationships between members of Council, Town staff, and Town residents.

In keeping with its commitment to conduct deliberate and meaningful two-way engagement with Town residents, Coaldale Town Council hosted its first Quarterly Coffee of the year on Tuesday, January 30, at the Coaldale Tim Hortons.

In spring, 2022, Council adopted a brand-new public engagement strategy that lays out a framework for achieving transparent, timely, and meaningful two-way communication with Town residents. Part of that framework includes hosting “Quarterly Coffee” events, which are designed to provide Coaldale residents an opportunity to speak with members of Council and Town staff directly. During each quarter of 2024, members of Council, along with a representative from a featured Town department, will set up at a local establishment chat with residents about select issues related to that department.

“From the very beginning of our term, we’ve made engaging the public in a proactive manner a priority,” said Town of Coaldale Mayor Jack Van Rijn. “Last year, we began holding quarterly coffee events in the atrium of Civic Square but had fairly low turnouts. So this year, we’re going to hold them at local establishments like Tim Hortons where people naturally gather to engage in conversation and enjoy each other’s company. Our thinking is that by changing the location of these events to where people already frequent, we’ll be able to facilitate even more face-to-face conversation and do an even better job of keeping our residents involved in the decision-making process.”

“We were happy to participate, and happy to host citizens in Coaldale for coffee!” said Corey Persson, owner of the Coaldale Tim Hortons.

Council’s first Quarterly Coffee featured Financial and Corporate Services and offered Town residents an opportunity to discuss the Town’s recently approved 2024-2026 Operational and 2024-2028 Capital Budgets. To read and review these Budgets, please visit: <https://www.coaldale.ca/Budgets>.

Council’s next Quarterly Coffee is scheduled to take place in early April and will feature Operational Services & Infrastructure.

What’s Happening in the Community?

On Saturday, February 3, the Coaldale Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with the Town of Coaldale, will host the 42nd Annual Awards & Appreciation Banquet. Join us as we honour the many outstanding businesses, individuals, and groups who serve our great community! For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit: <https://coaldalechamber.com/business-awards/>.

The Town of Coaldale is currently taking orders for Valentine Gift-O-Grams. For \$5/order, you can send someone special a gift bag that includes 1 carnation, 2 specialty tea bags, Lindor chocolates and a personalized note. You can also add additional carnations to your gift-o-gram for only \$2 more/flower. To place your order by February 9 at 12:00pm, visit: <https://www.coaldale.ca/about/events/valentine-gift-o-grams-0>.

On February 18-19, the Town of Coaldale will hold its 19th Annual Community Fest! The event will begin on Sunday, February 18, with a Family Faith Fellowship Gathering and continue into Monday, February 19, with a pancake breakfast and other activities. For more information, scan the QR code below:



Beginning on Sunday, February 25th, the St. Ambrose Hall Building Committee will hold weekly screenings of season 1 of The Chosen, a TV series that portrays the life of Jesus Christ and the calling of his initial disciples. The screenings will be held at St. Joseph’s School and doors will open at 5:00pm. Admission is \$2/person or \$10/family. Snacks, including hotdogs, drinks, and popcorn, will be available for an extra \$5/person.

Family & Community Support Services (FCSS) Coaldale has begun hosting cancer support group meetings for individuals, of all ages, who are struggling with cancer and their families/caregivers. These meetings take place bi-monthly on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month from 7:00-8:00pm. For more information, please contact Harvey at 403-331-7087.