

Coaldale's Haunted School Returns with Five Nights of Frights and Family Fun

Once again, visitors will be able to choose between a family-friendly experience and a scarier walk-through at former John Davidson School.

Coaldale's Haunted School is returning this October, inviting residents and visitors to explore the spooky halls of the former John Davidson School at 2016 19 Street.

Building on last year's event, the Haunted School will open for five evenings in 2026, with two distinct experiences for different comfort levels. Families with younger children can explore the gentler, family-friendly side, while visitors looking for bigger thrills can venture into the scarier side for live actors and jump scares.

"Halloween is a great opportunity to bring people together for some fun, and we're excited to welcome everyone back to the Town's Haunted School," said Town of Coaldale Mayor, Jack Van Rijn. "Whether you're bringing little ones for a gentler experience or looking for a few good scares yourself, there's something for everyone. Thank you to the volunteers and community partners helping bring the school to life again this October."

Dates and Times

The Haunted School will be open from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on:

- Tuesday, October 20
- Wednesday, October 21
- Tuesday, October 27
- Wednesday, October 28
- Thursday, October 29

Admission

Paid admission will be introduced this year:

- Ages 12 and older: \$10
- Ages 5–11: \$5
- Ages four and under: Free

Please note that while on the family-friendly side, parents

and adults accompanying children will receive free admission, everyone entering the scary side must pay admission – including adults accompanying children.

Important Visitor Information

- Supervision: Children 12 and under must be accompanied by someone aged 16 or older.
- Facilities: The building has no heat or running water. Dress warmly; washrooms are available across 19 Street in the north building at Civic Plaza.
- Entrance and parking: Enter through the east-side main doors. Street parking is available to the east, with a parking lot to the southeast.
- Duration: Allow approximately 10–15 minutes for the walk-through.
- Effects: Flashing lights, fog and strobe effects may trigger seizures in people with photosensitive epilepsy. Parental discretion is advised.

Community groups, organizations and individuals interested in helping create this year's attraction can contact Brooke Tonin at brooke.tonin@coaldale.ca.

For more information, visit <https://www.coaldale.ca/about/events/halloween-haunted-school>.



Effective October 1, Coaldale residents can recycle a wider range of packaging and paper products through the community's existing recycling program. To see a full, up-to-date list of what can and cannot be placed in your black, blue, and green bins, scan the QR Code.

Town of Coaldale Holds Ribbon Cutting for New Rehoboth Pathway

The approximately 410-metre pathway provides safer active modes access to Rehoboth and recognizes the resident advocacy that helped make the project a reality.



On Wednesday, September 9, members of Coaldale Town Council and Town staff joined representatives from Rehoboth Christian Ministries for a ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrating the completion of a paved pathway along Highway 845 to Rehoboth's facility.

During the ceremony, Mayor Jack Van Rijn delivered remarks recognizing Coaldale resident Christian Gammel, whose petition helped bring the need for safer active modes access to Rehoboth to Council's attention.

"This pathway is an excellent example of how one resident's initiative can lead to a meaningful improvement for the entire community," said Mayor Van Rijn. "Christian identified a genuine safety concern, took the time to bring it forward, and helped build support for a practical solution. Today's ribbon cutting is an opportunity not only to celebrate the completion of this pathway, but also to recognize Christian's efforts in helping make it a reality."

The project was identified as a priority in 2022 after Gammel started a petition requesting that Council consider alternatives for improving active modes access to Rehoboth. The concern arose from the number of residents walking along Highway 845 to reach the facility despite the highway lacking a sidewalk or adequate shoulder north of 14th Avenue.

In response to these concerns, Town staff presented Coun-

cil with several potential solutions during its 2023 budget deliberations. Council ultimately approved the construction of a pathway alongside the Coaldale Cemetery, directing pedestrian traffic away from the highway corridor, where insufficient right-of-way makes it unfeasible to construct a pathway that meets safety standards.

In addition to providing a safer route to Rehoboth, the selected alignment creates direct active modes access to the cemetery.

The completed pathway is approximately 410 metres long, cost approximately \$230,000 to construct, and will connect with an additional 870 metres of freshly paved pathway along Highway 845 and 16th Avenue at the end of the 2026 construction season.

Together with pathway infrastructure constructed over the past five years, this improvement creates a continuous 2.7-kilometre pedestrian route extending from the at-grade crossing at Highway 3 and Land O' Lakes Drive to Rehoboth.

What's Happening in the Community?

On Tuesday, October 20, from 5:30-7:30pm, the Town of Coaldale will hold its annual "Open House" event at Civic Square. The event will offer residents an opportunity to gain insight into how the Town operates, learn about current and future Town projects, and engage with members of Town staff and Council directly. Light refreshments will be provided.

On Tuesday, October 20, from 6:00-9:00pm, the Town of Coaldale's Haunted School will return at former John Davidson School. For more information, please visit: <https://www.coaldale.ca/about/events/halloween-haunted-school>.

On Saturday, October 24th, from 5:00-8:00pm, the Time Society 2026 Father Daughter Ball will take place at Coaldale Prairie Winds Secondary. For tickets, please visit: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-CA/ticketing/2026-father-daughter-ball-fathers-day-early-bird>.