



# Newsletter

DECEMBER 2024

## THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

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## A Message from the Mayor

As the year comes to a close and the Holiday season begins, may the days ahead be filled with much love, happiness and all things bright.

Let's raise a glass and toast that the New Year brings you good health, new beginnings while holding memories close to your heart!

On behalf of the Town of Rainbow Lake Council and our amazing staff, I wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays wherever the roads may take you. Safe travels to each and every one.

Sincerely,

*Mayor Michelle Farris*



# Annual Tree Lighting



Photo courtesy of Tara St.Germaine

In spite of the frigid temperatures we were delighted to see those that braved the cold to enjoy the tree lighting. Thank you to the following for making this night a magical success:

Youth Center

Rainbow Lake Recreation Dept.

Volunteer Fire Dept.

Santa Clause

Cenouus





# MERRY CHRISTMAS



# FREE SKATE



DECEMBER 23RD

12:00 - 4:00

COME ON DOWN TO SEE SANTA AND ENJOY SOME FUN TREATS!

HELMETS ARE MANDATORY FOR ANYONE UNDER THE AGE OF 12  
ADULT SUPERVISION IS NEEDED FOR ANYONE UNDER 10  
EVERYONE IS INVITED!



The arena will be closed during the holidays:

December 24-27, 2024

December 31, 2024

January 1, 2025



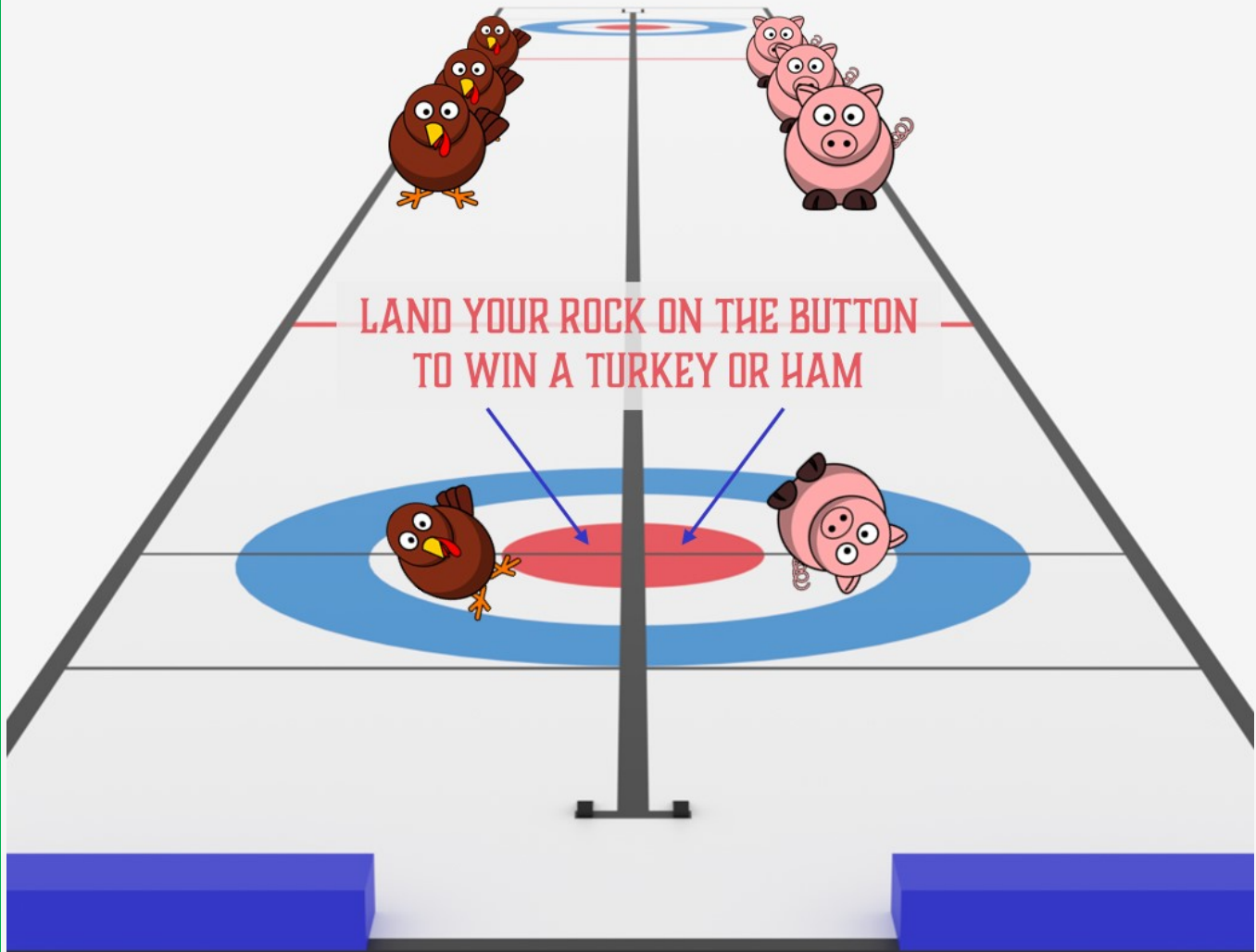
# ANNUAL TURKEY TOSS!

The Rainbow Lake Curling Club is hosting their Turkey (AND HAM) Toss!

**When:** Friday, December 20 from 6:00pm-8:00pm

**Where:** Rec Plex

**Cost:** 3 throws for \$5.00



# Garbage Pickup

## REMINDER



Residential pickup will take place on the following days over the holidays:

Tuesday, December 24

Tuesday, December 31

# Hello Darkness my Old Friend

We are almost at the Winter Solstice, the shortest day of the year. With the long dark nights please slow down, use caution and drive to the road conditions.

Remember you share them with children, pets, adults and occasional wildlife! Wearing reflective clothing when walking in the dark greatly increases your visibility to motorists.

We want everyone to have a safe and happy holidays so please make arrangements before enjoying a beverage or two—no drinking and driving!

# Food Hamper Program



Every year, the Rainbow Lake Community Church assists people and families in need with food for the holidays.

**If you are in need of some support this Christmas season, please contact Maureen Leptich to arrange for a hamper.**

**Maureen : 780-956-0335**

## How to help:

Email donations to [rlcomchurch@gmail.com](mailto:rlcomchurch@gmail.com)

Drop off a donation at one of the participating locations below:

Canada Post

Rainbow Lake School

Cenovus Energy

The Clinic

**Thank you Rainbow Lake for your continued support of your local Food Hamper Program and thank you to Maureen for all you do to ensure no one goes hungry this holiday!**

# 2024 Volunteer of the Year



Alana Thede was our 2024 recipient for Volunteer of the Year. Alana is incredibly deserving of this honour and it is volunteers like her that help keep many of the programs and recreational activities happening around town. Thank you to all those who volunteered time to the community in 2024. We can't wait to see what 2025 has in store!



# Wreath Making Workshop



Victim Services hosted their final event of the year. Sunscape Gardens brought the wreaths and all the supplies needed for everyone to create their own masterpiece! Thank you to Montana and to Alex from Sunscape for the great afternoon!



# Dog Tags 2025

**Dog tags for 2025 are available at the Town Office**

Tags can be purchased Monday-Friday between 7:40am-4:30pm. If you would like to pre-order your tag to secure the cheaper price, please contact Stacy at extension 103!

Neutered & Spayed Dogs License fee

**\$20.00**

(before January 31, 2025)

**\$30.00**

(after January 31, 2025)

Non-Neutered & Spayed Dogs License fee

**\$40.00**

(before January 31, 2025)

**\$50.00**

(after January 31, 2025)



# Property Taxes

This is a friendly reminder that all 2024 Property Taxes must be paid by December 31, 2024 to avoid entering arrears with the Town of Rainbow Lake. Any Property Taxes left unpaid from before December 31, 2023 will be registered with the province in 2025. Any Property Taxes left unpaid from before December 31, 2022 will begin the process of tax sale proceedings.

If you aren't already part of our Property Tax Pre-Authorized Monthly Payment Plan, you might want to consider setting it up at the office. No penalties will be levied against your property for outstanding balances during the year (some restrictions do apply). To request further information on this payment plan, please contact the Town Office.

# Coping at Christmas

While the holidays are meant to be a joyous time, it's understandable that it can also be an especially hard time of year, missing lost loved ones, far from family, seasonal depression or financial stress. If you or your loved ones need help, there are many resources available so please take the time to reach out!

Suicide Crisis Hotline  
**9-8-8**

Mental Health Helpline  
**1-877-303-2642**

Kids Help Phone  
**1-800-668-6868**

AB Addiction Help Line  
**1-866-332-2322**

Family Violence Info Line  
**310-1818**

AB Health Link  
**8-1-1**

AB Helpline Directory  
**2-1-1**

EMERGENCIES  
**9-1-1**

**7 TIPS TO  
MANAGE STRESS  
& MENTAL HEALTH  
DURING THE  
HOLIDAYS**

- PLAN AHEAD**  
Have a plan in place for all your holiday tasks and activities.
- BE REALISTIC**  
Don't stress yourself out by trying to create the perfect holiday.
- STAY ACTIVE**  
Exercise is a great way to deal with holiday stress, and anxiety.
- DON'T WORRY**  
Don't feel obligated to complete every small thing on your list.
- JUST SAY NO**  
If you have too much on your plate, let your friends and family know.
- SET ASIDE DIFFERENCES**  
Enjoy other's company and talk about topics that bring happiness.
- ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR FEELINGS**  
Have a plan in place for all your holiday tasks and activities.

# Stocking Stuffer Idea

Give the gift of a little romance this holiday season and register early for the Valentine's Day Dinner and a Movie presented by the Recreation Department

## Valentine's Day Dinner & Movie

February 15th

@ 6:30Pm

Dinner For 2: \$60

RSVP By February 7th

Rainbow Lake Recplex 1 Atco Rd

To Buy Tickets Please

Contact Sidney @

Phone/Text: (780) 956-1707

Email: [Splatt@rainbowlake.ca](mailto:Splatt@rainbowlake.ca)

# End-of-Year Message



As we close out another year, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to all of you for your continued support and understanding over the past year. It has been a year of progress, collaboration, and resilience. On behalf of the entire team, I wish you and your families a happy and safe holiday season.

This year we are especially proud of the strides we have made in disaster preparedness. To help mitigate wildfire risks, we completed the mulching and vegetation fuel management of three blocks around town. Additionally, with the generous support of Cenovus Energy, we enhanced our emergency infrastructure by installing a diesel generator at the water plant, two Generac generators at the Recplex and Fire Hall, and securing four units of Starlink to ensure reliable communication during emergencies. These measures reflect our commitment to protecting our community and being prepared for any challenges that may arise.

Furthermore, Cenovus has made a positive impact on community recreation through the *Cenovus Free Skate* program, which offers free skate Monday to Friday from

4:30-6:00 p.m., providing residents with an opportunity to enjoy this activity at no cost. We also thank the Strike Group for their meaningful contributions to the Youth Centre and Food Bank.

We would also like to thank all the companies in town for their continued support of town initiatives. Your contributions play a vital role in strengthening our community and improving the quality of life for everyone.

Our community thrives because of the dedication of our volunteers and user groups. A sincere thank you goes out to the Municipal Library, Youth Centre, Curling Club, Golf Club board, Victim Services, Dart League, the Fellowship Church, the Health Club, Fire Department, the School, and all the individuals who work tirelessly to support our community's wellness and growth.

As we look forward to the new year, I ask for your continued support. Together we are always stronger and through collaboration we can achieve success and create better outcomes for everyone.

Wishing you all a joyous holiday season and a prosperous new year.

Thank you and Happy Holidays,

Mark Kastiro

# Holiday Hours

The Town Office will be closed  
Friday, December 20 at 12pm and  
will reopen on Thursday, January  
2 at 7:40am.

From all Town Staff and Council  
we wish all our residents a Merry  
Christmas and Happy New Year!



Town Office (Administration)  
Box 149, 65 Imperial Drive  
Rainbow Lake, AB  
T0H 2Y0  
780-956-3934

Recreation Complex  
Rec Plex  
1 Atco Road  
780-956-3778



Town Shop (Public Works)  
58 Imperial Drive  
780-956-3949

Fire Hall  
58 Imperial Drive  
780-956-3354