

Produced by Family & Community Support Services (FCSS) - Community Services

Contributions by citizens, non-profits, service providers and businesses are welcome. Paid and "in kind" space available - - A variety of delivery methods: postal, social media and website

Reach potential: 1265 Homes!!

Deadline: 20th of the month @ 10am for the following month. Contact Community Services 403-748-2160 community@townofbentley.ca

Community Partners:



Santa, Wagon Ride, Hot Chocolate, Warming Fire



LETTER TO SANTA DROP OFF Santa's Anonymous Drop Off

6 - 9pm **Town Office Parking Lot**

Kruzin West, Lacombe Family Resource Centre, Eco Tree, Bentley Museum, Bentley Farmer's Market, Santa's Corner - Pike Family, Bentley Library, Volunteer Elves, Bentley Ag Society, Bentley Fire Dept, Parenting Proactively 101, BGC Bentley, Moore's Backhoe Service Senior's Drop In



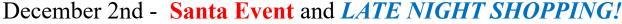
The newsletter will no longer be mailed to Town Post Boxes in 2024. RR1 addresses will continue to get mailed.

Copies will be available for pickup in a newspaper box near the post office mail box building, in businesses around Town and on the Town website.



NO JANUARY EDITION

Letters to Santa - Remember to put name and address on for a reply!!! Use the letter on page 16 or your own!



December 10th - Seniors 55+ Christmas Luncheon (pg 2)

Deadline to register is December 6th

December 19th - Bentley Boutique Open House (pg 2)

Seasonal Assistance Programs: Santa's Anonymous (pg 8) Fill A Fridge & Coats for Kids (pg 14)







Try your first week free!

Bring the Holiday Magic Home with Rec@Home!

Winter is better with friends! Experience the warmth, joy and festivities of the season with Rec@Home, BSF's Virtual Recreation Program for seniors in the community.

Activities include:

- Social gatherings
- Daily exercise programs
- Trivia games

- Live music
- Guest speakers
- And more!

In partnership with:







appointments

appointments

Visitations

Driving clients to medical

New Partnership!

We have reached out to our neighbors to endeavor to help those who need medical trip/dental trip transportation.

NEEDED!

Volunteer Link

Thank you to the 2 young

stopped to ask if we needed assistance

when we were parked at the

the north edge of town (50

St / RR 12) to gaze at the

men who

amazina Northern



Call 403-748-2160 OR



Counselling

A therapeutic ranch for individuals, families, parents and groups to experience growth and



Areas of Expertise

- Managing Anger
- **Anxiety Support**
- Walking through Grief and
- Self-Esteem
- Support with tough emotions

Connection

Have the opportunity to partners as they support





When life gets overwhelming

Learn to manage big emotions that can take over

Contact

(403) 588-2293 OR (403) 588-3326

Lights. Our vehicle was a bit "noisy" and they offered a flashlight so B. could see under the hood and resolve the problem. That was very considerate of them to stop

enquire if everything was okay or not. We owe you a cold one, guys!

We sure appreciate the kindness and thoughtfulness shown by people in and around Bentlev.



Contact Us

lacombevolunteerlink@gmail.com

403-786-0110

FOR SALE

oak round table with 2 leaves. 6 lion head chairs, side board, hutch, butter maker, end tables, dressing dresser with stool, large cabinet to hold spoon collection. horse print with frames by Walsh Gallery. Lot's of hard copy books about the Arabian Horses. brass items, dishes, vases, candle holders

Phone for appointment 403-748-2268 Please DO NOT leave a message.





Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) is available to low-income Old Age Security pensioners.

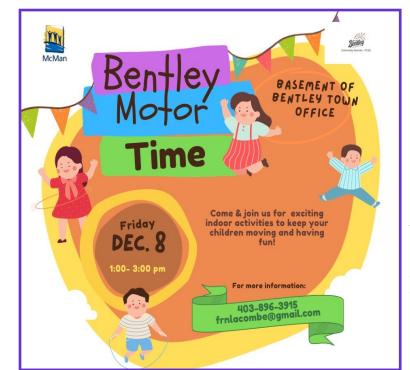
You can find detailed information about the GIS benefit, including: the eligibility criteria, how much you could receive, and what you need to do to receive the benefit by visiting: https://www.canada.ca/.../guaranteed-income-supplement.html. Please see https://www.canada.ca/.../cpp/old-age-security/payments.html for detailed information on other related benefits

that you may be eligible for.



Christmas Open House: See page 5







donations

welcome!

We're open for business.

Whether it's in-person, online, or over the phone, we're here to help.

Alberta Supports can help you access more than 30 programs and 120 services for seniors, people with disabilities, families and more.

To find a location near you, please visit alberta.ca/alberta-supports



Bentley Community

Services 403.748.2160

Red Deer Alberta Supports Centre

Submit documents: is.centralregion@gov.ab.ca **Mailing address:** 109, 4920 51 Street, Red Deer,

Alberta T4N 6K8

Address: 2nd Floor First Red Deer Place, 4911 51

Street

Red Deer, Alberta T4N 6V4 Email: css.ds-central@gov.ab.ca

Phone: 403-340-5353 Fax: 403-755-6171



Bentley Museum Winter Hours - Wednesday 10:00 am - 11:00 am

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

REMEMBERANCE DAY OPEN **HOUSE: NOVEMBER 11, 2023**

We have over 150 people attending our Remembrance Day Event. Thank you to all who attended and showed their respect. Special thanks to Blaine Calkins and Jason Nixon who laid wreaths for us, Ms. Carolyn and her Stay and Play kids who did some wonderful artwork, our volunteers who worked hard on our displays and to Len Landry who was our BBQ chef.

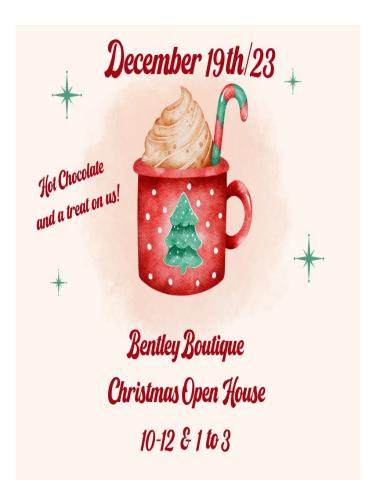
Have a wonderful Christmas and safe travels to all who will be traveling to spend time with friends and families.

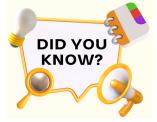
Bentley History Books are now FREE. **Contact Cora or** Diana to get a set.

Dick Damron CD's and Books are also available.

Bentley Museum Contacts:

Cora: 403-506-2696 Diana: 403-748-4024





Community Services is here to assist in finding information and connecting citizens to government programs, family programs, seniors programs and more.

We provide some direct programming and also partner with local organizations, service providers and outlying communities to enhance what can be offered to our citizens.

Our mandate is early intervention prevention thereby we look at programs/services which may enhance the quality of life for individuals, provide opportunities to enhance skills and resiliency, as well as reduce social isolation.

Programs **cannot** be primarily recreational.

If you are aware of a program which may be beneficial to our citizens, please let us know.

We are located in the Bentley Long Term Care, available by appointment.

The Bentley Boutique clothing recycling program is also located in the Care Centre and is open Tues/Thurs 10-noon and 1-3pm.

Exceptional Educate
Create Innovation
Focus

403.748.2160 community@townofbentley.ca Follow us on FB **Community Services - Town of Bentley**





Firefighters tend to be a superstitious bunch, especially when it comes to predicting fire calls. If we get two calls in one day, someone will always comment that we now have to expect a third, since 'they always

come in threes.' Similarly, we are hesitant to say that it has been slow, because it seems like to do so is to invite a flurry of major fire calls. Still, it has to be said. It has been a slow month indeed. This is especially surprising given how dry it is out there. Kudos to everyone who has been careful about burning their wood piles. November marks the end of burn permit season, so we appreciate everyone taking the initiative to be safe on their own.

The four calls since the last report are as follows:

On October 24, Sylvan Lake Fire Department called to request our rescue boat. While they have one of their own, and it is considerably larger and better equipped than ours, conditions to launch their watercraft were less than favourable due to a recent snowfall. Six of

our members volunteered to head out onto Sylvan Lake and bring our much nimbler (read *smaller*) boat out and assist the stranded boat and occupants out on the lake.

A beeping Carbon Monoxide

alarm brought us out to a single-family residence on October 31. No trace of the dangerous gas was found, so the homeowners were advised to replace their detectors.

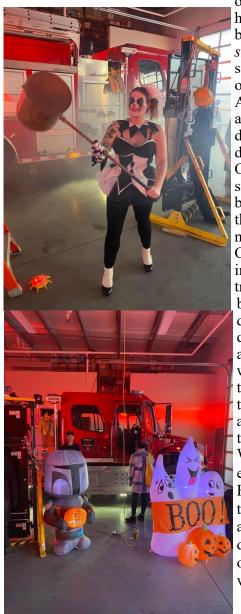
On November 1, the driver of a pickup truck just out of town thought he was smelling the hot brakes of a semi trailer in front of him. However, when smoke began pouring out of the dashboard of his vehicle, he realized it was his truck that was on fire. He was able to pull over safely and exit the truck. There were no injuries, but the truck was a total loss.

On November 15, the occupants of a small SUV were lucky to escape serious injury when their vehicle hit a large, fully loaded B-Train (a semi pulling two trailers) turning off the highway. The driver of the semi, not realizing he had

been in an accident, continued down the side road for some distance until he was stopped by another driver who had witnessed the accident. One of the occupants of the SUV was transported to hospital in the ambulance with non lifethreatening injuries. We would like to thank everyone who came out on Halloween to visit our drive

We would like to thank
everyone who came out on
Halloween to visit our drive
through haunted house once
again. We had lots of fun
decorating the hall and handing
out candy to our many costumed
visitors.











Over The Hill & Loving The View

Seniors Drop In

located in the Town Office 4918-50 Avenue

The Seniors Drop In welcomes everyone 55+ to join us for our regular Tuesday/Thursday afternoons, and/or to take advantage special programming (no charge) on Mondays/Wednesdays

Please note December changes

• Mondays 10 to 11 am Seated Range of Motion Exercises - last day Dec 18

Tuesdays 1 pm Socialize/cards/games - last day Dec 12

Wednesdays 10:45 to 11:45
 Chair Yoga - light movements - last day Dec 20

Socialize/cards/games - last day Dec 14th

Potluck December 12th

1pm

Special Outings - dinner theatres and more. Have an idea? Let us know.

Registration required for Seated Range of Motion Chair Yoga

Thursdays

Move your body, make connections & socialize!

Call 403.748.2160

PARTNERS:

BENTLEY SENIORS DROP IN, FCSS/TOWN OF BENTLEY, EDMONTON SENIORS CENTRE, BRENDA STRAFFORD FOUNDATION/REC@HOME

<u>Annual Recreation, Cultural, Historical, Tourism Funding Support -</u>
Grant application deadline is December 31st.

Bentley Town Council is committed to strengthening the quality of life of its residents, fostering civic pride and building a health community. Town Council acknowledges the value of community organizations and volunteers whose time and effort contribute to the strength and pride felt by the community.

Eligibility Criteria:

1. Non profit community organizations that offer programs, events, activities or facility operations that benefit the citizens of the Town of Bentley through the strengthening of the quality of life, fostering of civic pride and the building of a health community by using recreational, cultural, historical, tourism pursuits to achieve their goals.

Application can be found on the Town's Website

https://townofbentley.ca/download/policy-52-2015-annual-recreational-cultural-tourism-funding-support/

Bency Spay Located in the basement of Town Office We WELCOME all Families/Caregivers with children 0-6 and older children on PD days Fridays 9:30 to 11:30 Contact Community Services 403.748.2160 OR our facilitator Miss Carolyn 403.704.3315 parentingproactively101@gmail.com



Lacombe & Area Family Resource Outreach Programs - follow them on their Facebook Page for November Programming.

LFRN - one of our Santa Celebration Partners!



587-877-1002

The Bentley Community Van
Trips depend on driver availability

2nd Wednesday - Sylvan Lake 4th Wednesday - Red Deer

These trips are open to everyone, FREE or by Donation.

Please contact our coordinator for more information and book your seat!

**CHRISTMAS EVE! 24th SUNDAY MORNING THIS YEAR



JOIN US AT 10 AM. *CAROLS
*LIGHT CANDLES IN MEMORY OF
LOVED ONES * Stay for
Refreshments & baking*
Bentley Community Church





BENTLEY & DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY NEEDS YOU

We are in need of more attending volunteer members/directors to join our organization.

If more members/directors are unable to attend our meetings, we will be unable to host any future events.

We meet every second Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Blindman Valley Agricultural Centre.
(No meeting in August or December)



Santa wishes everyone a wonderful holiday season and thanks all the volunteer elves for helping on December 2nd. This event would not happen with out the community support and volunteers!

Christmas at the Care Centre

Please stop by and support our Christmas Fundraisers. We are raising funds to hire musical guests and to add to our spring garden budget

Angel Tree

Monday to Friday, 9am - 3pm, Nov 20-Dec 22

Purchase an angel in honor of a loved one to hang on our tree. \$5.00 per angel.

Wreath Silent Auction

Starting November 27 stop by to view our silent auction wreaths and make your bid.

Bidding closes December 7 @ 5pm

Christmas Craft & Bake Sale

December 7, 1-5 pm Handmade Christmas crafts and baked goods for sale by our residents, & staff.

Thank you for your support Happy Holidays from the Bentley Care Centre

Please direct questions to 403.748.4115 - Rec Department



Monday - Friday 8am to 3pm **403.748.4044** info@townofbentley.ca www.townofbentley.ca

Council meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday evening monthly at 6:45 pm

Agendas and meeting packages are posted on the Town Website Fridays prior to each Council Meeting. Citizens are encouraged to keep themselves educated on Town Council and Administration activities via these documents. Public is welcome and encouraged to attend Council meetings.



To attend as a delegation, please contact Town Office for the proper procedure to do so.



2023 Animal License Tags - As per Bylaw 152/2011 All dogs and cats in the Town of Bentley require a tag. Animal control license tags may be purchased at the Town office. Applications may be obtained at the Town office or on the website.

spayed/neutered \$35, unaltered \$45 Please remember to scoop the poop!!

Reminder for Weekly Residential Garbage Collection - Don't be missed because your garbage is not available for pick up. <u>Please have your garbage (maximum 4 bags, 40 lbs. or less) ready for pick up by 7:30 am on regular garbage days for collection.</u> Please be patient if it

isn't picked up at the same time each week. The public works personnel collecting garbage changes, as may the route and the volume of garbage.

Business Licenses - With a few exceptions, all Commercial and Home based businesses in the Town of Bentley require a valid yearly Business License. This also applies to those businesses and services that are not located in the town of Bentley but are coming into town to conduct business or provide a service. The application form can be found on the Town's website or picked up at the Town office.



Waste Transfer Station & Recycling Bins

403-748-3961

Thursday 9am-4:45pm **Friday** 9am-4:45pm **Saturday** 1pm-4:45pm

CLOSED stat holidays



December 31, 2023 is fast approaching. PENALTY CHARGES WILL BE LEVIED AS FOLLOWS:

An 8% penalty will be assessed on all of the remaining unpaid taxes on January 15, 2024.

Re: 2022 & prior years tax arrears and penalties ("arrears")

The land(s) listed are subject to tax arrears recovery. The outstanding arrears must be paid by the deadline in order to avoid tax sale proceedings. Pursuant to The Municipal Government Act, the municipality has no option but to proceed on any properties with arrears outstanding after the deadline, no matter how small the amount. All properties will be turned over to a property tax arrears recovery management firm and their fees and disbursements will be added to your roll in addition to the usual penalties.

Deadline Date: December 31, 2023

Monthly Tax

installment - Payments are an option with the Town of Bentley. For more information on this program, please call the town office or drop in and speak with one of our staff.

Utility Payment Agreements - We offer auto withdrawal from your bank for your Town Water, Sewer & Garbage utility payments. We are also offer emailed utility billings rather than a paper copy, your choice.

We are so thankful for this short time of warm dry weather that has given workers the much needed weather to get the roof on the Grocery Store without delays They will then be able to keep working on the inside.

We are also thankful to see good crops in and fall work being done in the fields. After our first snow and cold days past we have been able in town to get our decorations up, planning and preparations for the winter coming around the corner.

Our council has only one regular meeting in November as we are working on our Budget for 2024. We have had the last Area Structure Plan meeting and public presentations for the County to vote on the ASP proposed for the Southeast quarter sections along Highway 12A and 12. A lot of time, public meetings, and land studies have been done for our future proposed plans. This done for our towns development future that will allow for buffer zones, green space, roads, and requirements to make available, much needed commercial and industrial land. A huge thank you to the county, all who have contributed through studies, public meetings, our CAO Marc, council, those writing letters and submitting surveys. Once the final county reading takes place, we can accept to proposed future ASP and work toward the application to the government to Annex this area. Following this approved annexation, the area then will come under the Town of Bentley for future proposed development responsibility involving town council and community.

This then is subject to the Landowner's interest in selling the land. In this process the developer or developers would be required to present proposals that would line up with the guidelines established by the Area Structure Plan that will be adopted by the town council.

As you will see from this process, The future development is somewhat complicated and takes time. We are looking to the future and through a grant we received with the county we are looking ahead for our community. In this process, when a developer comes up with a proposal in this area of Southeast, a lot of the time consuming work and cost will have been done. As our CAO Marc and all who have contributed have done a lot of work so we, as a town and county, are protected from any fast, undesired, or even fly by night development proposal. It is so very important to go through required and desired planning. Everything of lasting value does take time, a lot of study and work. Example: it took over a year to get the two lights at our Highway 12 west entrance into our town. They literally had to sit and count traffic

As a community we have had three great responses to the Remembrance Day. On November 9th hundreds attended the school assembly with an impressive program put on entirely by the staff and students. On November 11th at 10:45 a great turnout of about 140 came for our community Remembrance celebration and then from 12 till 3pm. Our museum committee put on a wonderful time of display, hot dogs, cake and refreshments for the community and area. Many people

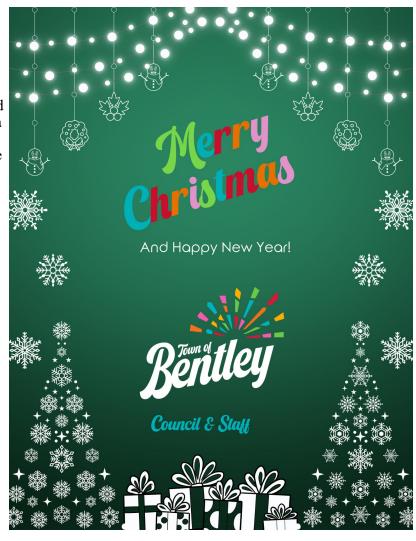
numbers to see if it required lighting.

joined with our MP Blaine Calkins and, MLA Jason Nixon and Museum board. In all we probably had over seven hundred people taking time to remember in our community. Looking at our population we have a huge percentage actively Takin to heart 'LEST WE FORGET'

We have also been able to have a good day meeting at Medicine Hills with the Indigenous leaders, provincial reps, Ski Club Executives, CAO Marc, and Council members. This was great opportunity to be in communications with members of the O'Chiese First Nations who have had a lot of History on the property of land the Town is responsible for. As council we realized the importance for us on behalf of Bentley to be proactively looking at proper direction involving all stake holders of the Medicine Hills area.

Thanks to all the special people who make up our community and area. Bentley The Place to BE!

Mayor Greg Rathjen



Special Needs Assistance for Seniors

If you are a senior who qualifies for assistance via the Seniors Special Needs Assistance Program, you may be eligible to be reimbursed for a variety of things. If you are not sure what this program is, please contact 403.748.2160. Copies of the program booklet can be printed for you, or you can view it on the internet here https://open.alberta.ca/publications/6756730.

Assistance Program has a reimbursement for light housekeeping and/or yard work with criteria for access. If you qualify for this program you can engage whomever you wish to clean as long as you have a receipt and they are not a family member. This is a secondary item under the program, income levels are below. Additionally, to qualify you must have a doctor's letter if you are under 80 and no one else living in the household can do the housekeeping. Over 80, there is no medical criteria.

Community Services often receives inquiries regarding light housekeeping services/yard assistance.

We cannot refer potential house cleaners, snow shovelers or yard help. Doing so, without vetting or staffing a position, leaves the Town potentially liable for that connection should an issue arise. We encourage you to reach out to community members to see whom is offering services.

Benefit year

Your and your spouse/partner's (if applicable) previous year's income will be used to determine your eligibility for the benefit year, which runs from July 1 of the current year to June 30 of the next year.

Income thresholds

Single Seniors		
Annual Income	Funding Level	
Less than \$25,230	Primary and Secondary items	
\$25,231 - \$29,630	Primary items only	
Over \$29,630	No funding	

Senior Couples		
Annual Income	Funding Level	
Less than \$39,920	Primary and Secondary items	
\$39,921 - \$48,120	Primary items only	
Over \$48,120	No funding	

What we can do is assist you to see if you qualify for any of the items you are interested in under the program and with your paperwork to submit to for reimbursement.

If you have questions about this program, please reach out!

We are happy to help you navigate.

Bentley Community Services 403.748.2160





Newsletter Advertising Rates

Business card \$30

1/4 page \$45

1/2 page \$ 90

page \$180

Community Organizations - reduced or no fee

call to discuss your submissions - fees only apply if you are generating a revenue from your event.

403-748-2160

community@townofbentley.ca





Wanna be a Liftie?

Are you 15+ years old?

Do you like working outside?

Do you like to ski or snowboard? (for free!)

Medicine Lodge Ski Club is hiring!

Apply by sending in a resume or an email to: medicinelodgeskihill@gmail.com

Located 10 minutes west of Bentley on Highway 12, we offer a full service skiing and snowboarding experience. For more than a half a century the Club has provided the best possible local ski experience at the lowest possible cost.

If you are interested in being a part of this great community apply now!

Deadline to apply is December 9th with liftie clinic later in the month to follow.

December at Grace Lutheran Church

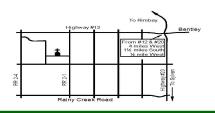
Please join us for ...

Dec. 3@10:30 am Worship Service

Dec.17 @10:30 am Service followed by Christmas Pot Luck



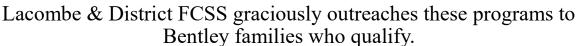
Dec. 24 @ 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Service Services resume January 7 @ 10:30 am



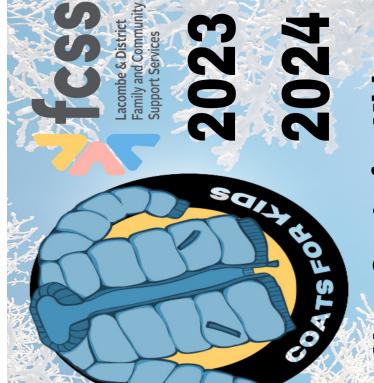
Together We Are Better!



Bentley families who qualify.







New Coats for Kids

I.OCAL GROCERY CERTIFICATES ARE PROVIDED FOR

QUALIFYING FAMILIES TO PURCHASE GROCERIES

FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

FRIDGE

MIRROR, BENTLEY &

LACOMBE, ALIX,

Family and Community

Support Services

LACOMBE COUNTY

program enables qualifying families to choose new winter coats for their children. Applications available

www.lacombefcss.net/donations or in office at Monetary Donations can be made online at Lacombe FCSS, #201, 5214 50th Ave.

October 16, 2023 to January 31, 2024.

For more information contact us at Lacombe, AB T4L 0B6.

Email: wgriffin@lacombefcss.net (403) 782-6637 or

APPLICATIONS OPEN NOVEMBER 15

DONATE TODAY!

WWW.LACOMBEFCSS.NET 403-782-6637 #201 5102 49 STREET LACOMBE







Questions about your utilities?

The Utilities Consumer Advocate can help you:



Choose a utility retailer



Understand heating and power bills



Resolve issues with utility companies

310-4822 ucahelps.alberta.ca

Alberta 1 utilitiesconsumer advocate



The Blessing Pantry has food set up at the Library for people to access.

This is available free, to bless you, when the Library is open.

Tuesday 10:00 AM - 05:30 PM Wednesday 10:00 AM - 05:30 PM Thursday 3:30 PM - 07:30 PM Friday 10:00 AM - 05:30 PM 11:00 AM - 03:00 PM Saturday



Hope for all.

Hours of Operation

Monday – Thursday 8:15 a.m. – 4:15 p.m. Friday

403.347.2480 1.866.347.2480

8:15 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

info@theoutreachcentre.org

Street Address

4101 – 54 Avenue, Red Deer, AB T4N 7G3

The Outreach Centre is home to Central Alberta Outreach Centre Society and Suicide Information and Education Services. The two agencies co-located in 2012 to the current facility. In 2020, they fully merged under The Outreach Centre banner to optimize their shared expertise, board and resources. The Central Alberta Outreach Centre Society (CAWOS) opened its doors in 1984 as an agency devoted to supporting women affected by family violence by providing the tools to create a safer, healthier and more secure life for themselves and their families.

NEED HELP? NEED INFORMATION?

Here are some important numbers you can call:

811 - Health related information

211 – Community information & services

1-877-303-2642 - Mental Health Helpline

1-866-332-2322 - Addiction Helpline

Private - Confidential - Available 24/7











Include Mailing Address So Santa's Elves Can Reply

. Sanka,	This Christmas, I am years old. This year, I have been good all of the time good some of the time naughty (but nice!)	What I would like most this Christmas is and And For you!	Merry Christmas, Santa! Love, Love P.S. Please Say "Hi" to for me!
Dear Sanka,	This Christma This year, I	What I wou	P.S. Pleqse