

Village of Duchess March 2017 Newsletter



March is here and it looks like it's going to be an "in like a lion" month for our Village! We hope this means "out like a lamb" will bring us an early spring!

If you haven't heard, Duchess has made it to the final round of voting for Big Valley Jamboree's Small Town Saturday Night competition. Voting begins March 13th and ends at midnight on March 27th. We could win a concert put on by Gord Bamford and the BVJ Promotional team in our village with all the proceeds going towards the Duchess Agricultural Society. You can cast your vote once per day/every day at www.bigvalleyjamboree.com. Don't forget to verify your email address the first time you vote. Please get your family and friends to vote too! Watch for updates and get links on the Small Town Saturday Night – Duchess Ag Society Facebook page. A big thank you to Tina Preston for coordinating our bid in this contest!

The Duchess & District Public Library would like to congratulate Jenny G. and Colby G. on winning the book and candy draw in February! Thank you to everyone who participated. The After School Rules will be on March 3, 2017 from 3:30 pm to 4:15 pm. There is still room to sign up for this class and here is a hint, it will involve sushi. There is a sheet in the library to sign up for this. We have our Teen book club happening. We are also looking into some classes for adults which are still in the works. Storytime for preschoolers is on Thursdays from 10:15 am to 10:45 am so drop in and let's have some fun with stories and a craft.

Duchess Curling Rink will be hosting their Sturling Bonspiel March 20th – 25th. Sturling Curling is a 2 person team, 6 rocks, 6 ends curling game. The Curling Rink Raffle draw for the 58" TV will be on March 25th.

Bassano FCSS, Newell Further Education and, Alberta Health Services will be hosting Women's Wellness Day at the Bassano Community Hall on April 1st. There will be speakers, raffles, 50/50 and, door prizes! Featured speakers include Duchess resident, Jennifer Thom. For tickets and more information contact the Bassano Town Office 403-641-3788.

Planning for Duchess Days has begun and will be held on August 5. We are excited to celebrate Canada 150 in conjunction with Duchess Days this year. The Duchess Mennonite Church will be having their 100^{th} Anniversary from August $4^{th} - 6^{th}$ and is partnering with the Duchess Days organizational committee to plan events to commemorate this occasion!

Grasslands Soccer Association outdoor soccer early-bird registration is on March 13th – 16th from 6:30 to 7:30 at the Duchess Recreation Centre. Register at these times to get \$10 off your fee. The outdoor soccer season begins April 24th. Keep your eye on the Duchess Recreation Centre Facebook page to stay up to date with special events and the regular schedules.

The Duchess Preschool is hosting a Spring Craft Show on April 8th at the Duchess Hall. There will be over 30 vendors to shop from 10 m – 4pm, with a full concession and a raffle table. Bouncy castles will be available @ \$2/half hour-weather permitting.

On a final note, the census has come in and Duchess officially has 1085 residents!

