



Newsletter # 11

September 2006

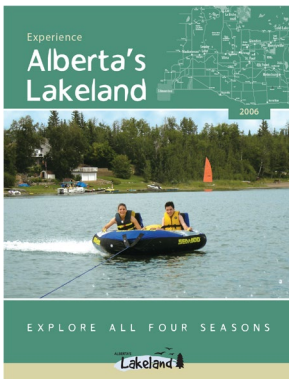
Riverland Recreational Trail Society

and

Iron Horse Trail Tourism Product Club



September 9th, 2006
Harvesting at
Bonnyville for the
Canadian Foodgrains
Bank.



2006 Visitor's Guide

2006 was the first year that the guide was done in house. There were 10,000 guides printed and the response was overwhelming. Many Visitor Information Centres told us that the guide was very popular with tourists. Alberta's Lakeland DMO is working on the 2007 issue.

Iron Horse Trail Product Club

The Canadian Tourism Commission approved the Product Club's request to extend our contract from June 30th to December 31st, 2006. There is a lot of work to be done by the end of the year with the majority of the focus on developing tourism partnerships with Saskatchewan.

Other projects being worked on include the application for funding through the Community Futures Network's Rural Community Economic Development Initiative Project Funding (RCED). This application involves a partnership between various stakeholders in the Lakeland region to complete a Regional Opportunities And Development Study (ROADS) using the Iron Horse Trail as the base. The remaining deliverables include the new website, marketing plan for phase two funding and organization of a "Moving Forward" conference.

If you would like to find out how you can get your company or event information included in the 2007 Visitors Guide, call Charlene with Alberta's Lakeland Destination Marketing Organization at (780) 645-2913. Alberta's Lakeland DMO attends many different industry tradeshows, events and functions throughout the year where the Visitors Guide is promoted and handed out. The Visitors Guide is also sent to Visitor Information Centres throughout Alberta, B.C. and Saskatchewan. Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity. Here is another opportunity for you to promote your business or event . . . Alberta's Lakeland DMO new website is up and running. We invite you to browse through the site and let us know the good, the bad and the ugly! Call Charlene for the latest information on our web stats and how you can get your website linked off of ours. If you don't have a web presence, we have some affordable options!

Moving Forward Conference

Mark your calendar!

December 7 & 8, 2006 are the dates for our final two day conference which is being held at the St. Paul Recreation Centre.

There are plenty of exciting sessions lined up for the two days. Our keynote speakers are Monica Coneys from Shosholoza Productions and Wainwright MLA Doug Griffiths.

To request a registration package, contact our office at (780) 645-2913 / 888-645-4155 and take advantage of our early bird discount.



New gazebo at the Heinsburg Staging Area



Family Fun Farm Festival at Muriel Creek Cattle Co.

2007 Memberships

Membership, donations and volunteers are needed to help with the materials and maintenance of the Iron Horse Trail. Please take a moment to fill out your form and send it in.

Membership Form

Yes! I want to support Trails. Please sign me up as a Member.

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-Mail: _____

Individual Member ____ (yr) x \$10.00 = \$ _____

Family Membership ____ (yr) x \$25.00 = \$ _____

Group Membership ____ (yr) x \$50.00 = \$ _____

Donations are greatly appreciated to help our volunteer Trail Stewards with the materials needed for IHT trail maintenance \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please make cheque payable to:

Riverland Recreational Trail Society

Yes! I want to volunteer with AB Iron Horse / Trans Canada Trail, managed by Riverland Recreational Trail Society.

Signed _____

Dated _____

Mail to: Riverland Recreational Trail Society
P.O. Box 642 St. Paul, AB. T0A 3A0

This summer was a busy one for Alberta's Iron Horse Trail. We received inquiries from all across Alberta with some calls from B.C, Saskatchewan and as far away as Ontario and New Brunswick. All of the callers were planning on visiting our region, had heard about the trail and they were looking for information on services, maps and events. Elk Point moved their Tourist Information Centre to the staging area and reported that about a quarter of the visitors stopping in were arriving via the IHT. Another report indicated a traffic count of 200 in a two hour period on the August long week end. Even though about 50 of those were with a wagon trek – it is still an impressive number of users! We now have a staging area at Fort Kent. It is situated on LARA's property and includes a trout pond. Thanks to Jay, Vic and the M.D. of Bonnyville for all your hard work.

Lakeland Heritage Partners

AGM

October 26, 2006

7:00pm

The Lakeland Heritage Partners (LHP) is holding their first annual AGM on Thursday, October 26, 2006. The meeting will be held at the Mallaig School and starts at 7:00pm.

We would like to invite you to attend. We will be doing a brief presentation on what the LHP is, benefits of joining the organization and some of the projects that we are considering for 2007. As well, we will have a guest speaker from the Alberta Museums Association.

We will end the evening with a social and invite everyone to stay for coffee and snacks.

Please R.S.V.P. your attendance to Monique Ouellette from the Mallaig Museum through email at mallaigmuseum@hotmail.com or call the Iron Horse Trail office at 888-645-4155.

We hope you will join us!

Autumn is officially here and Riverland Recreational Trail Society has their 06/07 meeting schedule complete.

General Meetings:

September 19 – Smoky Lake

January 15 – St. Paul

April 16 – Ashmont (AGM)

Executive Meetings:

October 16 – St. Paul

November 20 – St. Paul

February 19 – St. Paul

March 19 – St. Paul

May 21 – St. Paul

If you have any questions about the meeting schedule, please contact Marvin Bjornstad at (780) 645-6489. Email notices are sent out prior to each meeting, so make sure Marvin has your correct email address.

Ardmore Raise The Roof Fund Raiser

Nov 18, 2006

Ardmore Community Hall

Supper and Dance

Featuring:

Gord Bamford and The Haymakers

Tickets \$50.00

Contact Kristy at (780) 826-1983

