

September/October 2023

COMMUNITY CONNECTOR

Bringing news from Leduc Assisted Transportation Services
to Seniors and LATS clients

The City of Leduc is celebrating the end of the summer



The City of Leduc wants to celebrate the end of summer with you! Bring the family to Alexandra Park on Aug. 24 from 5-8 p.m. for fun activities suited for everyone. Visitors can grab a free hot dog, sample the different food trucks, visit the petting zoo, ride the multiway train, bounce on inflatables, catch live entertainment and more.

Local not-for-profit organizations and businesses in the community will also be set up around the party site for visitors to learn more about the exciting opportunities, services, and programs available.

Parking is available at the Leduc Civic Centre, Leduc Junior High School, Linsford Park School, Peace Lutheran Church, St. David's United Church, and surrounding street parking.

Did you know LATS practices safety drills?

We want to keep you safe so having safety drills for things such as what to do in the event of an emergency is especially important to us as a team. We practice fire drills, evacuation of a bus, what to do in the event of an accident, how to deploy the lift without power and how to assist clients off the bus whether ambulatory or not.

Recently, our driver Tim gave each driver a chance to experience what it is like to ride in a wheelchair and secured them in the back of a bus. He wanted everyone to feel what it feels like when going over bumps or around a corner. Thank you, Tim, for this great awareness piece. It was extremely helpful to the team!

LATS AND UPCOMING HOLIDAY CLOSURES

LATS will be closed on the following dates:

Monday, September 4th for Labour Day

Monday, October 9th for Thanksgiving

Monday, November 13th in lieu of Saturday, November 11th

Monday, December 25th for Christmas

Tuesday, December 26th for Boxing Day

Monday, January 1st, 2024, for New Year's Day

LATS will close at 3:00 p.m. on the following dates:

Sunday, December 24th

Sunday, December 31st

seats are full, we will not be accepting any others. Thank you for your understanding.

The open house provides an opportunity to meet the staff at DATS, learn some new and exciting things, watch some demonstrations, and enjoy some refreshments.



Recently some of our team assisted with the evacuation efforts resulting from the Northwest Territories fires and we would like to acknowledge their efforts.

Our manager, Kevin Wenzel, worked through the night coordinating things for our team of drivers who picked evacuees up at the Edmonton International Airport and drove them to Leduc and to Wetaskiwin in the wee hours of the morning on August 15th. They are Tim Gillies, Thor Barabonoff, Tatiana Chernova and Russ Hilsabeck. Thanks also to Charmaine Kirkland for rearranging the schedules and to Karen Black-Parker, Asad Nazeer and Randy Bouchard for keeping the wheels turning on Friday. Great job everyone.

This was a very humbling experience for those involved. The City of Leduc is very lucky to have such dedicated individuals on their team!



"Spread your love wherever you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier."

– Mother Teresa

DATS Team Notice

Save the date!

DATS Open House

Thursday, September 21, 2023
11am to 2pm

If you are interested in attending the DATS Open House on Thursday, September 21, 2023, please let our office know by calling 780-980-8445. We will be limited for space and are only taking one bus to Edmonton for this event. Once the reservations for

When to book a trip

DATS Client Service Centre is open Monday to Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and from 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. They can be reached at 780-986-5000, 'option 2'.

DATS menu options are as follows:

- **Press 1** to cancel a trip or to check on a late ride.
- **Press 2** to book or change a trip.
- **Press 3** to register for DATS.
- **Press 4** to submit a commendation, concern, or any other inquiry.
- **Press 5** for IVR self-serve options.
- **Press 6** for subscription requests.

For Monday trips – Call Friday or Saturday (any time), or Sunday (before noon)

For Tuesday trips – Call Saturday or Sunday (any time), or Monday (before noon)

For Wednesday trips – Call Sunday or Monday (any time), or Tuesday (before noon)

For Thursday trips – Call Monday or Tuesday (any time), or Wednesday (before noon)

For Friday trips – Call Tuesday or Wednesday (any time), or Thursday (before noon)

For Saturday trips – Call Wednesday or Thursday (any time), or Friday (before noon)

For Sunday trips – Call Thursday or Friday (any time), or Saturday (before noon)



LATS will not operate between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 13th. All city employees are attending a training event during this time.

If you have a subscription trip during this time period on September 13th, it will be cancelled. Please make alternate arrangements or book your trip before or after instead.

Thank you for your understanding.



Travel Training

Are you new to LATS or would you like a refresher on how to use our service? We are here to help! If you would like to learn more about our service and how we can assist you, please call Maureen at 780-980-8445 to arrange for a Travel Training session.

We will come to you and teach you how our service works including how to plan your trips, where to buy fare products, learn who our sponsors are, know the procedures in the event of an emergency, understand what type of carry-on we allow, learn how the bus lift works and much more.

Gratuities

From time to time, clients try to tip our drivers for the service they provide. Although they appreciate the gesture and your kindness, it is the City of Leduc's policy not to allow staff to accept gratuities from the public. If you are happy with the service you receive from a city staff member, kindly let us know by calling into our office at 780-980-8445 or by calling into the main reception line at the City of Leduc at 780-980-7177 and leaving a verbal 'high-5' for the staff member instead. We will ensure to pass your thanks along to them.

Having trouble getting a trip time?

Here at LATS, the busiest times for trip requests are between:

- 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., Monday to Friday.
- 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Monday to Friday.
- 3:30 to p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday.

If you are having trouble getting a trip during these times, it is because clients are going to/from work or their day program or to/from a medical appointment. Instead, consider travelling between:

- 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Monday to Friday.
- 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday to Friday.
- 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday to Friday., Monday to Friday.

We are open on Tuesday evenings until 9 p.m., Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00

p.m. We allow time at the beginning and end of each shift for our drivers to do a pre-trip/post-trip inspection of the vehicles they are driving.

Recipe corner

Mushroom Soup

4 tablespoons olive oil
1 large onion, grated
4 cloves garlic, grated
1 pound mushrooms, chopped
½ teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon fresh thyme, chopped
¼ cup marsala or red wine
5 tablespoons flour
3 cups vegetable stock, hot
¾ cup sour cream

Method:

Heat oil in a heavy bottomed dutch oven and add onion and garlic. Sauté over medium heat. Add mushrooms, salt and thyme and stir for 3-4 minutes. Add the marsala or red wine and cook some more or until liquid is gone and all the good bits are nicely browned.

Sprinkle the flour over the top and stir. Slowly add the hot vegetable stock, 1 cup at a time and whisk until no lumps remain.

Turn the heat down to low and stir in the sour cream. Add pepper to taste. If soup seems too thick, you can add a little more vegetable stock. Serve with garlic crostini.



SENIOR'S *Active* AFTERNOONS

Are you 60+? Are you looking to get more active?

Now receive **FREE** access to the Leduc Recreation Centre

Monday – Friday | Noon – 4 p.m.

LEDUC
RECREATION CENTRE

Visit Guest Services to register for your membership or call 780-980-7120.

Aug 25 - Oct 21

New!
Phased re-opening starts Sept. 17

Hold the *Splash*

Aquatics Centre will be closed Aug. 25 to Oct. 21

Learn more: leduc.ca/AquaticCentreTemporaryClosure

LEDUC
RECREATION CENTRE

■ Indoor Pool Closure

The Indoor Pool will be closed for annual maintenance and some exciting new behind-the-scenes changes to the pools.

August 25 – September 16

- Indoor Aquatic Centre will be closed to the public.
- Join us at the Alexandra Outdoor Pool from August 26 – September 4.
- LRC Memberships will be accepted at the Beaumont Recreation Facility during this timeframe.

September 17 – October 21

- Main Pool and Hot Tub will be open to the public. Limited programs and public swim opportunities will be offered during this timeframe.
- Leisure Pool, Whirlpool, and Steam Room will be CLOSED for continued renovations.



Clothes Dryer Safety

Doing laundry is most likely part of your every day routine. But did you know how important taking care of your clothes dryer is to the safety of your home? With a few simple safety tips you can help prevent a clothes dryer fire.

- Have your dryer installed and serviced by a professional.
- Do not use the dryer without a lint filter.
- Make sure you clean the lint filter before or after each load of laundry. Remove lint that has collected around the drum.
- Rigid or flexible metal venting material should be used to sustain proper air flow and drying time.
- Make sure the air exhaust vent pipe is not restricted and the outdoor vent flap will open when the dryer is operating. Once a year, or more often if you notice that it is taking longer than normal for your clothes to dry, clean lint out of the vent pipe or have a dryer lint removal service do it for you.
- Keep dryers in good working order. Gas dryers should be inspected by a qualified professional to make sure that the gas line and connection are intact and free of leaks.
- Make sure the right plug and outlet are used and that the machine is connected properly.
- Follow the manufacturer's operating instructions and don't overload your dryer.
- Turn the dryer off if you leave home or when you go to bed.

AND DON'T FORGET...

Dryers should be properly **grounded**.

Check the **outdoor vent** flap to make sure it is not covered by snow.

Keep the area around your dryer **clear** of things that can burn, like boxes, cleaning supplies and clothing, etc.

Clothes that have come in contact with **flammable substances**, like gasoline, paint thinner, or similar solvents should be laid outside to dry, then can be washed and dried as usual.

FACT

- ❗ The leading cause of home clothes dryer fires is failure to clean them.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

